

**Warning about the Newsletter:** This is a LONG newsletter, but there's a lot to cover as we begin school. So pour another cup of coffee, relax, and read. Feel free to take breaks!



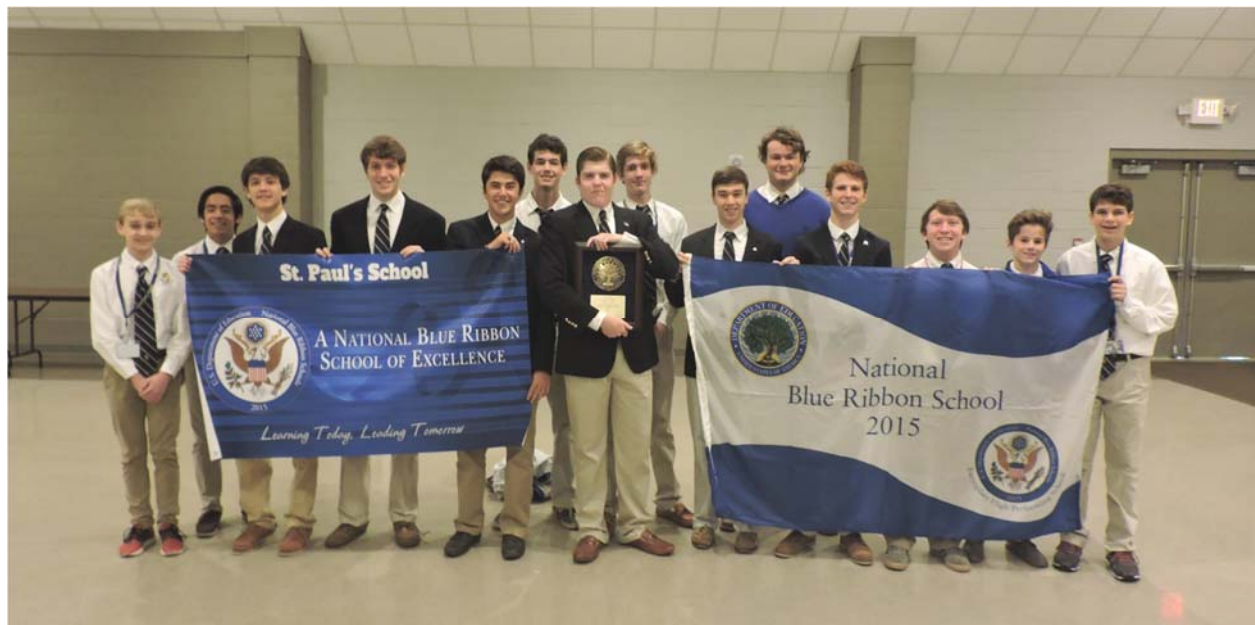
## ***The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter***



### ***Opening of the 2018 - 19 School Year Edition***

***Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Christian Brother Presence at SPS***

***July 30 – August 09, 2018***



Welcome to the 2018 - 19 school year – the eighth year of our second century -- a year in which we will strive to keep the best of our 338+ year Christian Brother tradition with our 107 year Saint Paul's tradition while adding the quality of the present. And welcome to the fifth academic year of the San Francisco New Orleans District of Christian Brothers!

By popular demand (OK, one mom asked!), the President's Hebdomadal Blue Ribbon Newsletter is back. I am sure your summer Sundays were vaguely unsettling without my weekly missive. As in the past, I plan to email the newsletter on Sunday mornings. If you have suggestions as to how I can make the newsletter more helpful & informative, let me know. Just email me a question or suggestion or topic to be addressed.

And welcome to August. According to *The Miriam-Webster* website, *August comes from the Latin word augustus, meaning "consecrated" or "venerable."* ... In 8 B.C., the Roman Senate honored Augustus Caesar, the first Roman emperor, by changing the name of their month "Sextilis" to "Augustus." Middle English speakers inherited the name of the month of August. August is Admit You're Happy Month, Family Fun Month, National Catfish Month, National Eye Exam Month, National Golf Month, Peace Month, Romance Awareness Month, Water Quality Month and National Picnic Month. Something for everyone

**At SPS, it's "Opening of School Month." I'm excited, and I hope you are, too.**

## Mon, July 30

- **This Day in History:** In 1956, two years after pushing to have the phrase “under God” inserted into the pledge of allegiance, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signs a law officially declaring “In God We Trust” to be the nation’s official motto. BTY, this past summer, the Louisiana Legislature passed a law mandating that our national motto be placed in each public school. SPS has always placed its trust in God.
- **TDIH:** In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signs Medicare, a health insurance program for elderly Americans, into law.
- **Cheesecake Day:** Enjoy this iconic dessert today – if your health permits!

