



# NOTES FROM MRS. NASH

*Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.*

ST. JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 18, 2022

Dear SJF Families,

Our Falcons have come so far in these first 12 weeks of school. This week marks the beginning of the second trimester. There is nothing like the blessings of a clean slate! We have encouraged our Falcons to stay motivated and to continue working hard, but to also take this opportunity to identify and make the necessary improvements needed to make this second trimester their best one yet!

As a school community and family, we have so much to be thankful for! We are thankful for the support, loyalty and generosity of all of our parents and guardians as we collaborate together to ensure bright, happy, and successful futures for our children. We are thankful for the dedication of our hardworking and talented faculty and staff who lovingly teach our children how to be diligent students and good, kind people each and every day. We are thankful for our wonderful students who grace our lives each day with their beautiful and creative spirits, curiosity, sense of humor, intelligence, and desire to be good kids. Finally, we are grateful for all of our parish and school organizations including our School Advisory Board, Family School Association, Athletic Board, Women's Club and Men's Club who work in tandem with us, devoting their time, energy and talent to make our community and parish the absolute best it can possibly be!

I hope and pray that next week you have an opportunity to pause and enjoy the time off celebrating Thanksgiving with your loved ones. I am thankful for each of you. Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School. **PEACE+LOVE+SJF.**

In unity and hope,

*-Mrs. Maura  
Nash*

## Important Announcements

- The flu is going around! Today we had 65 students absent. If your child is not feeling well, please keep him/her home. We are thinking of and praying for everyone who is sick! Thank you for your help.
- **November 23rd is an 11:30 dismissal.**
- The **December Hot Lunch Menu** is posted and open for ordering.
- Save the date for the **Women's Club Vendor Night, December 2nd @ SJF!**
- There is **NO SCHOOL** on **December 2nd**. Thank you faculty and staff; *enjoy the gift of time!*
- **Did you know we use an online portfolio to organize & share your child(ren)'s artwork?** Check your email for a link to your child(ren)'s Artsonia account if you are not already connected. Contact Mrs. Corley for any questions mcorley@sjfschool.us.
- **Extended Day:** As a reminder, this year Extended Day **ENDS AT 5 P.M.** [Visit this link to register your child.](#) Reach out to **Mrs. O'Grady** with any questions, dogrady@sjfschool.us.
- Are you receiving our **monthly parish newsletter**? [Sign up here](#) so you don't miss a beat!

## FSA Corner

- Special shout-out to all who participated in our Culver's Eat & Earn and to all of our parent volunteers who worked the event. THANK YOU!
- FSA sponsors the **out of uniform passes for weekend Mass attendance**. If your child attends Mass at SJF, he/she will receive an out of uniform pass to use on the next day of school. **Please sign-up here** if you can help distribute passes at Mass. Thank you!
- **Calling all new families:** Join the SJF FSA Facebook page and never miss any of our important parent and community information! Our page is FSA at SJF on Facebook.
- If you would like to **volunteer** with the FSA, email sjffsa103@gmail.com.

## Athletics

- Congratulations to our **6th Grade A** and **8th Grade A Girls Basketball** Team for taking **2nd place** in the Southside Catholic Conference.
- Congratulations to our **8th Grade Blue Girls Basketball** Team for winning the championship, taking **1st place** in the Southside Catholic Conference!
- **Please see the below flyer for details about our Winter Sports Parent Meeting.**

## Looking Ahead

<p><b>Weekend Mass</b></p>	<p>4 p.m. on Saturday &amp; 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday</p>
<p><b>Monday, November 21st</b>  <i>*Turn in your ETC Forms today!</i></p>	<p><b>ETC 3-4 p.m.</b>  <i>Canva For Kids w/ Ms. Schiavone</i>  <i>Stem Studio w/ Mrs. Altman</i>  <i>Game Night w/ Ms. Dunlavy</i></p>
<p><b>Tuesday, November 22nd</b></p>	<p><b>ETC 3-4 p.m.</b>  <i>Turkey Bowl w/ Mrs. Sefcik</i>  <i>Yoga w/ Mrs. Garza</i>  <i>Jewelry Making w/ Mrs. Corley</i></p> <p><b>NO Homework Club Today</b></p>
<p><b>Wednesday, November 23rd</b></p>	<p>All-School Thanksgiving Prayer Service &amp; National Junior Honor Society Induction @ 10 a.m.</p> <p><b>11:30 Dismissal</b> - Thanksgiving Break</p>
<p><b>Thursday, November 24th</b>  Thanksgiving Mass hosted by our 5th Graders @ 9 a.m.</p>	
<p><b>Friday, November 25th</b></p>	<p><b>No School</b> - Thanksgiving Break</p>

