



# Notes from Mrs. Nash

*Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.*

St. John Fisher School

December 21, 2021

Dear SJF Families,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I hope you have a wonderful Christmas break with your family and loved ones. We are incredibly proud of all of the hard work our Falcons have displayed this first half of the school year under yet again, the most challenging of circumstances. We are beyond grateful for the love and support we feel from our parents and families. Thank you for entrusting your most precious gifts to us each day. May 2022 bring about an easier, healthier, less stressful, and brighter year for all of us! Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School. Enjoy this wondrous Christmas season and see you in 2022!

In unity and hope,

*Mrs. Maura Nash*



## Important Announcements

- The **January Lunch Menu** is open for ordering.
- January's **special lunch is Barraco's on January 11<sup>th</sup>**. Please see the attached order form.
- **FSA's Mother Son Bulls Game is January 30<sup>th</sup>**. Please see the attached flyer for ticket information.
- You can purchase **new SJF swag at our Squadlocker Store [linked here](#)**. A portion of the proceeds is donated back to SJF's FSA.
- **Extended Day** : Make sure to [register your child here](#). Reach out to **Mrs. O'Grady** with any questions, [dogrady@sjfschool.us](mailto:dogrady@sjfschool.us).

## Looking Ahead

Wednesday, December 21 <sup>st</sup> – Wednesday, January 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Christmas Break!</b>
Friday, December 24 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Mass	4 p.m. & 10 p.m.
Saturday, December 25 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Day Mass	8 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Thursday, January 6 <sup>th</sup>	Classes Resume

**The best way to spread Christmas cheer  
is singing loud for all to hear!**

## Athletics

**To ensure SJF is able to host athletic competitions and that our teams are eligible to compete, we need everyone's cooperation and assistance in adhering to the COVID protocols established by the Archdiocese COVID-19 Task Force.**

- **ALL spectators, coaches, players and gym staff [must wear masks](#)** in the gym and school building during all games and practices.
- As a reminder, ***if your child misses school due to an illness*** (fever, throwing up, headache, etc.), ***he or she cannot attend that day's athletic practice or game.***

- Please ensure your children **represent SJF well** as they compete and cheer on other Falcon teams. Good sportsmanship matters!

***Student conduct in the gym, on the stage, and in the hallways during sporting events outside of school hours continues to be an issue.*** Garbage is left all over the stage, stairways, and hallways. Please remind your child to take pride in our school and pick up and throw out his/her garbage. ***Students should not attempt to enter any part of the school building while they are attending athletic competitions at SJF.***

## COVID GUIDANCE & REMINDERS

The school office will be closed December 21<sup>st</sup> – January 5<sup>th</sup>. We will respond to any emails/messages on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

- If your child or a household member has been diagnosed with COVID-19, **please call the school office, 773-445-4737, during the school office hours, 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. and/or email [attendance@sjfschool.us](mailto:attendance@sjfschool.us).**
  - If you contact the school office outside of regular scheduled office hours, ***we will get back to you the next business day.*** Thank you for your patience!
- **A few details to highlight:**
  - All symptomatic individuals must remain home, regardless of vaccination status.
  - If symptoms last longer than 24 hours, individuals must receive a negative COVID-19 test or alternative medical diagnosis prior to returning to school.
  - Masks are required for all students and staff indoors regardless of vaccination status. ***This rule INCLUDES athletes, coaches, and spectators indoors at sporting events.***
  - A ***close contact*** constitutes being within 3 feet of a positive individual, un-masked for more than 15 minutes. If your child is considered a close contact, you will be contacted separately and will receive specific quarantine guidance.
    - ***Updated Athletic Guidance per the Archdiocese: If a student athlete tests positive, all of his/her teammates will be considered close contacts and will be required to quarantine. If a teammate is vaccinated and asymptomatic, he/she will not need to quarantine.***
  - In addition to proper masking, SJF cleans and sanitizes desks and tables multiple times throughout the day. Our classrooms are cleaned daily. Our building is deep cleaned every weekend. Our students sanitize their hands upon entering and exiting the classroom/lunchroom. We are following the archdiocese guidance and working hard every day to ensure our children and staff remain healthy and safe.
- Please review the most recent communication from the archdiocese [linked here](#). These guidelines will be reviewed every two weeks and are subject to change.

We continue to pray for those impacted by COVID and any other illness.  
Hang in there – we are all in this together!

