



## President's Hebdomadal *Blue Ribbon* Newsletter



**April 16 - 22, 2018 -- Alleluia! He is risen!**

### The Conduct of the Christian Schools

John Baptist de La Salle



Today we begin Leadership Week, organized by our Student Council. And while Saint John Baptist de La Salle didn't have "student councils", he did very much believe in empowering students through leadership roles. Here's what he directed the first schools to have in terms of school "officers", taken from *The Conduct of the Christian Schools* – perhaps the first "faculty handbook" ever written:

*There shall be several [student] officers in the school. These officers will be charged with several different functions, which the teachers cannot or ought not do themselves. These officers shall be 1) the Reciter of Prayers, 2) the one who says what the priest says in the responsories at holy Mass and is called for this reason the Mass Officer, 3) the Almoner, 4) the Holy Water Bearer, 5) the Rosary Carrier and assistants, 6) the Bell Ringer, 7) the Monitors and Supervisors, 8) the First Student in the Bench, 9) the Visitors of the Absent Students, 10) the Distributors and Collectors of Papers, 11) the Distributors and Collectors of Books, 12) the Sweepers, 13) the Doorkeeper, and 14) the Keeper of the School Key.*

Note that there are no "pizza day organizers" or "prom committee chairs!" Note, too, that Saint La Salle even entrusted the school key to a student who was supposed to unlock and lock the school doors! (Sorry, Saint La Salle, I'm not willing to do that – although maybe a student would be more responsible than some of my faculty in terms of locking the buildings at the end of the day!)

The Visitors of the Absent Students particularly strikes me. Here's what La Salle wrote about these students: *In each class, there shall be two or three students charged with seeing to the assiduous attendance of the students living in several streets of a given section of the town which have been assigned to them.... Each Visitor shall take care to go and visit each absentee after school. The teacher should not have to remind the Visitor to do this. Each Visitor shall report to the teacher at the beginning of the next session what the Visitor found out at the home of each of the absentees; why the absentee was absent; to whom the Visitor spoke; and when the absentee would return to class.* Wow. I asked the teachers to reflect on how many of us check on absent students? I know I'm guilty. And all we have to do is email, text, or phone!

Let's celebrate our student leaders this week and encourage all students to be leaders – especially as we elect next year's student council this week. Have a great Leadership Week!

### **Mon, Apr 16 (7:45 Faculty In-service; 9 am start; F G A B)**

- **Did You Know (SPS Centennial Trivia):** In the 1950s, Saint Paul's was blessed to have Brother Alex Curtis on faculty. In addition to teaching and prefecting, Brother Alex was a super designer, mason, electrician, welder, and carpenter. With a few friends and many students, he constructed the present day "old" gymnasium in 1955 at a cost of only \$40,000. In his later years, Brother Alex spent summers in Alaska building chapels and convents.
- **National Librarian Day:** Be nice to a librarian today!

- **National Healthcare Decisions Day:** Today promotes the importance of advance care planning, educating all to express health care wishes through the use of advance directives and health care power of attorney documents, and to encourage health care providers and facilities to honor those wishes. The Archdiocese of New Orleans has worked very closely with LAPost (the Louisiana Physicians Order for Scope of Treatment) on developing information for Catholics on end of life care issues. These are not always easy discussions, but important ones. I've done my "end of life" planning – although I hope my wishes won't be heeded anytime soon.
- **Baseball:** JV & Varsity at Fontainebleau
- **Golf:** District Championship Round at Beau Chene
- **Soccer Awards Banquet in the BAC**

## **Tue, Apr 17 (President's Assembly Schedule; C D E F)**

- **This Day in History:** In 1970, with the world anxiously watching, *Apollo 13*, a U.S. lunar spacecraft that suffered a severe malfunction on its journey to the moon, safely returns to Earth.
- **TDIH:** Ford Motor Company officially unveils the Ford Mustang automobile.
- **DYK:** Another very talented Brother who served Saint Paul's was Brother Adrian Roy. Brother Adrian was Athletic Director at SPS from 1958-1966 and during those years he built up an intramural sports program that saw 100% participation by the students. Today, Coach Ketelsen has Brother Adrian smiling as Coach continues the excellent athletic director work done by Brother Adrian.
- **Blah, Blah, Blah Day:** The intent of this day is to do things that people have been nagging you to do.
- **National Haiku Poetry Day** is a celebration of the genre of haiku, poetic form whose origins date back a millennium in Japan. Write some haiku today – a 17 syllable poem divided into 3 lines of 5, 7, and 5 syllables, and employing highly evocative allusions and comparisons, often on the subject of nature or one of the seasons. Some examples:

