



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts

St. John Fisher School – *Together, we've got this!*

October 16, 2020

Dear SJF Families,

This week marks the half-way point in our first trimester. Together, we are doing truly amazing things. Though this school year looks incredibly different, our kids arrive each day with a smile on their face and eager to learn. They happily follow all of our strict COVID guidelines and make the most out of their day regardless of the abnormality of our world. Our kids are missing out on many of the activities both in and out of school that make SJF so unique, yet they continue to be resilient, energetic, fun and kind. Our students are adaptable, hard-working and eager to try new things and accept the challenges that lie ahead. This is a tribute to all of you. Thank you for raising these remarkable children and entrusting them to us. As I tell the kids each morning, we are faith-filled falcons who are making this world a better place. Together, we've got this! Thank you for your commitment to Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher.

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash

Important Announcements

- In case you missed it, [here is a link to the important financial update](#) from our school and parish finance committees.
- A flyer is being sent home today with **School Picture** ordering instructions! For those students who were in school on picture day, you will receive a flyer with a sample of your student's photo and instructions to order either online or by phone. Pictures will be shipped directly to your home. **Free shipping if you order by November 6th!** If your student missed picture day, **retakes are November 12th!** Please call the school office with any questions.
- **We want to continue to provide outdoor recess, gym and walking breaks** whenever the weather allows. **Please make sure your children are dressed properly for the weather:** *hats, coats, gloves if necessary.* Going outside and getting fresh air is so important for us all. Thank you for your help with this!
- Please take a look at our [COVID Handbook](#) and **review our arrival and dismissal schedule**. Feel free to reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions.
- **Halloween** is just around the corner! Unfortunately, this year students cannot pass out treats of any kind, but on **October 30th**, **our students in grades pre-k – 4 are welcome to dress up in their costumes (no masks or weapons are allowed) and students in grades 5-8 can dress down in black and orange** to celebrate!
- As we are well into the swing of things, **students must be in uniform each day**. Please see the below uniform requirements. Thank you!
- Here is a link to the updated [2020-2021 SJF Student-Parent Handbook](#).
- **Amazon Shoppers**, please consider using **Amazon Smile** to earn money back for our school! Below is information on how to register.

COVID Reminders

- If a student or student's immediate family member is awaiting a test result from the lab **AFTER YOU RECEIVED THE RESULTS FROM A RAPID TEST**, the student(s) must remain home until the lab results are returned and confirmed.
- **Quarantined Cohorts:** We are thrilled to have all of our quarantined cohorts back with us! Please be aware that ***there is a process that we go through in order to quarantine a classroom***. This process includes communication and direction from the Archdiocese as well as the CDC and IDPH and can take several hours to complete. When we become aware of a positive COVID case in our community ***we act as quickly and communicate as promptly as we are able***. We are so grateful for your patience and understanding.
- Here is a link to our **Health and Safety Plan [Decision Tree](#)**.
- The Archdiocese has enacted a new policy that ***if a family knowingly sends their child to school when they are positive for COVID-19, the family will be subject to our remote learning option for the remainder of the school year***.
- As a reminder, here are answers to some of our most frequently asked questions:
 - ***If a student becomes ill at school*** and has **2 or more [COVID symptoms](#) or a fever**, the student ***and his/her siblings will be sent home***. The School Office will send an e-mail to parents communicating that in order for their family to return back to school, parents must share documentation of a negative COVID test result or a doctor's note indicating that the diagnosis is not COVID related.
 - When a student is absent due to an illness, the School Office will e-mail the parents:
 - **1 symptom** requires monitoring for fever or additional symptoms. The student can return to school after parents respond to the e-mail, documenting that all symptoms are gone and the student is 24 hours fever free without fever reducers.
 - **2 symptoms** require a doctor's note to return to school, a negative test, or a 14-day quarantine. ***All siblings must also stay home during that time*** either until a doctor's note is shared, a negative test is presented or the quarantine is completed.
 - Homework cannot be sent home with neighbors or friends, but CAN BE SENT HOME WITH SIBLINGS. Please connect with your students' teacher(s) to coordinate missing work.
 - When picking up your child early from school for whatever reason, parents are expected to wait outside the main office doors.
 - If your child's classroom has to quarantine, you only need to quarantine his/her siblings if he/she is showing symptoms of COVID-19.
- In an effort to keep everyone safe and protect our school community at large, ***please communicate with us any documentation you receive from your doctor regarding your child's symptoms/illness***. In order to keep everyone safe, we must always make cautious decisions with the well-being of those around us at heart. Thank you for working with us!
- ***Please partner with us and keep your children safe while outside of school. If we all follow this guidance, we will have a greater chance of keeping our doors open***. While your child is not in school, please remind him/her to wear a mask, keep his/her distance, wash and sanitize his/her hands, and stay home if he/she is sick.
- This year you need to **[reserve your spot for Extended Day Care](#)**. Due to the new Covid Safety Guidance, we can only serve 50 students at a time. **[Here is the form](#)** to reserve your spot!



