



NEWSNOTES

October 14, 2026

Dear SME Community,

Thank you all for being accommodating last Friday as our staff attended our Diocesan Superintendent’s Day. While the students enjoyed a well-earned long weekend, our teachers joined educators from across the Diocese of Buffalo to grow professionally. Our presenters spoke on unity – both within the classroom and in the community at large; the importance of words, their meaning, and their impact on social emotional learning; and on building resilience. Our staff left the day refreshed and equipped with tools to build classrooms that are even more fantastic and amazing than they already are.

- Many thanks to all who have volunteered to coach a fall sport. Without involvement from parents who are brave and generous enough to undertake the responsibility of coaching a team, we would not be able to offer sports to our students. On behalf of all who participate in our athletics program – as an athlete, spectator, or a fan who cheers from a distance – we appreciate and thank you.

- Congratulations to all of our student athletes. Everyone wants to win, but we hope all of our athletes learn, as well. Our goal is to help stu-dents learn to win with respect and grace, to accept defeat with dignity as they learn to deal with adversity and disappointment, and to learn to be a good sport – someone who has a positive attitude and plays the game by the rules and with integrity. Great job to all of our student ath-letes!

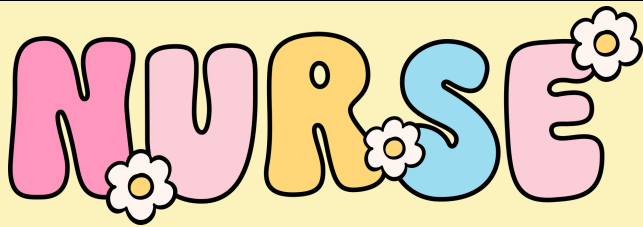
- October 22 is our Fall Picture Retake Day.

- October 23 is our annual Trunk-or-Treat event in the large parking lot, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. If you are new to SME, this is a very well at-tended event. We typically have two or three rows of cars that form aisles for the children to ‘trunk-or-treat’ through. The last few years, we have been at capacity and had extra room for cars to join the aisles. If you would like to decorate a vehicle and participate in passing out treats, please sign up to reserve your spot and so that we know to expect you: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084AA9AA22AAF4C07-66538260-trunk#/>

- Trunk-or-Treat is another free event hosted by our HSA, but we do ask that you bring a non-perishable food item to donate so that we will be able to contribute to our local food pantry. Charitable acts such as this are important to our mission at St. Mary’s, especially with the holiday season quickly approaching. Thank you in advance for your contribution, participation, and attendance.

-With Halloween and Halloween parties just two weeks away, we ask that you PLEASE follow the school nurse’s Snack Safely guidelines and that all treats are allergy friendly when you are sending treats into the building. A list of school friendly snacks can be found on our school site under the Health Office – Snack Safely tabs
Have a wonderful autumn week!

Mr. O



Student physicals need to be handed in by the end of October!

Also, please be sure all student immunizations are up-to-date.

If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse at:

nurse@smeschool.com / 716-683-2112 x128

PICTURE DAY

RETAKE DAY

Picture retakes are taking place on Thursday
October 22nd.

Retake Event Order Code,
0565MDF



Original Day

We are still waiting for our original picture day photos to come in., they should be here by Friday.

Once we have them, we will distribute them ASAP.



Please remember to get your athletic fees turned in to the office to avoid any delays or restrictions with practicing or playing.

Winter Sport Sign Up:



RAISE RIGHT

Do you love a discount? Purchasing RaiseRight gives a rebate on your tuition.

Simply send your order into school with your child and it will be forwarded to our RaiseRight team for filing. If you are in need of a card right away, stop into our RaiseRight office!

For a complete list of participating retailers visit the shop with scrip website: <https://www.raiseright.com/brands>

If you have any questions, please email
raiseright@smeschool.com.





HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Trunk or Treat

Planning is underway for our Trunk or Treat event to be held next **Friday, 10/23.**

In an effort to ensure a smooth event, if you plan on participating please complete the following sign-up:



Participation Sign Up

This easy sign up will let HSA know if you plan to participate with a decorated trunk, assist with various tasks or just come by!

This will also help everyone know how many ghouls & goblins to expect.

Thank you in advance!

