

NOTES FROM MRS. NASH


Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

ST. JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

APRIL 26, 2024

Dear SJF Families,

I cannot express how proud I am of our OUTSTANDING THEATRICAL FALCONS! From the singing, to the set designs, to the organization and choreography and the overall contagious energy, our Falcons put on an incredible show. We are so grateful for our loving, creative and dedicated moderators. Without your generous time, this amazing production would not have been possible. Thank you, Ms. Hladik, Ms. Browne, Mrs. Maxwell and Ms. Dunlavy!

Our Falcons also LOVED the park day and the reptile show this past week! We have many additional field trip experiences on the horizon. This is a busy time of year! Thank you for your patience and support and thank you for continuing to choose St. John Fisher School and for entrusting your most precious gifts to us each and every day. **You belong here.** 




In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash

Important Announcements

- **Please consider joining SJF's School Advisory Board.** The top 2 areas of focus for next year are to help maintain robust student enrollment and active parish support for the long-term vitality of SJF. Secondly, to develop intentional and effective fundraising efforts to supplement the school's operating budget. Please fill out the application below if you are interested. ***If you'd like to learn more, please join our last school board meeting on Tuesday, May 14th in Kane Hall.*** Email sjfsab@gmail.com with any questions. [SAB Application](#)
- **A heartfelt thank you to Amy Pilafas and Erica Stazzone** for organizing the Father Daughter Dance AGAIN! I know there were many others who helped as well. Thank you to all of our parents who are beyond generous with their time. You are all appreciated!





- Our hearts are broken as **we mourn the loss of yet another fallen Chicago Police Officer, Luis Huesca**. We are praying for Officer Huesca and his family and will show our support of him and all Chicago Police Officers by lining 103rd Street Monday morning during his funeral procession. 
- **The Manna Fundraising Requirement (\$300/family) will be added in the FACTS system in the coming weeks.** All families will see a \$300 charge and then it will be adjusted based on the amount earned for the school up until April 30th, 2024. For example, families that met the \$300 fundraising requirement, will see two notifications (\$300 fee – 300 adjustment = no charge). The individual earnings achieved will be reflected on your FACTS statement on book day in August. For the family in the above example that achieved the \$300 goal, they will get a deduction off tuition for the following year. You can start accruing for next year's Manna Fundraising requirement as of May 1st. If you decided not to participate this year, but would like to reduce the \$300 fundraising fee through everyday shopping, please review the flyer below for additional information.
- The **May Hot Lunch Schedule** is open and available for ordering. *REMINDER: We do not offer a hot lunch option for the month of June. Please be mindful of your child's field trip when ordering lunch.* 
- **Let's Grow our Falcon Family!** Do you have a new neighbor or a new baby on your block? Let us know! We'd love to welcome them to our SJF Community! Email Mrs. Houston with the details: khouston@sjfschool.us. Thank you!
- **HEADS UP!** Baseball and softball season is upon us, which means kids sharing helmets which could turn into a **lice** outbreak...please be mindful and ensure you are not sending your child(ren) to school with lice.
- Do you want to **order an SJF yearbook**? See the flyer below for more information.
- **Extended Day:** Don't forget to sign-up your child here. If you have questions, please reach out to Mrs. O'Grady, dogrady@sjfschool.us. ***ATTENTION: extended day will close @ 3p.m. on Friday, May 10th.** As a reminder, May 10th is an 11:30 dismissal!
- **Trying to prevent that summer (academic) slide?** Visit this link to see the different options and recommendations to keep our Falcons sharp all summer long! Questions? Reach out to Ms. Schiavone, mschiavone or Mrs. Brogan, kbrogan@sjfschool.us. 



Our Falcons are brave. smart. important. kind and loved.

Looking Ahead

| | |
|--|--|
| Saturday, April 27th Help w/ the Food Drive in Kane Hall today @ 9 a.m. | 4 p.m. Mass - All are welcome! Manna @ The Convent 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. |
| Sunday, April 28th | 8 a.m & 11 a.m. Mass All are welcome!  |
| Monday, April 29th | Every day is a great day to be a Falcon! |
| Tuesday, April 30th  | *Homework Club w/ Mrs. Ade, Ms. Dunlavy & Mrs. Schiller, 3-3:45 p.m. 3rd Trimester Progress Check ~ Let's Go Falcons! |
| Wednesday, May 1st | ETC w/ Mrs. Garza, Directed Drawing 3-4:30 p.m. *Homework Club w/ Mrs. Ade, Ms. Dunlavy & Mrs. Schiller, 3-3:45 p.m. Manna @ the Convent 6-7 p.m. |
| Thursday, May 2nd | Every day is a great day to be a Falcon! |
| Friday, May 3rd | Happy Falcon Fri-YAY! Wear your favorite spirit-wear on top with your uniform bottoms! |



WE ARE INTERVIEWING PRIMARY TEACHERS FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR! PLEASE SEND ALL INTERESTED APPLICANTS AND QUESTIONS TO MAURA NASH, MNASH@SJFSCHOOL.US. JOIN OUR DYNAMIC, FRIENDLY, COLLABORATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL TEAM. NOW MORE THAN EVER IS A GREAT TIME TO BE A PART OF OUR FACULTY FAMILY!

