



*The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*



May 15 – 21, 2017

Penultimate 2016-17 Edition

Alleluia! He is risen!

Welcome to the penultimate newsletter of the 2016 - 17 school year! I can hear you cheering!

The One Hundred Sixth Commencement Exercises of The Saint Paul's School were wonderful.

Please pray for the 168 young men of the SPS Class of 2017 – the sixth group of graduates in our second century of existence. As I told them before handing diplomas, in a paraphrase of words taken from the First Letter of Peter, “they are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, living stones building the edifice of the mystical God and fulfilling the Lasallian Mission of Saint Paul’s School in our age.”

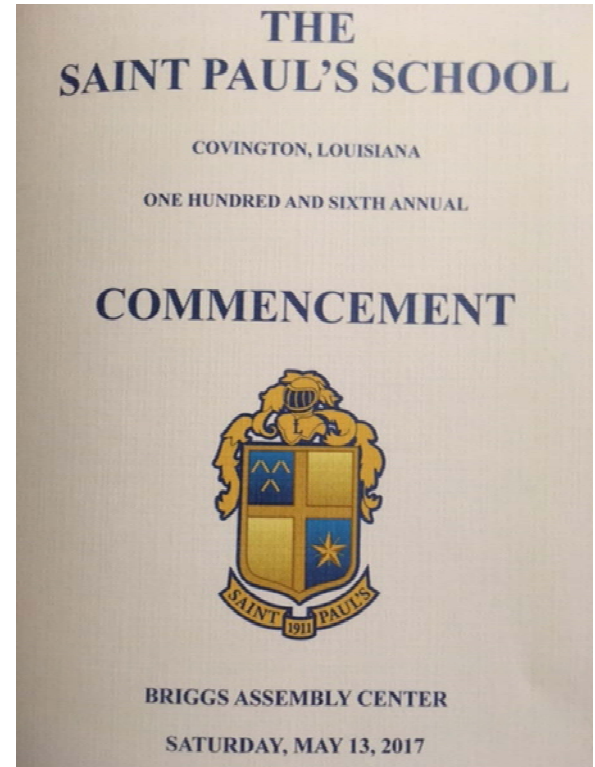
Because this was an exceptionally busy week, this newsletter will be brief. And rejoice – you only have to endure one more issue of the newsletter for this year which I’ll send out next week, thus wrapping up the 2016 - 17 school year.

Mon, May 15 (Regular for 9 - 11; F G A B; Pre-freshman special exam schedule is printed below)

- **National Chocolate Chip Day:** go ahead and indulge with a cookie or CC ice cream!
- **Traditional feast of Saint John Baptist de La Salle.** Each year, Lasallians honor St. John Baptist de La Salle, founder of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools and patron saint of teachers, on May 15, known as Founder’s Day. It’s a day to reflect on the rich history of the Lasallian mission and celebrate the man whose vision and dedication to providing a human and Christian education to the young, especially the poor, launched the worldwide Lasallian network. Rejoice in being a Lasallian today!
- **TDIH:** In 1950, Pope Pius XII declares John Baptist de La Salle “Patron of All Teachers of Youth.” Here are the Pope’s words: *Having then carefully considered the matter, we now, with sure knowledge and due deliberation, and in the exercise of our full apostolic authority, constitute and proclaim, by this Brief and for all time, St. John Baptist de La Salle, Confessor, principal patron before God, of all teachers of youth, and we accord him all liturgical honours and privileges appropriate to that title, irrespective of all contrary considerations. Given at Rome, from St. Peter's, and sealed with the Fisherman's ring, this 15th day of May, feast of St. John Baptist de La Salle, in the twelfth year of our pontificate.* All teachers should celebrate their Patron’s feast!

Tue, May 16 (Regular for 9 - 11; C D E F; Pre-freshman exam schedule printed at end of newsletter)

- **TDIH:** In 1999, Jay Matthew Perret and Wayne Jacob Gardner, Jr. (son of SPS chemistry teacher Jan) graduated as co-salutatorians of Saint Paul’s School and Derek Mark Lemoine graduated as valedictorian. Jacob is an attorney in New Orleans; Derek earned a PhD from the University of California in Energy and



Resources and teaches at the University of Arizona; and Jay is in medical school in Montana while operating his own farm!

