



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts

St. John Fisher School – Together, we've got this!

March 19, 2021

Dear SJF Families,

This week SJF celebrated St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day. Traditionally at SJF, our third graders perform the story of St. Patrick at morning mass before the South Side Irish Parade. Last year, our third graders practiced so hard for this big performance, only to have it cancelled because of COVID. This year, our now fourth graders received a "do-over". Though it wasn't at mass before the South Side Irish Parade, they were able to perform on the altar during a special St. Patrick's Day Prayer Service that was live streamed for our entire parish community to enjoy and they did an exceptional job! In case you missed the live stream, there are pictures below.

This week we also honored St. Joseph who represents many different groups in our faith. St. Joseph is known as the patron saint of workers, fathers and husbands. Today, we give thanks and celebrate all of our amazing, hard-working Dads who love and provide for our students. We are so grateful for all of you!

Finally, thank you for your support of Alderman Matt O'Shea's Get Behind the Vest Pancake Breakfast! We love that our community is populated by so many real-life heroes! You make us proud each day and we are in awe of your bravery.

Enjoy your weekend, everyone. We are so lucky to have each of you in our school community!

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash



Important Announcements

- Parents, ***we need your feedback!*** The **UChicago Impact Parent Survey is now open!** Please fill out the parent survey, [linked here](#). Your feedback will be used to continue to make improvements at SJF – thank you for your participation!
- **ATTENTION 8th Grade Parents and Guardians:** Please check your e-mail for information regarding two scholarship opportunities for your child: The Joe Guinane Memorial Scholarship and The Kevin Dowling Scholarship. If you need additional information regarding either of those opportunities, reach out to Mrs. Spadoni, kspadoni@sjfschool.net.
- Thank you for your amazing generosity for last week's **"BLUE OUT"** in support of our Chicago Police Officers and Alderman Matt O'Shea's Get Behind the Vest Program. Together we raised over **\$1,700 for our heroes in blue and this important cause**.
- **FSA Update:** Calling all Falcon Families! FSA is looking for volunteers to help plan upcoming events. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kristen Schiesl, kristenschiesl@gmail.com, or Karen McDonagh, klak13@yahoo.com.
 - **FSA Save the Dates:**
 - May 3rd - May 7th** - Teacher Appreciation Week
 - May 22nd** - Fisher Community Yard Sale – [Please complete this survey](#) regarding your interest in participating in this event. Thank you!
- **Women's Club Update:** Please help the Women's Club build a great SJF cookbook by sharing your recipes for appetizers, main dishes, side dishes, any meal, dessert - we welcome all contributions! Please e-mail recipes to: colnitsche04@gmail.com or melissazmich28@gmail.com.
 - **Save the Dates** *stay tuned for more information:
 - April 16th** Virtual Bingo
 - May 14th** Scavenger Hunt
- **We need your help!** SJF needs help to **decorate the church for Easter on Saturday, April 3rd at 10 a.m.** Thank you for your consideration.
- Don't forget to **register** to save your spot for **Extended Day**, [here](#)! If you have any questions, contact Mrs. O'Grady, dogrady@sjfschool.net.
- Thank you for sharing your feedback on SJF's Strategic Plan Survey. In case you missed it, [here is a link](#) to the Strategic Plan Presentation and [the slides](#). Together let's continue to work toward being the best version of St. John Fisher!