**Five syllables here**

**Seven more syllables there**

**Are you happy now?**

**Let's speak only in**

**Haikus for the entire day.**

**That's ridiculous.**

**The cool wind blowing**

**Immersed in nature's beauty**

**Calming my wild soul**

- **TDIH:** Ford Motor Company officially unveils the Ford Mustang automobile.
- **Athletic Signing:** Cameron Cluney, Taylor Lacoste and Jared Thieler will sign this morning with Rhodes, Mary Hardin Baylor and Northern Colorado, respectively, to continue their athletic careers in college. Congrats!
- **ROTC:** Awards Banquet this in the BAC



*Gavin generously gives the Gift of Life last week.*

## **Wed, Apr 18 (7 am Mass; Leadership Breakfast Schedule; G A B C)**

- **TDIH:** In 1775, Paul Revere makes his famous ride to warn of British military movement, "one if by land; two if by sea" (one & two being the lanterns hung in steeple of Old North Church – but you knew that.)

- **TDIH:** Albert Einstein, one of the world's most brilliant scientists, died on this day in 1955. Two worthwhile quotes from Albert: *When I see the Cosmos, I can't help but believe that there is a Divine Hand behind it all.* And *"Only a life lived for others is worthwhile."*
- **TDIH:** In 1906, the great San Francisco earthquake occurs, measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale. 3000 die and more than 300,000 are left homeless.
- **DYK:** The Ozone Spring Run was started by the Saint Paul's Alumni Association in 1985. After a few years, the run was discontinued. Former Saint Paul's alumni director Jimmy Dykes reinstituted the Ozone Run a few years ago but it, too, has been discontinued.
- **National Wear Your Pajamas to Work Day.** SPS will NOT observe this day!
- **National Poem in Your Pocket Day:** Select a poem you love during National Poetry Month then carry it with you to share with co-workers, family, and friends.
- **Leadership Breakfast in the cafeteria**
- **Track:** District Meet at F'Bleau
- **Baseball:** JV & Varsity v. F'Bleau
- **Eucharistic Ministry:** Juniors who will serve next year will undergo training in the theater, along with contingents from SSA, Hannan, and Pope John Paul.

#### Thu, Apr 19 (Leadership Speaker Assembly; D E F G)

- **TDIH:** in 1775, the American Revolution begins with the Battle of Lexington. It's also **John Parker Day** who gave the order, "Stand your ground. Don't fire unless fired upon; but if they mean to have a war, let it begin here."
- **DYK:** The gymnasium that Brother Alex built was originally called The Saint Jude Center. Saint Jude is the patron saint of impossible causes, and people said Brother Alex could never build it along with the help of students and friends. Today we call the gym the Gene Bennet Sports Complex. When you go into the old gym, look at the floor – which is the original floor installed in 1955 – and think about Brother Alex and the students who installed it. By the way, our own Brother Alfred also helped build the gym and install the floor.
- **National Garlic Day:** Spice up your food with this heart healthy herb! BTW, did you know that fear of garlic is called *alliumphobia*!
- **Student Council Elections prior to assembly**
- **Leadership Speaker in the gym**
- **Mother-Son Supper (6:30 in the BAC)**

#### Fri, Apr 20 (Two Assemblies; A B C D)

- **TDIH: In 1999, Columbine High School Tragedy occurs.** Remain vigilant and reinforce the need for students to report any threat immediately. **On this anniversary of Columbine, I invite all to pray: Heavenly Father, fill all schools with Your Holy Spirit. May Your grace and power keep schools safe and eliminate such problems as alcohol, drugs, guns,**



*Seniors and their parents enjoy their final HR Breakfast for the Class of 2018!*



**pornography, violence, depression, and disrespect for life. Turn the hearts of students toward You. Open their eyes, hearts and minds that they may see what is really important in life. Dissipate the anger in all who lash out at others, bullying them or ridiculing them. Touch the hearts of those tempted to solve problems through violence. Make our schools safe harbors, with atmospheres that encourage all to live your Law of Love. Infuse wisdom, vigilance, caring, compassion, and understanding in teachers. Help administrators make just and wise decisions. Help everyone to spread the message that You are with us always and everywhere -- and that only You have the answer to the problems we face. Amen.**

- **TDIH:** On this day in 2010, an oil rig run by British Petroleum (BP) exploded in the Gulf of Mexico about 50 miles off the Louisiana coast, resulting in the largest offshore oil spill in US history.
- **Student Council Year in Review assembly in new gym**
- **Golden Jubilarian Assembly:** We will honor the Class of 1968, who will induct the Class of 2018 into the Alumni Association. This is always a moving ceremony.
- **The Catholic Foundation Annual Dinner in the BAC**

### Sat, Apr 21

- **TDIH:** On this day in 1895, Woodville Latham and his sons, Otway and Gray, demonstrate their "Panopticon," the first movie projector developed in the US.
- **Kindergarten Day:** Today we honor Friedrich Froebel, born April 21, 1782, who started in Germany in 1837 the first Kindergarten -- built upon innovative principles that used children's innate curiosity and interests to help them see what Froebel believed was "the harmonious, interconnectedness of all things."