WE HAVE THE BEST KIDS AND THE MOST SUPPORTIVE PARENTS AROUND! SEND IN YOUR RESUME TODAY! MNASH@SJFSCHOOL.US



FALCONS OF THE WEEK

Holly Mueller, Molly Rafferty, Maggie Berry, Casey Dooley, Ella Schreiber, Aiden Conrad, Lorianna Griggs, Ryan Quinn, Connor Guinane, Teni Ninalowa, Alexa Flores, Clare Hayes, Emma McCarthy, Evan Dowling, Paddy McGinnis, Mac Massarro, Liam Gallagher, Lily Moran, Mary Kate Maloney, Molly Zapata, Madelyn Remegi, Olivia Glim, Olivia Bogyoo, Averie Drew, Evelyn Masnjak and Eleanor Mueller



One of our school themes is “Fly Like a Falcon”. Falcons SOAR above, capturing an aerial view of what is going on below. We are encouraging our school community to “SOAR above” things that might bring us down, not allowing us to be our best selves and to be mindful of those around us who might need our help and support. We are on a school-wide crusade to “Fly Like a Falcon”, lifting one another up, celebrating the positive interactions, and kind behavior that our students and staff demonstrate each and every day. **This week, we recognize our musical Falcons!**

Our Falcons along with their moderators Ms. Hladik, Ms. Dunlavy, Ms. Browne and Mrs. Maxwell brought back the musical to St. John Fisher! We are so blessed to have these talented and fun Falcons in our school! They are beyond brave to share their skill set with us on stage for all to see. We loved the show and appreciate how hard they worked individually and as a team. As the story goes, “we are all in this together” and we are so lucky these Falcons are on our team! Thank you Falcons for being strong leaders who are representing St. John Fisher so well. What a performance! Keep flying like Falcons, you are all making a difference!

SJF HOLY NAME SOCIETY'S 14TH ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

*We need your help to make this a success and
build on this tradition!*



Saturday April 20th

- Teams of adult and young volunteers (your children/SJF students/scouts/etc.) will go door to door throughout the neighborhood dropping off a bag and letter describing the Food Drive process and requesting parishioners to leave a bag with food on the porch the following Saturday, April 27th.
- The estimated time commitment that day is 9-10 A.M. Please come to Kane Hall @ 9A.M. to pick up your bags and street assignments. This is a great way that families can volunteer together.



Saturday April 27

- Volunteer teams will go throughout the neighborhood and collect the bags from the porches and bring them back to SJF. Separate teams would assemble and fill boxes back at SJF and load the boxes into a truck to deliver to food pantries.
- The estimated time commitment is 9-11 A.M. Please come to Kane Hall @ 9A.M. for street assignments

This drive requires lots of volunteerism. We will always need help packing boxes and we are in need of boxes. **Please contact Dave Cahill at sjfhns@gmail.com or 708.259.2981** with any questions or if you can help.



Thanks for your support.





“I Inspire” program launch aimed to help attract, motivate and retain Catholic School Teachers:

A memorial fund was set up in honor of Teri Keaty Joyce aimed to spread the message of love, kindness and support for education as that was a theme in her life. The Teri Keaty Joyce “I Inspire” Teacher Recognition Program has launched in Spring 2024 aimed to recognize the important role teachers play in the lives of children. Teachers everywhere are critical. The teachers choosing to teach in Catholic schools are extra special. A committee of educators formed by the family will invite **colleagues, parents, and current 8th Grade students at SJF to nominate ONE teacher that exhibits the criteria below.**

- Outstanding care, respect and collaboration with students, parents and colleagues.
- Flexibility in implementing differentiated learning strategies.
- Nurturing of faith, kindness, and patience
- Inspiration of students to be lifelong learners and good-hearted humans

Timeline and Next steps:

- Nomination forms are open with a **deadline of May 10** inviting **colleagues, parents and current 8th Grade students** to use the above criteria to describe the nominee in 250-500 words. An external committee will make selection decisions.
- Cash awards will be announced by the end of the school year at relevant school events in partnership with The Fisher Falcon Education Foundation.
- The program is currently funded for the next three years based on the generosity of Teri’s family and friends who wanted to give back to this unique close-knit community where many family members call home. Its impact will reach Queen of Martyrs, where Teri taught, and SJF and MHR, where her 8 grandchildren attend.

