



# Notes from Mrs. Nash

*Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.*

St. John Fisher School

February 25, 2022

Dear SJF Families,

We have reached a significant milestone together. As you know, this Monday, SJF will be mask optional. Because the masking topic is emotional to many, these past few weeks have been difficult. SJF is grateful that each family now has a choice. March 13<sup>th</sup> will mark two years from the date that our community was first impacted by COVID. Over these past two years we have had to endure many challenges; we did so by sticking together. I want to thank our students who have truly been amazing. In visiting the students this week, I shared my gratitude with them for their flexibility, resiliency and the kindness they show toward one another every day. We talked about the necessity of remaining kind and respectful of each student and teacher's mask choice come Monday. I know that as we enter into this next phase, regardless of one's masking choice, we will remain a strong, kind, respectful and supportive Falcon Family through it all.

This Sunday St. John Fisher Parish is hosting a **Blue Mass @ 8 a.m.** to honor, support and pray for all law enforcement officers. The Chicago Police Pipes and Drums will be present. Following Mass is Alderman Matt O'Shea's Get Behind the Vest Pancake Breakfast from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. in Kane Hall. This year's breakfast is carryout only; additional information can be found on the attached flyer. Please join us to show your support, respect and appreciation for those who risk their lives for ours every single day. St. John Fisher School is proud to be located in the heart of a community heavily populated by these true heroes and we thank them for their sacrifice.

Thank you for your support of our students and school and thank you for choosing Catholic education, specifically St. John Fisher School.

In unity and hope,

*Mrs. Maura Nash*

## Spring Gala Update

- **Tickets** for the **SPRING GALA** are **ON SALE NOW!** Please [visit this link](#) to purchase your tickets and see the attached flyer for additional information. All proceeds from the SPRING GALA will go to the **Fisher Falcon Education Foundation** which directly and solely supports St. John Fisher School. [Visit this link for more information regarding the Foundation.](#) Thank you for your support!

## Important Announcements

- **Masking Survey Results & Policy Update:** SJF surveyed parents to understand their comfort level of our school going mask optional. 94% of our parents are comfortable with going mask optional. If you want your child to wear a mask while in school, please have a conversation with your child regarding your family's masking expectations. SJF cannot be responsible for or require students to wear a mask now that the policy is mask optional. *Parents, regardless of your choice, please have a conversation with your child regarding respectful behavioral expectations as mentioned above and in past emails. Thank you!*
- **Thank you for your generosity** to our Back the Vest Dress Down Day. **SJF collected \$832** in support of this cause!
- **Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> is a 1 p.m. dismissal** for Faculty Professional Development and PLC time. Students will have their regular lunch period today.
- **Graduation picture retakes** are scheduled for **Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**.
- **March 8<sup>th</sup> is the end of the Trimester 2.** Please encourage your child to work and finish strong! Let's Go Falcons!
- **Save the Date: March 27<sup>th</sup>** – SJF Family Mass & Open House – more details to come!
- **Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is open now for NEW school families!** If you have a child entering pre-school or kindergarten, [please complete this form](#) to reserve your spot and share this information with anyone interested in attending SJF. Thank you!
- **8th Grade SCC Co-ed Golf Registration is open now!** This league is open to all 8th grade boys and girls. League play begins mid-March and ends the first weekend in May. [Visit this link](#) to register.
- Thank you to those who are participating in our **TECHNOLOGY DETOX CHALLENGE!** Now is the time to stop scrolling and start living! *Less technology, more everything else.*
- **Extended Day:** Make sure to [register your child\(ren\) here](#). Reach out to Mrs. O'Grady with any questions, [dogrady@sjschool.us](mailto:dogrady@sjschool.us).

