

## MEET OUR SJF DYNAMIC EARLY CHILDHOOD TEAM



### **Ms. Sue Power, Preschool Teacher**

**Background:** This will be Ms. Power's 21st year of teaching as an Early Childhood Educator. She has taught Kindergarten and Second grade but has spent most of her years in Preschool and it's a joy! She received her bachelor's and master's Degrees in Education from St. Xavier University.

**Falcon Pride:** Sue is very proud to say that all of her years teaching have been within the Catholic Schools and feels so lucky to have joined the early childhood team at SJF! She enjoys professional development classes and learning new techniques from her fellow teachers to incorporate in her classroom. It's a pleasure to be a part of this team!

**More about Ms. Power:** She lives in Evergreen Park where she raised four amazing children. Attending Catholic School herself and having a strong faith in God, she was able to pass that tradition on to her own children. She's experienced first-hand the positive impact a Catholic Education has on her own children's success and feels so fortunate and grateful! She takes pride in being a part of your child's success as their preschool teacher. In her spare time, she loves to spend time with family, search recipes and cook a great dinner, read a good book, garden, take walks and catch up with friends.

**Favorite Part of Being a Part of SJF Early Childhood Team:** "Getting to be there from the beginning of my students' first learning experience in a school setting. There is no greater reward than being a part of their world and getting to see things through their eyes as they investigate, discover and socially interact with their classmates."



### **Mrs. Lisa Healy, Preschool Assistant**

**Background:** Lisa has been a part of the St. John Fisher Preschool Program for 6 years and has loved every minute of it!

**Falcon Pride:** She loves the culture of SJF. She takes pride in meeting and getting to know the children and their families to ensure a great experience for all. Seeing the students get excited as they learn new things in the classroom, meet new friends, and learn about Jesus makes Mrs. Healy so happy and that is clear as she starts and ends each day with a smile!

**More about Mrs. Healy:** She and her husband, Joe, live in Evergreen Park and have two wonderful adult sons. She is so proud to say that each member of her family is a product of Catholic education. Her younger son graduated from St. John Fisher School. Outside of school, she loves to read, bike, and bake. She is also a big White Sox fan

**Favorite Part of Being a Part of SJF Early Childhood Team:** "I thank God every day that I am a part of St. John Fisher School. It is such a blessing for me that I get to interact with the preschool children and watch how they learn, grow and change every day."

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### **Mrs. Katie Altman, Preschool Teacher**

**Background:** Katie has 25 years of teaching experience and brings creativity, patience and joy to the classroom. She is passionate about learning and enriching young minds by engaging in hands-on experiences. Katie earned her BA from St. Xavier University and has a certificate in Early Childhood and Elementary education.

**Falcon Pride:** Katie teaches our after school ETC enrichment program where children have fun with their friends while exploring areas of interest not always covered in the curriculum. She also developed our Little Explorers Early Childhood Summer Program where children are introduced to the building blocks of formal education.

**More about Mrs. Altman:** In her free time, Katie enjoys spending time with her husband and being a mother to their three wonderful children.

**Favorite Part of Being a Part of SJF Early Childhood Team:** Katie truly loves working with children of all ages and has experience teaching in first, third, fifth grade and preschool. She feels fortunate to be in a profession where she is able to guide and observe children at such a fundamental and important developmental stage in their growth.



### **Mrs. Annmarie Lindgren, Preschool Assistant**

**Background:** Annmarie joined our team in 2015 after staying home to care for her family. Annmarie earned her BA and BSN from St. Xavier University.

**Falcon Pride:** Mrs. Lindgren feels lucky to be in such an important role. She acknowledges the importance of working with young children, so she is constantly seeking new skill-based activities to keep the children engaged in the learning process. Annmarie's gentle and caring nature allows the little ones to always be happy in her presence.

**More about Mrs. Lindgren:** In her free time she enjoys spending time with her husband and their four wonderful children. She also enjoys reading, running and yoga.

**Favorite Part of Being a Part of SJF Early Childhood Team:** Annmarie feels so blessed to work with children at the start of their educational journey and help them to understand and attain some of the most basic and foundational academic, social, cognitive and emotional concepts.

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### **Ms. Katie Fadden, Preschool Teacher**

**Background:** Katie is in her ninth year of teaching Preschool at St. John Fisher and truly loves teaching this age group. Her mom and grandma were also Early Childhood educators; teaching young learners definitely runs in her genes! Katie attended St. Germaine School, Mother McAuley High School and Saint Mary's of Notre Dame where she graduated with a degree in Elementary Education and minors in Reading and Early Childhood Education. She is passionate about reading with children and has worked with the Scholastic Book Company over the last decade as a Teacher Advisor.

**Falcon Pride:** Katie is so happy to be able to teach at such a welcoming, incredible school as St John Fisher. She takes pride in meeting each student and family and has great excitement knowing that they are embarking on the best journey in becoming part of the SJF community!

**More about Ms. Fadden:** In her free time, Ms. Fadden loves to read books, FaceTime with her nieces Molly and Maddie who live in Texas, vacation to Florida and spend time with her wonderful family and friends. Katie's family is also avid Northwestern fans, her brother's alma mater, and love to tailgate and attend football games in the fall - Go 'Cats!

**Favorite Part of Being a Part of SJF Early Childhood Team:** Preschool is such a magical time filled with exciting learning, new friendships and, of course, lots and lots of fun! Katie is so proud to be a teacher at SJF surrounded by the most incredible students, families and coworkers.



### **Mrs. Beth Furlong, Preschool Assistant**

**Background:** Beth joined the preschool team in 2015 and was thrilled to partner with Ms. Katie Fadden. She received a bachelor's degree from Saint Xavier University and master's degree from Governors State University in speech pathology. She worked at a rehab facility as well as Tinley Park school district as a speech pathologist for several years and then stayed home to raise her five children.

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**Falcon Pride:** Beth was raised in St. John Fisher and was third of 10 in the King family, 7 girls & 3 boys. She absolutely loves SJF and even met her husband here.

**More about Mrs. Furlong:** She is blessed with two girls and three boys: Jenna (24), Kevin (23), Michael (20), Lily (17) & Patrick (16). She strongly believes in the value of Catholic education and witnessed her kids benefit from the education they received at Most Holy Redeemer, Mother McAuley, and Brother Rice. Not only did they gain a vast amount of knowledge, but they learned the importance of faith, empathy, and compassion.

**Favorite Part of Being a Part of SJF Early Childhood Team:** "Together we enjoy watching three and four-year-olds grow and are in constant awe of their curiosity and inquisitiveness. I am so grateful to be a part of the Fisher faculty and witness the wonderful educators and the lengths they go to develop your wonderful children as both students and individuals!"

