



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School

October 4, 2019

Dear SJF Families,

Today marks the half-way period for the trimester and we are well into the swing of things. Now is a great time to speak with your children about their successes and challenges thus far in the school year. The SJF leadership team and the faculty are working hard to align our curriculum, creating and providing more time for professional learning circles focused on subject-area and grade level collaboration. The end goal is to ensure that through our lessons and unit planning, we are differentiating to appeal to all of our learners and creating a scaffolding structure where each grade consistently builds upon the prior year. This consistency will help boost our students' understanding along with our school-wide ASPIRE scores.

With every new school year comes an adjustment and transition period, not only for the students, but the parents and teachers as well. Everything is new! This new beginning can bring about great excitement, but it can also bring about worry or confusion because it can feel like a different experience than that of the year before.

Social media can be a great tool to connect us all, allowing us opportunities to communicate about what is taking place in school each day. However, more recently, it has also been utilized to negatively address concerns in the classroom or with a teacher. It is so important that we remember the proper chain of communication when a question or concern arises and always model the behavior that we want our children to emulate. I urge you to please contact your child's teacher directly, always using respectful language, if you have confusion or a concern as opposed to taking to social media to seek your answer or solution.

We certainly recognize and embrace the fact that there is always room for improvement and growth which is why we set school-wide and individual goals. We want and hope to be able to partner with you and learn from your respectful feedback in order for us to best serve your children each and every day. Your feedback is very important to us which is why we invited all of you to participate in a round table discussion, hosted by our School Advisory Board, regarding your experience with all aspects of our school, including academics. It is also why we invested in the 6 Essentials Survey that was distributed in the spring of last year. This year, we will also be circulating the 6 Essentials Survey during the winter and spring trimester. That information combined with our daily communication with our families along with faculty, staff and alumni input is driving our decision-making process and prioritization for the future of our school through the work of our Strategic Planning Committee.

St. John Fisher truly is a great place to be. We have an unbelievably involved, self-less and committed parent-base; we have kind, creative, intelligent and fun children; we have a dedicated, loving and professional faculty and staff. It takes a village and in order for us to all be the best version of ourselves, we need to be there for one another. I am so proud to be a part of this community. Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher.

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash


Peek at the Week

Friday, October 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress Report Check • Pet Blessing with Fr. Ken @ the Bell Tower, 3pm
Saturday, October 5 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday ETC Begins! • SJF Soccer @ Beverly Park • SJF Falcon Football takes on the Chargers of St. Catherine @ Br. Rice 11, 12, 1:30 & 3
Sunday, October 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls Basketball Competes in the Conner T. Lowry Gym • <i>Join us at Mass! 4pm on Saturday 8, 10, 12 & 5:30 on Sunday</i>
Monday, October 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HSPT Registration Forms are due today!
Tuesday, October 8 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5th – 8th Grade Academic Eligibility Study Hall 2:30-3:15 • Homework Club 2:30-3:00 • School Board Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5th – 8th Grade Academic Eligibility Study Hall 2:30-3:15 • Homework Club 2:30-3:00 • Girls Basketball competes in the Conner T. Lowry Gym • Roy Petitfils is back @ CK (see the attached flyer for additional information)
Thursday, October 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future Falcons, our toddler play group, resumes @ the Conner T. Lowry Gym 10:30-11:15 • Children's Choir Practice @ 3:45




BE AN
ENCOURAGER,
THE WORLD HAS
ENOUGH CRITICS
ALREADY.

Important Announcements

- **MEDICAL FORMS ARE DUE IN THE OFFICE!** Please submit your child's medical forms as soon as possible. Thank you!
-  **PACK the GYM** for **Girls Basketball** is **October 12th** – come out and cheer on our Lady Falcons!
- **Don't forget to check your student's teacher's blog @ www.sjfschool.net** for the latest and greatest information from your child's class. Feel free to reach out to the teacher with any questions or concerns!



