



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School

November 12, 2021

Dear SJF Families,

Yesterday was Veteran's Day. Thanks to our incredible S.O.A.R. kids and their fabulous moderators, Ms. Colleen Dunlavy and Mrs. Lauren Lordo, we were able to host a beautiful and moving ceremony to pay tribute to the veterans in our school community. We had over 40 veterans who were related to our students attend our prayer service and breakfast yesterday. One veteran shared with me that he has been out of the service for 50 years and this was only the second time he was recognized and honored in this way. We are so proud of our Falcons who organized this event and actively participated by sharing their many talents including speaking, sign language, and music. Yesterday's event also demonstrated to all of our Falcons the importance of pausing to honor those who sacrifice their lives for our freedom. Though every day is a great day to be a Falcon, yesterday was a high moment for us and we are so proud of our students and grateful for all of the veterans in our community and world at large!

Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School.

In unity and hope,
Mrs. Maura Nash



Important Announcements

- **Thank you** for all of your donations to our Thanksgiving Meal Project; you are appreciated! Because of your generosity, we are able to provide 60 Thanksgiving meals to our sister parish in Robbins.
- The **end of the Trimester 1 is November 16th** – way to go Falcons!
- REMINDER: **Make-up School Picture Day is Thursday, November 18th**!
- Have you purchased your **Holiday Raffle Tickets** yet?! Tickets are available **online**, after 11:00 a.m. Mass, during MANNA hours, or at the Rectory. You can also buy a ticket from any of our 5 ticket sellers.
- The **December Lunch Menu** is open and available for ordering.
- **Extended Day**: Make sure to **register your child here**. Reach out to **Mrs. O'Grady** with any questions, dogrady@sjschool.us.
- **PLEASE NOTE**: The week of Thanksgiving school is in session for two FULL DAYS: Monday, November 22nd and Tuesday, November 23rd. There is no school November 24th – 28th.

FSA Corner

- **FSA Save the Dates:** *Santa's Coming to Town*, **12.10 & 12. 11**, *Mother Son Bulls Game*, **1.30**, and the *Father Daughter Dance*, **2.5**.
- Want to **update your SJF Fashion for Christmas?! Check out these new designs and items in our Squad Locker Store, linked here!** Squad Locker gives a percentage of every purchase back to the FSA. Don't delay and get your new swag today!



Athletics

Reminders from the SJF Athletic Board

To ensure SJF is able to host athletic competitions and that our teams are eligible to compete, we need everyone's cooperation and assistance in adhering to the COVID protocols established by the Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Catholic Schools.

- ***ALL spectators, coaches, players and gym staff must wear masks*** in the gym and school building.
- Please remind your children to represent SJF well as they compete and cheer on other Falcon teams. Good sportsmanship matters!
- ***Student conduct in the gym and on the stage has been an issue all fall.*** Please remind your children to pick up after themselves and throw garbage away.
- ***Students should not attempt to enter any part of the school building*** while they are attending athletic competitions at SJF.

Falcon Football



We'd love to give special shout-out to **Bob and Becky Rusch** for planning the football program's banquet this week. It was a wonderful night honoring our athletes and their devoted volunteer coaches. Thank you to all of the coaches for sharing your time and talent with our Falcons all season long. We appreciate each of you as well as all of the parents who helped out in so many different ways this season. **Go Falcons!**

COVID GUIDANCE

We are in this together...thank you for your cooperation!

- If your child or a household member has been diagnosed with COVID-19, please call the school office during the school office hours, 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. and/or email attendance@sjfschool.us. We will respond during our regular scheduled office hours.
- Please review the most recent communication from the archdiocese [linked here](#). These guidelines will be reviewed every two weeks and are subject to change.
- A few details to highlight:
 - All symptomatic individuals must remain home, regardless of vaccination status.
 - If symptoms last longer than 24 hours, individuals must receive a negative COVID-19 test or alternative medical diagnosis prior to returning to school.
 - Masks are required for all students and staff indoors regardless of vaccination status.
 - If you contact the school office via phone or email outside of regular scheduled office hours, we will get back to you the next business day. Thank you for your patience!

Looking Ahead

Weekend Mass	Join us for Mass: 4 p.m. on Saturday, 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday
Saturday, November 13th	ETC 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turkey Bowl 2 w/ Mrs. Altman
Monday, November 15th	Chess Wizards 3 – 4 p.m. w/ Mrs. Schiller Academic Eligibility Club 3 – 4 p.m. w/ Ms. Dunlavy ETC's 3– 4 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fidget Fun w/ Mrs. Altman Baking Buddies w/ Ms. Mc Andrews
Tuesday, November 16th	End of Trimester I Homework Club 3 – 3:45 p.m. Academic Eligibility Club 3 – 4 p.m. w/ Ms. Dunlavy ETC 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turkey Bowl w/ Mrs. Altman
Wednesday, November 17th	Homework Club 3-3:45 p.m.
Thursday, November 18th	Make-up School Picture Day ETC 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Friendsgiving Club w/ Mrs. Altman HSPT Class 3:00 – 4: 30 p.m. Junior High Retreat @ St. Rita High School
Friday, November 19th	Report Card Distribution Day



if one has courage,
nothing can dim the light that shines from within.

