



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School

September 10, 2021

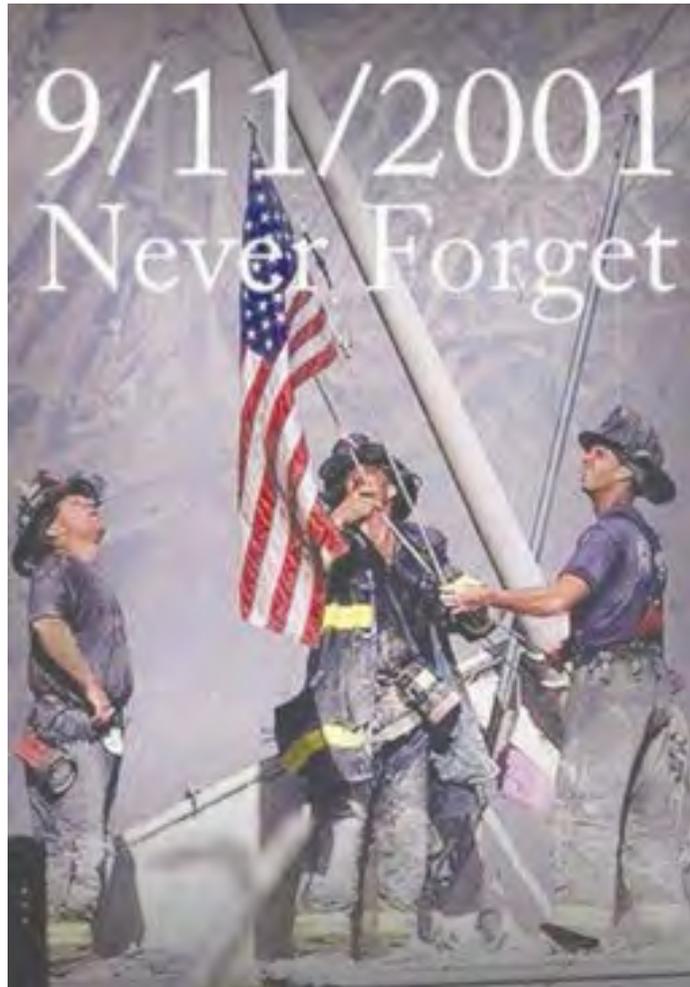
Dear SJF Families,

This weekend marks the 20th anniversary of 9/11. All of us can remember what the world was like on that horrifying day. Our Falcons weren't alive to experience this tragedy, but each year we teach them about this monumental event in our country's history so we never forget the victims, their families, and their loved ones as well as all of the heroes and first-responders who put our country back together again. In school this week we prayed for our country and for the brave men and women who are first responders in our community. You are our heroes and we never forget to respect and honor your sacrifice. We are proud of you and our neighborhood. We continue to teach our children to be grateful for their life and all of their blessings and to continue to pray for peace in our world.

Thank you for your support of Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School.

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash



**If we learn nothing else from this tragedy,
we learn that life is short and there is no time for hate.**

-Sandy Dahl

Important Announcements

- We are so happy to be back in school! Check out this short video, [linked here](#), in celebration of the new school year!
- **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT** is **Monday, September 13th @ 6:30**. This is a **parent only event** where you will have an opportunity to see your child's room, meet his or her teacher, learn about your child's day, routine, classroom expectations, etc. We can't wait to welcome our parents in-person!
- **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)! #FalconsNOW
- **Forgotten Items:** SJF will accept forgotten lunches, medication, glasses; but we cannot accept Chromebooks, projects, materials for projects, or homework.
- Save the date for **School Picture Day**, Tuesday, October 5th. The make-up date is Thursday, November 18th. 8th grade graduation pictures are Wednesday, February 9th.
- **Chess Wizards:** Please see the below informational flyer for Chess Wizards. **All checks can be made payable to St. John Fisher School.** The first class is September 20th.
- **Extended Day :** Make sure to [register your child here](#). Reach out to **Mrs. O'Grady** with any questions, dogrady@sjschool.us.
- **Masks** – parents please help us by **making sure your child has a mask each day**. Students need to arrive each day with their own mask. Thank you for your cooperation!
- **Hot Lunch is Back** and we are so excited! The calendar is open to order for the month of September.
- This year, **SJF Staff and Faculty has transitioned to Gmail.** [Click here for a directory](#) of all updated e-mail addresses.
- **Women's Club** is aiming to host a **vendor fair** on Friday, December 3rd. If you are a vendor and would like to participate in this event, please e-mail or text Maureen O'Malley, 773.339.4951; mpomalley5@gmail.com.

