



The President's Hebdomadal *Blue Ribbon* Newsletter January 08 - 14, 2018



Thanks for all you did to make our first week of 2018 a success!

We have finished one week of 2018. Strains of “Auld Lang Syne” still ring in my ears! And my quickly fading New Year’s resolutions remind me that January is a good time for self-review and mid-year correction.



St. John Baptist de La Salle, however, wanted the first Brothers to do regular self-examination and correction. Accordingly, he instructed the first brothers to have a “fixed day for the weekly account of conscience” in which the Brother would “take time to examine [himself]” in all areas of his conduct. I offered the following “examination” points from St. La Salle to our faculty as we begin the second semester – points that are equally applicable to us as educators today and, I humbly suggest, to parents as well. Just substitute “children” for “students” and “home” for “school.”

- *Are you ardent and zealous for the salvation of your students and in the performance of your duties?*
- *How do you do your work in school?*
- *Have you wasted time?*
- *Do you follow everything carefully during the lessons? Are you assiduous in correcting?*
- *Do you leave class?* [La Salle knew teachers should not leave class unattended – nor should parents the home!]
- ***Do you talk too much? (the boldface is mine)***
- *Do you take care that students make progress?*
- *Are you equally careful that they advance in piety?*
- *How do you act toward your pupils? Too strict? Too easygoing?*
- *Have you been impatient? In what frame of mind have you corrected them?*

I told the faculty that these insightful questions from this educational giant are as equally relevant today as they were 337 years ago. I invited them to take time to examine our consciences this week, both our professional conscience and our personal one and to take corrective measures where needed. I invite parents to do the same.

Mon, Jan 8 (Regular; F G A B)

- **Feast of the Baptist of the Lord:** According to the calendar of the Catholic Church, today ends the Christmas season. In the early centuries, the birth of Christ didn’t have its own feast. It was originally part of a great feast on January 6 called “Epiphany” (celebrated this year on Jan 7) that celebrated several “manifestations” of Christ – his birth, his recognition by the Magi, his baptism in the Jordan and his miracle at Cana. In about the fourth century, Christians in the western world pulled Christmas out of Epiphany celebration and gave it a feast of its own on December 25. The time between this new feast on December 25 and the feast of the Epiphany on January 6 became the Christmas season – the 12 days of Christmas. But eventually an “octave” was added to feast of the Epiphany –which extended the celebration. The feast of the Baptism of the Lord was eventually placed at the end of the octave and now it is the feast that brings the Christmas season to a close. So now you know.



*Original OLPS
brought from
France in 1727 by
Ursuline nuns.*

- **Feast of the Patroness of Southeast Louisiana, Our Lady of Prompt Succor.** This devotion originated with a French Ursuline nun, who brought to New Orleans a statue she had commissioned under the title of Our Lady of Prompt Succor. (Succor means “help.”) This statue now stands above the main altar in the Ursuline Chapel on State Street. OLPS played a prominent role in Battle of New Orleans and the great New Orleans fire. Today, we pray to her for help in the New Battle of New Orleans against violence, murder and racism. Our Lady of Prompt Succor! Hasten to help us!
- **This Day in History:** In 1815, two weeks after the War of 1812 officially ended, U.S. General Andrew Jackson achieves the greatest American victory of the war at the Battle of New Orleans. Today we remember the 201st anniversary of this historic event.
- **TDIH:** In 1935, Elvis Presley is born in Tupelo, MS. Listen to some Elvis today!
- **Did You Know Fact:** St. Paul’s had a radio station with call letters SEQ. The station was housed in the attic of the main school building and was used in a course in wireless telegraphy and to send and receive messages during WW I.
- **National JoyGerm Day:** Spread joy via acts of kindness such as a hug, kiss, love letter, compliment, or any unexpected act of compassion today.
- **Argyle Day:** Wear your argyle (diamond shaped blocks against a colored background) today!
- **National Clean Off Your Desk Day (always 2nd Mon):** This will take me more than a day!
- **Teen Life Counts Program Week.** All of our sophomores will participate in this important suicide prevention program this week, which Jewish Family Services conducts. Suicide remains a problem for St. Tammany Parish. For your information, our protocol for any student who voices possible harm to self is very clear and non-negotiable: we will not allow that students to attend classes until a note from a mental health professional clears the student as not being a threat to himself or others. Unfortunately, we have had to invoke this policy, which is a caring one and not a punitive one, several times already in this school year.

