

## *The President/Principal's Newsletter for Sep 16 - 22, 2013*

Each August since 1998, Beloit College, a highly selective liberal arts college in Wisconsin, releases the Beloit College Mindset List, a look at the cultural touchstones that shape the lives of students entering college that particular fall. The list was originally created to remind faculty of dated references. It quickly became an internationally monitored catalog of the changing worldview of each new college generation. The online lists receive more than a million annual visits. Here's some "cultural touchstones" for the freshman college Class of '17 – and, thus, our students, too:

- \* They share everything, no matter how personal.
- \* As they began to crawl, so did news across bottom of TV.
- \* GM for them means "genetically modified."
- \* As their parents held them as infants, Windows 95 debuted.
- \* Having a chat has seldom involved talking.
- \* Gaga has never been baby talk.
- \* They could always get rid of their outdated toys on eBay.
- \* Rites of passage have more to do with cell phones and Skype accounts than a driver's license and car.
- \* A tablet is no longer something they took in the morning.
- \* Plasma has never been just a bodily fluid for them.
- \* With GPS, they've never needed directions, just an address.
- \* Java has never been just a cup of coffee.
- \* Olympic fever has always erupted every two years.
- \* In their first 18 years, they've watched rise and fall of Tiger & A-Rod.
- \* Yahoo has always looked over its shoulder for the rise of "Yet Another Hierarchical Official Oracle."
- \* As they slept safely in their cribs, the Oklahoma City bomber and the Unabomber were doing their deadly work.
- \* Their favorite feature films have always been largely, if not totally, computer generated.
- \* They have never really needed to go to their friend's house so they could study together.
- \* They may have been introduced to video games with a new Sony PlayStation left in their cribs by their moms.
- \* A Wiki has always been a cooperative web application rather than a shuttle bus in Hawaii.
- \* They have always been able to plug into USB ports
- \* Washington, D.C., tour buses have never been able to drive in front of the White House.
- \* Their parents' car CD player is soooooo ancient and embarrassing.



*Grant boots game winning, last play field goal to hand Coach Sears his 100<sup>th</sup> win!*

So what's a Lasallian educator or parent to do? Our mission statement calls for us to be "centered on young people and attentive to their needs." To do so, we must realize their universe is all too different from those of us who've lived on this earth long before our students were born. It's a challenge to re-

orient our mindsets, but one we must meet. I'm not willing, though, to give up my assembly CD player and I don't SKYPE, Tweet, or Facebook! But one thing is constant: God loves them just as much as he loves us dinosaurs! And we must love them, too, while always striving to understand their world.

**Mon, Sep 16 (7:45 am faculty meeting; 9:00 class start; B C D E)**

- **The Trail of Tears Commemoration Day:** this day, also called the Cherokee Removal Day, refers to the forced relocation of the Cherokee Nation from their lands in Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, and North Carolina to the Indian Territory (present day Oklahoma) in the Western United States between 1836 to 1839. More than 4,000 Cherokee died along the trail during this relocation. This is a sad blot on our nation's history.

**Tue, Sep 17 (Regular; F G A B)**

- **TDIH:** In 2005, SPS reopens after 3 weeks of Hurricane Katrina closure. We were among first to open – miraculous! Thanks to many people – to then Covington Mayor Candace Watkins, to contractors, to our physical plant crew, to students, parents, & teachers who made reopening possible. We thank God, too.
- **Constitution Day:** In 1787, the official signing of the US constitution takes place – a document we should all treasure and become more familiar with. Trivia Question of the Week: in what city was the Constitution officially signed? Answer at end of newsletter.
- **National Apple Dumpling Day:** Indulge and enjoy!
- **ASVAB Test for Seniors:** Seniors will take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery today. The results will help our seniors plan their careers; the test is NOT a recruiting device. Thanks to counseling department for arranging for this tool.
- **Football:** Jr Hi v. Westside (6)

**Wed, Sep 18 (Regular; C D E F)**

- **TDIH:** In 1793, George Washington lays the cornerstone to the United States Capitol building.
- **International Eat an Apple Day:** No explanation needed! Enjoy!

