

ASMS PTO

Parent Newsletter

October 20, 2025



WOW - is it just us, or is October flying by?!

Last week, seventeen parents got together for our first **“Parents’ Night Out”** at the Clemens Center for a comedy show — and it sounds like everyone had a great time! We’d love to plan more get-togethers like this, so please send along any ideas for future events.

A huge thank you to **Regan** for unofficially chairing the comedy night and helping make it happen!

Lost and Found

Reminder: the lost and found ASMS gear will be returned to the ASMS clothing exchange in two weeks. Please remember to claim items that belong to you before the items are donated.

Upcoming Dates

10/20: Picture Day

10/24: Halloween Dance

11/5: Fall Concert (No Study Hall)

11/11: No School

11/20: Staff Harvest Luncheon

Parents- We can’t do this without you!

Every PTO event happens ONLY because of **your support and involvement**.

Here’s what’s coming up and where we could really use your help:



Halloween Dance: October 24

There are still some donations needed for the dance: [Halloween Dance Donations](#)

Any questions, contact: Regan: orr.regan@yahoo.com

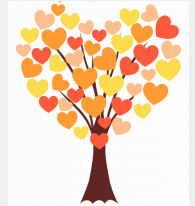


🍎 Staff Appreciation: November 20

The ASMS PTO is hosting our annual Fall Harvest Luncheon to thank our amazing teachers, administrators, and staff for all they do to make ASMS a wonderful place to learn. This beloved tradition is one of the most anticipated events of the year!

Help us make it special by volunteering your time, contributing a dish, or donating a small gift card. The luncheon menu includes appetizers, salads, sandwiches, drinks, and desserts. We also need volunteers to help set up, serve, clean up and supervise the lunchroom so staff can fully enjoy their celebration.

As part of the festivities, we'll present a "Gratitude Tree" filled with heartfelt student notes, along with \$10 gift cards donated by families (Dunkin', Amazon, Wegmans, Michaels, etc.). Gift cards can be placed in an envelope labeled "Staff Luncheon" and given to Noriko Chavez at the front desk.



Start planning now for how you can contribute and watch for the Sign up Genius in our next newsletter!

- Questions? Feel free to contact Michelle Schaut at justaskmichelle@gmail.com

🌍 Cultural Day: February 6

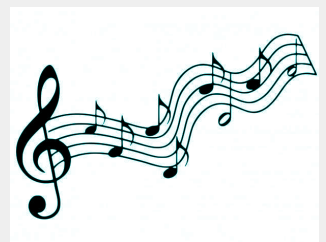
This special afternoon celebrates the countries and cultures that are meaningful to our ASMS families. Historically we have showcased two countries and so far, we have one amazing volunteer presenting **Egypt**. Please consider helping us recognize another country and/or offer to help coordinate the activities for the afternoon.

- Interested in helping? Contact Jieun at hanjieunkim@gmail.com

🎵 PRISM: April 1

PRISM is the school's primary and only **fundraising event of the year**, raising scholarship funds for prospective students. It's held alongside musical performances by our talented ASMS students. We're looking for volunteers to help with:

- Event promotion
- Brainstorming new ideas
- Contacting local businesses for raffle donations
- General event support



It's a **fun, high energy night** for a fantastic cause!

- Interested in helping? Contact Annie at anniej@gmail.com

****No experience is needed** for any of the above– our current parent volunteers will walk you through everything. If we don't have enough volunteers, we may need to cancel events. All we ask is some of your time to help make ASMS an even better experience for our students, families, and community. ❤️

Community and Volunteering Opportunities

Coat Drive: October 1-31

Hi ASMS Family!

On behalf of the Islamic Association of the Finger Lakes and Medical Muslims Student Association at LECOM at Elmira -- I am requesting all families ... if you have any new AND/OR gently used winter items to please donate it to the FIFTH annual Coat Drive.

A box will be in the lobby of ASMS and in the additional drop-off locations listed below.

We are collecting items until October 31st.

ASMS has been an integral part of this event in helping us collect items! :)

All items will be handed out directly to people in need on Saturday, November 2nd at the LECOM Event Center.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at 607-765-7317.

Thank you! :)

Rubina Qadeer

A festive poster for the 'Share the Warmth COAT DRIVE'. The background is dark blue with white snowflakes. At the top right is a red mitten with a yellow star. On the left is an orange scarf. At the bottom left is a pair of brown gloves. On the right is a red sweater. The text is centered on a white background. The title 'Share the Warmth COAT DRIVE' is in a mix of script and bold sans-serif fonts. Below it, it says 'Come participate in the FIFTH Annual Coat Drive!' and 'We are accepting new and gently used: COATS - SCARVES - GLOVES - HATS - SOCKS ALL SIZES'. A list of drop-off locations follows: IAFL MAIN LOBBY, LECOM at ELMIRA MAIN LOBBY, CHEMUNG VALLEY MONTESSORI SCHOOL, ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL FOR MATH AND SCIENCE, ST MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL, and NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL. A red banner with white text says 'OCT 1 - OCT 31'. Below that, it says 'Help us help our community!' and 'For more information, please contact: elmiracoatdrive@gmail.com'. At the bottom, it says 'All items will be hand-delivered to the community SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 at LECOM EVENT CENTER' and 'This event is hosted by: Islamic Association of the Finger Lakes Medical Muslims Student Association at LECOM at Elmira'.

