



NOTES FROM MRS. NASH

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

ST. JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

MARCH 10, 2023

Dear SJF Families,

This week marks the beginning of the third trimester. There is nothing like the feeling of a fresh start! Our Falcons are ready to make this their best trimester yet! Our kids are so bright and when they work hard, the possibilities are truly endless! In this month of March, we pray our students persevere and *march* forward with focus and determination.

It was so wonderful sharing in the excitement of our athletic teams this season. As the winter season comes to a close, we want to thank our student-athletes for their participation, cordial competitive spirits and enthusiasm! We would also like to extend our gratitude to our volunteer coordinators and coaches who go above and beyond the call of duty to motivate, support, energize and guide our Falcons. None of this would be possible without you. Finally, a shout-out to our parents: driving kids around every day, ensuring they are at every game and practice with all of their equipment and cheering them on each week is no small feat. Thank you for your commitment to your child(ren) and SJF. Way to go Falcons!

Our Irish Mass and St. Baldrick's Event was a huge success! Our third graders were exceptional as they performed the inspiring and heroic story of St. Patrick. From our speakers to our beautiful dancers, the Mass was truly phenomenal! Thank you to all who attended and participated in both our Mass and the St. Baldrick's Fundraising Event! It was such a feel-good moment for this special cause which is so close to our community's heart. St. Baldrick's wouldn't have happened without the relentless efforts of Karen McDonagh and her dedicated committee along with our teachers and students who provided the hand painted décor, which set the tone for this fun and special night. What a wonderful way for our community to kick off the St. Patrick's Day season!

Thank you for choosing St. John Fisher School and for entrusting your most precious gifts to us each and every day. **PEACE+LOVE+SJF.**

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash

Important Announcements

- **Thank you to Mrs. Cummings and our faculty committee** for organizing SJF's inaugural **Family Night!** Thank you to the families who were able to attend! We hope nights like these continue to strengthen the relationship between home and school. **Stay tuned for more events like this next year. *We are all lucky to be Falcons!***
- **Walk with SJF in the parade on Sunday!** Thank you to Olivia Ansier and Brian Cotter for organizing this year's group. See the flyer below for more information.
- The 2023 Archdiocese of Chicago **5 Essentials Parent Survey** is open and *closes on March 17th*. Please complete the survey linked here. We are grateful for your feedback!
- **THANK YOU to Mrs. Keller and all of our parent volunteers for making this year's Book Fair so successful!** All of the Scholastic Dollars earned go right back to our library. Thank you for your support and participation.
- The April hot lunch menu is open for ordering.
- **Extended Day:** Visit [this link](#) to register your child. Reach out to Mrs. O'Grady with any questions, dogrady@sjfschool.us.

FSA Corner

- **SAVE THE DATE:** The FSA will be organizing a Mother-Son White Sox Game Sunday, May 21st. We will share more details in the coming months.

Pro Labore Dei Update

- 155 lunches were made on March 4th in 45 minutes time. Thank you to all the volunteers. You are truly amazing people! **The next lunch session will be on April 1st at 9:15 a.m. in Kane Hall.** Our known needs for now are:
 - 6 - 7 loaves of bread
 - paper plates
- This week we are beginning our annual drive for Easter baskets for the people of Robbins, Posen and Blue Island. Each year the recipients are so appreciative. Simple baskets with candy, small toys, hygiene items, coloring books and crayons are always welcome. **The deadline for Easter basket turn in is March 30th.**
- Please note that we still collect meal fixings for these communities on the parking lot from 9:30 to 10 a.m. each Saturday morning. Donations are down throughout the entire city and surrounding areas. Items like cereal, peanut butter and jelly, pasta, pasta sauce, desserts are all needed to keep our pantry operational.
- Again, thanks for making the mission so successful and fun! Any questions or concerns contact Pam O'Mara (773-612-0281) or Jerry and Pat Hayes (773-239-8428).

SJF Parade Float

WALK WITH US!

