



# Notes from Mrs. Nash

*Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.*

St. John Fisher School

January 21, 2022

Dear SJF Families,

At St. John Fisher, we remain full of gratitude for the privilege of learning together in-person. Our success during this roller coaster ride is directly linked to our partnership and collaboration with you. We are proud of all we have accomplished together and the sense of normalcy we continue to provide for our kids during these unique and uncertain times! We are Fisher Falcons and we can do hard things!

Now more than ever is the best time to join our Falcon Family! With open enrollment around the corner, we are calling all families to be **Fisher Family Ambassadors!** What does this mean? The Fisher Community encourages you to share all of the great happenings about SJF with friends, family, neighbors and others - in conversation or on social media! If you are active on social media: please share our posts on Facebook, and tag us in any of your SJF posts on Facebook and Instagram (+ Twitter)! Catholic Schools Week is January 30<sup>th</sup> – February 4<sup>th</sup> so please show your Falcon support and feel free to use #CSW22 #FalconsNOW. Our **Prospective Family Open House is Sunday, January 30th from 9-10:30 a.m.** Please spread the word!

Thank you for entrusting your children to us each day. We are grateful for you and for the privilege of in-person learning. Thank you for choosing Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School.

In unity and hope,  
*Mrs. Maura Nash*

**Together  
We Can  
Go Further.**

## Important Announcements

- Please join SJF in praying for **Tommy Duhig and his family**. Tommy is a first grade Falcon who underwent open heart surgery this week. Tommy is doing well and getting stronger every day. Please remember Tommy, his sister Molly, his brother Cam and his mom and dad, Katie and Joe, in your prayers. Nothing is more powerful than the power of prayer.
- **Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is open now for current school families!** If you have a child in pre-school, [please complete this form](#) to reserve your spot!
- **Chicago Catholic Schools in the News!** In case you missed it, please enjoy this article ([linked here](#)) discussing the resiliency and reliability of our Catholic Schools who have stayed open for in-person learning during a world-wide pandemic! We are so proud of our community for weathering the storm and keeping our doors open for our kids! SJF's success is attributed to the collaboration of our parents, students, faculty and staff. We are in this together!
- **iReady Update:** The half-way mark of the second trimester means we are approaching our second iReady testing period. Beginning Tuesday, and continuing the following week, all students K-8 will complete the reading and math iReady diagnostic tests. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please reach out to your child's teacher. The full staff directory [is linked here](#).
- **Calendar Update:** The Archdiocese and Office of Catholic Schools (OCS) requires 180 days of learning while the state requirement is 176. Because of the challenges and additional stress that COVID has created, the **OCS has communicated to schools that we are able to make changes to the current school calendar allowing us to utilize 4 additional days off.** We have decided to save 2 days for inclement weather or an emergency. If we have to close school due to inclement weather, we will not need to learn remotely or via zoom. **Scheduled days off will be February 22<sup>nd</sup> and March 11<sup>th</sup>.** If we do not need to utilize our inclement weather/emergency days, we will add additional days off in the spring/end of the year. Thank you for your flexibility and support!
- The next **Special Lunch** is Calabria's on **February 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please see the form attached.
- The **February Hot Lunch Menu** is available and open for ordering.
- **FSA's Mother-Son Bulls Game is January 30<sup>th</sup>**. Please see the attached flyer for ticket information.
- **Extended Day:** Make sure to [register your child\(ren\) here](#). Reach out to **Mrs. O'Grady** with any questions, [dogrady@sjfschool.us](mailto:dogrady@sjfschool.us).
- Are you receiving our **Parish Newsletter**? If not, [sign up here](#) so you don't miss a beat!
- [Here is a link](#) to the **January School Advisory Board meeting minutes**.

## Looking Ahead

<b>Weekend Mass</b>	4 p.m. on Saturday & 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday ~ <i>We hope to see you there!</i>
<b>Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Academic Eligibility Club 3 – 4 p.m. w/ Ms. Dunlavy ETC Lego Lab 3 – 4 p.m. w/ Mrs. Altman & Mrs. Lindgren Chess Wizards 3 – 4 p.m. w. Mrs. Schiller
<b>Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup></b>	ETC Winter Wonderland 3-4 p.m. w/ Mrs. Altman ETC Game Night 2.0 3-4 p.m. w/ Ms. Dunlavy & Mrs. Sefcik <a href="#">First Reconciliation @ 6 p.m. - Ms. Surin's Class</a>
<b>Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Academic Eligibility Club 3 – 4 p.m. w/ Ms. Dunlavy Homework Club 3 – 3:45 p.m. ETC Learning Detectives 3 – 4:30 p.m. w/ Mrs. Carey & Mrs. Lordo ETC Winter Science Club 3 – 4:30 p.m. w/ Mrs. Altman <a href="#">First Reconciliation @ 6 p.m. - Mrs. Kellam's Room</a>
<b>Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Homework Club 3 – 3:45 p.m.



**COVID GUIDANCE & REMINDERS**

- 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!
  
