



## *The President/Principal's Newsletter for Oct 21 - 27, 2013*



*“Preach by example.*

*Practice before the eyes of the young what you wish them to accept.”*

*~ St. John Baptist De La Salle (Meditation 99.2)*

Saint John Baptist de La Salle did not just “talk the talk.” He knew that if the students and parents were to trust the Brothers, they needed to “walk the walk” as well. Accordingly, he insisted that the Brothers “preach by example.” I want all of us, too, to follow our Founder’s advice. Not only is it a good educational practice for teachers, it’s also a good parental practice for parents. Thanks for being such good examples for your children. Pray that we at Saint Paul’s live up to the Saint’s directive as well.

### **Mon, Oct 21 (Regular; B C D E)**

- **TDIH:** In 1967, 100,000 people marched on The Pentagon to protest the Vietnam War.
- **Babbling Day:** Calling all blatherskites (people who babble – yes, it’s a real word!): today isn’t a day to remain silent (except in church, of course.) We celebrate those with a glib tongue who never stop talking. They babble on and on and turn a simple one sentence statement into an endless dissertation. I’m not one of them, however!
- **National Pumpkin Cheesecake Day:** Don’t want to babble today? Then enjoy this classic fall dessert!
- **National Clean Your Virtual Desktop Day:** My virtual desktop is as messy as my wooden desktop!
- **National Health Education Week begins today.** The theme changes each year, but I emphasize the role of health education for adolescents. Some recent statistics from the Center for Disease Control:
  - 13.6% of high school boys rarely or never wear seat belts
  - 29.5% of high school boys rode with a drinking driver during the past month
  - 28.5% of high school boys carried a weapon during the past month
  - 44% of high school boys were in a physical fight during the past year
  - 09.2% of high school boys made a plan as to how they would attempt suicide during the past year.
  - According to Dr. Lloyd Kolbe, former Director of Adolescent School Health at the CDC, behaviors and attitudes developed during childhood are responsible for most causes of death, illness & disability, in the US.
  - **So what is a Lasallian school's response to the above?** For Saint La Salle, the school was a place of safety and salvation. He would accept nothing less. **As we work with our students, we attempt to be attuned to ALL of their safety issues: physical, mental, social, and spiritual. And let’s help them stay healthy!**

**Tue, Oct 22 (Wolf Pack; F G A B)**

- **TDIH:** In 1962, President John Kennedy announces to the American people that he has ordered a blockade of Cuba in response to the discovery that Soviet missiles were being installed on the island, pushing the US to a nuclear showdown with Russia.
- **CAPS LOCK DAY: FEEL FREE TO CAPITALIZE EVERYTHING TODAY!** I will abstain, however!
- **International Stuttering Awareness Day:** 1% of the population stutters or has some other speech impairment. Let's be sensitive to them and learn how to assist. There are some great tips on the ISAD website.
- **Safe Schools Environment Training in the BAC** (open to all parents & volunteers)
- **Football:** Jr Hi at Brother Martin (5:30)

**Wed, Oct 23 (Regular; C D E F):**

- **Feast of Blessed Brother Arnold**, a Christian Brother who lived from 1838-1890 & who was beatified by Pope John Paul II. From the Brothers' web site: *Arnold was born into a poor family and left school early to work as a stable boy, a coachman, and for local construction. He met the Brothers while attending evening classes at their school and joined. He taught for 14 years at a boarding school in Reims. Despite a full teaching schedule, he privately studied math, theology, science & agriculture which he taught. During Franco-Prussian War of 1870, he cared for medical & spiritual needs of the wounded on both sides; he was awarded the Bronze Cross. His work won the hearts of his students by his care for their spiritual and professional development. He died at 52 with a reputation for sanctity.* Would that people will say about us that we "won the hearts of students by our care for their spiritual & professional development" and that we had a "reputation for sanctity!" Blessed Brother Arnold— watch over us and inspire us!
- **Football:** 9<sup>th</sup> & JV v. Covington (5:30)