- **Drama:** Drama classes will present their ORIGINAL one-act plays this evening beginning at 6. This is always a very interesting evening!

Wed, May 17 (Refer to schedule at end of newsletter)

- **TDIH:** In 1954, in a major civil rights victory, the U.S. Supreme Court hands down a unanimous decision in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, ruling that racial segregation in public educational facilities is unconstitutional.
- **TDIH:** In 1980, Mount St. Helens, a volcanic peak in southwestern Washington, suffers a massive eruption, killing 57 people and devastating some 210 square miles of wilderness.
- **World Hypertension Day:** OK, everyone, let's get our blood pressure under control! Mine will drop sharply beginning on May 23rd.

Thu, May 18 – Refer to schedule at end of newsletter

- **TDIH:** In 1588, a massive Spanish fleet, known as the "Invincible Armada," sets sail from Lisbon on a mission to secure control of the English Channel and transport a Spanish invasion army to Britain from the Netherlands.



Stephen, Jonathan, Philip, Wayne, Bill, Cole and Rhett were named Outstanding Athletes of their levels.

Fri, May 19 – Refer to schedule at end of newsletter

- **National Accountant's Day:** God bless the accountants, who keep the money straight! Give a nod to Jo and Tara today for their work in our accounting office
- **National Pizza Party Day (always third Friday of May):** not sure if this fits with hypertension day on Wed, but if your pressure allows, celebrate
- **Pre-freshman Promotion Ceremony at 6:30 pm.** You are invited to attend; pre-freshman teachers are strongly encouraged to attend. The Pre-freshmen have been excellent in practice.

Sat, May 20

- **Eliza Doolittle Day** honors Miss Doolittle (heroine of George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*) for demonstrating the importance of speaking one's native language properly. Let's all talk our bestest English today! (lol)

Sun, May 21

- **National Waitstaff Day:** Today we celebrate those men and women of the food service industry who go above and beyond to make your meal as pleasant as possible.
- **Turn Beauty Inside Out Day:** This day serves as a reminder that inner beauty is more important than outer beauty. Challenge the usual definition of beauty as portrayed in popular media and advertising by recognizing the wonderful actions and attitudes of people who are beautiful on the inside. Annually, the third Wednesday in May.

Apologies:

- In last week's newsletter, I mistakenly identified Class of '96 alumnus Keith Frenz's restaurant as NOLA. Of course, it is LOLA here in Covington!
- And a special apology to junior Blake Franklin for omitting him from the ACT 30+ club!

Musings on Last Week:

- **Student Council:** The new student council gave up their Friday afternoon to pressure wash the Wolf Dome and Horack Pavilion to prepare for graduation. I am grateful and impressed.
- **Band Awards Ceremony** went very well. Congratulations to Andrew Moran and Jimmy Brinkman. And congrats to Ross Hightower who will join Andy Anderson as drum major for the Marching Wolves next year. The competition for the other drum major spot was intense. I thank all who auditioned and am very proud of them.
- **Academic Awards Ceremonies** went very well. Special thanks to all for the hard work in getting hundreds of awards ready. And a large group of parents and special guests filled the Briggs Assembly Center.
- **Athletic Awards** ceremony went very well. Thanks, Craig Ketelsen, Claire Coutrado, Carol Barcelona for ALL of your hard work. Special congratulations to:
 - **Thomas Carriere:** C.L. Marcotte (Scholar Athlete)
 - **Christian Roberts:** Eddie Polk (Dedicated athlete)
 - **TJ Bedford, Eric Coston, & Jon Rushing:** Jimmy Dunn (Outstanding Athlete)
 - **Alex Paille, Kiefer Napolitano, Cameron Gary & Al Satches:** Jason Whittle Awards (selfless, enthusiastic, team-oriented)
 - **Stephen Schlottmann & Cole Houser:** Junior Athletes of the year
 - **Phillip Pearce & Jonathan Bertucci:** Sophomore Athletes of the year
 - **Bill Leahy & Wayne Galloway:** Freshmen Athletes of the year
 - **Rhett Barker:** Pre-Freshman Athlete of the year
- **Track Wolves** also celebrated their season on Thursday evening as befits a District & Parish Championship team!
- **Senior Parents and Teachers** staged a very successful, enjoyable and well-attended Grad Night. The Class of 2017 passed a good time – and left with lots of loot!
- **Mothers Club Bookstore Sale** was a huge success! Congrats!
- **The Maelstrom:** Congrats to Brad Guillory, the Beo-wolves and editor Kyle Hladky for an excellent spring issue of our literary and art collection. Some great writing! Get a copy and read it!
- **Guerilla Wolves:** Thanks to Brad Guillory, Mike Homes, Brandon Gallego, Joel Fernandes & John Meyers for arranging to have our graduation LIVE STREAMED over You Tube! Fantastic!
- **106th Commencement Ceremony of the Saint Paul's School:** Whew. It's over. It was great. Thank you!



