



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



Aug 21 – 27, 2017

Senior Week moved me deeply – as it usually does. Maybe it's just old age, but I detected an amazing level of insight and maturity among the members of the Class of 2018. Their willingness to share their "stories" during Unity Day particularly touched me. The Spirit of God was definitely moving in the theater last Thursday morning – as it was moving on De La Salle Drive during the March through the Arch and as it was definitely moving in the Briggs Assembly Center during Ring Ceremony. Here are a few of the lines that I jotted down from seniors during Unity Day:

- *Let's have no regrets this year.*
- *Don't be afraid!*
- *I love you, boys!*
- *I couldn't be more proud of all of you.*
- *I was bullied in elementary school; I don't worry about that here.*
- *Coming here was one of the best things I've ever done.*
- *The brotherhood here is real.*
- *We should not make decisions based on what others think of us.*
- *Thanks for welcoming me to this school.*
- *I've grown the most when I've stepped out of my comfort zone.*
- *I have matured here.*
- *I'm not as stressed as I used to be.*
- *I will be eternally grateful to all of you.*
- *Love you guys!*
- *I'm cynical by nature but today gives me hope.*
- *We are all brothers.*
- *You never know what's going on in another person's mind.*
- *I knew no one in 8th grade. You have accepted me.*
- *You guys are awesome.*
- *I regret not making the most of my time here.*
- *We need to respect everyone.*
- *This is home; it saves lives; it saved mine.*



Seniors prepare to March through the Arch, symbolically re-enacting the beginning of Saint Paul's, as they take their places in our 106 year old tradition.

I could go on with many more such quotations, but I think you get the flavor of our together. SPS is indeed transforming lives –which Lasallian education has been doing since 1680. God bless the Class of 2018! I'm incredibly proud to be their school president – and the Classes of 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022! And, of course, you, too!

Mon, Aug 21 (Regular; Safety Week Begins; F G A B)

- **This Day in History:** In 1959, Hawaii enters the Union as the 50th state.
- **TDIH:** In 2004, American swimmer Michael Phelps wins his eighth medal of the 2004 Athens Olympics. As we all know by now, Phelps became the most medaled contestant in modern Olympian history.
- **National Spumoni Day:** This Italian dessert is made from layers of ice cream, whipped cream, candied fruit, and nuts. It is typically made with three layers of flavor: chocolate, pistachio, and cherry. Each layer of ice cream is mixed with fruits and nuts. Spumoni **should always be sliced, never scooped**. Enjoy this classic – but slice, don't scoop.
- **Poet's Day:** Celebrate poets today! Write a poem! Read a poem! Hug a poet!
- **Solar Eclipse:** Please read the email from Trevor Watkins which outlines our Eclipse Plan which is designed to keep the boys safe which experiencing this exciting solar event.

Tue, Aug 22 (Pack Time; C D E F; Feast of the Queenship of Mary)

- **TDIH:** In 1989, Nolan Ryan of the Texas Rangers becomes first major league pitcher in to register 5,000 career Ks.
- **TDIH:** In 1902, Theodore Roosevelt becomes first president to ride in an automobile.
- **Be An Angel Day:** Be like angels today and do one small act of service for someone; be a blessing in someone's life!
- **Wolf Pack Time:** Wolf Packs debut today. year.
- **Get Involved Day**



Carson, Jordan, Brandon & Joel show off their senior rings

Wed, Aug 23 (Regular; G A B C)

- **TDIH:** Legendary Pete Rose is banned from baseball for betting on the game.
- **TDIH:** In 1814, first lady Dolley Madison saves a portrait of George Washington from being looted by British troops during the war of 1812.
- **Football:** 9th & JV v. Mandeville (5:30)

Thu, Aug 24 (Regular; D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 79, Mount Vesuvius erupts in southern Italy, devastating the Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum.
- **TDIH:** On this day in 1814, during the War of 1812 between the United States and England, British troops enter Washington, D.C. and burn the White House in retaliation for the American attack on the city of York in Ontario, Canada, in June 1812.

