



**Principal Post #14: A Message from Dr. Kozlowski  
November 19, 2025**

Congratulations to our 8th graders who took the High School Placement Test, also known as the HSPT, at St. Stephen School this morning. I am proud of the work and focus that they put into the test and how they are navigating the Catholic high school admissions process. After the 3.5 hour test this morning, they will enjoy a pizza and ice cream lunch and engage in some service to the school in the afternoon. The HSPT is just one step in the high school process that will end with admissions decisions being released in mid-February 2026.

I would like to address a few concerns that arose during Grandparents Day last week. Unfortunately we encountered about 12-15 attendees that argued with our safety protocols, ignored the directions of faculty in the parking lot at departure and used hostile or vulgar language with other attendees and with our staff. As a Catholic school, this is disappointing that we are unable to see our values being lived by all on our campus. It is also extremely disrespectful to our faculty and staff that work so hard to host these events for our students. While the vast majority of the 270 attendees did not engage in these behaviors, it would be irresponsible of me to not bring this to your attention. Please know that all of our decisions and protocols are for the safety and benefit of our students, who remain our number one priority. Much thought and careful consideration goes into planning and executing events - it is my belief that with your help that this will not be an issue in the future.

As we head into the winter season, it is a good time for you to do a uniform check of your child in both their PE and regular uniform. Remember that shoes need to be tied and the students need to have their heels inside, khaki pants are to not to be the "skinny" leg version as those are not sold at Flynn & O'Hara, non-SSS sweatshirts are not permitted inside the building in place of the SSS PE sweatshirt or fleece, and that haircuts need to be above the ears/collar of the shirt/eyes. All rules associated with the uniform can be found in the handbook and we will be having uniform checks more frequently. I appreciate your assistance from home with uniforms as you are the first line of defense in following our protocols.

Finally, this will be the last Principal Post prior to Thanksgiving break, which is from November 26 - November 30. On behalf of the entire faculty and staff of St. Stephen School, we wish you a blessed Thanksgiving holiday with your family and friends. May your day be filled with gratitude and good times with one another. We look forward to welcoming all students back onto campus for the start of Advent on December 1.

Grace & Peace,  
Dr. Marianne Kozlowski

**Additional Information:**

## **Getting Ready for Mass: You can access the video related to this weekend's Bible readings below**

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: November 23: <https://youtu.be/z7gXScldS8E>

1st Sunday of Advent: November 30: <https://youtu.be/IP5SqZveppl>

## **Re-Registration for 2026/27**

Re-registration has opened for the 2026/27 school year. Please refer to your email and this letter [HERE](#) about this process. Thank you in advance for your commitment to Catholic education for your child at St. Stephen School.

## **Raise Right Holiday Gift Card Program**

Please consider using the Raise Right gift card program for upcoming holiday purchases and for gift giving. All orders placed by November 26 will be ready for pick up at the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 6. See the flyer for additional details.

## **Thanksgiving Food Drive**

Last call: Donations will be accepted through this Friday. Students will place their donations in bags labeled by their Saint team/color. Care was given to have the donations be about the same price. Thank you in advance for your support.

Prek3 & 4: jar of icing

Grade 1: box mac & cheese

Grade 3: can of carrots

Grade 5: jar of turkey gravy

Grade 7: box of stuffing

Kindergarten: box of cake mix

Grade 2: jar of applesauce

Grade 4: can of corn

Grade 6: box of mashed potatoes

Grade 8: can of green beans

## **November 25: SSS Spirit Wear Day**

Students may wear SSS logo clothing that was purchased through the Spirit Wear store, SSS athletic clothing with SSS logo and/or SSS shirts/sweatshirts. Students can wear SSS PE sweatpants 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 Tuesday uniform. There is no additional charge for participation.

## **Follow up from Loyola Screening for Speech & Language**

The Loyola Speech and Language Screening was a success again this year. St. Stephen School students enjoy participating in the screening. In addition, the Loyola SLP graduate students really enjoy providing this service to our community. If they recommend further intervention after the screening, they will reach out to parents via email. If you have any questions, please reach out to our school nurse, Mrs. Elliott.

## **Follow up from Hearing & Vision Screening**

Thank you to all the students that participated in the Hearing and Vision Screening service done by Baltimore County Department of Health. After the screening, a written report will be mailed to your home informing you of your child's results **only if a problem was identified**. If you have any questions, please contact the Hearing and Vision office at 410-887-2721. If your student was absent, plan to have them screened next year when the service will be provided again, or follow up with their doctor for a screening. If you have any other questions, contact our school nurse via email: [nurse@sss.school.org](mailto:nurse@sss.school.org)

## **KC Dance & Fitness - New sessions starting!**

Registration for the winter sessions for Hip Hop (beginning on December 1) and Intro to Dance (beginning on January 7) are now open. Please see the flyer below for additional information or check the website: <https://www.kcdanceandfitness.com/>

## **Upcoming Dates:**

### **Thanksgiving Break: November 26-28**

School will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday. We will resume school again on Monday, December 1, 2025, which is also the first week of Advent.

**December 2:** Day of Giving. For \$5, students can participate in a full out of uniform day to align with the annual Day of Giving. Please see the handbook for out of uniform rules and expectations. Students in grades 3-8 will also participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the season of Advent.

**December 4:** Prek4 and Kindergarten Christmas Program at 6:00 pm in the gym. Doors open at 5:30 pm.

**December 5:** Early dismissal at noon for students - there is no aftercare; Feast Day of St. Nicholas - students can wear red/green/holiday shirt/sweatshirt with their SSS PE sweatpants. No additional accessories.

**December 6:** Christmas Bazaar, sponsored by HSA, from 9 am until 3 pm in the school gym

**December 8:** Holy Day of Obligation - Feast Day of Immaculate Conception; Grade 2 Christmas Program at 4:00 pm in the gym

**December 10:** Class of 2026 High School applications due

**December 12:** Band Concert at 4:00 pm in the gym

**Week of December 15:** Christmas Spirit Week, organized by Student Council

**December 19:** Early dismissal for students and faculty at noon - there is no aftercare

**December 20 - January 4:** Christmas break, school and offices closed

**January 5:** School closed for students while St. Stephen Faculty participate in retreat

**January 6:** School resumes for 2026

## **Once an Eagle, always an Eagle!**

We're gathering stories and accomplishments from our incredible alumni to share on social media. Whether it's you, your child, or another Eagle you know, we'd love to hear about it! Share your update or nominate a fellow alum here: <https://forms.gle/mx3jGMMEPBJEckcJA>  
Let's celebrate the amazing things our Eagles are doing out in the world!