



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School

January 14, 2022

Dear SJF Families,

Today we are officially half way through the 2nd trimester and our kids have grown so much. We have made our way back into the routine of things following our long and much-needed Christmas break and we are ready to tackle the second half of the year! Resilient, intelligent, kind and funny are just some of the words that immediately come to mind when I think about our Falcon student-body. We have set our sights high for 2022. I can't wait to see what all our kids will accomplish this year!

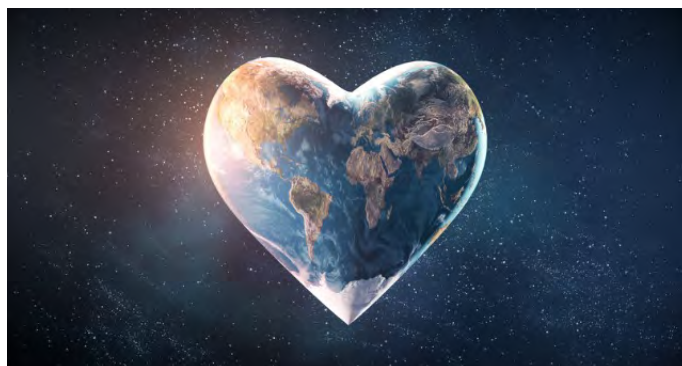
Thank you for entrusting your children to us each day. We are grateful for you and for the privilege of in-person learning. Thank you for choosing Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School. Enjoy the three-day weekend!

In unity and hope,
Mrs. Maura Nash



Important Announcements

- **iReady Update:** The half-way mark of the second trimester means we are approaching our second iReady testing period. Beginning Tuesday, and continuing the following week, all students K-8 will complete the reading and math iReady diagnostic tests. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please reach out to your child's teacher. The full staff directory [is linked here](#).
- **Calendar Update:** The Archdiocese and Office of Catholic Schools (OCS) requires 180 days of learning while the state requirement is 176. Because of the challenges and additional stress that COVID has created, the ***OCS has communicated to schools that we are able to make changes to the current school calendar allowing us to utilize 4 additional days off.*** We have decided to save 2 days for inclement weather or an emergency. If we have to close school due to inclement weather, we will not need to learn remotely or via zoom. ***Scheduled days off will be February 22nd and March 11th.*** If we do not need to utilize our inclement weather/emergency days, we will add additional days off in the spring/end of the year. Thank you for your flexibility and support!
- **January 30th Update - Catholic Schools Week Mass and Open House:** Unfortunately, due to COVID and the size of our school community, we have to reschedule our traditional school family Open House and Mass. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, March 27th. We will still celebrate Catholic Schools Week internally with fun and safe activities for our students each day. Stay tuned for more detail to come!
- The **FSA** is hosting a meeting at **Barney Callaghans on Tuesday, January 18th @ 7 p.m.** All are welcome! Thank you in advance for your participation and interest!
- **Chess Wizards Class has been moved to Monday, January 24th and will run for 10 weeks.** Registration forms are still being accepted for the next session!
- The **February Hot Lunch Menu** is available and open for ordering.
- **FSA's Mother-Son Bulls Game is January 30th.** Please see the attached flyer for ticket information.
- **Extended Day:** Make sure to [register your child\(ren\) here](#). Reach out to **Mrs. O'Grady** with any questions, dogrady@sjfschool.us.



Looking Ahead

Weekend Mass	4 p.m. on Saturday & 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday ~ <i>We hope to see you there!</i>
Saturday, January 15th	Boys Basketball Pack the House! *Please see schedule below *Parents – please pick up your Athletic Spirit-wear T-shirts between 10 a.m.-4 p.m. today in the Conner T. Lowry Gym
Monday, January 17th	NO SCHOOL in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Tuesday, January 18th	Classes Resume Academic Eligibility Club 3 – 4 p.m. w/ Ms. Dunlavy
Wednesday, January 19th	Academic Eligibility Club 3 – 4 p.m. w/ Ms. Dunlavy Homework Club 3 – 3:45 p.m. SAB Meeting in Kane Hall @ 7 p.m.
Thursday, January 20th	Homework Club 3 – 3:45 p.m.
Friday, January 21st	January/February ETC Registration Forms Due

School Advisory Board

- The School Advisory Board meeting was RESCHEDULED for **Wednesday, January 19th at 7:00 P.M. in Kane Hall**. Feel free to join us. Our agenda is focused on next year's budget and preparation for the State of the School presentation in March. If you have an additional agenda item, please email sjfsab@gmail.com.