## FSA Corner ~ Save the Dates!

- **St. Baldrick's:** March 5<sup>th</sup>, 5 – 10 p.m., Conner T. Lowry Gym. [Click here](#) to register a shave. Please visit [this link](#) if you're able to volunteer and share your time. Thank you!
- **Father Daughter Dance:** March 19<sup>th</sup>, Ridge Country Club, invitation is attached



## School Advisory & SJF Leadership Update

Please mark your calendars for **Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m.** to tune in from the comfort of your home to hear our **Annual State of the School presentation**. The presentation will be led by our SJF Leadership and our School Advisory Board. We will send a ZOOM link next week as a convenient way to share important information with you and allow for in person follow-up at our upcoming Open House on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Looking Ahead

<b>Weekend Mass</b>	4 p.m. on Saturday & 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 a.m. Blue Mass with CPD Pipes &amp; Drums</li> </ul>
<b>Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Boys Playoff Basketball – BLUE OUT!</b> *schedule attached
<b>Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup></b>	ETC – Valentine Science 3 – 4:30 p.m. w/ Mrs. Altman Academic Eligibility Club 3 – 4 p.m. w/ Ms. Dunlavy
<b>Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup></b>	ETC – Fidget Fun 3 – 4:30 p.m. w/ Mrs. Altman Homework Club 3 – 3:45 p.m. w/ Mrs. Ade & Ms. Dunlavy
<b>Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup></b> <b>*1 p.m. Dismissal</b>	<b>1 p.m. Dismissal – Faculty PD &amp; PLC Time</b> <b>NO HOMEWORK CLUB!</b>
<b>Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Academic Eligibility Club 3 – 4 p.m. w/ Ms. Dunlavy
<b>Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Polar Plunge in the SJF Parking Lot</b>
<b>Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Irish Mass</b> 4 p.m. <b>St. Baldrick's Event</b> 5 – 10 p.m. in the Conner T. Lowry Gym

## COVID GUIDANCE &amp; 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](mailto: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!
- **SJF Faculty and Staff cannot be responsible for whether or not your child wears a mask. If you are choosing to have your child wear a mask while in school, please have a conversation with your child regarding your family's expectations. SJF cannot require students to wear a mask now that the policy is mask optional.**
- **Details to highlight:**
  - Please see Mr. Richmond's most recent note regarding mask optional [linked here](#).
  - 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, but must wear a mask for days 6-10.
  - Positive students must quarantine from athletics through days 6-10.
  - Exposed students may participate in athletics but must provide proof of a negative test in order to attend events on days 6-10 following the 5-day 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.

*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.*

- End of Second Trimester: **3.8**
- **No School – OCS Flex Day: 3.11**
- All-Staff Religious Formation & Professional Development (no classes): **3.14**
- School Family Open House & Mass: **3.27**
- Spring Break: **4.13 – 4.24** \*classes resume **4.25**
- First Communion: **4.30**
- May Crowning: **5.6**
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Ribbon Mass: **5.20**
- Memorial Day – No School: **5.30**
- Last Day of 8<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup>, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup>, May 4<sup>th</sup>.**





**ST. JOHN FISHER IS THE PROUD HOME  
TO 120 POLICE OFFICER'S CHILDREN.**



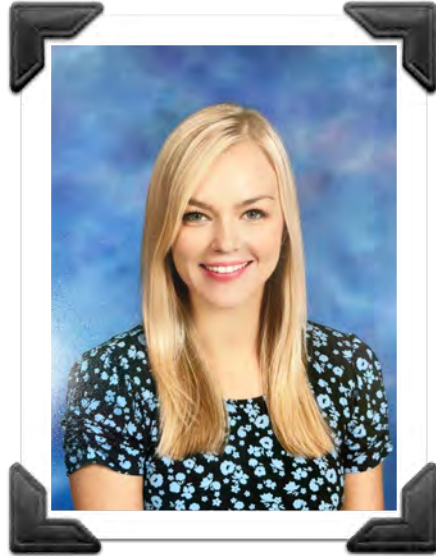
**POLICE OFFICERS: WE LOVE YOU.  
WE HONOR YOU.  
WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SACRIFICE!**

# WE LOVE OUR SJF TEACHERS!



THIS WEEK'S FACULTY SPOTLIGHT IS  
ON **MRS. LORDO** FROM **COUNSELING**.