COVID Reminders

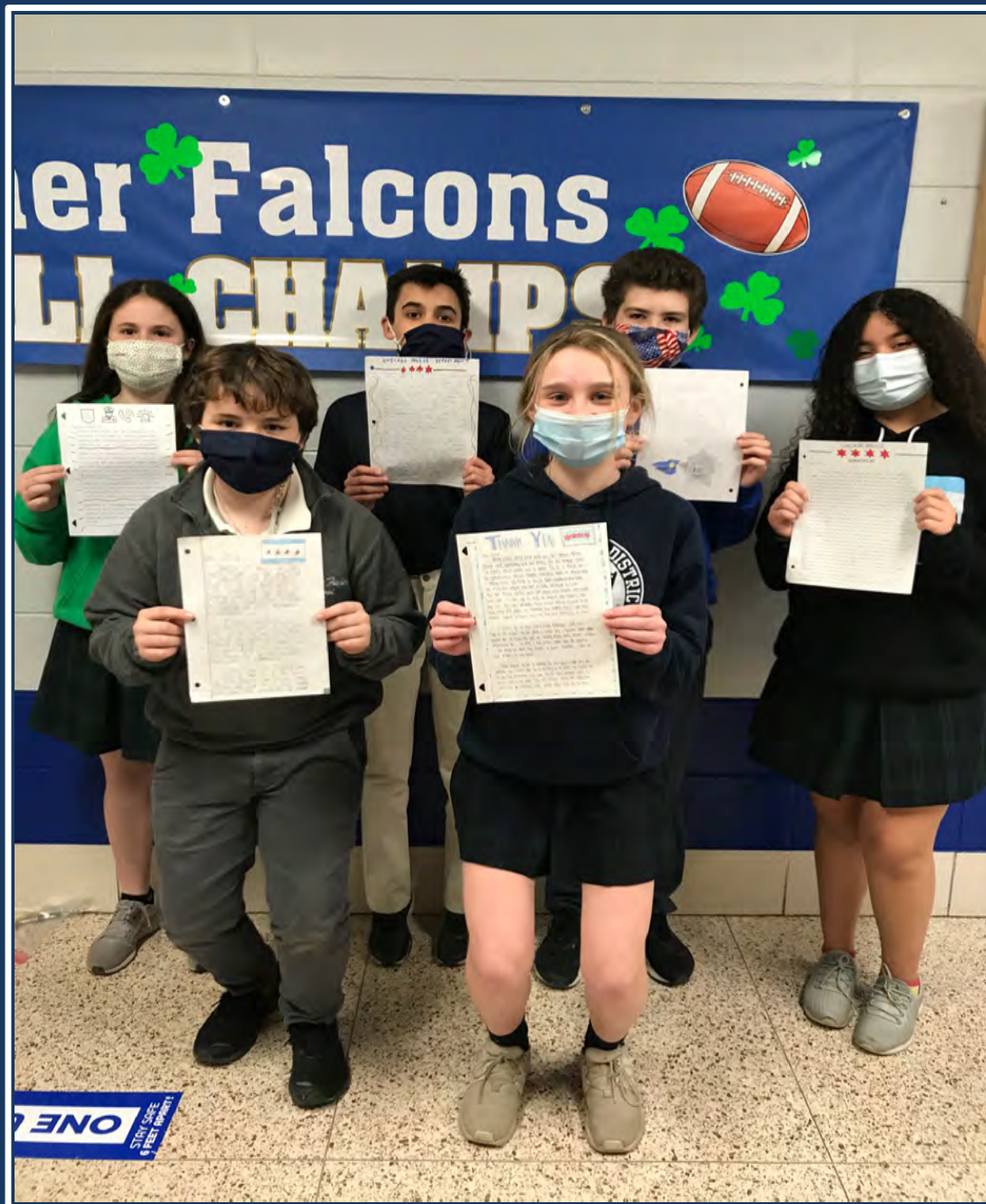
- In case you missed it, [here is a link to Dr. Rigg's most recent family newsletter](#) addressing the updated quarantine and travel guidance as it related to Spring Break.
- Our **most frequently asked question** is ***when should I keep my child home from school?***
 - ***If your child or ANYONE IN THE HOUSEHOLD HAS 1 or more COVID symptoms, your child (and siblings) should remain at home.***
 - ***If your child or ANYONE IN THE HOUSEHOLD has a pending COVID lab test (even if the rapid is negative).***
- Each week I express my gratitude for your partnership. Our school has successfully remained open for in-person learning because of you!





SJF Honors the Chicago Police Department

Our 7th & 8th graders each wrote a letter to a police officer thanking them for their bravery, service, sacrifice and protection.



Pictured from left to right: Mimi Barrins, Luke Hannigan, Danny Killeen, Grace Cotter, Danny Deacy and Sophia Crespo



FALCONS OF THE WEEK

Sophia Lewis, 3rd Grade

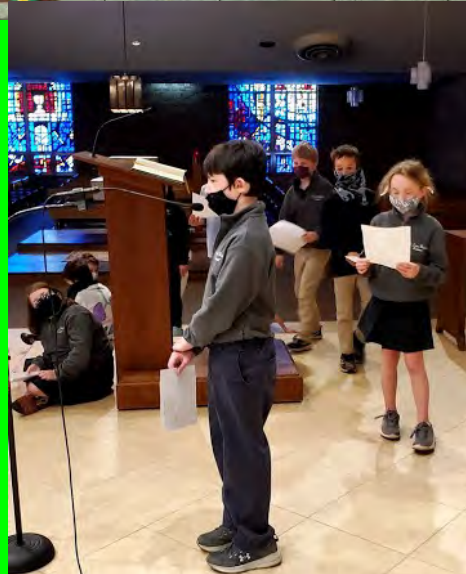


This year, our school theme is "Fly Like a Falcon." Falcons SOAR above, capturing an aerial view of what is going on below. We are encouraging our school community to "SOAR above" things that might bring us down, not allowing us to be our best selves. We are on a school-wide crusade to "Fly Like a Falcon", 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 third grader, Sophia Lewis.**