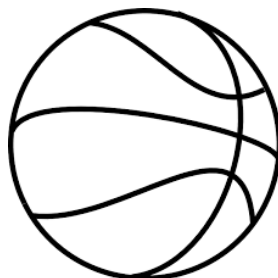
Athletics

THANK YOU for participating in the SJF Athletic T-Shirt Fundraiser! Because of your generosity, we were able to purchase and install all new lighting in the gym. **A special shout-out to Pat O'Connor, Steve Scarsella, Bob Houston, Clint Wingate, Dave Cahill and the SJF Men's Club, and Jim Welsh and his electric company** for installing these new and improved lights over break!

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 COVID-19 Task Force.

- ALL spectators, coaches, players and gym staff must wear masks** in the gym and school building during all games and practices.

Student conduct in the gym, on the stage, and in the hallways during sporting events outside of school hours continues to be an issue. Garbage is left all over the stage, stairways, and hallways. Please remind your child to take pride in our school and pick up and throw out his/her garbage. ***Students should not attempt to enter any part of the school building while they are attending athletic competitions at SJF.***



Boys Basketball Pack the House Schedule

Parents: Please ensure your children represent SJF well as they compete and cheer on other Falcon teams. Thank you for your partnership!!!

- **9 a.m.** -- 5th White vs CK
- **9:50 a.m.** -- 5th Blue vs 5th White
- **10:40 a.m.** -- 5th Grey vs St Pats
- **11:30 a.m.** -- 4th Grey vs Catherine
- **12:20 p.m.** -- 4th White vs Martyrs
- **1:10 p.m.** -- 4th Blue vs St Bede
- **2 p.m.** -- 6A vs St Al's
- **2:50 p.m.** -- 6B vs St Al's
- **3:40 p.m.** -- 7A vs St Christina
- **4:30 p.m.** -- 7th Blue vs St Mike's
- **5:20 p.m.** -- 7th White vs Cajetan

*****6pm-6:15pm*****

Flower Ceremony for 8th grade players and Moms

- **6:20 p.m.** -- 8B vs Central
- **7:10 p.m.** -- 8A vs Mt Greenwood

COVID GUIDANCE & REMINDERS

- If your child or a household member has been diagnosed with COVID-19, **please call the school office, 773-445-4737, during the school office hours, 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. and/or email attendance@sjfschool.us.**
 - If you contact the school office outside of regular scheduled office hours, **we will get back to you the next business day.** Thank you for your patience!
- **Details to highlight:**
 - Please review the most recent communication from the archdiocese [linked here](#) which outlines the updated quarantine time frame and guidance.
 - 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.
 - Students who tested positive or were exposed to COVID-19 can now return to school after completing a 5-day quarantine. Students who participate in athletics or SJF extracurricular activities must provide proof of a negative test in order to attend events on days 6-10 following the 5-day quarantine.
 - Masks are required for all students and staff indoors regardless of vaccination status. **This rule INCLUDES athletes, coaches, and spectators indoors at sporting events.**
 - A **close contact** constitutes being within 3 feet of a positive individual, un-masked for more than 15 minutes. If your child is considered a close contact, you will be contacted separately and will receive specific quarantine guidance.
 - **Updated Athletic Guidance per the Archdiocese: If a student-athlete tests positive, all of his/her teammates will be considered close contacts and will be required to quarantine. If a teammate is vaccinated and asymptomatic, he/she will not need to quarantine.**
 - A presumed **90-day immunity window** follows proof of a positive test result for individuals who complete(d) the minimum 5-day isolation and remain symptom free.
 - In addition to proper masking, SJF cleans and sanitizes desks and tables multiple times throughout the day. Our classrooms are cleaned daily. Our building is deep cleaned every weekend. Our students sanitize their hands upon entering and exiting the classroom/lunchroom.
 - We are following the archdiocese guidance and working hard every day to ensure our children and staff remain healthy and safe and can remain with us for in-person learning.

