



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School

February 21, 2020

Dear SJF Families,

Thank you so much for your generosity and support of the Chicago Police Memorial's Get Behind the Vest Program! This Sunday is Alderman Matt O'Shea's Pancake Breakfast in Kane Hall from 8-12. All proceeds from the breakfast will go directly to the Get Behind the Vest Program. St. John Fisher is home to 130 children of Chicago Police Officers and we are incredibly proud of these men and women and all of the first-responders in our school community who selflessly put their lives on the line each and every day. Thank you for your unbelievable service to our community and our city and for being awesome role models for all of us to strive to emulate.

Please join us as we cheer on our Falcon Volleyball and Basketball Teams this weekend as they begin their play-off competitions. May they have fun, compete with sportsmanship and class and represent our school well! Thank you to all of the parents who have volunteered countless hours during the season coordinating, coaching, working the door and concession stands, cheering on our teams and driving our athletes to and from games. Our athletic programs would not be successful without all of you!

This week our 2nd graders made their First Reconciliation. Thank you to Fr. Ken, Fr. Dan and our visiting priests, Fr. Jim Mezydlo and Fr. Matt Compton, along with Dr. Chermak, Mrs. Ade, Mrs. Briseno, Mrs. Connolly and Mrs. Kellam who guided and helped our students prepare for and make this important sacrament.

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

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash

Important Announcements

- **SAVE THE DATE!** On **March 1st** the **Girl Scouts** will celebrate the 10 o'clock Family Mass and host their annual Cookie Booth Sales immediately following.
- FYI: **March lunches** are now available to order online.
- **Wait Until 8th!** *Wait Until 8th* is an organization that is *empowering parents to say Yes to waiting until 8th grade for kids to get a smart phone*. The decision to wait until 8th allows kids to be kids longer because childhood is too short to waste on a smartphone. Visit www.waituntil8th.org for additional information.
- **Don't forget to check your student's teacher blog** for all of the latest and greatest information pertaining to your child's education!
- **REMINDER:** **THURSDAY, February 27th is an early dismissal @ 1:45 for a Faculty In-Service.**
- The **2nd Trimester ends Friday, February 28th.**
- We will be administering the **ASPIRE test Tuesday, April 21st – Friday, April 24th.**
- **REMINDER: Fridays at SJF are now Fisher Falcon Spirit Days!** Students may wear spirit-wear (t-shirts, jerseys, hoodies, zip-ups, etc.) ON TOP ONLY. Students must still wear their school pants, skirt, etc., but may wear SJF spirit wear on top on FRIDAYS! Here is an updated link for our school on-line store at squadlocker: https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com/#/lockers/st-john-fisher-school?_k=y3d4j

- SAVE THE DATE:** St. John Fisher’s Celtic Mass, Supper & St. Baldrick’s Event is March 7th!

 - Here is the link to purchase t-shirts for St. Baldrick’s:*
<https://go2actionsports.chippily.com/fightingforacure2020/store.aspx> *The online store will be open until 2.25 @ 11 P.M.
 - Here is the link if you’d like to volunteer for the event:*
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Y22FtRa1hOD-pGUtE000WQI1FEPI6xl6C5xDfwIP0xg/edit>
- The SOUTH SIDE IRISH PARADE is HONORING Catholic School Elementary Teachers this year!** In honor of their service, the SSIP Committee announced teachers and administrators from the South Side Catholic Schools will be the Grand Marshalls of this year’s parade! SJF is so happy to celebrate our amazing teachers and will be participating in this honor. ***Our Gold-Ball Championship Football Team will also be representing our school separately in the parade.*** All are welcome to join the football team to represent our AWESOME SCHOOL! Stay tuned for additional information!
- Early Morning Drop-off:** *Please be mindful that students aren’t allowed in the building before the bell unless they have made prior arrangements with a teacher, are taking an AR or are utilizing extended day. Students shouldn’t be dropped off to wait outside of their entrance door until 7:40 (at the earliest).* Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