Tue, Jan 9 (Wolf Packs; C D E F)

- **TDIH:** In 1793, Jean Pierre Blanchard made the first balloon aerial voyage in the New World at the Walnut Street Prison in Philadelphia at dawn. He sold tickets to the event and the excitement he generated was so great that almost the entire population of Philly turned out, in addition to a large number of visitors from the surrounding countryside.
- **TDIH II:** 1493, explorer Christopher Columbus, sailing near Dominican Republic, sees three "mermaids"--in reality manatees--and describes them as "not half as beautiful as they are painted" – a great example of understatement.
- **DYK:** In 1914, Father Adelbert, Athletic Director, helped to put Saint Paul’s on the map by getting people in Covington to help provide funding to build a quarter mile cinder track – there were fewer than a dozen in the State of Louisiana. Tulane, LSU and Loyola had none. Reminds me of our turf field today!
- **Poetry at Work Day (always 2nd Tue):** In a recent survey of 1500 CEOs, IBM reported that **creativity** was the top leadership quality needed to take businesses into the future. While you might find this result surprising, it

Ben’s Fountain froze last week!



won't surprise you that poets are creative! Perhaps that is why Harvard Business Review recently discussed the value of poetry for professionals. And why a business leader like Sidney Harman (scientist-businessman who co-founded Harman/Kardon in 1953 and made high-quality audio equipment for homes and businesses, and later navigational and other devices for cars and was worth over \$500 million at his death in 2011) asked his staff to hire poets as managers. Read poetry today at work!

- **Static Electricity Day:** Find a Van de Graaff generator to touch and celebrate the wonders of the old balloon-sticking-to-the-wall trick, the hair-raising that takes place after we take off winter hats, and the shock of electricity that we get from petting a cat after scooting across a carpeted floor in socks.
- **Mothers' Club Snack Day**
- **Basketball:** 8th at Boyet; 9th, JV & Varsity v. Covington (starting at 5)
- **Soccer:** Varsity at Hammond

Wed, Jan 10 (Regular; G A B C)

- **Wednesday morning mass resumes today at 7; come join us.**
- **TDIH:** 1982, SF 49ers wide receiver Dwight Clark makes leaping catch in end zone on a pass from QB Joe Montana with 51 seconds left in the NFC, sending the '9ers to Super Bowl & beginning a dynasty of the 1980s. To see "the catch", click here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-dCEaA1PytY>
- **DYK:** Just before the end of the school in June 1927, a heavy rain flooded almost half of the campus, although it is higher than most parts of Covington. The flood was general throughout most of Louisiana. Many families evacuated to higher ground. A flu epidemic followed, and the Brothers and boys of St. Paul's were not spared.
- **Houseplant Appreciation Day:** With Christmas over, give a little attention to your houseplants.
- **Cut Your Energy Costs Day:** Just do it!
- **Take the Stairs Day:** Use this to stay fit!
- **Basketball:** 8th v. St. Aug at Rummel (6:30)

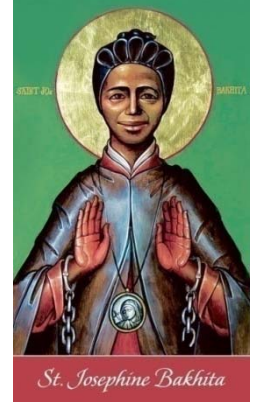
Thu, Jan 11 (Regular; D E F G)

- **National Milk Day:** In 1878, milk was delivered in bottles for first time. Prior, milk was brought to your door in cans and ladled in your container.
- **TDIH:** In 2012, a special blessing and opening ceremony for the newly renovated La Salle Hall was held. The building has served us well, and we continue to marvel at this incredible transformation of the old dormitory into currently usable space. As we mark the five-year anniversary, let's not forget to remember all those who helped make it possible and treat the building with respect and appreciation. In particular, I'd like to recognize the members of the Centennial Club, who donated \$50,000 to the project: An Anonymous Alumnus, Bobby Nolan, Greg and Lisa Pellegrini, Tom and Sue Lavin, Chris and Angie Jean, and Craig and Melissa Parette. Special thanks, too, to fl+WB Architects and Voelkel McWilliams Construction. And now it's on to Benilde Hall renovation! (see below!) Help needed!
- **TDIH:** In 2016, John Bel Edwards took the oath of office as Governor of Louisiana. Regardless of our party affiliation, we should offer our governor and other elected officials our prayers and best wishes as they address the problems of our beloved state. May they govern wisely and honestly!



Seniors prepare to leave for retreat.

- **DYK:** In the 1950s, students would get report cards every six weeks. All students would meet in the gym (now the theater!) with grammar students sitting on one side and upper grades on the other. The Brothers would read off name and grades, starting with the lowest grades first. Alumnus Ernest Prieto '53 recalled: *If you failed, you had to line up on the left. If you passed, you lined up on the right. It was very embarrassing if you failed!"*
- **Human Trafficking Day:** Today raises awareness about what has been termed modern day slavery.
- **Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita, patron saint of trafficking victims:** *St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from physical enslavement, you found redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church. O St. Bakhita, assist all who are trapped in slavery. Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from their wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved among us.*
- **Basketball:** 9th & JV v. Ponchatoula (6)



Fri, Jan 12 (A B C D)

