



The President's Hebdomadal Blue Ribbon Newsletter *Oct 12-18, 2015*



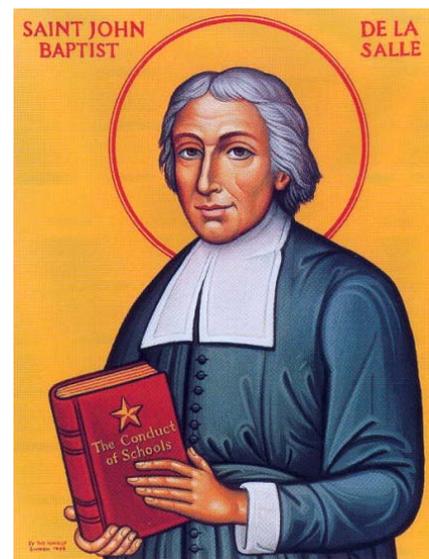
Welcome to the start of the second quarter and congratulations on an excellent first one! Now is a good time to remind ourselves of and recommit ourselves to the fundamentals of what we do and why we do it. Nine weeks ago, we committed ourselves to being Lasallian and to doing God's will. As we begin the second quarter, we renew our Lasallian commitment to students and each other. **As we begin the second quarter, we again commit ourselves to the five Lasallian Core Principles:**

Provide a quality education, Build an inclusive community, Respect all persons, Show concern for the poor and social justice, and Have Faith in the presence of God

Welcome, too, to Founder's Week. During 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 Saint Paul's School. They have many 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 this year for several reasons: increased chance of better weather (we had a terrible spring storm on Field Day two years ago) and the already crowded field of springtime activities. Plus, by focusing on our Founder now, we still have three quarters to better implement his vision and mission!

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 [parenting];*
- *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 [parental] 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.*

**Please pray for us this week, that we may live up the Lasallian Mission of education.
Thanks for entrusting your sons to Lasallian education at SPS!**

Mon, Oct 12 (Founders Week Begins; Assembly; A B C D)

- **TDIH:** In 1492, after a 33-day voyage, Christopher Columbus made his first landfall in the New World in the Bahamas. He named the first land sighted San Salvador, claiming it in the name of the Spanish Crown. Columbus was seeking a western sea route from Europe to Asia and believed he had found an island of the Indies. He thus called the first island natives he met "Indians."

- **International Moment of Frustration Day:** To celebrate, everyone is supposed to go outside at noon GMT (6 AM CST) and SCREAM away frustrations! You are not to scream AT someone (sorry!), just scream in general! Perhaps we should all begin the second quarter with a communal scream, thus chasing away any 1st quarter frustration! Enjoy!
- **Columbus Day Observed**
- **Swimming:** Aqua Wolves in meet at TCC

Tue, Oct 13 (President's Assembly after first block; Shadow Day; E F G A)

- **TDIH:** In 1792, the cornerstone of the White House is laid and in 1775, the Continental Congress authorizes construction and administration of the first American naval force—the precursor to the US Navy.
- **National Yorkshire Pudding Day:** Calling all Brits! Celebrate this iconic British dish that dates to the 1700s. It is made with flour, eggs, butter, milk, and pan drippings from roast beef & most often served with beef or chicken, and, of course, lots of gravy. A traditional staple of the British Sunday lunch, Yorkshire Pudding is still common today.
- **International Music Day:** Enjoy music today in all of its varied forms, and share your favorite music with others. I'll be happy to lend some classical selections! Or even better, why not make some music of your own?



Pre-freshmen work their first Jazz n Roll as Student Hosts. We are grateful for their help!