- **Aspire scores** were released via PowerSchool last weekend. Stay tuned for **Parent Information** to understand how to best analyze your student's scores.
- **Forgotten student items:** homework and lunches – please partner with us and resist the urge to drop off your students' forgotten items at school as we continue to encourage independence and accountability. Thank you so much for your cooperation!
-  **BE CAREFUL** on the corner of 104th and Talman when walking to and from school. It has been reported that cars are frequently not stopping at the stop signs.
- SJF's **Homework Club is looking for 7th & 8th grade mentors**. Please contact Mrs. Deering edeering@sjfschool.net or Mrs. Caulfield scaulfield@sjfschool.net with questions or applications for interested mentors.



Fr. Ken Blesses our Pre-K Students & their Stuffed Animals



FALCON OF THE WEEK

Danny Killeen, 6th Grade



SJF's "Falcon of the Week" is 6th grader, Danny Killeen.

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 demonstrate each and every day. This week began the first week of SJF's homework club & mentoring program. Danny is a homework club mentor to a younger

student. The mentors are not only supposed to help their mentee academically, but they are also supposed to be a positive influence in their life and act as a "big brother/sister," looking out for their needs and best interest. Well, Danny Killeen did just that! When his mentee wasn't sure how he was going to get home, Danny waited with him outside for some time and then walked him back in to the office so that we could contact the student's parents. He made sure he was safe well-after his commitment to the HW Club ended and he went above and beyond the call of duty to assist his mentee. Thank you for being such a great example to the kids in our school, Danny. Keep "flying like a falcon;" you're making a difference!

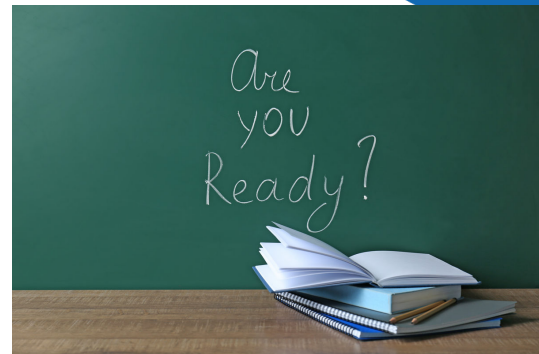
HSPT

High School Entrance Exam Prep Course at St. John Fisher School

October 15th - December 4th



ST. JOHN FISHER
SCHOOL



HSPT Entrance Exam Prep Course

An HSPT Entrance Exam Prep Course will be offered to interested 8th grade students. SJF instructors will review all 5 sections of the exam: Verbal Skills, Mathematics, Reading, Language and Quantitative Skills. The students will learn time management skills which are crucial for the HSPT and all standardized tests. Instructors will teach important problem-solving strategies and work to review and strengthen students' content knowledge during the prep course.

Cost: \$125, course registration forms will be sent home to all 8th grade students

Course Time: 3PM - 4PM

Course Dates: 10/15, 10/16, 10/22, 10/23, 10/29, 11/5, 11/6, 11/12, 11/13, 11/19, 11/20, 12/3 & 12/4

Instructors: Mrs. Folliard, Mr. Gibson & Mr. Hakanen

***Catholic High School Entrance Exam: Saturday, December 7, 2019**



Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

Fall 2019

TO: Parents, Teachers and all other School Employees

FROM: Kevin O'Malley / Maura Nash

RE: Notification Letter Concerning Asbestos Content & Management Plan for Your School

In 1986, Congress passed the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). That law requires all schools, kindergarten through twelfth grade, to be inspected and identify and asbestos-containing building materials. The law further requires the development of a Management Plan, based upon the findings of the inspection, which outlines our intent in controlling the potential for exposure to asbestos fibers in our schools.

In the past, asbestos was used extensively in building materials because of its insulating and fire retarding capabilities. Virtually any building built before the late 1970's contains at least some asbestos in pipe insulation and structural fireproofing. We too have buildings that contain asbestos material. The primary concerns arise when these materials begin to deteriorate or become damage.