**PUT ON YOUR SJF BLUE AND WHITE OR GREEN SPIRIT WEAR AND
JOIN THE SJF FLOAT (#23) TO WALK WITH US IN
THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE!**

WHEN: 11:40 A.M. ON PARADE DAY

WHERE: MEET @ SE CORNER OF 103RD & ARTESIAN

WHO: ALL SJF STAFF, STUDENTS AND FAMILIES ARE INVITED!

KIDS ARE INVITED TO PASS OUT CANDY ALONG THE PARADE

(parent or designated chaperone required)



Looking Ahead

 <p>Saturday, March 11th</p>	<p>BLUE OUT AT MARIST! Boys Basketball Championships: 5th Grade 10 & 10:50 (main gym) & 4th Grade 12 (back gym) LET'S GO FALCONS!</p> 
<p>Sunday, March 12th Weekend Mass: 4 p.m. on Saturday, 8 & 11 a.m. on Sunday All are welcome!</p>	 <p>Walk in the Parade w/ SJF *see flyer for more details</p>
<p>Monday, March 13th</p>	<p>No School!</p>
<p>Tuesday, March 14th</p>	<p>ETC 3-4 Leprechaun Training Camp w/ Mrs. Altman ETC 3-4 Yoga w/ Mrs. Garza Homework Club 3-3:45 w/ Mrs. Ade, Mrs. Schiller & Ms. Dunlavy</p>
<p>Wednesday, March 15th</p>	<p>ETC 3-4 Leprechaun Lab w/ Mrs. Altman Homework Club 3-3:45 w/ Mrs. Ade, Mrs. Schiller & Ms. Dunlavy</p>
<p>Thursday, March 16th</p>	<p>ETC 3-4 Shamrock & Roll w/ Mrs. Altman ETC 3-4 Spring Training w/ Mrs. Ade & Ms. Dunlavy</p>

REST IN PEACE OFFICER VASQUEZ-LASSO





FALCON OF THE WEEK

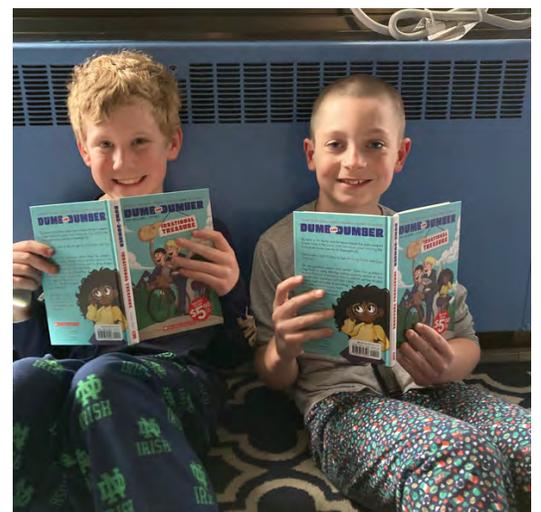
Mackenzie Milakovich, 6th Grade

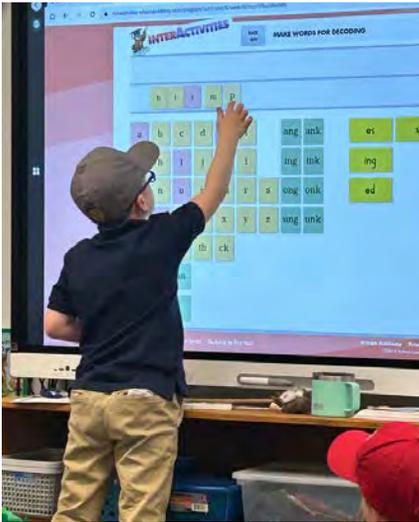


One of our school themes is “Fly Like a Falcon”. Falcons SOAR above, capturing an aerial view of what is going on below. We are encouraging our school community to “SOAR above” things that might bring us down, not allowing us to be our best selves. We are on a school-wide crusade to “Fly Like a Falcon”, 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 Mackenzie Milakovich from sixth grade.**