Wed, Oct 14 (Assembly; B C D E)

- **TDI H:** In 1912, former President Theodore Roosevelt was shot by a fanatic while campaigning in Milwaukee. Roosevelt was saved by his thick overcoat, a glasses case and a folded speech in his breast pocket, all of which slowed the bullet. Although wounded, he insisted on making the speech with the bullet lodged in his chest and did not go to the hospital until the speech was over. A rugged outdoorsman, he fully recovered in two weeks
- **TDIH:** In 1962, the Cuban Missile Crisis begins, bringing the US & Russia to the brink of nuclear war. I remember our "Nuclear bomb drills" in grammar school! We really thought we'd survive by hiding under desks!
- **National Dessert Day!** Who knew? Treat yourself to some special dessert tonight!
- **PSAT** administered today in the BAC. See below for info.
- **Football:** 9th & JV v. Ponchatoula (5:30)

Thu, Oct 15 (Mass Schedule; DRESS UNIFORM DAY; St. Teresa of Avila; F G A B)

- **Saint Teresa of Ávila,** was a prominent 16th century Spanish mystic, Roman Catholic saint, Carmelite nun, writer, and theologian. She was a reformer of the Carmelite Order and is considered to be, along with John of the Cross, a founder of the Discalced Carmelites. Happy Feast Day to the Carmelite Sisters on River Road in Covington!
- **National Pro-Life Day of Silent Solidarity:** we pray in a special way today for an end to abortion.
- **Global Hand Washing Day:** Today stresses good hygiene. Wash hands often – it's one of the best disease defenses.
- **National Grouch Day:** You have permission to be a grouch today but you must go back to being nice tomorrow!

Fri, Oct 16 (St. Gerard Majella; C D; field day)

- **Saint Gerard Majella** is an 18th century Saint whose intercession is requested for childbirth, children (unborn children in particular), & mothers, particularly expectant mothers. Most people don't know of St. Gerard Majella HS in NO, a school for pregnant high school girls that was forced to close two years ago due to financial pressures. Pray today for all mothers, especially pregnant ones, and reaffirm our belief in life's sanctity from conception to natural death.

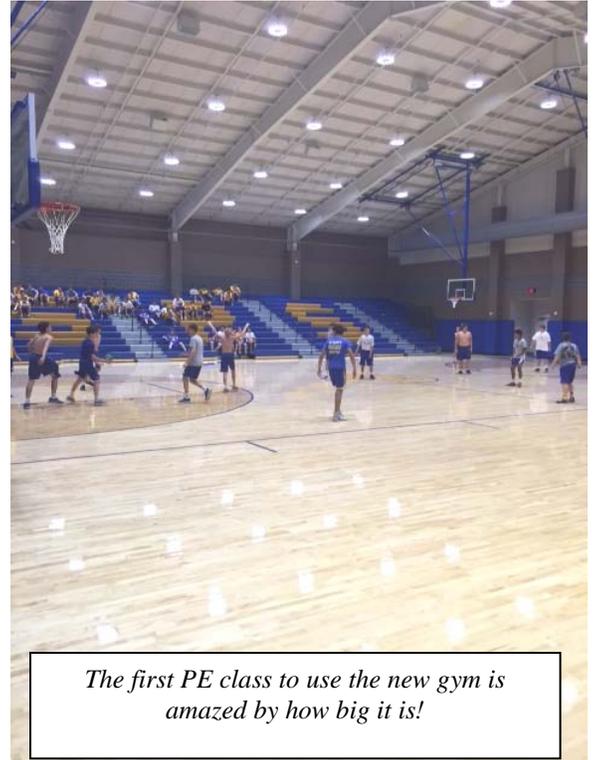
- **Dictionary Day:** In 1758, Noah Webster, considered the Father of the American Dictionary, was born. In his honor, read a dictionary today; learn a new word!
- **Redi-Step Administered to Pre-freshmen (BAC)**
- **Football:** Varsity at Ponchatoula (7)

Sat, Oct 17 (Feast of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque)

- **Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque** was a 17th Century French Roman Catholic nun and mystic, who promoted devotion to the Sacred Heart in its modern form.
- **Wear Something Gaudy Day:** "gaudy" refers to something bright, cheap, showy, outlandish, or otherwise not in good taste. Since it's a Saturday, feel free to wear the gaudiest clothes you want!
- **National Pasta Day:** Enjoy one of more than 600 varieties of pasta today! Ciao!
- **Ultimate Frisbee Beowulf Tournament**
- **Basketball:** Intrasquad Game (11)

Sun, Oct 18: We encourage Catholic families to attend mass and our other families to attend church of choice.