Today's a good day to remember Robert Fulghum's poem "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten", fulfilling your daily poem reading requirement -- remember April is poetry month!): *All I really need to know about how to live, what to do and how to be I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate-school mountain, but in the sand pile at Sunday School. I learned:*

- *Share everything; Play fair; Don't hit people; Put things back where you found them; Clean up your own mess; don't take things that aren't yours; Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.*
- *Wash your hands before you eat; take a nap every afternoon.*
- *Flush.*
- *Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.*
- *Live a balanced life -- learn, think, draw, paint, sing, dance, play and work some every day.*
- *When you go out, watch for traffic, hold hands & stick together.*
- *Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the Styrofoam cup: the roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.*



Freshmen cooperated with retreat last week.

- *Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the Styrofoam cup - they all die. So do we.*
- *And then remember the Dick-and-Jane books and the first word you learned - the biggest word of all - LOOK.*
- **Brother Bill Parsons Memorial Quiz Bowl Tournament**
- **Crawfish Cookoff / Alumni Weekend**
- **Brothers District Day:** Christian Brothers from throughout the region will gather at the retired Brothers House along with our Provincial Staff from CA for a day of solidarity and commitment – and a little bit of fun.
- **Lacrosse Playoffs**
- **State Literary Rally in BR —Good luck, Wolves!**

## Sun, April 22

- **TDIH:** in 1970, the first **Earth Day** is observed to remind us that *all individuals and institutions have a mutual responsibility to act as Trustees of Earth* (Official Earth Day web site). Indeed, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops has identified care for the earth as one of the seven major social justice themes of our faith. The US Catholic Bishops have written: *the Catholic tradition insists that we show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.* Please encourage your students to be Trustees of Earth.
- **Jelly Bean Day:** Enjoy this iconic Easter treat today



**Alum News:** Brock May '16 graduated as a US Marine. He was his Platoons Honor Graduate and was then voted Company Honor Graduate by the Senior Drill Instructors earning him the "Chesty Puller Recruit Company Honor Graduate Award". WWL-TV did a feature story on him. It's worth a viewing. Here's the link: <http://www.wwltv.com/article/news/local/two-local-marines-named-honor-graduates/289-536489551>

**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!

**AP Exams:** If your son is taking an AP Exam, here is the schedule. This includes seniors, as we have no choice as to when AP exams are given. The College Board determines day and time.

- **Tuesday, May 8 --** AP Art History Exam - Noon
- **Wednesday, May 9 --** AP English Literature Exam 8:00 AM
- **Thursday, May 10 --** AP Civics – 8:00
- **Friday, May 11 --** AP US History 8:00; AP Computer Science – noon
- **Monday, May 14 --** AP Biology – 8:00
- **Tuesday, May 15 --** AP Calculus AB/BC -8:00; Computer Science A – noon
- **Wednesday, May 16 --** AP Writing
- **Thursday, May 17 --** AP Statistics – noon

Yes, I know there are some conflicts with school events. We have no control over AP dates & times and our school calendar is just too filled right now to make any changes. We apologize for any conflict.

**Benilde Hall:** An extensive renovation of Benilde Hall has begun. It will be a challenging semester for us until



*Julian, Duncan, Noah, and Brandon enjoy Senior Life Skills Day!  
Thanks, SPS Renaissance Board!*

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 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades. The bottom floor contained study halls and recreation rooms. When SPS dropped 6<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> grade. When we dropped 7<sup>th</sup> 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! Here's the status of naming opportunities:





Media Area (Wolf Den)	<b>SOLD</b>
Retail Area	<b>SOLD</b>
Computer Lab (Br. Ray's Classroom)	<b>SOLD</b>
Video Production Studio (Guerilla Wolves, News Broadcast)	\$50,000
Publishing Room (Paper Wolf, Yearbook)	\$20,000
Campus Minister's Office	\$20,000
5 Display Cases	<b>SOLD</b>
Outdoor Covered Patio with Seating	<b>SOLD</b>

### **2nd Floor**

Spanish Classrooms (5 still available)	\$15,000 each
Faculty Office	\$15,000

### **3rd Floor**

Religion Classrooms (5 still available)	\$15,000 each
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Contact Danielle in the Development Office or me if you are interested in one of these naming opportunities. I am most grateful to those who have already responded.

**Calendar for 2018-19:** We have finalized the 2018-19 calendar. Here are some important dates:

- Mon - Tue, Aug 6 & 7      Teacher meetings
- Thu, Aug 9              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 1<sup>st</sup> quarter; 11 dismissal followed by Grandparent Day
- M – F, Nov 19 – 23 Thanksgiving Holidays
- Wed, Dec 19 End of 1<sup>st</sup> 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



*Senior-made rocket has lift off (upper right) in physics class.*

**Care and Vigilance:** Please stress with your sons, especially your senior sons, that they must stay focused in these final weeks and do their jobs competently in order to end the year with “no issues.” We had several unacceptable behaviors again last week. I have instructed teachers to be caring – but vigilant – and hold students accountable.

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

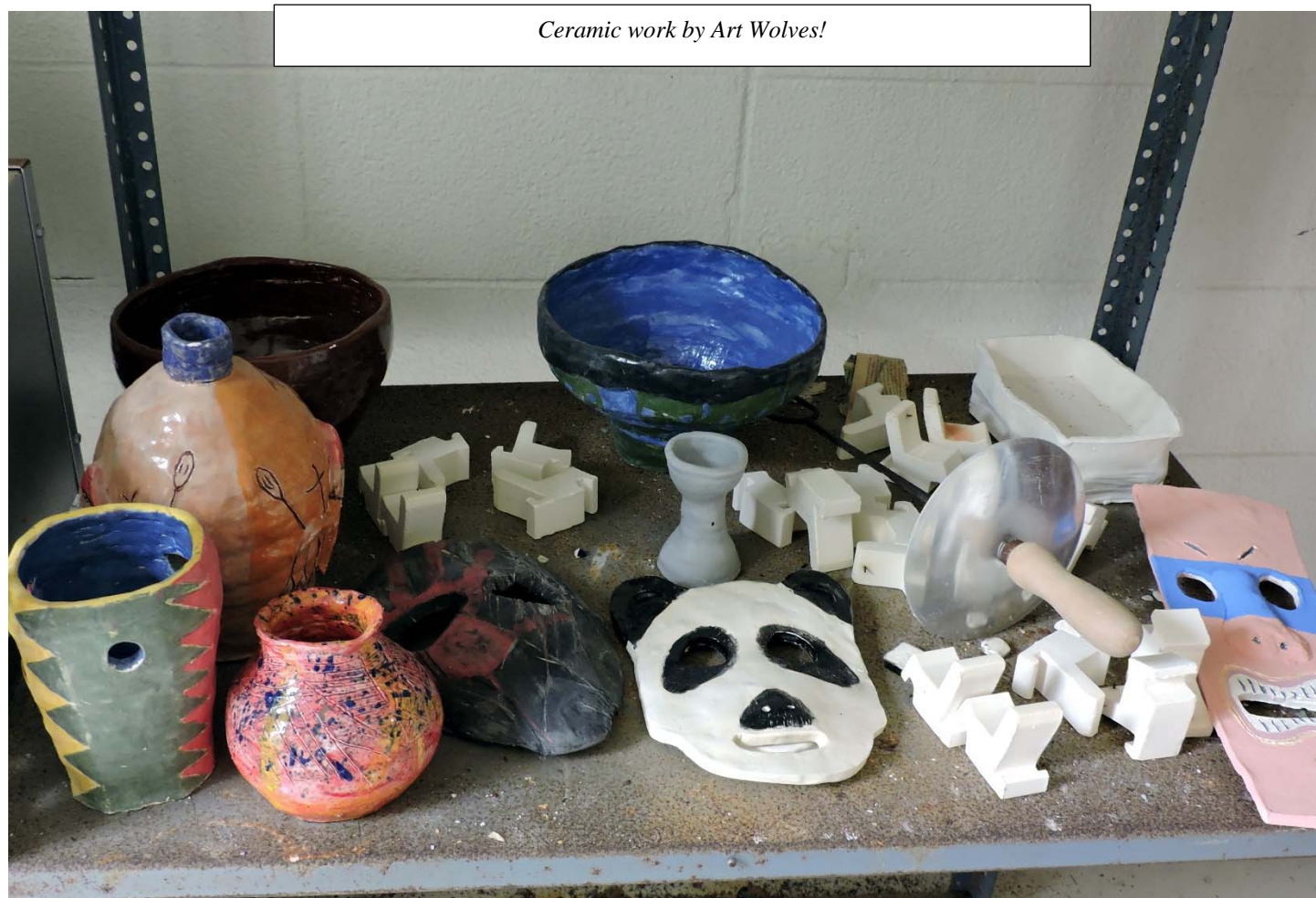
- Amazon Smile: This website, operated by Amazon, lets customers enjoy the same benefits of shopping on Amazon.com. The difference is that when using AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice – which we hope 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: Thanks to the Math Department for promoting this painless way to help SPS financially..