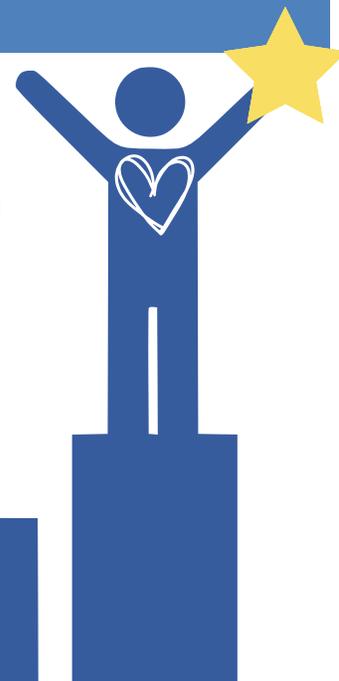


## Here are just a few of our successes so far this year:

- Successful implementation of SJF's inaugural Boot camp and new all-school behavior plan: **Be Respectful, Be Responsible & Be Safe**
- Implemented all-school **trait of the month program and SEL focus**
- Refocused **W.Y.N.** period to address executive functioning skills and additional small group learning with extra math & reading practice
- **Physical education curriculum and instruction** reset
- **Weekly Spanish** instruction in grades K-8
- SJF has **2 Wilson Certified Practitioners**
- Daily morning **ZOOM announcements** featuring our Falcon broadcasters across all grade levels
- An **added Reading Specialist** this year for the upper grades. Our Reading Intervention Program now spans across all grade levels
- SJF **iReady scores exceed** national report card for both public and charter school's average

- **Year 2** of Foundations Phonics Curriculum, teachers have fully adopted the Foundations test tracker which provides essential teacher feedback needed to **implement classroom interventions**
- Earlier **Parent Teacher Conferences** allowing collaboration with parents and guardians half way through the first trimester to ensure our Falcons are successful learners
- **Enrichment and intervention** opportunities for all grade levels: ETC's, Homework Club, Academic Study Hall
- High School **Entrance Exam Test Prep** Sessions available to all 8th Graders
- Falcons checked out **4,841 books** from the Library in the first trimester
- 3 successful NJHS & SOAR sponsored **service projects**, 5 all-school Masses/Prayer Services
- **100% participation** of our junior high students in athletics, band, SOAR, patrol and/or NJHS
- Together with the parish community, raised **35k at Oktoberfest** to invest in our goal of academic excellence.

**HIP HIP HOORAY**





## Pro Labore Dei Thanksgiving Project & Partnership

The SJF National Junior Honor Society sponsored our Thanksgiving Project in partnership with Pro Labore Dei. Because of your generosity, we were able to provide Thanksgiving Dinner to 40 families in the Robbins Neighborhood.

**Thank you!**

Looking ahead, the December lunch making will be on Saturday, December 10th at 9:15 a.m. in the rectory basement.

Any questions or concerns, please call Jerry or Pat Hayes (773-239-8428).

### Holy Name Society

**Tim Grunhard, class of 1982 graduate of St. John Fisher School**, St. Laurence and Notre Dame alum and former NFL Kansas City Chief football player will be doing a book signing at the next **HNS meeting** on **December 1st in Kane Hall from 7pm-9pm**. Please RSVP to [this link](#) if you plan on attending. This will help us know how much food and drinks to get, as well as how many books Tim should bring. This is a FREE event for HNS members who have paid their dues and \$10 for non members.





## Social & Emotional Learning

At SJF we continue to build upon our SEL goals. Each month of the school year will have an all-school focus on the trait of the month, helping students strengthen particular social skills with different lessons and activities at the classroom level and as an entire school. We encourage you to talk to your children about these traits at home for a consistent message and focus. The trait of the month program is building upon this year's behavior system and school mantra: **Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe.**

September	Responsibility
October	Respect
<b>November</b>	<b>Gratitude</b>
December	Kindness
January	Integrity
February	Friendship
March	Perseverance
April	Empathy
May	Optimism



**Be Respectful, Responsible &  
Safe. Be a Falcon.**



# FALCON OF THE WEEK

Bridie O'Connor & Jacob Malloy, 8th Grade



One of our school themes is “Fly Like 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. **This week, we recognize 8th graders, Bridie O'Connor and Jacob Malloy.**

Bridie and Jacob are soon to be the newly inducted Leadership (Bridie) and Scholarship (Jacob) Officers in this year's National Junior Honor Society. Not only are Bridie and Jacob excellent students, but they are also exceptional people. Bridie and Jacob go out of their way to include others and lead and motivate their peers. Today, Bridie and Jacob lead us in our morning announcements to give tips and tricks on how to become better students. Bridie and Jacob are always willing to share their talents with all of us to help make SJF the best it can be!