Mackenzie is not only thoughtful, kind, gentle, intelligent and hard working, but she is also an incredibly talented and captivating artist. Mackenzie is well-known for her artistic abilities, but she is also known for her generosity as she frequently shares her talent with all of us. Recently, as a gift and tribute to our Falcon community's cancer survivors and victims, Mackenzie drew portraits of those we honored and celebrated at our St. Baldrick's Event. This is not out of the ordinary. Mackenzie often draws pictures and portraits for her friends, teachers and family. She is very giving of her time and her amazing artwork brings love and joy to those around her. Thank you Mackenzie for showing us and teaching us how to use our talents for good! Your artwork makes us happy and proud. You always go above and beyond and you are a role model and an example to us all. Keep flying like a Falcon, Mackenzie. You're making a difference!



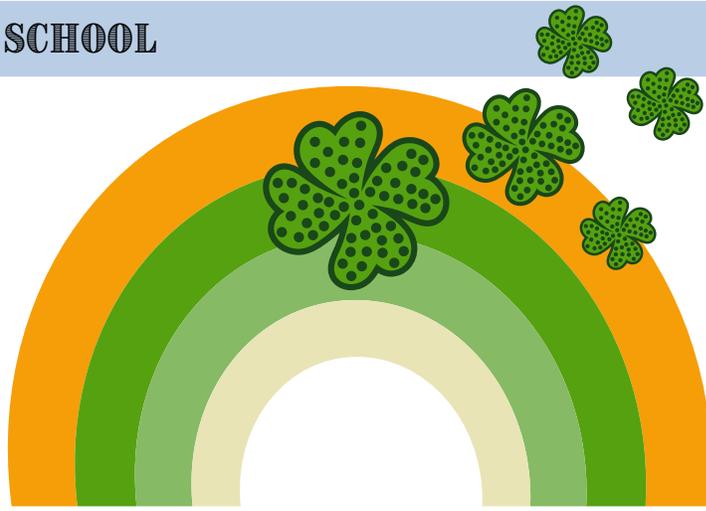












Social & Emotional Learning

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.**

St. John Fisher Father Daughter Dance

Cloud 9

6:00 - 9:00pm

Saturday, April 1, 2023

RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB

10522 S. CALIFORNIA AVENUE

DJ & Dancing

Dinner & Desserts:

Mini burgers, flat bread pizzas, chicken nuggets,
tater tots, fruit, franks and more!

& More:

*Raffle Baskets & Split the Pot: Bring
your cash for tons of great prizes.

*Bracelet bar hosted by Radiant Relic

*Photo Ops: \$5 for professional photos and
selfie station available

Last Name: _____

Adult Ticket: \$25

Adult Name: _____

Number of Children's

Tickets x \$25 each: _____

Student(s) Names: _____

(Maximum cost per family \$100)

RSVP By March 24th

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Enclose this form, along with cash or check made
payable to FSA, to the office in an envelope labeled "Office: Dance"

FALCON FITNESS

Running Club



***Begins the week of April 17th ***

Calling ALL 3rd-8th Graders!

Join us for the "Couch to 5k" Challenge!



To register your child(ren) please scan here and complete the Google form. More information will follow!



Parent Runner Volunteers:
Scan Here to sign up to help
with practices.

DETAILS:

- Running club will meet **TWICE** a week: **Fridays and Sundays**
- We will meet at Kane Hall doors and run around the perimeter of the school campus.
- Runners will be placed in groups based on grade level: 3/4, 5/6, 7/8
- The **GOAL** is to be able to run a 5k at the end of the 6 weeks!
- The Falcon Fitness Running Club members will sign up to run the Ridge Run 5k on 5/29!



cathaleen.novak@gmail.com

Kerry McNicholas @ 708-525-0705

YAY!



YAY!

