



# School Days News!

~November 2020~



Saint Michael, an accredited Catholic Elementary School, partners with families in the education of the mind, body, and soul of each child.



## PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be on Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. Due to COVID, they will all be done as Zoom meetings. More information will come home about how to sign up for a time with your child(ren)'s teacher(s).

## LUNCHES

Sub sandwiches will be available on Mondays from various vendors in the area. They will change every month and be served with chips. Pepperoni rolls from Golden Pizza and chips are available on Wednesdays. Cheese pizza from Fox's Pizza Den is available by the slice on Fridays. PTO Hot Lunch will be the second Thursday of every month and will be from various vendors in the area.

November's subs will be turkey subs from Fox's Pizza. November's PTO Hot Lunch will be on Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> for those who ordered. It will include a chicken sandwich from Chick-fil-A, applesauce, a small bag of chips, and a small treat.

Lunch orders for November are due to the school by October 21<sup>st</sup>. Lunch orders for December will be due by November 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Handbook Information

Parents, please look on the school website: [saintmichael1.org](http://saintmichael1.org) for the updated Handbook. It includes information about the dress code and COVID-19.

## SPIRITWEAR ORDERS

Order forms are being sent home for Spiritwear! All orders and payment are due by November 2<sup>nd</sup>. This will ensure products will be delivered by Christmas. Kathy Leonard from Kathy's Kreations is providing Spiritwear products. Please call Kathy at 724-456-8884 with any questions.



We want to send out some very heart-felt thank yous:

- Thank you to all the parents, students, and staff for your hard work and diligence in keeping our school safe and healthy during this time of pandemic.
- Thank you to the members of the PTO for all of their help with lunches and fundraisers!
- Thank you to Greenville Sheetz for the donation of hotdogs for our October Hot Lunch.
- Thank you to Mr. Mike Varga who has been setting up IT until the position can be filled.
- Thank you to the Hermitage Dollar General #7641 for donating school supplies and cleaning products.
- Thank you to the Ying family for decorating our school entrance with mums, pumpkins, and cornstalks! Our school is a more welcoming place because of it.
- Thank you to the Eddy/Hoovler family for pulling weeds in our front landscaping! We so appreciate your gift of time and muscle!
- Thank you to an anonymous helper for raking leaves and sweeping cobwebs down around our school entrance! Thank you so much for your time!



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## Halloween Parties

This year, classes will be having their Halloween parties on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. All parties will begin after lunch. Class parties are not open to parents or volunteers at this time, due to the pandemic. However, if you would like to help in some way, please feel free to communicate with your child's teacher. Costumes are to be in keeping with the values of St. Michael School. If the weather is nice, students will walk in a parade that parents may come to watch. Please maintain social distance and wear a mask.



## All Saints Day

All Saints Day will be celebrated on All Souls Day, Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Students are asked to dress as their favorite Saint. They may stay dressed as a Saint for the entire day or bring in their school uniform to change into later in the day. After Mass, classes will process to the cemetery to pray for the souls buried there. Parents are welcome to process too. Please maintain a social distance of 6 feet from anyone not living in your residence and wear a mask.

All Saints Day parties will be held after lunch on this day. Parents are again welcomed to help with the planning, but will not be permitted in the building. Look to homework notebooks and assignments coming from the classroom teachers for All Saints Day projects your son/daughter will be working on.

## Report Cards

The end of the first grading quarter is October 28<sup>th</sup>. Report cards are expected to be sent home during the week of November 2<sup>nd</sup>. In the meantime, keep an eye on your child(ren)'s progress through Option C.

## In Case of Remote Learning

We plan to continue face-to-face instruction for as long as possible. With the flu season upon us, we also need to plan for the possibility that we may have to move to remote learning.

Our staff is trained and has been preparing for such an event. It WILL NOT just be completing assignments, but a true learning environment with direct instruction, collaboration, discussion, and independent, whole group, and small group modalities. Our mission and vision for our students will continue to set us apart as St. Michael School.

For our online "homebase", PreK through Kindergarten has decided to use Google Sites. Grades 1 - 8 will be using the Google Classroom platform.

In the case of remote learning, we will also hold an informational "how to" Zoom meeting with parents so we're all on the same page. Sample schedules for remote learning at each grade level will be going home with students.