Peek at the Week

Friday, February 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get Behind the Vest Dress Down Day – thank you for your generosity!
Saturday, February 22 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Please join us for mass @ 4 P.M.</i>
Sunday, February 23 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alderman Matt O’Shea’s Pancake Breakfast to support The Get Behind the Vest Program in Kane Hall from 8-12 Mother-Son Bulls Game - Don’t forget your waiver! <i>Please join us for Mass: 8, 10, 12 and 5:30 All are welcome!</i>
Monday, February 24 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALICE JR. Play Rehearsal: 2:30-4
Tuesday, February 25 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HOMEWORK CLUB 2:30-3 Academic Eligibility Study Hall: 2:30-3:15 in Rooms 105 & 205 The St. Baldrick’s On-line T-shirt Store Closes @ 11 p.m.
Wednesday, February 26 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ash Wednesday, All-School Mass @ 1 HOMEWORK CLUB 2:30-3 Academic Eligibility Study Hall: 2:30-3:15 in Rooms 105 & 205 ALICE JR. Play Rehearsal: 6:30-8
Thursday, February 27 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FUTURE FALCON FRIENDS: 10:30-11:15 EARLY DISMISSAL @ 1:45, Faculty In-service ALICE JR Play Rehearsal: 3-4:30
Friday, February 28 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last Day of Trimester 2 Fisher Falcon Spirt-wear Friday!



FALCON OF THE WEEK

Mrs. Erin Rech, 1st grade teacher



SJF's "Falcon of the Week" is our very own 1st grade teacher and SJF Alumna, Mrs. Erin Rech.

This year, our school theme is "Fly Like a Falcon." At school, we are intentionally discussing what it means to be 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. Our "Falcon of the Week" is Mrs. Erin Rech. Mrs. Rech was nominated by one of our parents as falcon of

the week! With so much sickness going around, a few of the students in Mrs. Rech's class were out sick on Valentine's Day. Mrs. Rech not only reached out to her students' parents to check on them, but with the help of her healthy students, she created personal videos for each of the students who were out sick wishing them a Happy Valentine's Day! The students felt like they were included in the celebration and it brightened their day! Mrs. Rech, you went above and beyond, as always, and you have touched many people with your incredibly kind gesture. We are so lucky that you are on our staff! You are an excellent role model for your students and all of us and your presence makes SJF a better place. Keep "Flying like a Falcon, Mrs. Rech", you're making a difference!



130 Reasons why St. John Fisher Backs the Blue!



St. John Fisher School is home to over 130 students whose parents are Chicago Police Officers. We are proud to be a community so heavily populated by these men and women and all first-responders who are real-life superheroes! The SJF School Community raised \$1200 in support of the *Get Behind the Vest Program* sponsored by the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation.

Thank you for your generosity and thank you to the men and women in blue who keep us safe each and every day.

First Reconciliation
Wednesday, February 19th
Congratulations to our 2nd grade students
and their families!



Families gather for final prayer and to bless their children led by Father Ken.



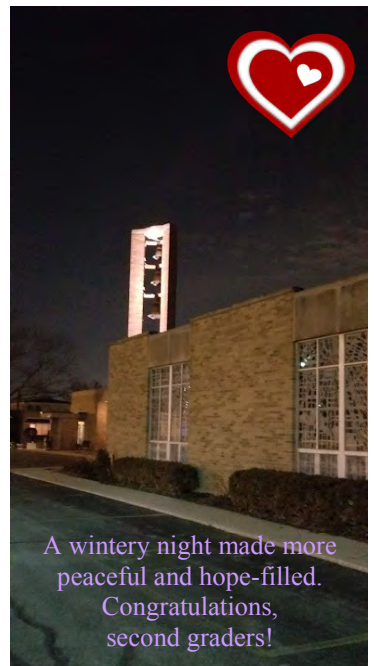
Father Ken with First Reconciliation students and parents.



Reading of the Prodigal Son and Reconciliation "cloaks" and rings.



Seventh grade artists create gifts for second graders



A wintery night made more peaceful and hope-filled. Congratulations, second graders!

SAVE THE DATE

ALDERMAN MATT O'SHEA'S

GET BEHIND THE VEST

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020

SPONSORED BY:



Saint John Fisher School – Kane Hall
10200 S. Washtenaw Ave.

