



# Notes from Mrs. Nash

*Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts*

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

September 11, 2020

Dear SJF Families,

We had an exceptional first week back! Thank you for entrusting us with your wonderful children. It is such an amazing *privilege* to be back in school for in-person learning. The fact that today is September 11<sup>th</sup> is not lost on us. Today we paused to reflect on how truly fortunate we are for the freedom which is ours each day and we thanked God for those who dedicate and sacrifice their lives to protect us and ensure that freedom.

SJF has never been more excited to begin a school year! Please partner with us to remind our students that in order to remain in school we have to keep earning this *privilege* by: wearing a mask at all times on our school campus, washing our hands, and keeping social distance. We are in this together and together we can do incredible things. As always, we are so grateful for your commitment to Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher. Thank you for remaining loyal to us during this surreal time. It means the world!

In unity and hope,

*-Mrs. Maura Nash*



## Covid Reminders

- **Start & End Times:** Now that we have observed our plan in place, we have adjusted the dismissal time for grades kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> and the arrival time for pre-school only. The new schedule is outlined below and will begin on Monday.

### Monday - Friday

Arrival Times	Last Name
7:40 a.m.	A - E
7:45 a.m.	F - L
7:50 a.m.	M - R
7:55 a.m.	S - Z
8:00 a.m.	Preschool students with older siblings @ SJF
8:05 a.m.	Preschool students who are the oldest in their family

### Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

Dismissal Times	Last Name
2:40 p.m.	All Full – Day Preschool
2:45 p.m.	A - H
2:50 p.m.	I - P
2:55 p.m.	Q - Z

### Wednesday – Early Dismissal Schedule

Dismissal Times	Last Name
12:30 p.m.	All Full – Day Preschool
12:35 p.m.	A - H
12:40 p.m.	I - P
12:45 p.m.	Q - Z

- **We all need to do our part and model safe behavior and mask wearing for our kids.**
- Parents and students **cannot congregate** around the building and must remain masked and 6 feet apart at all times. Before and after school, while on campus, we all must keep our distance from one another. Parents and caregivers **are encouraged to remain in their cars or on the perimeter of campus in order to adhere to our social distance and safety guidelines.**
- SJF has put into place all of the recommended guidance and direction from the Archdiocese of Chicago, CDC, Illinois Department of Public Health and our state and local government officials. [View this video](#) outlining our safety procedures and protocols. Because we are following this guidance with the utmost of care, students and staff should remain healthy and safe while in school. ***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, stay home if he/she is sick. [Here is an updated version](#) of SJF's Health and Safety Plan and our [Decision Tree](#).
- Please turn in your **signed copy of SJF's Covid Waiver** ASAP!
- 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!

## Important Announcements

- **Falcon Fridays are BAAAAAACK!** Students may wear Falcon Spirt-wear shirts with their uniform bottoms beginning next week. Students may still continue to wear their gym uniforms each day until October 1<sup>st</sup>. Let's Go Falcons!
- **SJF is thrilled to welcome 18 new families** this school year to our big Falcon Family! [Please see this video](#) created by our welcoming committee for our new families.
- Say Cheese! **School Picture Day** is on **Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>**
- **Forgotten Items:** Parents/guardians **cannot bring in students' forgotten items** this school year.

### Abbreviated School Calendar

*Due to the uncertainty of our current world, the below dates are subject to change.*

**September 19** First Holy Communion (make-up), 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

**September 29** School Picture Day

**October 9-12** Fall Break, **school resumes Tuesday, October 13**

**October 12** Faculty Professional Development, no school

**November 23 & 24** Half days, 11:30 Dismissal, Parent Teacher Conferences

**November 25-29** Thanksgiving Break, **school resumes November 30**

**November 30** End of First Trimester

**December 23 - January 5** Christmas Break, **school resumes Wednesday January 6**

**January 18** Martin Luther King Jr. Day, no school

**January 24** Confirmation

**January 31 - February 6** Catholic Schools Week

**February 12** Faculty Religious Development, no school

**February 15** President's Day, no school

**February 23 & 24** First Reconciliation (2 sessions)

**March 10** End of Second Trimester

**March 12** Half Day, 11:30 Dismissal, *Optional* Second Session of Parent Teacher Conferences

**March 15** Faculty Professional Development, no school

**April 1** Beginning of Easter Break, Half Day, 11:30 Dismissal

**April 2 -10** Spring Break, **school resumes Monday April 11**

**May 1** First Holy Communion

**May 7** May Crowning, Half Day, 11:30 Dismissal

**May 28** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Ribbon Mass

**May 31** Memorial Day, no school

**June 4** Last Day of School for the Class of 2021

**June 5** Graduation Dance

**June 6** Graduation Mass

**June 11** End of Third Trimester, Last Day of School

- Our amazing teachers and staff **HAVE NEVER BEEN** more excited to welcome our falcons to school. [Please see this video](#) that highlights our love and enthusiasm for our incredible students!



*We love you, Falcons!*

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO 

## 5 BEHAVIORS TO KEEP US SAFE

As a member of our community, **I will...**

1. Wear a mask
2. Keep my distance
3. Wash and sanitize my hands
4. Stay home if I am sick
5. Get tested if I exhibit symptoms

... because protecting others in our community is **my responsibility, too.**



## MANNA NEWS

*Our MANNA team is happy to answer any questions – just stop in!*

- **MANNA Sales Hours at the Convent** (Corner of 102<sup>nd</sup> and Fairfield) every day except Tuesday.
  - Mondays: 8 – 9:30 AM
  - Wednesdays: 6 – 7:30 PM
  - Thursdays: 8 - 9:30 AM
  - Fridays: 2 - 3 PM
  - Saturdays: 8:30- 9:30 AM
  - Sundays: 10:30M -11:30 PM
  - **Note: We ask that you follow social distancing guidelines and wear masks.**
- *In an effort to increase transparency and focus on all fundraisers for the school, the **general “fundraising fee” of \$175** assessed at books day in previous years has been **eliminated.***
- **MANNA is our single largest school-specific fundraiser.** Participation dropped to 35% in recent years, so the change was necessary to enable the school to maintain competitive tuition rates. To encourage participation fast, we have introduced a **requirement to “earn” \$300 of MANNA credit each academic year.** Note: The \$300 is not the total spent at Manna, it's the portion of the rebate that goes to the school.
- *For every \$1 you earn for the school, you also earn \$1.50 credit toward your tuition bill. **It's a Win-Win!*** Don't stress, if the requirement is more than you normally spend, just do your best to participate regularly. We will review and assess a fee for individuals that have not met the full requirement of \$300. Our hope is that the fee is less than previous years (Example: Earn \$200 for the school thru the program results in fee of \$100). Get your other family members involved in the program! It's free money for you and the school and **much better value than your credit card! Full participation = \$100,000 for SJF.**
- 100+ Retailers participating! Simple way to start is to keep your Amazon Cart stocked with e-certificates that you can buy without leaving your home at <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/> AND Support a few local businesses such as County Fair, Horse Thief Hallow, or Town Liquor. See more ideas on how to reach the requirement within your normal spending [here](#).