- **Strange Music Day:** Strange Music Day was started by Patrick Grant, a Julliard graduate and professional musician. The purpose of Strange Music Day is to listen to music you have never heard before, just for the heck of it. Have fun today and listen to something different! I think I'll ask some students for suggestions!
- **National Waffle Day:** Today marks the anniversary of the first waffle iron patent in 1869. Eat a waffle today! Or just keep changing your mind about things -- get it? Waffling?
- **President's Annual Fund Appreciation Dinner (7)** Today we will say thank you to our major donors (at least \$1000) with the President's Dinner. A highlight of the program is when student hosts, who are assigned to each table, talk to our guests about the school's Mission statement. They are our best publicity! Thanks to the Development Team for organizing this event.

Fri, Aug 25 (Regular; A B C D)

- **TDIH:** 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!
- **Balfour Rep** will be on campus today during lunch to take order for senior products
- **Football Jamboree:** Rummel JV v. SPS JV; Rummel Varsity v. SPS Varsity (6)

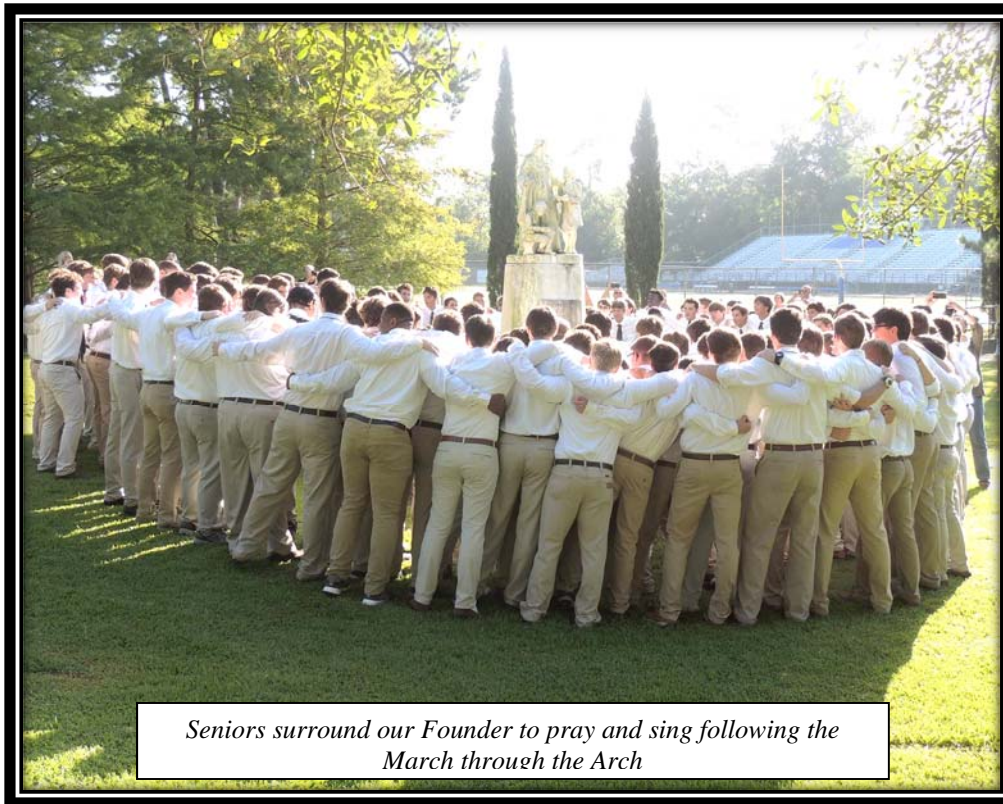
Sat, Aug 26

- **TDIH:** In 1974, Charles Lindbergh, the first man to fly solo nonstop across the Atlantic, dies at age of 72. Trivia Question: What was the name of Lindbergh's plane in which he first crossed Atlantic? Answer at end.
- **TDIH:** On this day in 1939, the first televised Major League baseball game is broadcast on station W2XBS, the station that was to become WNBC-TV. Announcer Red Barber called the game between the Cincinnati Reds and the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn, New York.
- **National Dog Day:** Give Fideaux an extra treat today and appreciate your pet!
- **National Toilet Paper Day:** Did you know the US spends almost \$10 billion a year on this stuff? And Charmin holds a toilet paper wedding dress contest each year with over a 10,000 ladies participating!



Alex, Sebastian, & Blake serve refreshments at New Parent Reception last week.

- **Free Athletic Physicals: 10 am (note the new time) at Covington Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, 19343 Sunshine Avenue, Covington, LA 70433.** All athletes **MUST** have physicals before they can participate. We are grateful to the doctors at CO & SM.



