



Principal Post #3: A Message from Dr. Kozlowski
September 4, 2024

“Give thanks with a grateful heart.” I Thessalonians 5:18

I would like to welcome Mrs. Michelle Borowy to St. Stephen School as the grade one instructional aide. Mrs. Borowy comes to us after an extensive volunteer career at St. Michael/St. Clement School, where her five children attended. I would also like to welcome Ms. Mary Jo Bagnall to our aftercare program team. Ms. Mary Jo comes to St. Stephen School after a long career in childcare and education. Ms. Mary Jo began working with Mrs. Sharon Tenaro in aftercare yesterday. I am grateful to both of these professionals for wanting to share their gifts and talents with our students and school.

We have begun practicing our safety and security drills for the school year, which were created by the “I Luv U Guys” standard response protocol program. This program is followed throughout all Archdiocese schools and in a number of Maryland county school systems. We held an EVACUATION drill last week and will be having HOLD drills next week. The purpose of these drills is to build muscle memory in all participants so that if a true emergency ever occurs, all individuals know what to do. If you would like to discuss these drills and protocols with your children to reinforce the expectations, you can access them [HERE](#)

Finally, we are coming to the end of our grace period for fidelity to the school handbook. Beginning the week of September 9, we will be giving tardy slips for morning arrival, charging for later pick-ups at dismissal, giving uniform infractions for hair/socks/nails/clothes pieces and issuing homework slips. We ask that you take the necessary steps in your homes to follow the protocols and school procedures that are outlined in the 24/25 handbook.

Grace and peace,
Dr. Marianne Kozlowski

Additional Information:

Income Survey to Receive State of Maryland Grant Money

Every year our school has an opportunity to participate in federal and state programs that benefit our students with a variety of materials and services. Some examples of available opportunities are:

- The Maryland Textbook & Technology Funding Program
- The Nonpublic Aging School Program
- Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV services under the Every Child Succeeds Act
- Discounted rates on high speed internet services and infrastructure through the School and Libraries Universal Service Program or E-Rate Program

In order to determine the funding available for these programs, we must have an accurate record of family income information. To obtain this information, we are asking each family to complete our 2024-2025 Income Survey. The survey can be accessed [HERE](#) and takes less than five minutes to complete. Please be assured that the information you provide is held in strict confidence. The information provided is maintained securely by our school and the information is used ONLY for the purposes described above. As always, thank you for your support and cooperation, we ask that you **please complete the survey by FRIDAY, September 20, 2024.**

Band Registration

Mrs. Thamert, our band teacher, led a band demonstration today for students in grades 4-8. Mrs. Thamert will be reaching out via email/phone to assist those who are interested in registering. Please visit the band website for information regarding registration, instrument rental, and the band schedule.

For more information about the St. Stephen School Band Program:

- Band Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/mrs-erin-thamert/home>
- [Registration Form click here](#)
- [Instrument Rental Flyer click here](#)
- Instrumental rental website [Music & Arts Instrument Rental Program](#)
 - Email: knightchic@aol.com
 - Phone: 410.486.4322

After School Clubs.

We are pleased to announce the formation of three after-school clubs, beginning at the end of September. Mrs. Peach is running an art club for students in grades 3-5 on Mondays, Mr. Cox a 3D printing club for students in grades 6-8 on Wednesdays, as well as a chess club for students in grades 4-8 on Thursdays. Registration information can be found below and will run until the clubs reach capacity and/or Friday, September 20, 2024.

Art Club: <https://forms.gle/Dk4K5x11152KrZme7>

3D Printing Club: <https://forms.gle/nWSo1GKBuPSGeQ2J9>

Chess Club: <https://forms.gle/aENLw4DYTk1AYh8b9>

Important Dates:

September 5: Ravens Add-On Day

Students may wear their SSS PE uniform shorts, along with a Ravens shirt/sweatshirt/jersey. No additional accessories, along with nail polish or hair dye, are permitted. There is no additional cost for participation. Students who do not participate will wear their regular Thursday uniform.

September 8, 2024: Join Us for Our Endless Summer Party! St. Stephen's Day at Valleybrook Country Club, sponsored by the Father's Club. For more information and tickets [click here](#).

September 8: High School Admissions Meeting for Class of 2025 at 6:30 pm (online)

Dr. Kozlowski will lead the meeting for grade 8 families via Google Meet and go over the process for Catholic high school admissions. Parents are strongly encouraged to log in using the link here: <https://meet.google.com/zyn-rfhc-zmn>

Save the Date: September 23, 24, and 26 for MAP Testing in Grades 2-8

All St. Stephen School students in grades 2-8 will be taking the AOB required MAP testing on the above dates from 8:30 -10:00 am. We are seeking to create a culture of attentiveness and

excellence by having all students in grades 2-8 participate at the same time. We ask that you do not schedule out of school appointments for your students during these dates/times. More details regarding MAP testing will be sent later in the month.

Community Information

KC Dance & Fitness: Once again this school year, KC Dance & Fitness is offering after-school dance classes for St. Stephen School students in PreK through grade 5. Please see the attached flyer for registration information.