



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School

February 28, 2020

Dear SJF Families,

Today marks the end of the second trimester. We are so proud of all of the progress that our students have made this year both in and out of the classroom. As the second trimester comes to a close, our winter sports are wrapping up as well. Thank you for being with your child every step of the way to help him/her overcome those hurdles and challenges and celebrate the victories and milestone accomplishments each and every day. You are your child's greatest advocate, champion and cheerleader and we are so grateful to partner with you as together we help your most precious commodity learn, grow, evolve, gain independence and realize their greatest potential. As we continue to build our partnership, please review the attached document discussing our 2nd round of parent-teacher conferences which are scheduled for this Thursday, March 5th.

Thank you for your incredible support of the Get Behind the Vest Pancake Breakfast and SJF fundraiser. As a school community, we raised over \$1200 on our dress down day and added to the over \$100K raised for this important cause.

We look forward to the third trimester as we all begin with a fresh start. The possibilities are endless! Thank you so much for your continued support of Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School.

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash

Important Announcements

- **EARLY DISMISSALS!** Please be mindful of the early dismissal schedule and make the necessary arrangements for your children on these days. The schedule is posted to the school calendar, the website and is addressed in the weekly Notes from Mrs. Nash. **March 26th is our next 1:45 dismissal.** Thank you!
- **ETC's:** We have new offerings for the month of March ***INCLUDING an ART ETC for students in grades 3-8.*** Please see the attached flyer for sign-up information.
- **UNIFORM EXCHANGE** will be held on Wednesday, March 4th from 6-7:30 p.m., in the Convent during Manna Hours.
- **The 2nd round of optional parent-teacher conferences** is scheduled for Thursday, March 5th, from 3:30-6 in Kane Hall. Please see the attached letter to schedule your conference and learn more about Thursday's format.
- *Thank you* to the 3rd grade parents for hosting the delicious **Staff & Teacher Breakfast** this month – you are appreciated!
- **APRIL 5th - SAVE THE DATE** Mom/Daughter and Grandma's Roaring 2020 Luncheon! Invitations will be sent home in March. It should be a rip-roaring time!
- We will be administering **the ASPIRE test Tuesday, April 21st - Friday, April 24th.** The Archdiocese of Chicago
- **Heart of the School Award** is now open for nominations. Visit this link for more information! <https://schools.archchicago.org/heart-of-the-school-award>

- **The Office of Catholic Schools** is administering the **5 Essentials Survey** at the district-wide level for parents, teachers and students. Below is the information and link regarding the survey. We appreciate your time and participation!
- **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.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** St. John Fisher's **Celtic Mass, Supper & St. Baldrick's Event** is **March 7th!** *Here is the link if you'd like to volunteer for the event:* <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Y22FtRa1hOD-pGUtE000WQI1FEPI6xI6C5xDfwlP0xg/edit>
- **The SOUTH SIDE IRISH PARADE is HONORING** Catholic School Elementary Teachers this year and has declared that they are 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 and march in the parade!
- **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: 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>
- **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!

Lenten Goals – The season of Lent calls us to reflect and prepare for Easter. This Lenten Season I intend to put my family first and spend more intentional time with my husband and children. To make this a reality, I will be steering clear of all screens outside of my office hours. If I do not get back to you right away, please know that your e-mail or call is important to me, but that I will respond to you during my working hours.



Peek at the Week

Saturday, February 29 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buckets for Baldricks Basketball Tournament in the Conner T. Lowry Gym: 5:15, 6, 6:45 and 7:30 • <i>Please join us for mass @ 4 P.M.</i>
Sunday, March 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girl Scout Mass @ 10 A.M. and Cookie Booth Sales to follow – thank you for your generosity! • <i>Mass times are: 8, 10, 12 & 5:30. All are welcome!</i>
Monday, March 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ETC – Leprechaun Lab 2:25-4 • ETC – ART STUDIO Irish Style 2:25-4 • ALICE JR. Play Rehearsal: 2:30-4
Tuesday, March 3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ETC – Little Leprechaun's 2:25-3:30 • <u>HOMEWORK CLUB</u> 2:30-3 • Art Club with Mrs. Corley 2:30-3:30
Wednesday, March 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trimester 2 Report Cards Distribution • 7th Grade Foreign Language Field Trip to St. Rita High School • Special Lunch • ETC – Leprechaun Training Camp 2:25-3:30 • ETC – March Madness 2:25-3:30 • <u>HOMEWORK CLUB</u> 2:30-3 • Uniform Exchange 6-7:30 in the Convent • 3rd Grade Girl Scout's Meeting • ALICE JR. Play Rehearsal: 6:30-8
Thursday, March 5 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent-Teacher Conferences 3:30-6 in Kane Hall • FUTURE FALCON FRIENDS: 10:30-11:15 • ALICE JR Play Rehearsal: 3-4:30
Friday, March 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisher Falcon spirit-wear Friday!
Saturday, March 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irish Mass, Celtic Supper and St. Baldrick's Event



Welcome to the beginning of the third trimester.



FALCON OF THE WEEK

Joe Chirillo, 8th grade



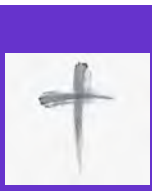
SJF's "Falcon of the Week" is 8th grader, Joe Chirillo.