Seniors surround our Founder to pray and sing following the March through the Arch

Sun, Aug 27 Attend church today. We encourage our Catholic Families to attend mass today. We encourage non-Catholic families to worship at place of choice.

- **Memorial of St. Monica** – were today not a Sunday, we would be celebrating the Feast of St. Monica -- 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. Thanks, St. Monica!

- **TDIH:** Brother Ralph Baltz, a member of our retired Christian Brothers Community celebrates his 97th birthday today. Brother has had to slow down a bit of late due to health issues, but he's working hard to return to full activity. 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*, Brother Ralph!
- **TDIH:** In 1910, Mother Teresa is born. In honor of her birth, coincidentally on the same day as Brother Ralph's birth, I reprint a famous prayer that is purported to be hers. I've used it before but it's always worth re-reading:

*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.*

I draw the following to your attention in alphabetical order, not necessarily in order of importance.

Assignment Hall: AH is in full swing. Students will be sent to AH if they report to class without their homework. They will stay in AH after school until they finish the homework. AH is not a punishment but a helping structure. Please stress with your son the need to complete his homework.

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.

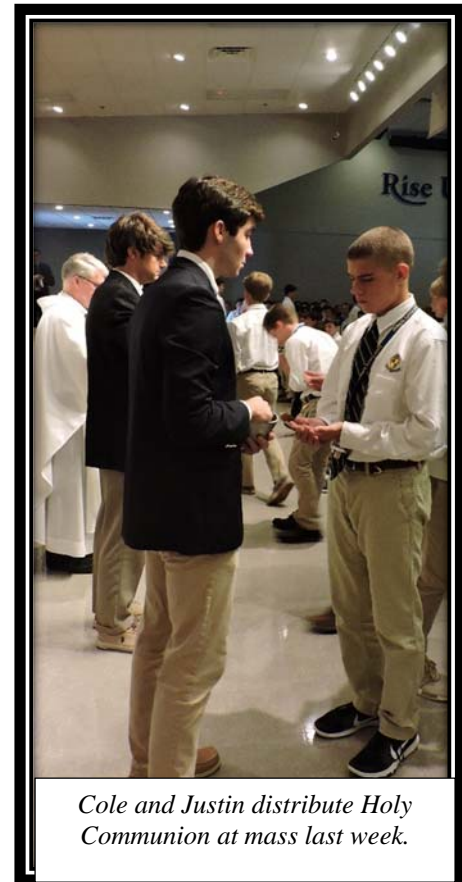
Cell Phones:

- **State Law:** Motorists are prohibited from using any type of hand held wireless communications device while traveling through schools zones during posted hours. The law includes use of a cellular/wireless device for engaging in a voice call, accessing, reading, or posting to a social networking site, and/or writing, sending, or reading a text-based communication. The school zone cell phone ban does not apply if the device is being used to report an emergency, is being used in a hands-free manner, or while the vehicle is lawfully parked. Upon first violation of the school zone ban the fine is \$175, subsequent violations can be up to \$500, and if a crash occurs during the time of the violation, fines can be increased.
- **SPS Law:** students may use their phones during lunch but only outside. If you need to call or text your son, do so during the lunch hour. Disciplinary action and fines will continue for violation of this policy. With our campus wide wi-fi, he can use his phone to surf the internet if needed. And, yes, our security firewalls are in effect

Edline: Please activate your account and check Edline regularly for important info about your son's grades and SPS life. *Call Mike Holmes, Edline administrator, at 892-3200, ext. 1044 if you need assistance.* And please adjust your setting to allow you to receive emails from school. It's very annoying when we get an Edline email with a question but your setting won't accept our response.

Emergency Closings: The pumping problems in Orleans Parish that prompted parish-wide school closings also prompted the Office of Catholic Schools to remind us of our closing procedure – to follow the civil parish. Thus, if needed (and we hope it's not), Saint Paul's School will follow the same decision of closure as the public school system of St. Tammany Parish. The announcement concerning emergency closures will be broadcast on all local television stations in the metropolitan area of New Orleans when possible. School messaging will also be activated with updated information and situations unique to our school. For multi-day closings, Saint Paul's reserves the right to re-open when our situation warrants, even if the public school remain closed, as was the case in Hurricane Katrina.