*We continue to pray for those impacted by COVID and any other illness.
Hang in there – we are all in this together!*

2021-2022 Abbreviated Calendar



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

- 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 – 2.22 *classes resume 2.23**
- End of Second Trimester: **3.8**
- **No School – OCS Flex Day: 3.11**
- 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.**



WE LOVE OUR SJF TEACHERS!



THIS WEEK'S FACULTY SPOTLIGHT IS ON **MR. KUTSULIS** FROM **5TH & 6TH GRADE**.

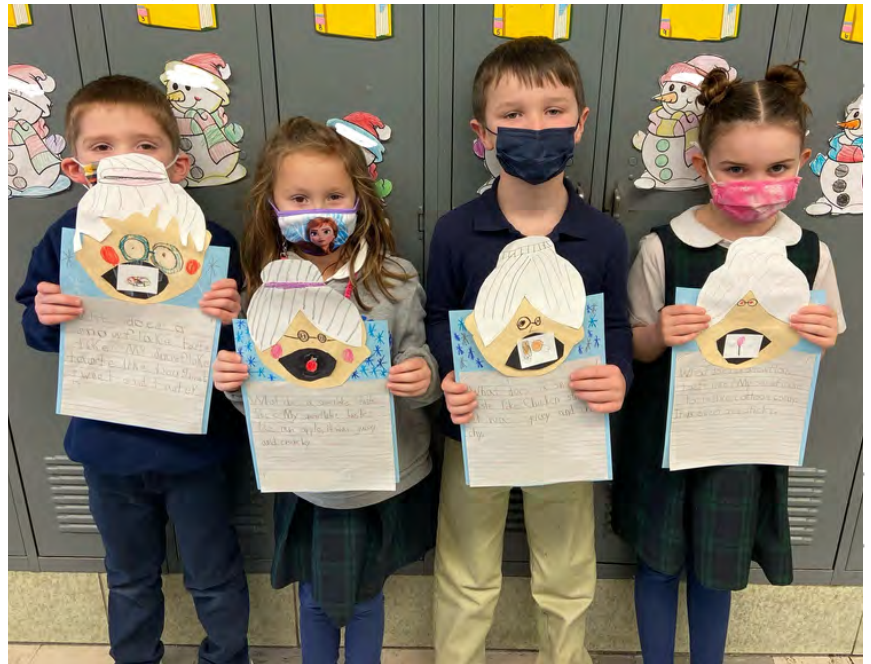
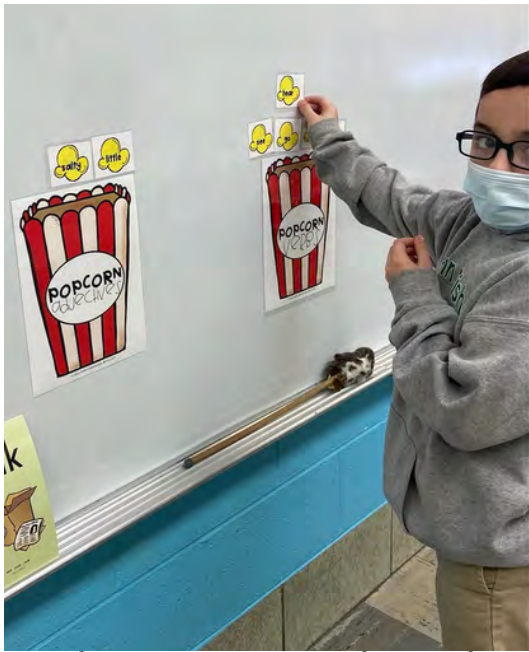
Schools in our country are suffering from a significant teacher shortage. SJF is fortunate to be open for in-person learning and fully staffed with some of the best teachers around. We are proud of our incredible faculty and want to pause to celebrate them! This week we celebrate, **Mr. Niko Kutsulis!**