## Communication

We welcome communication with you! With so many platforms to choose from, the teachers have decided that the best way for you to communicate with them is through the message feature on Class Dojo. Communication may occur between 7:30am and 5:00pm at the teacher's discretion. Any time after 3:00pm, please know that your child(ren)'s teacher(s) may not get back to you until the following day.

Mrs. Bates may be reached either by phone at 724-588-7050 or email at [stmike@neo.rr.com](mailto:stmike@neo.rr.com) or [lbates@smike1.org](mailto:lbates@smike1.org).

If you wish to communicate with Miss Zgonc during the same hours (7:30am - 5:00pm), you may use the Class Dojo message feature or her email address: [ezgonc@smike1.org](mailto:ezgonc@smike1.org). If school is in session, she may also be reached via phone at 724-588-7050. Miss Zgonc will continue to utilize the Option C parent alert system for school-wide updates.



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Veterans Day is a time to honor and thank all military personnel who served the United States in all wars, particularly living veterans. On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 an armistice between Germany and the Allied nations came into effect. On November 11, 1919, Armistice Day was commemorated for the first time. We at Saint Michael School will hold our celebration to honor all local veterans during Catholic Schools Week with a special program, to be announced, based on COVID guidelines.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

With weather delays and cancellations coming, please be advised that St. Michael School will make an independent decision on whether to delay or cancel school. This decision is not decided by our surrounding public schools. Parents will be notified through our Option C alert system, school website, KDKA TV, Youngstown TV Channels, and Erie TV.

## DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

Please dress your child for outdoor recess and gym class. Unless it is raining or below freezing, teachers and students like to go outside for the fresh air. Remember the boots and snow-pants when the snow arrives. Snow boots may not be worn in the school during the school day, only when going outside. Please send a change of shoes if your child is wearing snow boots.

November 1<sup>st</sup> marks the start of winter apparel (no more shorts). Please refer to the Dress Code in the Handbook for details.

## Option C

Parents, please remember to log in daily to the Option C Homework/Gradebook/Alert System. If you are not receiving the alert messages by phone, email, or text, please contact the school office.

## OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct 21: November lunch orders and payment due
- Oct 22: ACT Aspire testing for Grades 3-8
- Oct 22: Jeans Day - No charge
- Oct 28: End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter
- Oct 30: Jane's Stromboli & Pie Order Pick up 2:30-6pm in McElhinny Hall  
Halloween parties and parade
- Oct 31: Trunk or Tree at St. Michael Church 4-6pm

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Nov 2: Spiritwear orders and payment due  
Celebration of All Saints Day on All Souls Day
- Nov 3: Election Day! Don't forget to vote!
- Nov 5: Jeans Day - No charge
- Nov 10: Safe Environment Training for Students  
Fr. Christopher's Installation Mass 7pm
- Nov 11: Veteran's Day
- Nov 12: Jeans Day - No charge
- Nov 13: No school for students - ACT 80 Day  
Parent/Teacher Conferences via Zoom
- Nov 19: Dress Down Day - \$1 Donation
- Nov 25: NOON DISMISSAL
- Nov 26-30: No School - Thanksgiving

## DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec 1: School Resumes  
Quarter 2 Interim
- Dec 3: Jeans Day - No charge
- Dec 10: Jeans Day - No charge
- Dec 16: Lunch money and orders for January due
- Dec 17: Dress Down Day - \$1 Donation
- Dec 18: Santa Land
- Dec 22: NOON DISMISSAL
- Dec 23 - Jan 3: Christmas Break
- Jan 4: School resumes

## Shamrock SHOUT-OUTS!

Thank you to Mrs. Bates for starting this initiative! Students and staff are encouraged to be on the lookout for exemplary behavior or character in fellow students and staff and "shout them out" by tell the school why on a shamrock cut-out which is added to our bulletin board. We are growing an amazing crop this year!





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## Girls Uniform Exchange

SMS will be offering a uniform exchange of girls **PLAID** jumpers, skirts, or skorts. Please call the school office to ask about our inventory.

## DRESS DOWN DAY

Dress Down Days are usually held once a month, on the third Thursday. Students and teachers pay \$1.00. Proceeds are donated to various service projects.

On October 15<sup>th</sup> we collected donations for the Good Shepherd Center for Dress Down Day. We collected a total of \$60. The Good Shepherd Center is a multi-denominational ministry established in 1991 to be of service to the economically challenged of the greater Greenville community. The Center shows concern for all individuals who enter our doors regardless of creed, race, nationality or lifestyle.

