



The President's Hebdomadal Blue Ribbon Newsletter

Celebrating 100 Years of Christian Brothers at SPS



Aug 27 – Sep 3, 2018

This week we observe the 13th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. While some would prefer to erase any mention or memory of this dark time in our history, I think it important that we remember how far we have come in the past 13 years – and celebrate the tenacity and drive of those who helped make recovery possible. I've used the following before, but it's worth another read.

Following the storm, our Computer Applications II Class, under the direction of long time SPS computer whiz Weese Petersen, published a book about what the boys learned from the storm – some funny, some insightful, some poignant:

- *I learned that my brother gets aggravated after 10 hours of riding in a car.*
- *I learned that relatives can get annoying and they bring friends when they stay with you.*
- *I learned that relatives eat a lot when depressed.*
- *I learned that family is more important than you.*
- *I learned an obnoxious uncle is not a big help.*
- *I learned that having my family and friends is the only real thing that matters in my life.*
- *I learned what I should be thankful for.*
- *I learned that I take many thanks for granite [sic] like yesterday I was mad because I didn't get my way then I thought that many lost everything.*
- *I learned everything can be survived.*
- *I learned that if you think you have it bad, someone somewhere has it worse.*
- *I learned that chainsaws are dangerous*
- *I learned that rakes are not my friend.*
- *I learned that having 25 rambling Irish people in my house is not cool.*
- *I learned that Gatlinburg, TN does not have many girls.*
- *I learned that plugging your XBOX into a generator doesn't go well.*
- *I learned that my parents are incredible motivators and always get the job done.*
- *I learned that my father likes martial law.*
- *I learned that my uncle is mechanically incompetent.*
- *I learned that living with grandparents is not always an enjoyable experience.*
- *I learned not to drive to Slidell at 10 pm when there is a 7 pm curfew.*
- *I learned that 35 people in one house can get on your nerves.*
- *I learned that there are a lot of good looking girls at Texas A & M.*
- *I learned that you don't realize the value of what you have until you lose it.*
- *I learned that the poor people are less fortunate than us in a situation like this.*
- *I learned to watch your head when climbing through fallen trees.*
- *I learned that my grandparents are not as bad as I thought they were.*
- *I learned that my family turned out to be pretty cool.*



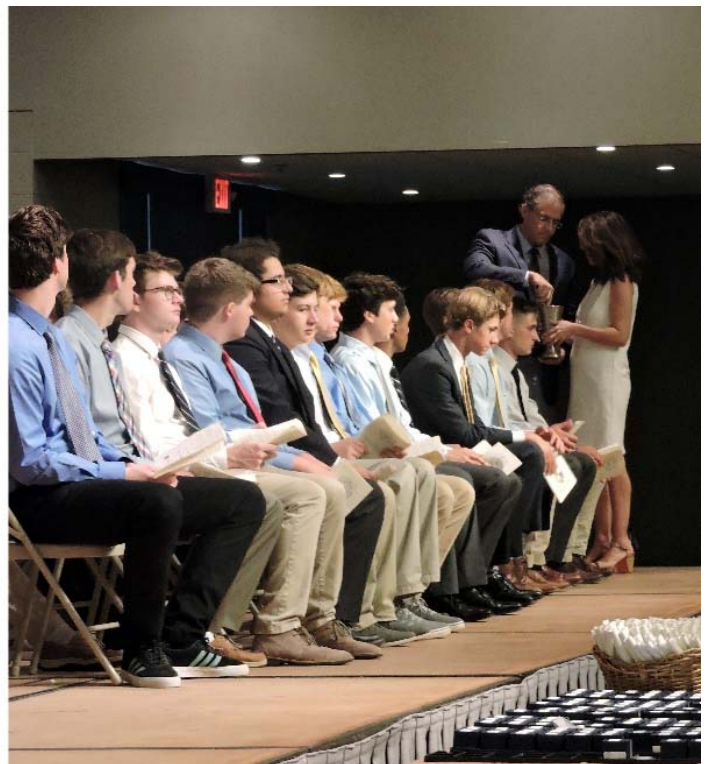
Wolf Dome following Katrina

May Our Lady of Prompt Succor hasten to keep us safe from the ravages of storms!

Mon, Aug 27 (Regular; Safety Week Begins; G A B C).

