



# IF YOU ARE NOT A BETTER PERSON TOMORROW THAN YOU ARE TODAY, WHAT NEED HAVE YOU FOR A TOMORROW?

--Rebbe Nachman, an Hasidic rabbi who lived and taught in Ukraine from 1802 to 1810.

### I BEG YOUR PARDON FOR MY OFFENSES AND OMISSIONS OF TODAY, AND I RESOLVE TO MAKE TOMORROW A BETTER DAY.

--SPS End of Day Prayer

#### Mon, Aug 25 (Regular; G A B C)

- This Day in History: In 1944, French General Jacques LeClerc enters Paris, freeing it from German control during WW II.
- Kiss and Make Up Day. Today is a great day to end a spat, a fight, an argument, or a feud. And it can be fun! The "kiss" is optional, but everyone is encouraged today to "bury the hatchet" over an argument or disagreement.
- National Banana Split Day celebrates the invention of this treat in 1904. Splurge 'n eat a Banana Split today!
- General Alumni Meeting: 6:30 in the cafeteria

#### Tue, Aug 26 (Assembly; D E F G)



- **This Day in History:** In 1974, Charles Lindbergh, the *LYLs sell smoothies to support Cov Food Bank.* first man to fly solo nonstop across the Atlantic, dies at the age of 72. Trivia Question: What was the name of Lindbergh's plane in which he first crossed Atlantic? Answer at end of newsletter.
- National Dog Day: Give Fideaux an extra treat today and make sure you appreciate your pet!
- President's Assembly:
- Catholic Secondary Principals Association meets today at Holy Cross High School. Trevor will now have the privilege of representing SPS with this august group from the 22 Catholic high schools of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Had I kept the principal title this year, I would have become the "Dean" of this group the longest serving principal. For a number of years now, Sister Camille Ann of Mt. Carmel Academy held that title, but this year she is assuming the presidency of the MCA as I am at SPS. So the Dean title now is bestowed on Mr. Drew Cupit, principal of St. Charles Catholic in LaPlace, who became principal of SCC the year after I become principal of SPS in 1987!
- **Reagan Hill:** Reagan is scheduled to visit campus this afternoon about 2 pm along with this PT to take a preliminary walk through his schedule. His release date is still Aug 29 and we hope to see him here, even on a limited basis, next week. We look forward to welcoming him! He will be moving slowly and will need help carrying books, etc. but we are ready to handle all of that.



After marching through the arch, seniors sing "Rise Up O Men o God" at Founder's statue.

## Wed, Aug 27 (Regular; Memorial of St. Monica; A B C D)

• **St. Monica:** Today's feast is a special one for all moms, as Monica prayed for years for the conversion of her son, Augustine, who strayed far from the path of righteousness. Her persistent prayer paid off and Augustine became one of the greatest saints in the church. (See below.) Thanks, St. Monica!

• **TDIH:** Brother Ralph Baltz, a member of our retired Christian Brothers Community (though he still works as hard as most people half his age) celebrates his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday today. We offer him our prayer and best wishes on this special day. We thank him for his life as a Christian Brother in the cause of Lasallian education. *Ad multos annos. Bro!* 

• **TDIH II:** In 1910, Mother Teresa is born. In honor of her birth, coincidentally on the same day as Brother Ralph's birth, I reprint one of her most famous prayers which I've used before but which is always worth rereading:

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

- Cross Country: Time Trials/Meet the Team
- **Dad's Club Meeting:** 6:30/Abita Brewery All dads are invited! Come get involved with this great group of SPS dads.