- **TDIH:** In 1790, John Baptist de La Salle entered the Seminary of St. Sulpice in Paris, beginning his journey toward priesthood. By answering God's call, he opened himself up to future calls which allowed him to found the Brothers of the Christian Schools. May we, too, be open to the call of God in our lives!
- **National Evaluate Your Life Day:** We reflect today upon our life -- where it's been, and where it's going. What do I need, or want, to change? I'll be evaluating!
- **National Chocolate Cupcake Day:** Splurge! Enjoy!
- **Mission Sunday:** Catholics worldwide to recommit themselves today to the Church's missionary activity through prayer and sacrifice. At Saint Paul's, every Wednesday is Mission Day. We ask students to donate snack or drink money for our brother Lasallian school in Marsabit, Kenya, which is also named St. Paul's. Without our support, that school, which serves poor tribal students in eastern Kenya, could not exist. BTW, the school's students consistently score high on national exams, thus providing them with the opportunity for university studies and a better life. We also make a donation to the greater Catholic Church's missionary efforts through the Archdiocese of New Orleans.
- **Teresian Sisters Family Day (begins with Holy Mass at 11):** Games, food, boutique, at 18080 St. Joseph Way in Covington. All are invited! Abbot Justin Brown, OSB will celebrate mass at 11 am. Lunch will be provided, but bring a picnic basket if you prefer. The Teresian Sisters do so much for the community of Covington! We wish them a successful day and thank them for their consecrated lives!



DRESS UNIFORM DAY THIS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15!

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month: I have been remiss in mentioning this and it's certainly more important than National Dessert Day or Frustration Day. As an all boys school, we must not overlook the teachable moments concerning issues pertaining primarily to women, and our boys need to know about this insidious disease, which can strike their grandmothers, mothers, sisters, and future wives and daughters. And we have current parents and friends battling this

medical scourge. I encourage enlightened, appropriate discussion of this important health issue with our students when possible. We reach out in prayerful support to any family struggling with this issue. I invite you to pray the following:

We pray for those who are now ill. O God, Source of Life, heal them!

For those who are affected by illness, anguish and pain. O God, Source of Life, heal them!

Grant courage to those whose bodies, holy proof of Your creative goodness, are violated by illness.

O God, Source of Life, encourage them!

Grant strength and compassion to those who give loving care, support and help to overcome despair.

O God, Source of Life, strengthen them!

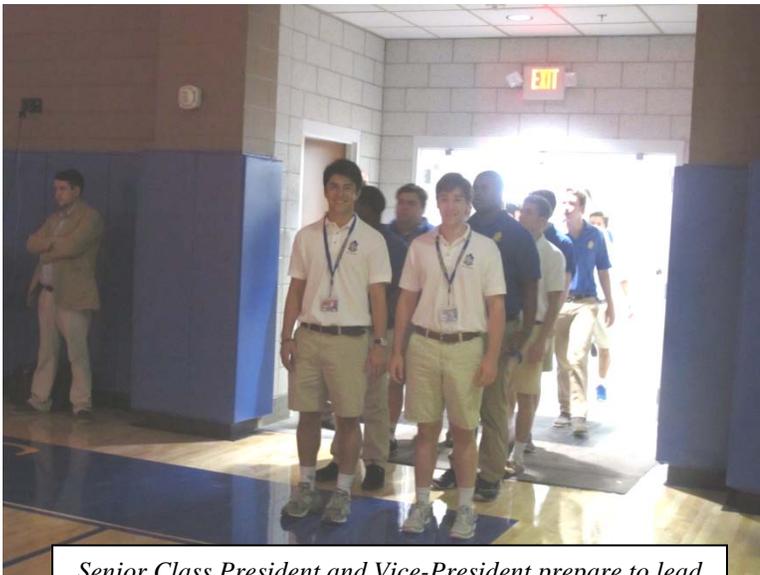
Grant wisdom to those who labor in the search for treatment and cures.

O God, Source of Life, inspire them!