**Thu, Sep 19 (Regular; C D E F)**

- **International Talk like a Pirate Day:** Ahoy all pirate wanna bees! Shiver your timbers today!
- **Football:** 9<sup>th</sup> & JV v. Franklinton (5:30)
- **Mothers Club General Membership Meeting** (7 in BAC)

**Fri, Sep 20 (Regular; D E F G)**

- **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!
- **Football:** Varsity v. McDonogh 35. Good luck, Wolves!

### Sat, Sep 21

- **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!
- **ACT on campus today!**
- **Cross Country** hosts Christian Brothers Invitational at Money Hill
- **Football:** 8<sup>th</sup> at John Curtis (11)

### Sun, Sep 22:

- **We encourage our Catholic families to attend mass today and support their parishes. We encourage our non-Catholic families to attend the church of choice.**



- Today, the Lasallian world marks 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 would lead them to 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 the students entrusted to our care! ***Blessed Christian Brother Martyrs of Valencia! Pray for us!***

- **Family and Faith Sunday:** Celebrate your family today. Archbishop Aymond urges all to observe this day by doing something special together – like attending church, socializing afterwards and expressing love and devotion to.
- **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.
- **TDIH:** The ice cream cone debuted today in 1903 & the band aid in 1920! Where would we be without these?
- **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.
- **The Autumnal Equinox**, when the sun crosses the equator from North to South, occurs today at 3:44 pm, CDT. Fall 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.

**9 am Start on Monday for Faculty meeting:** As usual, cafeteria (complete with breakfast service), chapel, and library will be open for early arrivals. Students are due in their first block class at 9.

**CLASP:** Thank you, thank you, and thank you!!!!!!! Everything went very well, from the student and faculty focus groups to the welcome our students gave the Visiting Team. And we set a record in terms of parental survey responses. Thanks to all who participated! Once the Team issues its written report, I'll be sharing the details with you. Again, thank you!

**Administrators Travel:** Early Sun morning, I fly to Napa Valley, CA – not to tour the wine country but to meet with Province Council of the San Francisco Province as the two provinces prepare to become one next summer. Brother Ken, also on the Council, will attend. On Mon, Trevor Watkins flies to Napa, where he and I will join the chief administrators of the 12 San Francisco Province schools and the 6 New Orleans-Santa Fe Province schools. Napa houses the SF Province headquarters, and the conference promises professional development and Napa hospitality! Ken Sears will be in charge. I'll miss not being at SPS for 3 days, but I know all will go well. God willing & Southwest Airlines cooperating, Trevor and I return Wed night.

**Meeting of HS Presidents:** I met last week with Presidents of Religious Community high schools of Archdiocese: Academy of Sacred Heart (Society of the Sacred Heart); Brother Martin (Sacred Heart Brothers), Cabrini High (Missionary Sisters of Sacred Heart), De La Salle (Christian Brothers), Holy Cross (Brothers of Holy Cross); Jesuit (Society of Jesus), St. Augustine (Josephites); St. Mary's (Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament); Ursuline (Sisters of the Order of St. Ursula); Mt. Carmel (Sisters of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel), and St. Mary's Dominican (Dominican Sisters). Our agenda ranged from the profound (Catholicity of our schools and our relationship with Archdiocese) to the practical (finances, ACT scores, merit pay, and food service policies.) I learned much.

**New LA Driver's License Requirement for Minors:** Effective September 16, 2013, a new requirement was added to the driver's license issuance process for minor applicants. R.S. 32:431.1 calls for all minor applicants to produce proof the applicant has either received a diploma or is currently enrolled in a high school program. There is a special form for this which the student can obtain from the counseling office.

#### **Musings on Last Week:**

- **Parent Mini Schedule Night:** Thanks to all who attended. Special thanks to all who took time to provide feedback – overwhelmingly positive!
- **Service Assembly & Prayer:** Thanks to Barrett Baumgartner for a well-organized presentation! And the boys prayed and sang great! And they paid rapt attention to the speakers. Speak to your son about the service opportunities that were represented at the assembly.
- **Marching Wolves & Golden Blues:** Thanks for a great halftime show on Friday.