- **Details to highlight:**
  - Please review the most recent communication from the archdiocese [linked here](#) which outlines the updated quarantine time frame and guidance.
  - 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.
  - Students who tested positive or were exposed to COVID-19 can now return to school after completing a 5-day quarantine. Students who participate in athletics or SJF extracurricular activities must provide proof of a negative test in order to attend events on days 6-10 following the 5-day quarantine.
  - 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.**
  - A presumed **90-day immunity window** follows proof of a positive test result for individuals who complete(d) the minimum 5-day isolation and remain symptom free.
  - 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 and can remain with us for in-person learning.

*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.*

- 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 – 2.22 \*classes resume 2.23**
- End of Second Trimester: **3.8**
- **No School – OCS Flex Day: 3.11**
- 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>.**

The *most important work* you will ever do  
will be within the walls of *your own home.* ~Harold B. Lee



# WE LOVE OUR SJF TEACHERS!



THIS WEEK'S FACULTY SPOTLIGHT IS ON **MRS. KELLAM** FROM **2ND GRADE**.

Schools in our country are suffering from a significant teacher shortage. SJF is fortunate to be open for in-person learning and 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, **Mrs. Meghan Kellam!**



1. How long have you been at SJF? **This is my 16th year teaching at St. John Fisher. I began student teaching here in 2005, and never left!**
2. What do you love about SJF? **I love St. John Fisher because of the amazing students and their families. I work with the best teachers, staff and administrators. I'm lucky enough to live and work in this wonderful community.**
3. How do you encourage good behavior with your little ones? **In our class, we encourage good behavior by being bucket fillers. I reward kids who are doing kind and helpful things. Students receive tickets that we use to fill our class bucket. Once a week, a ticket is pulled and that student can pick a prize. This is a fun and easy way to catch kids being good!**
4. Can you tell us something that we may not know about you? **Something you may not know about me, is that I come from a huge family. My parents each have 11, and 12 siblings. I have over 40 first cousins! Our family parties and get-togethers are crazy, but lots of fun!**



JOIN US FOR  
**ST. JOHN FISHER SCHOOL'S**  
**PROSPECTIVE FAMILY  
OPEN HOUSE**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 30TH**

**9:00AM-10:30AM**

**PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING FORM**

**\*FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE \***

**[SJFSCHOOL.NET](http://SJFSCHOOL.NET)**

**EMBRACING CURIOUS MINDS. NURTURING COMPASSIONATE HEARTS.**

# CALLING ALL FISHER FAMILIES!

**THE FISHER COMMUNITY ENCOURAGES YOU TO BE FISHER FAMILY AMBASSADORS.**

**PLEASE SHARE ALL THE GREAT HAPPENINGS AT SJF WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY, NEIGHBORS AND OTHERS.**

**PLEASE SHARE OUR POSTS AND TAG US IN ANY OF YOUR SJF POSTS ON FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM.**

**SHOW YOUR FALCON SUPPORT WITH CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK APPROACHING AND FEEL FREE TO USE #CSW2022 OR #FALCONSNOW**





*Join us for an evening benefitting*

**THE FISHER FALCON EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

# **GALA**

SATURDAY, MAY 7TH 2022

6:00 PM TO 11:00 PM

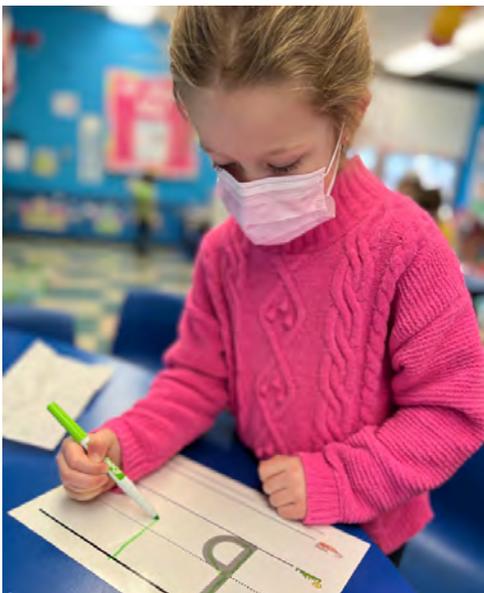
*Ridge Country Club*

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

ADDITIONAL DETAILS TO FOLLOW









# 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!!!*



# 2021-2022 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@sifschool.us](mailto:clarmon@sifschool.us)

- Reporting Attendance

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

- Schedules
- Calendar
- Arrival/Dismissal
- Miscellaneous Questions
- Hot Lunch

Mrs. Kate Spadoni: [kspadoni@sifschool.us](mailto:kspadoni@sifschool.us)

- Registration
- Admissions
- Medical Forms

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

- Powerschool
- Tuition
- Fees
- Technology

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

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

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

- Counseling, pre-k – 4th

SJF Counselor, Mrs. Lauren Lordo: [llordo@sifschool.us](mailto:llordo@sifschool.us)

- Counseling, 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>
- iReady

SJF Counselor and Assistant Principal, Student Support  
Mrs. Nichole Carey: [ncarey@sifschool.us](mailto:ncarey@sifschool.us)

- Student Accommodation Plans

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



## 2021-2022 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern...