**Thu, Aug 28 (Memorial of St. Augustine; Regular; E F G A)** Today we celebrate Augustine, a most influential scholar saint. His story offers us much by way of inspiration. From Catholic Online: *Augustine is the patron of brewers because of his conversion from a life of loose living, parties, and worldly ambitions. His turnaround and conversion have inspired many who struggle with a particular vice they long to break.* 

This son of St. Monica was born in Africa and spent years in wicked living. One of the most intelligent men who ever lived and brought up a Christian, his sins of impurity and pride darkened his mind. Through prayers of his mother and St. Ambrose's preaching, Augustine became convinced that Christianity was the true religion. Yet he did not become a Christian because he thought he could never live a pure life. One day he heard about two men who had been converted, and he felt terribly ashamed. "What are we doing?" he cried to his friend Alipius. "Unlearned people are taking Heaven by force, while we, with all our knowledge, are so cowardly that we keep rolling around in the mud of our sins!"



Seniors enjoy breakfast following March through the Arch

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

He was baptized, became a priest, bishop, famous Catholic writer, Founder of religious priests, and a great saint. On the wall of his room he had the following written in large letters: "Here we do not speak evil of anyone."

Augustine overcame heresies, practiced poverty supported the poor, preached often and prayed with great fervor until his death. His holy life made up for the sins he committed before his conversion. The following prayer by Augustine is beautiful:

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

- **TDIH:** In 1963, 51 years ago today, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King delivers his now famous "I Have a Dream Speech" to about 250,000 people attending the March on Washington. I encourage you to read or view Dr. King's speech today. It remains a stirring testament to freedom and equality and it's an excellent piece of writing and speech making! Here's a link where you can hear Dr. King's speech and read the text at the same time: <u>http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkihaveadream.htm</u>
- Race Your Mouse Around the Icons Day -- While you're waiting for whatever it is to finally come up on your screen, race your mouse in and around the icons. Do it and you'll feel peppy.

#### Fri, Aug 29 (Regular; B C D E)

- **TDIH:** In 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastates south Louisiana and floods the New Orleans. We remain grateful to the incredible support from so many people who helped in the aftermath of the storm to welcome displaced students, care for our own students, and keep hope alive on our campus -- all while dealing with their own issues and challenges. Their work at that difficult time was in the finest tradition of heroic Lasallian education.
- TDIH II: Two years ago, Tropical Storm Isaac bashes south LA; SPS is closes for four days!
- More Herbs, Less Salt Day: Pretty self-explanatory!
- **Football**: JV & Varsity v. Archbishop Rummel, the defending state champs, in the Christian Brothers Jamboree (6).

#### Sat, Aug 30

- **TDIH:** In 1893, Huey Pierce Long ("The Kingfish") was born in Winnfield, LA.
- National Marshmallow Toasting Day: OK, you were healthy yesterday with less salt, so you can splurge today and toast a marshmallow. Or make some 'smores for the family!
- Slinky Day: The humble Slinky was invented in the 1940's by Navy engineer Richard James. It proved an immediate hit, quickly became one of our favorite toys. Slinky Day should be spent doing slinky tricks, watching Slinkies race down staircases, or untangling the things as they inevitably knot, twist and spiral! Dig out your Slinky!



Student hosts assist at New Parent Reception

#### Sun, Aug 31 -- Attend church today. We encourage our Catholic Families to attend mass as a family today.

- We encourage non-Catholic families to worship at place of choice.
- **TDIH:** In 1997, Diana, Princess of Wales, dies in a car crash in Paris.
- Love Litigating Lawyers Day. Give your favorite litigator a big 'ol hug today and hope you aren't sued!
- **Trail Mix Day:** Trail mix is a high energy snack comprised of dried fruits, nuts and energy snacks, designed to keep you alert and energized when walking, hiking, and partaking in similar endurance and intense activities. **Trail Mix Day** is all about creating good trail mix and testing it out. After yesterday's marshmallows, go back to healthy today!

#### Mon, Sep 1 (Labor Day Holiday – no classes)

• TDIH: In 1939, 1.5 million German soldiers invade Poland, thus beginning WW II.