- **FB Team:** Congrats for a great win in “the dome” on Fri and to the **JV and 9<sup>th</sup> grade** teams for their great showings.
- **Coach Sears:** Special congratulations to him on notching his 100<sup>th</sup> victory as head coach on Fri night.
- **Cross Country** team for its great showing in FL on Sat.
- **Mothers Club:** for a great snack day Tue and for lunch on Thu.
- **Mission Collection:** Our first collection went well. In the words of the late Bro. Clarence Rhiem, who coordinated SPS Mission collections for many years, *St Paul’s cares, St Paul’s shares.*
- **LHSAA Compliance Audit:** We passed with flying colors thanks to the C Team (Craig Ketelsen, Claire Coutrado & Carol Barcelona.)



*James, Bram, Faiz, & Ben make presentation on 9/11.*

**Drug Testing:** We began drug testing last week, choosing students both randomly and “for cause.” The number of students we test is, unfortunately, limited by budgetary constraints. As we continue our war on destructive decisions and promote healthy choices, I am convinced that testing is the best deterrent. Know our policy by reviewing the handbook. Reinforce with your sons. A second positive result will jeopardize a student’s place at SPS. Pray that our students resist the allure of temporary pleasure over finding true meaning and happiness in life.

**From the Botanical Wolves: 1st Annual Moms for Mums Day:** Bring a yellow mum to place under the live oak tree at Founders' Circle during the week of Sept. 23rd. Our big planting day will be Sat, Sep. 28th, brightening the campus for fall festivities: Homecoming Dance, Jazz 'N Roll, and Grandparents' Day!

**Mothers Club Meeting:** The fall general membership meeting is this Thu, Sep 19, at 7 pm in the BAC. Senior guidance counselor Renee Miller will make a special presentation on college admissions process. It’s always very informative and well received. All moms (and dads, too, I think) are welcomed to attend.

**Homecoming Dances:** The dances are rapidly approaching. Here’s some information for you:

- 8th and 9th grade: The dance will be held Sep 28th from 7:00 pm until 9:30 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. Students must wear a tie and may choose to dress according to the theme "Roaring Twenties." HC registration forms are available in the library and are due Fri Sep 20th. They should be returned to Mrs. Forester accompanied by the \$25.00 registration fee. A \$5.00 late fee will be added if turned in late.
- 10th-12th grade: HC registration forms are due on Fri Oct 4th. Their dance will be held Oct 12 from 7:00 pm until 10:30 pm.

**Last Tuesday's Assembly:** I hope the students enjoyed our Sep 10 assembly. Here's what we did:

- Listened to the 4<sup>th</sup> movement 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 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday of Saint Paul's School – and that's a cause for joy!

- Prayed in a special way, as the prayer candle was lit by junior **Peyton Cuccia**, for the following who have entered eternal rest since our last assembly: **the father of SPS Science Teacher Mr. Mark Richards.**
- Recognized and congratulated junior **Burke Irwin** who was accepted into the prestigious Kenyon College Young Writers Workshop over the summer. The workshop is an intensive two-week workshop for intellectually curious, motivated high-school students who value writing. Burke represented SPS in an exemplary manner!
- Recognized and congratulated the following Spanish V students: Kevin Durr, Ethan Lowry, Max Morvant, Jack Ruli, Willis Spurlock, Christian Taylor, Kyle Waguespack, & Trevor Watkins who spent two weeks last summer studying Spanish at Cemanahuac Language Institute in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Once again, the Institute was impressed with our boys' ability in Spanish, proving once again that we've got the best Spanish program around. Mr. Jason Schroeder chaperoned the group.
- Recognized and congratulated senior **Luke Posner** for being named All State and All American in Lacrosse; he was one of only three lacrosse players in LA and 294 in the US to be so named. It was the second consecutive year for Luke to receive this honor. During the summer, Luke played on Team Louisiana in a number of tournaments and played in the Champion All American Showcase at the ESPN Wide World of Sports complex in Orland, FL in July. Only 96 of the all Americans were chosen to play. **Inside Lacrosse Magazine** wrote the following about Luke: *Posner runs like a gazelle and scored a goal in the title game. He is extremely light on his feet and played through a calf bruise after being pegged by a shot in the early rounds. The high school football player with adequate size has been playing for just four years, and if I were a DI program I'd be doing further research. Repeat after me...great players come from everywhere. Louisiana now has 16 teams playing varsity lacrosse. The top squads are Jesuit (New Orleans), St. Paul's, and Loyola (Shreveport)*

- Recognized and congratulated our football program: the **8<sup>th</sup> Grade** defeated Jesuit in their season opener; the JV & 9<sup>th</sup> soundly defeated Fontainebleau and the Varsity played hard against nationally ranked Karr.



