



Notes from Mrs. Nash

St. John Fisher School

May 24, 2019

Dear SJF Families,

I hope you had a wonderful week. Thank everyone who came out and participated in the School Board's two "Desserts & Discussion" feedback sessions over the last two weeks. We had great turnout and very much appreciate everyone's input. I know the board and committee members are already hard at work comparing notes and reviewing the ideas that were raised. We look forward to reporting out more broadly on next steps in our strategic planning efforts in the coming months. If you weren't able to attend but would like to contribute feedback on any of the five focus areas - academics/curriculum, mission & culture, finances & fundraising, marketing & communications, and campus space planning - or get more involved in our planning work, please feel free to email sjfspc@gmail.com.

Also, please don't forget to fill out the 5Essentials survey if you haven't already. The survey window closes at the end of next week. It only takes about 10 minutes to complete, and the more of us that participate, the better the feedback we'll get back. You can complete the survey by clicking here: <https://survey.5-essentials.org/archchicago/survey/parent>.

I want to thank Modie Lavin and the Conner Lowry Foundation from the bottom of my heart for generously providing scholarship funds to 4 of our 7th grade students for the 2019-2020 school year in Conner's name. Conner was proud to be a Falcon and died fighting for our country. It was his mission in life to "live life large" and to always take care of those around him. This year, in order to apply for the scholarship, Modie Lavin embraced our "Be the Nice Kid" mantra, and students had to conduct an act of kindness and document it with photographs and an essay discussing the act along with how it made them feel and what the impact of their project was. Congratulations to our winners this year: Lucy Mlyniec, Cole Adamski, Kate Griffin and Grace Monahan. In addition to the scholarship, Modie Lavin and the Foundation have also graciously donated funds to renovate our gym in Conner's name. Our kids are so fortunate to utilize this new facility in addition to having the daily reminder of Conner's sacrifice. Thank you Modie Lavin and the Conner Lowry Foundation; we are eternally grateful! On the heels of Memorial Day, perhaps we can all embrace Modie Lavin's message for this weekend and have a moment of reflection to give thanks for all of those brave men and women who have died for our freedom.

Thank you so much for your continued support of Catholic education. Please take time this weekend to pray for all of our veterans and spend quality time with your loved ones.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Maura Nash



Modie Lavin (center), 7th grade scholarship winners & members of the Conner Lowry Foundation

Important Announcements

- There will be **NO MANNA** on Sunday or Monday due to the holiday weekend. The next Manna will be on Wednesday, May 29th from 6-7:30pm.
- The **5Essentials Survey** is closing next week. Don't miss out on this opportunity to share important feedback on our school. The parent **response rate is currently only ~25%**. Please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/archchicago/survey/parent> to take the survey before it's too late.
- All **library** books are due on **Tuesday, May 28th**. If a book has truly been lost, it may be replaced with the same book or money sent to school.
- Please join the **SJF Book Club** on Thursday, **May 30th** in Kane Hall (7-9pm). The May book is "Educated" (a memoir by Tara Westover). All are welcome. RSVP (for purposes of lite bites) to saramcgann@gmail.com. BYOB. And, stay tuned for the June/July book and date.
- Dismissal is at 11:30am for the **LAST DAY** of school, **Friday, June 7th**. Extended day will be available on the last day of school until 4pm.
- If you have something you would like considered for inclusion in these weekly notes, please e-mail notes@sjfschool.net by Wednesday at noon.

Peek at the Week



Saturday, May 25 th	
Sunday, May 26 th	
Monday, May 27 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorial Day (no school)
Tuesday, May 28 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All library books due! • 7th & 8th Grade Service Day Celebration at the Park
Wednesday, May 29 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th Grade Just Desserts
Thursday, May 30 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4th Grade Rocket Launch • Future Falcon Friends Open Gym – 10:30-11:15am • SJF Book Club in Kane Hall – 7-9pm
Friday, May 31 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th Grade Graduation Dance



Awards & Achievements

Class of 2019 Success!

Teresa Bonko – 2019 American Legion Leadership Award Honorable Mention and Agatha O'Brien Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

Liam Brady – Gilmore Legacy Scholarship, James Barda Leadership Award, Public Safety First Responder Scholarship, and Shoulder to Shoulder Scholarship, Mt. Carmel High School

Marty Canavan – 2019 American Legion Leadership Award 1st Place and Marist Redhawk Award (top 5%), Marist High School

Pat Carmody – Academic Scholarship, St. Rita High School

MoMo Condon – Tradition of Excellence Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

Jimmy Crowley – Marist Redhawk Award (top 5%), Marist High School

Liam Deacy – Marist Redhawk Award (top 5%), Marist High School and the SCC Christian Leadership Award

Abby Gallagher – Champagnat Award (top 10%), Marist High School

Ryan Gierhahn – Christian Brothers Scholarship, Brother Rice High School

Samantha Giglio – SCC Christian Leadership Award

Emmett Griffin – Christian Brothers Scholarship, Brother Rice High School

Christina Hernandez – Board of Trustees Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