**Centennial Year:** During 2018, we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> 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 SPS tidbits!



*Ceramic work by Art Wolves!*

**Construction Updates:** Last week was a busy one. Here's some of what went on:

- **Administration Building:** The 1983 roof finally needed replacement. I was certainly not anxious to do this project with Benilde Hall cash demands, but it became unavoidable.
- **Benilde:** Reworking/locating various underground utility lines. Most don't realize the number of old buildings that were on this campus, each with its set of underground utility lines. When buildings were replaced, the cheapest materials were used and codes were minimal. We are using Benilde Hall renovation to (we hope) straighten out this mishmash. In addition, work went on in the building itself. Thanks to those teachers who heeded Trevor's directive to start moving things out of the building. **April 27 is final day we will use Benilde until August!**
- **Tennis Court:** Yes, Joni Mitchell fans (who?), we "paved paradise and put up a parking lot." Well, the tennis courts were not paradise and they were already paved, so all we are doing is making the space more usable and attractive.

**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.



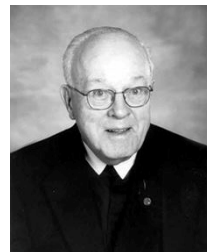
*Students "breathe" through straws at last week's assembly. Ask your son why.*

**Finance Office Job Opportunity:** The Finance Office is looking to hire additional help. If you know of someone with an accounting degree and/or accounting experience, please have them send a resume to CFO Jo Sutherlin.

**GiveNOLA Day** is a 24-hour online charitable event on Tuesday, May 2, created to inspire people to give generously to a local non-profit organization. To donate to St. Paul's School on GiveNOLA day, visit <https://www.givenola.org/st-pauls-school-covington-la> This is a great way to make your annual fund gift.

**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.

**Lasallian World:** Brother Patrick Power, FSC of the District of Eastern North America (DENA) died peacefully at De La Salle Hall (a senior living facility) last week. At age 105, he was the oldest Brother in our worldwide Institute. We give thanks for his life and his work! May he rest in peace!



#### **Last Week:**

- **ACT:** Another flawless execution despite the weather. Let's hope some 36s will be coming our way.
- **Baseball:** Huge win over Slidell; a split with M'ville. 8<sup>th</sup> grade beat Newman!



- **Blood Drive:** Over 25 pints of life were donated on Thursday. Thanks, SPS!
- **Burgers for SPS:** Thanks to *Five Guys* for donating 15% of sales last Wed to SPS!
- **Challenge Night:** A well-organized night by the student councils of SSA and SPS led to fun by all. And, yes, the Wolves walked away with the trophy!
- **Close Up:** A group of Wolves took the nation's capital by storm – and learned much in the process.
- **Dental Hygiene Assembly:** While I was very disappointed by the behavior of our students, I thought the information presented was relevant and powerful. I pray that it took root in the minds and hearts of the students. I hope your sons told you about what they learned.
- **Father-Son BBQ:** Thanks, Dads' Club, for organizing and executing the event in spite of the weather.
- **Football Parent Meeting:** An enthusiastic group of football parents met last week to prepare for spring training and next year's season. Athletic Director Craig Ketelsen addressed the group with parental expectations.
- **Foreign Language Festival:** Lobos returned home with lots of awards. Specifics at a later date.
- **Freshman Retreat:** A well-organized two days made for a great experience by our freshman. Thanks to Jeff Ramon et al for organizing.
- **Golf:** I know they competed but I don't have results; best wishes in regional competition today.
- **Honor Roll Breakfasts:** Once again, we had a good time honoring our honor roll students. As has become my custom, I had seniors, instead of me, present vocabulary words and opine on them. **Patrick Baldone** chose **Breviloquent** (a person, speech, or style of writing using very few words) and contrasted it with **Blatherskite** (a person who talks at great length without making much sense) and encouraged us to eschew blatherskiteism and embrace breviloquentism. **Forge Mathes** presented **Honorificabilitudinitatibus** (the state of being able to achieve honors – and, yes, he was able to pronounce it – ask him to do so for you!) and **Victory royale** (the act of winning a game of Fortnite, obtained by being the last remaining person, duo, or squad in the game). He encouraged all to be in positions of helping each other achieve “victory royales” by helping each other, thus being able to achieve the honors with that very long word! Finally, **Kevin Schneider** chose **Kakorrhaphiophobia** (fear of failure) and **Yarborough** (a hand with no card above a nine). He said that we must not fear failure, otherwise nothing would get accomplished. And he said that life doesn't always deal us a good hand (a yarborough) but we must be prepared to make the most of what life hands us. The three seniors were terrific. As I said at the end, my work with them is done. Amen!
- **Lacrosse:** A playoff win propels Wolves to next round of playoffs.
- **Life Skills Day:** Our seniors were treated to some real-world life knowledge that will serve them well into the future. They were also served an excellent lunch. Thanks, SPS Renaissance Board, for sponsoring this event. Allow me to publicly express disappointment and disapproval of those seniors who chose not to attend this event andn to those parents who allowed their sons to make that decision.
- **Rugby:** I think they were scheduled to play but weather may have impacted the game.
- **Tennis:** District Champions! Again! Well done, Tennis Wolves!



*Spencer intently works on his clay mask before painting and firing in the kiln.*



- **TOPS/LA College Night:** Thanks, Counseling Dept, for organizing this informative program. As one mom wrote me the next day: *I just wanted to tell you how impressed I was with last evening's Louisiana College Night expo. Christine (and her helpers) did a phenomenal job in putting it together! It was so informative and helpful with resources and contact information for the schools represented, as well as TOPS information. I discovered I know so little about the whole process and what Louisiana colleges have to offer their students. I am so glad that I attended!*
- **Track:** Again, I know they ran but don't have results. I'll be highlighting track at Tuesday's assembly.
- **Wolf Jam:** Our Wolf musicians were in rare form on Fri night as they entertained and raised money for San Miguel High School, the Lasallian school in Tucson, AZ. Why do we support SM? Here is its story: *San Miguel High School opened in 2004 in order to create a learning community where students from families of limited financial means have the opportunity to develop to their full potential. San Miguel is located in Tucson's economically depressed south side where fifty percent of adult residents do not have a high school education and forty-two percent earn less than \$25,000 per year. At San Miguel, students take a full college preparatory course load while simultaneously holding internships, working in corporations and earning nearly forty percent of their school tuition. The Corporate Work Study Program (CWSP) at San Miguel gives students the opportunity to form new identities as citizens and professionals who have bright futures. San Miguel is in the finest tradition of Lasallian education*

**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.



*Seniors enjoy Life Skills Day!  
Thanks, SPS Renaissance, for sponsoring this important program!*

### Mothers' Club:

- **End of School Bookstore Sale:** The Mothers' Club will be having an end of school sale 10% off everything in the bookstore on Friday, May 4, 2018 from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm and on Saturday, May 5, 2018 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Also, drop off donated uniforms in the bookstore or to Andrea in Administration
- **Mother – Son Supper:** Date? Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup> Time? 6:30 (doors open at 5:30) Deadline to register? Already passed. What happens? We begin with a prayer service, followed by a delicious dinner from Keith Young's Steakhouse. Following dinner, seniors make a short presentation to their moms and then the highlight of the evening occurs: several seniors reflect for 2-3 minutes on their moms. How long does the whole event last? Last year, the program ended at 8:12 – some left right away, others lingered behind and socialized. It was a great evening.

**News worth Noting: Volunteerism boosts self-esteem.** The Journal of Adolescence reported that volunteering to assist strangers yielded more long-term benefits in teens than helping family or friends. In addition to having positive psychological impacts on teens, volunteering can increase physical exercise and prevent loneliness. Helping others does not have to be done on a grand scale, a small act of kindness is a great place to start. [Read 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](http://www.thepaperwolf.com). Well done, Mrs. Simoneaux & Journalism class!



**Phones:** Please stress with your sons the need to follow school phone rules. Students must turn OFF phones in class and may only use them outside (between classes or at lunch.) A \$10 fine is assessed for violating the rule – which, unfortunately, is happening way too frequently.

**Physicals:** Free physicals for athletes and band members will again be provided by Pinnacle Orthopedics (1200 Pinnacle Parkway) at 7 am on Saturday, May 5. We are again indebted to the physicians and staff of Pinnacle for providing this service for our students. Remember: no student may participate in athletics or band at SPS without a current physical on file.

**Pornography Assembly:** Have you had this conversation with your son? Remember, [www.covenanteyes.com](http://www.covenanteyes.com) is recommended by the Archdiocese of New Orleans as a great resource.