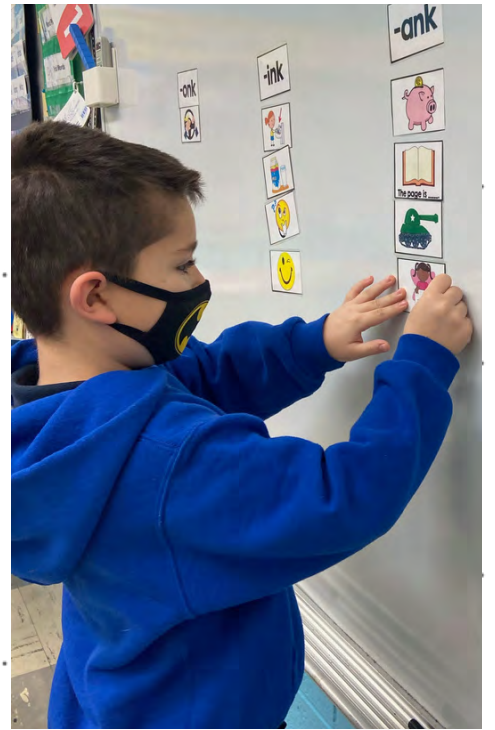
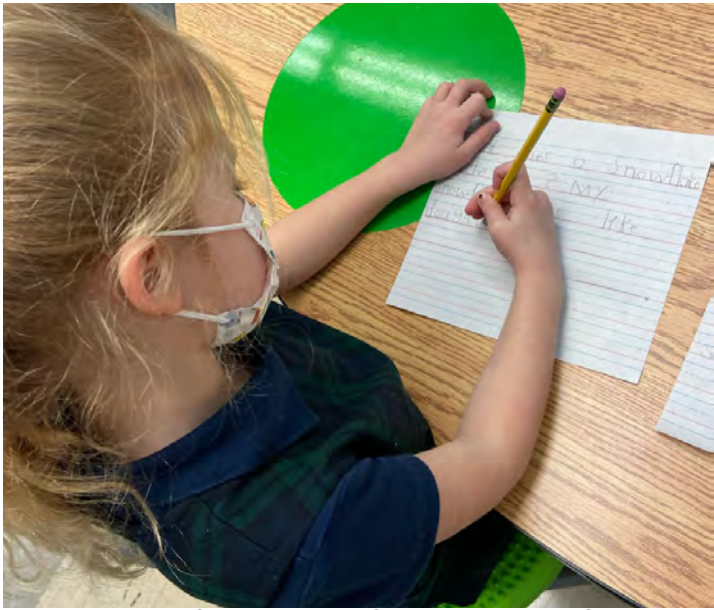


1. How long have you been at SJF? **I am in my second year. Last year I was with the seventh and eighth graders and now I am working with the fifth and sixth graders.**
2. What do you love about SJF? **One of my favorite things about SJF is how supportive the students are of each other. Whenever I can make it out to their games for whatever sport is in season, I see students from different grades and friend groups all there watching and supporting their classmates. I am not used to seeing that below high school.**
3. How do you keep your students interested in learning about math? **Whenever possible I like to try and relate whatever we are talking about to things that are happening in the world today. I also try to let students tell stories about things that they like to connect with what we are learning.**
4. Can you tell us something that we may not know about you? **I am the type of person that likes to try and do as many different things/activities as possible at least once. Something that really throws people off is that I have flown a plane!**



OUR FALCONS ARE STARTING 2022 OFF WORKING EXTRA HARD!







Join us for an evening benefitting

THE FISHER FALCON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

GALA

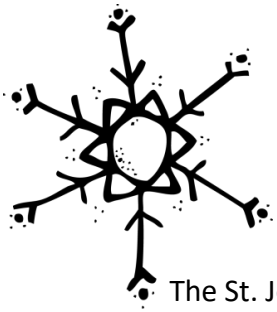
SATURDAY, MAY 7TH 2022

6:00 PM TO 11:00 PM

Ridge Country Club

OPEN BAR . HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES . LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS

ADDITIONAL DETAILS TO FOLLOW



January 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 January session runs from Jan 24th – February 10th. Classes meet in the designated classroom for the designated times. 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 January 21st.