FALCON OF THE WEEK

Elliot McGann, PJ Carey, 2nd Grade



SJF's "Falcons of the Week" are 2nd graders, Elliot McGann and PJ Carey.

Our school theme is "Fly Like a Falcon." At school, we are intentionally discussing *what it means to be 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.

Elliot and PJ are fantastic candidates for our falcon of the week initiative. Last week in the late afternoon, when our extended day program was coming to a

close, Elliot and PJ were riding their bikes around campus. They noticed Mrs. O'Grady beginning to pick up sidewalk chalk and other toys that our extended day students were using. Elliot and PJ immediately hopped off their bikes and asked Mrs. O'Grady if they could help her clean up the chalk and toys. They were both so eager and happy to help Mrs. O'Grady and did so without being asked.

Elliot and PJ are quick to say hello to their teachers and friends and always try their best to do the right thing. Thank you Elliot and PJ for making us smile each day and for taking the initiative to help others all on your own. You are setting such a great example for all the falcons on campus. "Keep flying like falcons, boys. You're making a difference!"



2020-2021 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern about...

- 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@sjschool.net

- Attendance
- Calendars
- Schedules
- Arrival/Dismissal
- Miscellaneous Questions
- Public Relations

Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Kate Spadoni: kspadoni@sjschool.net

- Registration
- Admissions
- Medical Forms

Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Linda Murray: lmurray@sjschool.net

- Powerschool
- Tuition
- Fees

Mrs. Delphine Maxwell: dmaxwell@sjschool.net

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

Virtus, Mrs. Redmond: mredmond@sjschool.net
Religious Education, Dr. Chermak: echermak@sjschool.net
Extended Day, Mrs. O'Grady: dogrady@sjschool.net
Manna Team: sjfmanna@gmail.com

- Counseling
- Student Support

Contact SJF Counselor and Assistant Principal, Mrs. Nichole Carey: ncarey@sjschool.net

- Parent Newsletter
- Financial Aid Applications
- School Procedures
- Administrative Matters
- Policy
- Further assistance on any matters listed above

Contact SJF Principal, Mrs. Maura Nash: mnash@sjschool.net

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

School Advisory Board: sjsab@gmail.com
Athletic Association: stjohnfishersports@gmail.com
FSA: fsa@sjschool.net
Women's Club: SJFWomensClub@gmail.com
HNS: SJFHNS@gmail.com