- Memorial of **St. Monica** – Today we celebrate the Feast of St. Monica -- a special one for all moms, as Monica prayed for years for the conversion of her son, Augustine, who strayed far from the path of righteousness. Her persistent prayer paid off and Augustine became one of the greatest saints in the church. Thanks, St. Monica!
- **This Day in History:** Brother Ralph Baltz, a member of our retired Christian Brothers Community celebrates his 98th birthday today. Brother has had to slow down a bit of late due to health issues, but he's working hard to return to full activity. We offer him our prayer and best wishes on this special day. We thank him for his life as a Christian Brother in the cause of Lasallian education. *Ad multos annos*, Brother Ralph!
- **TDIH:** In 1910, Mother Teresa is born. In honor of her birth, coincidentally on the same day as Brother Ralph's birth, I reprint a famous prayer which is purported to be hers. I've used it before but it's always worth re-reading:

*People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway
If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.
If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and genuine enemies. Succeed anyway.
If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway.
What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway.
If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway.
The good you do today will often be forgotten. Do good anyway.
Give the best you have and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.
In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.*



Dr. & Mrs. Chip Rovira, parents of SC President Josh, bless seniors in the name of all the parents at Ring Ceremony.

Tue, Aug 28 (President's Assembly, D E F G -- Memorial of St. Augustine)

- Today is the memorial of Saint Augustine -- a most influential scholar saint. His story offers us much by way of inspiration. From Catholic Online: *Augustine's turnaround and conversion have inspired many who struggle with a particular vice they long to break.*

This son of St. Monica was born in Africa and spent years in wicked living. One of the most intelligent men who ever lived and brought up Christian, his sins of impurity and pride darkened his mind. Through prayers of his mother and St. Ambrose's preaching, Augustine became convinced that Christianity was the true religion. Yet he did not become a Christian because he thought he could never live a pure life. One day he heard about two men who had converted, and he felt terribly ashamed. "What are we doing?" he cried to his

friend. "Unlearned people are taking Heaven by force, while we, with all our knowledge, are so cowardly that we keep rolling around in the mud of our sins!"

Augustine flung himself out to the garden and cried, "How long more, O Lord? Why does not this hour put an end to my sins?" Then he heard a child singing, "Take and read!" Thinking that God intended him to hear those words, he picked up the Letters of St. Paul, and read the first passage. It was just what he needed, for in it, St. Paul says to put away all impurity and to live in imitation of Jesus. That did it! From then on, Augustine began a new life.

He was baptized, became a priest, bishop, famous Catholic writer, Founder of religious orders, and a great saint. On the wall of his room he had the following written in large letters: "Here we do not speak evil of anyone." Augustine overcame heresies, practiced poverty, supported the poor, preached often and prayed with great fervor until his death. His holy life made up for the sins he committed before his conversion. The following prayer by Augustine is beautiful:

Late have I loved You, O Beauty so ancient and so new, late have I loved You! For behold, you were within me and I outside, and I sought you outside. In my unloveliness, I fell upon these lovely things that you had made. Thou were with me and I was not with You. I was kept from You by those things, yet had they not been from You, they would not have been at all. You did call and cry to me to break open my deafness. I tasted You, and now hunger and thirst for You; You touched me, and I burn for Your peace.

- **This Day in History:** In 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivers his "I Have a Dream" speech – one of the best known in US History, second only to Lincoln's 1863 "Gettysburg Address" – on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to about 250,000 people attending the March on Washington. He ended his stirring 16-minute speech with his vision of the fruit of racial harmony: "When we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!" The speech is worth a Youtube view.



Seniors proudly display rings following Ring Ceremony.

- **Happy Birthday Brother Ralph:** In honor of his birthday yesterday, Brother Ralph has requested that we give the students a treat. I'm happy to oblige, and Brother Ralph and some of the retired Brothers will distribute popsicles to the students today during lunch in front of the Retired Brothers Residence.
- **Shadow Day**
- **Football:** 8th grade meet the team tonight @6pm in the New gym.

Wed, Aug 29 (Regular; A B C D; mass at 7:15 – come join us)

- **TDIH:** In 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastates south Louisiana and floods the New Orleans. We remain grateful to the incredible support from so many people who helped in the aftermath of the storm to welcome displaced students, care for our own students, and keep hope alive on our campus -- all while dealing with their own issues and challenges. Their work at that difficult time was in the finest tradition of heroic Lasallian education.
- **TDIH:** In 2012, Tropical Storm Isaac bashes south LA; SPS closes for four days!
- **More Herbs, Less Salt Day:** Pretty self-explanatory! Stay healthy!
- **President's Annual Fund Dinner:** Tonight we will thank our \$1000 and over donors with a special dinner in the BAC. The talks by the Student Hosts are always a hit with the guests. We are humbled by the number of people who contribute at this level.
- **Football:** 9th/JV at Fontainebleau (5:30)

Thu, Aug 30 (Regular; E F G A)

- **TDIH:** In 1893, Huey Pierce Long ("The Kingfish") was born in Winnfield, LA.
- **TDIH:** In 1967, the US Senate confirmed Thurgood Marshall as the first African-American Supreme Court justice.
- **National Marshmallow Toasting Day:** OK, you were healthy yesterday with less salt, so you can splurge today and toast a marshmallow. Or make some 'smares for the family!
- **Slinky Day:** The humble Slinky was invented in the 1940's by Navy engineer Richard James. It proved an immediate hit, quickly became one of our favorite toys. **Slinky Day** should be spent doing slinky tricks, watching Slinkies race down staircases, or untangling the things as they inevitably knot, twist and spiral! Dig out your Slinky!
- **Frankenstein Day:** This day is in honor of author Mary Wollenstone Shelley who was born on August 30, 1797. She wrote the novel Frankenstein in 1818.
- **Cross Country Time Trials and Meet the Team**
- **Swimming:** Time trials at PAC
- **Football:** 8th v. Boyet (6)



Students enjoy viewing yearbooks during Pack Time.

