



Principal's Post#10: A Message from Mrs. Kozlowski
October 18, 2023

"The noblest pleasure is the joy of understanding." -Da Vinci

It seems hard to believe but we are in the initial planning stages for the 2024-2025 school year. We are asking for your assistance in filling out the non-binding "Intent to Return" link by Friday, October 27, 2023: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf6lhjRkxfl1_ifxi1ZO-6Pi71gTgwKEGqM5tLfnheHjbGaw/viewform?usp=sf_link The information in the link will help to guide the initial budgeting process with our finance committee and school board. Once we have this initial information, we will be able to release the official Re-enrollment forms that come with a monetary deposit at the end of November 2023. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Mrs. Mary McKernan (mmckernan@ssschool.org).

Next week, the faculty and staff of St. Stephen School will be showcasing their arts and crafts skills in the second annual Pumpkin Parade 2023. Faculty members have been creating no-carve pumpkins that students will be able to purchase a raffle ticket to win. All money collected through the Pumpkin Parade raffle will go towards supporting the upcoming musical theater production and purchasing an additional 3D printer for the tech classroom. More information, as well as pictures of the pumpkins, will be distributed via email to students and families on Monday, October 23.

Grace and peace,
Mrs. Marianne Kozlowski

Additional Information:

November 1: NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Due to Parent/Teacher Conferences taking place throughout the day, students will NOT have school on Wednesday, November 1. Please use the sign up links below to register for a conference:

Elementary school building:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48ADA822A1F4C34-44928856-elementary>

Middle School building:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48ADA822A1F4C34-45167684-middle>

Prek Building:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48ADA822A1F4C34-45166611-prek>

Looking Ahead:

October 25: Pink Add-On Day

For \$2, students are invited to wear their SSS PE sweatpants along with a pink shirt/sweatshirt for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Students may also add-on PINK accessories including socks, necklaces, hair bows and hats. No make-up or hair dye permitted. All money collected will be donated directly to the St. Agnes Cancer Institute, where school parent (Krystal Kelly) received her breast cancer treatments over the course of the last 8 months. Thank you for your consideration and support of all of those impacted by breast cancer in our community.

October 27: Middle School Neon Dance. Who is ready for a fun night of dancing, music, food, and games?! This is open to middle schoolers in the Holy Spirit - St. Stephen Pastorate. Whether you're a SSS or Faith Formation student or a member of the Pastorate, you are welcome! The cost per person is \$10. [Click here to pay](#). Be sure to select "Middle School Neon Dance" in the drop-down box. Permission slips are required. [Click here to download the permission slip](#). Completed slips can be sent to Miss P (cpolsinelli@sss.school.org) or Ms. Briggs (aubrey@ssparish.org). Slips can also be turned in at school, Faith Formation, or the Pastorate Offices.

Please note that this permission slip will cover all Middle School Youth Ministry events through June 2024

October 31: Halloween

For \$2, students are invited to wear their SSS PE sweatpants along with a Halloween themed/orange/black shirt/sweatshirt. Students may also add-on Halloween accessories including socks, necklaces, hair bows and hats. No make-up or hair dye permitted. No Halloween costumes are permitted for kindergarten through grade 8 students. There will NOT be Mass on October 31, but rather students will be meeting with prayer partners.

Parent Eagle Book Club

The first book that has been selected is *"The Gift of Failure: How to Step Back and Let Your Child Succeed"* by Jessica Lahey. I encourage all parents to purchase this book or check it out from your local public library and read it throughout the month of October while making note of particular page numbers or information that you find intriguing or would like to further discuss. On Thursday, November 9 from either 8:30-9:30 am or 5:00-6:00 pm, school administration will lead a book discussion with parents. Participation is optional but we invite all parents, no matter your child's age, to seek JOY in learning something new.

Tickets on Sale now for the 18th Annual St. Stephen's Fall Wine Tasting Event and Silent Auction! Saturday, November 11th from 6-9pm! Tickets will include tasting over 30 different wines, delicious food catered by Captain James Landing, and live music by Dave Reed. We will have a silent auction and the always popular Wine & Liquor Wheel*! Tickets are only \$60 per person. This event has sold out in the past so make sure to get your tickets early! This is a 21+ event. To purchase tickets, click [here!](#)

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

Our Children's Liturgy of the Word ministry is back! Each week, dedicated volunteers who serve our Pastorate through this ministry create slideshows with pictures, music, activities, and more that bring the Sunday readings home to your little ones! The age range this ministry serves is PreK - 4th grade age children. This aids parents in explaining the Word of God in a way younger children can understand. The presentations can be gone through at home before or after your family attends Mass. Whichever you feel is most beneficial for your child(ren)!

Interested in receiving CLOW presentations through Flocknote each Friday? Reach out to Aubrey Briggs (aubrey@ssparish.org) to sign up for our CLOW Flocknote group.

Feel called to serve our Pastorate through this ministry as a volunteer? Reach out to Aubrey Briggs to view previous presentations, speak with current volunteers, and see if this is something the Lord is calling you to!