



NOTES FROM MRS. NASH

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

ST. JOHN FISHER SCHOOL *Welcome Home Falcons!*

AUGUST 21, 2023

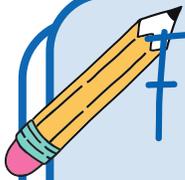
Dear SJF Families,

The time has finally arrived! The first day of school is this Wednesday, August 23rd! The teachers have been working tirelessly the past few weeks to prepare their rooms, minds and hearts for the new school year. I am incredibly grateful for the talented and compassionate teachers, aides, specialists and volunteers we have on staff this school year! We cannot wait to welcome our Falcons home with open arms; it is going to be our best school year yet! Below are a few reminders for this upcoming week. Here – we – go!

Now more than ever, it is a great time to be a Falcon! The future of our school and community is bright! Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School. **You Belong Here.**

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash



First Day of School Reminders!

- The first day of school is **Wednesday, August 23rd** which is an **11:30 dismissal**. *Parents are not allowed in the building on the first day.*
- Staggered arrival times continue this year in order to ease the morning traffic flow. Students with the last name beginning with letters A-L should arrive at 7:45 and students with the last name beginning with letters M-Z should arrive at 7:50. **Students will be considered late at 7:55.** **don't forget about the new tardy policy*
- Students should dress in their school uniforms today. (*You Belong Here* t- shirts are for Falcon Fridays ONLY!)
- **Door Assignments:**
 - **Preschool Room 107 & 109**, Door#6 under the bridge on the west side
 - **Preschool Room 108 & 110**, Door #7 on the Fairfield side south door across from the convent
 - **Kindergarten**, Door#8 east side of the church foyer, off of the rectory driveway
 - **1st & 2nd Grade**, Door#9 Fairfield entrance, just north of the main church doors
 - **3rd & 4th Grade**, Door#4 Kane Hall entrance
 - **5th & 6th Grade**, Door #3 Library entrance doors off of 102nd Street
 - **7th & 8th Grade**, Door #1 Main Office Doors, 10200 S. Washtenaw



Important Announcements

- **SJF's Tuition Raffle is BACK!** Please see the flyer below. 3 Tickets will go home with every family this Thursday. All money must be turned into the office by August 29th. The winner will be drawn at Back to School Night on August 29th. Thank you for playing! Extra tickets are available for purchase at the Manna Office.
- **School Supply Drop-off** for students in pre-k - third is Tuesday, August 22nd from 4-6 p.m. Enter through your child's designated doors outlined above.
- **Parents – please enjoy doughnuts on the lawn** immediately after drop-off Wednesday morning outside of the Convent Doors on 102nd and Fairfield.
- If you ordered the back to school ***You Belong Here T-shirt*** but did not pick up your order at Packet Pick-up Night, we will send home your order with your child this week. ***These t-shirts can be worn on Fridays ONLY with the students' uniform bottoms.***
- **Extended Day** will begin on Monday August 28th. Don't forget to sign-up your child here. If you have questions, please reach out to Mrs. O'Grady, dogrady@sjfschool.us
- **SJF Behavior Bootcamp is BAAACCKK!** SJF staff has worked hard to identify what our core behavior expectations are for all of our Falcons while at school. Falcons will be traveling to different stations throughout the building this week to be reminded of who we are and what our behavioral expectations are. More information will be coming, but don't worry if your child tells you they are in boot camp!

Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe. Be a Falcon!

- **SJF Traits of the Month** are back. Please be on the lookout in our school newsletter and teacher communication for ways you can join us in emphasizing these important traits of the month at home.
- The **Parish Picnic is this Sunday** @ Beverly Park. Mass is at 11 a.m. and food and activities follow. See you there!
- The **Lunch Program will begin on the Tuesday, September 5th**. The menu will be available by the end of the week for families to order lunches. Lunches have gone up to \$6.25 and milk only is .85.
- This year's **Wednesday Early Dismissals will be @ 1:30**.



