



# NOTES FROM MRS. NASH

*Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.*

ST. JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

MAY 12, 2023

Dear St. John Fisher Families,

The warm weather and sunshine are adding to the excitement the end of the school year brings. As a faculty and staff, we are still on such a high from last week's teacher appreciation festivities; thank you all again!

As our athletic seasons come to a close for the 2022-2023 school year, we would like to thank all of our parents and volunteer coaches and coordinators who donate their time and energy to our kids all year long. Without you, our sports programs wouldn't be possible. We would also like to congratulate all of our athletes this year on a job well done and give a special shout-out to our 4th, 5th and 6th Grade Volleyball Teams who won first place this season! *Way to go Falcons!*

Kudos to Ms. Walsh, our junior high science teacher, and our 8th graders for a very intriguing science fair yesterday! Congratulations to our winners: 3rd place - Birgitta Andersson *On Thin Ice* and Charlie Cipriani *The Cool Spider-man Project*, 2nd place - Declan Fitzgerald, David Griggs, John Nechvatal *Baseball Cardz*, 1st place - Vinny Stubitsch and Nate Killeen, *Alka-Seltzer Launch* !

The past two years we have hosted a virtual state of the school presentation in partnership with Fr. Ken and our School Advisory Board. This year we will be sharing our financial report and tuition update in the form of a letter and one page summary. You can be on the lookout for that early next week.

Finally, Happy Mother's Day to all of the mothers, grandmothers and godmothers in our community. We would all be lost without you! For all of your love, generosity, kindness, grace and understanding, you are appreciated more than words can describe. Have a wonderful Mother's Day Weekend!

There are so many incredible things going on at SJF. Thank you for entrusting your children to us each day and for choosing Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School.

In unity and hope,  
-Mrs. Maura Nash

## Manna Update

- **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, 2023. 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, [check out resources here to get started.](#)

## Employment Opportunities

- **Middle School Math Teacher** to cover a maternity leave beginning in August and ending in December of 2023. **Please express interest at [mnash@sjfschool.us](mailto:mnash@sjfschool.us).**
- **School Counselor** part-time school counselor. **Please express interest at [mnash@sjfschool.us](mailto:mnash@sjfschool.us)**
- **Development Lead** SJF seeks a candidate to lead school fundraising strategy for the school's 75th Anniversary. This person would work closely with the School Leadership, Foundation, and School Advisory Board on planning, communication, and fundraising execution. This person is not expected to lead all fundraisers and would have the help of parent organizations. The ideal candidate is a self-starter with experience in sales and/or development and a proven track record of building relationships and collaborating across a variety of stakeholders. Alumni of SJF that may be interested in supporting these efforts in as a part-time resource or committee member, please let us know. **Please express interest at [sjfsab@gmail.com](mailto:sjfsab@gmail.com).**

## Volunteer Opportunities

- **School Advisory Board:** We are seeking new School Advisory Board Members for next school year. Our top two focus areas we are looking for help with include our 75th Anniversary planning and school enrollment. For the 75th Anniversary Planning, it would be ideal to welcome a board member that is a graduate of SJF and/or has a sales/development background. If you are interested, **please fill out this form**.
- **Athletic Board:** The SJF Athletic Board is looking to fill the following positions for the 2023-2024 school year:
  - Treasurer
  - Vice President
  - Girls Basketball Coordinator
  - Assistant Girls Basketball Coordinator
  - Concession Stand Coordinator
  - Assistant Boys Basketball Coordinator
  - JV Cheer Coach
  - JV Cheer Assistant Coordinator
- **Reach out to Athletic Board President Steve Scarsella** [sdscarsella@gmail.com](mailto:sdscarsella@gmail.com) with questions. Go Falcons!