November 19<sup>th</sup> is our next Dress Down Day. Proceeds will be given to Alpha and Omega Pregnancy Center.

## JEANS DAY

Jeans Days will be held every Thursday during the school year that we do not attend Mass.

## Mitten Tree Donations

Starting November 16<sup>th</sup>, we will be collecting mittens and gloves for children and adults in need. We will collect mittens and gloves in all sizes (infant to adult) until February 5<sup>th</sup>.



## Grades 5-8 Gym Clothes Option

Beginning November 2<sup>nd</sup>, gym classes will have the opportunity to take place in Lateran Hall. Students in Grades 5 through 8 will be able to dress down on their respective gym days. Grades 7 & 8 have gym on Tuesdays. Grades 5 & 6 have gym on Thursdays. Appropriate attire includes a spiritwear shirt and sweat or athletic pants. Shorts may be worn underneath pants, as locker rooms will not be available for use.

## 2019-2020 Yearbooks

As a thank you to all of our SMS families for their patience, understanding, and support during COVID in the spring, Mrs. Kremm asked that each family receive one free yearbook. If you would like to purchase a yearbook from last year for your family, they are for sale for \$15 per book. Please contact the school office if you are interested.

## Faith ion

The family that prays together stays together! This is not just a popular saying! If you don't have a regular family prayer time, add it to your schedule. Prayer - spending time talking to God - is the most important gift we can give to ourselves and our children. If you're looking for a new way to pray, consider meditating on the life of Jesus with Mary in the Rosary. Not sure how to start? Simply google "how to pray the Rosary" and begin!

## Blessed is She



Moms, grandmas, and spiritual mothers - if you are looking for a vibrant, down-to-earth, online women's faith community, check out Blessed is She!

They can be found on their website: [blessedishe.net](http://blessedishe.net) and on social media: on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. They also have a weekly podcast called The Gathering Place. You'll be glad you checked them out!

## Prayer Request

We would appreciate your support in praying with us for the Kremm family who recently lost a member of their family. Meghan Fossaceca, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kremm, passed away on September 5<sup>th</sup> after a long and courageous battle with brain cancer.

If you would like to make a donation in her memory, Meghan asked to have donations made to Shriners Hospitals for Children® — Philadelphia at 3551 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19140.



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## Masks and Social Distancing

We want our children and staff to stay healthier than ever this year! Thank you for keeping your child home when sick and for following our guidelines so far as to when it is safe to return to school!

Another key element of staying healthy is following the August 17<sup>th</sup> Mask Order, asking all of us, in school and on school/church property to wear masks or facial coverings AND maintain six feet of distance from those not in our households. This is a major shift from how we've been raised and lived. Thank you for your patience with this new policy. We ask that parents and visitors on our St. Michael campus respect the order and come (and remain) masked while on the property (inside or outside) as well as maintain a 6 foot distance. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

## 2020-2021 Tuition & FACTS Management

Any questions regarding tuition or FACTS should be directed to Mrs. Susan Swartzbeck in the St. Michael Church Business Office at 724-588-9800 or [saintmichaelbiz@gmail.com](mailto:saintmichaelbiz@gmail.com).

## SCRIP Gift Card Program Easy way to earn tuition credit!

Contact school office or the SCRIP Coordinator, Shannon Thomas, at 724-456-1279 for more information about the program or placing orders.



Box Tops is changing to fit today's families. The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products, and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.

## Let Us Introduce.....

We will be highlighting two staff or faculty members every month!! It is our chance to let you know a little bit about each of us!

### Miss Emily Zgonc - Principal

I have been part of the St. Michael School community since 1989, when I entered as a Kindergartener at the Margaret Brown building. I was a student at SMS until my graduation from 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. I received my Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Art from Thiel College.



I first worked as the Facilitator of Faith Formation at Beloved Disciple in Grove City, PA, before coming aboard the teaching staff here in 2011 to be the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher and then Middle School Religion teacher for a total of eight years. During this time, I also received my Master's degree from Gannon University in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment. This is my first year as principal, and I am currently enrolled in the Principal Certification program through Gannon University.

I love spending time with my family, reading, baking, cooking, kayaking, being outside, listening to podcasts, puzzling, and learning about my Catholic Faith.