- **TDIH:** 1969, in the most celebrated performance of his career, quarterback Joe Namath leads New York Jets to a stunning 16-7 victory over the heavily favored Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III, held in Miami.
- **DYK:** The school's original entry archway was dedicated by the classes of 1929 & 1930 which raised money to pay for the project. The archway remained until 1962 when increased campus traffic necessitated widening of the road. A new arch was constructed in 1995 and dedicated to Gene Bennett, AFSC by the senior class.
- **National Pharmacists Day:** We salute all pharmacists!
- **Wrestling:** Varsity in LA Classic in BR through Saturday
- **Soccer:** JV & Varsity v. Covington
- **Basketball:** Varsity at Ponchatoula

Sat, Jan 13

- **TDIH:** The Beatles release "Yellow Submarine." Listen to this iconic song today! *We all live in a yellow submarine!*
- **Student Council leaves for the state convention today through Monday**
- **Soccer:** SPS 9th grade tournament; 8th plays in the tournament
- **Basketball:** 8th v. Jesuit & Bro. Martin at Curtis

Sun, Jan 14 -- I encourage Catholic families to attend Mass and non-Catholic ones to worship at church of choice.

- **National Hot Pastrami Sandwich Day:** Created as a way to preserve meat before modern refrigeration, pastrami is beef that's brined, dried, seasoned, smoked and then steamed. It was first served in New York delis in 1887
- **National Dress Up Your Pet Day:** Today you can show off your pet's fashion sense – or not.
- **National Rubber Duckie Day**

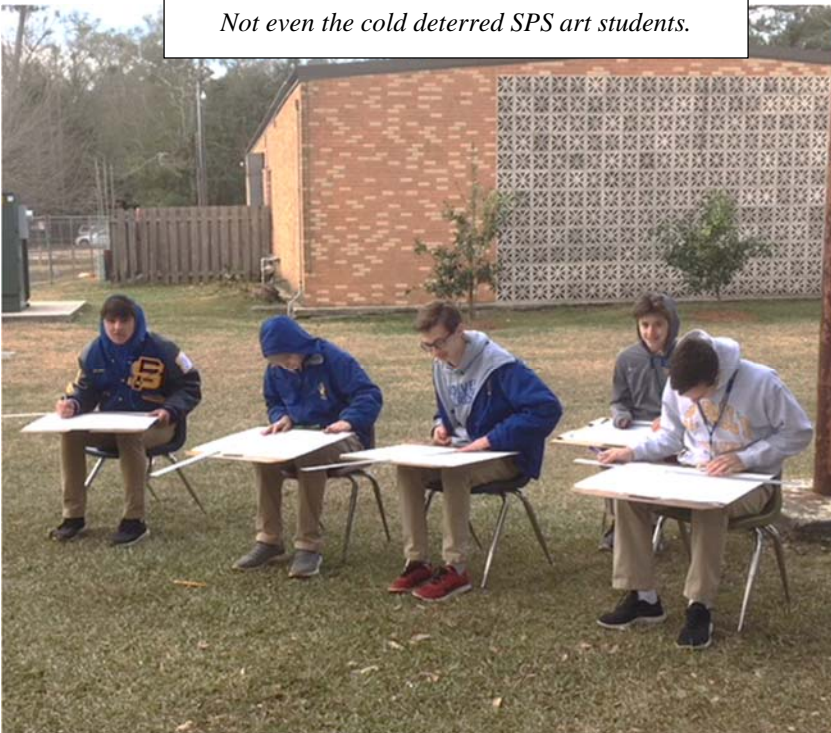
- **TDIH:** 1973, Miami Dolphins defeat Washington Redskins 14-7 at Los Angeles Coliseum in Super Bowl VII, becoming the first team in National Football League (NFL) history to finish with an undefeated season.

Mon, Jan 15 – Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday; no classes.

- **TDIH:** in 1967, the Super Bowl I is played. Green Bay defeats Kansas City 35-10, led by Bart Starr.
- **National Strawberry Ice Cream Day:** Enjoy gold ole' strawberry today.

I offer the following in alphabetical order, not necessarily order of importance:

Not even the cold deterred SPS art students.



Anniversary: Last week we observed the two-year anniversary of the passing of SPS alum Ben Blanchard, '2000. If you were here, you remember that the Briggs Center was filled with almost 1000 people who came in support of Ben's Family. It was an emotionally moving experience. As we continue to support the Blanchard Family in their loss, it's appropriate to re-print some of Ben's **Final Words to his Family:** *At the end of the day, all you have is your family, your friends and your reputation, which is easy to lose and hard to build.*

I am pleased to report that in memory of Ben, the Blanchard Family has purchased the naming right to the new Benilde Hall library/media center (or whatever it's

finally called! We are honored to have Ben memorialized in this way on our campus.

Annual Fund: Many thanks to those who have responded to my request. For clarity, I offer the following:

- Almost **all private schools conduct annual funds**; many are high-pressured; ours is not – but I need your support to keep it from being high-pressured.
- 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 and the \$4.5 million new gym.)
- 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!**
- While we don't send requests to grandparents, every year a number of grandparents do donate to the school. **AND WE NEED GRANDPARENT SUPPORT! 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.
- Gifts of stock are welcome.
- **No gift is too small. I repeat: no gift is too small!** What's important is that everyone participates. Of course, no gift is too large!