We have noticed a change in some of the habits of our Falcons in our post COVID world. Some of the changes have been positive and some of the changes have been negative. The SJF Faculty and Staff have spent time reflecting on some of the changes in behavior coupled with our policies and have decided it is in the very best interest of our Falcons to make the following changes to our Tardy Policy and Academic Study Hall Policy. We will continue to address these behaviors throughout the year utilizing our traits of the month, but beginning with our Back to School Bootcamp 2.0!

Update: SJF Tardy Policy

Students arriving to school AFTER the 7:55 a.m. bell require an adult to sign them in at the School Office.

- Being on time is an important life skill we strive to reinforce with students. If a student arrives after the 7:55 bell has rung, he/she is late for school and consequently, this disrupts his/her class.
- All students arriving after 7:55 a.m. must enter through the main entrance **with an adult** and report to the School Office. The adult must sign them in at that time.
- If a child enters school without an adult, a parent/guardian will be called to return to school to sign-in the child.
- Students will be marked tardy if they are not in their homeroom by 7:55 a.m.
- Tardy slips will be issued by the School Office.
- Excessive tardiness indicates a lack of effort to improve the behavior and will result in an administrative review.
- Establishing this good habit will be useful not just in academic contexts, but also in their personal and professional life in the future.

Update: Academic Eligibility Study Hall

SJF will no longer host the mandatory academic eligibility study hall.

- All students are to perform to the best of their ability.
- There will now be 2 progress checks per trimester.
- If a student has 2 D's and/or an F average in any class at the progress report check or report card distribution time, that student cannot attend any St. John Fisher sanctioned extra-curricular activities for one week.
- In some cases a parent meeting will be required to determine when a student can return to extra-curricular activities. St. John Fisher reserves the right to determine a student's eligibility.

Faculty & Staff Updates

Currently, our world is experiencing a significant teacher shortage. This trend is impacting many of the schools in our area. We cannot express enough the overwhelming appreciation we have for our incredibly dedicated and talented faculty and staff who sacrifice so much to work at St. John Fisher School. We are excited to announce the below faculty and staff transitions and welcome our new faculty and staff members to the SJF Family!

FACULTY & STAFF TRANSITIONS

- Mrs. Karen Ade, 5th & 6th grade Social Studies, 6th grade Homeroom Teacher
- Mrs. Molly Cummings, 5th grade Math & Religion, 5th grade Homeroom Teacher
- Mrs. Colleen Dunlavy, 6th grade Math & Religion, 5th grade Homeroom Teacher
- Mrs. Beth Furlong, 3 & 4 year-old part-time Preschool Co-teacher, part-time Preschool Aide
- Mrs. Moira Garza, 4 year old full-time Preschool Teacher
- Mrs. Lisa Healy, 3 year-old full-time Preschool Aide
- Ms. Annabelle Hladik, 5th grade ELA, 5th grade Homeroom Teacher
- Mrs. Annmarie Lindgren, 3 & 4 year-old part-time Preschool Co-teacher, part-time Preschool Aide
- Mrs. Erin Rech, Kindergarten Teacher
- Mrs. Diane O'Grady, 4 year-old part-time Preschool Aide, Extended Day Coordinator

WELCOME NEW FACULTY & STAFF

- Mrs. Molly Fitzgerald, part-time Preschool Aide
- Dr. Jean Simpson, 5th grade Math & Religion, 5th grade Homeroom Teacher *taking over for Mrs. Cummings' maternity leave until January.

TOGETHER OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT!





St. John Fisher FSA Tuition Raffle

\$50 per ticket or 3 for \$100

August 12th - August 29th

Tickets and money must be returned to school
no later than August 29th

Winner will be announced at Open House on
August 29th

Prizes

These prizes are based on a **minimum of 200 tickets sold.