### **Pre-freshman Promotion Ceremony:**

- Our Promotion Ceremony is Friday, May 18, at 6:30 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. Students report to the Wolf Dome at 6:00 pm. The ceremony lasts about 75 minutes. Note that traffic on a Friday afternoon can be problematic. Please plan accordingly.
- Dress code for the ceremony is SPS dress uniform: white shirt, long khaki pants, school tie, dress socks, no athletic shoes. Students do not wear a jacket.
- Pre-freshman awards will also be given at the ceremony.
- Yes, grandparents are welcome to attend. While we do not limit the number of guests who may attend, we hope to average 5-6 guests only per family.
- A reception by the Mother's Club is after the ceremony. Attendance at this is optional.
- In the past, this ceremony has been a very positive and impressive one, and we'll do our best to make it so again on May 18. It takes place within a Catholic Liturgy of the Word, with the boys singing a number of songs. **If, however, you do not want your son to participate, that is fine. Just let me know.**

### **San Francisco New**

#### **Orleans Demographics:**

Chief administrators of the 21 schools from seven states (can you name the states and at least ten of the schools? in our District were recently provided with demographic info. Some stats:

- Enrollment: 15,362 students (9602 male and 5760 female – 6 of the 21 schools are all male)
- Religion: 9991 Catholic; 5371 non-Catholic
- Ethnicity: 7242 Caucasian; 3799 Hispanic; 1648 Asian; 1019 African American; 939 Bi Racial
- Full Time Faculty/Administration: 2065 (997 lay men; 1030 lay women; 25 Brothers)



*Juniors enjoy HR Breakfast.*



## Senior Graduation Information:

- Mon and Tue, Apr 23 & 24: regular schedules for seniors; full days of school; elective exams given
- Wed, Apr 25: two exams in the morning; graduation practice in the afternoon; dismissal following practice
- Thu, Apr 26: two exams in the morning; graduation practice in the afternoon; dismissal following practice
- Fri, Apr 27: one exam in the morning followed by short graduation practice and distribution of caps, gowns, and graduation ceremony tickets. **We will issue each senior EIGHT (8) tickets. We hand the tickets directly to each senior on this day. We are not responsible for lost tickets and we do not replace “lost” tickets.**
- **We will not issue tickets and caps/gowns to any student who still has an obligation to the school.**
- Mon – Fri, Apr 30 – May 11: seniors **do not** report to school except for the following:
- Wed, May 09: Senior Grad Night (5-9)
- Thu, May 10: Athletic Awards Ceremony (8 am); only senior athletes need attend
- Fri, May 11: Academic Awards Ceremony (8 am). Only those seniors getting awards need attend in dress uniform. Final graduation practice (if needed) at 10 am.
- Sat, May 12: the 107th Commencement Exercises of The Saint Paul’s School; 4 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. Doors will open at 3 pm and **admission is by ticket only**. The beautiful ceremony, within the context of a Catholic mass, lasts about two hours.
- Note: Everything seniors need to know for graduation will be part of a printed set of instructions given to them on Friday, Apr 27. I will also email a copy to senior parents.

**Scheduling for Next Year:** Students have selected selecting their courses for next year. **Only registered students were allowed to schedule classes.** If you did not register your son, please let me know your intentions as we are getting inquiries from new applicants.

**School Safety:** The story in NOLA.com last week on school safety in St. Tammany is worth the read. Also, the video produced by St. Tammany Parish Public School System is worth the one minute viewing. Here’s the link to both.

[http://www.nola.com/northshore/index.ssf/2018/03/school\\_threats\\_st\\_tammany\\_pari.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.nola.com/northshore/index.ssf/2018/03/school_threats_st_tammany_pari.html#incart_river_index)



*Curtis has snack after donating blood last week.*

**Security:** “Lock Your Car” Signs are appearing around Covington – including around SPS – courtesy of the Covington PD. Car burglaries are occurring, and almost always in unlocked cars. Parents – please stress with your sons the need to lock his car. And please lock yours when you come to campus for an event, especially an evening event.

**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](mailto:j.ramon@stpauls.com))

**Service Opportunity:** I was asked to promote that the Recreational District in Lacombe is always looking for volunteers to help out at concessions and at games. Contact the Rec District for info.

**Social Media:** Want up-to-date news on all of the good things happening at Saint Paul's School? Do so by liking our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/St.Pauls.School.Covington.Louisiana/> or following us on Twitter @SPSWolfpack. The strength of the Wolf is in the pack! Many thanks to Mimi Montiero for maintaining our social media information.

**The St. Peter Adult Formation Committee** invites you to a bible study presented by Jimmy Seghers: **Decoding the Old Testament**. Please join us Monday evenings at 7 pm in St. Mary's Hall, April 16th - May 14th. Registration takes place at the first gathering. A \$10 donation is suggested. For more information, please contact the St. Peter Rectory at 985.892.2422.