- If you are contributing to the Capital Campaign or financially supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thank you for your generosity. Can you send \$10 so I can show an increase in AF participation?
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so. Many thanks!

Application Letters: More unedited excerpts:

- *I want to go here because it's going to give me a better chance to do something good with my life like be a millionaire. [And donate back to SPS, of course!]*
- *I may want to play basketball, which I'm good at, if I can grow tall enough. [Be patient! You'll grow!]*
- *I want to go to St. Paul's because I am a big fan of organization, and from the school's website, I can see the school teaches organization.*
- *When I step on the Saint Paul's campus, I feel a sense of welcome and friendship. I can't wait to be a wolf.*
- *As I explore the opportunities in front of me at St. Paul's, my senses are flooded with endless possibilities and thoughts. [Great verb! We love to flood senses!]*

Attendance: Please make the following part of your New Year Resolutions: If your son is absent, phone Suzy in the Attendance Office before 9 am at 892-3200, ext. 1280, & **SEND A NOTE when he returns.**

Benilde Hall: An extensive renovation of Benilde Hall has begun. It will be a challenging semester for us until the project is completed in early August – but the benefits will outweigh the inconvenience. More classrooms, better restrooms, an elevator, improved lighting and HVAC, additional ingress and egress, student services, and more. In case you don't know its history, Benilde Hall was built in 1959 under the principalship/presidency of the late Brother Cassian Lange. The second and third floors were open dormitories for 6th and 7th grades. The bottom floor contained study halls and recreation rooms. When SPS dropped 6th grade, the first two floors were converted into classrooms. Interesting trivia: Trevor had one of those non-air conditioned classrooms and bought a window unit – making it one of the few air conditioned classrooms on campus. It was cool but that unit was loud! The third floor remained a dormitory for 7th grade. When we dropped 7th grade, the third floor became the band room! (Imagine lugging all those instruments up three flights of stairs!) The current band room was a rec hall for the boarders. When the number of boarders started dropping, we moved the rec hall into La Salle Hall and converted the third floor to classrooms. And now we begin the latest (and last – at least for me!) incarnation of that storied (pun) building! Saint Benilde! Help us turn that ordinary building into an extraordinary one!

Congrats to Junior Jackson Gold for scoring a PERFECT 36 on the ACT!



Calendar for 2018-19: We have finalized the calendar for 2018-19. Because of some quirks in the calendar year and the uncertainty of the Benilde Hall renovations, we had to adjust things here and there. Here are some important dates:

- Mon - Tue, Aug 6 & 7 Teacher meetings
- Thu, Aug 8 Classes begin; Full Day of Instruction (same day as public schools)
- Thu, Aug 23 Senior March through the Arch

- Mon, Sep 03 Labor Day Holiday
- Fri, Oct 05 Fall Break Holiday (Parish Fair Holiday)
- Fri, Oct 12 End of 1st quarter; 11 dismissal followed by Grandparent Day
- M – F, Nov 19 – 23 Thanksgiving Holidays
- Wed, Dec 19 End of 1st Semester; Christmas holidays begin at 11:45 following last exam
- Mon, Jan 07 Classes resume; second semester begins
- W – F, Jan 9-11 Senior Retreat
- Fri, Mar 1 Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
- M-F, Mar 4 -8 Mardi Gras holidays
- F-F, Apr 19-26 Easter Holidays
- W-F, May 1-3 Senior exams
- Sat, May 11 Senior graduation (4 pm)
- Fri, May 17 Pre-freshman promotion ceremony
- T-F, May 21-24 Final exams (9-11)
- Tue, May 28 Conflict Exam Day; Records Day

Cash Back Programs: Please keep the following in mind when you shop:

- Amazon Smile: This website, operated by Amazon, lets customers enjoy the same benefits of shopping on Amazon.com. The difference is that when using AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice – which we hope will be Saint Paul’s School! Click here to shop on AmazonSmile: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-1638895>.
- Office Depot: We receive store credit from customers who give SPS ID at the checkout. Our number is officially 70041640 but saying Saint Paul’s will do. This will help a lot.
- Box Tops for Education: Each top is worth 10 cents – which adds up quickly. Thanks to the Math Department for promoting this painless way to help SPS financially..

Centennial Year: During 2018, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Christian Brothers assuming ownership of Saint Paul’s School in 1918, thus returning to the Archdiocese of New Orleans after an absence of many years. During 2018, we have a number of activities planned to celebrate this important milestone in our school’s history – the bringing of the Lasallian dream to Covington, LA. The first – and biggest – event is the renovation of Benilde Hall (see above). More on these events later, but in addition to Benilde Hall, I am re-instating the Did You Know feature that I used for our Centennial Celebration of the school’s founding during calendar year 2011. Enjoy these tidbits about SPS history!