*We need your help!*

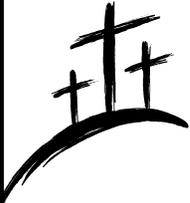


## Important Announcements

- Kindergarten - 8th grade students will be completing their **3rd and final iReady assessment in Reading and Math on Tuesday through Friday of next week.** Please be sure to encourage your child to get a full night's rest ahead of the assessments and to eat a good breakfast. Let's Go Falcons! We can't wait to see your progress! 
- Are you running the **Ridge Run**? Run with the Falcon Running Club! Visit this link to register and enter the code "team2023" for \$5 off. Let's Go Falcons! 
- **Attention SJF 3rd Grade Parents:** We are trying to gauge the number of kids who are interested in playing 4th grade football in the fall of 2023. This will help determine how much equipment we will need as well as the number of coaches to help. This is not the official sign-up for the program. **Please let football coordinator Bob Rusch know** if your child is interested by emailing [sjfaatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:sjfaatreasurer@gmail.com).   
Do you want to order an **SJF yearbook**? See the flyer below for more information.
- **Extended Day:** Visit this link to register your child. Reach out to Mrs. O'Grady with any questions, [dogrady@sjfschool.us](mailto:dogrady@sjfschool.us).
- **Used Chromebooks for sale** - \$20! Contact Mrs. Maxwell if you are interested, [dmaxwell@sjfschool.us](mailto:dmaxwell@sjfschool.us). 
- 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](mailto:khouston@sjfschool.us). Thank you!



## Looking Ahead

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  <p><b>Weekend Mass</b></p>   | <p><i>4 p.m. Saturday, 8 &amp; 11 a.m. Sunday</i><br/> <i>All are welcome!</i></p> <p><i>Happy Mother's Day!</i></p>          |
| <p><b>Monday, May 15th</b></p>  | <p><b>Academic Study Hall w/ Ms. Dunlavy 3-4 p.m.</b><br/> <b>ETC Spring Science &amp; Stem w/ Mrs. Altman, 3-4 p.m.</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Tuesday, May 16th</b><br/> <b>All-School iReady Testing</b></p>   | <p><b>Homework Club w/ Mrs. Ade, Mrs. Schiller and Ms. Dunlavy 3-3:45</b><br/> <b>ETC Backyard Bash w/ Mrs. Altman &amp; Mrs. Sefcik, 3-4 p.m.</b><br/> <b>ETC Gabby's Dollhouse w/ Mrs. Garza, 3-4 p.m.</b></p> |
| <p><b>Wednesday, May 17th</b><br/> <b>All-School iReady Testing</b></p>   | <p><b>Homework Club w/ Mrs. Ade, Mrs. Schiller 3-3:45</b><br/> <b>Academic Study Hall w/ Ms. Dunlavy 3-4 p.m.</b><br/> <b>ETC Super Mario Bros w/ Mrs. Altman, 3-4 p.m.</b></p>                                  |
| <p><b>Thursday, May 18th</b><br/> <b>All-School iReady Testing</b><br/> <b>Spring Band Concert @ 7 p.m.</b></p>  | <p><b>ETC Yoga w/ Mrs. Garza, 3-4 p.m.</b><br/> <b>ETC Outdoor Games w/ Ms. Dunlavy &amp; Mrs. Ade, 3-4 p.m.</b><br/> <b>ETC Camp Out w/ Mrs. Altman, 3-4 p.m.</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Friday, May 19th</b><br/> <b>Kindergarten Field Trip</b></p>  | <p><b>8th Grade Ribbon Mass and Donuts on the Lawn</b><br/> <b>Kids Helping Kids Day - Bring in a \$1 to support Special Olympics &amp; dress in red!</b></p>  |



## Social & Emotional Learning

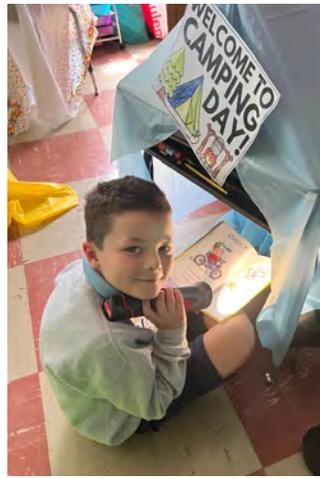
At SJF we continue to build upon our SEL goals. Each month of the school year will have an all-school focus on the trait of the month, helping students strengthen particular social skills with different lessons and activities at the classroom level and as an entire school. We encourage you to talk to 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.**