	<p><i>Get your tickets in advance to support SJF Oktoberfest Friday, October 15th - 6-11 pm!</i></p> <p><i>Send cash/check (payable to SJF) to school in an envelope labeled Oktoberfest – Jen Serpe. Also include name and contact info on the envelope.</i></p> <p><i>If SJF sells 150+ tickets in advance then students will have a dress down day on Friday, October 15th.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Featuring Ron Burgundy Band Beer – Music – Food 21+ Welcome, \$30/person or \$50/couple</p>	

COVID GUIDANCE

We are in this together...thank you for your cooperation!

- Please review the most recent communication from the archdiocese [linked here](#). These guidelines will be reviewed every two weeks and are subject to change.
- 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.

i-Ready Assessment Update

St. John Fisher is utilizing an assessment tool and implementing an online, instructional program called *i-Ready*. *i-Ready* is an online program that assists teachers in determining students' strengths and areas for growth, personalizing student learning, and monitoring student progress throughout the school year. *i-Ready* enables teachers to meet students where they are academically, as student and teacher reports provide detailed data that can be used to inform instruction.

The *i-Ready Diagnostic* is an adaptive assessment that adjusts its questions to suit each student's ability. Every question item a student receives during the diagnostic test is based on his/her answer to the previous question. For example, a series of correct answers will result in slightly harder questions, while a series of incorrect answers will yield slightly easier ones. The purpose of this is not to give students a score or grade but to determine how to best support their learning in the future. **It is important to discuss the adaptive nature of the test with your child; it can be discouraging for some students to feel as though they are not excelling/succeeding. Arming students with this information usually results in increased confidence on the day they complete the diagnostic exam. *We will test all students, K-8, the weeks of 9/13 and 9/20; the first week reading and the next math.***

The data the diagnostic assessment yields will inform teachers' instruction, lesson planning and pacing; individualized i-Ready lessons will be utilized, as well, to supplement classroom lessons and meet individual student needs. These lessons are interactive and provide strategic support used to engage students as they learn at their speed and level. Your child's teacher will begin assigning online i-Ready lessons in the classroom and for homework following the i-Ready Diagnostic assessment. If you have any questions regarding i-Ready please reach out to Mrs. Carey, ncarey@sjfschool.us.

School Board Update

Agenda: SAB Meeting, Tuesday, September 14, @ 7 PM in Kane Hall

1. Pastor Update (5 Minutes)
2. Principal Update (5 Minutes)
3. Guests (5 Minutes)
4. Alignment on [Schedule](#) and [Goals](#). Board Member Q&A. Please review ahead of meeting. (Carrie Nowicki – 5 Minutes)
5. Budget Recap (Joe Goldrick – 5 Minutes)
6. Fundraising Proposals and Committee Formation (John O'Connor/All – 20 Minute)
7. Strategic Planning: Foundation Announcement (Carrie and Joe – 5 Minutes)

Please email sjfsab@gmail.com if you would like to attend the meeting. This month's agenda is full for new topics, but we meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.



Looking Ahead

Monday, September 13th	Back to School Night @ 6:30 in the church
Tuesday, September 14th	SAB Meeting @ 7:00 in Kane Hall
Wednesday, September 15th	Homecoming Dress Down Day: Wake Up Wednesday: wear your pj's
Thursday, September 16th	Homecoming Dress Down Day: Theme Thursday: dress in your homeroom's selected theme *tbd next week
Friday, September 17th	Homecoming Dress Down Day: Falcon Friday: wear spirit wear or your team's jersey 7th & 8th Grade Homecoming Dance, church parking lot, 7-9
Saturday, September 18th	SJF Homecoming Football Games vs. St. Christina @ Beverly Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parade beginning in the church parking lot @ 10:00 • 4th grade @ 11:30 • 5th & 6th grade <i>Army</i> @ 12:30 • 5th & 6th grade <i>AirForce</i> @ 1:30 • 7th & 8th grade @ 3:00 *food will be available to purchase
Sunday, September 19th	SJF Lady Falcon Basketball @ home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule TBD
Monday, September 20th	FSA Meeting @ 7:00 in in Kane Hall All are welcome!