Cold Weather: ONLY SPS cold weather wear is accepted. On VERY cold days, a non-SPS coat (but not-camo) may be worn OVER an SPS sweatshirt. If you cannot afford one, contact me and I will take care of it confidentially.

Driving: I call the following to your attention:

- **Driver’s License Requirement:** You need TWO of these: one when your son applies for his learner’s permit and ANOTHER when he goes for his permanent license. Several parents have been turned away, not knowing they needed another form. Don’t blame me! This is a legislative action.

- **SAFE DRIVING:** Parents –let’s start 2018 with a resolution for safe driving! Set an example for the students! Students – the neighbors are watching (and filming!) and we will take action! This applies at all times: after school, after practice, on weekends, at games, etc. Please obey the traffic laws: speed limit, no tailgating, no texting while driving, no cell phone use during school zone hours, buckle up, etc. Thank you!
- **School Zone Cell Phone Ban:** It is illegal to use a cell phone in a school zone while driving. I see some students and parents driving in the morning and using a cell phone. This sets a bad example – and is illegal. Please do not drive on campus during school zone hours while using a cell phone.

Grades, Exams, Report Cards, Honor Roll Breakfasts, etc.

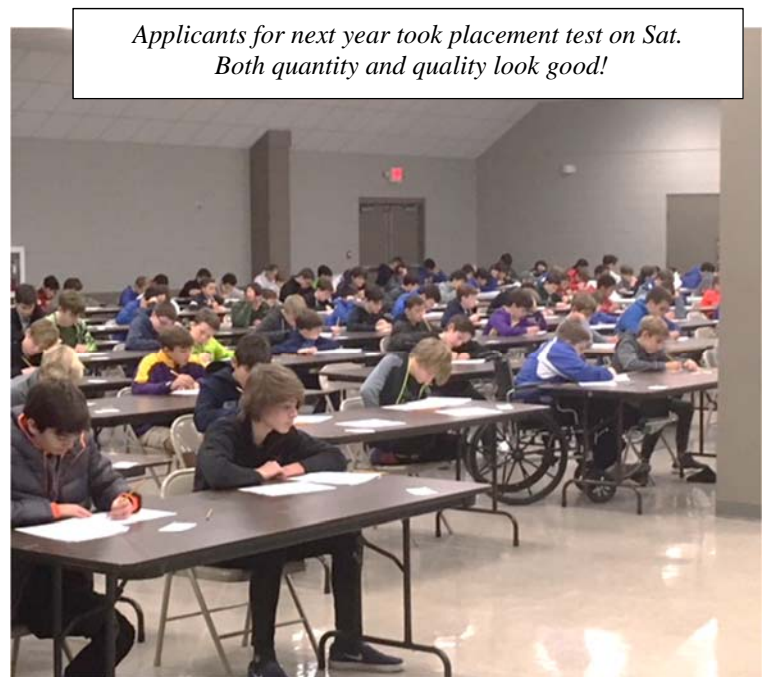
- **Report Cards:** We emailed report cards on Dec 29, although grades had been accessible on Edline for a while. Let me know if you did not receive a report card. There are no parent-teacher conferences until Feb, so email any concerns to teachers.
- **Semester Exams DID NOT** lower most student averages. The overwhelming number of students earned the same grade on exams that they had going into exams. There were a few exceptions – on BOTH ends of the spectrum (students who did worse and students who did better.) What the semester exams did accomplish is give your son college preparatory experience – which will pay dividends in the future.
- **Honor Roll Breakfasts:** We will continue with the new format: 8th & 9th will be on same day in the Briggs Assembly Center and 10th & 11th will be on same day in the Briggs Assembly Center. We will have multiple serving lines for efficient serving, so the time frame should be the same, ending at 8:20. 12th grade will remain in the cafeteria. Here’s the schedule for the second quarter HR breakfast schedule:
 - **Mon, Jan 22** – Grades 8 & 9 in the BAC
 - **Tue, Jan 23** – Grades 10 & 11 in the BAC
 - **Wed, Jan 24** – Grade 12 in the cafeteria

All breakfasts last from 7:40-8:20. Note: HR is determined by **second QUARTER, not semester, grades.**

ID Cards: As part of our safety plan, students are required to wear their ID cards on their SPS issued lanyard on a DAILY basis. **Check your son before he leaves the house to make sure he is wearing the ID.** If he forgets, he receives detention. If he loses his ID, he must purchase a replacement for \$10.

Last Week:

- **Application Day Testing** went well. Thanks to the counseling staff and students who helped and acted as student proctors: They were great role models!
- **Basketball:** The Varsity fought hard last week, beating Northshore at home and Hammond away. 2-0 in District! And 9th grade beat N’Shore while JV lost a close one to the Panthers.
- **Benilde Renovation Disruption:** Thanks to those teachers who have been displaced and to the re-routing that has occurred due to the renovation.