Grant clarity of vision and strength of purpose to the leaders of our institutions and our government.

May they be moved to act with justice and compassion and find the courage to overcome fear and hatred!

O God, Source of Life, guide them and bless us all!



Senior Class President and Vice-President prepare to lead seniors into the new gym for the first time while “The Hallelujah Chorus” is playing loudly in the background!

Our New Gym: Last Tuesday, October 6, we began using our incredible new gym. Students reported to the old gym for a President’s morning assembly, but found the atmosphere different: there was no music playing, no candle and table, not bleachers extended – and no president! Trevor Watkins then informed the students that we would move into the new gym. He first had the students spend a moment or two in reflection about all the assemblies and other events that had been in the old gym since it opened in April of 1956. Then, led by their class officers, each level, led by the seniors, filed orderly from the old into the new, where they encountered the following:

- An incredible new sound system blasting George Fredrick Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus” from “Messiah”;
- As junior Austin Means lit the first candle in our

new gym, we prayed.

- A power point presentation on the history of the two previous gyms at Saint Paul’s, activities in those buildings, and some information about the legendary Coach Gene Bennett;
- The students then sang “O God Beyond All Praising” in thanksgiving for our new facility;
- We closed the assembly with the fight song, followed by junior Kenneth Avanzino, who extinguished the prayer candle.
- It was a great assembly; at least I thought so!

We will have an official blessing ceremony and “open house” for all on Wednesday, October 21, from 6:30 – 7:30. WE cordially invite you to come by campus and visit this wonderful new addition to our school.

I hope that your son told you that WGNO “News With A Twist” was present last Tuesday morning and did a great feature. If you didn’t see it (or even if you did!), here’s the link. <http://wgno.com/2015/10/06/so-what-does-the-new-gym-at-st-pauls-school-smell-like/> It’s great and worth the 2minutes and 26 seconds to view.

DRESS UNIFORM DAY THIS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15!

Marvin, We Hardly Knew Ye: Marvin, our people-friendly, resident duck who brought joy to many students and neighbors, has disappeared; while we suspect ducknapping, we have no proof. We shall miss Marvin, who seemed quite happy in our campus pond, and pray that those who took him are providing him with an equally placid and duck-friendly environment. As Kenny announced last week, there has been much speculation that Marvin was ducknapped by students from another school. Again, there is no proof of this. We have been in touch with the administrators of the other school as well as the local police who assure us they have investigated and found no evidence to implicate their students. In any event, we do not want our students involved in this in any way.

Musings on Last Week:

- **Swimming:** I know the Wolves are swimming well but I'm not getting any results. I have The Water Music all set to play, however, as soon as I have some info. Geaux Aqua Wolves!
- **Football:** 8th won big last Tue; 9th lost a squeaker to Covington, JV won big against Covington, and Varsity won very big against Covington. We keep the jug for another year! Congrats Football Wolves!
- **Cross Country:** Wolves were here at 5:30 am, heading to MS for meet!
- **Grandparent Day** was highly successful with many compliments from the GPs – and there were a lot of them! Thanks, Mothers Club, Jeff Ramon, Liturgical Band, Physical Plant Dept, et al. Special thanks to co-chairs Miriam Wyble & Letha Tepper! Congratulations to Jacob Broussard and Carson Caulfield who gave moving reflections on the role their grandparents played in their lives.
- **Habitat for Humanity:** Thanks, Mr. Richard Pichon and Habitat Wolves, for your great work on behalf of the less fortunate.
- **Student Council:** Mrs. Joanna, Mrs. Audrey Poole and a group of Student Council Wolves traveled to Houma for a southern regional meeting of student councils. They return on Monday. I'm sure they represented us well.
- **2005 Football Team:** Congrats to Alumni Dept who hosted 30 members of the team – our first post-Katrina undefeated season team. They were very impressed with the progress made on campus since their time at SPS and spoke very positively about their tenure here.



Liturgical band prepares to play at Grandparent Day!

