



Notes from Mrs. Nash

St. John Fisher School

April 26, 2019

Dear SJF Families,

Welcome back to school! I am so happy to be back in the building with all of our remarkable Falcons: students, faculty and staff included. I hope everyone had a wonderful Spring break and a happy Easter! As much as I love being at SJF, I was so grateful for this time off as it gave me an opportunity to really focus on my family. I often reflect on a quote which is a good reminder for me to always keep in mind how important our children are and how invaluable our impact is on their lives: "Your greatest contribution may not be something you do but someone you raise." In that spirit, I want to thank you all for contributing so greatly to our school and community as your children enrich our world each and every day.

I spoke with many of our students yesterday and today as they shared the countless fun and special experiences they had with their families and friends over break. I think all of us are rejuvenated after a long winter and are ready to tackle the rest of the year with a newfound zest and energy for the excitement headed our way! On the road ahead of us we have several events on the horizon: First Holy Communion, our production of the musical "Seussical," field trips and exciting moments for our 8th grade class to name a few.

In collaborating with our School Advisory Board (SAB), we have much to share in our 2nd edition of "SJF School News" focusing on upcoming events, a teacher spotlight and catching up with an alum; [click here to learn more!](#) The SAB is hosting a new family event this upcoming Sunday. Please encourage any new families to our community to join us this Sunday, April 28th, at 10am mass along with a play date at our on-campus park to follow. All are welcome!

Have a wonderful weekend! Thank you, as always, for your continued support of Catholic Education.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Maura Nash

Important Announcements

- **Spread the word.** If you know any families new to SJF or still considering their school options for next year, the School Board and FSA are holding a meet and greet for future Falcons **this Sunday, April 28th after 10a mass**. See the flyer below for more details.
- **Monday, April 29th** is the last day to turn in the Special Lunch forms and payment.
- **On Tuesday, April 30th** the SXU Nursing Students will be hosting a Health Fair in the Gym. **SJF students, please wear your gym uniforms that day.**
- **Own It Chicago** will be hosting a workshop at St. John Fisher on **Wednesday, May 1st** for students in grades 5th – 8th. Please see flyer on the last page for more information.
- **We want to hear from you!** As part of our strategic planning work, the School Board will be holding two upcoming “Desserts & Discussion” events for the community to provide us feedback on what you would like to see as priorities and goals for our school. See the flyer below for initial discussion topics and how to register and save **May 14th** at 7p and/or **May 19th** after 10a mass on your calendars to be able to participate. More details will be provided over e-mail in the coming weeks as well.
- If you have something you would like considered for inclusion in these weekly notes, please send an e-mail to notes@sifschool.net. The deadline for submission is Wednesdays at noon.

Peek at the Week

Saturday, April 27 th	
Sunday, April 28 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAB New Family Welcome Event @ SJF School Playground – 11am – 12pm
Monday, April 29 th	
Tuesday, April 30 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Fair hosted by the SXU Nursing Students in the Gym – students should wear their gym uniforms today
Wednesday, May 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSA Special Lunch • <i>Own It Chicago</i> Workshop
Thursday, May 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future Falcon Friends Open Gym – 10:30-11:15am
Friday, May 3 rd	

Awards & Achievements

Class of 2019 Success!