1st Place - One year tuition credit for one student OR \$5000 cash

2nd Place - \$500 Tuition credit or \$400 cash

3rd Place - \$250 Tuition credit or \$150 cash

**If you need extra tickets please contact
Karen McDonagh 773-852-9605**

Prizes adjusted for **100 - 200 tickets sold:**

1st Place - ½ year tuition credit or \$3000 cash

2nd Place - \$400 tuition credit or \$400 cash

3rd Place - \$200 tuition credit or \$200 cash

Prizes adjusted for **less than 100 tickets sold:**

1st Place - \$1500 tuition credit or \$1500 cash

2nd Place - \$400 tuition credit or \$400 cash

3rd Place - \$200 tuition credit or \$200 cash



Please join us for Donuts and Coffee

When: After drop off on the first day of
school

Where: On the convent lawn

Who: All Falcon Parents



Hosted by: FSA



**The St John Fisher
Class of 2024
Welcomes you to a
Back to School Happy
Hour**

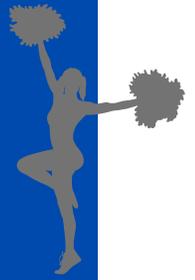
**BARNEY CALLAGHAN'S
10618 S. WESTERN
FRIDAY, AUGUST 25TH
6:30-9:30PM**

\$40/PERSON

**INCLUDES BEER, WINE, SELTZER'S, AND WELL
DRINKS**



FUTURE FALCON CHEERLEADERS



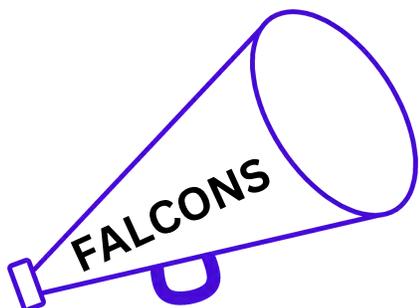
CALLING ALL K- 4TH GRADERS!

**COME AND TRAIN TO BE A FUTURE FALCON CHEERLEADER!
THE STUDENTS WILL LEARN A CHEER AND A DANCE TO BE
PERFORMED AT HALFTIME OF THE HOMECOMING GAME ON
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023.**

**STUDENTS WILL PRACTICE ON
TUESDAY 9-12-23 AND THURSDAY 9-14-23
AFTER SCHOOL FROM 3-4:15 PM.**

REGISTRATION FOR CAMP ENDS FRIDAY, AUGUST 25TH.

**MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CAMP, THE PARADE, AND GAME DAY
WILL BE SENT OUT CLOSER TO THE DATE!**



A Show and Snacks September 7th



Food Truck available at 6:45

Show starts at 7:15

Snacks for sale

Bring your lawn chairs and
blankets

**bathrooms will not be
available**

**no bikes/skates allowed*





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St. John Fisher Abbreviated Calendar