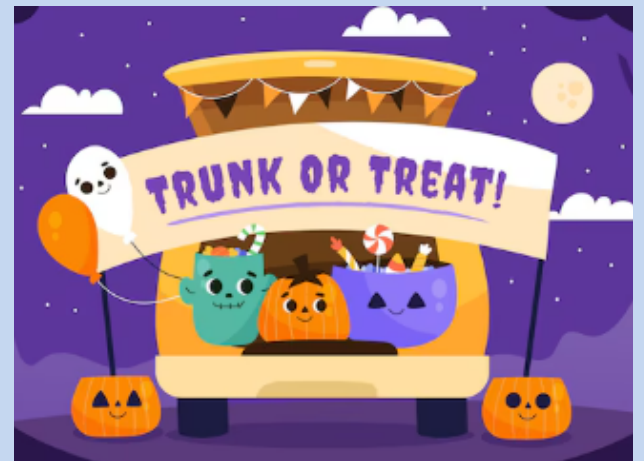
Upcoming Events

10.14.26 – HSA Meeting, Elementary Campus

10.23.26 – Trunk or Treat

11.14.26 – Craft and Vendor Fair (Volunteers needed – look for a sign up soon)

12.02.26 & 12.03.26 – Merry Moose Shop (Volunteers needed – look for a sign up soon)



HOME SCHOOL MEETING

Tonight is our first home school meeting for the year.

Please join us at 6pm at the **elementary school** campus in the cafeteria, to see what fun things we have planned for the year, and learn how you can get involved.

If you can't make the meeting please use this link to call in and join the meeting virtually.

Virtual HSA Meeting

Wednesday, October 14 · 6:00 – 7:30pm

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/udm-bhbh-enn>

Or dial: (US) +1 585-667-0115 PIN: 108 354 959#

Mrs. O'Grady's Mad Hatter Tea Party

Some of our pre-K 4 students had a whimsical time at their very own Mad Hatter Tea Party! From silly hats to sweet smiles, our little learners enjoyed a magical day filled with fun, imagination, and a touch of Wonderland!



St. Mary's Campus

Email:
secretary@smeschool.com

Phone: 716.683.2112
Fax: 716.683.2134

2 St. Mary's Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086

Pompeii Campus

Email:
mssecretary@smeschool.com

Phone: 716.683.6522
Fax: 716.683.2134

129 Laverack Ave
Lancaster, NY 14086



OCTOBER

calendar

2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 Christian Witness Mass 8:30 1:35 PM Pre-K Dismissal 2:00 PM K-5 Dismissal Fall Fest 6:00 - 10:00	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 NO SCHOOL	10
11	12 NO SCHOOL	13	14 HSA Meeting 6:00	15	16 Progress Report 1 Grades Close	17
18	19	20	21	22 Picture Retakes	23 Progress Report 1 Distribution Trunk or Treat 6:00 - 8:00	24
25	26 Red Ribbon Week	27	28	29	30	31

Events at SME Campus

Christian Witness Mass
Trunk or Treat

Contact Information

2 Saint Marys Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086
P: 716-683-2112 F: 716-683-2134
secretary@smeschool.com



NOVEMBER

calendar



2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 STREAM/EXCEL Walkathon 8:30 - 10:00	3	4 Pre-K Town Hall Meeting 5:30	5	6 Christian Witness Award Mass & Grandparents Day Mass 8:30	7
8	9	10 Veterans Day Prayer Service 8:30 Early Dismissal 10:45 Parent Teacher Conferences 12:00 - 6:00	11 NO SCHOOL	12 Day of Service	13 NO SCHOOL Parent Teacher Conferences 9:00-3:00	14 HSA Craft Show 9:00-3:00
15	16	17 Pre-K 3 Thanksgiving Feast 1:00	18 Pre-K 4 Thanksgiving Feast 1:00 HSA Meeting 6:00	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 NO SCHOOL	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28 Breakfast with Santa 9:00
29	30 Early Dismissal 1:00 **No After School**					

Events at SME Campus

STREAM/EXCEL Walkathon
Pre-K Town Hall Meeting
Christian Witness / Grandparents Mass
Veterans Day Prayer Service
Parent Teacher Conferences Pre-K - 5th
HSA Craft Show
Pre-K 3 & 4 Thanksgiving Feasts in PC
Breakfast with Santa
HSA Meeting

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OCTOBER

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Events at Pompeii Campus

HSA Meeting

Contact Information

129 Laverack Ave
Lancaster, NY 14086
P: 716-683-6522 ext. 112 F: 716-683-2134
mssecretary@smeschool.com



NOVEMBER



calendar

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Events at Pompeii Campus

Parent Teacher Conferences (November 13th)

Contact Information

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mssecretary@smeschool.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, LANCASTER, NY - "...visible examples of Gospel living."

