



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School

September 27, 2019

Dear SJF Families,

Homecoming is upon us and the energy level in the building is higher than ever (which I didn't know was possible)! Thank you so much to our SOAR kids and moderators, Mrs. O'Shea and Ms. Schiavone, for orchestrating today's Pep Rally jam-packed with school-spirit! There is a slew of activities this upcoming weekend to help us celebrate SJF, beginning with the Homecoming Dance for our 7th & 8th grade falcons tonight in Kane Hall from 7-9pm, the Homecoming Parade tomorrow at 10am and the football games at Beverly Park beginning at 11am. Thank you in advance to all who have organized and volunteered their time to make these awesome events possible for our fortunate kids!

Wishing you all a fun, exciting and safe Homecoming weekend! May we do our best, demonstrating good sportsmanship, representing our school community well. Thank you so much for your continued support of Catholic education, and specifically St. John Fisher School.

GO FALCONS!

-Mrs. Maura Nash

Peek at the Week

Saturday, September 28 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SJF Soccer @ Beverly Park• Homecoming Parade @ 10am from SJF• SJF (undefeated) Falcons take MHR in our Homecoming 11, 12, 1:30• Future Falcon Cheer Performance @ 1
Sunday, September 29 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Girls Basketball Competes in the Conner T. Lowry Gym• <i>Hope to see you at Mass!</i>
Monday, September 30 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Return your Pre-Paid Picture Day Envelopes!
Tuesday, October 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Say cheese: It's Picture Day!
Wednesday, October 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pop's Special Lunch• Girls Basketball competes in the Conner T. Lowry Gym
Thursday, October 3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children's Choir Practice @ 3:45
Friday, October 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Progress Report Check</i>• Girls Basketball competes in the Conner T. Lowry Gym• Pet Blessing @ 3pm

Important Announcements

- **FUTURE FALCON CHEER**: ***TOMORROW, PLEASE*** meet for the parade on the corner of 102nd Washtenaw!
- 🧀 **Say cheese!** School Pictures are Tuesday, October 1st. Don't forget to return your pre-paid envelopes!
- **OCTOBER SCHOOL LUNCHES** are available to order on the FSS website. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. Maxwell, dmaswell@sjfschool.net.
- **Aspire scores** were released via PowerSchool last weekend. Stay tuned for **Parent Information** to understand how to best analyze your student's scores.
- **Forgotten student items**: homework and lunches – please partner with us and resist the urge to drop off your students' forgotten items at school as we continue to encourage independence and accountability. Thank you so much for your cooperation!
- 🛑 **BE CAREFUL** on the corner of 104th and Talman when walking to and from school. It has been reported that cars are frequently not stopping at the stop signs.
- SJF's **Homework Club is looking for 7th & 8th grade mentors**. Please contact Mrs. Deering edeering@sjfschool.net or Mrs. Caulfield scaulfield@sjfschool.net with questions or applications for interested mentors.
- **SJF is offering an HSPT Prep Course for interested 8th graders** beginning October 15th. See the attached flyer for additional information.
- **OWN IT CHICAGO** will be on campus on Wednesday, October 2nd offering assistance with study skills and executive functioning. See the attached flyer for additional information and to register for this helpful resource!
- **PACK the GYM** for **Girls Basketball** is October 12th – come out and cheer on our Lady Falcons!
- We are excited to welcome back to SJF the **SXU Nursing Students** who will be working in our clinic located in Kane Hall. The SXU undergraduate students will be presenting to our middle school and junior high students on the **dangers of vaping along with appropriate handwashing tips and how to prevent the flu**.
- The **Lost & Found** located in the **main office** is overflowing with items! If you left one of your belongings at SJF, please visit Mrs. Spadoni in the main office to search our growing **Lost & Found** before it gets donated to those in need.
- 🎵 **Calling all 2nd-8th grade singing falcons!** The Children's Choir is looking to increase their members; see the attached flyer for more information.
- **Future Falcon Friends**, our toddler play group, **will resume in October**. Stay tuned for more information!
- **St. John Fisher Church needs lectors and communion ministers!** Please contact the rectory if you have interest in serving our parish in this capacity.
- **Like us and Follow us** on Facebook: facebook.com/sjfschoolchicago & Instagram: [stjohnfisher](https://instagram.com/stjohnfisher).
- Students are **allowed to wear shorts until October 1st!**

Let's Go Falcons!