## 2021-2022 Abbreviated Calendar



*\*Because of the unpredictable world we live in, these dates are subject to change.*

- Christmas Break: **12.22 – 1.5** \*classes resume **1.6**,
  - **12.21** is an 11:30 dismissal
- Martin Luther King Day – No School: **1.17**
- First Reconciliation: **1.25, Ms. Surin's Room & 1.26, Mrs. Kellam's Room**
- Catholic Schools Week: **1.30 – 2.5**
- Confirmation: **2.6**
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Pictures: **2.9**
- Parent Teacher Conferences: **2.17**
- President's Day Break: **2.18 – 2.21** \*classes resume **2.22**
- End of Second Trimester: **3.8**
- All-Staff Religious Formation & Professional Development (no classes): **3.14**
- Spring Break: **4.13 – 4.24** \*classes resume **4.25**
- First Communion: **4.30**
- May Crowning: **5.6**
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Ribbon Mass: **5.20**
- Memorial Day – No School: **5.30**
- Last Day of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Classes: **6.1**
- Graduation Dance: **6.3**
- Graduation Mass: **6.5**
- End of Third Trimester, Last Day of School: **6.8** ~ 10:30 dismissal

\***1 p.m. dismissals** are scheduled for the first Wednesday of the following months for faculty meetings and PLC work: **November 3<sup>rd</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup>, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup>, May 4<sup>th</sup>.**





# FALCON OF THE WEEK

Alex Arvia, 5th 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 5th grader, Alex Arvia.**

Alex was unanimously nominated by the fifth and sixth grade teachers to be this week's Falcon of the Week! Alex consistently displays the manners, respect and positive attitude that we hope to see in every Falcon, every day at school. Alex is kind and generous to everyone around him. Whether it is in class, in the hallway or at recess, Alex is always showing compassion and warmth to his peers. Thank you, Alex, for being such a bright light for all of us at SJF. We are lucky you are a Falcon and grateful we get to learn from your example each day. Keep flying like a Falcon, Alex. You are making a difference!

# WE LOVE OUR SJF TEACHERS!



THIS WEEK'S FACULTY SPOTLIGHT IS ON **MS. BROWNE** FROM **JUNIOR HIGH**.

Schools in our country are suffering from a significant teacher shortage. SJF is fortunate to be fully staffed with some of the best teachers around. We are proud of our incredible faculty and want to pause to celebrate them! This week we celebrate, **Ms. Cathy Browne!**



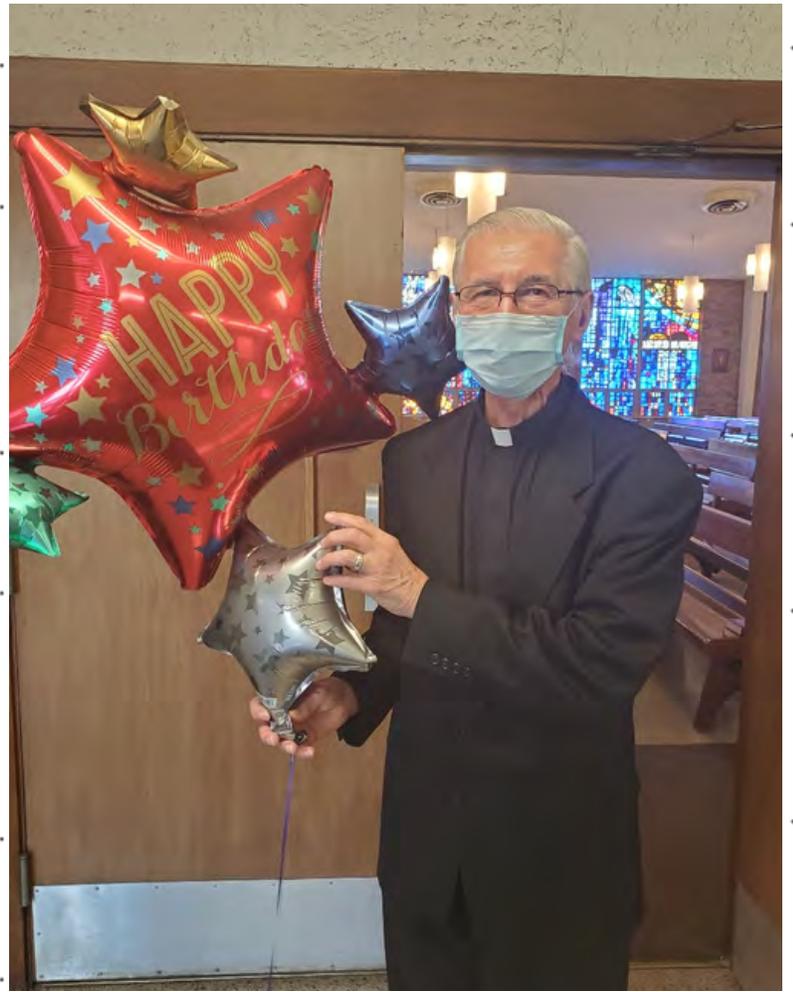
1. How long have you been at SJF? **This is my 9th year teaching at SJF. I've taught 7th and 8th grade math during my years here.**
2. What do you love about SJF? **From my first day here at SJF, everyone made me feel so welcome. I feel so fortunate to work with such talented and caring people. Our students impress me everyday. I am proud to be a part of the SJF community.**
3. How do you keep your students interested in learning about math? **Math is a part of everyday life. Strong math skills are necessary for every career choice. I try to use as many "real world" examples, as well as topics that interest my students while teaching.**
4. Can you tell us something that we may not know about you? **I'm a Certified Public Accountant. Teaching Jr High math is my "second act". Prior to teaching, I worked in the financial services industry.**