8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Tickets: \$5 per person / \$25 per family



**St. John Fisher
St. Baldrick's &
Celtic Supper**



Saturday March 7, 2020

4:00 pm - Mass SJF Church

5:15 pm - Cross Keys Irish Dancers start us off in gym

*** Shaving Begins After Dancing**

5:30 pm Corned Beef Dinner in Kane Hall

(other food options for children)

6:00 pm - Dennehey Irish Dancers

DJ in Kane Hall playing Irish Tunes and fun for the kids

Dinner Prices / \$40 Family/

\$20 Couple/\$10 single

Cash Bar Available

Facepainting, Hair Braiding, Balloon guy

This is a family event, all children should be accompanied by a parent. It is important that all children are supervised by their parents in all areas of the school.

Please contact sjfwomensclub@gmail.com with any questions

SPORTS CLUB: BASKETBALL: March Madness / Basketball season has begun. Who is your favorite team? Want to show off some of your favorite moves. This E.T.C. will be a blast! We will meet and play basketball– (We will a smaller net for the littler ones) – each week. Please wear gym shoes because we will be in the GYM. The children will be grouped according to their age.

Mrs. Ade

Room 217

Preschool- 3rd Grade



Pease fill out the registration form and return to the school office no later than Thursday February 27th in an envelope marked ETC.



Registration for March

Students 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 March 2nd & 9th 2:25-4:00

_____ LEPRECHAUN LAB

_____ ART STUDIO / ST. PATRICK'S STYLE

Tuesday Class March 3rd, 10th & 17th 2:25-3:30

_____ LITTLE LEPRECHAUNS

Wednesday Class March 4th, 11th & 18th 2:25-3:30

_____ LEPRECHAUN TRAINING CAMP

_____ SPORTS CLUB: MARCH MADNESS

SATURDAY ETC CLASS

Leapin' Into Fun

Join the fun as we celebrate Leap Day. We will play leap frog, leap through an obstacle course and play musical lily pads. We will drink some Pond Punch and frog-tactic snacks.

This class will meet in preschool room 107 from 9-12 on

Saturday February 29th



Cost \$30.00 per class. **** Family Discount if more than one child per family signs up the cost is \$50 Per family.

Registration for Saturday E.T.C. Please return to the main office by

Friday February 28th

Students Name _____

_____ **Leapin' Into Fun**

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 # _____

For more information contact Katie Altman kaltman@sjschool.net or

text me at 708-945-3493

St. John Fisher SWAG!

SJF'S ONLINE STORE HAS UPDATED APPAREL FOR KIDS AND ADULTS!

- 5% OF EACH ORDER GOES BACK TO THE FSA.
- [HTTPS://TEAMLOCKER.SQUADLOCKER.COM/#/LOCKERS/ST-JOHN-FISHER-SCHOOL?K=SIF3AM](https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com/#/lockers/st-john-fisher-school?K=SIF3AM)
- FLAUNT THAT FISHER PRIDE ON FISHER FALCON SPRIT-WEAR FRIDAYS!



SJF

GARDEN FLAGS

FOR SALE

**GARDEN FLAGS ARE FOR
PURCHASE FOR \$15**

- **IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE, SEND
YOUR \$15 IN AN ENVELOPE WITH
YOUR STUDENT AND WE WILL SEND
IT HOME**

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT OF
OUR SCHOOL. FLAUNT THAT
FISHER PRIDE!***



Embracing Curious Minds. Nurturing Compassionate Hearts. *Now and in the Future.*

SJF's Drive to 75

We set our sights high – our planning principles:

We plan with a focus on the future.

We dare to fail in order to lead.

We embrace lives of faith and service
as cornerstones of our culture.

We challenge ourselves to use data,
engage the community,
and maximize our talents in our
continuous pursuit of excellence.



Our Shared **Strategic Objectives**

1 Safe Welcoming Environment

- Re-energized community outreach
- Integrated social-emotional resources and curriculum
- Enhanced campus security

2 Academic Excellence

- Broadened specials and STEAM lessons
- Differentiated instruction and personalized learning
- Targeted updating of technology and classroom space

3 Faith in Action

- Tightened connection between school and parish constituencies
- Active, coordinated service opportunities
- Improved involvement of school children and families in mass

4 Foundational Investment

- Agreed-upon organizational missions and accountability
- Published 5-year financial plan

5 Responsible Stewardship

- Transparent annual budgeting and financial reporting process
- Improved compensation for our talented faculty and staff

6 Tangible Legacy

- 75th anniversary capital campaign
- Refurbished convent building for school and community use