Extracurricular Activities: Clubs and teams have begun forming. Get Involved Day, which will introduce our students to a wide variety of activities, will be on Aug 22. . Representatives from all clubs, sports, organizations etc. will have displays and sign up materials during the lunch period. Students can talk to representatives from these clubs, etc. and decide if they wish to join. Encourage your son to get involved. So far we've had callouts for all sorts of activities. Research shows correlations between academic achievement



Cole and Justin distribute Holy Communion at mass last week.

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.

Football Spirit Shirts: From the Touchdown Club: *We have started selling our 2017 Game Day shirts. The senior football moms helped tremendously with this shirt design. They incorporated many of the traditions our boys share with one another day in and day out as a student at Saint Paul's. They also made sure it was inclusive of all organizations that make Friday Night Football at Saint Paul's so special. The shirts are now being sold in the bookstore. If you are unable to get to the bookstore we will have them available at all home games or they can contact Kim Icamina.*

Homecoming Dances: Student Council is pleased to announce the dates for the Homecoming dances

- **8th and 9th Grade Homecoming Dance** will be held in the Briggs Assembly Center on **Saturday, September 16 (Dance is from 7:00-9:00pm with lock-in at 8:00). Please pick up your child at 9:00**
- **10th, 11th, and 12th Grade Homecoming Dance** will be held in the Briggs Assembly Center on **Saturday, September 23 (Dance is from 7:00-10:00pm with lock-in at 8:30 pm)**
- Everyone who attends the dance must complete a dance registration from which may be found on Edline. Hard copies are available in room 107. Completed forms and payment are due the Wednesday prior to each dance. See the registration form for full details.

Last Week in Review:

- **New Parent Reception:** Thanks to all, especially Shellie, Danielle, Mimi, & Karen. It went very well with lots of positive comments from the new (and in some cases not so new!) parents.
- **Feast of the Assumption Mass:** Again, all went well and the boys were reverent and participatory.
- **Football Scrimmage:** I'm told things went well except for injuries.



Reese, Beau, Jonathan, Luke, and Gavin smile at breakfast following March through the Arch

- **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 Mr. Rick Gonzalez, manager of Chick-fil-A at the HWY 190 location, for donating the sandwiches for the Unity Day lunch. Support his business if you can. Here's what one senior mom wrote me about the ring ceremony: *Apparently, St. Paul's did not think we had shed enough tears at March through the Arch, so they offered us Ring Ceremony. I have never attended a more respectful, spiritually moving ceremony! If you didn't know Jesus when you got*

there, you certainly met Him before you left! I vividly remember their 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony, as those same boys tried to belt out those songs with as much confidence as a baby Wolf could. I wasn't prepared to hear the transformation of those voices belt out their praises to God with a confidence that can only be given by their years of education and formation at St. Paul's. I truly believe the Class of 2018 will listen to God's call and go on to do mighty things! I am excited to see what is in store for us over these final 9 months at St. Paul's.

- **Five Core Rally** for pre-freshmen went well. Thanks to LYLs and contributing teachers
- **Student Presentations:** Emilie Allen's pre-freshmen presented their bio-posters in class and practiced presentation skills. I was very impressed and enjoyed meeting the students.
- **Football:** Meet the Team was successful on Sat.



Cameron, Jared, Michael, and Grant enjoy the Senior BBQ

problems! Thanks SSA!

- **Habitat Club Work Day:** Congrats to Richard Pichon and the Habitat Wolves for their first workday of the new year on Saturday. Lasallian education in action, showing concern for the poor and social justice.

- **Five Core Rally:** Thanks to the LYLs for an excellent program on Friday afternoon for our pre-freshmen.

- **Pre-freshman Student Council Election** was held on Friday morning. Speeches and candidates were great. Congratulations to Pre-freshman President Marco Vargas and Vice-President Jacob Pyburn!

- **SSA Back to School Dance:**

I'm told all went well with no

Michael: WDSU's Heath Allen did a story on Michael Doherty during March through the Arch. If you did not see it on TV, it is worth a viewing. Here is the link: <http://www.wdsu.com/article/paralyzed-st-pauls-football-player-makes-traditional-march-through-the-arch/12025215> We continue to pray for and support Michael and draw strength from his courage and determination!

Mini-Schedule Night is Monday, August 28 beginning at 6:30. Come meet your son's teachers by following his schedule with ten-minute classes.

