



# NOTES FROM MRS. NASH

*Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.*


ST. JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

AUGUST 30, 2024

Dear SJF Families,

Our first full week of school was a success! Our Falcons are getting used to their new routine and are ready to take on the school year! We are so incredibly grateful for our air conditioned classrooms and lunch room which have allowed us to keep on learning despite the 95+ temps outside.

Thank you for attending last week's Back to School Mass and Parish Picnic. There are two other opportunities to partner together on campus this fall. On September 9th at 7 p.m. in the church, please join us (adults only!) to hear Liz Repking renowned internet safety consultant, author, and founder of the CASE program, Cyber Awareness and Safety Education, which is implemented in middle schools nationwide. Ms. Repking will be speaking to our older Falcons during the day. The parent event will be an overview of what our kids learned as well as important details for us to know to ensure your child(ren)'s safety. **Your child(ren) are too important to miss this!** Mark your calendars for parent-teacher conferences on October 9th and 10th. We relish these moments to collaborate in the very best interest of your child(ren). It takes a village to raise good kids and we are so grateful to be in this village together with you!

Now more than ever, it is a great time to be a Falcon! The future of our school and community is bright! Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School. **You Belong Here.** 

In unity and hope,

*Mrs. Maura Nash*



## Important Announcements



- **SJF's Tuition Raffle:** Congratulations to our lucky winners: 1st Jackie Long, 2nd Place The Pillon Family, 3rd Place The Samansky Family! Thank you to everyone who participated. **Together we raised over \$9k for the school!**
  - A **HUGE THANK YOU to Karen McDonagh** for organizing this fundraiser again!
- Thank you to **Dave Cahill and the Holy Name Society** for sponsoring our parish picnic and Mass in the park last weekend. We appreciate you!
- **Save the date! 9.9 @ 7 p.m. in the church. Liz Repking** will be joining us for an adult conversation discussing kid's safety and the use of technology.
- **Extended Day:** Don't forget to sign up your Falcon(s) here. If you have questions, please reach out to Mrs. O'Grady, dogrady@sjfschool.us
- **Our first All-School Mass is 9.6 @ 1 p.m.** All parents, friends and family are welcome to attend our **all-school monthly Masses** throughout the school year. **Please be sure to enter the doors on the southwest side of the church.** For safety purposes, we will be locking the church doors at the back of church during each Mass. Thank you!
- Do you have a **new neighbor or a new baby on your block?** Let us know! We'd love to welcome them to our SJF Community! Email Mrs. Houston with the details: khouston@sjfschool.us. Thank you!



## Uniform and Arrival Reminders

- Students in Kindergarten through 8th grade should dress in their school uniforms every day. **No SJF hoodies or spirit wear are allowed Monday - Thursday.** Students can wear Falcon spirit-wear t-shirts, sweatshirts and hoodies with their uniform bottoms on Falcon Fri-YAYS!
- Staggered arrival times: Students with the last name beginning with letters A-L should arrive at 7:45 and students with the last name beginning with letters M-Z should arrive at 7:50. Students will be considered late at 7:55. **\*tardy policy: any student arriving after the 7:55 bell is tardy and will need to be signed in by an adult.**
- Forgetful Falcons! We **can** accept a student's lunch, water bottle, glasses or prescription at the office. We **cannot** accept chrome books, homework, projects and/or classwork.



### Bootcamp 3.0

- Bootcamp 3.0 was a huge success! Our Falcons followed a schedule and traveled with their homerooms to all of the different areas of the building they utilize throughout the week. They learned and were reminded of the behavioral expectations throughout campus so that together we can be safe, responsible and respectful!
- Additionally, we are also focusing on manners and getting back to the basics of just saying hello to one another. Somewhere along the lines, it seems our students have gotten away from greeting adults and one another. We talked at lengths about the importance of greeting adults and friends both on and off campus by name if they know it and if not, **just say hi!**



### Holy Name Society

- Please join us for the **annual Meet & Greet** Thursday, 9.5 @ Barney Callaghan's @ 7pm. We will be collecting your yearly dues of \$30. Spread the word to neighbors and friends. Food and drinks will be provided. ALL ARE WELCOME!