Senior CC runners present 1<sup>st</sup> place Bayou Boogie trophy to AD Craig.

- And then, as if by magic, Antonio Rossini's *William Tell Overture* started playing – which signaled that our Cross Country Team was off and running. The team left campus at 6 am on 9/7 to defend their title in the 15th Bayou Boogie Classic in BR. When the dust from the runners from 17 teams had settled, SPS again captured FIRST Place for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year, beating second place perennial CC powerhouse Catholic High of BR by 24 points. Top individuals: **Zachary Albright (1<sup>st</sup>)**, **Eric Coston (3<sup>rd</sup>)**, **Don Lipani (8<sup>th</sup>)**, **Michael Burke (10<sup>th</sup>)**, **Spencer Albright (13<sup>th</sup>)**, **Nick Taylor (18<sup>th</sup>)** and **Jack Ruli (25<sup>th</sup>)**. While the JV meet wasn't scored, sophomore **Perrin Blossman** placed 1<sup>st</sup>. And on the Jr Hi Level, pre-freshman **Stephen**

**Schlottmann** placed 5<sup>th</sup>. Well done, CC Wolves!

- Recognized junior and seniors who scored 30 or better on the recent ACT test. These young men will be treated to a pizza lunch for their academic accomplishment: Juniors: **Beau Briggs (32)**, **George Cazenavette (34)**, **Jack Dubreuil (34)**, **Max Gold (35)**, & **Hunter Simonson (30)**. Seniors: **Zachary Albright (32)**, **Michael Brown (33)**, **Michael Burke (32)**, **Grant Connolly (30)**, **Joshua Farr (32)**, **John Frey (30)**, **Sean Gardner (30)**, **Jordan Jacob (30)**, **Riley Knepper (30)**, **Jonah Knuckles (32)**, **Grant Landwehr (34)**, **Evan Lewis (30)**, **Jacob McWilliams (31)**, **Chris Meraux (32)**, **Reid Michaelis (30)**, **Benny Miller (30)**, **Dylan Monies (30)**, **Max Morvant (34)**, **Matthew Rader (31)**, **Thomas Ruli (30)**, & **Peter Yager (32)**.
- Recognized and congratulated juniors and seniors who scored 2 points higher on the ACT than their previous ACT score. These students, too, will receive a pizza lunch: Juniors: **Kyle Cleveland**, **David Durand**, and **Peyton Lacoste**. Seniors: **Steven arias**, **Jeffrey Bertoniere**, **Ben Blume**, **Kyle Brunet**, **Zachary Buster**, **Matthew Clark**, **Dustin Comeaux**, **Daniel Comeaux**, **Ian Conroy**, **Patrick Danner**, **Austin Davis**, **Ethan Esquerre**, **James Farris**, **Adam Fink**, **Grant Grefer**, **David Heap**, **Grant Hebert**, **Thomas Huval**, **Ben Kenney**, **Carlton Knight**, **Brett Labasse**, **Nicholas Lacoste**, **John Larson**, **Michael Maggio**, **Brad McNally**, **Jackson Murrell**, **Sam Pearce**, **Cain Plaisance**, **Parker Richerson**, **Kenny Ross**, **Jack Ruli**, **Chris Russo**, **Colin Savoie**, **Garrett Shearman**, **Nicholas Sibley**, **Tanner Stuard**, **Christian Taylor**, **Tanner Warner**, **Will Warwick**, & **Trevor Watkins**.
- 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.

- As the prayer candle was extinguished by junior **Zachary Hagan**, 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!

**The Paper Wolf:** The all new DIGITAL Paper Wolf is updated each class period, thus keeping it relevant and interesting. We encourage you to SUBSCRIBE which will email you alerts when new content is added. The students are very excited about this new venture. So support them and subscribe to The Paper Wolf (which should now probably be called The Digital Wolf!) Here's the link: [www.thepaperwolf.com](http://www.thepaperwolf.com). Well done, Mrs. Simoneaux & Journalism class!