Thank you for being such great examples, Bridie and Jacob. We learn from your kindness and determination every day. Keep flying like Falcons. You are both making a difference and we are so proud of you!

# Manna Update

Mondays: 8:00 – 9:00 AM  
Wednesdays: 6:00 – 7:00 PM  
Thursdays: 8:00 – 9:00 AM  
Fridays: 2:00 – 3:00 PM  
Saturdays: 8:30 – 9:30 AM  
Sundays: 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

We will continue to look for ways to manage the costs of running the program, so it continues to be a good fundraiser for the school while reducing family tuition costs. With the holidays coming, we hope the expanded hours allow increased participation. We may need to adjust in off peak times based on participation.

**Please note: Manna can be sent home with SJF students. A few requirements:**

- PLEASE SUBMIT: Manna Waiver Form - Agreement for Gift Cards to be sent home through School. Submitting this form will signal to the Manna team that you'd like ALL orders to be sent home from school.
- Use <https://www.raiseright.com/> or Download the App (*As Easy as Venmo*)
- Place order by 10 AM on Sundays and gift cards will be sent home on THURSDAYS. If you miss that deadline, your order will be sent home the following Thursday.
- Note: If this is the method you choose, all orders submitted and paid for will be delivered this way. If you decide to revert back to picking up your orders at the convent, please email [sjfmanna@gmail.com](mailto:sjfmanna@gmail.com) to be removed from the "Send Home" list.

## Simple steps for creating opportunities



### You buy a gift card

You get the full value.



### The brand gives back

No extra money comes out of your pocket.



### Your organization earns

Impacting what matters most to you.



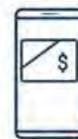
### Budget friendly

There's no need to buy things you don't want. There's no need to spend extra money.



### Time saving

It fits right into your schedule, without having to sell door-to-door or plan events.



### Contactless

Use your smartphone or tablet to earn from anywhere—even from the comfort of your own home.



*Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.*

\*Below is a list of important dates for the 2022-2023 school year. Because of the unpredictable world we live in, these dates are subject to change. We are hopeful for a very “normal” school year ahead!

- School Picture Make-up Day: **11.17**
- **11.23** ~ 11:30 dismissal
- Thanksgiving Break: **11.24 – 11.27** \*classes resume **11.28**
- Thank you Faculty & Staff The Gift of Time - No School: **12.2**
- **12.21** ~ 11:30 dismissal
- Christmas Break: **12.22 – 1.4** \*classes resume **1.5**
- Martin Luther King Day – No School: **1.16**
- Confirmation: **2.4** - 11:00 a.m.
- Graduation Picture Day: **2.8**
- Parent Teacher Conferences: **2.16**
- All-Staff Religious Formation & Professional Development (no classes): **2.17**
- President’s Day – No School: **2.20**
- No School: **3.13**
- Faculty Professional Development – No School: **3.24**
- Faculty Professional Development – No School: **4.5**
- Spring Break: **4.6 – 4.16** \*classes resume **4.17**
- First Holy Communion: **4.29**
- Memorial Day – No School: **5.29**
- Last Day of School for 8th Grade: **6.2**
- Graduation: **6.4** ~ 1 p.m. in church
- Last Day of School: **6.8** - 10:30 dismissal

**Come as you are. You are loved.**



**\*1 p. m. dismissals** are scheduled for the last Wednesday of the following months for faculty meetings, PLC work and council collaboration: **October 26th, November 30th, December 14th, January 25th, February 22nd, March 29th, April 26th, May 31st.**



# 2022-2023 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@sjfschool.us](mailto:clarmon@sjfschool.us)

- Reporting Attendance

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

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

Mrs. Kris Houston: [khouston@sjfschool.us](mailto:khouston@sjfschool.us)

- Registration
- Admissions Medical
- Forms

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

- Powerschool
- Tuition
- Fees
- Technology

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

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

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

- Counseling

SJF Counselor, Mrs. Julie Schultz: [jschultz@sjfschool.us](mailto:jschultz@sjfschool.us)

- Student Accommodation Plans

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



# 2022-2023 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern about...

- Reading Intervention

Ms. Mary Schiavone, [mschiavone@sjfschool.us](mailto:mschiavone@sjfschool.us)

- Math Intervention

Ms. Molly Cummings, [mcummings@sjfschool.us](mailto:mcummings@sjfschool.us)

- Public Relations

Mrs. Megan Corley, [mcorley@sjfschool.us](mailto:mcorley@sjfschool.us)