2019-2020 UNDEFEATED VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM





FALCON OF THE WEEK

Grace Carmody, 5th Grade



SJF's "Falcon of the Week" is 5th grader, Grace Carmody.

This year, 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 demonstrate each and every day.

This week it was reported to me that Grace Carmody has established herself (unbeknownst to her) as a classroom leader. If you were to peek in on one of Grace's classes, you would see her quietly and subtly helping her peers by reminding them what they have for homework, ensuring they are on the right page or humbly explaining a concept that they may not understand. Grace's peers are watching her in action and following her lead as she creates a culture of kindness and empathy; I am so proud that she is a falcon! Keep "Flying like a Falcon," Grace; you're making a difference!

HSPT

High School Entrance Exam Prep Course at St. John Fisher School

October 15th - December 4th



ST. JOHN FISHER
SCHOOL



HSPT Entrance Exam Prep Course

An HSPT Entrance Exam Prep Course will be offered to interested 8th grade students. SJF instructors will review all 5 sections of the exam: Verbal Skills, Mathematics, Reading, Language and Quantitative Skills. The students will learn time management skills which are crucial for the HSPT and all standardized tests. Instructors will teach important problem-solving strategies and work to review and strengthen students' content knowledge during the prep course.

Cost: \$125, course registration forms will be sent home to all 8th grade students

Course Time: 3PM - 4PM

Course Dates: 10/15, 10/16, 10/22, 10/23, 10/29, 11/5, 11/6, 11/12, 11/13, 11/19, 11/20, 12/3 & 12/4

Instructors: Mrs. Folliard, Mr. Gibson & Mr. Hakanen

***Catholic High School Entrance Exam: Saturday, December 7, 2019**

READY FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR?

OWN

✓
IT

WITH BETTER ORGANIZATION
AND STRONGER STUDY SKILLS COME:

-less stressed students

-happier parents

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND

GRADES 5-8, 3:30-6



ST. JOHN FISHER

SCHOOL

REGISTER AT: OWNITCHICAGO.COM

Dear Parents,

As a parent, have you noticed your child struggle with academic organization and prioritization? Could he/she afford to gain a better understanding of how he/she learns best or how to employ effective study skills? Are you looking for a way to help your child succeed?

As educators that witness these trends, we created a workshop addressing these deficits. ***Own It Chicago*** offers workshops for junior high, high school and college students to improve executive functioning skills, resulting in improved academic performance.

The workshop includes hands-on organizational, time management, and study skill strategies, together with collaborative lessons that facilitate problem solving and address "what if?" scenarios.

Deliverables to the Student:

1. Identification- the student understands his/her strengths and weaknesses, and how they may be evolving
2. Distraction- the student reassesses what constitutes a distraction/impediment from their tasks
3. Accomplishment- the student addresses tasks in a timely manner
4. Empowerment- the student begins each day acknowledging and planning for what lies ahead

Deliverables to the Parent:

1. An independent child
2. A more confident child
3. A child who is better prepared to speak with his/her teachers in a constructive way

We believe that your child could benefit from this workshop. The *Own It* team is passionate about helping students better understand how they learn and how successful students utilize their time. To learn more about the diverse background of our team, please visit ownitchicago.com.

We look forward to offering workshops at St. John Fisher on October 2nd. If you have any questions about the program, please email us ownitchicago@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Moira Borkovec

Nichole Carey

Sarah Peters

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/4DAthKsbtd1DQKJB6>



OCTOBER ETC

The St. John Fisher Enrichment and Tutorial Center (ETC) is an after-school program designed to offer students a wide variety of classes not normally covered in the regular curriculum. Classes are a fun way for friends to explore areas of interest.

The October session runs from September 30th–October 21st. Classes meet in the designated classroom from 2:25-3:30. The cost is \$30.00 per class. Please return all registration and payment to the school office in an envelope clearly marked ETC by **Friday September 27th!**

Monday Class September 30th, October 7th & 21st

(No school October 14th)

HALLOWEEN SCIENCE: A HAUNTED LAB Have a Spooktacular time in this fun class. We will make our own witches brew, make fizzy ghosts, and an exploding pumpkin. We will build a Halloween CATAPULT for flying spiders. Come show off your inner Mad Scientist in this “experimentally spooky” class.

Mrs. Altman Room 107 Grades Preschool – 3rd Mondays

Tuesday Class October 1st 8th & 15th 2:25-3:30

SPOOKY & SWEET HALLOWEEN TREATS You little goblins will love assembling --and eating --these spooky **Halloween treats** and sweets. We will create such **treats** as Chocolate Bat Bites, Witches Brooms, Pumpkin Patch Dirt Cups and more. Join us for some fall fun!

Mrs. Altman Room 107 Grades Preschool – 2nd Tuesdays

Wednesday Classes October 2nd, 9th & 16th

SPORTS CLUB: WIFFLE BASEBALL Do you have baseball playoff fever? Are you ready for the World Series of SJF?? This E. T. C. will be a blast! We will meet and play waffle-ball and try and knock one out of the park--(We will even have a homerun contest)--each week. Please wear gym shoes because we will be in the GYM. The children will be grouped according to their age.

Mrs. Ade Room 217 Grades Preschool- 3rd Grade Wednesdays

GHOSTBUSTERS IN TRAINING Welcome new recruits! We will have fun in this class making ghosts, a marshmallow man and drink some ectoplasm! When you're getting ready for Halloween, who ya gonna call Ghost Busters! Join the fun!

Mrs. Altman Room 107 Grades Preschool – 3rd Wednesdays



Thursday Class: October 3rd 10th & 17th 2:25-3:30

WITCHES IN TRAINING ACADEMY This witch-themed class has all you need to keep things brewing with excitement. We will become wonderful witches. We will have a Broomstick Relay and play Musical Broomsticks. We will make Witches' Brew, play pin the tail on the black cat and much more!

Mrs. Altman Room 107 Grades Preschool – 3rd Thursdays

Please fill out the registration form and return to the school office no later than Friday September 27th in an envelope marked ETC.

Registration for October ETC

Student's Name _____

Allergies; please list all and if child carries an EPI Pen and or/inhaler

*If your child has a food allergy please send him/her with his/her own snack

Child's Grade and Room# _____

Parent Signature _____ Emergency Contact # _____

Monday Class September 30, October 7 & 21 (No school 10/14) 2:25-3:30

_____ HALLOWEEN SCIENCE: A HAUNTED LAB

Tuesday Class October 1, 8 & 15 2:25-3:30

_____ SPOOKY & SWEET HALLOWEEN TREATS

Wednesday Classes October 2, 9 & 16

_____ Sports Club Wiffleball

_____ GHOSTBUSTERS IN TRAINING

Thursday Class: October 3, 10, & 17 2:25-3:30

_____ WITCHES IN TRAINING ACADEMY





September 17, 2019

To the St. John Fisher students, Children's Faith Formation students and their families:

I hope you all had a wonderful summer! This is a letter to invite you to consider joining the St. John Fisher Children's Choir this year. I am looking forward to many wonderful experiences with the choir, filled with songs of praise and concert singing.

My name is Terri Lenz and I am the Music Director here at St. John Fisher Parish. I would like to take this opportunity to re-introduce myself and share a brief background regarding my music ministry.

Along with years of music ministry experience in various Catholic parishes, I have a Bachelor's degree in Piano and Vocal Performance and a Master's degree in Theology. With this knowledge and experience, I am pleased to offer this opportunity to participate in the children's choir at St. John Fisher. This will include practices on Thursdays after school **beginning on Thursday, September 19th, from 3:45pm to 4:45pm** (full schedule coming soon!), and singing at some Sunday and special feast day Masses, school liturgies and Christmas Eve Mass. Also, we have a **Christmas Concert** that the children will participate in on **Tuesday, December 10th, 7:00pm in the church.**

Children in second grade through eighth grade are welcome to sign up and lend their singing talents!

Please consider this wonderful opportunity to join in sung prayer and fun, singing your praise is an excellent way to participate in the Mass!

On a side note, I am also offering private piano and vocal instruction to children who wish to enhance their singing ability or begin to learn how to play the piano. All levels are welcome!

Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have regarding choir or private instruction. Please fill out your information and return the bottom portion in an envelope addressed to Terri Lenz and drop off in the Parish Center. Or, come and speak with me after Mass.

Thank you!

Ms. Terri Lenz
Music Director
St. John Fisher Parish
(708) 421-0887
thereselenz@aol.com

My child, _____ is interested in singing in the St. John Fisher children's choir.

Parent _____ Phone # _____

E-mail _____

LOVE
WHERE YOU
LIVE
BEVERLY ★ MORGAN PARK

New Neighbor Meet & Greet

*Tuesday, October 1, 2019
6:30 to 8 p.m.*

*Cork & Kerry
10614 S. Western Avenue*

Welcome to Beverly/Morgan Park! Please join us to meet your new neighbors, learn a little about the community, and how to get involved. We can't wait to meet you!

Food. Beverages. Gift for New Neighbors.

Hosted by Your Friends at

BAPA Beverly Area
Planning Association



LITTLE COMPANY OF MARY
HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CARE CENTERS

The Technology to Heal, the Mission to Care

RSVP:

*Mary Jo Viero, 773-233-3100 or mjviero@bapa.org
by Sept. 27, 2019*



DONATE BLOOD

GIVE THE GIFT OF BLOOD THIS FALL

Season of giving



PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, AND ALL WHO MINISTER TO AND INFLUENCE YOUNG PEOPLE.

FAILING FORWARD HELPING

KIDS FAIL WITHOUT BEING A FAILURE



Wednesday, October 9, 2019

7PM - Christ the King Church - 9235 S. Hamilton Ave.

This FREE event is sponsored by the Parish of Christ the King in collaboration with the St. John Fisher/Most Holy Redeemer Youth Ministry Program

Roy Petitfils, MS, LPC is a Catholic psychotherapist in private practice where he specializes in counseling adolescents. Roy frequently consults with schools, churches and other organizations across the world who seek to effectively reach and influence today's teens. Roy wrote an award winning syndicated column for adults about teens and has published four books including his latest *What Teens Want You To Know (But Don't Tell You)*. Roy has keynoted many national and international conferences including a 2016 TEDx talk helping adults understand and reach teens. Roy lives with his wife Mindi and their two sons in Youngsville, Louisiana.

How unnecessarily preventing failure leads to anxiety and depression.

How to recognize the warning signs of anxiety and depression.

How to get your kid to talk with you about their stress, anxiety and depression.

First Communion Enrollment Mass

**Sunday, October 20th
10:00 a.m. Mass**

Join all children and families of First Communion 2020 for this mass.

The children will be introduced to the parish, who will bless and pray for them.

A reception will follow in the school foyer.

We look forward to seeing you there!



**Families & children: Sit close
to the front in the reserved
section :)**

GREAT AMERICA FRIGHTFEST

YOUTH MINISTRY ALL DAY TRIP

**WELCOME ALL FAMILIES, 6TH, 7TH, 8TH GRADE - HIGH SCHOOL - YOUNG ADULTS!
(ANY PARTICIPANT YOUNGER THAN 6TH GRADE MUST BE
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT 21 OR OLDER.**

SAT. OCT 26TH

COST OF TICKET & TRANSPORTATION- \$54.00

MHR Parking Lot at: 8:45 A.M.

RETURN TO MHR - Time TBA

We will determine departure time that day depending on weather.

THERE ARE LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE!!!

Return the permission slip form with payment as soon as possible!

When the spots are gone...they're gone!!!

**All forms must be returned to the
PARISH OFFICE**

(Please do not turn your forms into the school)

by the end of the day on:

6:00PM - MONDAY - October 21nd

Please make a check payable to:

MOST HOLY REDEEMER

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ALL MONEY IS NON-REFUNDABLE!

Food and spending cash is not included in this price.

Season Passes will be honored for this event .