Share the Warmth
COAT DRIVE

Come participate in the FIFTH Annual Coat Drive!

We are accepting new and gently used:
COATS - SCARVES - GLOVES - HATS - SOCKS
ALL SIZES

DROP OFF LOCATION BINS
IAFL MAIN LOBBY
LECOM at ELMIRA MAIN LOBBY
CHEMUNG VALLEY MONTESSORI SCHOOL
ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL FOR MATH AND SCIENCE
ST MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

OCT 1 - OCT 31

Help us help our community!

For more information, please contact:
elmiracoatdrive@gmail.com

All items will be hand-delivered to the community
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 at LECOM EVENT CENTER
This event is hosted by:
Islamic Association of the Finger Lakes
Medical Muslims Student Association at LECOM at Elmira

Little Hawk Threads (Eagle Scout Project)

A donation collection bin for Little Hawk Threads will be available at ASMS. They are in need of new socks and underwear to support elementary students in the community. Further information is in the flier below.

Eagle Scout Service Project for

Little Hawk Threads



Little Hawk Threads is in need of **NEW CHILDREN'S SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR** in the following sizes:

NEW CHILDREN'S SOCKS
small, medium and large

NEW CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR
3T - Children's large

Other ways to donate to support the project:

AMAZON WISH LIST	GOFUNDME
	
https://amzn.to/46wGlii	https://bit.ly/3I7iHBa

SOCK AND UNDERWEAR DRIVE

When:

October 13th – 31st

**Donation drop off
points:**

- Any CPP school district building
- Southeast Steuben County Library
- Christ Episcopal Church
- Frans Landing
- The Alternative School for Math and Science

Email: Thomas Seymour
EagleProject25Troop2@gmail.com



Thank you for your support



Library Corner

Hello Owls,

October is well underway, and many students are asking for scary books to read in honor of the season. Horror is a consistently popular genre among middle graders – and for good reason!

Have you ever wondered why so many kids love to read scary stories? Literature gives children and teens a safe place to *practice* hard things. Adolescence can be frightening for very real reasons, and reading horror allows them to experience fear in a controlled, low-stakes environment. Author Neil Gaiman calls it an “inoculation” for fear – a way for readers to feel and process it safely so they’re a little better prepared for the real thing.

Chelsey Roos of the American Library Association explains it beautifully:

“Reading horror allows kids who have grown up in safe and secure settings to experiment with both fear and bravery. They get to put themselves in the shoes of the main characters experiencing the fright, but also feel the triumph and exhilaration of outsmarting the evil clown or rescuing their little sister from a malevolent spirit.

On the flip side, horror can also appeal to kids who are currently experiencing insecurity or trauma because it feels familiar to them. For many kids, the world already feels like a scary, unfair place, and horror doesn’t try to put a big sunny smile over that. Instead, it shows kids how to confront overwhelming, frightening situations where they might feel powerless, frequently through metaphorical plots that connect to real-life situations. In horror stories, the main characters are often going through grief, loneliness, or other big feelings. Some kids feel lectured to when they read about these feelings in a realistic novel, but in a scary story, the thrills and adventure make the plot more enjoyable.”

“Something scary...” is one of the most common requests we hear in the library. If your student is looking for something a little spooky this fall, here are some great middle-grade horror reads recommended by the ALA. Most of these titles are available in our library or through Sora – and there are plenty more to explore if this is a favorite genre in your house!

Great Horror Reads

Classic Scares That Still Hold Up:

- *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* – Alvin Schwartz
- *Wait Till Helen Comes* – Mary Downing Hahn
- *Coraline* – Neil Gaiman
- *Skeleton Man* – Joseph Bruchac

Contemporary Creepy Hits:

- *Small Spaces* – Katherine Arden
- *The Screaming Staircase* – Jonathan Stroud
- *The Forgotten Girl* – India Hill Brown
- *Spirit Hunters* – Ellen Oh
- *Hide and Seeker* – Daka Hermon
- *The Hiddenseek* – Nate Cernosek
- *Deadman’s Castle* – Iain Lawrence
- *Hush-A-Bye* – Jody Lee Mott

Happy reading!
Mrs. Daniels

Don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or suggestions!

- ASMS Parent Organization

PTO Board
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Julie Daugherty

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Laurie Reimel

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