# Merry Christmas





**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY  
TO FATHER KEN!!**



**WE HOPE YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL  
AND SAFE CHRISTMAS BREAK!  
SEE YOU IN 2022!**





*Join us for an evening benefitting*

**THE FISHER FALCON EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

# **GALA**

**SATURDAY, MAY 7TH 2022**

**6:00 PM TO 11:00 PM**

*Ridge Country Club*

**OPEN BAR . HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES . LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS**

**ADDITIONAL DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

## Barraco's Special Lunch Tuesday January 11th

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Room # \_\_\_\_\_

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cheese Pizza	\$5.00	_____	_____
Sausage Pizza	\$5.50	_____	_____
Cheesy Breadsticks w/red sauce	\$5.50	_____	_____
Gluten Free Cheese Pizza	\$8.00	_____	_____
		Total:	_____

All orders include bottled water and cookies.

Payment: Cash, Check or Zelle to [Michellebw27@hotmail.com](mailto:Michellebw27@hotmail.com) (Michelle Klimowski)

If making a Zelle payment, please indicate date of payment \_\_\_\_\_

Name Zelle payment was made under \_\_\_\_\_

**Orders Due Friday January 7<sup>th</sup>- please no late orders**

## Barraco's Special Lunch Tuesday January 11th

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Room # \_\_\_\_\_

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cheese Pizza	\$5.00	_____	_____
Sausage Pizza	\$5.50	_____	_____
Cheesy Breadsticks w/red sauce	\$5.50	_____	_____
Gluten Free Cheese Pizza	\$8.00	_____	_____
		Total:	_____

All orders include bottled water and cookies.

Payment: Cash, Check or Zelle to [Michellebw27@hotmail.com](mailto:Michellebw27@hotmail.com) (Michelle Klimowski)

If making a Zelle payment, please indicate date of payment \_\_\_\_\_

Name Zelle payment was made under \_\_\_\_\_

**Orders Due Friday January 7<sup>th</sup>- please no late orders**



# Group Outings

## ST. JOHN FISHER **MOTHER & SON** GROUP OUTING WITH THE CHICAGO BULLS IS BACK!!!!



Enjoy a legendary outing at the United Center for a Chicago Bulls game with St. John Fisher mothers and sons!

Share the excitement of Bulls basketball and the NBA's leading entertainment experience as the team takes on the Portland Trailblazers. Each ticket purchase also includes access to a private pregame shootaround with 100-level access from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Be a part of Bulls Nation today.

Get your tickets now through the link below!

## ***BULLS VS. TRAIL BLAZERS***

**Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 2:30 PM**

**Tickets:** <https://offer.fevo.com/bulls-vs-trail-blazers-qslamuw-f7e753e>

United Center COVID rules: <https://www.unitedcenter.com/venue/know-before-you-go/>

*\*Seats in sections 306, 307, and 308 are reserved for SJF*

*\*Tickets starting at \$31*

*\*Price and sections guaranteed only through January 1st!!!*