Fri, Aug 31 (Pep Rally Schedule; B C D E)

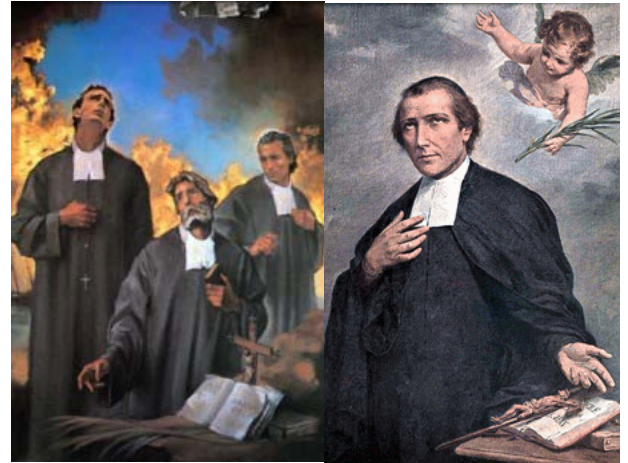
- **TDIH:** In 1997, Diana, Princess of Wales, dies in a car crash in Paris.
- **Love Litigating Lawyers Day.** Give your favorite litigator a big 'ol hug today – and hope you aren't sued!
- **Trail Mix Day:** Trail mix is a high-energy snack comprised of dried fruits, nuts and energy snacks, designed to keep you alert and energized when walking, hiking, and partaking in similar endurance and intense activities. **Trail Mix Day** is all about creating good trail mix and testing it out. After yesterday's marshmallows, eat healthy today!
- **Football:** Varsity v. Edna Karr in season opener (7)

Sat, Sep 1

- **TDIH:** In 1830, “Mary Had a Little Lamb” was first published. Can you recite it from memory?
- **TDIH:** In 1939, 1.5 million German soldiers invade Poland, thus beginning WW II
- **Cherry Popover Day:** Enjoy!

Sun, Sep 2 Attend church today. We encourage our Catholic Families to attend mass as a family today. We encourage non-Catholic families to worship at place of choice.

- **TDIH:** In 1790, Brother Solomon, FSC, is martyred by French authorities bent on Church suppression. The Christian Brothers Website says that once Louis XVI & Marie Antoinette were overthrown, the next target was the Church. In 1790, the state took over the French Church. To function, priests & religious had to swear support. Most Christian Brothers refused and had to abandon schools and disband. Eventually, the Institute was deprived of legal status – ironic since the Institute began in France. Brothers Solomon, Roger, Leon & Uldaric were imprisoned for refusing to take the oath. Solomon was executed on Sep 2. Roger, Leon & Uldaric later died while confined in prison ships. Because of such heroism, Brother Solomon was made a saint last year and the others are beatified – one step away from official sainthood. May their heroic lives give us strength in times of difficulty! May their devotion to Christian education inspire all of us!
- **TDIH:** In 1945, The Empire of Japan officially signs the Instrument of Surrender at 9:04 am aboard the USS Missouri, anchored in Tokyo Bay. Although Emperor Hirohito had announced on Aug 15 Japan’s intention to unconditionally surrender following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the official surrender ceremony did not occur until over two weeks later, and thus President Truman marked 2nd September as the official **V-J Day**. It is estimated that anywhere from 60 to 80 million people died during World War II, on all sides of the conflict. **V-J Day** should thus be seen as not only the celebration of the defeat of the tyrannical Japanese government of the time, but also the remembrance of those who lost their lives.
- **National Blueberry Popsicle Day:** Enjoy a Popsicle today! Popsicles were invented in 1905 by 11 year-old Frank Epperson. He accidentally left a stirring stick in a fruit-flavored drink on his porch one winter night. In the morning, it was frozen into an icy treat. He first named this delight the “Epsicle.” This name was changed 18 years later.
- **National Bacon Day (Sat before Labor Day):** Go ahead and spurge with the favorite!



Mon, Sep 3 – Labor Day Holiday

- **TDIH:** In 1783, the American Revolution officially ends when representatives of the United States, Great Britain, Spain & France sign The Treaty of Paris, signifying America's status as a free nation.
- **TDIH II:** In 1752, British citizens “lost” 11 days when the United Kingdom “left” the Julian calendar and adopted the Gregorian calendar, already in effect in the rest of the world (you know those independent British!) As a result, Sep 3 instantly became Sep 14 simply by an Act of Parliament. The people were outraged and demanded their 11 days back. Moral: make the most of each day God gives us; while it’s a shame to lose a day, it’s even worse to waste it.

I offer the following in alphabetical order, not necessarily order of importance.



Habitat Wolves recruit new members at Get Involved Day.

Admissions Season for 2019-20: No, this is not a misprint. The admissions process for NEXT year begins on Tuesday with our first Shadow Day – which ! Shadow Days have become very important in causing students to choose SPS as their first choice school. If you know a student interested in SPS next year, encourage him to attend a Shadow Day. Just call the office to sign up.

Assignment Hall: AH is in full swing. Students are sent to AH if they report to class without their homework. They will stay in AH after school until they finish the homework. AH is not a punishment but a helping structure. Please stress with your son the need to complete his homework on time and to bring it to class.

Attendance: Please comply with our attendance regulations as printed in the handbook, which we have

posted on our website. This is especially true when a student is absent or needs to check out during the day.



Benilde Hall: We have occupancy for the second and third floors from the State Fire Marshall and the City of Covington – after extensive renovation of Benilde Hall. The first floor and outside areas will need a few more

weeks. The wait is well worth it. More classrooms, more new restrooms, an elevator, improved lighting and HVAC, additional ingress and egress, improved HVAC, student services, and more. In case you don't know its history, Benilde Hall was built in 1959 under the principalship/presidency of the late Brother Cassian Lange. The second and third floors were open dormitories for 6th and 7th grades. The bottom floor contained study halls and recreation rooms. When SPS dropped 6th grade, the first two floors were converted into classrooms. Interesting trivia: Trevor had one of those non-air conditioned classrooms and bought a window unit – making it one of the few air-conditioned classrooms on campus. It was cool but that unit was loud! The third floor remained a dormitory for 7th grade. When we dropped 7th grade, the third floor became the band room! (Imagine lugging all those instruments up three flights of stairs!) The current band room was a rec hall for the boarders. When the number of boarders started dropping, we moved the rec hall into La Salle Hall and converted the third floor to classrooms. And now we begin the latest (and last – at least for me!) incarnation of that storied (pun) building! Saint Benilde! Help us turn that ordinary building into an extraordinary one!

Media Area (Wolf Den)	SOLD
Retail Area	SOLD
Computer Lab (Br. Ray's Classroom)	SOLD
Video Production Studio (Guerilla Wolves, News Broadcast)	\$50,000
Publishing Room (Paper Wolf, Yearbook)	\$20,000
Campus Minister's Office	SOLD
5 Display Cases	SOLD
Outdoor Covered Patio with Seating	SOLD

2nd Floor -

Spanish Classrooms (3 still available)	\$15,000 each
Faculty Office	Sold

3rd Floor -

Religion Classrooms	All sold
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Freshman Football Players proudly wear their jerseys on game day.

- Contact Danielle in the Development Office or me if you are interested in one of these naming opportunities. I am most grateful to those who have already responded.

Bookstore: The bookstore will open on Monday before the new parent orientation from 5:00 - 6:15. The new supply of PE shorts has arrived. Thanks, Mothers' Club! And here are the regular hours:

- M – F: 7:30 am - 8:15 am
- M – F: 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
- Also by appointment. Email spsbookstore@gmail.com.
- **PLEASE patronize the MC's Bookstore.** Proceeds not help fund wonderful activities throughout the year and campus needs. For example, the MC funded over \$40,000 worth of school projects this past year.

Cell Phones:

- State Law: Motorists are prohibited from using any type of hand held wireless communications device while traveling through schools zones during posted hours. The law includes use of a cellular/wireless device for engaging in a voice call, accessing, reading, or posting to a social networking site, and/or writing, sending, or reading a text-based communication. The school zone cell phone ban does not apply if the device is being used to report an emergency, is being used in a hands-free manner, or while the vehicle is lawfully parked. Upon first violation of the school zone ban the fine is \$175, subsequent violations can be up to \$500, and if a crash occurs during the time of the violation, fines can be increased.
- SPS Law: students may use their phones during lunch but only outside. If you need to call or text your son, do so during the lunch hour. Disciplinary action and fines will continue for violation of this policy. With our campus wide wi-fi, he can use his phone to surf the internet if needed. And, yes, our security firewalls are in effect



Centennial Celebration: On Saturday, July 28th, hundreds of people filled St. Louis Cathedral to celebrate with the Christian Brothers of the San Francisco New Orleans District on the 100th anniversary of the Brothers' continuous service in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The assembled included three archbishops, numerous priests, over 30 Brothers (including General Counselor Brother Tim Coldwell, all the way from Rome), affiliated members, students from the four Lasallian schools in the Archdiocese, and many, many alumni and parents of students, past and present. Following a very moving mass, guests were invited to visit a special centennial collection at the Old Ursuline Convent, tracing the last 100 years. Following that, guests were invited to a special celebration on the Steamboat Natchez, which cruised the Mississippi River – showing our Brothers from the West what Southern hospitality and celebration is all about. It was a magical day. Special thanks for former SPS Vice President for Development, Brother Gale Condit, who was

responsible for organizing the events of the day, and to the many generous benefactors who underwrote the celebration. Ad multos annos, Lasallian education in the Archdiocese of New Orleans! BTW, the Ursuline Convent display will remain for the entire month of Aug.

Centennial Tidbit Celebrating 100 Year of Christian Brothers at SPS: The second entry is also from Brother Alton Pierre, dated February 14, 1918, as he was searching for a suitable school for himself and the other French refugees. Remember that the French brothers had been exiled from France in 1904, went to Mexico and were chased out by revolutionaries in 1916. They were in various parts of the United States, anxious to reunite in a school. Brother Alton writes the following to his superiors in Europe about other possible sites for schools if they don't settle in Covington:

The director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs answered my letter. He tells me that he has always wanted to have French Brothers for his schools. He invites me to go to Washington to make me known of his projects. I also wrote to the Bishop of Mobile. I will go there any day next week....After, I am thinking of going to New Iberia and perhaps to San Antonio if this will help my work. [The Benedictines] say that if we cannot buy, they would like us to give them French brothers as teachers...to whom they would give living arrangements for the summer and will receive bed and board and get rather well paid. I believe we will have enough work without getting to this point.

Again, we give thanks that the Brothers finally decided to purchase Saint Paul's – although they would eventually open schools in New Iberia and San Antonio, too, but not Mobile or on Indian reservations! Thank you, Founding Brothers!



Faithful student hosts help at New Parent Welcome!

Edline: What are you reading this for? Edline is history! Scroll below and read about PlusPortals, which has taken Edline's place in the life of our school.

Extracurricular Activities: Clubs and teams have begun forming. Get Involved Day, which will introduce our students to a wide variety of activities, will be on Aug 21. . Representatives from all clubs, sports, organizations etc. will have displays and sign up materials during the lunch period. Students can talk to

representatives from these clubs, etc. and decide if they wish to join. Encourage your son to get involved. So far we've had callouts for all sorts of activities. Research shows correlations between academic achievement and extracurricular involvement. So far, we've had call outs for football, cross country, swimming, the Guerilla Wolves Video Club, the Liturgical Band, the Marching Wolves, the Paper Wolf Newspaper, Student Hosts – to name just a few.

Grandparent Day: Our annual Grandparent Day will take place on Friday, Oct 12, beginning at 11:30 and lasts about 90 minutes. If your son's grandparents are interested, please inform them of the date and time. Thanks!



Marching Wolves recruit on Get Involved Day! WE have 90+ MWs, but want 100!

Homecoming Dances:

- 8th and 9th grade Homecoming Dance will be held Saturday, September 22 in the BAC from 7-9PM.
- 10th/11th/12th Homecoming Dance will be held in the BAC Saturday, September 29 from 7-9:30PM.
- Any St. Paul's student who wishes to attend must complete a registration form that includes his date's signature and contact information. This form, along with details about the dance and dress code, may be found on the school website, on Plus Portals in a link on the calendar, or in room 107. Forms and payment

are due the Wed prior to the dance. Professional photography is available at the dance. Photo order forms will also be available in room 107 so students may arrive at the dance with forms and payment completed.



Josh, Jack, Riley, Ethan, Ben, and Sam all stood for Pre-freshman class officers and gave GREAT talks! I am very proud of them for willing to run for office and serve their class. They are all winners!

ID Cards and Lanyards: Students MUST wear their ID cards on their lanyards EVERY DAY. This is part of our enhanced safety plan to insure that only SPS students are on campus during the school day. Parents – please stress this with your sons and insist that they comply. If your son loses his ID, he may purchase a new one for \$10 by seeing Sgt. Pressley in the Administration Building.

Information: Need More Information? For academic issues, contact teachers, counselors, Principal Trevor Watkins, or Assistant Principal Joe Dickens. For discipline, attendance, or dress code questions, call Mr. Ken Sears, Dean of

Students. Finances? Call Mrs. Jo Sutherlin or me. Athletics? Contact the coaches or Mr. Craig Ketelsen, Athletic Director. Naturally, call me if I can help. **My office phone is 985/892-3200, x 1001 & my cell phone is 985/966-1138, my email is broray@stpauls.com or hit “reply” to this email!**

Handbook Signature Card: The signed cards are now overdue!

Jazz ‘n Roll: J n R XXVII is Sat evening, Nov 10. If you have questions, auction items and/or would like to work at J n R, call Shellie Campo at 892-3200, ext. 1273. More info to come, but mark your calendars!

Last Week Musings:

- **Dads’ Club:** A great showing for our first meeting of the year! Thanks, SPS Dads’ Club for all you do.
- **DOTEW (Doing Ordinary Things Extraordinarily Well):** Hope your son is striving to follow St. Benilde’s path to sainthood!
- **Drama Auditions** went very well, with a large number of students auditioning. The Marian Players are in good hands with Gordon Carmadelle
- **Get Involved Day:** Thanks to all who participated. Lots and lots of involvement!
- **Jamboree:** Thanks to Craig, Kenny, the FB Wolves, Marching Wolves, Band Boosters, Ticket Takers, and all who helped Fri evening as we highlighted our common Lasallian heritage with Rummel.



Pensive seniors await start of March through the Arch.

- **New Parent Reception:** onday's reception/info meeting was well attended and received. Thanks to the Development Team who coordinated the evening.
- **Physicals:** Thanks to Covington Orthopedics for providing free physicals for our students on Saturday! We appreciate this important service to our students.
- **SAT Administration:** Again, the only problems were on the test.
- **Senior Week:** Thanks to all who helped make the Senior BBQ, the March through Arch, Senior Breakfast, Unity Day, and Senior Ring Ceremony so successful. Shout outs to the MC, Don Pressley, the maintenance staff, Paul Scoriels, senior parents and Shellie Campo. **Special thanks to Mr. Rick Gonzalez, manager of Chick-fil-A at the HWY 190 location, for donating the sandwiches for the Unity Day lunch.**
- **Student Council:** Pre-freshman elections had GREAT candidates! It was a shame any had to lose. Congrats to Pre-freshman Pres Ben Barousse and VP Jack Vincent. And thanks to candidates Josh Achord, Sam Gold, Riley Hidalgo, and Ethan Wilson for excellent campaign speeches and willingness to serve!
- **Wolf Packs:** I enjoyed meeting my Wolf Pack and hope your son did, too. My seniors are ready to run the Wolf Pack, and I'm happy to turn it over to them.
- **Yearbooks:** Congrats to Mimi and Yearbook Staff for EXCELLENT yearbook and distribution system!

Lost & Found: Lunch boxes, uniform shirts, books, shoes – all sorts of things are being left behind on campus – almost all with no names on them. Please stress with your sons to need to keep track of his belongings. Putting his name on items helps, too. Lost & Found cabinet is located outside of the Attendance Office.



Nick, Cole, & Jacob enjoy Chick-fil-A lunch on Senior Unity Day, courtesy of Chick-fil-A on Hwy 190. Thanks, Mr. Rick Gonzalez!

Mini-Schedule Night for Parents (6:30 on Sep 04): Beginning at 6:30 PM on Sept 04, we will hold our annual Parent Mini Schedule Night. Parents will follow their son's academic schedule, with each period lasting 10 minutes. Teachers will give a brief overview of the class. We get positive reviews on this night, so we encourage parents to attend and meet the teachers personally. This is NOT a night for extended parent-teacher discussions so please do not come expecting that. Individual conferences/contact can be set up for later dates. Hope you can make this informative evening.

News We Can Use:

- NPR had a story last week on how to sit correctly. It's worth the brief read – or at least looking at the graphic. I know I'm paying attention to this advice! Here's the link:
https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2018/08/13/636025077/to-fix-that-pain-in-your-back-you-might-have-to-change-the-way-you-sit?utm_source=npr_newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=20180819&utm_campaign=&utm_term=

Office Depot: Make sure you give SPS's name whenever you check out at Office Depot.

Open House for Prospective Students will take place on Saturday, Oct 27, at 1 pm starting in the Briggs Assembly Center. Spread the word! Parents and students are our best publicity! People would much rather listen to you than to me!

Paper Wolf: Please read The Paper Wolf! (www.thepaperwolf.com) I do! We've got an outstanding, AWARD WINNING digital newspaper!



Compliment the outstanding staff. Subscribe! Support the future of journalism! Geaux Paper Wolves!

PlusPortals: Please activate your account and check Edline regularly for important info about your son's grades and SPS life. *Call Mike Holmes, Edline administrator, at 892-3200, ext. 1044 if you need assistance.* And please adjust your setting to allow you to receive emails from school. It's very annoying when we get an Edline email with a question but your setting won't accept our response.

Safety Week: This week is VERY important as we practice our safety procedures. We will have drills in for tornados. Fire, intruder, and evacuation. We pray that they are never needed, but we will be vigilant and prepared.

Senior Graduation Supplies: Seniors received ordering packets last Thursday from Balfour, the school's vendor for these supplies (graduation announcements, name cards, etc.) Senior parents, note the following:

- You do not have to order anything; this is strictly optional.
- Graduation announcements are exactly that – announcements. They are NOT invitations to the ceremony. **On the last day of your son's senior year, he will be given EIGHT (8) tickets to the ceremony. No ticket – no admission.** If you will need more, start seeking out those who do not need the full 8.
- You do not order caps and gowns. These are provided by the school.
- Order forms and deposit are due this Friday, Aug 31, as Balfour reps will be on campus during lunch.