-maya angelou

2021-2022 Abbreviated Calendar



**Because of the unpredictable world we live in, these dates are subject to change.*

- End of First Trimester: **11.16**
- Make-up School Picture Day: **11.18**
- Thanksgiving Break: **11.24 – 11.28** *classes resume **11.29**
- Christmas Break: **12.22 – 1.5** *classes resume **1.6**
- Martin Luther King Day – No School: **1.17**
- First Reconciliation: **1.25, Ms. Surin's Room & 1.26, Mrs. Kellam's Room**
- Catholic Schools Week: **1.30 – 2.5**
- Confirmation: **2.6**
- 8th Grade Graduation Pictures: **2.9**
- Parent Teacher Conferences: **2.17**
- President's Day Break: **2.18 – 2.21** *classes resume **2.22**
- End of Second Trimester: **3.8**
- All-Staff Religious Formation & Professional Development (no classes): **3.14**
- Spring Break: **4.13 – 4.24** *classes resume **4.25**
- First Communion: **4.30**
- May Crowning: **5.6**
- 8th Grade Ribbon Mass: **5.20**
- Memorial Day – No School: **5.30**
- Last Day of 8th Grade Classes: **6.1**
- Graduation Dance: **6.3**
- Graduation Mass: **6.5**
- End of Third Trimester, Last Day of School: **6.8** ~ 10:30 dismissal

***1 p.m. dismissals** are scheduled for the first Wednesday of the following months for faculty meetings and PLC work: **November 3rd, December 1st, February 2nd, March 2nd, April 6th, May 4th.**



FALCONS OF THE WEEK

Josephine McGann, Holly Mueller, Casey Dooley, 4th 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 4th graders: Josephine McGann, Holly Mueller, and Casey Dooley.**

These fabulous 4th grade Falcons were nominated by their teachers this week. Josephine, Holly, and Casey walk into the doors of SJF with a positive attitude each and every day. Their kind behavior is demonstrated by their inclusive attitude toward their fellow classmates. These three students are respectful toward their teachers and care about the feelings of others - they **SOAR!** Thank you Josephine, Holly, and Casey for always being a bright spot in our day. We appreciate that we can count on you to help your classmates and teachers and to do the right thing. You are wonderful role models to us all. Keep flying like Falcons, girls. You are making a difference!

WE LOVE OUR SJF TEACHERS!



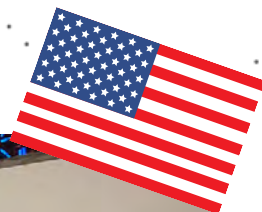
THIS WEEK'S FACULTY SPOTLIGHT IS
ON **AMANDA MCANDREWS** FROM JUNIOR HIGH.

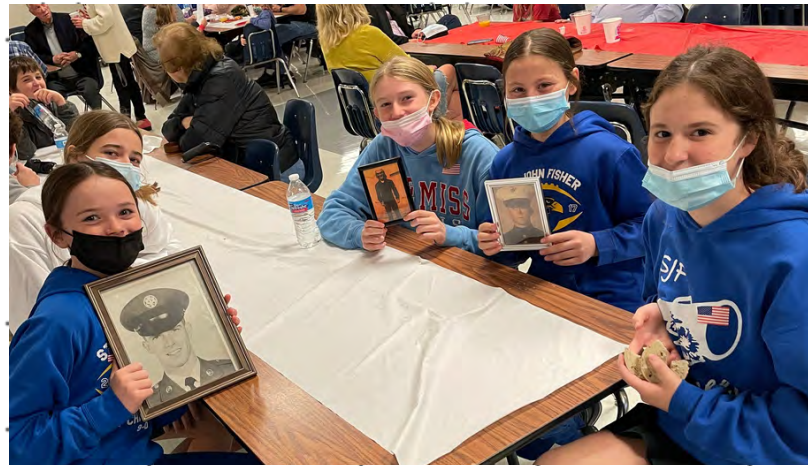
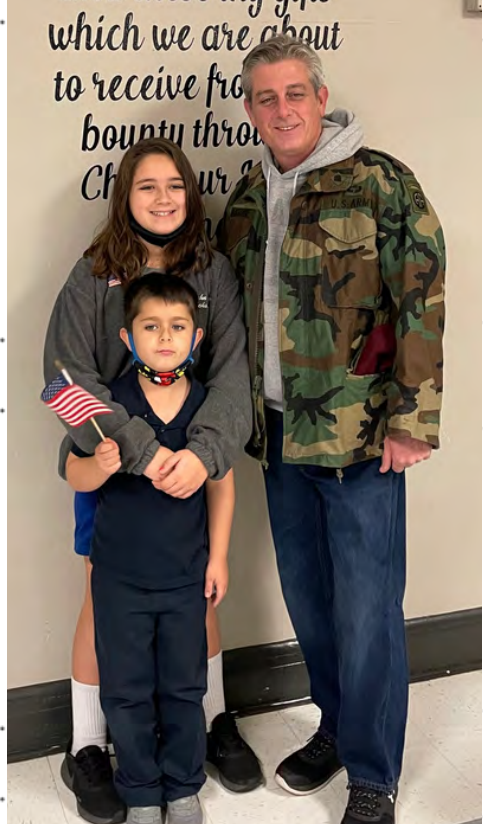
Schools in our country are suffering from a significant teacher shortage. SJF is fortunate to be fully staffed with some of the best teachers around. We are proud of our incredible faculty and want to pause to celebrate them! This week we celebrate, **Ms. Amanda McAndrews!**



