

Principal Post #25: A Message from Dr. Kozlowski March 5, 2025

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

Today we officially began our journey into Lent by receiving ashes during our Ash Wednesday Mass with Father Jude. As a school, we strive for Lent to look and feel different as this liturgical season allows us to "seek a true inner conversion of our heart as we seek to follow Christ more faithfully" (USCCB). Your child will be bringing home a Lenten calendar for your Family Prayer Table for the month of March. I encourage you and your family to use this calendar, as well as the scripture readings, throughout the 40 days of Lent.

The Archdiocese of Baltimore released information related to the Powerschool cyber security breach that occurred. Please see the update <u>HERE</u>. Within the update, an additional link from Powerschool can be accessed <u>HERE</u>. Please read these updates in their entirety.

Finally, I ask for your attentiveness when in your vehicles at afternoon dismissal. Please refrain from being on your phones while your car is on or once your children are in your car. We have had too many instances these last few weeks of cars not moving when lines begin or cars that drive too fast once they realize their car line already started to move. We have been extremely lucky that there have not been any fender benders between cars or faculty members hit by cars. Our goal remains a safe and orderly dismissal for everyone in the parking lot.

Grace and peace,
Dr. Marianne Kozlowski

Additional Information:

Lenten Service Project

During Lent, each Saint team will be collecting a different school supply to donate to a Gardenville Elementary in Baltimore City. Each morning, the collection bags will be in the front of school at drop off. Your child may put their item in their Saint team color bag before entering the building. This is the same process we used for Thanksgiving Food Drive. The Saint team that collects the most will win an out of uniform pass to be used any day they choose. The drive will run from March 5, 2025 - March 14, 2025. The winning Saint team will be announced on Monday, March 17, 2025. The following items are assigned to each grade level - thank you for your consideration as we live out the tenant of "giving" during the season of Lent.

PreK - Colored pencils

Kindergarten - Pocket Folders
First Grade - Individual Tissue Packs

Second Grade - 3 x 3 Post its

Third Grade - 4 x 6 Square post its

Fourth Grade - 24 Packs of Crayons

Fifth Grade - Student size scissors

Sixth Grade - Adult Size Scissors

Seventh Grade - One subject Spiral Notebook (wide or college)

Eighth Grade - One pack of Looseleaf (wide or college)

From the Health Suite and Mrs. Elliott

Allergy season is upon us. If your child takes daily allergy medication, now is a good time to start the regimen, if they haven't already. Please encourage your child to wash their hands often, especially when coming inside from outdoor activities. Also, thank you to the families that participated in the Loyola University Speech and Language Evaluations. We screened 28 students from all grade levels. Parents should have received an email with the evaluation findings. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to our school nurse.

March 7: Trimester two report cards will be released electronically. Thank you in advance for talking with your child about things that they are doing well in school, as well as areas of growth for the final trimester. Remember to have a discussion that goes beyond letter grades - personal responsibility, organization, attention to detail, listening skills, participation, time management, impulse control and focus/attention are the skills that students need in order to find academic success.

March 10: Celebrating Book Month continues

To celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and a love of reading, St. Stephen School will be having special uniform add-ons each Monday in March related to books. For March 10, students may come in mismatched clothes and shoes. This is a total out of uniform day and all guidelines in the handbook apply. If a student chooses not to participate, as this is optional, he/she will just come in their regular Monday uniform.