- **Football Awards Ceremony:** Congrats to all for making the ceremony on Saturday so successful.
- **LYLs:** Congrats to the Lasallian Youth Leaders who held a special review afternoon for pre-freshmen prior to exams. Over 40 pre-freshmen took advantage of this opportunity. Well done, LYLs!
- **Rugby:** 8th rugby beat Jesuit and lost to Bayou Hurricanes from Houma; Varsity rugby beat both Rock Rugby team from Texas and Bayou Hurricanes from Houma. Congrats, Rugby Wolves!
- **Senior Retreat:** Thanks to all who helped make the senior retreat successful. The retreat team was outstanding. The support given them by those “left behind” in terms of substitutions, etc. was equally outstanding.
- **Soccer:** Newman game cancelled due to cold; district win over Northshore! Well done, Wolves!
- **Weather:** The cold taxed us to the max. Thanks to physical plant crew, we suffered no frozen pipes or other damage (except possibly some flora.) Students could eat inside buildings in order to keep warm. All in all, we survived Mother Nature’s New Year’s “gift.”
- **Wrestling:** Wolves returned home Sat with their 20th Parish Championship. Wow! Geaux, Wolves!

Lost and Found: The accumulation continues. Sweatshirts, pants, belts, uniform shirts, many, many lunch boxes, books, art supplies, pencil cases, folders, flash drives, you name, it’s probably in our lost and found. Parents, please put your son’s name on things and stress with your son the need to be responsible with his belongings.

Money: Parents, please stress with you son that they should NOT bring large sums of money to school. There is no need for students to have large cash amounts – which they invariable talk about which tempts others.

LYLs tutor pre-freshmen prior to semester exams!

News worth Noting:

- **A new trend in cyberbullying poses an increasing concern for U.S.**

teens. While cyberbullying is a familiar problem, new research suggests about 6% of youth ages 12 through 17 are digitally self-bullying, anonymously posting negative comments online about themselves. This "digital self-harm" may be linked to mental health needs and social struggles. [See more.](#)

- **Smartphone addiction changes the teen brain.**

New research has found significantly altered neurotransmitter relationships in the brains of smartphone- and internet-addicted youth, linked to chemical imbalance. These findings add to the existing body of research suggesting a link between heavy smartphone use and increased anxiety, depression, and insomnia among adolescents. [See more on this story.](#)



The Paper Wolf: The Journalism Class updates the DIGITAL Paper Wolf each class period, thus keeping it relevant and interesting. The Scholastic Press Association recently named TPW BEST HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER in the STATE of LOUISIANA. Wow! We encourage you to SUBSCRIBE which will email you alerts when new content is added. Support the staff and subscribe to The Paper Wolf (which should now

probably be called The Digital Wolf!) Here's the link: www.thepaperwolf.com. Well done, Mrs. Simoneaux & Journalism class!

Registration of Current Students for 2018 - 19: For those of you who plan ahead, here's the process:

- Current 8th graders will be asked to register during the last two weeks of January. We need to know if any current 8th graders do not plan on returning next year in order for us to know how many new (if any) 9th graders we can accept.
- Current 9th – 11th grade students will be asked to register during the first two weeks of February.
- Current 12th graders – well, they don't have to worry about registering for SPS next year!
- In all re-registration for 2018 - 19, a \$300 registration fee will be due.

Service Hours: As a Lasallian Catholic institution, we are called to demonstrate "Concern for the Poor and Social Justice." Our school wide response to this calling is our Serve Ten program. Every St. Paul's student is required to complete a minimum of ten (10) service hours during the school year. Service hours must be completed and submitted by May 1st, 2018 Acceptable service is that in which you volunteer with a charitable organization (like the Covington Food Bank and local churches), assist the elderly, help someone less fortunate in the community, or assist at fundraisers for charitable organizations. . Assisting family is admirable, but does not count towards the service hour goal. You can find service hour forms on the SPS Edline homepage under "Links". Completed forms should be signed and turned in to the drop-off box in the library. You can also send electronic submission of the forms as well as any questions relating to service hours to Mr. Ramon (j.ramon@stpauls.com)

Tutoring: National Honor Society tutoring resumes next week, according to the following schedule:

- Tuesday and Thursday mornings beginning at 7:15 in La Salle 207
- Monday and Thursday at lunch in LaSalle 207.
- Essay proofreading services also provided.
- Please encourage your son to take advantage of this awesome opportunity to get help from their most capable peers. **It is not embarrassing to do so.**

Uniform Shirts, pants, etc: We have a large number of pre-owned uniform shirts and khaki pants and sweatshirts in good condition if your son has outgrown his and purchasing new ones is difficult for you. Just have your son come to the Admin Bldg. Nothing will be done to embarrass your son. We also have a number of khaki pants available – all for the taking.