IMPORTANT! PLEASE HELP: The future of SPS depends on a healthy enrollment. On Oct 31 at 1 pm, we will hold our annual Open House for prospective students. Please invite any interested family to attend. This year, we want to send postcard announcements to families. **If you know of a family with a son who would benefit from SPS, please email me their name and address. We will mail them a postcard invite.** In the past, you, our parents, have been the best source of attracting students to SPS. Please help me now. Again, just send me names and addresses – all we'll send them is a simple postcard. Thanks!

End of First Quarter: It's hard to believe the 1st Quarter of the 2015-16 school year is over. Later this week, you will receive a report card. Parent teacher conferences are scheduled for next Mon, Oct 20, from 5-7 in the BAC. Remember that the 1st Quarter will constitute 40% of his semester grade. The second quarter will also constitute 40% and the semester exam before Christmas will be 20%.

DRESS UNIFORM DAY THIS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15!

Student Volunteer Help Needed for Monster Mash: We always have a great number of volunteers from The Parenting Center's Monster Mash – but not so far this year. Students, please help and get your service hours. Here's the info:

What: The Parenting Center's annual Monster Mash

When: Saturday, October 17

Where: Bogue Falaya Park in Covington

Shifts are available from:

9am-1pm

12pm-4pm

3pm-6pm (for breakdown)

Nearly 400 volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Come alone, bring a friend or the whole gang. Monster Mash is a great opportunity to get your **SERVICE HOURS**.

To volunteer, contact **Melissa Dickerson** x4435 or sign up online at <http://tinyurl.com/MMV2015>

For more information on the Mash, visit www.stph.org/monstermash.

Honor Roll Breakfasts: We will continue our Honor Roll Breakfast tradition by inviting honor roll students and their parents to this special event. The breakfasts last from 7:40 – 8:20. Here's the schedule:

- Oct 28 – 12th Grade HR Breakfast
- Oct 29 – 11th Grade HR Breakfast
- Oct 30 – 10th Grade HR Breakfast
- Nov 04 – 8th Grade HR Breakfast
- Nov 05 – 9th Grade HR Breakfast

PSAT: The PSAT will be given this Wednesday (10/14) in the Briggs Assembly Center to the entire sophomore class and select 8th, 9th, and 11th graders. If your son is slated for the tests, here's the info:

- All registered juniors will report directly to BAC &
- ALL sophomores will report to BAC.
- All registered 9th grade students will report to Mr. Kevin Moore's Room 204 in the Main Building.
- All registered 8th grade students will report to Mrs. Pam Cullen's Room 201 in the LaSalle Building.
- All students should bring their books with them and place them along the wall at the BACK of the testing room. Cell phones should be powered off and in backpacks, NOT in their pockets.
- Students should bring only sharpened pencils and calculator with



Spencer and his grandmother enjoy Grandparent Day!

them to their table in BAC. No mechanical pencils.

- Students will complete the PSAT around 11 am and will then be dismissed for lunch. Good luck to all testers!

Important Fact of the Week: People who begin drinking before age 15 are five times more likely to abuse or become dependent on alcohol than those who begin drinking after age 21. A young person's brain and body are still growing. Drinking alcohol can cause learning problems or lead to adult alcoholism. (Source: www.stopalcoholabuse.gov)

Tuition around the Archdiocese: The Office of Catholic Schools has posted tuition information for ALL of the schools of the Archdiocese on its website: <http://ocs.arch-no.org/>. It's worth a look. Our tuition compares VERY favorably with the other all-boy high schools in the Archdiocese. In fact, we are a bargain.

DRESS UNIFORM DAY THIS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15!

St. Peter Parish extends an invitation for all of you to attend their Parish Mission, Sun, Oct 11 through Wed, Oct 14, 7:00p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The theme is “Working Out Your Salvation” and the Presenter is Fr. Wade Menezes, CPM. Reconciliation will be available each evening from 5:30 to 6:30 pm



Some of the many wonderful moms who made Grandparent Day possible! Thank you!

ID Cards: As part of our safety plan, we insist that students wear their Saint Paul's issued ID cards on a lanyard around their necks. Please stress this with your sons. Also, we find that some students are chewing their ID cards. Parents – please stress that this is not acceptable. Thanks.

Tutoring: The National Honor Society has begun FREE tutoring which is available on Tue and Thu during the second half of lunch in Room 207 and after school in Room 210 (both are in La Salle Hall). On Mon and Wed, tutoring is available beginning at 7:15 am in Room 207. If your son is struggling in a subject, insist that he seek help, both from the teacher and the NHS. Do not let him tell you that “nobody goes to NHS tutoring.” And the NHS also keeps

logs of who shows up, so if he tells you he's going, feel free to check its truthfulness. As President Reagan said: trust but verify!

Varsity Bowling Team: In addition to our Club Bowling Program, SPS will field an LHSAA approved Varsity Bowling Team to compete with other schools. An INFORMATIONAL MEETING for interested students will be held on Monday October 5th during lunch. Bowling pre season practices will be held in Nov and Dec; the regular season will last from Jan through mid-April. TRYOUTS for the team will be Mon, Nov 16th at TANGI LANES in Hammond from 4:00 - 5:45. Bus transportation will be available.

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.

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>



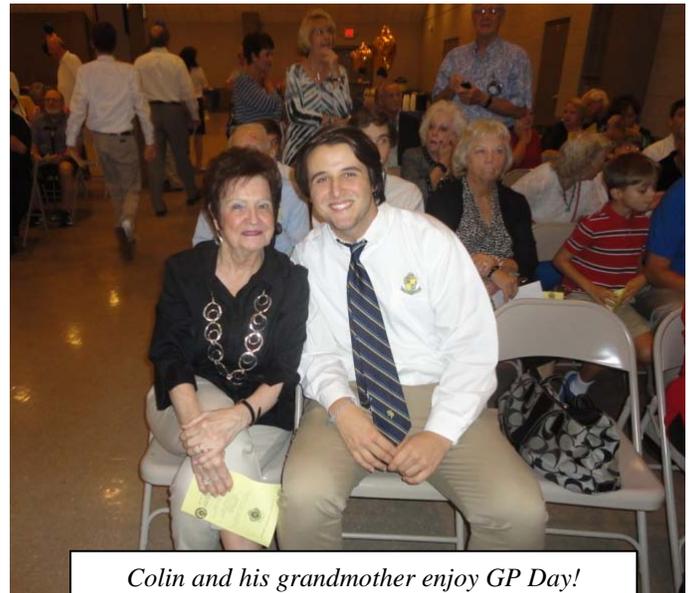
Moms for Mums: Our annual appeal for mums is scheduled for Oct 19-30 – just in time for our annual Open House for prospective students. Brother Ray if you think appropriate would you be so kind as to mention in your Sunday newsletter on Oct 18th? Help make the campus ablaze with mums to celebrate the fall and to welcome visitors on Open House.

Senior Parents: The commemorative March through the Arch photographs are in. If you have not yet received yours, just come to the office during normal office hours. If you would like your son to bring it home, send a note with him authorizing this. I'm reluctant to give the picture to your son (no offense!) because these kinds of things often end up at the bottom of his book bag! But send a note and we will entrust the photo to him.

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Humor of the Week:

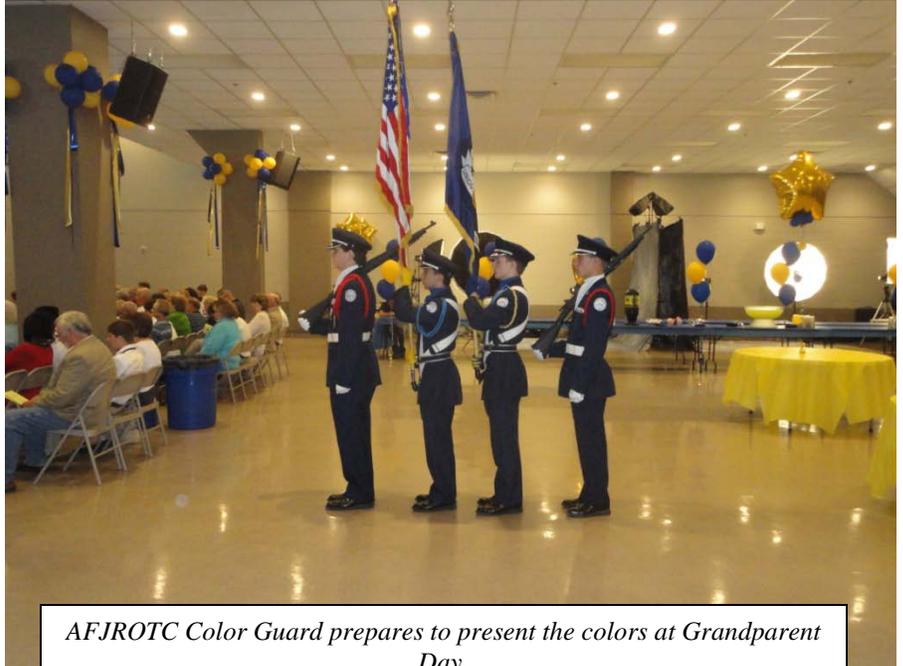
- *Why did the student eat his homework? The teacher said it was a piece of cake!*
- *Teacher: What does your history book say started the Civil War? Johnny: It doesn't say anything; I have to read the dumb thing!*
- *Librarian: Why don't you take home a Dr. Suess? Johnny: I didn't know he made house calls.*
- *Teacher: Tell the class what your book was about. Johnny: About 150 pages.*
- *Johnny: Teacher, I was not feeling well when I took the test. Teacher: Your answers made me sick, too.*
- *Why did the student throw a clock out the window? He wanted to see time fly!*
- *Teacher: Why are you late? Johnny: I overslept. Teacher: You mean you need to sleep at home, too?*
- *Why did Johnny take a ruler to bed? He wanted to see how long he slept!*
- *Johnny: I don't think I deserved a zero on this test! Teacher: I agree, but that's the lowest grade I can give!*
- *Teacher: How can you make so many mistakes in one day? Johnny: I get up early!*
- *Teacher: An abstract noun is something you can think of but can't touch. Johnny, give me an example. Teenager: My dad's new car.*
- *Teacher: I told you to stand at the end of the line. Johnny: I tried but someone was already there.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*



Colin and his grandmother enjoy GP Day!

A Look Ahead:

Oct 12-16 – Founder’s Week
Oct 13 – President’s Assembly (second block) –Shadow Day
Oct 14 – PSAT Testing for all sophomores and select other students (BAC)
Oct 15 – Mass schedule – DRESS UNIFORM DAY!
Oct 16 – Field Day, Periods CD meet / Redi-Step Test for 8th grades in BAC
Oct 19 – 9:30 AM late start; Parent/Teacher meetings 5:30-7:30 pm
Oct 20 – Pack Time – Teacher Appreciation Lunch
Oct 23 – Faculty Wellness screening in
Oct 27 – President Assembly–Shadow Day
Oct 28 – 12th Grade HR B’fast
Oct 29 – 11th Grade HR B’fast
Oct 30 – 10th Grade HR B’fast & Pep Rally
Nov 02 – Dia de los Muertos – Mass – Dress Uniform Day
Nov 03 – Pack Time
Nov 04 – 8th Grade HR Breakfast
Nov 05 – 9th Grade HR Breakfast – Aspire test to 8th Graders
Nov 10 – President’s Assembly
Nov 17 – Pack Time
Nov 18 – Thanksgiving Prayer Service
Dec 01 – President’s Assembly
Dec 08 – Pack Time (luminaria bags)
Dec 10 – Snack Day – Luminarias
Dec 15-18 Exam Schedules



AFJROTC Color Guard prepares to present the colors at Grandparent Day.

Enough for now. As usual, I’ll close with my usual paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I am listening to right 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! Believe it or not, we’ve begun 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 2015-16 edition of Saint Paul’s – our 104th year of existence!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Still Learning New Things as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul’s School – A Blue Ribbon School!



.... and doing ordinary things extraordinarily well by making courageous choices and trying to do God’s will!



Did I mention that this Thursday, October 15, is a DRESS UNIFORM DAY?