Manna Update

- There is a lot of **positive buzz from teachers and students enjoying the recent investment in electrical upgrades and air conditioning. Did you know that past Falcon families actively participating in Manna led to a school savings that paid for the bill?!?!?** Let's continue to build the school's savings to afford key investments. Last year, earnings for the school was \$40,897 while families accrued individual earnings of \$70,756. If all school families participated regularly the school could earn over \$100,000. Reaching this goal together will help the school balance the budget and maintain competitive tuition rates. Manna is our #1 School Fundraiser. **We are off to a great start this year with about 50 new users registering for Manna.** The top gift certificates purchased last year were: Amazon, County Fair, Marianos, Jewel, Shell Gas, Visa and many local businesses with Rosangelas at the top of the list. To get started, check out the [Manna Overview](#). Email sjfsab@gmail.com with any questions.



2021-2022 Abbreviated Calendar



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

- First Day of School: **8.25** ~ 11:30 dismissal
- Labor Day – No School: **9.6**
- All-Staff Professional Development (no classes): **9.24**
- All-School Picture Day: **10.5**
- Parent Teacher Conferences: **10.6, 10.7**
- No School: **10.8**
- Columbus Day – No School: **10.11**
- End of First Trimester: **11.16**
- Make-up School Picture Day: **11.18**
- Thanksgiving Break: **11.24 – 11.28** *classes resume **11.29**
- Christmas Break: **12.22 – 1.5** *classes resume **1.6**
- Martin Luther King Day – No School: **1.17**
- First Reconciliation: **1.25 & 1.25**
- Catholic Schools Week: **1.30 – 2.5**
- Confirmation: **2.6**
- 8th 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**
- 8th Grade Ribbon Mass: **5.20**
- Memorial Day – No School: **5.30**
- Last Day of 8th 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 3rd, December 1st, February 2nd, March 2nd, April 6th, May 4th.**