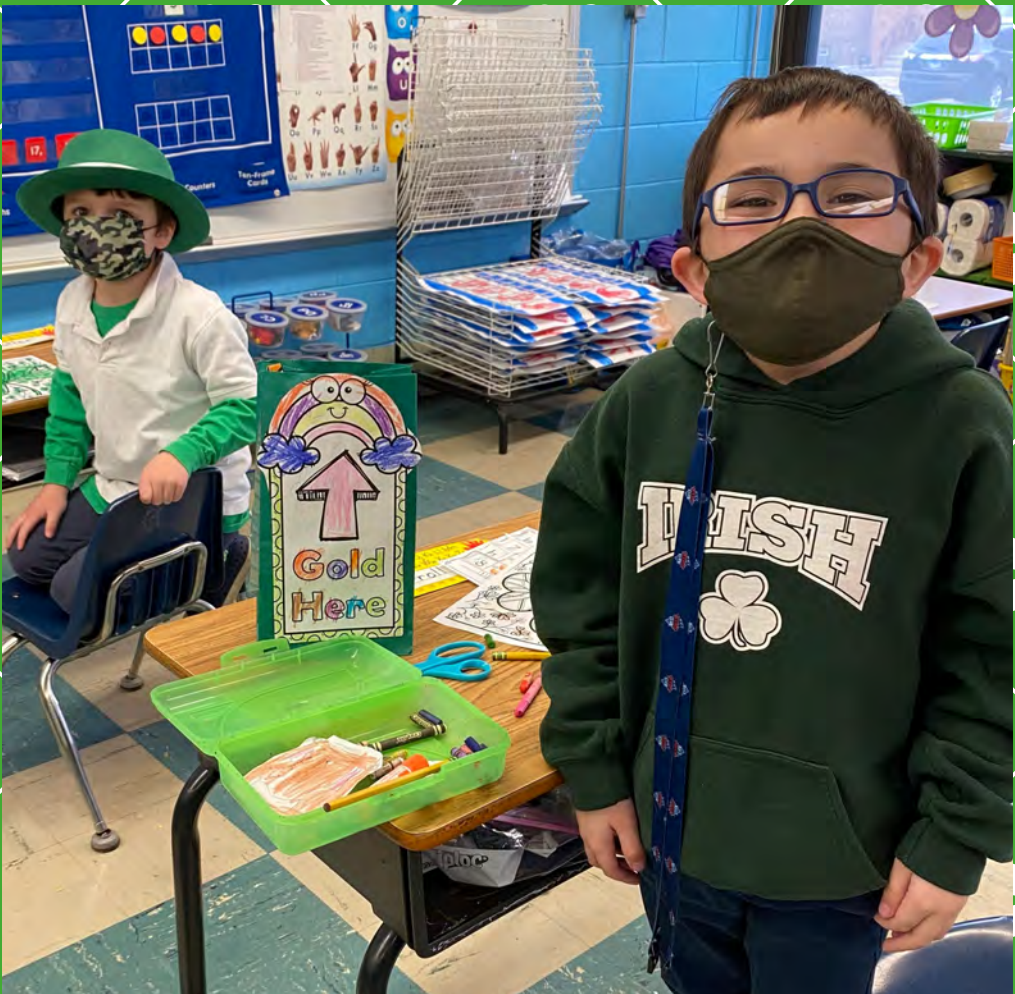
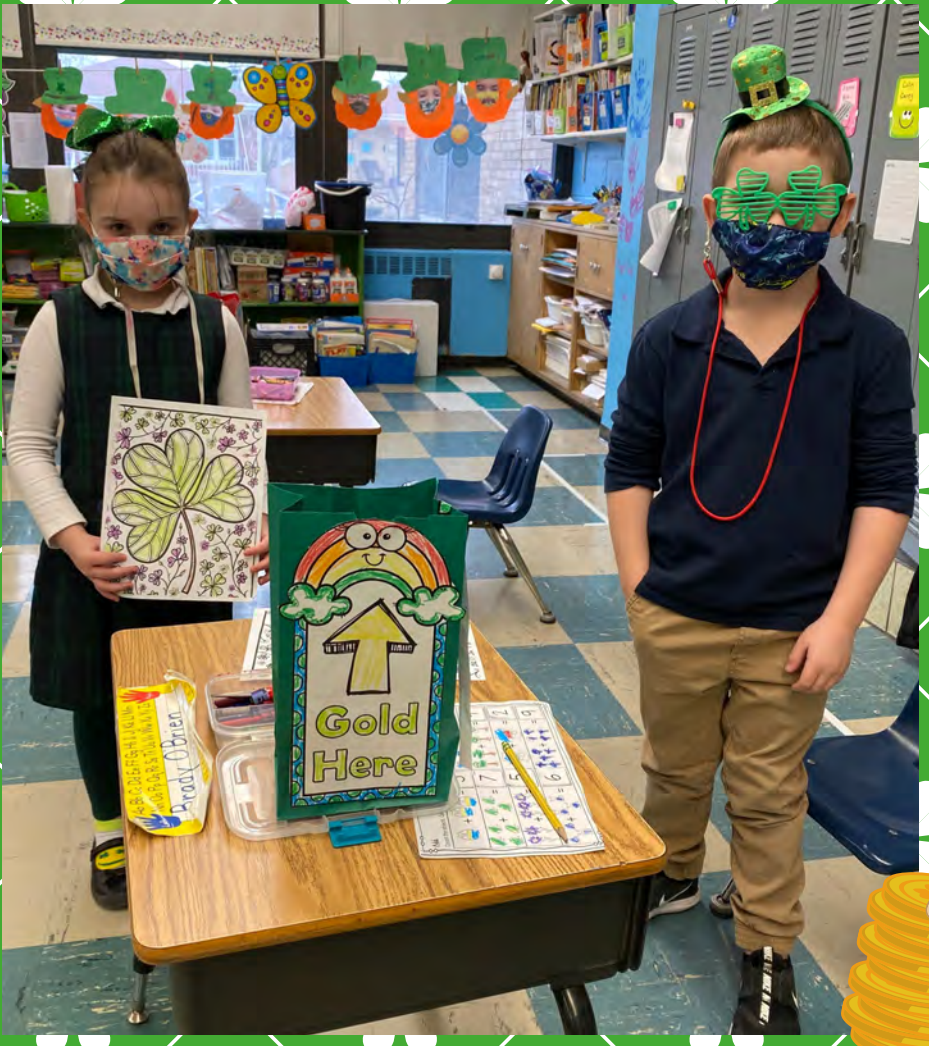
I am sure you have noticed, thanks to the melting snow and high winds, that there seems to be more garbage and litter flying around our neighborhood than usual. This is no different at SJF. Mrs. Reigner, Sophia's teacher, shared with me this wonderful story. At recess last week, Sophia began picking up litter and garbage around the parking lot and sidewalks. Sophia was appalled at all of the litter as she knows it is bad for our environment. Sophia's peers saw her in action and joined in! The 3rd graders were recently learning about recycling and pollution. Sophia began making connections to cleaning up outside to the lesson they learned in school. Sophia and friends now search the school grounds to pick up any litter outside. Sophia has inspired her friends to do their part to make our world a better and cleaner place simply by example. Sophia even made a song and dance about the importance of keeping our environment clean! Thank you, Sophia, for inspiring your fellow Falcons to make this world a brighter place. You are fun. You are special. You have gone above and beyond. You are a wonderful role model and we are proud that you are a Falcon!



