

Principal's Post#5: A Message from Mrs. Kozlowski September 13, 2023

"Be truly glad; There is wonderful joy ahead." I Peter 1:6

Today, students (the oldest or only in each family) are bringing home the September addition to the Family Prayer Table. We hope that the cross and accompanying directions help to guide your family in joyful prayer this month. If you would like to share a picture of your family and your prayer table, please send them to Mrs. McKernan (mmckernan@ssschool.org).

Thank you to the families of 217 students that have completed the Family Income Survey, which determines the amount of money we receive for various grants from the State of Maryland. We need 113 more responses before all students receive extra recess time! Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Click <u>here</u> for the survey.

This week we released the sign up for Grandparent's Day for grades 4-8 on Thursday, September 28, 2023. If your child will have a grandparent/special friend attending this event, please register as soon as possible <u>here</u>.

Finally, we will be holding another EVACUATE drill on Friday. This will be a fire drill where the students evacuate to the fence by the parish rectory. We will then proceed to our secondary evacuation site of the soccer fields. The students will be informed of this drill prior to it taking place. Thank you for reinforcing the importance of following rules and procedures during these drills.

Grace and peace, Mrs. Marianne Kozlowski

Additional Information:

MAP Testing

This week students in grades 2–8 will begin with the Archdiocese mandated MAP testing that assesses the growth your child will be making in the academic areas of math, reading and language. The fall testing is a baseline score and has no impact on their letter grades/percentages at St. Stephen. MAP testing is administered electronically in the fall, winter and spring. We will begin in math this week. There is nothing that your child needs to do to prepare for this other than be prepared to put forth their best effort.

High School Fair for Students in Grades 6-8

Families of students in grades 6–8 are invited to attend the Archdiocese of Baltimore High School Fair at St. Joseph Fullerton School on Monday, September 18, 2023 from 6:00–8:05 pm. This is an opportunity for middle school students to learn about the options for Catholic high schools. There will be no written homework for middle school students on that night in order for families to have time to attend the fair.

Grade 8 Students: Class of 2024

Registration for the HSPT is now open and can be accessed <u>here</u>. Please also use this <u>link</u> to indicate when your child will be attending a Shadow Day. If you have not completed the liability waiver for the volunteer field trip to First Fruit Farms, please do so as soon as possible: <u>Liability Waiver</u>

Students Attending Athletic Events

A communication regarding students wanting to remain after school to attend sporting events is being sent through Room Parents. I encourage you to read this entire communication so that students and families can be in compliance with safety and security protocols.

Looking Ahead:

September 22: SSS Spirit Wear Day

Students may wear SSS logo clothing that was purchased through the Spirit Wear store or athletic clothing (soccer jersey, cross country shirt) with the SSS logo. Students can wear SSS PE shorts or pajama pants or shorts with the SSS logo/wording. Hats are not permitted on Spirit Wear days. If a student chooses to not participate, he/she must wear their regular Friday uniform. There is no additional charge for participation.