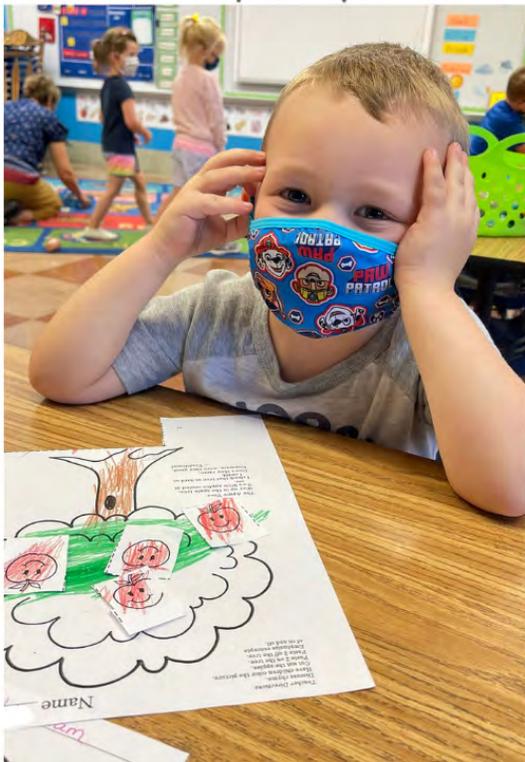
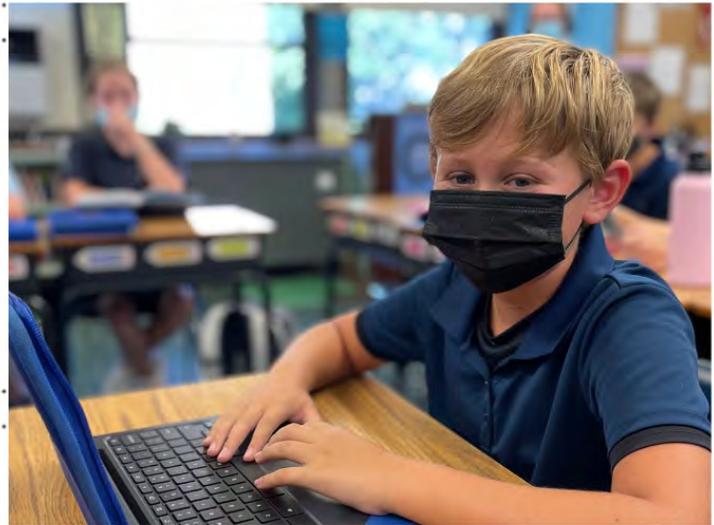
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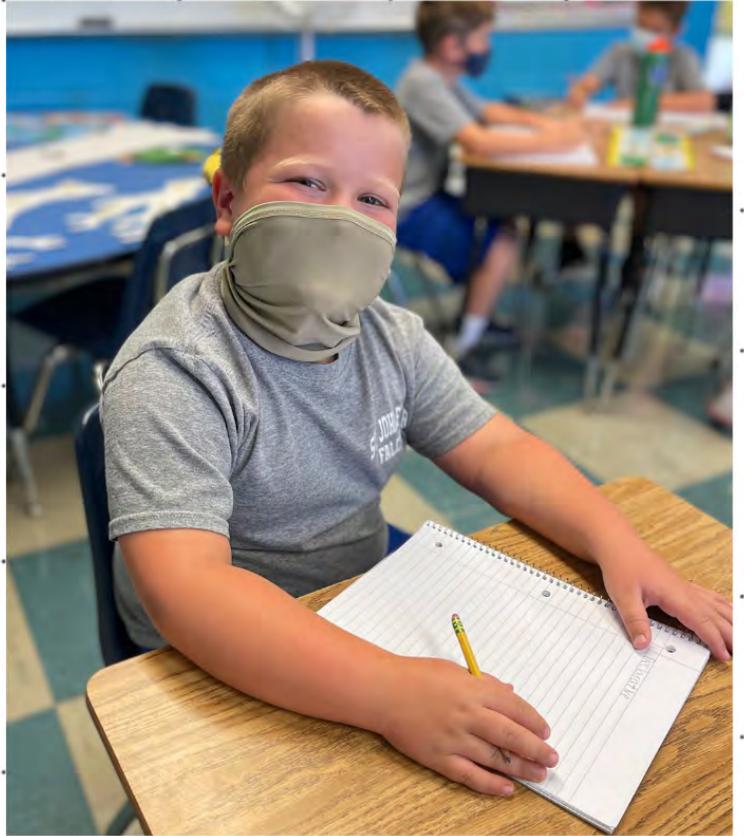
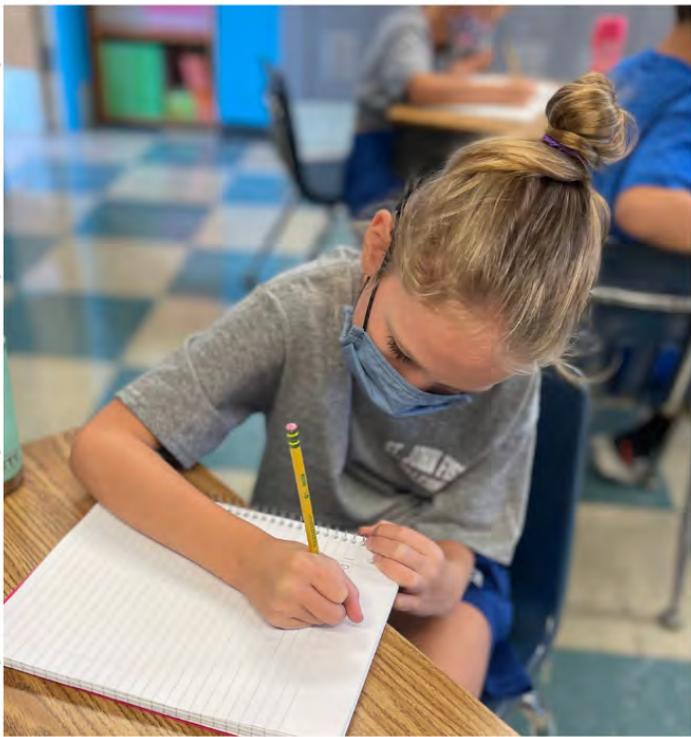
ST. JOHN FISHER'S Back to School Night

- Please join us for our **parent only** Back to School Night @ 6:30 in the church.
- Following a brief presentation with SJF Leadership in church, parents will travel to their child's homeroom for a presentation and Q & A session with their child's homeroom teacher. Student Ambassadors will be present to provide directions.
- Teacher presentations will take place at 7 p.m. and 7:25 p.m. allowing parents the opportunity to visit more than one homeroom if needed.
- In between and after presentations, parents will have a chance to walk around the building and visit with teachers, counselors, leadership, etc.
- Specials teachers will be located in the library.
- Resource teachers and counselors will be located in the reading room.
- SJF Leadership will be located in the main office.
- Back to School Night concludes at 8 p.m.