**The Ugly Dept:** I'm deeply saddened and embarrassed to write about this – but I must as I don't hide things. Last Wed, we learned that five of students were recently involved in an alcohol drinking episode in an area neighborhood which resulted in vandalism. They were engaged in something called "fridging" – stealing liquor (or other items) from refrigerators located in people's garages. I guess "fridging" doesn't sound as bad as "breaking and entering" or "stealing" – but that's exactly what it is. Since the boys violated our handbook injunction about doing anything "on or off campus which harms the reputation of the school," we took disciplinary action. How sad. Parents – PLEASE speak to your son about proper behavior. Please monitor alcohol. Ask him if he knows what "fridging" is – and that it's a crime. We pray every day at school for the grace to make the right choices. Please do everything you can to prevent a repeat of this tragic event.

**The Good Dept:** After the above, I needed this: Last week a wallet was found by a student and brought to Coach Sears' office. Coach was not there, so the student left the wallet on Coach's desk. The wallet contained \$300. This student could easily have taken the money – but he didn't. We've been trying to identify the student so we could congratulate and thank him for his honesty, but he's choosing to remain anonymous. Know that I've said a prayer for this student – may his good work pay big rewards for him in the future.

But I must ask the question: Why was a student carrying \$300 in cash at school? He said he was supposed to buy clothes in the Book Store – great, but PLEASE DON'T BRING THAT MUCH CASH TO SCHOOL!

Jazz n Roll: Join us for the 25th anniversary of Jazz 'N Roll on Saturday, October 4th, 2014! 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: http://www.stpauls.com/support/events/jazz-n-roll/jnr-order/ Contact the Advancement Office (892-3200, ext 1270, for more info.



Meet the Schools of San Francisco New Orleans: So far I've highlighted La Salle High School in Yakima, WA and La Salle Catholic College Prep in Milwaukie, OR. This week, it's De La Salle North Catholic in Portland, OR. From their website: De La Salle North Catholic High School provides a faith-based, college preparatory high school education to underserved students from the Portland area. Our goal is to develop tomorrow's community leaders by making high-quality education accessible to motivated young people in a learning environment that values cultural, spiritual, and ethnic diversity. Our educational

approach provides each student with the opportunity to succeed through small classes, high expectations, and active participation in our Corporate Internship Program. We don't turn away any capable, motivated or interested student because they cannot afford our tuition. The unique feature about the school is that it belongs to the Cristo Rey Networks of schools, which serve the underprivileged students by having them work one day a week in a Corporate Internship Program. Again, from the website: Each day, a quarter of our students are offsite, working from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. in a real, entry-level white-collar job in the corporate world....Students earn 50% of the cost of their education and develop a full appreciation for the value of education through the program, while employers reap the benefits of increased workplace diversity, motivated student employees, mentorship, and community development. Students are employed throughout the Portland metro area in diverse settings, including financial institutions, healthcare, hospitality, law firms, retail, and universities. Sponsoring companies contract with the Corporate Internship Program to fill full-time, entry-level positions with De La Salle North students. Each student works five days per month in a job-sharing team comprised of four students. Working in a rotating schedule, each team fills one FTE job in a standard Monday-through-Friday business week schedule. DLS North Catholic is certainly leading by example in terms of service to the poor. Their mascot is "Meteors" and website is http://www.delasallenorth.org/. BTW, an SPS alumnus, Daniel Maher '03, teaches at the school!

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

- New Parent Reception: Thanks to all who attended. I hope it was informative.
- Football Scrimmage: Thanks to all who helped. It went very well.
- Get Involved Day: I hope your son told you about it and signed up for clubs and activities.
- Senior Week: Thanks to all who helped make the Senior BBQ, the March through Arch, Senior Breakfast, Unity Day, and Senior Ring Ceremony so successful. Special thanks to the following:

- To Mark and Liam Dixon, owners of The Broken Egg restaurant in Mandeville, who provided the food for the Senior/Parent Post March Breakfast. The fare was plentiful and delicious.
- To Chick-fil-A on Highway 21 for donating lunch for the seniors on Unity Day. Also thanks to the Chick-fil-A on Highway 190 for its generosity to us as well.
- To the **Senior Parents** who cooked and served at the Senior BBQ.
- To the Mothers Club supplied food for the post Ring Ceremony reception

#### As you can see, food played a major role in the Senior Week events!

- **Pack Time:** I hope your son enjoyed his first Pack Time last Tuesday.
- Football: Meet the Team breakfast was successful on Sat. Thanks, Touchdown Club!
- Cross Country: GREAT article on the Wolves in last week's NO Advocate! Here's the link if you didn't read it: <u>http://www.theneworleansadvocate.com/sports/pr</u> <u>eps/10027511-123/eric-coston-and-the-rest</u>



Students enjoy "popsicle day" at the Advancement Office.