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, **Mrs. Lauren Lordo!**



1. **How long have you been at SJF?** *This is my 2nd year at St. John Fisher! I had an amazing opportunity to intern for Mrs. Carey in graduate school and continue on as Falcon Faculty.*
2. **What do you love about SJF?** *What I love most about St. John Fisher is the positive and engaging learning environment for all students and the constant effort made to foster connection and engagement between the school, families, parish and neighborhood. The staff, administration, students, parents, and community are truly one of a kind!*
3. **What is your favorite thing about being a counselor?** *My favorite thing about being a counselor is the ability to work with the whole student on a personal, social, academic and emotional level through different avenues: classroom, small group and individual meetings! It is a privilege to be a support during both students' successes and trials, and allow them to feel heard and valued.*
4. **Can you tell us something that we may not know about you?** *For a few years, I swapped the Southside for the Deep South! I lived in Charleston, South Carolina and Atlanta, Georgia while my husband was active duty in the military!*





THE  
FISHER  
FALCON  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION

*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

\$200 PER PERSON

VISIT [HTTPS://SJFGALA.GIVESMART.COM](https://SJFGALA.GIVESMART.COM)

OR

TEXT SJFGALA TO 76278

TICKETS ON SALE FEBRUARY 14TH @ 9:00 AM

*Southern Formal Attire Suggested*

# BOY'S BASKETBALL PLAYOFF

## BLUE OUT

ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup> SJF BOYS BASKETBALL HAS FOUR TEAMS COMPETING IN FINAL FOUR GAMES FOR THE SOUTHSIDE CATHOLIC CONFERENCE.

5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE WHITE VS ST MIKE'S..... 2PM AT ST CATHERINES

7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE WHITE VS ST BARNABAS..... 4PM AT ST CATHERINES

8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE B VS ST DAMIAN..... 4PM AT MARIST (EAST GYM)

8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE A VS ST CAJETAN..... 5PM AT MARIST (MAIN GYM)

We would love to see a ton of support for our FALCON teams. Start out at St Catherine's for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade games then head over to Marist to help cheer on our 8<sup>th</sup> graders in their pursuit of a GOLD BALL. If you are able to attend we ask all our Falcon Fans to wear BLUE and sit together in support of our teams and bring our outstanding student section spirit on the road.

Hope to see everyone on Sunday.

Thank You,  
SJF ATHLETIC BOARD



# ALDERMAN MATT O'SHEA'S GET BEHIND THE VEST PANCAKE BREAKFAST

GUESTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENTER KANE HALL, FILL A TO GO CONTAINER WITH PANCAKES AND SAUSAGE, AND RETURN HOME TO ENJOY A DELICIOUS MEAL IN SUPPORT OF THE CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH**

**9:00AM-11:00AM**

**SJF KANE HALL**

**\$20 PER FAMILY**

**CARRY-OUT**

**I PROTECT THOSE  
WHO PROTECT ME.**



**ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE CHICAGO POLICE MEMORIAL  
FOUNDATION'S GET BEHIND THE VEST CAMPAIGN.**



ST. JOHN FISHER  
ST. BALDRICK'S SHAVING EVENT

March 5th following 4:00 mass

If you would like to participate  
as a shavee, please use this QR code.



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

More details to follow  
closer to event date.

**ST. JOHN FISHER  
FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE**

*'Over the Rainbow'*

**March 19, 2022**

**6:00 -9:00pm**

**RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB  
10522 S. CALIFORNIA AVENUE**

**Heavy Hors d'oeuvres & Desserts**

**DJ & Dancing**

**Photo Ops**

**Bracelet Bar**

**Raffle Baskets**

**Split the Pot**

**Ticket Price:  
\$25 per person  
or max of  
\$100 per family**

Name of Parent or Special Friend: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Student(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets at \$25 ea: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Due: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please enclose the RSVP & payment of cash or check made to FSA  
in an envelope marked "office: dance" to school by March 10, 2021**





SCHOLASTIC

# BOOK FAIR!

## SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!

Dear Parents and Families,

I'm pleased to announce that our school will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair, which will take place from \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

The return of the Book Fair will be a familiar and welcome celebration. Volunteers are crucial to the success of this event. We hope that you can offer your time and talents to help students discover the power of books to bring us together.

If you're available to help us with our upcoming Book Fair, please contact me. I'd be grateful if you'd let me know which Fair activities interest you as a volunteer. We need volunteers to help with:

- Advertising
- Decorating
- Setting up the Fair
- Helping shoppers at the Fair
- Cashiering
- Packing up the Fair
- Special events

Thanks for considering becoming a volunteer! I look forward to hearing from you.

Gratefully,

Book Fair Chairperson