Monday Class January 24th, 31st and February 7th 3:00-4:00

LEGO LAB This class is designed for kids who love to create, build, and discover using LEGOS. Join the fun as we build towers, bridges, villages or anything you can dream of. We will go online and look at some amazing Lego creations as well as play games. If you love Legos come to the Lego lab!

Mrs. Altman & Mrs. Lindgren Room 107 Grades Preschool – 2rd Grade

Tuesday Class January 25th, February 1st and 8th 3:00-4:00

WINTER WONDERLAND Join the fun as we create some cool winter crafts and snacks. We will have an indoor snowball fight, build a snowman, have relay races and even go ice skating inside. Come have snow much fun in our [Winter Wonderland!](#)

Mrs. Altman Room 107

Grades: Preschool- 3rd

GAME NIGHT 2.0 Who loves to play games?? Come join us for some fun playing board games, card games and many more. We have loads of games to play from Uno to Mancala. How are your Connect Four or Jenga skills? Game Night is all about showing your game skills and having fun.

Mrs Dunlavey & Mrs Sefcik

Grades 3- 6 Room 206

Wednesday Class January 26th and February 9th 3:00-4:30 - There is NO Class on February 2nd due to our early dismissal

LEARNING DETECTIVES Students will learn top secret information about the brain and how it best learns new information, stays organized and remains focused. Mrs. Carey and Mrs. Lordo will help students crack the case and better understand executive functioning as it relates to planning and organization, time management and attention, perseverance, growth mindset and the importance of taking breaks and having hobbies. Students will play games, practice new skills and uncover how they can improve their own executive functioning skills.

Mrs. Carey & Mrs. Lordo Grades 2-5

Meets in the Library

WINTER SCIENCE CLUB Join us on our journey to discover just how cool science can be! We will do some cool experiments like making Arctic Slime, Melting Snowmen, and our own snow! Join the fun in the Winter Science Club!

Mrs. Altman

Preschool -3 rd Grade Preschool Room 107

Please fill out the registration form on the next page and return to the **school office no later than Friday January 21st in an envelope marked ETC.**

Registration for January & February

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 January 24,31 and Feb 1 3:00-4:00

____ Lego Lab

Tuesday Class January 25th Feb.1st & 8th 3:00-4:00

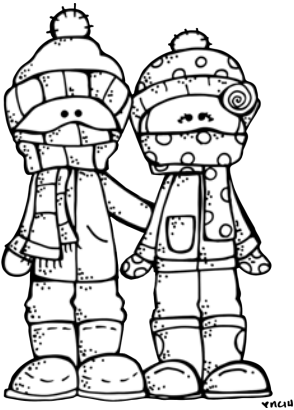
_____ WINTER WONDERLAND CLUB

_____ Game Night2.0

Wednesday Class: January 26th and Feb 9th 3:00-4:30

_____ WINTER SCIENCE

_____ LEARNING DETECTIVES





Group Outings

ST. JOHN FISHER **MOTHER & SON** GROUP OUTING WITH THE CHICAGO BULLS IS BACK!!!!



Enjoy a legendary outing at the United Center for a Chicago Bulls game with St. John Fisher mothers and sons!

Share the excitement of Bulls basketball and the NBA's leading entertainment experience as the team takes on the Portland Trailblazers. Each ticket purchase also includes access to a private pregame shootaround with 100-level access from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Be a part of Bulls Nation today.

Get your tickets now through the link below!

BULLS VS. TRAIL BLAZERS

Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 2:30 PM

Tickets: <https://offer.fevo.com/bulls-vs-trail-blazers-qslamuw-f7e753e>

United Center COVID rules: <https://www.unitedcenter.com/venue/know-before-you-go/>

**Seats in sections 306, 307, and 308 are reserved for SJF*

**Tickets starting at \$31*

**Price and sections guaranteed only through January 1st!!!*



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



2021-2022 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern...