Joe Guinane Memorial Scholarship

American Legion Award



Vinny Stubitsch & Caitlin Kinnane



Brian Ortell, Tommy Buker & Brigid O'Malley



PIC • COLLAGE

# WE'RE HIRING



## MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH TEACHER

- Maternity Leave for the '23-'24 School Year
- August 15th - December 22nd
- Team-oriented, nurturing, warm and friendly work environment

### Qualifications:

- College Degree Required
- Math competency
- Highly organized and energetic
- Team oriented
- Strong communication skills
- Reliable



Send Your Resume  
[mnash@sjfschool.us](mailto:mnash@sjfschool.us)



For more information about SJF  
[www.sjfschool.net](http://www.sjfschool.net)



Proudly presents:

*Celebration of*  
**KINDNESS**

A St. John Fisher community event in support  
of the inaugural Sister Jean McGrath  
Kindness Scholarship & SJF School.

Sunday, June 11th 2023

12:30 pm

Ridge Country Club

*Event & Scholarship organized by the SJF Women's Club*

Buffet Lunch | Beer & Wine | Split the Pot Raffle

\$100/person

Tickets & scholarship details can be found at:

[SJFkindnessgivesmart.com](http://SJFkindnessgivesmart.com)

"Remember to be kind because that's the best gift we can give our world."

-Sister Jean McGrath-

*Help donate to those in hunger.*  
**St. John Fisher Holy Name Society**



***THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!***

# **FOOD DRIVE**

***THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!***

The **SJF Holy Name Society's Food Drive** will take place on May 20th! We need your help!  
Saturday May 13 - Teams of adult volunteers with help from young volunteers (your children/SJF students/scouts/etc.) would go door to door through 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 (May 20). Please come to Kane Hall at 9 AM to pick up your bags and street assignments.

Time commitment: 9-11 a.m.

Saturday May 20 - Teams would go through the neighborhood and collect canned goods from front porches. These items would be brought back to SJF. Separate teams would assemble and fill boxes back at SJF. These would be loaded into a truck and then delivered to food pantries. Please come to Kane Hall at 9 AM for street assignments.

Time commitment: 9-11 a.m.

This drive will require quite a bit of volunteerism. We will always need help packing boxes at SJF. Contact Dave Cahill at [sjfhns@gmail.com](mailto:sjfhns@gmail.com) or 1-708-259-2981 with any questions or if you can help.

***Please let us know if you have access to a quantity of sturdy boxes.***

## Summer 2023 Recommendations for Enrichment Activities (and Other Fun Things to Do)

Some of our parents have asked for ideas to keep their children's learning fresh and the body and mind active this summer. Just a heads up - camps do fill quickly. ***This list is being updated frequently - check back often! If you know of a camp or activity we should include, please email Mrs. Karen Brogan at [kbrogan@sjfschool.us](mailto:kbrogan@sjfschool.us) or Mrs. Win Biernacki at [wbiernacki@sjfschool.us](mailto:wbiernacki@sjfschool.us)***

### Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st grades:

**[Mrs. Altman's Preschool Summer Camp](#)** (3 - 5 yrs.) every week with a different theme!  
**[Sounder and Friends](#)** - a PBS-produced series of videos that focus on phonemic awareness. Great practice and review for students learning to read!