Student Council pressure washes Wolf Dome to prepare for graduation

End of School Year Grooming and Dress Issues: Our guys are looking shabby. It's not summer yet and we will continue to enforce our rules until the end of school. Parents: please help by trimming hair, making sure he shaves (if applicable), check his uniform before he leaves and encourage good hygiene. Help us by insisting your son conforms to policy. I'm not willing to ignore these rules during the final days.

2017 - 18 Calendar: We will start on Monday, August 7 WITH A FULL DAY OF INSTRUCTION and NO book day – which corresponds to what we did this year. Please plan vacations accordingly.

Summer Camps: SPS offers the following camps:

- Boys (8-14) Sports: baseball, football, wrestling, basketball, lacrosse, soccer, speed/strength
- Robotics (rising 5th – 8th graders)
- Video Production (boys and girls, 10-14)
- Creative Writing (boys and girls 10-14)
- Drama (boys and girls 9-13)
- For more information, consult our website: www.stpauls.com



May 09th Assembly: I hope the students enjoyed the final President's Assembly on May 09 – almost exactly nine months since our first assembly in August. Here's some of what we did:

- Entered the gym listening to Jean-Joseph Mouret's "Rondeau" – the same piece we listened to at the first assembly, a baroque piece of music which set the tone for our year of drama and excitement and majesty, and it certainly has been a year of drama, excitement and majesty! I reminded them that "baroque" means "rough pearl" and each of them began the year as a "rough" pearl and they were to spend the next nine months polishing that pearl so it shines brightly.

I had them reflect if they did so.

- While junior **Colin Quinlan** lit the prayer candle, we prayed for our newly graduated seniors as well as those who entered God's Kingdom since the last assembly: **Mr. Louis Miramon, grandfather of Cole Hymel '21.** We also prayed for the Christ Episcopal School Community of the loss of one of their graduates in a terrible accident while she was studying in Europe.
- I then projected an email I received from Mr. Richard Polk, an SPS grad from the Class of 1982. At our last assembly, we prayed for Richard, who was undergoing cancer surgery. Here's what he wrote me: *I wanted to take a moment to thank you for the kind gesture of having the student body and faculty members remember me in prayer on Monday. I have no doubt that it had a huge effect on the outcome of the*

surgery. *I don't think I truly ever understood how important and life changing my time at St. Paul's was. At the time, I think I appreciated the opportunity, but not to the extent as I do now. The community at St. Paul's provided a profound groundwork for love, compassion and friendship. For that, I thank you, the Bothers and high quality faculty that you have kept in place. You have changed more lives than you know. At a time, when you are faced with your mortality, you begin to examine so much of your life. During that examination, I have re-discovered what a tremendous role the St. Paul's community played and continues to play in my life.*

- I then introduced a group of parents who made a special presentation to the family of junior Michael Doherty: a check for \$100,036.00 to help with his medical expenses. It was a moving moment, especially when Michael's dad thanked everyone.
- Thanked the Student Body for their incredible response to Stuff the Bus: the project of the six Catholic schools in western St. Tammany that collected over 10,000 pounds of food for the Northshore Food Bank.
- Recognized and congratulated freshman Drew Putfark for winning **FIRST PLACE** in the Three Rivers Art Festival. I projected several pictures of Drew's winning piece of art.
- Recognized and congratulated junior **Curtis Zuckerman** on being chosen as Altar Server of the Year for Mary Queen of Peace parish. I'm very proud when our students continue to service their parishes in this ministry through their high school careers.