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

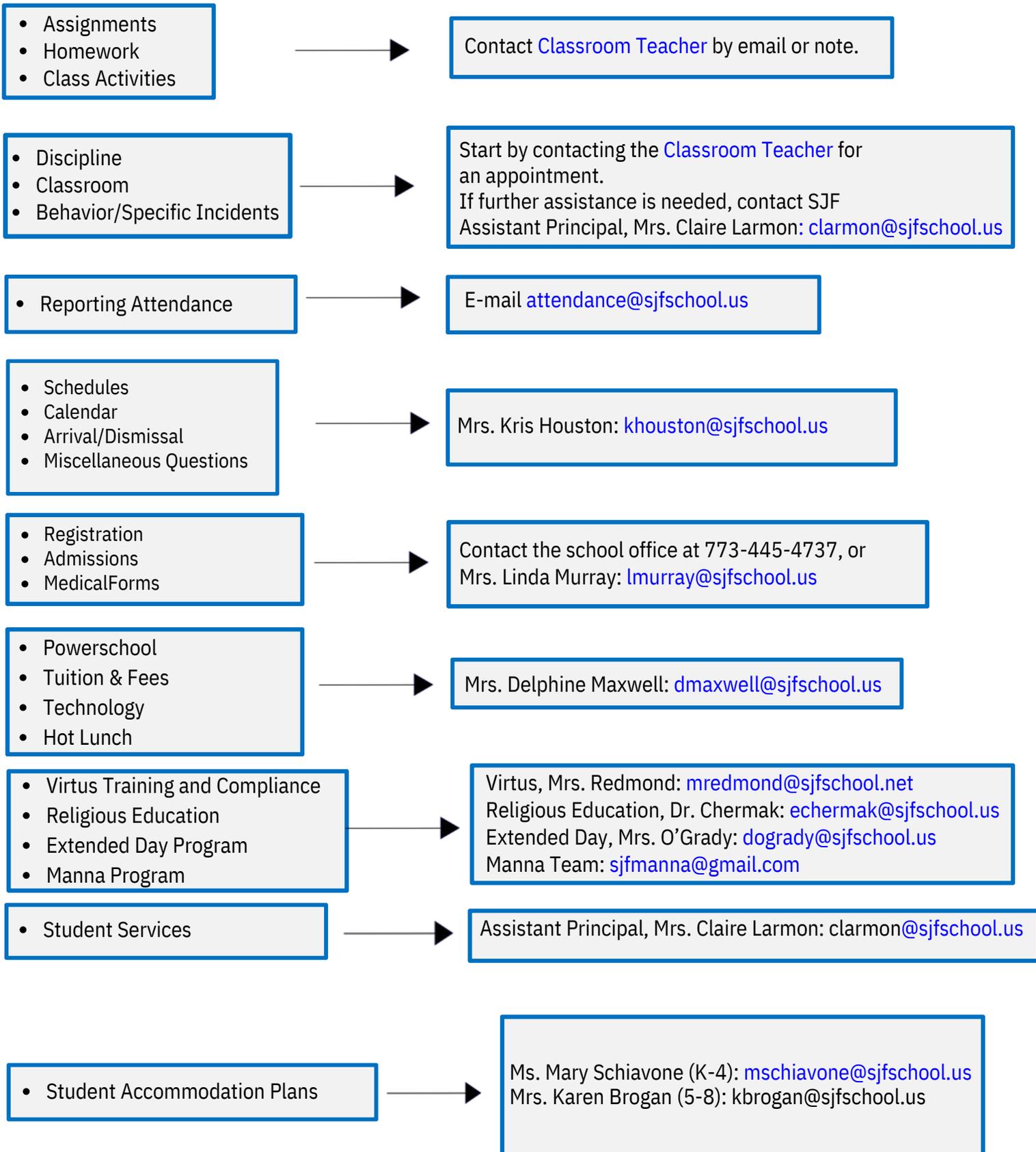
- Book Day & Packet Pick-up in Kane Hall: **8.17** ~ 5-7 p.m.
- School Supply Drop-off: **8.22** (*for students in grades pre-k – 3 ONLY*) ~ 4-6 p.m.
- First Day of School: **8.23** ~ 11:30 a.m. dismissal
- Back to School Mass & Parish Picnic at Beverly Park: **8.27** ~ 11 a.m.
- Back to School Open House: **8.29** ~ 7-8 p.m.
- Labor Day – No School: **9.4**
- School Picture Day: **9.19**
- Parent Teacher Conferences: **10.4, 10.5**
- No School: **10.6**
- Indigenous Peoples’ Day – No School: **10.9**
- Picture Day Make-up: **11.1**
- All-Staff Professional Development – No School: **11.6**
- Thanksgiving Break: **11.22 – 11.26** *classes resume **11.27**
- **12.22** ~ 11:30 a.m. dismissal
- Christmas Break: **12.22 – 1.7** *classes resume **1.8**
- Martin Luther King Day – No School: **1.15**
- Graduation Pictures: **1.23**
- Catholic Schools Week Mass: **1.28**
- Confirmation: **2.10** ~ 11 a.m.
- Parent Teacher Conferences: **2.15**
- All-Staff Professional Development – No School: **2.16**
- President’s Day – No School: **2.19**
- First Reconciliation: **2.27 & 2.28**
- All-Staff Professional Development and Planning Day: **3.4**
- Graduation Picture Make-up: **3.5**
- All-Staff Religious Professional Development – No School: **3.27**
- Spring Break: **3.28 – 4.7** *classes resume **4.8**
- 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**, 10:45 a.m. “Clap-out”
- Graduation: **6.2** ~ 1 p.m.
- Last Day of School: **6.6** ~ 10:30 a.m. dismissal