1. How long have you been at SJF? **This is my 4th year.**
2. What do you love about SJF? **The community! I love that every student from preschool to 8th grade knows one another because they are either siblings, cousins, neighbors, or just a friendly face! Seeing them say "hi" in the hallways or walk to and from school every day reminds me that SJF is more than just a school; we are a family!**
3. How do you keep your students interested in learning about science? **Science is a subject that lends itself to engagement. From preschool to our grandparents, everyone loves seeing things blow up, change color, or the reason we grow along with the trees. I love to get hands-on lab activities in as often as possible to show my students that even the more "boring" topics are relatable to their every day lives.**
4. Can you tell us something that we may not know about you? **During my summers off I rehab houses and vintage furniture. With the help of my student crew members who learned how to use power tools, we built the set of Seussical the Musical! That's why I like hands on activities so much; I love to build things!**

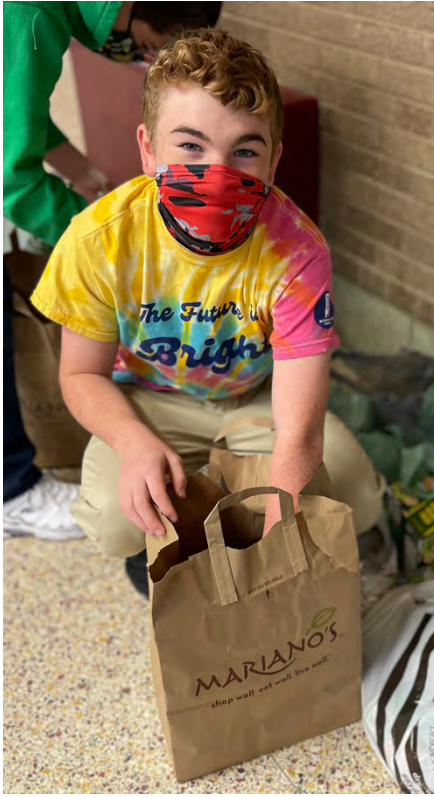
THANK YOU VETERANS!





THANK YOU

FOR DONATING TO OUR PLD FOOD DRIVE THANKSGIVING PROJECT!



C O N G R A T S

**CONGRATULATIONS TO 7TH GRADER
OLIVIA BARSCH ON WINNING 2ND PLACE IN
REPRESENTATIVE FRAN HURLEY'S
2ND ANNUAL ART CONTEST!**



**7TH AND 8TH GRADE
STUDENTS IN THE
35TH DISTRICT WERE
ASKED TO SUBMIT
ARTWORK
HONORING FIRST
RESPONDERS.**





St. John Fisher Holiday Grand Raffle

Tickets are \$100 each

First prize: \$25,000 Second prize: \$5,000 Third prize: \$2,000

Early Bird Raffle \$500

October 31st at 11:00 a.m. Mass

1 entry per 5 tickets sold will be entered into a \$1,000 prize raffle

Tickets can be purchased **October 16th-December 4th** in person at the rectory,
after 11:00 a.m. mass, or online through the church and school websites

<https://www.sjfschool.net> or <https://www.stjohnfisherparish.net>

Winners will be drawn

**December 4th @
4:00 p.m. Mass**





2021-2022 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@sifschool.us

- Reporting Attendance

E-mail attendance@sifschool.us

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

Mrs. Kate Spadoni: kspadoni@sifschool.us

- Registration
- Admissions
- Medical Forms

Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Linda Murray: lmurray@sifschool.us

- Powerschool
- Tuition
- Fees
- Technology

Mrs. Delphine Maxwell: dmaxwell@sifschool.us

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

Virtus, Mrs. Redmond: mredmond@sifschool.net
Religious Education, Dr. Chermak: echermak@sifschool.us
Extended Day, Mrs. O'Grady: dogrady@sifschool.us
Manna Team: sjfmanna@gmail.com

- Counseling, pre-k – 4th

SJF Counselor, Mrs. Lauren Lordo: llordo@sifschool.us

- Counseling, 5th – 8th
- iReady

SJF Counselor and Assistant Principal, Student Support
Mrs. Nichole Carey: ncarey@sifschool.us

- Student Accommodation Plans

Mrs. Win Biernacki (K-4): wbiernacki@sifschool.us
Mrs. Karen Brogan (5-8): kbrogan@sifschool.us



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If you have a question or concern...