Robo-Wolves pose with the 1st Place Vex Robotics Trophy,

- Recognized and congratulated the **ROBO Wolves** for all of their accomplishments this year, including winning the state tournament that allowed them to attend the World Championship Tournament in Kentucky during the Easter holidays.
- Recognized and congratulated the seven wolves who won the Baton Rouge Law Association's Law Day Essay Contest: **Isaac Hebert, Miles Roppolo, & Adrian Milan** won first place (and \$125) and **Trey Smith, John Connor Flick, Jacques, du Passage, & Matthew Gros** won Honorable

Mention. Only seven awards were given – and SPS swept all seven! The essay had to be written on The 14th Amendment.. I reminded the students that we have now won this contest for three consecutive years, as **Forge Mathes** won first place two years ago and **Dylan Futrell** won last year.

- Recognized and congratulated the **Wolves on Wheels** for their showing at the Barber Motorsports Competition. The W on W had a wonderful year building several cars.
- Recognized and congratulated the Tennis Wolves for their great season: **District Champs (undefeated)** and **Regional Champs: Kent Shiell** won **Singles** championship and **Alex Krake** and **Luke Beckendorf**

won Doubles Championship and all 5 teams (singles Jordan Edney. Doubles Freshmen Paul Stolin and Davis Heebe; and Joel Fernandes and Graydon Hall) qualified for state, In the State Tournament: Kent Shiell is the #2 singles player in the state. Team captured 4th in the State Tournament.

- Recognized and congratulated the Golf Wolves for winning the Northshore League Championship & District Championship. Jacques Cutrer was second best golfer in league play.
- Recognized and congratulated all of our baseball wolves for a great season. Singled out the Varsity Team for another District 6 – 5A Championship. Great!
- I then projected an email I had received following the Pie Bowl: *Just want to tell you what happened tonight. I got in my car to leave the Pie Bowl tonight and I could hear something that sounded like a bird in the car. As I began to accelerate I could hear it getting louder and sounding like a cat Meow. So I pulled over on the side of the road and turned off the car and opened the hood. I was there by myself in the dark with my phone light and as I was waiting for my husband it occurred to me that the parking lot was emptying quickly. One young man pulled over to see if he could help. A young man named Noah Seiden stopped to help. Got out of his truck, brought his flashlight. He was so respectful. I just wanted to tell you. And by the way, there was a cat in my engine.* I had Noah stand as we applauded him!
- Since we were running out of time, I called everyone’s attention to the empty bleachers where the seniors sit and said it was time to fill those places. I asked the juniors if they were ready to assume the mantle of leadership at SPS; if they were ready to be role models for the student body; if they were ready to accept the rights, privileges and responsibilities of being seniors. They resoundingly replied “Yes, Brother, I’m ready!” I then said: *By the authority vested in me by the Brothers of the Christian Schools, the Board of Directors of the Saint Paul’s School, the Catholic Archdiocese of New Orleans and the State of Louisiana, I recognize and honor these young men as the Saint Paul’s Senior Class of 2018 – the seventh class of our second century. With this recognition go all the honors, privileges and responsibilities that being a senior imparts. For they are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, living stones building the edifice of the Mystical Christ and fulfilling the Lasallian Mission of Saint Paul’s School in our age. Done in Covington, Louisiana on this 09th day of May, in the year of Our Lord, 2017.* The juniors then rose and moved into the senior section – while singing “Rise Up O Men of God”, thus officially commencing their senior year. It was a moving experience.

District Champion
Golf Wolves!