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

Contact SJF Principal,  
Mrs. Maura Nash: [mnash@sjfschool.us](mailto:mnash@sjfschool.us)

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

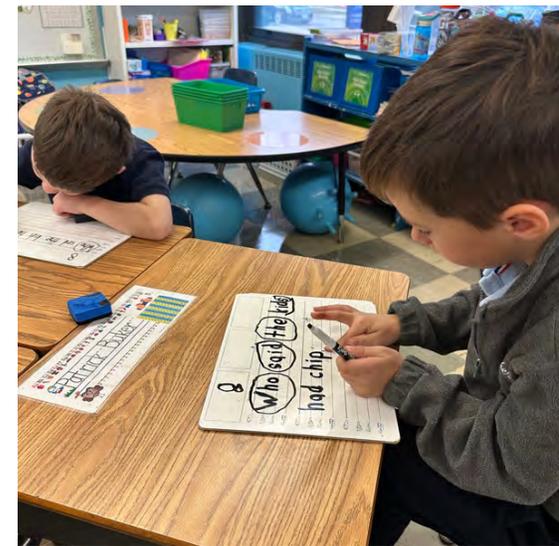
Mr. Bill Gula: [mr.gula@aol.com](mailto:mr.gula@aol.com)  
School Advisory Board: [sjfsab@gmail.com](mailto:sjfsab@gmail.com)  
Athletic Association: [stjohnfishersports@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnfishersports@gmail.com)  
FSA: [sjffsa103@gmail.com](mailto:sjffsa103@gmail.com)  
Women's Club: [SJFWomensClub@gmail.com](mailto:SJFWomensClub@gmail.com)  
HNS: [SJFHNS@gmail.com](mailto:SJFHNS@gmail.com)

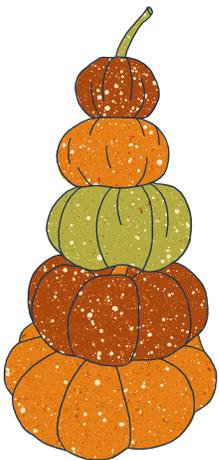


# THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR FOOD DONATIONS!









❄️ LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW! ❄️





**SJF Alumni**

75th Anniversary Montage  
Coming 2023-2024



# We Are Collecting **Throw-back** SJF Photos

*Share your old grade school photos*

Please include  
caption and year



Email to:  
**[sjfalum@gmail.com](mailto:sjfalum@gmail.com)**



LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

# **WINTER SPORTS MEETING**



WE REQUEST THAT AT LEAST 1  
PARENT ATTEND THIS MEETING!

**MONDAY, DEC. 5TH**  
**7:00 PM**  
**KANE HALL**

## **Information Covered:**

- CONCESSION RAFFLE: \$10,000 GRAND PRIZE!!
  - 4,000 Tickets sold
  - Each winter sport athlete will be asked to sell TEN \$10 tickets
  - More information about PACK THE HOUSE DATES & CONNER T. LOWRY DAY
  - Gym admission/concessions sign-ups available for parents
  - Bring a \$250 check made out to the SJF Athletic Board for missed admissions/concessions duty
- 
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# WE'RE HIRING



## JR. HIGH SCIENCE TEACHER

SJF is seeking a long-term sub for Junior High Science from November through March. Full-time or part-time applicants are welcome!

### Position Summary:

- Dedicated, organized, enthusiastic and high energy professional.
- Successful candidates will have creativity and willingness to teach a variety of topics, including Life Science and Physical Science.



**Send Your Resume**

[mnash@sjfschool.us](mailto:mnash@sjfschool.us)

# LET'S EAT, DRINK

& be thankful



## friendsgiving

Tuesday,  
NOVEMBER

22ND

6:00 PM

Cost: Free if you have  
paid Women Club

Dues or \$20  
at the door.



KANE HALL  
NOT ONLY WILL WE HAVE A  
THANKSGIVING FEAST BUT WE WILL  
ALSO BE PLAYING BUNCO  
RSVP BY NOV 1ST



*Please bring either a dessert or an app. We will provide the dinner.*



[Click here to RSVP](#)



**Save the date**

*Cloud 9*

St. John Fisher

2023 Father Daughter Dance

*Saturday, April 1, 2023*

# DID YOU MISS THE BACK TO SCHOOL SHIRT SALE?

**THERE ARE MORE SHIRTS AVAILABLE FOR SALE  
IN THE OFFICE.**



**SHIRTS ARE \$10 EACH**

**SEND MONEY TO THE OFFICE WITH THE SIZES YOU NEED**

**LIMITED SIZES AVAILABLE**

Contact Mrs. Corley for any questions [mcorley@sjfschool.us](mailto:mcorley@sjfschool.us)