COST WITH SEASON PASS: \$20.00

Archdiocese of Chicago — Child/Minor participation Release Form

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) *ONCE THIS FORM IS TURNED IN ALL MONEY IS NON-REFUNDABLE

NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE WITHOUT FIRST PRESENTING THIS FORM

Child/Teen Name _____ Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name—Relation to child/teen _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip Code _____ Home Number _____

Hospitalization Plan _____ Policy Number _____ Emergency contact and number _____

Teen’s Cell Phone Number: *Please provide this number so that I can update/contact your teen while in the park.* () _____

Any allergies or medications currently being taken: _____

What grade/year are you? _____ Facebook: _____

What school? _____ Email: _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Catholic Bishop of Chicago (the CBC) and SJF/MHR are committed to conducting its programs and activities in the safest manner possible and holds the safety of participants in the highest possible regard. Participants and parents registering their child in programs must recognize however, that there is an inherent risk to injury when choosing to participate in activities. The CBC and SJF/MHR continually strive to reduce risks and insist that all participants follow safety rules and instructions which have been designed to protect the participant’s safety.

Please recognize that the CBC and SJF/MHR do not carry medical accident insurance for the injuries sustained in its programs. The cost of such would make program fees prohibitive. Each person registering themselves. It must be noted that the absence of health insurance coverage does not make the CBC or SJF/MHR automatically responsible for the payment of medical expenses.

Due to the difficulty and high cost of obtaining liability insurance, the agency providing liability coverage for the CBC and SJF/MHR requires the execution of the following waiver and release. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

WAVIER AND RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

Please read this form carefully and be aware in registering your child/teen/minor for participation in this program you will be waiving and releasing all claims for injuries you or your child/teen/minor might sustain arising out of this

PROGRAM: GREAT AMERICA TRIP - FRIGHTFEST

PROGRAM DATE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2019

-As the parent/guardian of the participant in the program, I recognize and acknowledge there are certain risks of physical injury and I agree to assume the full risk of any injuries (including death), damages of loss which I or my child/teen/minor may sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with or associated with such program.

-I agree to waive and relinquish all claims I or my child/teen/minor may have as a result of participating in the program, against the CBC and SJF/MHR and their agents, servants and employees.

-I do hereby fully release and discharge the CBC and SJF/MHR and their officers, agents, servants and employees from any and all claims from injuries, (including death), damage or loss which I or my child/teen/minor may have or which may accrue to me or my child/teen/minor on account of participation in the program.

-I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless and defend the CBC, SJF/MHR and their officers, agents and employees from any and all claims resulting from injuries (including death), damages and losses sustained by me or my child/teen/minor or arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with the activities of the program

-I understand that the bringing of, or use of any drugs, including alcohol, will not be tolerated, and that if my child/teen/minor violates any of the rules which have been established, I will be called to pick up him/her.

- By signing this form you are allowing pictures that were taken for the bulletin and web site to be used for the youth ministry program.

In the event of any emergency, I authorize the CBC and MHR/SJF Parish officials to secure from a licensed hospital, physical and/or medical personnel any treatment deemed necessary for my child/teen/minor immediate care and agree that I will be responsible for payment of any/all medical services rendered.

By signing this form you are giving your consent to use your minors name and pictures/videos from this event in the parish bulletin and on the internet. You are also giving your consent for the Youth Minister and chaperones to communicate electronically (email, text message, facebook etc.) with your minor.

I have read and fully understand the above Program Details, Wavier and Release of all Claims and Permission to Secure treatment.

(Parent(s)/Gaurdian(s) Signature) _____	DATE _____		(Participant’s Signature) _____	DATE _____
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SJF Confirmation Retreat

@ Saint Rita High School

**Tuesday,
October 29th**

**Time:
8:00 - 2:15 p.m.**



All 7th & 8th grade students are invited to attend this exciting retreat led by Father Tom McCarthy, O.S.A.

Students will bring a lunch with a drink.

Dessert will be provided.

Busses leave SJF at 8:15 a.m.

C.F.F. Students

Meet at the School Office/ Gym entrance: at 8:00 a.m.

SW corner of 102nd & Washtenaw

contact: echermak@sjfschool.net



Sunday,
November 3rd
10:00 a.m.

Time Change
Sunday

Confirmation Enrollment Mass

We welcome all members of the Confirmation class of 2020 and their families to officially begin Confirmation preparation. The Confirmation Candidates will be introduced to the parish. Please sit in the reserved section close to the front. We look forward to seeing you there.