OCT.
2026

St Mary's Elementary is now participating in the Universal Breakfast/Lunch Program. All Breakfasts/Lunches are free for students and adult lunches are \$5.50. Breakfast is comprised of three components; a whole grain, a fruit and milk. Lunch is comprised of five components; a protein, a whole grain, vegetables, fruit & milk. In addition to the main entrée, there are three alternate choices offered daily; Turkey Sandwich, Yogurt Parfait, or Sun Butter & Jelly Sandwich. Milk is \$0.50, and may be prepaid if your student buys milk regularly. **Snack will now be served to all grades during lunchtime. No snack is ever purchased on account. Snack money must be presented at point of sale. Snacks are \$0.50-\$1.50.** If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at heerdt@smeschool.com. We appreciate your support. Liz Heerdt (menu subject to change) * THERE IS NO OPTION B(TURKEY SANDWICH) ON FRIDAYS DURING LENT

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 Breakfast Breaks Fruit, Fruit Juice & Milk Turkey Sub Veggies, Fruit & Milk	2 Muffins Fruit, Fruit Juice & Milk Chicken Dinner Veggies, Fruit & Milk
5 Cereal Bar Fruit, Fruit Juice & Milk Mac N Cheese Veggies, Fruit & Milk	6 Granola Bar Fruit, Fruit Juice & Milk Popcorn Chicken Veggies, Fruit & Milk	7 Breakfast Breaks Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup, Fruit & Milk	8 Pop Tarts Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk French Bread Pizza Veggies, Fruit & Milk	9 NO SCHOOL
12 NO SCHOOL	13 Muffins Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk Hot dogs Veggies, Fruit & Milk	14 Granola Bar Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk Pizza Veggies, Fruit & Milk	15 Breakfast Break Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk Mac n Cheese Bites Veggies, Fruit & Milk	16 Donuts Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk Cheesy Breaded Chicken Sammy w/Bacon Veggies, Fruit & Milk
19 Pop Tarts Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk Pancakes w/Sausage Veggies, Fruit & Milk	20 Granola Bar Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk Chicken Nuggets Veggies, Fruit & Milk	21 Muffins Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk Cheeseburgers Veggies, Fruit & Milk	22 Cereal Bar Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk French Bread Pizza Veggies, Fruit & Milk	23 Donuts Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup, Fruit & Milk
26 Granola Bar Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk Hot Dogs Veggies, Fruit & Milk	27 Breakfast Breaks Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk French Toast Sticks Veggies, Fruit & Milk	28 Cereal Bar Fruit Juice, Fruit & Milk Taco in a Bag Veggies, Fruit & Milk	29 Pop Tarts Fruit, Fruit Juice & Milk Chicken Tenders Veggies, Fruit & Milk	30 Donuts Fruit, Fruit Juice & Milk Mac n Cheese Veggies, Fruit & Milk

Prepayment Guidelines for Student Lunches at St Mary's Elementary

1. The upcoming breakfast/lunch menu is always posted on the SME Website by the last Wednesday of the month.
2. St Mary's Elementary is now participating in the Universal Lunch program , all lunches are free.
3. We also allow for ala carte milk to be prepaid. We will record and track daily milk purchases. Simply send in a clearly marked envelope with your 'Name, Amount Enclosed, and Number of Milk Purchases Paying For.'
4. Any questions regarding the SME Lunch Program, contact us at Heerdt@smeschool.com, or 683-2112 extension 119 during school business hours.

Please note our daily offerings and menu options are subject to change. Our menu has become somewhat more fluid, often changing to accommodate supply chain interruptions and shortages. We have had to make several changes as deliveries have not included what was requested at the beginning of the month, when the menu was created. We do not always know when a manufacturer stops production or drops a product from their line because of demand, or lack thereof. Although these substitutions are made after the menu has been created, the daily offerings are still in keeping with the National School Lunch Program, the National School Breakfast Program and adhere to all standards set forth. If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at Heerdt@smeschool.com. Thank you for your support of our school lunch program! We love our customers and appreciate their patience.

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY

Red Ribbon Week

October 26th - October 30th



MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BE A HERO

10/26- DRESS IN RED
KICK OFF RED RIBBON WEEK

10/27 - BE A HERO TO A FRIEND
DRESS LIKE A SUPERHERO

10/28 - ORANGE YOU GLAD TO BE DRUG FREE
DRESS IN THE COLOR ORANGE

10/29 - SHINE LIKE THE KNIGHT YOU ARE
DRESS IN SME ATTIRE

10/30 - SAY "BOO" TO DRUGS
WEAR YOUR HALLOWEEN COSTUME/ HALLOWEEN
ATTIRE TO SCHOOL. NO MASK, WEAPONS OR SCARY
COSTUMES

NON-RIPPED JEANS CAN BE WORN



PLEASE JOIN US FOR

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FALL CRAFT SHOW



FOOD | 50/50 | BASKET RAFFLE

SAT. NOVEMBER 14TH 9 AM-3 PM

FREE ENTRY

**2 St. Marys Hill,
Lancaster, NY 14086**



Fall Open House



Thursday, Oct. 15th @ 5 pm - 8 pm
Friday, Oct. 16th @ 5 pm - 7 pm

142 LAVERACK AVENUE - LANCASTER, NEW YORK 14086



SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER