



## *The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter* *September 19 - 25, 2016 in the Jubilee Year of Mercy*



Welcome to Founder's Week. This week, our Lasallian Young Leaders will help us celebrate the educational giant who founded the Brothers of the Christian Schools and whose work we continue today at SPS. They have activities planned for us this week, and I am most grateful for all of their hard work. Each day has a Lasallian Core Principle as a theme, and activities of the day revolve around that theme.

The LYLs moved Founder's Week to the fall for several reasons: increased chance of better weather (remember the terrible spring storm on Field Day three years ago?) and the already crowded springtime field of activities. Plus, by focusing on our Founder now, we have three quarters to better implement his vision!

I shared the following words of St. John Baptist de La Salle with the faculty in their newsletter and encouraged them to use these words of St. La Salle to inspire them in their work. Again, I respectfully suggest that the words are equally applicable to your work as parents:

- *It is God who has called you to this form of service;*
- *Every day God calls you anew to the needs these children have;*
- *It is God's own work that he entrusts to you;*
- *Your presence among young people brings salvation to them;*
  - *Be satisfied with what you can do, since God is satisfied with it, but do not spare yourself in what you can do with grace; and believe that, if you want it, you can do more with the grace of God than you think.*
- *In you, and through your ministry, these children encounter God, who knows each of them by name, who loves them, and who goes out searching endlessly for those who have gone astray.*

By the way, the image of St. La Salle above is from an original oil painting that hangs in the Counseling Center. It was painted by famous Louisiana folk artist Eddie Mormon, known for his distinctive style of vivid colors, lots of paint, and use of a knife, not a brush for bold strokes. It was commissioned by a former SPS student who left here before he graduated – but remains grateful for SPS.

**Please pray this week that we may live up the Lasallian Mission of education.  
Thanks for entrusting your son to Saint Paul's School!**

**Mon, Sep 19 (Regular schedule; Founder's Week Begins; see below for schedule; E F G A)**

- **International Talk like a Pirate Day:** Avast & Ahoy all pirate wanna bees! Shiver your timbers today! Arrr!

**Tue, Sep 20 (Pack Time; B C D E)**

- **This Day in History:** In 1519, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan sets sail, leading the first exploration to circumnavigate the world. Magellan dies before the journey is completed and the ship returns a year later.

- **Punch Day:** Have a glass of punch today! The word *punch* means *five*, originating from the Hindustani word *panch*. It celebrates the traditional punch base recipe of 5 key ingredients, which most punches still use - alcohol (usually spirits), lemon (or other fruits), sugar, water, and tea (or other spices, e.g., cinnamon). For our students, though, use only four of the five ingredients – I think you can figure out which one I'm not recommending for students.
- **International Eat an Apple Day:** No explanation needed! Enjoy & wash it down with punch

**Wed, Sep 21 (No 7 am Mass today due to Priests Convocation in NO; Assembly; Feast of St. Matthew; F G A B)**

- **TDIH:** In 1779, the Louisiana governor Bernardo de Galvez, aided by American troops and militia, captures the British post at Baton Rouge, located in what was then British-controlled West Florida.
- **International Peace Day.** Let's all do our part by at least keeping peace locally!
- **World Gratitude Day:** We should be grateful EVERY day, but be extra grateful today!



- The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual International Lasallian Days for Peace (ILDP) begin today and run until Oct 21. The theme this year is: *Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God* (Matthew 5:9). The month long observance encourages study, reflection, prayer, and action. As former Superior General Brother Alvaro Rodriguez Echeverria said concerning ILDP: *Peace is possible if each of us gets involved. It is possible when we place persons above things. It is possible if we make God's plan for humankind our own plan.* **May this event bring peace and love, especially to families who need it most!** I invite you to join the Retired Brothers who daily pray the following, official Lasallian Prayer for Peace: *We pray to You, Lord, God of life and God of those who hope! Listen to our prayer for the*

*whole world, for peace among all peoples, for prosperity in all lands. We pray to You that evil may be overcome and that all wars may end. We pray to you especially for the members of our Lasallian Family, who suffer from war, injustice and intolerance and for the children and young people who are poor and neglected. We pray too, God, for peace in our lives; in our towns, in our schools, in our families and in our own hearts. We pray for a peace that the world cannot give us. We pray for a peace that will make us whole and transform us into ambassadors of justice for your sake. Lord, give us Your peace!*

- **Football:** 9<sup>th</sup> & JV v. Northshore (5:30)

**Thu, Sep 22 (Special Assembly; C D E F)**

- Today we mark the **Feast of the Blessed Christian Brother Martyrs of Valencia**. In 1936, five Christian Brothers (Florencio, Bertran, Ambrosio, Elisas, & Honorato) were martyred for their faith. When religious persecution began in Spain, they were arrested and executed. Even though they knew that being Brothers result in death, they did not hesitate in admitting their Faith and that they were Brothers of the Christian Schools. These five Brothers, beatified by Pope John Paul II, followed Jesus in the vocation to which He had called them: to bring salvation to young people by giving a human and Christian education. May their faith inspire us, their heroism edify us, and their devotion to young people cause us to redouble our efforts with our students! ***Blessed Christian Brother Martyrs of Valencia! Pray for us!***



- **TDIH:** The ice cream cone debuted today in 1903 & the band aid in 1920! Where would we be without these?
- **TDIH:** In 1776, during the American Revolution, Nathan Hale was executed without trial after caught spying on the British. His famous last words? “I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.” Thank you, Nathan!
- **TDIH:** In 2015, Pope Francis began a six day visit to the US. The Pope visited Washington, DC, New York and Philadelphia. He became the first Pope to address a joint session of Congress and he also addressed the General Assembly of the United Nations.
- **TDIH:** In 2005, after having re-opened from Katrina, we closed school to brace for Hurricane Rita. While spared Rita’s brunt, many in our area suffered additional damage, while the southwest part of LA took a major hit. We continue to pray for those healing from Rita's wrath.
- **The Autumnal Equinox,** when the sun crosses the equator from North to South, occurs today at 09:21 a.m., CDT. Fall officially begins! In the Southern Hemisphere, spring officially begins. Play Antonio Vivaldi’s incredible “Autumn” from his *Four Seasons Suite!* In Japan, the Autumnal Equinox is a holiday to mark the new season and to pay respects to deceased parents and relatives. How meaningful! Marvel at God’s wonderful creation today, anticipate the cool coming months, and remember deceased loved ones.
- **White Chocolate Day:** Go ahead and indulge!
- **Elephant Appreciation Day:** Celebrate the elephant today and learn something about these Endearing, Loyal, Elegant, Powerful, Heavy, Amusing, Noble, and Talented creatures. (get it?)
- **Football:** Pre-freshmen at John Curtis (6 pm at Delta Playground) & pre-district BBQ for varsity
- **Swimming:** Aqua Wolves in Fontainebleau invitational at PAC

### Fri, Sep 23 (Field Day; G A)

- **Checkers Day:** This day, begun on the anniversary of former Vice President Richard Nixon’s “Checkers Speech” (look it up, history buffs!), has morphed into a celebration of the game of checkers. Enjoy a game or two today!
- **Innergize Day:** Today is the day to set time aside for yourself to do anything you want to do. OK to observe, but don’t let it interfere with any of your obligations, especially students to their classes!
- **Football:** Varsity at Northshore (7) as Wolves begin drive to repeat as District Champs



*Nathan meditates as Luke Barwick’s junior religion class practices meditative prayer*

### Sat, Sep 24

- **TDIH:** In 1957, President Dwight Eisenhower ordered the National Guard to enforce racial integration of schools in Little Rock, Arkansas.



*Happy Birthday, Bro. Alfred!*

- **National Punctuation Day:** Let’s all punctuate our writing correctly! I plan on celebrating! Here’s a great website to help: <http://www.nationalpunctuationday.com>.
- **Eat Dinner with Your Children Day:** Started by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia Univ, this day informs parents that the engagement fostered during frequent family dinners is an effective tool to help keep America’s kids substance abuse free. *Dinner Makes A Difference!*
- **Happy Birthday Brother Alfred,** who turns 94 years young today. We value his presence as a member of our retired Brothers Community. We offer him prayer and best wishes. We thank him for his life as a Christian Brother in the cause of Lasallian education, especially at SPS, where he has labored for so many years of his religious life.

*Ad multos annos, Brother Alfred! Thank you for your life as a Christian Brother!*

- **Cross Country:** Wolves run in Holy Cross/Dominican meet in New Orleans.

- **Jr Hi (8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>) Homecoming Dance in the BAC**

**Sun, Sep 25 – We encourage all to worship today, especially Catholics to attend mass as a family.**

- **TDIH:** In 1513, Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa first sighted the Pacific Ocean after crossing the Isthmus of Panama. Imagine his reaction!
- **TDIH:** In 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor becomes the first female U.S. Supreme Court justice in history when she is sworn in by Chief Justice Warren Burger. How many other women have been named to the Court? [answer at end]
- **National Comic Book Day:** Read a comic book today! Or the comics in the newspaper! I read 'em daily! It's a high point of my day – next to teaching English, interacting with the students, and writing the newsletter, of course!

**Drug Testing:** We have begun drug testing, choosing students both randomly and “for cause.” Just because a student is tested does not mean he is suspected. Naturally, you may confidentially request that we add your son to the test list. We have committed more resources this year to increase the number of students tested. Know our policy by reviewing the handbook. A second positive result jeopardizes a student's place at SPS. Pray that students resist the allure of temporary pleasure over finding true meaning in life.

**Founder's Week:** Here's the breakdown of the week:

- **MONDAY (Concern for Poor and Social Justice):** Regular bell schedule, explanation of Founder's Week during CNN time; "Jar Wars" mission collection to benefit St. Joseph Abbey Flood Recovery begins
- **TUESDAY (Respect for All Persons):** Pack Time schedule;
- **WEDNESDAY (Faith in the Presence of God):** 30 min Assembly schedule AFTER first period for prayer service
- **THURSDAY (Quality Education):** US Attorney Kenneth Polite et al presentation
- **FRIDAY (Inclusive Community):** Field Day



*Pre-freshmen design, build, & enjoy their robots.*

**National Heroin and Opioid Awareness Week:** In

recognition of this growing problem in the US and particularly the greater New Orleans area, the Dept of Justice has declared this week to shine a spotlight on this office. We are privileged that US Attorney Kenneth Polite, a graduate of De La Salle High School in New Orleans, offered our students a special program on this problem, which will take place on Thursday afternoon. Mr. Polite and his team have been traveling to a number of high schools to make this presentation. Please speak to your son about this significant health threat.

**Holy Batman!** Now don't get alarmed, but we recently discovered a colony of bats happily ensconced in the Briggs Assembly Center. Since bats are a protected species (who knew?), we had to hire Parker Wildlife Control (who specialize in bats, armadillos, squirrels and raccoons!) to safely remove them – for only **\$2650! Dang those bats!**

**Jack Dubreuil:** I hope you saw and read the article in The Times Picayune/NOLA.com on SPS 2015 graduate Jack Dubreuil's GAP year. Not only are his experiences worth reading about, his quality of writing is noteworthy and extremely enjoyable to read. I followed Jack's adventures last year via his blog. If you would like to read some excerpts, here's the link to his blog: <http://jackdubreuil.blogspot.com/2016/08/gap-year-world-rocked.html?m=1> We are very proud of Jack, who began his freshman year at Vanderbilt a few weeks ago.

## Musings on Last Week:

- **Teacher Appreciation / Snack Day:** We are again indebted to the Mothers Club for sponsoring these events. I appreciate them scheduling the September treats to coincide with the school's birthday.
- **Shadow Day:** Again, thanks for your cooperation! All seemed to go well although one shadower told his parent that he didn't like my classical music! Sounds like a reason for denying admission to me! (Just kidding!)
- **Brown Foundation:** We received a \$1000 check last week to fund grant proposals written by Karen Hebert ("Reading Buddies") plus an unrestricted \$1000. The Brown Foundation awarded over \$350,000 in grants to local schools. They would love to fund more projects at SPS. Service learning is VERY Lasallian. I am grateful to Jack Pellegrini, Ruston Keller, Patrick Napier, Christopher Flood, Jeff Ramon, and Grey and Robyn Napier who represented SPS at the Foundation's award ceremony last week.
- **Cross Country:** Christian Brothers Invitational went well. Congrats, CC Wolves for hosting a great meet!
- **Football:** 8<sup>th</sup> grade won big against Rummel, 28 – 12; JV and 9<sup>th</sup> beat Franklinton; and Varsity won big against a strong Denham Springs team. And we presented Denham Coach Dru Nettles with a check to help them with their relief efforts. On to District next week!
- **Aqua Wolves** swam strong this week, finishing in 1<sup>st</sup> Place. I hear Handel's Water Music playing! Geaux Aqua Wolves!
- **The Paper Wolf:** Hope you are keeping up with the GREAT stories, complete with a new logo.
- **Constitution Day:** I hope you remembered Constitution Day last week and gave thanks for that amazing document which insures our liberty. The day is also one where naturalized citizens throughout the land are given their oath of citizenship after traveling that road for quite a while – and it's not an easy road. I again refer you to the official website with flashcards asking 100 questions. Have some fun and see how many you can answer:  
[http://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Office%20of%20Citizenship/Citizenship%20Resource%20Center%20Site/Publications/PDFs/M-623\\_red\\_slides.pdf](http://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Office%20of%20Citizenship/Citizenship%20Resource%20Center%20Site/Publications/PDFs/M-623_red_slides.pdf).
- **Speech III:** Our new elective was busy last week with the students giving persuasive speeches on cheating. The boys were outstanding, both in the quality of their research, arguments, and delivery. Great job.
- **La Salle Hall Lobby:** Thanks to the Mothers Club for the new furniture in the La Salle Hall lobby. Interestingly, the pre-freshmen have laid claim to this comfortable, air conditioned space during lunch – although we did have to have a talk about litter and behavior – which they have since corrected.
- **Student Council:** Thanks to the SC for the school supply drive for Denham Springs flood victims. Very Lasallian!
- **SPS Math Tournament** was a huuugggeeee success with hundreds of students on campus – working math problems! A new feature this year was a jr hi division which can only help in admissions.
- **Guerilla Wolves:** Another great episode! I appreciate the emphasis on not littering. Here's the link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mG4kyR5TJbc>
- **Marching Wolves:** We commend the Band Boosters and the MWs for feeding the Denham Springs' band and their families before the game on Fri night. Great hospitality, MWs! Thanks!



*Chris, Jack, Ruston & Patrick hold Brown Foundation Check at last week's Foundation Assembly. They represented SPS well.*

**Bad News / Good News Dept: The Bad:** As you may or may not be aware, last spring the LA Legislature passed a last minute law at the end of the first special session to address Louisiana's fiscal crisis. Basically, the law removed the



*AD Craig presents check to Denham Coach Nettles to help them with their flood recovery. Denham students are currently at Live Oak until their school is repaired.*

*(Photo by SPS alum Pat Mashburn for NOLA.com)*

existing sales tax exemptions for non-profits. **The Good:** Fortunately, in response to an outcry from the non-profits, the legislature repealed the law in the second special session in June. However, they forget to make the repeal retroactive, thus leaving non-profits responsible for sales tax for the three months that the law was in effect. After months of negotiation, we were informed by the Archdiocese last week that we are required to make a "good faith" estimate of sales taxes from April 1 – June 30 and remit to the Archdiocese who will remit to the state. In return, the LA Department of Revenue agreed not to "aggressively pursue collection." **The Bad:** So we will soon send them a check. Dang sales tax!

**Our Lady of the Lake Festival Help:** OLL has a new way of signing up volunteers for OLL festival on October 14, 15, 16th. We have set it up on our festival link below. To sign up, click on <http://festivalofthelake.com/> then click on - information- volunteers- sign up genius. Volunteers have complete autonomy in choosing booth and shift. You can also email the volunteer coordinator at [ollfestivalofthelake@gmail.com](mailto:ollfestivalofthelake@gmail.com)

**Admissions for 2017 - 18:** Yes, we are already looking ahead to next year. Here's how you can help: If you know any family who might be

interested in SPS, encourage them to

- Consider a shadow day (but hurry as space is filling up fast;)
- Encourage them to attend Open House on Sat, Oct 29 at 1 pm. Send us their email address or physical address and we'll send them an invitation.
- We rely on current and former families to spread the word about SPS! I know I can count on you

**ID Cards:** As part of our safety plan, students are required to wear their ID cards on their SPS issued lanyard on a DAILY basis. **Please check your son before he leaves the house to make sure he is wearing the ID.** If he forgets, he must purchase a temporary ID from Sgt. Pressley. If he loses his ID, he must purchase a replacement for \$10.

**And Speaking of Edline:** Please check Edline regularly for important info about your son's grade and SPS life. *Call Mike Holmes, Edline administrator, at 892-3200, ext. 1044 if you need assistance.*

**Football Game Day Shirts:** the Touchdown Club's Game Day shirts are now being sold in the Mothers' Club Bookstore.



**Paws with a Cause:** Several seniors have partnered with Children's Hospital in New Orleans to raise funds for Children's oncology program. They have named their drive Paws with a Cause and seek pledges for each point the varsity football team scores during regular season. To view their website and learn more about the program, to <http://pledgeit.org/paws-with-a-cause> Seniors Miles Roppolo and Brycen Brown are spearheading this effort. I am proud of them.

**Jazz n Roll:** Join us for the **27th anniversary of Jazz 'N Roll on Saturday, November 12!** Come together with parents, alumni, sponsors and supporters in the community for Saint

Paul's major fundraiser. This event generates resources critical to preserve, promote and enhance education and extracurricular programs and facilities. Spend **SATURDAY evening from 7:00pm – 11:00pm** in the Briggs Assembly

Center and enjoy gourmet food and libations from exclusive local establishments. Bid on wonderful, unique silent auction items donated by the community. This event will also include a fabulous live auction, raffles and the Wolf Wheel of Prizes. I'm humbled by the many sponsorships we are receiving, but we need you to purchase tickets. Click here to do so: <https://www.stpauls.com/support/events/jazz-n-roll/> Contact the Development Office (892-3200, ext 1270, for info.

**Attendance:** Please comply with our attendance regulations as printed in the handbook which is posted on Edline. This is especially true when a student is absent or needs to check out during the day.

**Student Football Game Conduct:** Allow me to review the rules:

- Saint Paul's students are admitted free but **MUST** enter through the South Gate (by the Brothers' Residence). Only **CURRENT** SPS students are allowed in free by showing **THIS YEAR's** ID card. Do **NOT** try to come in with a friend who may have gone to Saint Paul's in the past and expect that person to get in free.
- SSA students **DO NOT** get in free.
- We expect students (and adults) to remain fully clothed during the game. Fans with no shirts, even with body paint will not be allowed into the stadium. Students must not wear any offensive clothing, including clothes which advertise alcohol or have obscene words written on them.



*Brother John speaks to the student body with help from Will.*

- **Once students enter the game, they must stay through halftime. They may not leave and reenter for any reason -- to go back to their car, go visit someone on the other side of the stadium, etc. We expect all students to remain until the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter – and then, if they leave, they must leave the campus.**

- During the national anthem and the prayer, **ALL** are to be **ABSOLUTELY QUIET**. Students should stand respectfully and remove hats. If the girls try to talk to boys, tell the boys to ignore the girls until after the prayer and national anthem.

- When a student does leave, he **MAY NOT REMAIN AND LOITER ON CAMPUS** (e.g. under the Wolf Dome, around the pond.) He must leave campus if he leaves the game.

- Students should only cheer in positive ways. They are there to support the Wolves, not tear down the opponents. Obscene language is **NEVER** permitted.

- We cannot be responsible if your son tells you he is going to the game and ends up going somewhere else or leaves after the third quarter without telling you.

- Ultimately, football is a game meant to teach positive values. I pray that **ALL** of us can unite around one of the most successful programs in the state by showing class, respect, support, courtesy, and good sportsmanship.

**Adult Football Game Conduct:** With the opening of our football season, we expect the adult community to set a positive example for the students. Accordingly,

- Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the stadium or anywhere on campus. Tobacco usage is not permitted in the stadium or on campus.

- During national anthem and prayer, ALL are to be quiet. Feel free to politely ask students to be quiet. If they don't comply, please get their names and send them to me.
- **Adults should never openly criticize coaches and especially players.**
- Adults should only use appropriate language and never shout obscenities at anyone, including referees.
- Ultimately, football is a game meant to teach positive values. I pray that ALL of us can unite around one of the most successful programs in the state by showing class, respect, support, courtesy, and good sportsmanship.
- Those who do not follow these rules may be subject to removal from the premise

**Emergency Closing:** As we approach the height of the tropical season (Sep 10), and with safety foremost in our minds, I remind all of the directives from the Office of Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of New Orleans:

- **Catholic schools will follow the closure and reopening schedules of their civil parish.** Therefore, monitor the St. Tammany Public School system announcements. Naturally, we reserve the right to close earlier if we feel it necessary and to reopen earlier if we are able and civil parish authorities give permission. For example, we opened weeks before the public school system following Hurricane Katrina.
- **Listen & Watch** for a robo-text message or phone call or email before calling school since it is difficult to handle a large volume of calls. Also, our phone system goes dark in a power failure. We have a new notification system which we used for the Aug 12 closing. Let me know if you did not receive that notification.
- **Consult** Edline and our web site.
- **Pray** to Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Patroness of Louisiana.

**Extracurricular Activities:** Clubs and teams have begun forming. Get Involved Day, which introduced our students to a wide variety of activities, was a big success. 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.

**Cafeteria Payments:** To pay on line, go to the web site [www.schoolcafe.org](http://www.schoolcafe.org) and then My School Bucks comes up. Create an account. Put your son's name, DOB and school. You DO NOT have to enter the Student ID.

**Student Driving:** Please drive carefully and, if your son drives to school, stress traffic safety with him. Saint Paul's is located in a residential neighborhood, so be VERY careful when approaching campus. Covington Police will ticket violators – and we will take disciplinary action against students as well. And remember: **cell phone use in a school zone is against the law and can be ticketed by police!**



**The Paper Wolf:** Congrats to TPW for the flurry of articles being written and published. The quality of writing is excellent. I do hope you subscribe. If

not, support our guys and do so. It's free. Here's the link: <http://thepaperwolf.com>

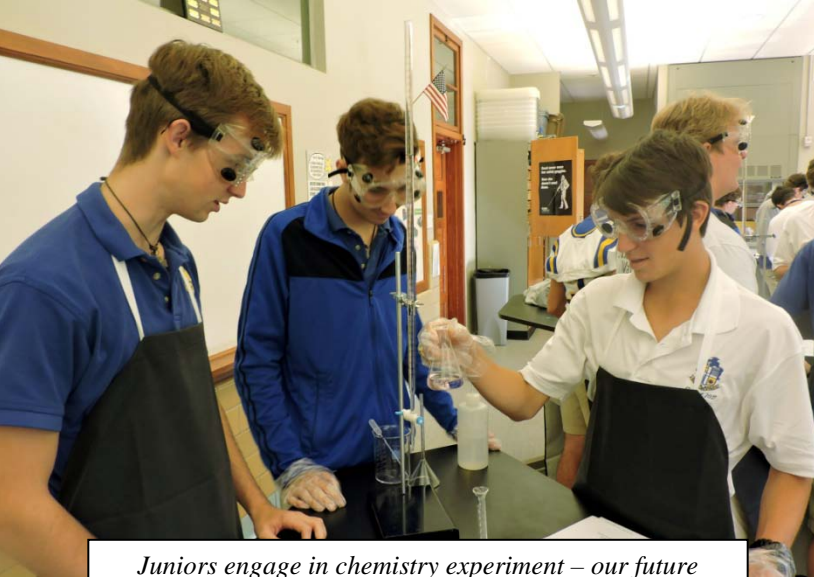
**Helping Saint Paul's:** Don't forget – here are painless ways to help:

- If you shop at Office Depot, please give the SPS school code (70041640) and SPS receives 5% of your purchase!
- SPS participates in the Community Coffee program.
- Box Tops for Education – these are redeemable for cash. Have your son bring them to his math teacher.



**Driver's License Proof of Attendance:** Don't forget: your son will need proof of attendance in order to get a learner's permit. The forms are in the counseling department or the administration building. I feel terrible when a parent waits two

hours at the DMV only to be turned away b/c the son doesn't have his proof of attendance. This is a legislative act, so don't blame me!



*Juniors engage in chemistry experiment – our future scientists at work.*

**After School Issues:** Assignment Hall and detention are in full operation. Parents, please stress with your sons the need to do homework and follow rules. And if your son does end up in AH or detention, please establish a procedure for him to follow so that you are not wandering around looking for him. We tell the AH student to call their parents. We'll provide a phone if needed.

**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.

#### **From the Student Council:**

- 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Homecoming Dance will be held in the Briggs Assembly Center on Sat, September 24 (Dance is from 7:00-9:00pm with lock-in at 8:00pm). *Please pick up your child no later than 9:00.*
- **10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Homecoming Dance** will be held in the Briggs Assembly Center on Saturday, October 1 (Dance is from 7:00-10:00pm with lock-in at 8:30 pm.)
- **All students attending the dance must pay admission and complete a registration form that is due prior to the dance. Forms are available in room 107, on Edline, and on the school website.**

**Opportunity from Football Booster Club** – If your business would like to sponsor a football game or run a 30 second commercial on the scoreboard during a game, please contact Tim McCarthy at [tmmcarthy122@gmail.com](mailto:tmmcarthy122@gmail.com). Our new scoreboard is a great way to advertise your business to the enthusiastic crowds who attend Friday night football games in Hunter Stadium. Game day sponsorships include various scoreboard advertisements, stadium banner and option to distribute promotional items as well as other items.

**Tutoring:** The National Honor Society has begun FREE tutoring service. Here's the schedule:

- Tuesday and Thursday during Lunch in La Salle 207 AND after school in LaSalle 210
- Monday and Wednesday at 7:15AM in La Salle 210

**Encourage your son to take advantage of this wonderful service. It is not embarrassing to do so!**

**Grandparent Day** is Friday, Oct 14<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 11:30 am. This is always a well-attended event, so please inform your son's grandparents in case they are interested in attending. The program lasts until about 1 pm and refreshments are served. More info will be sent later, but I wanted you to know the date as we are already being asked.

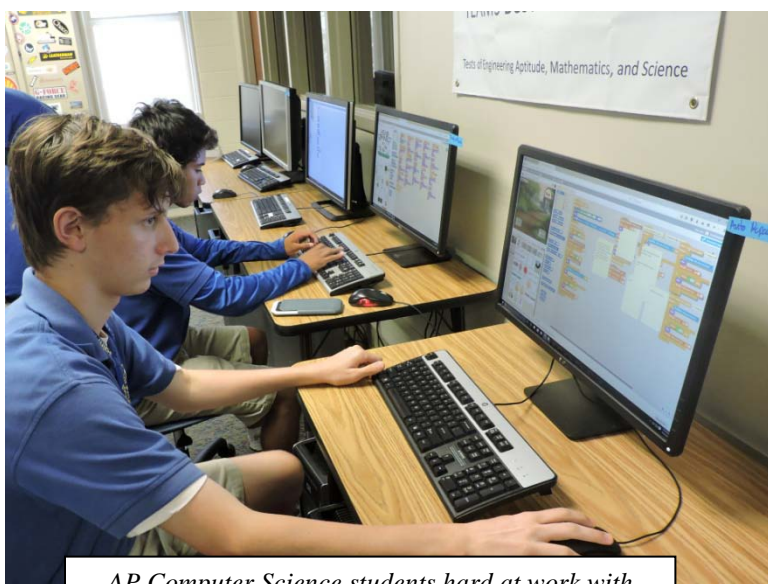
**Honor Roll Breakfast Dates:** We have set the first quarter HR breakfast dates – which will be in November. See below for the exact schedule in "A Look Ahead."

**Tuesday's Assembly:** I hope the students enjoyed our Sep 13 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Listened to the 4<sup>th</sup> movement of Ludwig von Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony, more commonly known as “Ode to Joy” – one of the most beloved pieces of music in the world. I explained that Beethoven (1770-1827) was a “post Baroque” composer, ushering in the Romantic Period, with its equally powerful music. Romantic does not refer to mushy love music but powerful music inspired by nature.

The Ninth Symphony and its “Ode” premiered in 1824, just three years before Beethoven’s death. It was one of the first instances of combining symphonic music with vocal accompaniment. Amazing fact: Beethoven was completely deaf when he composed this piece; he did it all in his head. The story has it that while he conducted the premier, he kept conducting even when the piece was finished – it kept playing in his head! The audience went wild with approval! I encouraged the students to learn from Beethoven and not let their challenges defeat them or prevent them from achievement.

And why did I choose Ode to Joy for the assembly? Because we were celebrating the 105<sup>th</sup> birthday of Saint Paul’s School – and that’s a cause for joy!



*AP Computer Science students hard at work with some pretty powerful technology*

- Prayed in a special way, as the prayer candle was lit by junior **Noah Siden**, for the following who have entered eternal rest since our last assembly: **Mrs. Dorothea Authement Kolf, Sophomore Merrick Coghlin’s grandmother; Mrs. Gayle Gallaty, Senior Josh Tourelle’s grandmother; Mrs. Carol Scheuermann, grandmother of faculty member Ms. Heidi Scheuermann; the Brother of Mrs. Elizabeth Grashoff and Uncle of senior Andy Grashoff; Alumnus Eric Gustafson ’94, a Meridian, MS firefighter who died in an accident while on the way to a call; Brother Benildus Sulzer, FSC, who taught at SPS through the ‘70s and early ‘80s. We also prayed for the victims of the recent flooding and for all affected by 9-11. To commemorate this last group, I played a song composed by local musician and former SPS faculty member, Mr. Gene Lipps, entitled “Hold On.” It was a moving moment.**

- Recognized and welcomed a group of 30 7<sup>th</sup> grade students who were visiting campus on one of our Shadow Days. The student body applauded vigorously in welcome!
- Recognized and congratulated Senior **T.J. Bedford** and 2016 alum **Colin Ross** for being named two of the top 15 male athletes in the Greater New Orleans area by The Times Picayune/NOLA.com. Pretty impressive for SPS to have two out of 15!
- Recognized and congratulated Aqua Wolves Kyle Hladky , Jordan Wyble , Ryan Bolton, Drew Putfark, and Myers Morgan for volunteering in the Swimming Special Olympics. Our guys were a big help in this outreach to the Special Olympians.
- Recognized and congratulated Air Force Junior ROTC cadets **Andy Anderson, Andrew Da Bella, Landon Chambliss, and Stephen Millet** who represented SPS at this year's Cadet Leadership Course at Keesler AFB in Biloxi last week. It’s a grueling week and not for the faint of heart – but well worth the effort for those who

persevere! We are very proud of both of them – and all of our cadets who comprise the LA 41<sup>st</sup>, the second oldest ROTC unit in the State of LA and the only Air Force unit in a private school in the State of LA..

- Recognized and congratulated sophomore Jacques Cutrer for winning first place in the Boys 14-15 Division of the prestigious BC Jr. Golf Championship in Diamondhead, MS recently.
- Recognized and congratulated our delegation to the **Lasallian Youth Assembly last summer at St. Mary's College Moraga, CA. The boys toured San Francisco, performed service at an assisted living facility, and interacted with over 200 fellow Lasallian students for a week of leadership building activities. We were ably represented by Yehia Elkersh, Ethan Hoppel, Reagan Hill, AJ Lacroix, Connor McCarthy, Mr. Andrew Mullet '12 (chaperone, former staff member of the event and now enrolled in LSU medical school), Will Murphy, Patrick Napier, Campus Minister Mr. Jeff Ramon, and Jordan Wyble**
- Recognized and congratulated the Varsity Football Wolves for their great OT win over Jesuit, with special recognition of DB Jack Bonaldi for his game ending interception.
- Recognized and congratulated the Cross Country Wolves for capturing First Place out of 33 schools in the opening meet of the season, the Round Table Meet at Episcopal High in BR. Also congratulated the JR Hi Wolves for placing 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 26 teams.
- Introduced Brother John Fairfax, FSC, a member of the Retired Brothers Community at SPS. Now 89 years old, Brother John recounted his impressive life as a Christian Brother – in spite of having contracted polio while in his 20's and becoming paralyzed from the waist down, Brother earned two master's degrees, served as principal of several schools, traveled the world – in short, he did not let his challenge stop him from “doing ordinary things extraordinarily well.” Brother's talk was great. I exhorted the boys to use both Beethoven and Brother John as inspirations when they are faced with challenges.
- Ran out of time before I could do any more recognitions – which will “roll over” to the next assembly! We then robustly sang the Fight Song in support of all of the activities going on around school and closed the assembly with singing “Mercy.”
- As the prayer candle was extinguished by junior **Grant Robichaux**, I reminded the students that they must leave the gym and be the Light of God to all whom they meet. The students exited to the strains of Beethoven's “Ode to Joy.” It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!

**Humor of the Week:** In honor of International Apple Day on Monday:

- *What do you get if you cross an apple with a shellfish? A crab apple!*
- *Why did Eve want to leave the garden of Eden and move to New York? She fell for the Big Apple!*
- *What type of a computer does a horse like to eat? A Macintosh*
- *How do you make an apple turnover? Push it down hill.*
- *What kind of apple isn't an apple? A pineapple.*
- *What's worse than finding a worm in your apple? Taking a bite and finding half a worm.*
- *If an apple a day keeps the doctor away, what does an onion do? Keeps everyone away.*
- *Where do bugs go to watch the big game? Apple-Bees.*
- *What did the apple say to the almond? You're Nuts!*
- *Why are apples afraid to grow in the US? Because they don't want to be as American as apple pie.*
- *How many grams of protein are in an apple pie? 3.14159265... [this is a math joke! LOL!]*
- *What can a whole apple do that half an apple can't do? It can look round.*

- *First apple: You look sad. What's eating you? Second apple: Worms, I think.*
- *The first commandment was... when Eve told Adam to eat the apple!*
- *OK, I'll stop.*

**Words of Encouragement:** I gave a tour of the school last week to a prospective mom. After the tour, the mom thanked me and then left. The next day, she sent the following email to Karen Hebert, who had arranged the visit: *The school and the variety of curriculums are quite impressive. Your track record speaks volumes in so many areas that it doesn't bare to mention just a few. I enjoyed touring the campus with Brother Ray. The students were generous and receptive. I especially enjoyed the theatre and old swimming pool room. The engineering classroom and LaSalle Hall and all of the other areas of influence are beyond words. You all have built a wonderful foundation at St Paul's. I look forward to seeing you at open house. I am confident that [my son] will be a great addition to the student body and will gain a fine education at St Paul's. Thank you again for welcoming me onto the campus*

I love giving these tours as invariably, the day to day SPS experience makes such a positive impression on people. I love my job.

**RIP:** We offer our prayers and condolences to Jesuit High School and all members of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) on the passing of the school's former president, Father Raymond Fitzgerald, SJ – who was an educational giant in the Jesuit world. He was a wonderful educator, and the Jesuits and, indeed, the whole educational community have lost a leader. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace! Amen!

### **A Look Ahead:**

#### September

- 19 – Founders Week
- 20 – Pack Time
- 21 – Mass Schedule – Dress Uniform Day!
- 23 – Field Day (Periods GA meet)
- 27 – ACT on campus for seniors
- 28 – Street Smart Presentation
- 30 – Homecoming Pep Rally

#### October

- 1 – SAT on campus – Sr. High Homecoming Dance
- 4 – President's Assembly – Shadow Day
- 11 – Pack Time
- 12-13- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Service Day/Retreat
- 14 – Grandparents Day- Periods BC meet – End of First Quarter
- 17 – Fall Break Day
- 18 – President's Assembly – Shadow Day
- 19 – PSAT test for selected students
- 20 – Health Screening Day
- 21 – PSAT for all Pre-Freshmen
- 22 – ACT on Campus
- 24 – Late Start for Faculty In-Service – Parent/Teacher Conferences 5-7
- 25 – Pack Time
- 26 – President's Assembly (SACS visit begins)
- 27 – SACS visit ends – All Faculty meeting at 3:00 – 3:30
- 29 – Open House for prospective student

#### November



*Mrs. Duplantier watches Chemistry II students during lab last week. Chem II is a new elective this year.*

- 1 – Mass
- 2 – Day of the Dead Assembly
- 3 – HR Breakfast for seniors
- 4 – HR Breakfast for juniors
- 5 – SAT on Campus
- 8 – President’s Assembly
- 9 – HR Breakfast for sophomores
- 10 – HR Breakfast for freshmen
- 11 – HR Breakfast for Pre-freshmen
- 12 – Jazz and Roll
- 15 – Pack Time – President’s Assembly

December

- 1 – Blood Drive
- 6 – Pack Time (Luminaria Bags)
- 8 – All school mass; luminaria celebration in evening
- 10 – ACT on Campus
- 13 -16 Exams; Christmas holidays begin at 11:15, following exams

After finishing the newsletter, I received a bunch of pictures from the Band Boosters’ treat to the Denham Springs Band by providing dinner for them before Friday’s game. I’m pleased to add these pics to the newsletter and, again, offer thanks and Lasallian congratulations to them for this outreach. Here are the pics:



Whew! Enough for now! I can't believe we are starting the seventh week of the school year!

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

Pray that we continue our good beginning! May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and your family and call on me if I can help! Again, thanks for being part of the 2016 – 17 edition of Saint Paul's!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Loving My Job as the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

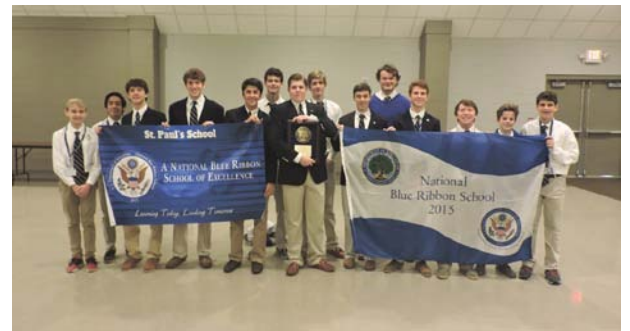
Answer to Sep 25 trivia question: Besides Sandra Day O'Connor, three women have been appointed to US Supreme Court, all currently serving: Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sonia Sotomayor & Elena Kagan



*Transforming Lives Since 1680*

*...by doing*

*ordinary things extraordinarily well, making courageous choices,  
doing God's will, and remaining faithful!*



**“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)