Senior Rings: Josten's will be on campus on Thu, Aug 30 during lunch to address problems with senior rings.

Shadow Days: Our first Shadow Day is this Tuesday, Aug 29. It is almost full. And our other Shadow Days are filling up, too. Encourage anyone you know who may be interested to call for a reservation at 892-3200. Thanks for spreading the good word about SPS!

Silent Sustained Reading: Each day, we do daily SSR (Sustained Silent Reading) during the first 15 minutes of Block 2. Everyone in the school (students, teachers, administrators, and staff) reads silently for 15 minutes. This is not a time for homework, tutoring, studying textbooks or doing assigned reading, but for making reading a school-wide priority by reading for pleasure. We hope to develop a population of self-motivated readers. The program was created over 30 years ago at the University of Vermont and over the years has resulted in increased vocabulary development, reading fluency and comprehension, writing quality, improved standardized test scores, increased background knowledge on a wide range of topics, and increased reading time out of school. We instruct students to bring their own reading material but we will have classrooms stocked with magazines, novels, short stories, etc. Help your son prepare for this initiative and have him come prepared on Monday and every day thereafter. **You might want to consider initiating a family SSR time, too!**



Social Media: Connect with the Wolves on Social Media to see the latest pictures and posts of all the wonderful events at St. Paul's School. The Facebook and Twitter feeds are on our newly re-vamped website, or you can follow us at

Facebook @St.Pauls.School.Covington.Louisiana

Twitter @SPSWolfpack

Social Media II: Parents, please speak with your sons about responsible social media use. Inappropriate postings can have legal ramifications. In addition, SPS reserves the right to impose consequences on our students who misuse social media.



Wolves on Wheels recruit new members on Get Involved Day by displaying some of the cars they have built.

Student Email Addresses: We issued each student a unique Saint Paul's email address through which we will communicate with him. If a student asks about how to get to his new email, there's a link on Edline in the bottom right, it says **St. Paul's Gmail access**. The temporary password for all students is **stpauls1**.

Student Services: From Mary Pierson, Director of Student Services: *We believe a student's health is a priority, and we understand the importance of staying current in classes. In the spirit of good health and safety, we have a system to assist students with illnesses and injuries that require some accommodations for a time. After any absence, all students should provide a note to Ms Suzy in the Attendance Office (Main School Building.) A student returning to school after a surgery, accident or debilitating illness, who may need some adjustments to his academic routine, should also check in with the Office of Student Services (LaSalle Hall.) He should provide his doctor's instructions for continued care or recovery and any significant dates, such as*

treatment changes or endings. The Office of Student Services notifies teachers and insures a student's safe access to classes. When necessary, teachers construct an academic recovery plan for which Student Services acts as a clearinghouse. If you have concerns regarding your son's return to school following an injury or illness, please contact Ms. Pierson, the Student Services Coordinator via email: maryp1@stpauls.com or call the extension: 4103.

Traffic Flow on Campus: If you drop off or pick up your son, you will meet congestion on the roadways in the morning and afternoon around our campus. We ask your help in improving the traffic flow and safety:

- Consider an alternate pick up location for your son other than Founder's Circle. These include the drop off area by the Gene Bennett Sports Complex, the parking lot on the corner of 13th and Jefferson St. or the parking lot at LaSalle Hall on 11th Avenue. You can drive through these parking lots or wait in a parking space there without holding up traffic elsewhere.
- DO NOT pick up your son using the shoulder of 11th Avenue. This is a dangerous area with poor visibility and further backs up traffic when you stop to load or unload.
- If you use the LaSalle Drive (main entrance) car line, please wait to the left so that thru traffic can still move through our campus using the right lane.
- Coordinate with your son about where and when you will meet him in the afternoon. If he is not present when you drive through, please proceed to a parking lot and wait for him there. If you stop in the car line to wait, you are holding up all cars behind you.
- Remind your son to be on the lookout for your car as you drive up.
- Our primary concern is safety, so please adhere to all speed limit and traffic rules in the school area. We are working closely with the Covington Police Department to find solutions to traffic around school. Working together, we can improve both safety and circulation around our campus.

Suite Special

\$159

Suit, Shirt, Tie

Free Alterations for Life

Tuxedos to Geaux will be at St. Paul's in the Lobby of Briggs

for anyone interested in buying a suit for Homecoming

Wednesday, Aug. 29th during Lunch (11-12:30)

Wednesday, Sept. 5th at dismissal (3:00-4:30)

choose from BLACK, NAVY, CHARCOAL or INDIGO Two piece suit, white shirt and a selection of ties

Weekly Humor

- *What tops Frankenstein's ice cream Sundae? Whipped scream!*
- *How does Frankenstein go around town? In a monster truck!*
- *Why did Frankenstein go to the dance? To see the boogiemani!*
- *What does Frankenstein do when the school bell rings? He bolts!*



Max '15 & Sam '23 congratulate Jackson '19 after he marched through the arch. BTW, Max will graduate this year from Washington and Lee!

