



Principal's Post#8: A Message from Mrs. Kozlowski
October 4, 2023

“If we endure all things patiently and with gladness, thinking on the sufferings of our Blessed Lord, and bearing all for the love of Him: herein is perfect joy.” St. Francis of Assisi

Earlier this week you received an update regarding individual and homeroom class pictures on Friday, October 13, 2023. Traditionally students have dressed in their “Sunday best” for the fall pictures, but based on the timeline constraints of the yearbook, fall pictures will now be in regular uniform. “Sunday best” pictures will now be taken in the spring. Galeone will be sending information in the coming days to explain the ordering process. On the original school calendar, we had students transitioning to the regular or winter uniform on October 17. After realizing that the class pictures needed to be taken on October 13, **the decision was made to begin WINTER/REGULAR uniforms on Friday, October 13, 2023.** The 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. Thank you for your cooperation.

On October 17, 2023, we will be hosting parent visitation day for students in grades 6–8. Parents are invited to attend classes with their child from 8:30 - 10:00 am, and then worship at Mass at 10:00 am. The day will end at the conclusion of Mass around 10:45 am. Registration is required and can be accessed [here](#). Due to space constraints, grandparents and other family members are not invited on this day. More information will be provided closer to the date.

Grace and peace,
Mrs. Marianne Kozlowski

Additional Information:

October 4: Feast Day of St. Francis

As a way to celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, we will be hosting a Blessing of the Pets at 4:30 pm by the fence near the rectory. Father George will be providing the blessing. All pets and owners are welcome, but pets must be on a leash or in a cage. The event will last about 10 minutes and no RSVP is required.

October 6: School Closed

Due to the AOB Professional Development Day, school is closed for all students on Friday, October 6. All teachers will be participating in professional development at various schools across the Archdiocese on this day.

October 9: No school for students and faculty. Enjoy the long weekend!

Looking Ahead:

October 11: Interims for the first trimester will be released. The 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 with questions.

October 13: School Pictures in REGULAR/WINTER uniform

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.

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

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/24/crabraffle?token=1215148564>

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](#)!