**Thu, Oct 24 (Regular; G A B C)**

- **Let Us Remember Dept:** Today marks the nine year anniversary of the death of Brother Bill Parsons – SPS English teacher extraordinaire! While fewer people at SPS remember Bill, his presence and influence continue. We remember Bill and his contribution to the Christian education of youth and take comfort in the role he played in our lives. Brother Bill, pray for us! In his memory, let's pay attention to our English today – and teach the entire period – which was something on which he insisted.
- **National Bologna Day:** Feel free to eat a bologna sandwich! I'll pass!
- **The Swallows Depart San Juan, Capistrano Today** as they head for their winter home in Argentina.
- **Swimming:** Aqua Wolves in Northshore League Championships (2 at PAC)

### **Fri, Oct 25 (Regular; D E F G)**

- **This Day in History.** In 1881, Pablo Picasso, co-founder of the Cubist movement and one of the greatest and most influential artists of the 20th century, is born in Malaga, Spain. Spend time today viewing some Picasso works. Here's a link: [http://www.google.com/images?q=picasso&oe=utf-8&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a&um=1&ie=UTF-8&source=univ&ei=D3XBTl\\_6AoT7lwff25nLCg&sa=X&oi=image\\_result\\_group&ct=title&resnum=4&ved=0CEoQsAQwAw&biw=1024&bih=578](http://www.google.com/images?q=picasso&oe=utf-8&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a&um=1&ie=UTF-8&source=univ&ei=D3XBTl_6AoT7lwff25nLCg&sa=X&oi=image_result_group&ct=title&resnum=4&ved=0CEoQsAQwAw&biw=1024&bih=578)
- **Sour Day:** Life given you lemons? Today's the day to shout about it. Reserve the right to be grumpy, irritable and sour about the world and everything in it. But tomorrow you've got to be sweet to everyone!
- **World Pasta Day:** Pile up your plate with a big dish of pasta and your favorite sauce!
- **Wellness Screening:** Our medical carrier, Christian Brothers Employee Benefit Trust, will offer all of our full time teachers free wellness screenings today, complete with flu shots and complete blood tests. We want our faculty to stay healthy and keep our insurance premiums down, which is proving more and more of a challenge.
- **Football:** Varsity at Covington (7)
- **Faith Bible Church:** SPS is allowing Rev. Alfred Young and his flock to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their church's founding in Covington in the BAC with a special dinner/program tonight. FBC does great work here in our community and several of our students are congregants. Congrats, FBC! Ad multos annos!

### **Sat, Oct 26**

- **TDIH:** In 1881, the Earp brothers face off against the Clanton-McLaury gang in a shootout at the OK Corral in Tombstone, AZ. Relive some Old West history today!
- **Howl at the Moon Day:** Release your inner wolf and go wild – full moon or not!
- **National Make A Difference Day:** Today (always 4<sup>th</sup> Sat of Oct) celebrates neighbors helping neighbors. Make a difference today, no matter how small, in another's life.
- **National Forgiveness Day:** The mission of NFD is to encourage people to ask for forgiveness and to forgive one another while creating an understanding of the power of love, the joy of forgiveness, and the peace of humility in the hearts of positive people. **I ask anyone whom I've offended to forgive me and I offer my forgiveness to anyone who wants it** – but I'm not easily offended so there are very few people out there that fall into that category!
- **ACT** administered on campus this morning
- **Swimming:** Aqua Wolves in cluster meet at UNO

### **Sun, Oct 27: We encourage Catholic families to attend mass and our other families to attend church of choice.**

- **TDIH:** In 1858, Theodore Roosevelt is born in NY City. In his honor today, speak softly, but carry a big stick! Trivia Question: Vice President TR ascended to the presidency when what president was assassinated? Answer at end of newsletter.

- **Cranky Co-Workers Day:** Let cranky co-workers enjoy their miseries. Fortunately, we have no cranky SPS ones -- just a cranky President/Principal. And with no school today, no one has to put up with me!
- **Mother in Law Day:** OK all you married people! Do something special for your mothers in law today!