### SJF Chess Club!

- We are thrilled to announced **St. John Fisher's Inaugural Chess Club!** The club will meet for monthly gatherings focused on playing games and sharpening our skills. All skill levels are welcome!
- We will be gathering in Kane Hall on the dates below following the 11:00 a.m. Mass, feel free to join us when you can. We hope to see you there!
- Feel free to bring your own chess set!
- All children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult!

September 8th, 2024	February 9th, 2025
October 20th, 2024	March 9th, 2025
November 10th, 2024	April 13th, 2025
December 8th, 2024	May 4th, 2025
January 12th, 2025	



## Looking Ahead

<b>Weekend Mass</b>	Saturday, 4 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. & 11 a.m. <i>All are welcome!</i>
<b>Saturday, August 31st</b>	<b><i>Manna Hours @ The Convent 8:30-9:30 a.m.</i></b>
<b>Monday, September 2nd</b>	No School - Labor Day Enjoy your day off! 😊
<b>Tuesday, September 3rd</b>	Hot Lunch Begins Today! 😊
<b>Wednesday, September 4th</b>	<b><i>Manna Hours @ The Convent 6-7:00 p.m.</i></b>
<b>Thursday, September 5th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FSA Movie Night in the Parking Lot @ 7:15 p.m. *see flyer below for more detail</li> <li>• Holy Name Society Meet &amp; Greet @ 7 p.m. @ Barney Callaghans on Western</li> </ul>
<b>Friday, September 6th</b>	<p><b>Happy Falcon Fri-YAY!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear your Falcon spiritwear shirts with your uniform bottoms.</li> <li>• 1 p.m. Opening All-School Mass, hosted by our exceptional 8th grade class. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Parents who attend, enter the southwest doors of the church. All are welcome!</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

If you want to  
change the world,  
go home and  
love your family.

-Mother Theresa-



## Social & Emotional Learning

At SJF we continue to build upon our SEL goals. Each month of the school year will have an all-school focus on the trait of the month, helping students strengthen particular social skills with different lessons and activities at the classroom level and as an entire school. We encourage you to talk to your children about these traits at home for a consistent message and focus. The trait of the month program is building upon this year's behavior system and school mantra:

**Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe.**

<i>September</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
October	Respect
November	Gratitude
December	Kindness
January	Integrity
February	Friendship
March	Perseverance
April	Empathy
May	Optimism



**Be Respectful, Responsible & Safe.  
Be a Falcon.**











**A portion of the sales to Americanos' Up In Smoke Festival will benefit the FSA.**

To purchase tickets, visit

<https://www.upinsmokefest.com/tickets> and enter promo code **SJF24** at checkout to ensure SJF benefits



A vibrant, retro-style poster for the 'Americanos Presents Up In Smoke' festival. The design features a teal background with a yellow and red border. At the top, the word 'AMERICANOS' is written in large, bubbly, yellow-outlined letters with 'PRESENTS' in smaller red letters below it. In the center is a red silhouette of a food truck with 'UP IN SMOKE' written on its side in yellow, and 'TACOS · TEQUILA · LIVE MUSIC' below. The truck is emitting a cloud of smoke. Below the truck, a list of performing bands is displayed in yellow: MOJO THUNDER, CAUTION, BRANDON GOOD, THE LEADFOOT BAND, STEREOTYPES, THE REAL TIME BAND, RAILWAY GAMBLERS, MOES N CO, ROCHAMBEAU, and THE BOURBON BELTS. The dates 'FRIDAY 9/6' and 'SATURDAY 9/7' are shown in large yellow letters. At the bottom, the address '11060 S. Western Ave.' and the website 'www.upinsmokefest.com' are listed. The background of the poster includes a faint city skyline at the bottom.