MANNA NEWS

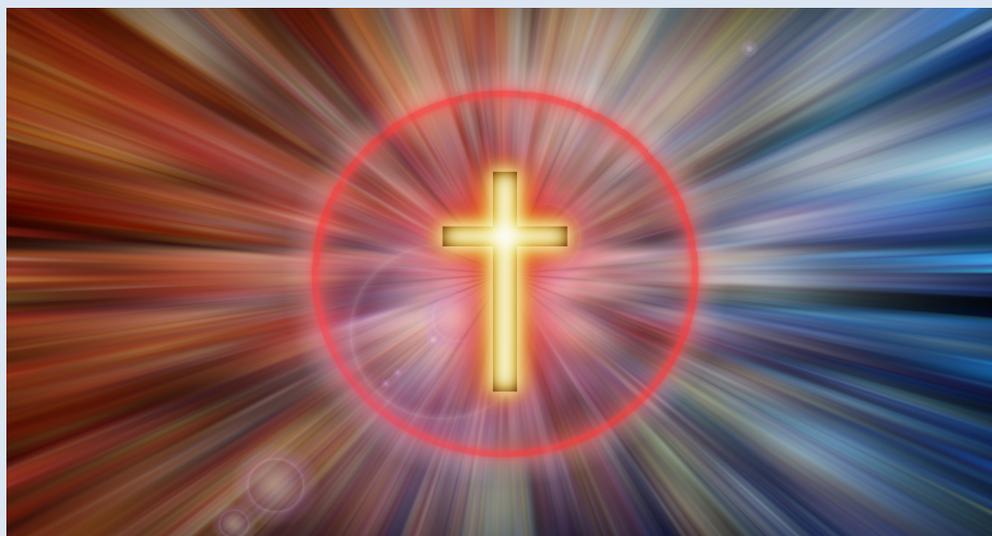
- Thank you for your quick and helpful responses to the Manna Survey!
- We are **immediately implementing a change** to help with convenience. **You can now order any local gift cards (example: County Fair) on www.shopwithscrip.com**. This allows you to *avoid filling out any forms or writing checks*. On site, you can order and pay via bank account or credit card.
- For physical gift cards, orders must be placed by 10:00AM on Sunday and will be ready for pick up starting at Wednesday evening sales. If you don't order by 10:00 AM, you would pick up the following week (starting Wednesday). Your completed orders can be **PICKED UP** at the Convent. We sell out of the SJF convent on Monday 8-9:30 AM, Wednesday 6-7:30PM, Thursday 8-9:30AM, Friday 2-3PM, Saturday 8:30-9:30AM and Sunday 10:30-11:30 AM.
- See step by [step ordering guide](#) to get started. [3 Easy steps to enroll on site.](#)
- The other top suggestion was to send orders home with students. **We will report back ASAP if we feel the front office can take on that responsibility at this time.**
- Purchasing local gift cards on [shopwithscrip](http://shopwithscrip.com) site allows you to **see rebate totals immediately**. See the **reports feature** on left side and see total rebate for purchases made on shopwithscrip. 40% goes to school and 60% to you. The Manna team can answer any questions on rebate progress, too.
- 42% of respondents asked for additional information to get started on shopwithscrip.com. We are recommending using the site as much as possible therefore we will **hold and record a training session** focused on the following:
 - Basics of purchasing ecertifications to immediately load in your cart (ie: Amazon). Set it and forget it type approach without leaving your home.
 - Ordering local physical gift cards for pick up during Manna Hours.
 - Creating shopping lists, reminders and automatic orders on shopwithscrip.com to order Manna regularly without an extra step.
 - Pulling reports to monitor individual progress towards \$300 requirement.
- Thank you for your engagement. Our goal is to earn \$100,000 for the school if everyone reached the minimum requirement but if we make this an easy habit together, schools of our size can earn much more!

St. John Fisher Parish News

Pro Labore Dei continues to work for those in need in the Robbins, Blue Island and Posen areas. **October is a coat drive month!** In addition to the coat drive this month we are always accepting donations of food items/bags of groceries are collected in the church parking lot every Saturday morning from 10:30 am to 11 am and brought to the designated distribution site. We greatly appreciate the generosity of the SJF Community. As a guide, we suggest filling a bag with a variety of items with options for each meal such as:

- **Breakfast** - cereal, pancake mix, syrup
- **Lunch** -peanut butter, jelly, cheese, bread;
- **Dinner** - pasta, marinara, potato mix, hot dogs, canned vegetables, fruit
- **Dessert** - cookies, cake mixes, etc.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Bridget Stalla, bridget.stalla@gmail.com.



Welcome back to Mass!

With much caution and preparation to keep all parishioners safe, St. John Fisher is open for **Mass** at **4 PM on Saturdays, 8 AM and 11 AM on Sundays, and 8:15 AM every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday.** **Confession** is also available every **Saturday 3 PM - 3:45 PM.** If you would like to sign up in advance for weekend Masses, you may call the rectory, 773-445-6565 or sign up online [here](#). While you are not required to sign up in advance, it helps us ensure enough space for all. We also ask that you familiarize yourself with the list of "What to Expect" Archdiocesan guidelines that can be found on our [SJF Parish Website](#).

Also, we are always looking for friendly volunteers to help greet people with hand sanitizer and help disinfect pews after Church. If you are interested, please sign up online [here](#) or call or email the rectory, sjfparishchicago@gmail.com.