- *Why did Frankenstein attend school with a witch? To learn how to spell!*
- *What is Frankenstein's favorite baseball team? The Frankees!*
- *What is Frankenstein's favorite dessert? Ice-scream!*
- *What is Frankenstein's favorite party game? Hide and go shriek!*
- *What did Frankenstein say after lightning struck him? I needed that!*
- *Who brings babies to Transylvanian monsters? Frankenstork!*
- *Why did Frankenstein tip toe past the camping store? To not wake the sleeping bags!*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

Yearbooks: The Conifer 2018 yearbooks were distributed during pack time on Tuesday to positive reviews. If your son was absent on Tuesday, please have him see Ms. Mimi Monteiro in the Development Office during lunch this week to pick up his pre-ordered yearbook.

A Look Ahead – Far, Far, Ahead:

- Mon, Sep 03 Labor Day Holiday
- Tue, Sep 04 Parent Mini-Schedule Night (a change from Aug 27 as printed on some calendars)
- Thu, Sep 13 All School Mass in honor of the Centennial Arrival of the Christian Brothers to SPS
- Sat, Sep 15 SPS Math Tournament
- Sat, Sep 22 Homecoming Dance (grades 8 & 9)
- Sat, Sep 29 Homecoming Dance (grades 10, 11 & 12)
- Tue, Oct 02 On-campus ACT for seniors
- Fri, Oct 05 Fall break holiday; SPS Alumni Golf Tournament
- Fri, Oct 12 End of 1st quarter; 11 dismissal followed by Grandparent Day
- Mon, Oct 22 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Sat, Oct 27 Open House for Prospective Students
- Thu, Nov 01 All School Mass (Feast of All Saints)
- Mon, Nov 5 Archdiocesan Retreat Day for all schools; no classes for students
- Sat, Nov 10 Jazz 'n Roll
- M – F, Nov 19 – 23 Thanksgiving Holidays
- Thu, Dec 06 Luminarias
- Wed, Dec 19 End of 1st Semester; Christmas holidays begin at 11:45 following last exam
- Mon, Jan 07 Classes resume; second semester begins
- W – F, Jan 9-11 Senior Retreat
- Sat, Jan 12 Application Day for Prospective Students (8 – noon); Football Awards Ceremony
- Fri, Jan 25 All School Mass (Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul)
- Wed, Feb 20 On campus ACT for juniors
- Fri, Mar 01 Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
- M-F, Mar 4 -8 Mardi Gras /Beginning of Lent holidays
- Wed, Mar 13 Mother-Son Dinner
- Mon, Mar 18 St. Joseph Altar Day
- Thu, Mar 21 Celebrity Dinner Event

- Sat, Mar 23 Father-Son Dinner
- Sat, Mar 30 Junior-Senior Prom
- Sat, Apr 13 Alumni Crawfish Cook-Off
- F-F, Apr 19-26 Easter Holidays (not “spring break”)
- W-F, May 1-3 Senior exams
- M-T, May 13-16 Pre-freshman exams
- Fri, May 17 Pre-freshman promotion ceremony (6:30 pm)
- Sat, May 18 Senior graduation ceremony (4 pm)
- M – T, May 20-23 Semester exams for grades 9 – 11
- Fri., May 24 Conflict exam day
- Mon, May 27 Faculty Records Day

- In case of emergency closings, we will make up days from scheduled holidays.
Note that school begins with all students reporting on Thursday, August 9th at 8:00 am for a full instructional day. Also, please check the calendar for vacation dates and do not schedule vacations in conflict with school. Thank you for recognizing the need to make the most use of our academic time.

Whew! That’s enough for now! I’m sure I’ve forgotten something so email me if you still have a question about the opening of school.

As usual, I’ll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I’m listening to as I write and LOLing): well, it’s happened again – you’ve squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Pray that we continue to have a good beginning! Thanks for being part of Saint Paul’s! May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and call on me if I can help!



HOSA (for future health professionals) recruits new members at Get Involved Day!



Seniors surround statue of Saint John Baptist de La Salle to sing Fight Song following March through the Arch.

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC
 Can't Believe It's the Last Week of Aug and I'm Still 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

“Preach by example, and practice before the eyes of the young what you wish them to accept.”
 ~ St. John Baptist De La Salle (Meditation 99.2)

Have a great Lasallian Opening ...by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, doing God's will, remaining faithful, being guided to God, and continuing the Lasallian Mission!

