



Principal Post #7: A Message from Dr. Kozlowski
October 2, 2024

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

The upcoming month of October looks to be just as busy as the month of September. Below are key dates for October, along with descriptions of what is happening on each of the days. Thank you in advance for taking the time to read the information about all of the happenings at St. Stephen School.

This morning we held our first lockdown drill of the school year. The students were informed of the drill during morning announcements and received an update three minutes prior to the drill beginning. I applaud the students and faculty for the seriousness of which they undertook this drill and for their preparation. We will be having one lockdown drill per trimester.

Finally, you may have noticed that this email was sent on behalf of “BrightArrow.” The contract that the Archdiocese had with Swift K12 has ended and we will be using Bright Arrow for our method of communication moving forward for email, texts and phone calls. While we do not anticipate any trouble with the transition, we will be sharing via Room Parents information related to the Bright Arrow and how to troubleshoot if information is not coming through. We will also be running tests on the text and phone portion of Bright Arrow in the coming week.

Grace and peace,
Dr. Marianne Kozlowski

Additional Information:

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 grades 6-8. Parents are welcome to park on the school or church parking lot beginning at 8:10 am. Parents report to the gym to check-in prior to being dismissed to classrooms. The link to register can be accessed here: <https://forms.gle/tLtAQ7ivfmgYtkMz8> Parent visitation will be from 8:20-9:50 am, followed by Mass for parents and students in grade 6-8. Mass will begin at 10:00 am and will end at approximately 10:40 am. Due to space constraints, only parents are able to attend this day.

Upcoming October Dates:

October 9: Interims for trimester one released for prek through grade 8. We will be sending paper copies of all interims so be sure to check your child's folder.

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

October 11: The Day the Sun Danced Celebration

In celebration of the Miracle of Fatima in 1917 and as a way to honor Mary, students are encouraged to wear a solid blue shirt with their SSS PE shorts and bring in a yellow flower that will be placed around the statue of Our Lady of Fatima. We will be praying the Rosary as a school during the day and students can bring in a Rosary too. Parents and those picking up students at the end of the school day are invited to pray the Rosary with Mrs. Behr beginning at 2:30 pm in the pavilion by the school parking lot. The lot will open early to allow for parking for this event.

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

October 15: Individual & homeroom class school picture day in winter SSS uniforms. Parents can access ordering information via www.lifetouch.com and use the code EVTDP7QZX. Ordering will be completed online this year as Lifetouch is our new vendor. Lifetouch is offering a complimentary class photo to any individual photo package purchased. Class photos are also available for \$10 each. Please see the attached flyer for more information. All inquiries for photo day can go directly to (800)736-4752 or lifetouch.force.com/helpcenter/s/

NEW for October 18: Fall Sports Add-On Day

Students who participate in any fall sport for St. Stephen (MS soccer, CYO soccer, volleyball, cross country) are invited to wear their jersey/shirt from their St. Stephen team, along with their SSS PE sweatpants (winter uniform). Students who are not a part of a fall sports team are welcome to wear SSS Spirit Wear shirt/sweatshirt along with their SSS PE sweatpants. There is no additional cost for participation.

October 18: Middle School Dance/Activity Night for St. Stephen students in grades 6-8 from 6:30-8:30 pm. The cost is \$10 and students have received a permission slip. See the attached flyer for additional information. If a parent of a middle school student, who is VIRTUS certified, would like to serve as a chaperone, please email Miss Judy.

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. See the attached flyer for more details.

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.