



NOTES FROM MRS. NASH

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

ST. JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

MAY 19, 2023

Dear St. John Fisher Families,

It feels like the month of May is flying by at a rapid pace! Our 8th graders received their graduation ribbons today. It is hard to believe that we have just 9 days left with these Falcon leaders. Please follow our social media pages, Facebook and Instagram, as we celebrate this wonderful class and their very bright future! This afternoon ten 8th graders who fundraised the most to benefit Special Olympics at their Polar Plunge Event participated in a UNified basketball game at our very own Conner T. Lowry Gym. Our 5th-8th grade Falcons cheered on all of the athletes who participated! Today's dress down day also raised money for Special Olympics. We are grateful for your generosity and for the opportunity to work with and learn from the amazing Special Olympic organization!

Please join me in congratulating and praying for Fr. Ken as he celebrates his 43rd anniversary of being a priest. As a school, we are so thankful for his unconditional support and love for our students and staff and his weekly presence at our grade level and all-school masses. May God continue to bless you, Fr. Ken!

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. **Peace+Love+SJF.**

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash



SJF

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.***
- **School Counselor** part-time school counselor. ***Please express interest at 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.***

Important Announcements

- **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!
- Here is the link to our **state of the school and budget letter** and here is the link for the **one page summary** in case you missed last Tuesday's email. Thank you!
- 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.
- **Used Chromebooks for sale** - \$20! Contact Mrs. Maxwell if you are interested, 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. Thank you!

Athletic Registration Forms

- **Girls Basketball Registration Form**: grades 3-8
- **Boys Football Registration Form**: grades 4-8
- **Girls Cheer Registration Form**: grades 5-8



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 with questions.** Go Falcons!



We need your help!

Pro Labore Dei Update

- As we say every single month, **thank you for the May 6th's lunch making session**. For the volunteers who worked feverishly and those who wanted to but couldn't be there, we have so much gratitude. 170 lunches were compiled in that magical 45 minutes!
- The **next lunch making** will be on Saturday, **June 3rd at 9:15 a.m.**, in the rectory basement. We need 150 individual bags of chips.
- We continue to collect **pantry items** at the SJF parking lot on Saturday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., *but we will NOT collect on May 20th*. We will join hands with the Holy Name Society in their collection that day. So, please, donate to the food drive. We know it will be a huge success.
- Can we take a moment to **thank the St. John Fisher students** who showed up each month for lunches, donated food at Thanksgiving, gifts at Christmas, baskets at Easter AND were always ready to help. You were awesome this year.
- For questions or concerns please contact Pam O'Mara (773-612-0281) or Jerry and Pat Hayes (773-239-8428)

Optimism isn't a belief
that things will
automatically get
better; it's a
conviction that we
can make things
better.

Looking Ahead

 Weekend Mass	<p><i>4 p.m. Saturday, 8 & 11 a.m. Sunday</i> <i>All are welcome!</i></p> 
Sunday, May 21st	<p><i>Mother Son White Sox Game</i></p>
Monday, May 22nd	<p>ETC Spring Science & Stem w/ <i>Mrs. Altman, 3-4 p.m.</i></p>
Tuesday, May 23rd	<p>*No Homework Club ETC Backyard Bash w/ <i>Mrs. Altman & Mrs. Sefcik,</i> <i>3-4 p.m.</i> ETC Gabby's Dollhouse w/ <i>Mrs. Garza, 3-4 p.m.</i></p>
Wednesday, May 24th	<p>*No Homework Club ETC Super Mario Bros w/ <i>Mrs. Altman, 3-4 p.m.</i> <i>8th Grade Trip to Great America</i></p>
Thursday, May 25th	<p>ETC Yoga w/ <i>Mrs. Garza, 3-4 p.m.</i> ETC Outdoor Games w/ <i>Ms. Dunlavy & Mrs. Ade, 3-4 p.m.</i> ETC Camp Out w/ <i>Mrs. Altman, 3-4 p.m.</i></p>
Friday, May 26th	<p><i>2nd Grade Field Trip</i></p>

God Bless
Officer Arianah Preston and her family.
May she Rest In Peace.



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.









*Congratulations to the recipients of the First Annual
Sr. Jean McGrath Kindness Scholarship*



Caitlin Kinnane, Mary Clare O'Connor, Gabby Fahey, and Rose Gilligan





ST. JOHN FISHER GIRLS BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

3RD-8TH GRADE



4th Grade \$125



ST. JOHN FISHER

5th-8th Grade \$200

2023 FOOTBALL REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION MAY 19TH - JUNE 2ND



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 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.

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

 For more information about SJF
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

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

-Sister Jean McGrath-

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

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? in person?	PREFERRED GRADE LEVELS	PREFERRED SUBJECTS
Jeanne Boyle	Jeanneboyleaie@gmail.com	773-616-0792	Spring/Summer	in person	5-8	All subjects, plus executive functioning and study skills
Sally Caulfield	scaulfield@sjschool.us	773-837-6954	Summer	in person	K-4	All subjects
Kristy Condon	kcondon@sjschool.us	708-262-8836	Spring/Summer	both	3-8: high school:	All subjects + HS Placement Test prep English, math, ACT and SAT prep
Colleen Dunlavy	cdunlavy@sjschool.us	708-207-1558	Spring/Summer	both	K-8: high school:	All subjects Algebra I&II, Geometry, Pre-Calc, Biology, English, ACT and SAT prep
Erin Deering	erin.deering13@gmail.com	708-220-1368	Spring/Summer	both	1-6	English, social studies, reading, writing
Megan Merony	meganmerony@gmail.com	517-449-5356	Spring/Summer	both	K-4 5-6	all subjects math
Meghan Murray	megmurray89@gmail.com	773-710-8584	Spring/Summer	in person	K-4	Certified reading specialist math, reading
Janet Otto	jotto@sjschool.us	773-575-9159	Summer	in person	K-8	Certified Wilson Dyslexia Specialist. Wilson is a phonics-based, structured literacy program.
Julie Schultz	julieharris80@hotmail.com	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	kspornberger@bhsd228.com	708-954-6110	Spring/Summer	both	any grade level	Math

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 or Mrs. Win Biernacki at 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 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

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](#) 3rd-6th 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](#)

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

2 Enter your school's passcode:
1015271802074961

Regular price: **\$27.39**

Create Custom Pages by: Jul 10

Need help? Contact

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



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

- 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