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 8th grader, Joe Chirillo. Joe's nomination this week is of no surprise to me. I have had the great honor of getting to know Joe

Chirillo this year. Joe steadfastly does the right thing and is a quiet, humble leader. At SJF, Joe is one of our "go-to students", someone we can always count on to help a peer and a fellow falcon in need. This week Joe was caught in the act helping one of our younger students carry their band instrument up the stairs. When conversing with Joe about this random act of kindness, he really didn't think much of it, but to this younger student, it meant the world! Helping others comes naturally to Joe and is just part of his every day decorum and routine. He is a kind, thoughtful person who always puts others first. If only we all approached life like Joe. Thank you, Joe, for setting such an awesome example for all of us to follow. Keep "flying like a falcon, Joe, you're making a difference"!

Fisher Falcons begin Lent on Ash Wednesday

“Pray, fast, do good deeds.”



Father Ken with 4th graders: burning last year's palms to create ashes



Ash Wednesday Mass

Mrs. Corley helps students remember



All School Mass: Kindergarten—8th grade



“Burying” the Alleluia



Newly confirmed 8th graders



Father Ken distributes ashes to pre-schoolers





Congratulations!

KEVIN COYLE & NORAH BURKE,
RECIPIENTS OF THE SOUTHSIDE CATHOLIC CONFERENCE CHRISTIAN
LEADERSHIP AWARD
WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU!





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.

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

JOIN US FOR

ART CLUB

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY UNTIL
3:30 IN THE ART ROOM**

March dates:

03/03

03/17

03/31

Free to join

Email Mrs. Corley if interested

Mcorley@sjfschool.net



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February 27, 2020

Dear SJF Parents,

Next week we are hosting our 2nd round of parent-teacher conferences on Thursday, March 5th, from 3:30-6 in Kane Hall. This process will differ from the fall parent-teacher conference experience.

- *Conferences are not mandatory.*
- Each conference will be a maximum of 5 minutes.
- You have the freedom to schedule a meeting with *any* of your child's classroom teachers. Please visit this link to schedule your conference
- We are happy to accommodate you. If this time frame does not work for your schedule and you wish to have a meeting or phone conference, please contact your child's teacher directly.
- Please visit this link to schedule your conference:
https://ptcfast.com/schools/St_John_Fisher_School_1

We look forward to meeting with you next week. Please let us know if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Maura Nash
Principal
St. John Fisher School
10200 S. Washtenaw
Chicago, IL 60655
773.445.4737
sjfschool.net

Rock the Bald

TO CONQUER CHILDHOOD CANCERS



*Shave &
Fundraise*



Donate



Volunteer

St. John Fisher St. Baldrick's Shaving Event

www.stbaldricks.org/events/StJohn2020

Saturday - March 7, 2020

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Conner T. Lowry Gymnasium
10200 S Washtenaw Ave.
Chicago, IL

PROUD NATIONAL PARTNER

SportClips
HAIRCUTS

StBaldricks.org

888.899.BALD

/StBaldricksFoundation

@StBaldricks

@StBaldricks

**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



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PARENT SURVEY

5Essentials

Dear Parent,

Beginning **February 18**, teachers, parents, and students across the district will have an opportunity to participate in the Climate, Culture, and Catholic Identity Survey utilizing the 5Essentials Survey. This survey is designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child's school. As a parent, this opportunity will allow you to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about your child's school.

The 5Essentials Survey will be administered online by UChicago Impact at the University of Chicago. The survey gathers data related to five indicators that can predict important student outcomes, including improved attendance and larger test score gains. These five indicators that affect and predict school success are:

- Effective Leaders
- Collaborative Teachers
- Involved Families
- Supportive Environments
- Ambitious Instruction

Prior research has shown that schools that were strong on at least three of these "5Essential" indicators were 10 times more likely to improve student learning gains in math and reading than those that were weak on three or more Essentials.

All teachers and **4th through 12th grade students** will be responding to this survey. 5Essentials Reports will be generated for schools if their teachers and/or students meet the response rate threshold of 50 percent. These reports will be sent to schools and districts in **May 2020**.

Additionally, our district has chosen to provide the 5Essential parent survey. If at least 20 percent of St. John Fisher School parents complete this survey, a parent supplement report will also be generated.

Your participation in the parent portion of the survey will help us understand the conditions at your child's school and guide improvement. Your identity and survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child.

The 5Essentials Survey will be conducted **February 18 – March 20, 2020**. To take the survey please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/archchicago/survey/parent/>.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Maura Nash
Principal

10200 S Washtenaw Ave Chicago, IL 60655 (773) 445-4737 www.sjfschool.net

I NEED TO STAY AT HOME IF....

						
FEVER	VOMITING	DIARRHEA	RASH	HEAD LICE	EYE INFECTION	HOSPITAL STAY AND/OR ER VISIT
Temperature of 100.4 or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with itching or fever	Itchy head, active head lice	Redness, Itching, and/or "crusty" drainage from eye	Hospital stay and/or ER visit

I AM READY TO GO BACK TO WORK OR SCHOOL WHEN I AM...

Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication i.e. Tylenol, Motrin	Free from vomiting for at least 2 solid meals & for 24 hours!	Free from diarrhea for at least 24 hours	Free from rash itching, or fever. I have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home and proof is provided to nurse.	Evaluated by my doctor and have note to return to school.	Released by medical provider to return to work or school.
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