- As is our custom, we then sang a rousing rendition of the fight song – it was moving and wonderful

- I then treated the assembly to the final selection from Handel's *Messiah*: "The Amen" – and marveled how Handel, for 3 minutes and 46 seconds, took one word and made an incredible musical statement to end his masterpiece. It was a fitting end to our year.
- I then thanked the student body for a great year and closed by apologizing if I omitted recognizing anyone during year. I reminded the students of their obligation to love and serve the Lord and each other both now and throughout the summer. New Junior **Jakob Yancey** then extinguished our prayer candle and we exited to the strains of Mouret's "Rondeau", leaving the gym for the last time for 2016-17.
- It was a wonderful assembly – at least I thought so! I had a great time!

Looking Ahead for Those Who Are Returning Next Year:

- Tuition for 2017 - 18 is due on June 1st; the first payment for bank financed tuition is also due June 1st. Students will not receive their schedules in July and cannot start school in August if tuition/bank loans are not current.
- **If your son is registered for next year and you change your mind during the summer about his attending SPS, PLEASE let me know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**
- **Summer reading assignments will soon be on our website.**
- **BE VIGILANT during the summer – there are many temptations that will face your sons this summer.**
- **Monday, August 7, is the first day of school.** This is a full day of instruction. Attendance is expected.
- A complete 2017- 18 school year calendar will soon be posted on the website. Be informed that the state has tightened the attendance policy and Saint Paul's is complying. **PLEASE DO NOT SCHEDULE VACATIONS DURING SCHOOL TIME.**

I'm Still Begging: I had an excellent response last week! Thanks to those who each week respond to my request. But PLEASE – I need everyone's help, **including alumni and grandparents.** For clarity, I offer the following:

- Almost **all private schools conduct annual funds**; many are high pressured; ours is not.
- The Annual Fund funds tactical, short term projects, e.g. technology, special programs (e.g. engineering). The Capital Campaign funds large infrastructure projects (the \$4 million La Salle Hall renovation.)
- You may "pledge" your gift and pay later or in installments (monthly, etc.). **More and more families are using automatic credit card monthly payments of \$10 or \$20 dollars. WONDERFUL!**
- Gifts of stock are welcome.
- **No gift is too small. I repeat: no gift is too small!** What's important is that everyone participates.
- If you are contributing to the Capital Campaign or financially supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thanks. Can you send \$10 to Annual Fund so I can show an increase in participation?
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so. Many thanks!

WE NEED GRANDPARENT SUPPORT! Several grandparents approached me on GP Day about donating and asked why they aren't solicited like other schools do. I replied that we need and welcome their support and they all replied that they would contribute. **If you would like to inform your son's grandparents of the drive, please do so – or provide me with an address and I'll personally appeal. I'll send them a nice "thank you" note, too!** Even a small donation (\$5!) is welcome.

Dress and Grooming Rules: We will insist that students follow the dress code through the last second of the school year. Parents – please examine your son's dress before he leaves for school.

Awards: I consider awards ceremonies the best of times and the worst of times. Certainly, the incredible accomplishments by our students evidenced last week constitute the best of times. Please know I am sensitive to students who did not receive an award. I will look for ways to recognize the wonderful things done by our students who didn't make "the final cut."

H of the W: In honor of National Pizza Party Day on Fri:

- *Want to hear a joke about pizza? Never mind, it's too cheesy.*
- *How do you fix a broken pizza? With tomato paste.*
- *What does an aardvark like on its pizza? Ant-chovies.*
- *What do you call a sleeping pizza? A: a piZZZZZZa.*
- *Why did the man go into the pizza business? He wanted to make some dough.*
- *"Waiter, will my pizza be long?" "No sir, it will be round!"*
- *What is a dog's favorite pizza? A: PUParonna!*
- *Where do pepperonis go on vacation? A: The Leaning Tower of Pizza.*
- *What did the angry customer give the pizzeria owner? A pizza his mind.*
- *How do you know if you're in love? If they steal a pizza your heart!*
- *I used to run a pizza restaurant called 'Calzone' ... but it folded.*
- *How did the hipster burn his mouth? He took a bite of his pizza before it was cool!*
- *What's the difference between a pizza and my pizza jokes? My pizza jokes can't be topped!*
- OK, I'll stop!