Mothers' Club: I don't think we realize just how much the MC does for SPS. I asked last year's president, Angela Rovira, to itemize their year. Here is what she reported from August 2016 through June 2017:

- Health Supplies for Students and Faculty \$4500
- Charitable Donations
 - Mary Bird Perkins \$500
 - Graham Jordan Memorial \$100
- Guidance
 - Snacks for Student Testing \$765
 - College Night \$325
 - Wish List: 4 Laptop Computers/printer \$850
- Mothers Club Committees
 - Brothers' Christmas Dinner \$65
 - Christmas Luminaries \$185
 - Day of Recollection \$300
 - Grandparents' Day \$435
 - New Mom Welcome Social \$529
 - St. Joseph Altar \$400
- Wish List Items Recurring
 - Round Tables for BAC \$500
 - Math Dept. Copier \$2000 (\$10k paid over 5 years \$6k remaining)
 - Naming of Classroom in Gym \$2000 (\$10k paid over 5 years \$6k remaining)
- Faculty and Staff
 - Teacher Appreciation Faculty BBQ \$600
 - Faculty Lunches \$1625
 - Gifts \$735
- Wish List Items
 - LYL Trip \$2500
 - Robo-Wolves \$300
 - Botanical Wolves - Live Oak \$129
 - Altar Cloths \$103
 - Math - Dry erase boards/erasers \$75
 - Religion - Bibles for Classrooms \$950
 - Theater - Spotlight \$1750
 - Theater - Vacuum & walkie talkies \$200
 - Art - Easels \$1015
 - Physics - Large Dry Erase Board \$300
 - History - 50" TV /bracket \$475
 - PE - Summer Camp Sunscreen \$87
 - Secretaries - Desktop organizers \$150
 - Classrooms - Blinds Curtains \$2500

Grand total: \$26,948

**Wow. The Mothers' Club definitely impacts SPS in a positive way!
Support the MC! Thank you, Mothers' Club!**

Office Depot: We received a store credit last week of **\$143.40**. This represents the end of last school year so the amount was low as it's not a busy time. Don't forget to give SPS's name any time you shop at Office Depot.

Safety Week: We will practice our safety drills this week. We pray we never need them, but we will be prepared in case we do. Each day will have a slight change to the schedule depending on what drill may be appropriate given the weather conditions. The drills we will conduct are: Fire Drill, Total Evacuation Drill, Intruder-On-Campus Drill and Tornado Drill.

Senior Graduation Supplies: Seniors received ordering packets last Thursday from Balfour, the school's vendor for these supplies (graduation announcements, name cards, etc.) Senior parents, please note the following:

- You do not have to order anything; this is strictly optional.
- Graduation announcements are exactly that – announcements. They are NOT invitations to the ceremony. On the last day of your son's senior year, he will be given EIGHT (8) tickets to the ceremony. No ticket – no admission. If you will need more, start seeking out those who do not need the full 8.
- You do not order caps and gowns. These are provided by the school.



- Order forms and deposit are due this Friday, Aug 25, as Balfour reps will be on campus during lunch.

Senior Rings: Josten's will be on campus on Aug 30 during lunch to address any problems with senior rings.

Sept 1: This is a faculty Lasallian formation day during which our faculty will meet with the faculties of De La Salle, Rummel, and Christian Brothers School in New Orleans. No classes for students.

Service Hours: We remind all students of their obligation to do at least 10 hours of service this year. Last May, a number of seniors did not receive their caps and gowns because they had not completed their service hours. If a student does not want to help others by giving of his time, Saint Paul's is not the place for him.

Social Media: Connect with the Wolves on Social Media to see the latest pictures and posts of all the wonderful events at St. Paul's School. The Facebook and Twitter feeds are on our newly re-vamped website, or you can follow us at

Facebook @St.Pauls.School.Covington.Louisiana

Twitter @SPSWolfpack

SSA announces Theology Uncorked: Wine, Cheese, & Theology on Thu, Sep 7 from 7-9 pm at Columbia Coworking. This first topic is Holy Homes: Faith in the Family Life with Melody Barousse. The program is free and open to all parents of local Catholic high school students.