*Jr Hi CC Wolves place 2<sup>nd</sup> in Catholic High Meet!*

**Football Game Incident:** The unfortunate incident finally came to rest last week when Covington Mayor Mike Cooper and Chief Tim Lentz requested DA Walter Reed to drop charges against the arrested referees. Throughout the whole ordeal, our position was to support all parties in this matter. We still respect and support the Covington PD and wish to retain their services for our security needs. We support and applaud the Mayor, Chief, and DA for their swift and healing actions. We assure the referees that we will do all we can to insure their

safety by making whatever internal changes may be needed in our game day procedures. I am especially grateful to Craig Ketelsen, who was our official spokesman and who bore the brunt of the media feeding frenzy and the LHSAA inquiries that accompanied this incident. You have no idea how many people were calling. Craig acquitted himself in an exemplary manner under some tough questioning. We now move on.

**Open House for 2014-15 Prospective Students:** Again, I need you! This annual event will take place on Sun, Nov 3, at 1 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. Please encourage families who are thinking about sending their sons to Saint Paul's to attend this event. Naturally, if a current or former student has a sibling interested in attending, he is encouraged to attend as well. Remember that siblings of current or former students are given priority in the admission process but they must **APPLY ON TIME**. Applications will be due the week after Open House. Thank you for promoting Saint Paul's School. Parents and students are our best form of public relations. Your personal recommendation counts so much more to a prospective family than all the PR materials in the world. If you would like us to send a post card invitation to the Open House, please email me the family's name and address. Thanks!

**Report Cards:** Report cards were emailed last week. Let us know if you didn't receive it. Please speak with your son about his grades and the teacher comments. If improvement is needed, please make a plan with him to accomplish the improvement. Remember that first quarter grades count as 40% of the semester grade. First quarter grades **DO NOT** go on a student's transcript. **ONLY SEMESTER** grades are entered on the transcript.

**Honor Roll Breakfasts:** We look forward to recognizing our First Quarter HR students and their parents at this event (SPS pioneered HR breakfasts in our area starting in 1990.). We will continue to have the breakfasts in the cafeteria. Since the cafeteria can only handle so many people, we must do the breakfasts by level. You will receive an emailed invitation to the breakfast, but here's the schedule:

Mon, Nov 11 – HR Breakfast for Grade 8 HR students and their parents  
Wed, Nov 13 – HR Breakfast for Grade 9 HR students and their parents  
Thu, Nov 14 – HR Breakfast for Grade 10 HR students and their parents  
Fri, Nov 15 – HR Breakfast for Grade 11 HR students and their parents  
Mon, Nov 18 – HR Breakfast for Grade 12 HR students and their parents

**Teen Life Counts:** Our annual suicide prevention program begins this week with the sophomores and continues over the next two weeks. The two part program will teach students how to identify the warning signs of depression and suicide, how to talk to a troubled friend, and where to go for help. They are also taught the importance of breaking a secret to save a life and the danger of alcohol and substance abuse, particularly by those who are depressed or suicidal. Please contact the Counseling Department should you have any questions or concerns regarding this program.

This program is important. We have already dealt with a couple of students this year who either wrote or voiced suicidal thoughts. And we are still one of our students whose sister committed suicide in Aug. We take seriously ANY written or voiced suicide thought. Our policy is to contact parents immediately, stay with the student until a parent arrives, and excuse the student from class until cleared by a mental health professional. St. Tammany Parish continues to have an unusually high rate of suicide, and we must do all we can to prevent it. Thanks to Counselor Caroline Cheatwood for organizing and for Mrs. Mimi Voelkel and Jewish Family Services for putting on this program.

If anyone is interested in volunteering with the Teen Life Counts school-based suicide awareness and intervention program, please contact Mimi Voelkel at [mvoelkel@charter.net](mailto:mvoelkel@charter.net). Once trained, volunteers will be asked to present the program in high schools throughout the Greater New Orleans area.

**Mock Crash:** Another leading cause of teenage deaths is auto accidents. Last year at this time, our juniors and seniors witnessed a mock crash due to impaired driving. It was powerful. WDSU TV filmed a segment which is still on its website and worth viewing again. Here's the link:

<http://www.wdsu.com/news/local-news/northshore/Event-aims-to-steer-teen-drivers-from-distracted-impaired-driving/-/12537650/16960888/-/uoy28ez/-/index.html>

**The State of Education:** The College Board recently released its 2013 SAT Report on College & Career Readiness. The report reveals that **fewer than half (43% to be exact) of all SAT takers in the high school class of 2013 were academically prepared for the rigors of college-level course work. This number has remained virtually unchanged during the last five years.** From the report: *With our country struggling to compete in the global marketplace — and with millions of skilled jobs left unfilled — there is a heightened focus on understanding how our students are performing academically and in ensuring that they are college and career ready. While some might see stagnant scores as no news, the College Board considers them a call to action. These scores can and must change.* Read the complete



report at: <http://media.collegeboard.com/homeOrg/content/pdf/sat-report-college-career-readiness-2013.pdf>

**Personal Rant:** It's amazing to me that with the billions we are spending on school reform, including the mistaken notion that technology (aka an i-pad in every hand) is going to solve all of our educational problems, that we are just not seeing the results that we not only want but need for the future of our country. Eventually we are going to have to accept the fact that learning is hard work – and react accordingly, without making excuses as to why Johnny or Jane isn't learning. The "learning is fun" movement can take us only so far..... I'll stop there for now before I get in trouble.

**Good News Dept:** Last week SPS received \$9,000 from The Toler Foundation. One does not apply to this foundation as they seek anonymity. A Foundation member was so pleased with what we did for his grandson (now a successful engineer), that he asks the Foundation to remember Saint Paul's. The powerful work we do comes back to bless us! Keep up the good work. Over the past 14 years, the Toler Foundation has donated over \$550,000 to SPS!

Anyone know of any other Foundations willing to invest in our school?

**Last Tue's Assembly:** I hope the students enjoyed our Oct 15 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Listened to a stirring rendition of Hail Holy Queen Enthroned Above as performed by the Music Ministry of Mary Queen of Peace Parish. I explained the significance of this traditional Catholic hymn to Mary and reminded students that October is a month the Church dedicates in a special way to Our Blessed Mother. I informed them that once again, an SPS mom who has had five sons graduate from Saint Paul's, has given us hundreds of hundreds of rosaries for free distribution through religion classes. I encouraged them to keep a rosary in their pockets and pray a "Hail Mary" or decade when waiting or walking. We are grateful to this SPS mom for fostering our devotion to Mary!
- Prayed in a special way, as the prayer candle was lit by junior **Ryan Keller**, for the following who have entered eternal rest since our last assembly: senior Garrett Johannsen's maternal grandmother; Matthew & Zachary Gallagher's grandfather, Hubert Shields "Hubie" Gallagher, Jr., a 1960 graduate of Saint Paul's, and the great-uncle of pre-freshman Patrick Kenny, Mr. William Freiburger.
- Recognized and congratulated junior Beau Briggs who did something pretty phenomenal for a young man: donated over \$10,000 to two local charities (the Covington Food Bank and the Kelly Gibson Foundation,) through his golfing efforts. Beau obtained pledges for each eagle or birdie he made at his tournaments last summer. Beau chose The Covington Food Bank because it is an organization that focuses on helping impoverished families in the Greater Covington area. He has volunteered in the past for this worthy cause and has seen the impact it makes on the community. He knows the Covington Food Bank makes a difference in many peoples' lives. He chose The Kelly Gibson Foundation because it is a community-driven charity dedicated to improving the lives of those who live in New Orleans and the surrounding areas with an emphasis on supporting children's athletic programs, first responders and military initiatives. Beau then presented two checks to representatives of these two organizations, Mr. Kelly Gibson himself and Mrs. Gail Anderson of the Covington Food

Bank: One for \$3,400 to the Covington Food Bank and the other to the Kelly Gibson Foundation in the amount of \$6,800. The reason the Kelly Gibson amount is double that of the Covington Food Bank is because the AJGA's (American Junior Golf Association) Leadership Links Program matches donations. Also present were Beau's parents, Travis & Erika Briggs and his two brothers, Nicholas and Bennett. The whole gym applauded enthusiastically.