KINDERGARTEN MATERNITY LEAVE OPPORTUNITY



ST. JOHN FISHER
SCHOOL



SPREAD THE WORD!

SJF has a Kindergarten maternity leave opportunity available for **November - January** of this school year. Join our incredible team and work with kind and supportive colleagues and wonderful students and families. **Enthusiastic professionals should reach out to Mrs. Maura Nash, mnash@sjfschool.net.**

Thank you for your interest!



St. John Fisher Uniform Policy

Girls:

- Grades K – 2: Plaid jumper and white blouse/polo (white, navy, or light blue)
- Grade 3: Plaid jumper or skirt and white blouse/polo (white, navy, or light blue)
- Grades 4 – 8: Plaid skirt and white blouse/polo (white, navy, or light blue)
- Grades K – 8: Sweater (solid white, navy, or hunter green), SJF gray fleece or navy bell tower performance quarter zip
- SJF gym sweatshirt (school issued only)
- Socks, tights and leggings (white, navy or hunter green)
- Pants (navy or khaki slacks may be worn Oct. 1 to May 1)

General Guidelines for Girls:

- Only single, small earrings may be worn.
- This year, **students may wear solid colored leggings under a skirt or jumper**, however sweatpants, pants, and flannel pants may not be worn under a uniform skirt or jumper during class hours.
- Excessive jewelry, chokers and necklaces are not appropriate and will be considered out of uniform.
- Blouses and shirts should always be neatly tucked into skirts.

Boys

- Grade K – 8: Navy or khaki dress pants and white, navy or light blue polo shirt
- SJF gym sweatshirt or gray school fleece/navy performance quarter zip (school issued only)

General Guidelines for Boys:

- Belts are encouraged but optional.
- Shirts must always be neatly tucked into pants.

Shoes:

- Loafers, buckle or tie oxfords, or clean gym shoes are allowed as part of the school uniform. Sandals, moccasins, clogs, “Crocs”, “flip-flops,” and boots are not permitted during the school day.

Gym Uniforms

On their assigned gym day all students must wear the official gym uniform. Students must wear clean gym shoes with laces or Velcro closings. No slip-on gym shoes are allowed for gym class. Students will not be allowed to participate in gym activities nor call home if they forget their gym uniforms.

Girls and Boys Grades K – 8:

- SJF gym shorts or gym sweatpants
- SJF gym tee shirt
- Socks
- Gym shoes

T-shirts from school activities and school sports teams are not part of the gym uniform.

Fisher Falcon Spirit-wear Fridays!

- Students may wear falcon spirit-wear tops with their uniform bottoms **on Fridays only**.

Amazon Shoppers,

Please join us at AmazonSmile when completing your shopping orders. AmazonSmile can be used on both regular orders and Amazon Fresh orders. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible purchases to St. John Fisher. Using AmazonSmile is at no cost to you! Instead of using the regular Amazon app or webpage, you will open up AmazonSmile instead 😊 Thank you for your support!

There are 3 EASY ways to remember Amazon Smile when making your purchase on Amazon.

1. To Shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You can add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to remember.

2.

Make it easier to return to smile.amazon.com by adding a shortcut to your phone's home screen



1. Tap the share icon at the bottom of this window.



2. Tap **Add to Home Screen**, and then tap **Add**.



3. Tap the new icon on your home screen to return at any time to smile.amazon.com.
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3.

AmazonSmile is now in the Amazon Shopping App

You can now support your favorite charity when you shop using the Amazon Shopping App on your Android device. See below for instructions to turn on AmazonSmile in the Amazon Shopping App.

Follow the steps attached below to add AmazonSmile in your Amazon Shopping App. This feature is coming very soon for iOS (Apple), stay tuned!

1 Make sure you have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping App



1. Open the Google Play Store
2. Tap the menu (≡)
3. Tap on My apps & games
4. Tap the Updates tab
5. Update the Amazon Shopping App

2 Open the Amazon Shopping App



3 Tap in the main menu in the Amazon App



4 Tap Settings



5 Tap AmazonSmile



6 Follow the instructions on the screen to turn on AmazonSmile



7 All set! Tap the Start shopping button and support charity



Coming soon on iOS. Stay tuned!