Liza Karstrand – Agatha O'Brien Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

Grace Lyons – Champagnat Award (top 10%), Marist High School

Colleen Malloy – 2019 American Legion Leadership Award 1st Place, Agatha O'Brien Scholarship, Sr. Ellen Marie Ryan, RSM Music Scholarship, and Tradition of Excellence Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

Brigid Maloney – Tradition of Excellence Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

Grace McNamara – Knights of Columbus Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

John McNamara – Marist Redhawk Award (top 5%) and the Gregory D. Beeson Scholarship, Marist High School

Caitlin McDonagh – McAuley iMPact Award and Tradition of Excellence Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

Ella Mulchrone – Agatha O'Brien Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

Maddie Murphy – Mary Wurst Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

Tess O'Leary – Agatha O'Brien Scholarship and Tradition of Excellence Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

Abigail Olsen – Helen and Dick Carey Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School

Mickey Shultz – The Nicholas A. Iosue Academic Scholarship and First Responders Award, Mt. Carmel High School

Ryan Sommerfeld – 2019 American Legion Leadership Award Honorable Mention and Waterford Scholarship (top 10%), Brother Rice High School

Ava Spreitzer – Champagnat Award (top 10%) and the Gregory D. Beeson Scholarship, Marist High School

American Legion Leadership Awards



Congrats to Ryan Sommerfeld, Colleen Malloy, Marty Canavan, and Teresa Bonko (not pictured) who were recognized at the Evergreen Park American Legion meeting on Wednesday, May 15th.

FSA

Save the Date!

⚾ It's Game Time! ⚾

When: Sunday, June 9th

What: SJF's 1st annual end of the year party!

Where: Windy City ThunderBolts Game @ 1:10pm

Tickets are only \$10

Flyer with ordering information will be sent out next week!



Yearbook

The year is coming to an end. If you would like to order a yearbook at a discounted rate, please place your order by May 17th. Instructions are below. Also, have **pictures to share** from **First Communion**, **May Crowning**, spring **sporting events**, and/or **Graduation**? You can upload them directly to the yearbook website or email them to dmaxwell@sjsfschool.net, whichever is easier.

Capture Your Memories in This Year's St. John Fisher Yearbook



Customize Your 2 Free Pages

- Add photos from your computer, Facebook, Instagram, Google Drive & more.
- Answer fun Memory Questions to help remember the year.
- The 2 Custom Pages are FREE and are printed ONLY in your book. Want more pages? Each additional 2 pages is just \$0.99.

To Purchase & Customize Your Yearbook

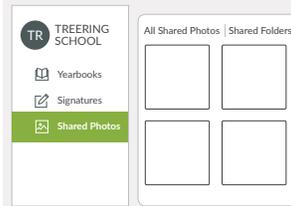
- Must be a parent or student 13 years or older.
- 1 Go to www.treering.com/validate
 - 2 Enter your school's passcode: **1015271802074961**
- Regular Price: **\$24.00**
Deadline: May 17



We Need Your Photos for the St. John Fisher Yearbook

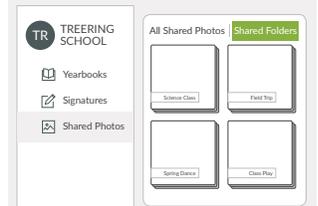
1

Navigate to Shared Photos in the left navigation.



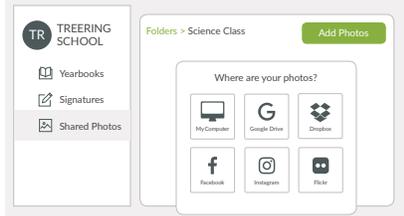
2

Select Shared Folders and choose a folder.



3

Add Photos from Google Drive, Facebook, Instagram, Dropbox & more.



Sign In or Create an Account to Upload Photos:

- Must be a parent or student 13 years or older.
- 1 Go to www.treering.com/validate
 - 2 Enter our school's passcode: **1015271802074961**



Other Happenings



Play Smart Literacy, an early childhood development & family engagement outreach group founded and run almost entirely by SJF community members, **needs our help**.

They will be hosting a Pop-Up Parent Workshop at the 35th annual Printers’ Row Lit Fest children’s area on June 7th & 8th. The fest is an awesome farmer’s market-style celebration of books, authors and all things literacy. Check out <https://printersrowlitfest.org/> and please consider joining the fun – PSL would love to have more SJF families at the event!

For the workshop itself, we need **lots** of materials:

- **Empty Tide pod containers**
- **Empty big juice plastic jugs**
- **Empty 12 pack pop cases (20 max)**
- **Toilet paper or paper towel cardboard paper rolls**

Starting next week, **SJF will have collection bins in school** to collect these items if you have any to donate. Please consider sending them in with your children to help us with this project and check us out at www.playsmartliteracy.org! Hope Orsi, a 20-year old SJF grad and PSL intern made the animated explanation video on the web page.

