



**Principal's Post#9: A Message from Mrs. Kozlowski**  
**October 12, 2023**

*"We must discover the joy of each other, the joy of challenge, and the joy of growth." 8*

Today your child's first trimester interim reports will be sent home, either in paper or electronic form. The interim serves as a conversation tool between your child and you as you map out how to help your child find success for the second half of this first trimester. We have also reached the point of the trimester where it is time for Parent/Teacher Conferences. The conference day will take place on Wednesday, November 1, 2023 from 7:45 am through 5:00 pm. There will be NO SCHOOL for students on this day. Conference sign-up links will be released via email tomorrow (Thursday, October 12, 2023) at 9:00 am. All conferences on November 1 will be held in person in the various school buildings/classrooms. We encourage all parents to sign up for a 15 minute conference with your child's teacher so that you discuss the successes your child is finding so far this school year, as well as discuss areas of growth. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Grace and peace,  
Mrs. Marianne Kozlowski

**Additional Information:**

Updated Link for Grandparents Day photos [here](#).

**October 11:** Interims for the first trimester released. The first trimester ends prior to the Thanksgiving holiday break.

**October 12: The Day the Sun Danced: Fatima Remembrance**

We will gather outside as a school community to pray the Living Rosary. Students are permitted to wear their SSS PE shorts/sweatpants along with a BLUE shirt/sweatshirt. Students can bring in yellow flowers and will be collected at morning drop off. Additionally, parents and anyone in the pick up line are invited at 2:30 pm to pray the rosary with Mrs. Behr under the pavilion prior to the end of the school day.

**October 12: Volunteer Hour Opportunity!** Parent and student service hour opportunity cleaning the trails. The trail on campus which is used by the cross-country team for practice and upcoming home meets is very rocky and needs some TLC. We will be hosting two races on campus this year. Parents (must accompany student) and student volunteers are needed to clip branches, remove a tree, and mulch the trail on

Thursday, October 12th from 3:20-4:20 pm. We are in need of clippers, wheelbarrows, and shovels. Please email Lori Olivi at [lolivi@sss.school.org](mailto:lolivi@sss.school.org) with questions.

### **October 13: School Pictures in REGULAR/WINTER uniform**

Information, from the Student/Parent Handbook, outlines the expectations for the regular/winter uniform. All pieces of the uniform can be purchased at Flynn & O'Hara.

### **October 16: Fall Sports Add-On or SSS Spirit Wear Day**

Students who participate in a fall sport at St. Stephen School or Church (cross country, volleyball, soccer) are invited to wear their team jersey along with SSS PE sweatpants to school on October 16. Students who do not participate in a fall sport are invited to wear an SSS spirit wear shirt/sweatshirt along with SSS PE sweatpants on this day too. There is no additional cost to participate. We look forward to celebrating all of our fall athletes. Saint Sebastian (patron saint of athletes)... pray for us!

**October 17:** Parent Visitation Day for grades 6-8 from 8:30- 10:00 am, followed by Mass. Registration is required and can be accessed [here](#). Due to space constraints, grandparents and other family members are not invited on this day. Parents can park in the school parking lot or the church parking lot after 8:20 am, and report to the gym to pick up their child's schedule, as well as registration name tag.

### **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.

### **Looking Ahead:**

**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](mailto:cpolsinelli@sss.school.org)) or Ms. Briggs ([aubrey@ssparish.org](mailto: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\*

### **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.

### **Crab Raffle, sponsored by the Class of 2024**

Help support the 8th grade to raise funds for their class trip and special 8th grade events by purchasing some crab raffle tickets. The winner will receive a bushel of crabs from Conrad's and a Maryland themed basket. Thank you for your support! Click the link below to purchase tickets.

<https://forms.diamondmindinc.com/ststephenschool/24crabraffle?token=1215148564>

**Tickets on Sale now for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Stephen's Fall Wine Tasting Event and Silent Auction!** Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> 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 - 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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!