**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.

**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.*

**Tutoring:** The National Honor Society offers tutoring each Tue and Thu during ALL of Lunch in LaSalle Hall Room 205 and each Wed and Thu from 7:15AM in LaSalle Hall Room 212. It's much easier to be tutored early in the quarter than to wait until later in the quarter. The tutors are very friendly and helpful!

**Jazz 'N Roll:** Please JOIN US for Jazz 'N Roll "Rebirth" being held on Sat, Oct 5th. Jazz 'N Roll is in its 24th year and is filled with great food and beverages, a silent and verbal auction, the "Boogie Falaya" band, and an opportunity to visit with good friends. Tickets are available now in the Development Office or online at [www.stpauls.com](http://www.stpauls.com) (scroll to the bottom of the home page for the Jazz 'N Roll link).

**Unauthorized SPS Merchandise:** The website Prep Sportswear is selling Saint Paul's School merchandise WITHOUT OUR PERMISSION. SPS receives NOTHING from this unauthorized vendor. DO NOT patronize them. Here's their website: <http://prepsportswear.com/> which pops up on NOLA.com high school sports window. To add insult to injury, the shirt they are selling has a grammatical error! They spell "Saint Pauls" with no apostrophe! Now that really hurts me! How rude!

**Useless Fact of the Week:** At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart-sized containers. A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in 'pints' and who was drinking in 'quarts,' hence the phrase 'minding your 'P's and Q's'.

**Humor of the Week:** By popular demand (OK, two people asked!), more church bulletin typos & misplaced modifiers:

- *The congregation is asked to remain seated in church until the end of the recession.*
- *Men's Prayer Breakfast. No charge, but your damnation will be gratefully accepted.*
- *Today's Sermon: HOW MUCH CAN A MAN DRINK? With hymns from a full choir.*



- *Please join us as we show our support for Amy and Alan who are preparing for the girth of their first child.*
- *Next Sun is the family hayride and bonfire at the Fowlers. Bring your own hot dogs and guns & come for a fun time.*
- *Please welcome Pastor Don, a caring individual who loves hurting people.*
- *The third verse of Blessed Assurance will be sung without musical accomplishment.*
- *When parking on the north side of the church, please remember to park on an angel.*
- *New choir robes are needed, due to the addition of new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.*
- *This evening at 7 there will be a hymn singing in the park by the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.*
- *The pastor would like the ladies to lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*



*Seniors enjoy snack day!*

### **A Look Ahead:**

- September 16 – 9:00 Late Start for Faculty In-service
- September 17 – ASVAB test given to seniors in the BAC
- September 24 – Pack Time
- September 27 – All school mass – DRESS UNIFORM DAY FOR ALL.
- September 28 – Jr. High Homecoming Dance
- October 1 – President/Principal's Assembly – First sophomore Sudden Impact field trip
- October 4 – Homecoming – Pep Rally Schedule
- October 5 – Jazz 'n Roll in BAC
- October 8 – Pack Time
- October 11 – Periods AB meet/ Grandparents Day in BAC/ End of First Quarter
- October 14 – Late start for Teacher in service
- October 15 – President/Principal's Assembly – FAB meets

October 16 – PSAT test to 10<sup>th</sup> Graders in BAC

October 17 – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat/Service Day

October 18 – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat/Service Day – Redi-Step test to 8<sup>th</sup> Graders

October 21 – Teen-Life-Counts (TLC) program begins for sophomores during religion classes

October 22 – Pack Time – TLC for sophomores

October 23 – TLC for sophomores

October 24 – TLC for sophomores

October 25 – TLC for sophomores

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 writing the newsletter and LOLing as I do so): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Pray that we continue our good beginning as we settle into the rhythm of September! 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 2013-14 edition of Saint Paul's!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Can't Believe It's the Middle of September 2013 and I'm Still the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother  
President/Principal of Saint Paul's School

PS: Here's the answer to the Sep 17 Trivia Question: In 1787, the Constitution was officially signed in the city of Philadelphia.

**Lasallian Education – transforming lives since 1680 and doing the ordinary things extraordinarily well**