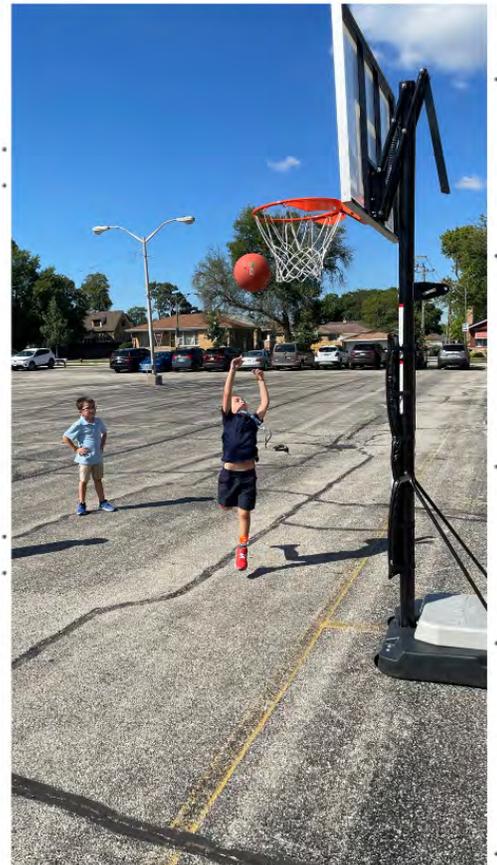
WORKING HARD!

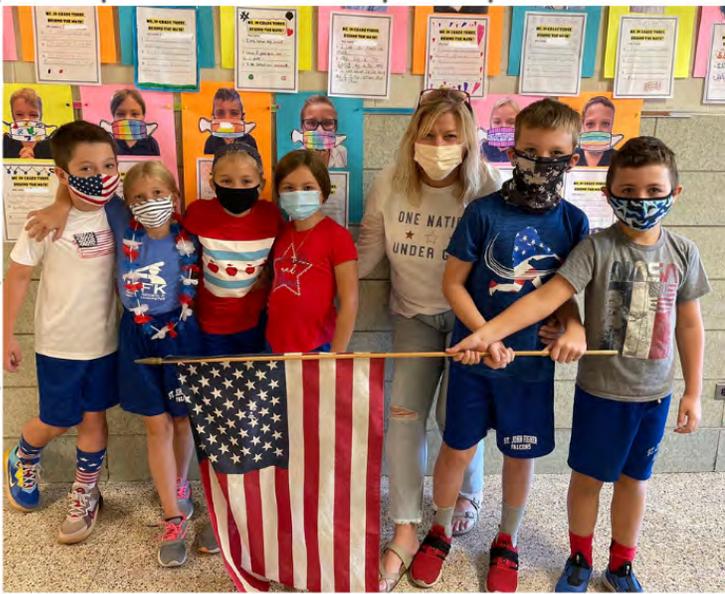






FRESH
AIR







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

- Reporting Attendance

E-mail attendance@sifschool.us

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

Mrs. Kate Spadoni: kspadoni@sifschool.us

- Registration
- Admissions
- Medical Forms

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

- Powerschool
- Tuition
- Fees
- Technology

Mrs. Delphine Maxwell: dmaxwell@sifschool.us

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

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

- Counseling, pre-k – 4th

SJF Counselor, Mrs. Lauren Lordo: llordo@sifschool.us

- Counseling, 5th – 8th
- iReady

SJF Counselor and Assistant Principal, Student Support
Mrs. Nichole Carey: ncarey@sifschool.us