Your school has been inspected and some asbestos containing materials were identified in your building. The materials are distributed in various locations and include floor tile, pipe insulation and mechanical areas not readily accessible to building occupants or students.

Your school's Inspection Report and Management Plan outlines in detail the methods used to maintain the materials in a safe manner. In addition, as required by law, appropriate school staff members have been trained to administer this program.

A copy of the inspection report and the management plan is on file at your local school office for review if you so desire.

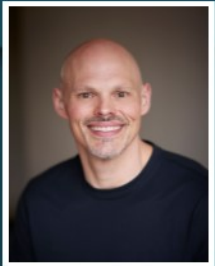
Sincerely,

-Mrs. Maura Nash

PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, AND ALL WHO MINISTER TO AND INFLUENCE YOUNG PEOPLE.

FAILING FORWARD HELPING

KIDS FAIL WITHOUT BEING A FAILURE



Wednesday, October 9, 2019

7PM - Christ the King Church - 9235 S. Hamilton Ave.

This FREE event is sponsored by the Parish of Christ the King in collaboration with the St. John Fisher/Most Holy Redeemer Youth Ministry Program

Roy Petitfils, MS, LPC is a Catholic psychotherapist in private practice where he specializes in counseling adolescents. Roy frequently consults with schools, churches and other organizations across the world who seek to effectively reach and influence today's teens. Roy wrote an award winning syndicated column for adults about teens and has published four books including his latest *What Teens Want You To Know (But Don't Tell You)*. Roy has keynoted many national and international conferences including a 2016 TEDx talk helping adults understand and reach teens. Roy lives with his wife Mindi and their two sons in Youngsville, Louisiana.

How unnecessarily preventing failure leads to anxiety and depression.

How to recognize the warning signs of anxiety and depression.

How to get your kid to talk with you about their stress, anxiety and depression.

First Communion Enrollment Mass

**Sunday, October 20th
10:00 a.m. Mass**

Join all children and families of First Communion 2020 for this mass.

The children will be introduced to the parish, who will bless and pray for them.

A reception will follow in the school foyer.

We look forward to seeing you there!



**Families & children: Sit close
to the front in the reserved
section :)**

SJF Confirmation Retreat **@ Saint Rita High School**

Tuesday,
October 29th

Time:
8:00 - 2:15 p.m.



All 7th & 8th grade students are invited to attend this exciting retreat led by Father Tom McCarthy, O.S.A.

Students will bring a lunch with a drink.

Dessert will be provided.

Busses leave SJF at 8:15 a.m.

C.F.F. Students

Meet at the School Office/ Gym entrance: at 8:00 a.m.

SW corner of 102nd & Washtenaw

contact: echermak@sjfschool.net

GREAT AMERICA FRIGHTFEST

YOUTH MINISTRY ALL DAY TRIP

**WELCOME ALL FAMILIES, 6TH, 7TH, 8TH GRADE - HIGH SCHOOL - YOUNG ADULTS!
(ANY PARTICIPANT YOUNGER THAN 6TH GRADE MUST BE
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT 21 OR OLDER.**

SAT. OCT 26TH

COST OF TICKET & TRANSPORTATION- \$54.00

MHR Parking Lot at: 8:45 A.M.

RETURN TO MHR - Time TBA

We will determine departure time that day depending on weather.

THERE ARE LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE!!!

Return the permission slip form with payment as soon as possible!

When the spots are gone...they're gone!!!

**All forms must be returned to the
PARISH OFFICE**

(Please do not turn your forms into the school)

by the end of the day on:

6:00PM - MONDAY - October 21nd

Please make a check payable to:

MOST HOLY REDEEMER

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ALL MONEY IS NON-REFUNDABLE!

Food and spending cash is not included in this price.

Season Passes will be honored for this event .