Vaping: I'm sorry I have to mention this, but please speak to your son about the dangers involved in this latest fad. We are hearing anecdotal reports of vaping by our students and have even taken disciplinary action against several of them who vaped at school events. We will continue to be vigilant and take strong measures against violators. At last month's regular meeting with the Covington Police Department, we were informed that it is AGAINST THE LAW for minors to purchase vaping equipment. Please make sure your son knows this – and complies with your wishes, the rules of the school – and the law.

Warm Hearts: The Annual Lasallian Leaders "Warm Hearts" drive will soon begin. Please donate new or gently used blankets, hats, gloves or socks – anything that can be used to keep someone warm. Collections will be distributed in three civil parishes. Our goal is to collect 1000 items.

Weekly Humor: Some electrical jokes in honor of Static Electricity Day:

- *What did the light bulb say to the generator? I get a charge out of you!*
- *Mrs. Edison to her son, Thomas: I'm proud that you invented electric light, but turn off the bulb and go to bed!*
- *Sign on side of electrician's van: Let Us Get Rid of Your Shorts!*
- *Printed on an electric bill: "We would be delighted if you paid your bill; if you don't, you will be." [LOL! Get it?]*
- *What is an electrician's favorite ice cream flavor: Shock-o-lot!*
- *How do you know if a battery is dead? It's got no spark!*
- *What do you call a power failure? A current event!*
- *My friend told me how electricity is measured and I was like, Watt!*
- *I finally managed to get rid of that nasty electrical charge I've been carrying. I'm ex-static!*
- *My electrician friend accidentally blew the power to the ice making factory. Now they've gone into liquidation.*
- *Where do electricians get their supplies? The Ohm Depot.*
- *My tight-fisted neighbor doesn't want to pay for an electrician to re-wire his house so he's going to try and do it himself. "How hard can it be?" he said. I think he's in for a shock.*
- *What do electricians chant when they meditate? Ohm.*
- *Why do transformers hum? "They don't know the words."*
- *What did the baby light bulb say to the mommy light bulb? "I love you watts and watts!"*
- *Why was the free electron so sad? "It had nothing to be positive about!"*
- *What did Godzilla say when he ate the nuclear power plant? "Shocking!"*
- *Why did the lights go out? "Because they liked each other!"*
- *A man with a hearing problem entered a power plant for a tour. He arrived late and had to join the rest of the group. The man was reviewing what he had just told the group. He told the group that they wouldn't move on until they answered this one question: "What is the unit of power equal to one joule per second called?" The man with the hearing problem hadn't heard the question very well, so he raised his hand and asked "What?"*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

January

- 8 – FGAB
- 9 – CDEF – Pack Time – *Snack Day*
- 10 – GABC
- 11 – DEFG
- 12 – ABCD
- 16 – EFGA – President's Assembly
- 17 – BCDE
- 18 – FGAB
- 19 – CDEF
- 22 – GABC – 8/9 HR Breakfast in BAC
- 23 – DEFG – Pack Time 10/11 HR Breakfast in BAC



Wolves huddle during a time out.

24 – ABCD – 12th HR Breakfast in Cafeteria / Junior Career Day

25 – EFGA – Mass Conversion of St. Paul

26 – BCDE

29 – FGAB

30 – CDEF – President’s Assembly

31 – GABC – Guest Speaker

February

1 – DEFG – Guest Speaker

2 – ABCD

5 – EFGA- 9:00 Late Start for Faculty In Service – *Parent/Teacher meetings in BAC 5-7*

6 – BCDE – Pack Time

7 – FGAB

8 – CDEF

9 - Faculty Retreat – no classes

19 – GABC

20 – DEFG – President’s Assembly / Pre-Freshmen in Explore (BAC)

21 – ABCD – Freshmen in PLAN (BAC)