- **Lasallian Young Leader Faiz Salam** then introduced Tchefuncta Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> grader Sean Noel, who, together with his sister, conduct the annual "Warm Hearts" drive in western St. Tammany to collect blankets, hats, gloves and socks to distribute to others less fortunate. To date, they have collected more than 10,000 items to help warm the hearts and souls in our community. However, we still need your help to have a successful collection in 2013 and 2014. Sean told the SPS student body that every student in that gym can better the life of someone less fortunate. Collectively, we have the power to make the world a better place, but individually we have the power to make one person's life better. It was a powerful message. **With Sean's presentation, the Lasallian Young Leaders officially launched the SPS Warm Hearts drive. If you "gently used" blankets, coats, sweaters, or socks to donate, send them to school with you son.**
- Recognized and congratulated junior **Ryan O'Krepki** who was named last week as the Metro Football Player of the Week by the New Orleans quarterback club, Sportsnola.com, and Friday Night Football. Quite an accomplishment!
- Recognized and congratulated **Coach Ken Sears** who was named the NFL New Orleans Saints Coach of the Week and will appear on an upcoming episode of the Coach Sean Payton show. Well done!
- Recognized and congratulated an unknown senior who went out of his way to help the mom of a new 8<sup>th</sup> grader at our recent Parent Night. The mom was so impressed that she wanted to give a special "thank you" to this senior. Since I didn't know who it was, we all applauded and I asked the senior to self-identify after the assembly. It turned out to be our own **Bryan Livaudais!** Well done, Bryan!
- Encouraged the student body to promote our upcoming Open House and the best way they can do that is by acting as exemplary Lasallians in the community.
- 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 for all of the activities going on around school.
- As the prayer candle was extinguished by junior **Cayman Angelle**, 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 "Hail Holy Queen Enthroned Above." It was a great assembly!

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

- **Last Monday's Faculty Meeting** was productive. Thanks for cooperating with our late start. I hope no one was inconvenienced.

- **Football:** 8<sup>th</sup> grade Wolves had a big win over Ponchy Jr Hi; 9th & JV displayed strong victories on Wednesday; Varsity followed suit on Friday with a thrilling come-from-behind overtime win.
- **Marching Wolves & Golden Blues, & Cheerleaders:** As always, the MWs, GBs & CLs performed great on Fri!
- **Swimming:** The Aqua Wolves made a splash last Wed afternoon!
- **Cross Country:** How 'bout 'dem Wolves! Another First Place win at the Walker Shoot Out.
- **Lasallian Young Leaders:** This group deserves kudos for their Warm Hearts Clothes Drive (see above.)
- **The OLL Living Rosary** was spiritually uplifting as OLL school community prayed to Our Blessed Mother. I was honored to have been present. And the balloon rosary rose spectacularly on cue to the cheers of the OLL student body.
- **Thu Night Study & Supper Club** continues the Lasallian Mission in a unique way. Thanks to all staff & NHS members who give of their time to help our students who need some extra academic attention and thanks to the Mothers Club for supplying the supper!
- **PSAT & Redi Step:** Kudos to Counseling Dept for successful test administrations last week. I was proud of the students for the seriousness they displayed in taking these grueling tests.
- **SAT:** Don Pressley and his proctors administered a problem-free test (except for the test itself, of course, and some rain.) Let's hope that the results will help raise those stagnant national scores.
- **Respect Life Mass:** A delegation of twelve Wolves (Nick Blaise, Eric Boudet, Daniel Conlin, Logan Cook, Kole Gorney, Austin Grashoff, Graham Jordan, Jean-Paul Juge, Ben Kenney, Handsome Monica, Colin Skinner, Lane Sumrall) represented us well. Thanks!
- **Freshman Retreat & Service Days** went very well. Many thanks to those whose hard work made it so.