Pre-Freshmen End-of-Year Schedule 2017

Monday, May 15

7:45	Report to Math Exam Room
8:00 – 9:30	Math Exam
9:30 - 9:45	Break
9:45 – 11:00	Geography Exam
11:00 – 11:45	Lunch
11:45 - 1:15	Graduation Practice in BAC
1:15	Dismissal

Tuesday, May 16

7:45 Report to Science Exam Room
8:00 – 9:15 Science Exam
9:15 - 9:30 Break
9:30 -11:00 Spanish Exam
11:00 – 11:45 Lunch
11:45 - 1:15 Graduation Practice in BAC
1:15 Dismissal

Wednesday, May 17

7:45 – 8:15 Report to Chapel for Prayer Service
8:20 – 9:35 English Exam
9:35 – 9:50 Break
9:50 - 11:05 Religion Exam
11:05 – 11:45 Lunch
11:45 – 1:15 Graduation Practice in BAC
1:15 Dismissal

Friday, May 19

6:00 PM Pre-Freshmen report to Wolf Dome
6:30 PM Pre-Freshmen Promotion Ceremony
in BAC



Drew displays his award winning art.

9th/10th/11th Grade Final Exam Schedule 2017

(Exams given in class by period)

Wednesday, May 17 – GABC -Regular Schedule
Exam Review in Period C

Thursday, May 18 – 9:30 Late Start

9:30 Students report to Period C
9:35 -10:55 Period C Exam
11:00-11:45 Period D Exam Review
11:45-12:45 Lunch
12:50-1:30 Period E Exam Review
1:30 Dismissal

Friday, May 19

7:45-7:55 Prayer, Roll and Announcements
7:55-9:25 Period D Exam
9:25-9:35 Break
9:40-11:10 Period E Exam
11:10-11:55 Lunch
12:00-12:40 Period F Review

12:45-1:25 Period G Review
1:30 Dismissal

Monday, May 22

7:45-7:55 Prayer, Roll and Announcements
7:55-9:25 Period F Exam
9:25-9:35 Break
9:40-11:10 Period G Exam
11:10-11:55 Lunch
12:00-12:40 Period A Review
12:45-1:25 Period B Review
1:30 Dismissal

Tuesday, May 23

7:45-7:55 Prayer, Roll and Announcements
7:55-9:25 Period A Exam
9:25-9:35 Break
9:40-11:10 Period B Exam
11:10 Dismissal

A Look Ahead

May

- 15 – FGAB – Pre-Freshmen Exams
- 16 – CDEF – Pre-Freshmen Exams
- 17 – GABC – Pre-Freshmen Exams
- 18 – 9-11th Final Exams begin
- 19 – 9-11th Final Exams – **Pre Freshmen Promotion & Awards in BAC at 6:30PM (yes, this is the correct date). This is a Liturgy of the Word and a very nice ceremony!** It lasts about 75 minutes.
- 22 – Final Exams
- 23 – Final Exams
- 24 – Records Day

August

- 07 – First Day of School – a full day of instruction

Please stress with your son the need to follow all rules in this last stretch of the school year. We had a couple of students make bad decisions recently. They are suffering consequences, as we will not overlook these poor decisions. We will teach until the end. Let's start the final stretch of our school year on a positive, problem-free note.



Pre-freshman dissect a sheep brain in GTT last week!

On a personal note, my time management skills have fallen apart lately (if, indeed, I ever had any to begin with) so I'm WAY behind in sending "thank you notes" for annual fund gifts, responding to emails and phone calls. I'll get to the thank you notes as soon as school is out (I tried rushing a few last week and made mistakes.) But keep calling and emailing. The squeaky wheel gets the grease – or some sort of cliché like that.

As usual, I'll close with my 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 things go well in these final days. 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.

Know of my prayer for you and your family. Again, thanks for being part of the 2016 - 17 edition of Saint Paul's – which is rapidly drawing to a close.

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Extremely Proud of the Class of 2017 as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