- LYL Retreat: A large group spent Fri evening in retreat as they prepare to lead the other levels in their retreat. Thanks to the LYLs for their commitment.
- **Popsicle Day:** Thank to Development for providing a nice free treat on a very hot day on Friday to the student body.

**Pre-Freshmen (8<sup>th</sup> Grade) Five Core Rally Last Friday:** Our Lasallian Youth Leaders provided a special activity for our Pre-Freshmen (8<sup>th</sup> graders) last Friday. The period (about 80 minutes) involved prayer, food, and games all centered on the Lasallian Core Principles – to which our newest Wolves are being introduced. The students responded appropriately and had a good time. It was a nice "reward" for them for having completed their first full week of Lasallian education.

**Extracurricular Activities**: Clubs and teams have begun forming. Get Involved Day, which will introduce our students to a wide variety of activities, will be this Tuesday. Encourage your son to get involved. So far we've had callouts for all sorts of activities. Research shows correlations between academic achievement and extracurricular involvement. So far, we've had call outs for football, cross country, swimming, the Guerilla Wolves Video Club, the Liturgical Band, the Marching Wolves, the Paper Wolf Newspaper, Student Hosts – to



name just a few.

**Cafeteria Payments:** To pay on line, go to the web site <u>www.schoolcafe.org</u> 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.

**Traffic:** Please drive carefully and, if your son drives to school, stress traffic safety with him. We've already learned of a few accidents on the way to and from school. 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.

**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.

**2013-14 Yearbooks:** The yearbooks have arrived and members of the Class of 2014 are already claiming their copies. For the rest of the school, distribution was last Friday. Note the following:

Fly Fishing Club members demonstrate their craft as they recruit new members on GID! If any student feels they ordered one, and did not receive one, please have him (or a

• If any student feels they ordered one, and did not receive one, please have him (or a parent) email Andrew Dart at <u>andrewd@stpauls.com</u> so we can double check our records.

If a student asks if he can buy one, he can be put on a waiting list by mailing the same andrewd@stpauls.com, but we don't have many leftovers to sell.

**Wolves Football**: *Please join in for the 2014 Wolves Adult Social*.... Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> in the BAC, the Band is The Issue, Cocktails start at 7:00 the band starts for 8:00. *Tickets are* \$25.00 at the door... For information and details about reserving a table, contact Debbie Bodenheimer, 985-502-1315. *The atmosphere is casual and festive! Don't miss out.* 

Helping Saint Paul's: Don't forget – here are two 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.



The Paper Wolf: Please read The Paper Wolf! (<u>www.thepaperwolf.com</u>) I do! We've got an outstanding,

AWARD WINNING digital newspaper! Compliment the outstanding staff. Subscribe! Support the future of journalism! Geaux Paper Wolves!

**Senior Parents:** Last week you received an important email from Mrs. Renee Miller, senior counselor. Please pay attention to all of the college admission information it contained. Also, please note that Senior Portraits will be taken on campus on Sep 11 & 12 during Civics class. Students must be in compliance with our grooming regulations, especially haircuts, in order to take portraits.

**Driver's License Proof of Attendance:** Don't forget: you 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!

**Texting and Driving:** I'm sure you've heard about this video, but here's the link to an amazing short documentary on texting and driving. The film was directed by the brilliant Werner Herzog (*Grizzly Man*, *Encounter's at the End of the World, Aguirre the Wrath of God*, etc.). The documentary contains four stories of people affected by car accidents caused by texting. The film is only 34 minutes and it is hauntingly beautiful with

tragedy and forgiveness. We still have many students texting and driving! Here's the link: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\_BqFkRwdFZ0</u>



**Botanical Wolves**: The BWs continue campus beautification efforts and our campus is looking better than ever. Many thanks, Botanical Wolves! Feel free to join them in watering, weeding, and / planting.