*Close Up Wolves with Rep. Steve Scalise in Washington, DC*

**Student Council:** is pleased to announce that the Junior Senior Prom will be held on campus on Saturday, April 28. Students will enjoy DJ music and desserts in the Briggs Assembly Center. Registration forms may be found on Edline and in room 107. The deadline to register is Wednesday, April 25.



*Wolves on balcony of Speaker of the House's office in DC along with congressional staffer, SPS alum, and former student council president Zach Barnett.*

**Student Seeking Help:** Junior Cullen Irwin is volunteering again for the month of June to teach guitar lessons to the students enrolled in Christ Episcopal Enrichment Program camp. He is requesting youth size guitars or money donations to purchase youth guitars. Last summer with the money he collected, Cullen was able to buy 5 youth size Fender electric guitars with little amps. He gave those guitars to the older students at the end of camp as a reward for their hard work. Cullen is hoping to collect enough money to purchase more guitars for the kids this summer. If you wish to help, you can contact Cullen on his cell phone 985-789-8811 or if you prefer to make a monetary donation to the church so it is tax deductible, the check should be made out and mailed to Christ Episcopal Church with a reference to "CEEP Program, Cyndi Hargrove", 129 N. New Hampshire Street, Covington, LA 70433.

**Summer Camps:** SPS offers the following camps:

- Boys (8-14) Sports: baseball, football, wrestling, basketball, lacrosse, soccer, speed/strength
- Robotics (rising 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.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 continue to mention this, but please speak to your son about the dangers involved in this latest fad. We continue to hear 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.

***Weekly Humor: Funny (?) signs:***

- *In a Podiatrist's office: Time Wounds All Heels.*
- *On a Septic Tank Truck: Yesterday's Meals--on Wheels*
- *At a Proctologist's door: To expedite visit, please back in.*
- *Plumber's truck: We Repair What Your Husband Fixed*
- *Plumber's truck: Don't sleep with a drip; Call a plumber!*
- *A Church Billboard: 7 days without God makes one weak.*
- *At a Tire Shop: Invite us to your next blowout.*
- *Towing Co: We don't charge an arm and leg: We want tows.*
- *On an Electrician's truck: Let Us Remove Your Shorts*
- *In a Nonsmoking Area: If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action.*
- *On a Maternity Room door: Push. Push. Push!*
- *At an Optometrist's Office: If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place.*
- *On a Fence: Trespassers Welcome! Dog Food Is Expensive!*
- *At a Car Dealership: The best way to get back on your feet: miss a car payment.*
- *In a Veterinarian's waiting room: Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!*
- *At the Electric Company: We will be de-lighted if you send in your payment. If you don't, you will be.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

**A Look Ahead:**

**April**

- 16 – FGAB – 9:00 Late Start for Faculty In-Service; Soccer Awards Ceremony
- 17 – CDEF – President's Assembly – Teacher Appreciation Lunch – Snack Day; ROTC Awards Banquet
- 18 – GABC – Leadership Breakfast
- 19 – DEFG – Leadership Week Speaker Assembly; Mother-Son Dinner
- 20 – ABCD – Year in Review Assembly
- 21 – Crawfish Cookoff
- 23 – EFGA – President's Assembly (last with seniors); senior elective exams
- 24 – BCDE – Pack Time (last with seniors); senior elective exams
- 25 – FGAB – Senior Exams; graduation practice
- 26 – CDEF – Senior Exams; graduation practice



*Help us renovate Benilde Hall by donating to the Annual Fund. Naming rights are available if you really want to help us!*

- 27 – GABC -- Senior Exams; graduation practice; Final Day for Seniors
- 28 – Junior-Senior Prom
- 30 – DEFG

## May

- 1 – ABCD
- 2 – EFGA – Stuff the Bus
- 3 – BCDE
- 4 – FGAB
- 5 – Free Physicals for Athletes and Band Members (7 am at Pinnacle); Band Spring Concert
- 7 – CDEF
- 8 – GABC - Pack Time; Band Awards
- 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 - Pre freshmen Exams
- 16 – CDEF - Pre freshmen Exams
- 17 – Pre freshmen Exams /9-11 Exams
- 18 – 9-11 Exams /Pre freshmen Promotion
- 21 – Exams for Grades 9 - 11
- 22 – Exams for Grades 9 - 11
- 23 – Exams (conflict and make up)

Whew! Enough for now.

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 move into the last part of April! Again, thanks for being part of the 2017 - 18 edition of Saint Paul's!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Amazed that Seniors Only Have Two Weeks Left and I'm Still 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President/CEO of Saint Paul's School



*Irises beautify the campus.  
Thanks, Botanical Wolves!*



**...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!**