**AMERICANOS**  
PRESENTS

**UP IN SMOKE**  
TACOS · TEQUILA · LIVE MUSIC

**MOJO THUNDER CAUTION BRANDON GOOD**  
**THE LEADFOOT BAND STEREOTYPES**  
**THE REAL TIME BAND RAILWAY GAMBLERS**  
**MOES N CO ROCHAMBEAU THE BOURBON BELTS**

**FRIDAY 9/6**  
**SATURDAY 9/7**

11060 S. Western Ave. [www.upinsmokefest.com](http://www.upinsmokefest.com)



# FSA MOVIE NIGHT

SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

STARTS AT 7:15

SJF PARKING LOT

\*BYO LAWN CHAIRS & BLANKETS

\*\*\*BATHROOMS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE!\*\*\*



SNACKS WILL BE FOR SALE!

\*NO BIKES, SCOOTERS, OR  
SKATES PLEASE\*

7-9pm

NICKY V'S  
FOOD TRUCK



***September  
9th @ 7p.m.!***



**Liz Repking**

**Please join us for a parent workshop hosted by St. John Fisher in partnership with Liz Repking, renowned internet safety consultant and creator of Cyber Safety Consulting. Liz is also an author, and founder of the CASE program, Cyber Awareness and Safety Education, which is implemented in middle schools nationwide.**

**Liz will be speaking to and working with our Falcons during the school day on Monday, September 9th.**

**The parent presentation will be an overview of what our Falcons learn in addition to critical information for parents.**

[\\*Click here for more information.](#)

***Your child is too important to miss this event.***

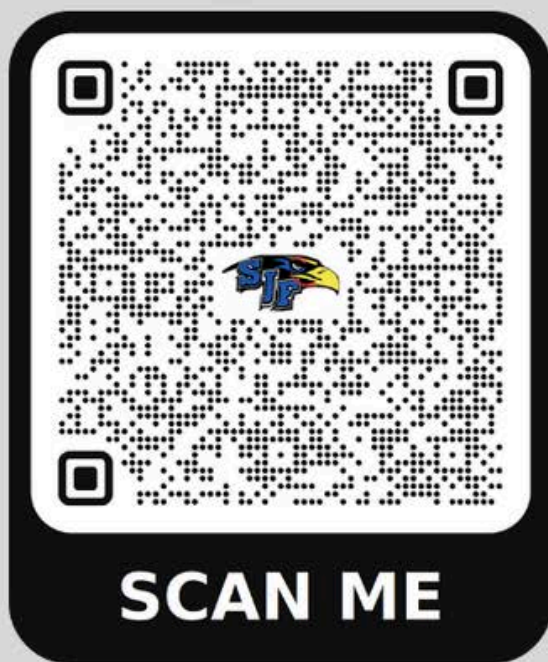
**Any parent who attends will:**

- receive a dress down pass for his or her Falcon to use any day of their choice
- be entered into a raffle for their Falcon to win a free lunch of his/her choice compliments of Mrs. Nash and host the morning ZOOM announcements for a week.



THE ST. JOHN FISHER ATHLETIC BOARD  
IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE  
2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

*Join our team!*



# **FUTURE FALCON CHEERLEADERS**



## **CALLING ALL K- 4TH GRADERS!**

**COME AND TRAIN TO BE A FUTURE FALCON CHEERLEADER!  
THE STUDENTS WILL LEARN A CHEER AND A DANCE TO BE  
PERFORMED AT HALFTIME OF THE HOMECOMING GAME ON  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14,2024.**

**STUDENTS WILL PRACTICE ON  
TUESDAY 9-10-24 AND FRIDAY 9-13-24  
AFTER SCHOOL FROM 3-4:15 PM.**

**REGISTRATION FOR CAMP ENDS MONDAY, AUGUST 26TH.**

**MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CAMP, THE PARADE , AND GAME DAY  
WILL BE SENT OUT CLOSER TO THE DATE!**



ST. JOHN FISHER  
SCHOOL & CHURCH PRESENTS



# OKTOBER FEST

**Saturday, October 5th**

ST. JOHN FISHER PARKING LOT

**5:00PM - 11:00PM**

**LIVE MUSIC • FOOD**

**BEER • 21+**

**10235 S. FAIRFIELD AVENUE | CHICAGO | 60655**



*Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.*

\*Below is a list of important dates for the 2024-2025 school year.