**From the Counseling Office:** the following college will visit SPS this week:

- 10/21/13 -- Birmingham-Southern College—Birmingham, AL—Will be visiting Saint Paul's today at 9:00AM. Interested juniors and seniors need to see Mrs. Miller for a pass to be excused from class. [www.bsc.edu](http://www.bsc.edu)
- 10/21/13—LSU—Baton Rouge, LA—Will be visiting Saint Paul's during lunch today. [www.lsu.edu](http://www.lsu.edu)
- 10/22/13—University of Alabama—Tuscaloosa, AL—Will be visiting Saint Paul's during lunch today. [www.ua.edu](http://www.ua.edu)
- 10/23/13—University of Dallas—Dallas, TX— will visit SPS at 10:30AM today. Interested juniors and seniors need to see Mrs. Miller for a pass to be excused from class. [www.udallas.edu](http://www.udallas.edu)

**From the Athletic Department:** All athletes must have current paperwork on file with Mrs. Claire in the athletic office PRIOR to participating in any capacity (including tryouts.) According to the LHSAA Handbook, to be eligible for interscholastic athletics, **each year prior to the first time a student practices or participates in a sport**, all athletic paperwork must be properly completed and signed by the student's parent(s) or guardian.



**From the Touchdown Club:** *Let Texas Roadhouse cook for your family and friends on Thursday, October 24th. Please advise your wait staff you are there for St. Paul's night, and a portion of your bill will be donated to SPS!!! Let's pack Texas Roadhouse.....Thanks for your support of the Wolves!*

**Service Opportunities:**

- Mary Queen of Peace is having their annual Fleur de Fall fundraiser on Sat, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, on their school and church campus in the evening. They need help and service hours will be awarded. Sign up in the Attendance Office by Mrs. Claire's desk.
- The 2013 Crescent City Cyclist Ride for Kids benefiting Children's Hospital of New Orleans will be on Sat, Nov 2, 2013 at St. Benedict's Church at the corner of Smith Road and Stafford Road in Covington. See campus ministry to sign up. Lots of opportunities to gain hours.



*Wolves work on writing with potato chips aiding the creative process.*

**Recycling Is Back at SPS:** We are starting to recycle again and the community can drop off PLASTIC and ALUMINUM ONLY (no glass, no paper) at the rear of the campus on Jefferson and 13<sup>th</sup> next to the shed. The tall trash cans will be placed there tomorrow. Do not to drop off items next to the dumpster next to the student center

**From the Mothers Club:**

- **Bookstore:** For your convenience, the MC Bookstore will now be open before school from 7:15 - 8:00, during lunch from 11:00 - 12:30, and after school from 2:30 - 3:30. Anyone interested in working with our awesome team may contact Elizabeth Grashoff at [ehgrashoff@bellsouth.net](mailto:ehgrashoff@bellsouth.net).
- **Safe Environment Training:** There will be a Safe Environment Training at St. Paul's on Tuesday, Oct. 22nd at 10:00 am, in the Briggs Assembly Center. All parents are encouraged to attend this important seminar. Certification in Safe Environment Training is valid for three years, so make sure you are up to date!
- **Pencil Pouches** have finally arrived! Anyone who ordered one in their Supply Pack may pick it up in the bookstore. (The pouches were included in all 8th Grade packs!)

**Yearbook Ordering:** The yearbook ordering process is *all* digital this year, taking payments directly through our new website -- no need to bring in checks! Anyone wishing to purchase a 2014 yearbook should go to [stpauls.com](http://stpauls.com) and go to the "Student Life" section where you can order a book, pay for a senior ad, etc. SENIORS DO NOT NEED TO ORDER A BOOK AS ONE WAS INCLUDED IN YOUR SENIOR FEES.

