

Principal Post #30: A Message from Dr. Kozlowski April 2, 2025

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

"Break a leg" to our cast and crew of Willy Wonka Jr. this weekend - we look forward to seeing your talents come to life on the stage! Thank you to the school community for all of your support!

All registration for 2025 Summer Camps at St. Stephen School will CLOSE on Tuesday, April 15, 2025. This will allow our staff to determine if there are enough students registered to hold the camps, but also to begin to order and receive supplies for the camps. If your child is interested, sign up now to help ensure their favorite camp runs as planned! Register ASAP by clicking here!

Please mark your calendars for a Volunteer Appreciation Prayer Service on Friday, May 2, 2025 at 8:30 am in the school gym. The program will last about 40-45 minutes. This is one small way that we can say THANK YOU for all of your hard work and dedication to the St. Stephen School community. We ask that you RSVP using the link <u>HERE</u> and share this link with any grandparents or family members that have volunteered during this school year.

Finally, your child will be coming home this week with a Stations of the Cross handout for your April family prayer table. While we have been attending and having students lead Stations of the Cross this Lenten season, please consider doing this as a family as well. I also encourage you to make plans now to attend Palm Sunday services on April 12/13 as that officially begins Holy Week. You will notice that there will not be any Easter celebrations or out of uniform days during Holy Week as we reverently acknowledge the solemn events that occurred at the end of the life of Jesus.

Grace and peace, Dr. Marianne Kozlowski

Additional Information:

Current Grade 7 Families (Class of 2026)

Mark your calendars now for the Class of 2026 Parent Meeting, which will be held on Sunday, September 7, 2025 at 6:00 pm. I will be sharing information related to the high school application process and what to expect during your child's 8th grade year. I learned this week from the Archdiocese that the HSPT (high school placement test) will be administered during the school day to current St. Stephen students on Wednesday, November 19, 2025. Please mark this date on your calendar now. This is approximately 2-3 weeks earlier compared to previous years. With this change, we are now examining avenues for optional test prep classes.

April 4-11: Voting for HSA Executive Board will go live with new board members announced in the Principal Post on April 16. An email communication will be sent on April 4 with instructions for the one vote per family.

April 7: Sibling Photos with Lifetouch

Lifetouch will be on campus to offer optional sibling photos to enrolled St. Stephen School students. This was written into the contract with Lifetouch as we are the only school that has traditionally offered a service like this. Students will wear their REGULAR SSS uniform. If they have gym on April 7, they will wear their sneakers/tennis shoes with their regular uniform. Lifetouch should have or will be sending ordering information to families. Again, this is optional and these pictures are used or needed by St. Stephen School.

Spring MAP Testing: April 8-10

Students in grades 2-8 will take the required spring MAP testing from 8:30-10:00 am on April 8 (reading), April 9 (math) and April 10 (language). We ask that students be on time at morning arrival on these days and please do your best to not schedule any doctor appointments. Your child should be sure to eat breakfast on these days as well. All MAP testing is done electronically on Chromebooks and results will be shared with families prior to the end of the school year. While there is nothing that your child can do to prepare, please encourage them to take this seriously and try their best. MAP measures growth and their scores will be compared to the scores they earned from the initial testing in the fall. The only change to the above schedule will be for the grade 7 language test. They will take that test only on April 11 as they will be on a field trip on April 10.

April 11: Mid-way point of trimester three. Interims will be released on April 16 as we head into Easter break.

April 17 -18 & April 21-25: Easter break with school closed for students and faculty

April 28: School resumes and Spring uniform begins - please see handbook for guidelines. If there is unseasonably and consistent warm weather, we will let families know if the Spring uniforms will begin earlier. Next week has temperatures in the 40s and 50s.