MANNA UPDATE

Manna participation has increased significantly! Thank You! May thru December of this year totals \$83,000 of rebate earnings directly benefiting SJF families and the school. Almost half of school families have already accrued \$300 in total rebates. If you want to know where you stand, just ask the Manna team when you stop in or email sjfmanna@gmail.com.

The school office will be sending out a usage report to all families in the next couple weeks. Many more families are finding the **RaiseRight App and Website** to be an easy way to use the program regularly. Gift cards can even be sent home in your child's folder for no hassle.

Tip: Set a reminder on your phone before 10AM Sunday to place a weekly order on the app for everyday purchases. To request gift cards be sent home with our child, **PLEASE SUBMIT:** the **Manna Waiver Form** - Agreement for Gift Cards to be sent home through school. Submitting this form will signal to the Manna team that you'd like ALL orders to be sent home from school.

Want more information: Manna Overview. Quick videos to make it easy: Video demo for the app or Video to help understand the rebates. At SJF 40% of the rebate goes to the school and 60% goes to family. ***The Goal is for this program to help SJF maintain competitive tuition rates.*** Any questions or ideas: Email sjfmanna@gmail.com or School Board at sjfsab@gmail.com

Manna Hours:

Mondays: 8:00 – 9:00 AM

Wednesdays: 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Thursdays: 8:00 - 9:00 AM

Fridays: 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Saturdays: 8:30 - 9:30 AM

Sundays: 10:30 AM - 11:30 PM

Vietnam Era Veterans 50th Anniversary Honor Event



St. Cajetan Parish is hosting a Mass and Pinning Ceremony honoring all Vietnam Era veterans on March 29th, 2023, at 7:00pm. We are inviting all Vietnam era veterans to attend this event honoring them and their spouses! The U. S. Congress has designated, and President Biden has signed into law, marking March 29 th as the official 50th Anniversary date of the Vietnam War. In so doing, the Act requests that all veterans who served during this period should be honored and thanked for their service. As part of this honor, Congress has created a Veteran Pin and a Spouse/Family Pin to be presented to all veterans and their spouses and/or family.

In this spirit, Saint Cajetan Parish, in cooperation with the Mendel Alumni Association Veterans Committee, are presenting a Mass and Pinning Ceremony to honor all of our local Vietnam on March 29th at 7:00pm at St. Cajetan Parish Church!!

**Please rsvp by 3/27/23 to: jroccasalva@cajetan.org
Or call 773-474-7800**



SJF Alumni

75th Anniversary Montage
Coming 2023-2024



We Are Collecting **Throw-back** SJF Photos

Share your old grade school photos

Please include
caption and year



Email to:
sjfalum@gmail.com



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*Below is a list of important dates for the 2022-2023 school year. Because of the unpredictable world we live in, these dates are subject to change. We are hopeful for a very “normal” school year ahead!

- No School: **3.13**
- Faculty Professional Development – No School: **3.24**
- Faculty Professional Development – No School: **4.5**
- Spring Break: **4.6 – 4.16** *classes resume **4.17**
- First Holy Communion: **4.29**
- Memorial Day – No School: **5.29**
- Last Day of School for 8th Grade: **6.2**
- Graduation: **6.4** ~ 1 p.m. in church
- Last Day of School: **6.8** - 10:30 dismissal

Come as you are. You are loved.



***1 p. m. dismissals** are scheduled for the last Wednesday of the following months for faculty meetings, PLC work and council collaboration: **October 26th, November 30th, December 14th, January 25th, February 22nd, March 29th, April 26th, May 31st.**



2022-2023 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
- 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 Medical
- Forms

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

- Counseling

SJF Counselor, Mrs. Julie Schultz: jschultz@sjfschool.us

- Student Accommodation Plans

Mrs. Win Biernacki (K-4): wbiernacki@sjfschool.us
Mrs. Karen Brogan (5-8): kbrogan@sjfschool.us



2022-2023 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