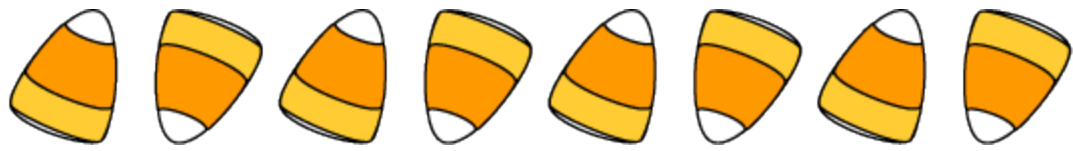
### Mrs. Lisa Bates - Secretary

This is my second school year at St. Michael School. I graduated from State University of New York - Fredonia with a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education in Mathematics.



I have been married to my husband, Ben, for 17 years and we have two children, Alaina and Ty.

I love spending time with my family. Together, we are remodeling and adding onto our house. We also enjoy four-wheeling and playing together outside. I also have a business which includes photography and sewing.



St. Michael Church

# Trunk or Treat

Saturday,  
October 31, 2020

4-6 pm

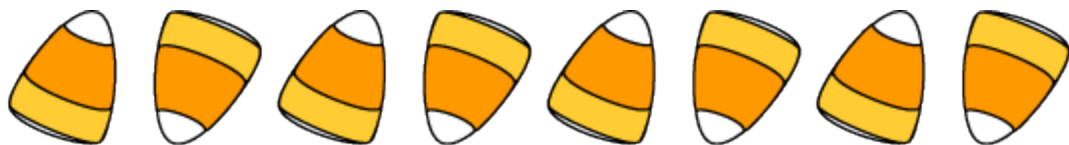
At the Upper Parking Lot next to the school playground

Come and join us for a safe Halloween experience!!



If you are interested in helping out, please contact Patty Meehan, Saint Michael Church Secretary, at 724-588-9800. Let her know if you:

- Will bring your car to decorate & give out candy
- Can't come but will donate candy to distribute





# Plaid Stockings



Plaid Stocking \$25  
Plaid Stocking w/name \$30

Place your order by  
November 15<sup>th</sup>, to  
guarantee delivery by  
December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Customize with a name!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M  
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s

Thread color will be determined by plaid pattern.







# SCRIP Gift Card Program



An easy way to earn tuition credit!

**Haven't you heard?!** You can purchase gift cards to your favorite restaurants, stores, and even gas stations and earn credit towards your child's tuition!



This program helps you earn rebates from **over 750 retailers**. Every time you purchase gift cards, you earn money that can be deducted from your tuition. Your family and friends can also participate in helping you earn rebates. You can also donate a percentage of your earned rebates to the school to help offset the cost of the Option C parent alert system or to help the school purchase items needed that benefit our students.

This is a great way to help with your tuition and donate to the school without having to sell anything!

**Gift cards make great Christmas gifts!!** Some retailers will offer bonus credit during the holiday season! Visit their website at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) to see all the cards that are available and how much you can earn in rebates!

For more information about the SCRIP program, please contact Shannon Thomas, the SCRIP Coordinator, at 724-456-1279.

You can place an order online or fill out the attached form and return it to the school with payment.







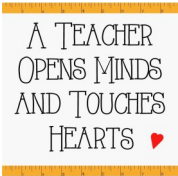








# November 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Turkey Sub All Saints Day parties and parade Spiritwear orders due	3 Election Day	4 Pepperoni Roll Staff Meeting	5 Jeans Day - No Charge	6 Pizza Day	7
8	9 Turkey Sub	10 Safe Environment Training for Students Fr. Christopher Installation Mass 7pm	11 Pepperoni Roll Staff Meeting Veteran's Day 	12 Jeans Day - No Charge PTO Hot Lunch Grades 7&8 Fundraiser Due	13 No School - Act 80 Day Parent-Teacher Conferences (via Zoom)	14 
15	16 Turkey Sub Mitten Tree donations begin 	17	18 Pepperoni Roll Lunch money and orders due Staff meeting	19 Dress Down Day - \$1 Donation	20 Pizza Day	21
22 	23 Turkey Sub	24	25 <b>NOON DISMISSAL</b> No Lunch No SAFE	26 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>  <b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING!</b>	27 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	28
29	30 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>		