*These dates are subject to change.*

- Labor Day – No School: **9.2**
- Parent-Teacher Conferences: **10.9, 10.10** \*12:00 dismissal **10.10**
- All-Staff Professional Development – No School: **10.11**
- Indigenous Peoples’ Day – No School: **10.14**
- **11.26** ~ 11:30 dismissal
- Thanksgiving Break: **11.27 – 11.29** \*classes resume **12.2**
- **12.20** ~ 11:30 a.m. dismissal
- Christmas Break: **12.20 – 1.5** \*classes resume **1.6**
- Martin Luther King Day – No School: **1.20**
- Catholic Schools Week Mass & Open House: **1.26**
- Parent Teacher Conferences: **2.13** \*12:00 dismissal
- All-Staff Professional Development – No School: **2.14**
- President’s Day – No School: **2.17**
- No School: **3.17**
- All-Staff Professional Development and Planning Day – No School: **3.31**
- All-Staff Religious Professional Development – No School: **4.16**
- Spring Break: **4.16 – 4.27** \*classes resume **4.28**
- Memorial Day – No School: **5.26**
- Last Day of School for 8th Grade: **5.30**, 10:45 a.m. “Clap-out”
- Graduation: **6.1** ~ 1 p.m.
- Last Day of School: **6.4** ~ 10:30 a.m. dismissal

*You belong here.*

**DON'T FORGET!**

\***1:30 p.m. dismissals** are scheduled for the last Wednesday of the following months for faculty meetings, PLC work and council collaboration: **September 25th, October 30th, January 29th, February 26th, April 30th, May 28th.**



*God is good,  
all the time.*



*All the time,  
God is good.*

## *2024-2025 School Mass and Prayer Service Schedule*

**Friday, September 6th** at 1 p.m. Opening All School Mass, 8th grade

**Sunday, October 6th** at 11 a.m. First Communion Enrollment Mass

**Friday, October 18th** at 1 p.m. All School Mass, 7th grade

**Friday, November 1st** at 1 p.m. All Saints' Day All School Mass, 6th grade

**Sunday, November 3rd** at 11 a.m. Confirmation Enrollment Mass

**Monday, November 11th** at 10 a.m. Veterans Day program, SOAR

**Tuesday, November 26th** at 10 a.m. Thanksgiving Prayer service, 5th grade

**Thursday, November 28th** at 9 a.m. Parish Mass, 5th grade

**Monday, December 9th** at 1 p.m. Immaculate Conception All School Mass, 4th grade

**Thursday, December 19th** at 1 p.m. Christmas Prayer Service, 8th grade

**Sunday, December 24th** at 4 p.m. 1st & 2nd graders at Christmas Eve Mass

**Sunday, January 26th** at 11 a.m. Catholic Schools Week Mass

**Saturday, March 8th** at 11 a.m. Confirmation for 8th graders

**Monday & Tuesday, Feb. 24th & 25th** at 6 p.m. First Reconciliation for 2nd graders

**Wednesday, March 5th** at 1 p.m. Ash Wednesday All School Mass, 8th grade

**Saturday, March 8th** at 4 p.m. Saint Patrick's Mass, 3rd grade

**Wednesday, March 26th** at 1 p.m. Stations of the Cross, 7th grade

**Tuesday, April 15th** at 1 p.m. Holy Week All School Prayer Service 8th, grade

**Wednesday, April 16th** - Religious Enrichment for Faculty Professional Day

**Saturday, May 3rd** at 1 p.m. First Holy Communion

**Friday, May 9th** at 10:30 a.m. May Crowning, 8th grade

**Friday, May 23rd** at 8:15 a.m. Ribbon Mass 8th grade

**Sunday, June 1st** at 1 p.m. Graduation Mass 8th grade

**Thursday, June 4th** at 9:15 a.m. Last Day of School Mass 7th grade

*\*All are welcome to attend our School Masses.*

*\*Parents please enter the southeast doors of the church.*

*\*Dates are subject to change*



# 2024-2025 St. John Fisher School Contacts

*If you have a question or concern about...*

**CONTACT US**



- Assignments
- Homework
- Class Activities

Contact [Classroom Teacher](#) by email or note.