### All Ages/Grades:

**Tutoring:** See the **[SJF Spring/Summer Tutor List](#)**

**Read, read, read!!!** 15-20 minutes each day improves fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Here are some great reading lists for book recommendations:

- **[Time Magazine's 100 Best Children's Books](#)**
- **[Reader's Digest 25 Best Children's Books Ever Written](#)**
- **[Common Sense Media's 50 books All Kids Should Read Before They're 12](#)**
- To check the reading level of your child's book, go to [www.arbookfind.com](http://www.arbookfind.com) This will also let you know if the book will qualify for Accelerated Reader points.
- **[Chicago Public Library events for kids](#)**

While nothing replaces a parent or sibling reading with a child, **audiobooks** are a great option for car rides, independent reading, etc.:

- Chicago Public Library: <https://www.chipublib.org/browse/audiobooks> FREE
- Audible on Amazon: monthly subscription; free books with Prime membership
- Epic app for iOS or Android: 25,000 books and videos for kids 12 and under [www.getepic.com](http://www.getepic.com)

### Camps at park districts and other venues:

- **[Beverly Arts Center – Summer Camps](#)**, for students entering Kindergarten - 8th grade
- **[Chicago Park District](#)**
- **[Evergreen Park's Recreation Department](#)**
- **[Oak Lawn Park District activities](#)**
- Nature-based day and overnight **[camps for kids at the Center in Palos Park](#)**

## High Schools offering summer camps (some camps as young as Kindergarten):

- Sports, arts, theater and music camps at [Mother McAuley](#)
- Academic, athletic and other activities at [Brother Rice](#)
- Wide variety of athletics, arts, activities camps at [Marist](#)
- Athletic, cooking, art and robotics camps at [St. Rita](#)
- Academic, arts, pottery, Lego, robotics, cooking, etc. camps at [Morgan Park Academy](#)
- Athletic and enrichment camps at [St. Laurence](#)

## Camp Offerings for Students at Local Colleges::

- Moraine Valley Community College offers classes in Arts, Music, Math and Reading for grades 2-7 at their Valley Learning Center. **Dates and times have not yet been announced; check back.**
- [St. Xavier offers baseball, volleyball and basketball camps.](#)
- [SXU Media Camp for incoming high school freshmen through seniors.](#)

## Suggestions for academic and other skills practice:

- **Practice math facts** online at the fun, game-based Reflex Math. Your child should have a log-in and password; if not, please email their math teacher to get one. Even 5-10 minutes/day makes a difference!
- Students in grades 3-8 should practice their keyboarding skills. [Typing.com](#) 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students have logins and passwords, but the site can be used without a login as well.
- More typing practice for all ages in a fun, competitive way: [Race Now - 100% Free | Nitro Type](#)

# **SOCIAL EMOTIONAL "GUIDE"**

## **Children/Preteen Social Emotional Skills Groups**

The guide concept is designed by Julie Schultz.  
tutoring with a "twist"

"Guide" is a unique approach and targets social emotional skills that are often left out in the traditional classroom.

Julie is a school counselor with 21 years experience working with children ages 3-15.

Sessions may include...

Confidence building, self control, conflict resolution, self esteem, anxious thinking  
fixed/growth mindset

the "Guide" approach combines areas of need and parent feedback to determine attainable goals

Session Location will be determined by Julie and Parent.

Individual or group sessions provided.

Summer Sessions forming now!

**Reach out for more information**

**[Julieharris80@hotmail.com](mailto:Julieharris80@hotmail.com)**

**Text 708-267-8116**

# St. John Fisher School Tutor/SEL Support

Spring/Summer 2023

Please contact the tutors directly for current availability and further information.

