



Principal Post #5: A Message from Dr. Kozlowski
September 18, 2024

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

There are a number of upcoming or newly scheduled events that are quickly approaching. [HERE](#) is the registration link for Grandparents Day for students in grades 4-8. We ask that all grandparents or special friends are registered ASAP. A communication specific to the details of Grandparents Day will be sent on Tuesday, September 24 and I ask that you share the contents of that information with any guests that will be attending.

The SSS Snack Shack is returning for all students during lunch on September 23, 24 and 26. The Student Council will be selling items for \$1 or \$2 each day for students to purchase and enjoy during their lunch period. If your child would like to participate, please have them bring in money in an envelope or ziploc bag labeled with their name. For our students in kindergarten through grade 2, the middle school lunch helpers will assist your child with making their choices and paying. Any profit made from this sale will go towards special activities and purchases for the students.

Middle school students should mark their calendars for the first middle school dance & activity night on Friday, October 18, 2024 from 6:30-8:30 pm. This casual gathering will include a DJ, food and games for \$10. A permission slip and flyer will be sent via room parents soon.

Finally, this Friday, September 20, we will be launching a revamped school-wide Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) that is rooted in role models of our Catholic faith. We are SO excited for the teamwork, service opportunities and growth that we know our students and faculty will demonstrate using this system. A detailed communication will be sent this Friday that provides you with all of the specific details.

Grace and peace,
Dr. Marianne Kozlowski

Additional Information:

From the Health Suite

A friendly reminder that a doctor's note is essential when a student has an injury that requires any activity limitation/restrictions, also when they are cleared to return to normal activities. When a student has an illness or questionable communicable condition or is out for 3 or more days, a doctor's note communicates they may return to school. This protocol is also in our handbook. Mrs. Elliott (nurse@sss.school.org) can answer any questions you may have.

After School Clubs

Last call for after-school clubs for the fall! Mrs. Peach is running an art club for students in grades 3-5 on Mondays, and Mr. Cox 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>

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

Important Dates:

SSS Spirit Wear Day - September 20, 2024

Students may wear SSS logo clothing that was purchased through the Spirit Wear store, SSS athletic clothing with SSS logo and/or SSS shirts from previous school years. Students can wear SSS PE shorts or SSS pajama pants or sweatpants 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.

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. MAP testing is a requirement from the Archdiocese and is given online three times a year. Each test is 44 questions in length and is untimed. There is nothing that your child needs to do to prepare for this other than coming to school with a positive attitude, committing to reading each question, thinking about their response and taking their time. MAP scores will be sent home with your child during the week of October 14 along with a letter to help you understand what the scores mean. For our grade 8 families, these fall MAP scores are included in your child's high school admissions packet.

September 27: Early Dismissal

All students will have an early dismissal at noon. There is no aftercare on this day and students do not need to pack a lunch. This is also Grandparents Day for students in grades 4-8 from 10-11:30 am.

Important October Dates

October 3: Blessing of the Pets at 4:00 pm on the blacktop by the rectory. All pets and their families are welcome as long as pets are on a leash or in a cage for the 10-15 minute event.

October 4: No school for students due to Archdiocese Professional Development Day for faculty

October 7: No school for students and faculty

October 8: Parent Visitation Day for students in grades 6-8 from 8:20-9:50 am, followed by Mass at 10:00 am. A registration link will be released electronically on October 1 via email

October 9: Interims for trimester one released

October 10: Parent/Teacher Conference sign-up links released via email at 9:00 am

October 14: Winter uniform begins - see handbook for uniform descriptions

October 15: Individual school picture day in winter SSS uniforms

October 19: SSS hosts a Food Truck & Corn Hole Event from 5-8:30 pm on the school parking lot. We invite families to attend Mass at St. Stephen Church at 4:30 pm or 6:00 pm and then join in for some food and fellowship.

October 22: Parent/Teacher Conferences from 1-5 pm with an early dismissal for students at noon

October 23: Parent/Teacher Conferences from 7:45 am - 3:15 pm with no school for students

October 29: Parent Visitation Day for students in grades 3-5 from 8:20-9:50 am, followed by Mass at 10:00 am. A registration link will be released mid-October.

Grade 8: Class of 2025 High School Admissions

The portal for registration for the HSPT is now open and can be accessed here:

<https://stsusers.com/stsusers/registration/static/baltimore.php> You can access the Shadow Day form here and this needs to be filled out for each shadow day that you schedule with your child:
<https://forms.gle/Qn4iLYP8ujTuecXP7>

Band Registration: Lessons begin next week

Mrs. Thamert, our band teacher, has provided a variety of links below regarding 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](mailto:knightchic@aol.com)
 - [Phone: 410.486.4322](tel:410.486.4322)