Wolf Pack Time: Wolf Packs debut on Tuesday. Here is some info:

- All students are assigned to a Wolf Pack which will meet every other Tuesday. The Wolf Pack is a grouping of a single faculty member and a selection of students. Most, but not all, returning students have the same faculty advisor as they did last year. Many factors were involved in forming Packs but any adjustments were done out of necessity. While students will be informed on Mon as to which Wolf Pack they are assigned, the name of his Wolf Pack leader is printed at the top of his schedule, listed as HR.
- A committee of teachers and students plans each Wolf Pack time.
- During Pack Time, we still deal with important topics of discussion when such topics are deemed relevant and necessary (bullying, safety, etc.). We also emphasize DOING things to reinforce the topic of the day as opposed to just talking.
- The success of the program relies upon everyone's openness to the structure. Many people, teachers and students work hard to make this program relevant and enjoyable.
- Senior leadership and mentoring is stressed, especially between seniors and Pre-freshmen. This is Big Brother program.
- I hope your son has positive things to say about our first Wolf Pack time on Tuesday.

Weekly Humor: In honor of Banana Split Day on Friday, here are some banana jokes:

Q: What do you do if you see a blue banana? A: Try to cheer it up.

Q: What's yellow and writes? A: A ball-point banana.

Q: What's worse than a monkey eating bananas? A: A monkey going bananas.

Q: What's yellow and always points to the north? A: A magnetic banana.

Q: What is yellow and goes bzzzzzz? A: An electric banana.

Q: How do monkeys get down the stairs? A: They slide down the banana-ster!

Q: What did the banana say to the monkey? A: Nothing, bananas can't talk!

Q: What kind of a key opens a banana? A: A monkey!

Q: Why did the monkey like the banana? A: Because it had appeal!

Q: How can you tell the difference between a monster and a banana? A: Try picking it up. If you can't, it's not a banana.

Q: Why are bananas never lonely? A: Because they hang around in bunches.

Q: Why did the kid fall off his bike? A: It had a banana seat.

Q: Why do banana's do so well on the dating scene? A: Because they have Appeal!

Q: Why did the banana go to the hospital? Because it wasn't peeling very well



Seniors read intercessions at last week's mass.

*Q: Why did the banana fail driving test? A: He kept peeling out.
OK, I'll stop!*

Yearbook: The 2016-17 Yearbooks are hot off the press and were delivered to the students that pre-ordered one. The Yearbook Staff did a fantastic job documenting a spectacular year at St. Paul's School. We have a limited amount of 2016-17 yearbooks available for \$65ea. in the Admin or Development/Alumni Offices. Get yours before we sell out, we don't run a second printing, so once these are gone, THEY ARE GONE!



August

- 21 – FGAB – Safety Week begins
- 22 – CDEF – Get Involved Pack Time
- 23 – GABC – Safety Week
- 24 – DEFG – Safety Week
- 25 – ABCD – Safety Week
- 28 – EFGA – Parent – Teacher Mini Schedule Night (6:30) Come follow your son's schedule!
- 29 – BCDE - President's Assembly
- 30 – FGAB
- 31 – CDEF

September

- 1 – Lasallian Formation Day for Faculty; no classes for students
- 4 – Labor Day Holiday
- 5 – GABC – Pack Time
- 6 – DEFG – Etiquette Training for Pre-freshmen
- 7 – ABCD – Etiquette Training for Pre-freshmen
- 8 – EFGA – Etiquette Training for Pre-freshmen

- 9 – ACT administered on campus this morning
- 11 – BCDE
- 12 – FGAB- President's Assembly
- 13 – CDEF
- 14 – GABC
- 15 – DEFG
- 16 – SPS Math Tournament; Jr Hi Homecoming Dance (grades 8 & 9)
- 18 – ABCD – 9:00 Late Start for Faculty In-Service
- 19 – EFGA – President's Assembly
- 20 – BCDE
- 21 – FGAB
- 22 – CDEF – Homecoming
- 23 – Homecoming dance for senior high (grades 10, 11 & 12)
- 25 – GABC
- 26 – DEFG – Pack Time
- 27 – ABCD – Senior Portraits
- 28 – EFGA – Senior Portraits
- 29 – BCDE

October

- 2 – FGAB
- 3 – CDEF – Seniors take ACT
- 4 – GABC – Pack Time
- 5 – DEFG
- 6 – AB –End of Frist Quarter/ Grandparents Day; SPS Golf Tournament



The Class of 2018 awaits the start of Ring Ceremony.

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 continue to 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!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Still Off to a Great Start for 2017 - 18 as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

“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)

Answer to Aug 26th Trivia Question: Charles Lindberg's plane was named The Spirit of St. Louis!



...by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, making courageous choices, doing God's will, remaining faithful and letting Our Lady of the Star guide us to God!