- Teresa Bonko – Agatha O’Brien Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School
- Liam Brady – Gilmore Legacy Scholarship, James Barda Leadership Award, Public Safety First Responder Scholarship, and Shoulder to Shoulder Scholarship, Mt. Carmel High School
- Marty Canavan – Marist Redhawk Award (top 5%), Marist High School
- Pat Carmody – Academic Scholarship, St. Rita High School
- Jimmy Crowley – Marist Redhawk Award (top 5%), Marist High School
- Liam Deacy – Marist Redhawk Award (top 5%), Marist High School and the SCC Christian Leadership Award
- Abby Gallagher – Champagnat Award (top 10%), Marist High School
- Ryan Gierhahn – Christian Brothers Scholarship, Brother Rice High School
- Samantha Giglio – SCC Christian Leadership Award
- Emmett Griffin – Christian Brothers Scholarship, Brother Rice High School
- Liza Karstrand – Agatha O’Brien Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School
- Grace Lyons – Champagnat Award (top 10%), Marist High School
- Colleen Malloy – Agatha O’Brien Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School
- Grace McNamara – Knights of Columbus Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School
- John McNamara – Marist Redhawk Award (top 5%) and the Gregory D. Beeson Scholarship, Marist High School
- Caitlin McDonagh – McAuley Impact Award, Mother McAuley High School
- Ella Mulchrone – Agatha O’Brien Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School
- Tess O’Leary – Agatha O’Brien Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School
- Abigail Olsen – Helen and Dick Carey Scholarship, Mother McAuley High School
- Mickey Shultz – The Nicholas A. Iosue Academic Scholarship and First Responders Award, Mt. Carmel High School
- Ava Spreitzer – Champagnat Award (top 10%) and the Gregory D. Beeson Scholarship, Marist High School



FSA Corner

*Moms, Daughters and Grandmas
Diamonds are a
Girl's Best Friend!*

*Join us for our **RED-CARPET** Luncheon*

Saturday May 18, 2019

115 Bowlen Street

11:30-3:30

*Save the date and get your
black tie attire ready!*

Keep an eye out for invite and details

To be sent home on April 26, 2019

School Board

Welcome
**Future
Falcons**
SUNDAY, April 28th

SJF School Advisory Board and parent organizations would like to welcome you to St. John Fisher School. Join us for donuts and coffee while your child meets new friends! RSVP @ SJFSAB@gmail.com

11AM - 12PM

SJF Preschool Playground

For those attending 10 AM Mass, we welcome you to sit with us in the front of the Church. Noisy Children Welcome!

The SJF School Board presents

DESSERTS



DISCUSSION

All SJF parents and parishioners are invited to join members of the School Board in round table discussions over coffee and sweet treats.

Tuesday, May 14th (7 p.m.) OR
May 19th (11 a.m.)

Dialogue topics include:

- ✓ Academic advancement and curriculum
- ✓ School mission and culture
- ✓ Financial health and fundraising
- ✓ Campus space and maintenance

Guests are invited to pre-select the round table discussion(s) in which they would like to participate.

*Please contact SJFSAB@gmail.com with questions

Register at: <http://bit.ly/SJFRoundTable>
Walk-ins welcome!



Dear Parents,

As a parent, have you noticed your child struggle with academic organization and prioritization? Could he/she afford to gain a better understanding of how he/she learns best or how to employ effective study skills? Are you looking for a way to help your child succeed?

As educators that witness these trends, we created a workshop addressing these deficits. **Own It Chicago** offers workshops for junior high, high school and college students to improve executive functioning skills, resulting in improved academic performance.

The workshop includes hands-on organizational, time management, and study skill strategies, together with collaborative lessons that facilitate problem solving and address "what if?" scenarios.

Deliverables to the Student:

1. Identification- the student understands his/her strengths and weaknesses, and how they may be evolving
2. Distraction- the student reassesses what constitutes a distraction/impediment from their tasks
3. Accomplishment- the student addresses tasks in a timely manner
4. Empowerment- the student begins each day acknowledging and planning for what lies ahead

Deliverables to the Parent:

1. An independent child
2. A more confident child
3. A child who is better prepared to speak with his/her teachers in a constructive way

We believe that your child could benefit from this workshop. The *Own It* team is passionate about helping students better understand how they learn and how successful students utilize their time. To learn more about the diverse background of our team, please visit ownitichicago.com.

We look forward to offering workshops at St. John Fisher on May 1st. If you have any questions about the program, please email us ownitichicago@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Moira Borkovec Nichole Carey Sarah Peters

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/TVzXAA5gB22AiCwe6>