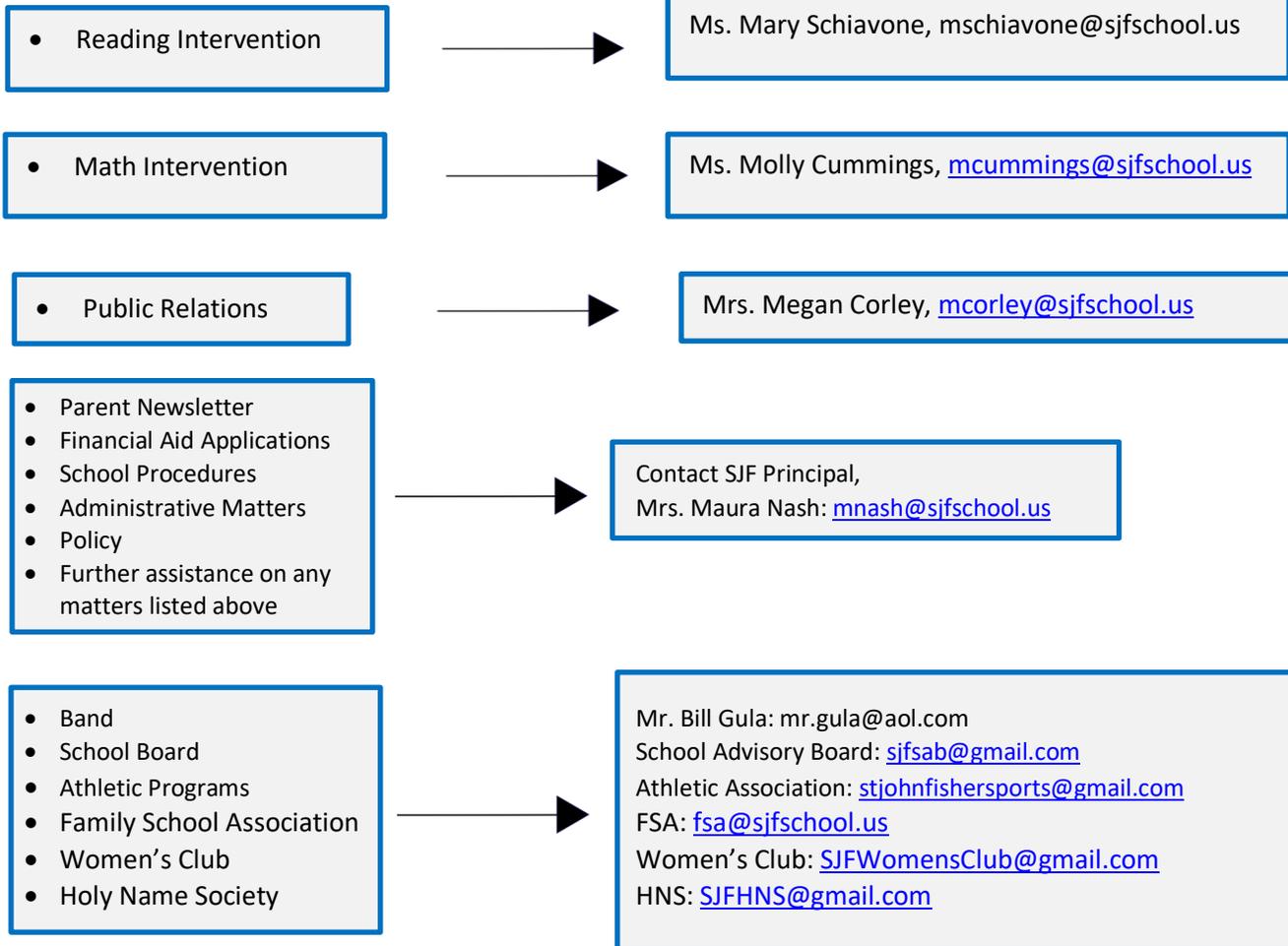
- Student Accommodation Plans

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



2021-2022 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern...





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Your brain is your super power.

Are you ready to use it? Join the Chess Wizards community today for fun, friendship and some serious chess skills. All experience levels welcome!



Class Information

School Name: St. John Fisher School

Dates: 09/20, 09/27, 10/04, 10/18, 10/25

11/01, 11/08, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29

No Class on: 10/11

Class Day and Time: Mondays at 3:00-4:00PM

Total # of Classes: 10

Price: \$200 Location: TBA

Child Information

Student name: _____

Grade: _____

Teacher name: _____

Emergency Contact person: _____

Phone No.: _____

E-mail: _____

Pick up by: Parent Aftercare

Yes, I would like a 1-year Premium Gold Membership to Chesskid.com



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Join Chess Wizards this school year for challenging chess lessons, exciting tournaments, fun team activities, and more!

If you're brand-new to chess, we'll teach you the basics and get you playing in no time. If you're a seasoned checkmate artist, we'll show you new ways to let your creativity loose on the board.

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...one of the largest chess academies in the nation. Every year since 2002, our interactive, discovery-based curriculum inspires thousands of students and parents to challenge themselves through the 'Game of Kings' (and Queens!).



Easy To register!

Please bring this completed form to the main office

SIGN UP NOW



TREATS, GAMES & PRIZES!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

AT 3:00PM TILL 5:00PM

SJF PARKING LOT

PRIZES FOR BEST COSTUME AND CAR DECORATIONS

STAN'S DONUT TRUCK ARRIVES AT 3:30