- Discipline
- Classroom & Academic Support **after** contacting the teacher
- Behavior/Specific Incidents

Start by contacting the [Classroom Teacher](#) for an appointment.  
If further assistance is needed, contact SJF Assistant Principal, Mrs. Claire Larmon: [clarmon@sjfschool.us](mailto:clarmon@sjfschool.us)

- Reporting Attendance

E-mail [attendance@sjfschool.us](mailto:attendance@sjfschool.us)

- Schedules
- Calendar
- Arrival/Dismissal
- Miscellaneous Questions

Mrs. Kris Houston: [khouston@sjfschool.us](mailto:khouston@sjfschool.us)

- Registration
- Admissions
- MedicalForms

Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Linda Murray: [lmurray@sjfschool.us](mailto:lmurray@sjfschool.us)

- Powerschool
- Tuition & Fees
- Technology
- Hot Lunch

Mrs. Delphine Maxwell: [dmaxwell@sjfschool.us](mailto:dmaxwell@sjfschool.us)

- Virtus Training and Compliance
- Religious Education
- Extended Day Program
- Manna Program

Virtus, Mrs. Redmond: [mredmond@sjfschool.net](mailto:mredmond@sjfschool.net)  
Religious Education, Dr. Chermak: [echermak@sjfschool.us](mailto:echermak@sjfschool.us)  
Extended Day, Mrs. O'Grady: [dogrady@sjfschool.us](mailto:dogrady@sjfschool.us)  
Manna Team: [sjfmanna@gmail.com](mailto:sjfmanna@gmail.com)

- Student Services

Assistant Principal, Mrs. Claire Larmon: [clarmon@sjfschool.us](mailto:clarmon@sjfschool.us)

- Student Accommodation Plans

Ms. Mary Schiavone (K-4): [mschiavone@sjfschool.us](mailto:mschiavone@sjfschool.us)  
Mrs. Karen Brogan (5-8): [kbrogan@sjfschool.us](mailto:kbrogan@sjfschool.us)



# 2024-2025 St. John Fisher School Contacts

*If you have a question or concern about...*

**CONTACT US**

- Reading Intervention

Ms. Mary Schiavone, [mschiavone@sjfschool.us](mailto:mschiavone@sjfschool.us)

- Math Intervention

Ms. Molly Cummings, [mcummings@sjfschool.us](mailto:mcummings@sjfschool.us)

- Public Relations

Mrs. Megan Corley, [mcorley@sjfschool.us](mailto:mcorley@sjfschool.us)

- Parent Newsletter
- Financial Aid Applications
- School Procedures
- Administrative Matters
- Policy
- Further assistance on any matter listed above
- Academic/Classroom support following communication with Mrs. Larmon

Contact SJF Principal,  
Mrs. Maura Nash: [mnash@sjfschool.us](mailto:mnash@sjfschool.us)

- Band
- School Board
- Athletic Programs
- Family School Association
- Women's Club
- Holy Name Society

Mr. Bill Gula: [mr.gula@aol.com](mailto:mr.gula@aol.com)  
School Advisory Board: [sjfsab@gmail.com](mailto:sjfsab@gmail.com)  
Athletic Association: [stjohnfishersports@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnfishersports@gmail.com)  
FSA: [sjffsa103@gmail.com](mailto:sjffsa103@gmail.com)  
Women's Club: [SJFWomensClub@gmail.com](mailto:SJFWomensClub@gmail.com)  
HNS: [SJFHNS@gmail.com](mailto:SJFHNS@gmail.com)