| NAME              | EMAIL  | PHONE        | AVAILABILITY  | e-tutor?<br>in person? | PREFERRED<br>GRADE LEVELS | PREFERRED<br>SUBJECTS  |
|-------------------|--|--------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Jeanne Boyle      | <a href="mailto:Jeanneboyleaie@gmail.com">Jeanneboyleaie@gmail.com</a>   | 773-616-0792 | Spring/Summer | in person              | 5-8                       | All subjects, plus executive functioning and study skills  |
| Sally Caulfield   | <a href="mailto:scaulfield@sjschool.us">scaulfield@sjschool.us</a>       | 773-837-6954 | Summer        | in person              | K-4                       | All subjects   |
| Kristy Condon     | <a href="mailto:kcondon@sjschool.us">kcondon@sjschool.us</a>             | 708-262-8836 | Spring/Summer | both                   | 3-8:<br>high school:      | All subjects + HS Placement Test prep<br>English, math, ACT and SAT prep   |
| Colleen Dunlavy   | <a href="mailto:cdunlavy@sjschool.us">cdunlavy@sjschool.us</a>           | 708-207-1558 | Spring/Summer | both                   | K-8:<br>high school:      | All subjects<br>Algebra I&II, Geometry, Pre-Calc, Biology, English, ACT and SAT prep   |
| Erin Deering      | <a href="mailto:erin.deering13@gmail.com">erin.deering13@gmail.com</a>   | 708-220-1368 | Spring/Summer | both                   | 1-6                       | English, social studies, reading, writing  |
| Megan Merony      | <a href="mailto:meganmerony@gmail.com">meganmerony@gmail.com</a>         | 517-449-5356 | Spring/Summer | both                   | K-4<br>5-6                | all subjects<br>math   |
| Meghan Murray     | <a href="mailto:megmurray89@gmail.com">megmurray89@gmail.com</a>         | 773-710-8584 | Spring/Summer | in person              | K-4                       | Certified reading specialist<br>math, reading  |
| Janet Otto        | <a href="mailto:jotto@sjschool.us">jotto@sjschool.us</a>                 | 773-575-9159 | Summer        | in person              | K-8                       | Certified Wilson Dyslexia Specialist.<br>Wilson is a phonics-based, structured literacy program.   |
| Julie Schultz     | <a href="mailto:julieharris80@hotmail.com">julieharris80@hotmail.com</a> | 708-267-8116 | Spring/Summer | both                   | K-8                       | Social emotional learning support for problem solving, conflict resolution, and self-esteem. Individual or group support for navigating friendships and grasping tools to help students become successful in school and everyday life. |
| Kayla Spornberger | <a href="mailto:kspornberger@bhsd228.com">kspornberger@bhsd228.com</a>   | 708-954-6110 | Spring/Summer | both                   | any grade level           | Math   |

# Create your 2 free custom yearbook pages for ST. JOHN FISHER

treering



## Add Photos

Add your favorite photos from your phone, computer, Instagram, Facebook, Google or Dropbox account, and have them printed in your copy of the yearbook.



## Add Memories

Answer questions about your year and capture your very best moments. You can even include a photo to go along with them.



## Sign Books

Make your friends smile by sending them a message (can include a photo or sticker) that they can add to their custom pages or ask them to send you one!



## Design Your Page

Add all of your memories to your two free personal pages that will be printed in your unique copy of the yearbook. Need more room? You can add more pages!

## To Purchase & Customize Your Yearbook

Must be a parent or student 13 years or older.

1 Go to: [www.treering.com/validate](http://www.treering.com/validate)

2 Enter your school's passcode:  
1015271802074961

Regular price: **\$27.39**

Create Custom Pages by: Jul 10

Need help? Contact

[www.treering.com/help](http://www.treering.com/help)





**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](mailto:sjfalum@gmail.com)**



*Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.*

\*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!

- 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: **6.7** - 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](mailto:clarmon@sjfschool.us)

- Reporting Attendance

E-mail [attendance@sjfschool.us](mailto:attendance@sjfschool.us)

- Schedules
- Calendar
- Arrival/Dismissal
- Miscellaneous Questions

Mrs. Kris Houston: [khouston@sjfschool.us](mailto:khouston@sjfschool.us)

- Registration
- Admissions Medical
- Forms

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

- Powerschool
- Tuition & Fees
- Technology
- Hot Lunch

Mrs. Delphine Maxwell: [dmaxwell@sjfschool.us](mailto:dmaxwell@sjfschool.us)

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

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

- Counseling

SJF Counselor, Mrs. Julie Schultz: [jschultz@sjfschool.us](mailto:jschultz@sjfschool.us)

- Student Accommodation Plans

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

- Math Intervention

Ms. Molly Cummings, [mcummings@sjfschool.us](mailto:mcummings@sjfschool.us)

- Public Relations

Mrs. Megan Corley, [mcorley@sjfschool.us](mailto: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](mailto:mnash@sjfschool.us)

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

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