***1:30 p.m. dismissals** are scheduled for the last Wednesday of the following months for faculty meetings, PLC work and council collaboration: **September 27th, October 25th, November 29th, January 31st, February 28th, March 20th, April 24th, May 29th.**



2023-2024 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern...



(more information on the back page)



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

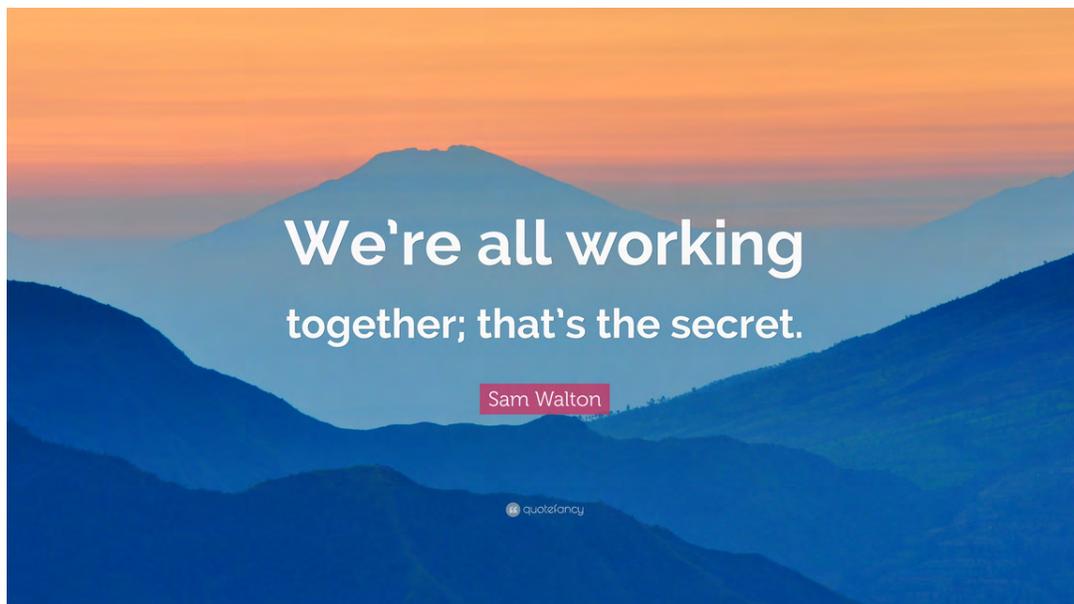
Mrs. Megan Corley, mcorley@sjfschool.us

- Parent Newsletter
- Financial Aid Applications
- School Procedures
- Administrative Matters
- Policy
- Further assistance on any matter listed above

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



A PRAYER FOR OUR STUDENTS

DEAR GOD,
THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF
EDUCATION IN EVERY FORM.
AS OUR CHILDREN PREPARE TO START A NEW YEAR
MAY CONFIDENCE BE THEIR FOUNDATION,
MAY GRACE BE THEIR GUIDE AND
MAY HOPE BE THEIR COMPASS TOWARD A BRIGHT FUTURE.
I PRAY THEY WOULD HAVE EYES TO SEE
THE NEEDS OF THOSE AROUND THEM
AND A HEART TO LOVE WELL.
MAY THEY FACE EACH DAY WITH POSITIVITY
KNOWING THAT NO MATTER
WHAT COMES THEIR WAY,
THEY DO NOT HAVE TO FACE IT ALONE.

AMEN

YOU

BELONG

here