



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School

February 14, 2020

Dear SJF Families,

The halls and classrooms were filled with excitement, laughter and love as we celebrated Valentine's Day this week! Thank you for all of the extra effort you put into making today so fun for our students. I hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable long weekend!

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

- I was out of the office several days this week due to Leadership Days with the Archdiocese. I had so many excellent reports about all of our students! The Falcon of the Week will resume next week! Thank you for your patience.
- **The SOUTH SIDE IRISH PARADE is HONORING Catholic School Elementary Teacher's 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!
- **Registration for new families** is now open. Please promote SJF to your friends, family and neighbors. *It is a great time to be a falcon!*
- **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.
- **TOMORROW** (2.15) the **Pro Labore Dei Lunch Organization** *is still in need of volunteers and supplies.* Drop off supplies or join us to volunteer in the Rectory Basement tomorrow morning @ 9:15.
- The 2nd graders' *First Reconciliation is Wednesday, February 19th @ 7 p.m.* Please keep our 2nd grade students in your prayers as they prepare for and make this important sacrament.
- FYI: **March lunches** are available to order online.
- **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!
- **Don't forget to check your student's teacher blog** for all of the latest and greatest information pertaining to your child's education!
- **GET BEHIND THE VEST PANCAKE BREAKFAST** *is February 23rd @ SJF!*
- **The Mother/Son BULLS Game** is February 23rd! Please see the flyer below for more information. Since we've reached our goal of 200, we qualify for the students to shoot a free throw on the court after the game!

- **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!
- **REMINDER:** THURSDAY, February 27th is an early dismissal @ 1:45 for a Faculty In-Service.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** St. John Fisher's Celtic Mass, Supper & St. Baldrick's Event is March 7th!
- Please see an update below from Mrs. Nichole Carey, Assistant Principal & School Counselor, as she discusses the Empathy Lessons she is facilitating with our students.

Peek at the Week

Friday, February 14 th 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Happy Valentine's Day & Happy 3 DAY WEEKEND!
Saturday, February 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pro Labore Dei: Volunteer or Drop-off Supplies @ 9:15 in the Rectory Basement – Thank you!
Sunday, February 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please join us for Mass: 4 p.m. on Saturday and 8, 10, 12 and 5:30 on Sunday. <i>All are welcome!</i>
Monday, February 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School ~ President's Day
Tuesday, February 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HOMEWORK CLUB 2:30-3 • Academic Eligibility Study Hall IS IN SESSION: 2:30-3:15 in Room 105 • ETC ~ Lego Lab 2:25-3:30
Wednesday, February 19 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HOMEWORK CLUB 2:30-3 • Academic Eligibility Study Hall IS IN SESSION: 2:30-3:15 in Room 105 • ETC ~ Dodgeball & Valentine Fun Club 2:25-3:30 • <i>First Reconciliation @ 7 p.m.</i>
Thursday, February 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FUTURE FALCON FRIENDS: 10:30-11:15 • Children's CHOIR PRACTICE 3:45
Friday, February 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisher Falcon Spirt-wear Friday!



**Confirmation 2020
Welcome Bishop Casey**



SCIENCE RULES!

OUR FABULOUS 4TH GRADE LEARNED ABOUT THE HUMAN BODY, CONCLUDING THEIR UNIT WITH THESE AWESOME SHIRTS!





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Dear Parents,

I hope your new year is off to a great start and you find yourself rested, rejuvenated and enthusiastic about what is to come. As we all tend to do as a year comes to a close, I spent some time over break reflecting on my first months at SJF. Having gained a better understanding of the school culture and student body, I have identified all-school counseling lessons that will address social-emotional topics most relevant to our students.

The first social emotional lesson of 2020 will focus on empathy; the ability to identify the feelings and understand the perspective and experience of others. Empathy and perspective-taking in school-aged children improves interpersonal relationships and positively influences academic performance as it enhances classroom culture, school-wide sense of community and improved leadership skills. In my research, I stumbled upon a variety of interesting articles that discuss the importance of encouraging and demonstrating empathy in the classroom. Listed below are reading recommendations for those that may be interested in fostering empathy in their homes. I am confident you will find you are already doing so in many ways!

I have begun delivering my counseling lessons through the students' regularly scheduled library time as Mrs. Keller has graciously agreed to allow me to use her space. This week I have met with half of the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade students as well as all of the preschool students. In preschool we learned to identify feelings in ourselves and our friends through a fun game of charades. Then we read the book, *I'm Not Just a Scribble*, by Diane Alber, and drew our own scribble. With all other grades we defined empathy, discussed how it differs from sympathy and evaluated why it is important to build strong empathy skills. Students then read a short story that elicited empathy, identified the complex emotions illustrated in the reading and discussed how we could practice being empathetic in our own lives. Students were then asked to identify a population of people in which they empathize and construct a plan to service or support this population; one that we could practically put in to action here at SJF. Students submitted their responses and will be eligible to, not only, put their plan into action but also win a pizza party for their homeroom. Stay tuned for the results of our "In Their Shoes" competition; it is going to be a tough decision!

As always, if you have any questions in regards to programming or concerns about your child please do not hesitate to reach out!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Nichole Carey

An excellent explanation of what empathy is, told by Brene Brown:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Ewgu369Jw>

Book Recommendation:

[UnSelfie: Why Empathetic Kids Succeed in Our All-About-Me World](#) by Michele Borba, Ed.D

Synopsis of *Unselfie: Why Empathetic Kids Succeed in Our All-About-Me World* and strategies to foster empathy in your child.

https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/seven_ways_to_foster_empathy_in_kids

Harvard study explaining why empathy is important and strategies to explore in the classroom.