YOU CAN NOMINATE A TEACHER BY USING THE ATTACHED FORM:

[Click here to nominate a teacher](#)



Calling all divas!



THEME
diva

SCAVENGER HUNT

FRIDAY, MAY 31ST

GET YOUR TEAMS & COME DRESSED AS YOUR FAVORITE DIVA!
TEAMS OF 4-8

HUNT WILL BEGIN IN KANE HALL @ 5:30 PM

NO TEAM? NO PROBLEM! SIGN UP & WE'LL PLACE YOU ON A TEAM

\$30 INCLUDES PIZZA & 2 DRINKS AT FINAL DESTINATION

SIGN UP EARLY TO GET DIBS ON YOUR DIVA TEAM NAME!

MORE INFO & SIGN UP [HERE](#) OR [HERE](#)





In This Family *Falcons Fight Together*

Dear St. John Fisher Friends & Families,

The Dowling Family is in need of our support! Jimmy was recently diagnosed with advanced prostate cancer. Jimmy is a proud St. John Fisher Alum, Class of '88, and father to 7 children, all of whom have attended and still attend St. John Fisher.

The Dowlings have already battled cancer twice with their 9 year old son Beau, and just recently, their daughter Ella.

To make life a little easier for the Dowling family during Jimmy's treatment, we have set up an Instacart account to make shopping for groceries and other necessities easier for them.

If you are able, please donate to their Instacart account to relieve some of the burden while Jimmy battles this horrible disease.

Thank you!

Dowling Family Instacart Account



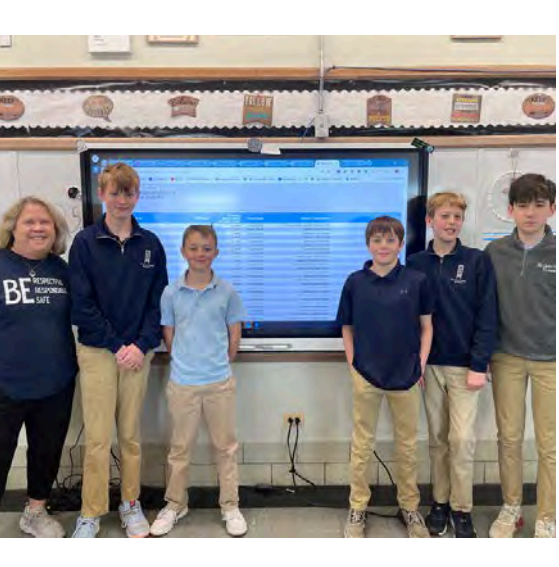
Recipient name:

Meg Dowling

Recipient Email:

megdowling12@yahoo.com















MAY ETC

The St. John Fisher Enrichment and Tutorial Center (ETC) is an after-school program designed to offer students a wide variety of classes not normally covered in the regular curriculum. Classes are a fun way for friends to explore areas of interest. The May session runs from May 5th - May 23rd. Classes meet in the designated classroom for the designated times. The cost is \$30.00 per class; checks can be made payable to St. John Fisher School. Payment should be in an envelope marked ETC and returned to the Main Office by **Friday, May 3rd**.

Monday & Thursday Class: May 6th & 9th 3:00-4:30

MOTHER'S DAY SURPRISE: Join us as we make beautiful gifts for our mothers! Students will spend two sessions making paintings and crafts that will be sure to put smiles on their mothers' faces! **Class will be dismissed from the preschool doors.**

Ms. Walsh & Mackenzie Milakovich

Room 107

Grades K- 3rd



Please return the completed registration form in an envelope marked ETC to the Main Office by Friday May 3rd.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Room #: _____

Allergies (please list all and if child carries an EPI Pen and or/inhaler) _____

*If your child has a food allergy please send him/her with his/her own snack

Parent Signature: _____ Emergency Contact #: _____

Monday & Thursday Class: May 6th & 9th 3:00-4:30

____MOTHER'S DAY SURPRISE





CAPTURE YOUR MEMORIES IN THIS YEAR'S ST. JOHN FISHER YEARBOOK!

Customize Your 2 Free Pages

Add photos from your computer, Facebook, Instagram, Google Drive & more.

Answer fun Memory Questions to help remember the year.

The 2 Custom Pages are FREE and are printed ONLY in your book. Want more pages? Each additional 2 pages is just \$0.99.