Saint Patrick's Day 4th grade 2021




Prayer Service Practicing





Happy St. Joseph's Day!





THIS YEAR OUR ALL-SCHOOL LENTEN SERVICE PROJECT WILL BE HELPING WITH THE PRO LABORE DEI EASTER BASKETS.

EACH STUDENT SHOULD BRING IN SOMETHING TO ADD TO THEIR HOMEROOM BASKET. A LIST OF SUGGESTED ITEMS CAN BE FOUND BELOW. PLEASE SEND IN



YOUR DONATION BY MONDAY, MARCH 22ND.



BOY: A ROSARY/PRAYERS/CANDY/FRUIT/GIFT CARD (MCDONALDS OR BURGER KING)/SOCKS/GRANOLA BARS/CANDY/SPORTS CARDS/ MATCHBOX CARS/BATTERIES

GIRL: A ROSARY/PRAYERS/CANDY/FRUIT/GIFT CARD/SOCKS/GRANOLA BARS/A DOLL/GEL PENS/HAIR ACCESSORIES/BATTERIES

ANYONE: A ROSARY/PRAYERS/GIFT CARDS/SOCKS/CANDY/FRUIT/ANY IDEAS YOU MAY HAVE

“Blue Mass”



Sunday March 21st, 11am

St. John Fisher Church

10235 S Fairfield Ave, Chicago, IL 60655

Celebrant: Fr. Dan Brandt, Chicago Police Chaplain



There will be a second collection benefiting the Chicago Police Chaplains Ministry