**Lunches:** PLEASE don't bring lunches to school for your sons as we definitely are not equipped to deliver lunches to students. We don't have the personnel, so please don't ask us. And PLEASE encourage your son to take care of his lunch box if he brings he school. We have MANY, MANY lunch boxes ALL over campus.

**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!

**Contests:** We've added a webpage listing various contests for students to enter (<http://www.stpauls.com/academics/academic-contests/>). Why enter contests? Many reasons:

- Students can win prizes (a number of our guys won cash prizes last year)
- It looks great on college resumes
- It prepares students for the competitive life of the real world.

Yes, it's a little extra work, but the rewards are worth it – even if students don't win. Encourage your son to explore academic, artistic, musical and other contests.

**Community Coffee Seals:** We are now collecting these, too, which can be redeemed for cash to help SPS. Your son should bring them to his math teacher.

### **Important Facts of the Week:**

- 1) About 5.9 million (15.3 percent) of the 9.3 million 12- to 20-year-olds who reported past-month drinking were classified as binge drinkers according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA].
- 2) Of the 4.3 million people who first began using alcohol during the past year, about 58.3 percent were younger than age 18 (SAMHSA).
- 3) Among high school girls, the prevalence of current alcohol use was 37.8 percent in 2011 (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).
- 4) There is too much underage drinking among the high school students of St. Tammany, including SPS students, – according to me.

**H of the W:** Hilarious “daffynitions” sent to me by a pun and word-loving parent. You have to think on some of them:

*ARBITRATOR: A cook that leaves Arby's to work at McDonalds*

*AVOIDABLE: What a bullfighter tries to do*

*BERNADETTE: The act of torching a mortgage*

*BURGLARIZE: What a crook sees with*

*CONTROL: A short, ugly inmate*

*COUNTERFEITERS: Workers who install kitchen counters*

*ECLIPSE: What a Cockney barber does for a living*

*EYEDROPPER: A clumsy ophthalmologist*

*HEROES: What a guy in a boat does*

*LEFTBANK: What the robber did when his bag was full of mone*

**A Look Ahead:**

October 29 – President/Principal’s Assembly/ Snack Day

October 31 – Dia de Los Muertos in BAC

November 1 – Mass – dress uniform day

November 3 – Open House

November 4 – Late Start

November 5 – Pack Time

November 6 – Engineering Open House for Parents 6:30

November 11 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Roll Breakfast

November 12 – President/Principal’s Assembly

November 13 – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Roll Breakfast

November 14 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat/Service Day – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Roll Breakfast

November 15 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat/Service Day – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Roll Breakfast

November 18 – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Roll Breakfast

November 19 – Pack Time

November 22 – No classes meet – Faculty at Huether Conference

December 2 – Parent/Teacher Meetings in BAC -6:30 – PLAN test to Sophomores

December 2-6 – PLAN Test to Sophomores during W. History classes

December 3 – President/Principal’s Assembly

December 5 – Blood Drive

December 9 – Mass

December 10 – Pack Time

December 12 – Snack Day

December 11-13 – Reconciliation in Chapel

December 17-20 Exams

Whew! I’ve worn you out again this week! As usual, I’ll close with my usual paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I’m listening to now and LOLing): well, it’s happened again – you’ve

squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings! Let me know if there's an issue you would like me to address in my newsletters or a question you think applies to others.

Pray that things go well! We're already into the second week of the second quarter! Time marches relentless on, and the only thing we can do about it is decide how we use each second of each minute of each day of each week of each month of each....OK, you get the idea.

May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and your family. Again, thanks for being part of the 2013-14 edition of Saint Paul's – our 102<sup>nd</sup> year of existence!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Still Grateful Beyond Words to be the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President/Principal of Saint Paul's School

Trivia Question Answer:

Oct 27: Teddy Roosevelt was Vice President under President William McKinley. When McKinley was assassinated just months into his second term, TR then became the youngest man to be president at 42.



**...and where we do ordinary things extraordinarily well**