To Purchase & Customize Your Yearbook

Must be a parent or student 13 years or older.

- 1 Go to: www.treering.com/validate
- 2 Enter your school's passcode:
1015271802074961

Regular price: **\$27.39**

Create Custom Pages by: Jul 4

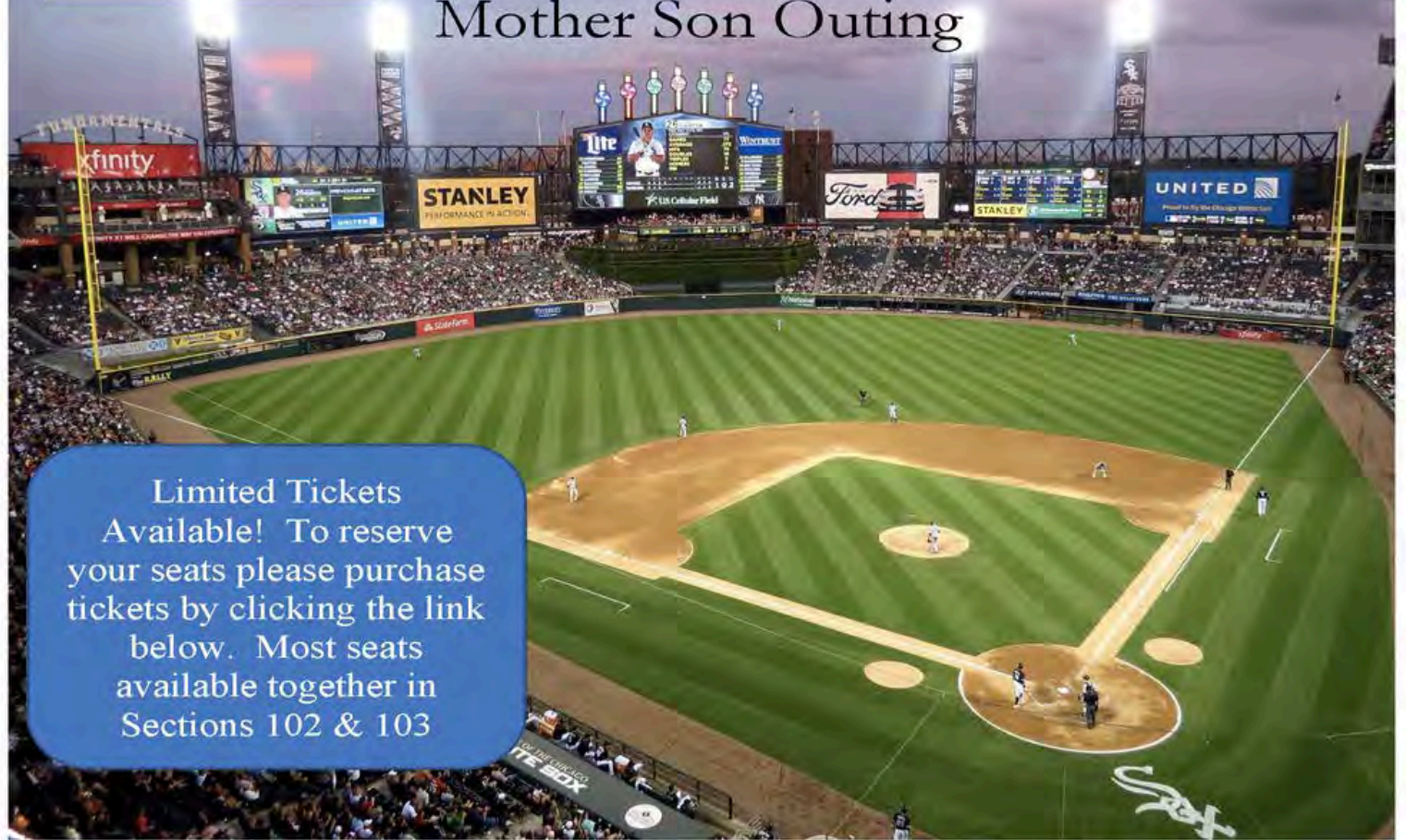
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Please join us for the SJF FSA Sponsored Mother Son Outing

Limited Tickets
Available! To reserve
your seats please purchase
tickets by clicking the link
below. Most seats
available together in
Sections 102 & 103



June 9, 2024 at 1:10 P.M.
White Sox vs. Boston Red Sox
Click the link to purchase tickets:
<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Saintjohn8>
Please email Carrie Erwinski at
Carrie726@gmail.com with any questions.
Stay tuned for information on bus transportation.