COST WITH SEASON PASS: \$20.00

Archdiocese of Chicago — Child/Minor participation Release Form

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) *ONCE THIS FORM IS TURNED IN ALL MONEY IS NON-REFUNDABLE

NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE WITHOUT FIRST PRESENTING THIS FORM

Child/Teen Name _____ Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name—Relation to child/teen _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip Code _____ Home Number _____

Hospitalization Plan _____ Policy Number _____ Emergency contact and number _____

Teen’s Cell Phone Number: *Please provide this number so that I can update/contact your teen while in the park.* () _____

Any allergies or medications currently being taken: _____

What grade/year are you? _____ Facebook: _____

What school? _____ Email: _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Catholic Bishop of Chicago (the CBC) and SJF/MHR are committed to conducting its programs and activities in the safest manner possible and holds the safety of participants in the highest possible regard. Participants and parents registering their child in programs must recognize however, that there is an inherent risk to injury when choosing to participate in activities. The CBC and SJF/MHR continually strive to reduce risks and insist that all participants follow safety rules and instructions which have been designed to protect the participant’s safety.

Please recognize that the CBC and SJF/MHR do not carry medical accident insurance for the injuries sustained in its programs. The cost of such would make program fees prohibitive. Each person registering themselves. It must be noted that the absence of health insurance coverage does not make the CBC or SJF/MHR automatically responsible for the payment of medical expenses.

Due to the difficulty and high cost of obtaining liability insurance, the agency providing liability coverage for the CBC and SJF/MHR requires the execution of the following waiver and release. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

WAVIER AND RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

Please read this form carefully and be aware in registering your child/teen/minor for participation in this program you will be waiving and releasing all claims for injuries you or your child/teen/minor might sustain arising out of this

PROGRAM: GREAT AMERICA TRIP - FRIGHTFEST

PROGRAM DATE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2019

-As the parent/guardian of the participant in the program, I recognize and acknowledge there are certain risks of physical injury and I agree to assume the full risk of any injuries (including death), damages of loss which I or my child/teen/minor may sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with or associated with such program.

-I agree to waive and relinquish all claims I or my child/teen/minor may have as a result of participating in the program, against the CBC and SJF/MHR and their agents, servants and employees.

-I do hereby fully release and discharge the CBC and SJF/MHR and their officers, agents, servants and employees from any and all claims from injuries, (including death), damage or loss which I or my child/teen/minor may have or which may accrue to me or my child/teen/minor on account of participation in the program.

-I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless and defend the CBC, SJF/MHR and their officers, agents and employees from any and all claims resulting from injuries (including death), damages and losses sustained by me or my child/teen/minor or arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with the activities of the program

-I understand that the bringing of, or use of any drugs, including alcohol, will not be tolerated, and that if my child/teen/minor violates any of the rules which have been established, I will be called to pick up him/her.

- By signing this form you are allowing pictures that were taken for the bulletin and web site to be used for the youth ministry program.

In the event of any emergency, I authorize the CBC and MHR/SJF Parish officials to secure from a licensed hospital, physical and/or medical personnel any treatment deemed necessary for my child/teen/minor immediate care and agree that I will be responsible for payment of any/all medical services rendered.

By signing this form you are giving your consent to use your minors name and pictures/videos from this event in the parish bulletin and on the internet. You are also giving your consent for the Youth Minister and chaperones to communicate electronically (email, text message, facebook etc.) with your minor.

I have read and fully understand the above Program Details, Wavier and Release of all Claims and Permission to Secure treatment.

(Parent(s)/Gaurdian(s) Signature) _____	DATE _____		(Participant’s Signature) _____	DATE _____
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Sunday,
November 3rd
10:00 a.m.

Time Change
Sunday

Confirmation Enrollment Mass

We welcome all members of the Confirmation class of 2020 and their families to officially begin Confirmation preparation. The Confirmation Candidates will be introduced to the parish. Please sit in the reserved section close to the front. We look forward to seeing you there.