**ID Cards and Lanyards:** Students MUST wear their ID cards on their lanyards EVERY DAY. This is part of our enhanced safety plan to insure that only SPS students are on campus during the school day. Parents – please stress this with your sons and insist that they comply. If your son loses his ID, he may order a new one for \$5 by seeing Ms. Janet in the Administration Building.

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.* 

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. Some do but some didn't last week and we had a couple of parents in a quandary wondering where their sons were.

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**To the Anonymous Parent:** This issue you wrote me about has been addressed and you won't see this again. I regret, however, that I have not earned your trust enough that you would speak to me directly. I'll work harder at that.

Humor of the Week: If you're still reading, you deserve some H of the W:

- A computer once beat me at chess but it was no match for me at kick boxing.
- *I intend to live forever; so far so good.*
- What did the gang member say when several houses fell on him? Get off me homes! [homies? Get it?]
- A: Why are you crying? B: The elephant is dead. A: Was he your pet? B. No, I've got to dig the grave.
- Me: I know a man with a wooden leg named Smith. You: What's the name of his other one?

- Patient: I have a pain in my eye when I drink tea. Doctor: take the spoon out first.
- Two fish are in a tank. One looks at the other and says you man the guns, I'll drive!
- My opinions change but not the fact that I am right.
- Patient: Doctor, I've got a strawberry up my nose. Doctor: I'll get you some cream for that.
- What's the difference between a Ferrari and a lawn mower? I don't have a Ferrari in my garage
- What is the best thing about being 104 years old? Very little peer pressure.
- Always borrow money from a pessimist as they won't expect it back
- OK, I'll stop!

#### A Look Ahead

September 1 – Labor Day Holiday

- September 2-5 Safety Week
- September 2 Tornado Drill during SSR
- September 3 Fire Drill (Assembly Schedule)
- September 4 Total Evacuation (Assembly Schedule)
- September 5 Intruder on Campus Drill (During CNN)
- September 8 Parent Mini Schedule 6:30
- September 9 President's Assembly Teacher Appreciation

Day - Snack Day

- September 11 Service Assembly Senior Pictures during Civics classes
- September 12 Senior Pictures during Civics classes Pep Rally Schedule
- September 15 9:00 AM Late Start for Teacher in-service
- September 16 Pack Time
- September 18 Mass Schedule
- September 23 President's Assembly
- September 26 Pep Rally Schedule
- September 30 Pack Time
- October 7 President's Assembly Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
- October 10 End of First Quarter 11:00 Dismissal Grandparents Day
- October 13 Late start for Teacher In-Service
- October 14 Pack Time
- October 16 Redi-Step Test for 9th Graders
- October 17 Homecoming Day Pep Rally Schedule
- October 20 Parent/Teacher Conferences at 6:30 PM
- October 24 Pep Rally Schedule
- October 28 President's Assembly Snack Day
- October 31 Day of the Dead ceremony Assembly Schedule

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

As usual, I'll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I'm listening to as I write and LOLing): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings! Pray that we have a good beginning! Thanks for being part of Saint Paul's! May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and call on me if I can help!



Robotics Club members show off Robbie as they recruit new members on GID!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC Can't Believe It's the Last Week of August 2014 and I'm Still the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

Answer to Tuesday's Trivia Question: Charles Lindberg's plane was named The Spirit of St. Louis!



"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)

Transforming Lives Since 1680

The following picture was sent to me Saturday night after I had finished the newsletter. It's too heartwarming not to include so I'm adding it at the end. It's two SPS students who are at Children's Hospital in New Orleans: Reagan and Kyle, both battling serious health issues.

We pray for both of them!