White Sox



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St. John Fisher Abbreviated Calendar

*Below is a list of important dates for the 2023-2024 school year.

- First Holy Communion: **5.4** ~ 1 p.m.
- May Crowning: **5.10** ~ 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. All-School Early Dismissal
- Memorial Day – No School: **5.27**
- Last Day of School for 8th Grade: **5.31**, 12:00 p.m. “Clap-out”
- Graduation: **6.2** ~ 1 p.m.
- Last Day of School: **6.6** ~ 10:30 a.m. dismissal

You belong here.



***1:30 p.m. dismissals** are scheduled for the last Wednesday of the following months for faculty meetings, PLC work and council collaboration: **April 24th, May 29th.**



Social & Emotional Learning

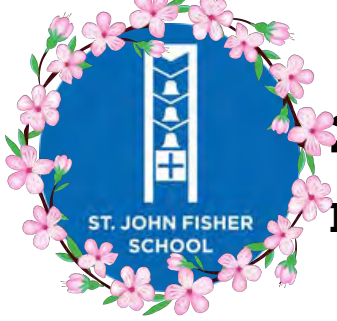
At SJF we continue to build upon our SEL goals. Each month of the school year will have an all-school focus on the trait of the month, helping students strengthen particular social skills with different lessons and activities at the classroom level and as an entire school. We encourage you to talk to your children about these traits at home for a consistent message and focus. The trait of the month program is building upon this year's behavior system and school mantra:

Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe.

| | |
|--------------|----------------|
| September | Responsibility |
| October | Respect |
| November | Gratitude |
| December | Kindness |
| January | Integrity |
| February | Friendship |
| March | Perseverance |
| April | Empathy |
| May | Optimism |



**Be Respectful, Responsible & Safe.
Be a Falcon.**



2023-2024 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern...

- Assignments
- Homework
- Class Activities

Contact [Classroom Teacher](#) by email or note.

- Discipline
- Classroom & Academic Support *after* contacting the teacher
- Behavior/Specific Incidents

Start by contacting the [Classroom Teacher](#) for an appointment.
If further assistance is needed, contact SJF Assistant Principal, Mrs. Claire Larmon: clarmon@sjfschool.us

- Reporting Attendance

E-mail attendance@sjfschool.us

- Schedules
- Calendar
- Arrival/Dismissal
- Miscellaneous Questions

Mrs. Kris Houston: khouston@sjfschool.us

- Registration
- Admissions
- MedicalForms

Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Linda Murray: lmurray@sjfschool.us

- Powerschool
- Tuition & Fees
- Technology
- Hot Lunch

Mrs. Delphine Maxwell: dmaxwell@sjfschool.us

- Virtus Training and Compliance
- Religious Education
- Extended Day Program
- Manna Program

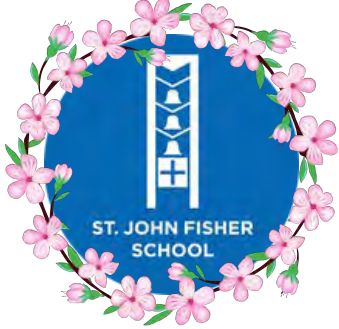
Virtus, Mrs. Redmond: mredmond@sjfschool.net
Religious Education, Dr. Chermak: echermak@sjfschool.us
Extended Day, Mrs. O'Grady: dogrady@sjfschool.us
Manna Team: sjfmanna@gmail.com

- Student Services

Assistant Principal, Mrs. Claire Larmon: clarmon@sjfschool.us

- Student Accommodation Plans

Ms. Mary Schiavone (K-4): mschiavone@sjfschool.us
Mrs. Karen Brogan (5-8): kbrogan@sjfschool.us



2023-2024 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern about...

- Reading Intervention

Ms. Mary Schiavone, mschiavone@sjfschool.us

- Math Intervention

Ms. Molly Cummings, mcummings@sjfschool.us

- Public Relations

Mrs. Megan Corley, mcorley@sjfschool.us

- Parent Newsletter
- Financial Aid Applications
- School Procedures
- Administrative Matters
- Policy
- Further assistance on any matter listed above
- Academic/Classroom support following communication with Mrs. Larmon

Contact SJF Principal,
Mrs. Maura Nash: mnash@sjfschool.us

- Band
- School Board
- Athletic Programs
- Family School Association
- Women's Club
- Holy Name Society

Mr. Bill Gula: mr.gula@aol.com
School Advisory Board: sjfsab@gmail.com
Athletic Association: stjohnfishersports@gmail.com
FSA: sjffsa103@gmail.com
Women's Club: SJFWomensClub@gmail.com
HNS: SJFHNS@gmail.com