<https://mcc.gse.harvard.edu/resources-for-educators/how-build-empathy-strengthen-school-community>



Dear Parents/Guardians,

It has come to our attention that many students in 3rd grade are utilizing, and in some cases misusing, the app Tik Tok, a social network that allows users to make video clips, lip sync to their favorite songs, create short videos and view and share these videos with others. As with any social media platform it is imperative that families take proper precautions to ensure the children's safety, well-being and integrity are protected.

Tik Tok is rated 12+ on the Apple app store and "teen maturity" on Google Play, however, there is no system in place to verify a user's age so children under the age of 12 can create accounts. Due to inappropriate content and the use of popular music that may contain explicit language please ensure you are monitoring your child's usage of Tik Tok and any other social media apps. **In addition, please be aware that if a social media account, including Tik Tok, is "public", one can exchange private messages and share their physical location with any other account users.**

To set your child's Tik Tok account to private:

- Go to settings (the 3 dots in the right-hand corner on the user account page)
- Click on Privacy and Settings
- Click on Privacy and Safety

To better understand school policy surrounding the appropriate use of social media please review the 2019-2020 St. John Fisher Handbook. Please do not hesitate to contact school administration with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for partnering with us to ensure the well-being of all students, both, in and out of school.

Mrs. Maura Nash, Principal

Mrs. Claire Larmon, Assistant Principal of Instructional Support

Mrs. Nichole Carey, Assistant Principal of Student Support & Counselor

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11th Annual 19th Ward YOUTH FOUNDATION

Sunday, February 16, 2020

Mount Greenwood Park Ice Rink
3721 W. 111th Street

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

\$1 suggested donation
lite refreshments and
music provided

Family Party
Ice Skating

To receive information about this and other 19th Ward Youth Foundation events,
please sign up for our email updates at www.the19thward.com

SPONSORED BY:



19th Ward
YOUTH FOUNDATION



**MT. GREENWOOD PARK
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Matt
O'SHEA**
19TH WARD ALDERMAN

**Bill
Cunningham**
ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR 18TH DISTRICT

**Fran
Hurley**
STATE REPRESENTATIVE * 35TH DISTRICT



For more information contact Margie Olsen at (773) 238-8776.



Group Outings

ST. JOHN FISHER MOTHER & SON GROUP OUTING WITH THE BULLS



Enjoy a legendary outing at a Chicago Bulls game with St. John Fisher mothers and sons.

Share the excitement of Bulls basketball and the NBA's leading entertainment experience as the team takes on the Wizards. Each ticket purchase also includes access to a private pregame shootaround with 100-level access from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Help St. John Fisher reach 200 tickets by Feb. 16 and everyone in the group will have the opportunity to shoot free throws on the United Center court following the game.

Don't miss out on exclusive savings! Purchase tickets before Feb. 7 to be guaranteed seats in the St. John Fisher sections.

Be a part of Bulls Nation today.

The discounted price is:

- 300 Level, Rows 8-17 (baseline and corner): \$22.40 - 23.52 (regularly \$44.80)



BULLS VS. WIZARDS

Sunday, February 23, 2020 | 6:00 p.m.

To purchase tickets, visit:
response.bulls.com/SJF

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

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



Amazon Shoppers,

Please join us at AmazonSmile when completing your shopping orders. AmazonSmile can be used on both regular orders and Amazon Fresh orders. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible purchases to St. John Fisher. Using AmazonSmile is at no cost to you! Instead of using the regular Amazon app or webpage, you will open up AmazonSmile instead 😊 Thank you for your support!

There are 3 EASY ways to remember Amazon Smile when making your purchase on Amazon.

1. To Shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You can add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to remember.

2.

Make it easier to return to smile.amazon.com by adding a shortcut to your phone's home screen



1. Tap the share icon at the bottom of this window.



2. Tap **Add to Home Screen**, and then tap **Add**.



3. Tap the new icon on your home screen to return at any time to smile.amazon.com.

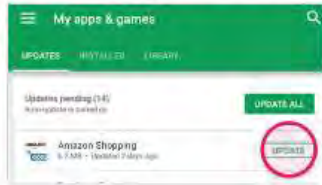
3.

AmazonSmile is now in the Amazon Shopping App

You can now support your favorite charity when you shop using the Amazon Shopping App on your Android device. See below for instructions to turn on AmazonSmile in the Amazon Shopping App.

Follow the steps attached below to add AmazonSmile in your Amazon Shopping App. This feature is coming very soon for iOS (Apple), stay tuned!

1 Make sure you have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping App



1. Open the Google Play Store
2. Tap the menu (≡)
3. Tap on My apps & games
4. Tap the Updates tab
5. Update the Amazon Shopping App

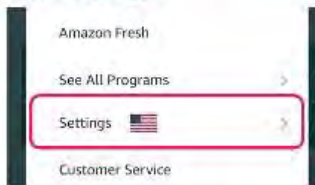
2 Open the Amazon Shopping App



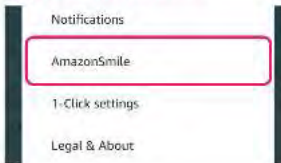
3 Tap in the main menu in the Amazon App



4 Tap Settings



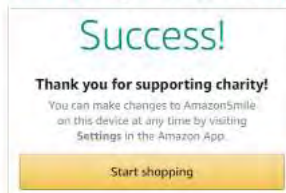
5 Tap AmazonSmile



6 Follow the instructions on the screen to turn on AmazonSmile



7 All set! Tap the Start shopping button and support charity



Coming soon on iOS. Stay tuned!