22 – EFGA – Sophomores in Pre ACT (BAC) – Freshmen on Retreat

23 – BCDE – Freshmen on Retreat

26 – FGAB – Senior Day with Archbishop Aymond at OLL

27 – CDEF – Juniors in ACT

28 – GABC – Pack Time

March

1 – DEFG

2 – ABCD

5 – EFGA

6 – BCDE – President’s Assembly

7 – FGAB

8 – CDEF

9 – GABC – End of Third Quarter

12 – DEFG - 9:00 Late Start

13 – ABCD – Pack Time

14 – EFGA

15 – BCDE - Junior Retreat/Angola

16 – FGAB – Junior Retreat/Angola

19 – ABCDEFG- St. Joseph Altar

20 – CDEF – Pack Time

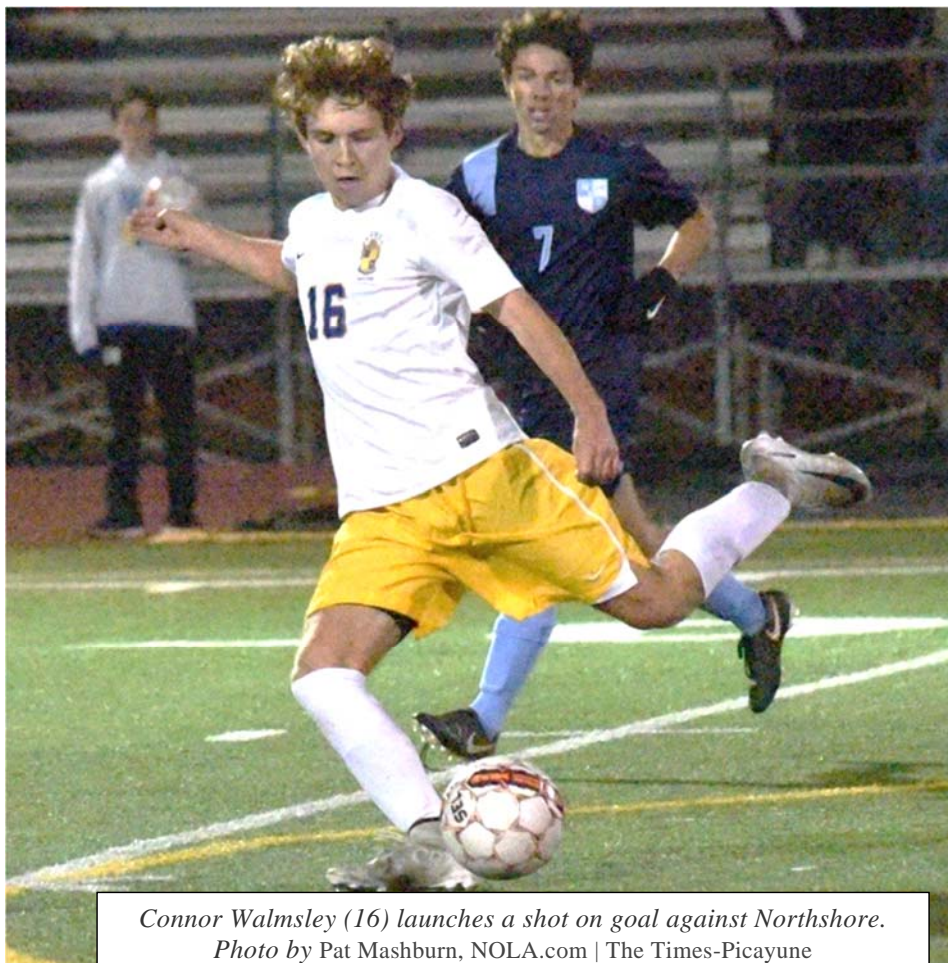
21 – GABC

22 – DEFG – Celebrity Waiters Dinner

23 – ABCD

26 – EFGA

27 – BCDE – President’s Assembly



*Connor Walmsley (16) launches a shot on goal against Northshore.
Photo by Pat Mashburn, NOLA.com | The Times-Picayune*

- 28 – FGAB
- 29 – CDEF

April

- 9 – GABC
- 10 – DEFG – Pack Time – *8/9 HR Breakfast in BAC*
- 11 – ABCD – *10/11 HR Breakfast in BAC*
- 12 – EFGA – *12th HR Breakfast in Cafeteria*
- 13 – BCDE
- 16 – FGAB – 9:00 Late Start for Faculty In-Service
- 17 – CDEF – President’s Assembly – *Teacher Appreciation Lunch – Snack Day*
- 18 – GABC – Mother-Son Dinner in BAC
- 19 – DEFG
- 20 – ABCD
- 23 – EFGA – President’s Assembly
- 24 – BCDE – Pack Time (last with seniors)
- 25 – FGAB – Senior Exams
- 26 – CDEF – Senior Exams
- 27 – GABC -- Senior Exams – Final Day for Seniors
- 30 – DEFG



Pictures of senior soccer players adorn the fence.

May

- 1 – ABCD
- 2 – EFGA
- 3 – BCDE
- 4 – FGAB
- 7 – CDEF
- 8 – GABC - Pack Time
- 9 – DEFG – Level Awards Assemblies
- 10 – ABCD – Athletic Awards Assembly BAC
- 11 – EFGA – Major Academic Awards Assembly BAC
- 12 – Senior Graduation (4 pm in the BAC; admission by ticket only)
- 14 – BCDE
- 15 – FGAB – President’s Assembly - Pre freshmen Exams
- 16 – CDEF - Pre freshmen Exams
- 17 – Pre freshmen Exams /9-11 Exams
- 18 – 9-11 Exams /Pre freshmen Promotion in Evening
- 21 – Exams
- 22 – Exams
- 23 – Exam make up day

Whew! Enough for now.

Even though it's a New Year, I will still close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I'm listening to now as I complete the newsletter and LOLing): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Know of my prayer for you and your family, especially as we begin the New Year! Again, thanks for being part of the 2017 - 18 edition of Saint Paul's! Happy New Year!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Looking Forward to 2018 as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

Lasallian education – transforming lives since 1680 by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, making courageous choices, doing God's will, remaining faithful, and being guided to God!