## Tue, July 31

- **TDIH:** In 1556, Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuit order of Roman Catholic missionaries and educators, dies in Rome. We wish all of our Jesuit fathers and brothers a blessed feast day.
- **National Mutt Day:** Today is all about embracing, saving, and celebrating mixed breed dogs.
- **8th Grade Football Sign Up & Football Spirit Night: 5 pm in Gym; Team BBQ 6 pm**

## Wed, Aug 1

- **TDIH: In 1914, World War I erupts in Europe.** The so-called “Great War” that ensued would be one of unprecedented destruction and loss of life, resulting in the deaths of some 20 million soldiers and civilians and the physical devastation of much of the European continent.
- **TDIH: 1943, PT-109 sinks; Lieutenant John F. Kennedy, later to become President Kennedy, is instrumental in saving crew.** If you are unfamiliar with this inspiring story, I encourage you to read about it today. Here’s a link to the Kenny Library:  
<https://www.jfklibrary.org/JFK/JFK-in-History/John-F-Kennedy-and-PT109.aspx>
- **National Raspberry Cream Pie Day:** Enjoy!



*A record number of Marching Wolves attended band camp last week. But I want even more Marching Wolves*

## Thu, Aug 2

- **TDIH:** In 1990, Iraq invades Kuwait, which would ultimately lead the US into the First Gulf War.
- **National Ice Cream Sandwich Day:** Enjoy this iconic treat!
- **New Faculty Meeting**

## Fri, Aug 3

- **TDIH:** 1958, the U.S. nuclear sub *Nautilus* accomplishes first undersea voyage to the geographic North Pole.
- **TDIH:** In 1923, Calvin Coolidge is sworn in as the 30th president of the US, hours after the death of President Warren G. Harding.

- **TDIH: In 1861**, the last entry of the serialized novel *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens is published. The novel tells the story of young Pip, a poor orphan who comes to believe he will inherit a fortune – and is one of my favorite novels and a part of my English class curriculum.
- **TDIH:** In 1492, from the Spanish port of Palos, Italian explorer Christopher Columbus sets sail in command of three ships. Can you name the three ships and the day he landed? Answer at end of newsletter.
- **National Watermelon Day:** Enjoy this iconic summer treat! And it's healthy for you, too!
- **New SPS Teachers Intro to the Lasallian World:** Our new teachers will join the new faculty of Lasallian schools in NO and learn the rich tradition of Lasallian education, transforming lives since 1680.

#### Sat, Aug 4 (Feast of St. John Vianney -- 1786-1859)

- **St. John Vianney's** most remarkable accomplishment was his work as a confessor. In winter months, he spent 11 to 12 hours daily hearing confessions. In summer, time increased to 16 hours. As his fame spread, he spend even more hours serving God's people. Even the few hours he allowed himself for sleep were disturbed frequently by the devil. Here are wonderful words from St. John: *We do not have to talk very much in order to pray well. We know that God is there... Let us open our hearts to him. Let us rejoice in his presence. This is the best prayer.*
- **TDIH:** In 1944, acting on a Dutch informer tip, Nazi Gestapo captures 15-year-old Jewish diarist Anne Frank and her family in a sealed-off area of an Amsterdam warehouse. Her father was the only family member to survive the Nazi death camps. After the war, he returned to Amsterdam via Russia, and was reunited with one of his former employees who had helped shelter him. She handed him Anne's diary, which she had found undisturbed after the Nazi raid. In 1947, Anne's diary was published by Otto in its original Dutch as *Diary of a Young Girl*. An instant best-seller and eventually translated into more than 50 languages, *The Diary of Anne Frank* has served as a literary testament to the nearly six million Jews, including Anne herself, who were silenced in the Holocaust.
- **National Chocolate Chip Day:** Enjoy this iconic treat!
- **International Assistance Dog Day** recognizes all the devoted, hardworking assistance dogs helping individuals mitigate their disability related limitations.
- **Coast Guard Day:** On August 4, 1790, Congress created the Revenue Cutter Service. Congress authorized the construction of ten cutters. These ships enforced U.S. tariff laws. The Revenue Cutter Service was the predecessor the U.S. Coast Guard, a term first used in 1915. We salute and thank our Coast Guard!
- **National Mustard Day (always first Sat of Aug):** Spread this tasty condiment treat on your food today. Or visit the National Mustard Museum (who knew?) web site at <http://mustardmuseum.com/>

#### Sun, Aug 5

- **TDIH:** In 1914, the world's first electric traffic signal is put into place on the corner of Euclid Ave and East 105th Street in Cleveland. Little did they know what they started!
- **TDIH:** In 1850, French writer Guy de Maupassant, who probably had the greatest impact upon the development of short story as a literary genre in Europe, is born. His stories are characterized by clever plots, clear style, and surprise endings. Read de Maupassant today! "The Necklace" & "Piece of String" are classic!
- **National Underwear Day:** I'll let you "briefly" (sorry!) decide if you're going to celebrate this – or not! DYK that sales of men's underwear - a discretionary purchase - is used by some Wall Street execs measure how people feel financially? When sales decline, it's usually indicates the economy is headed for a fall. Who knew?



- **National Oyster Day:** Indulge today in this LA favorite! Some facts:
  - There are over 100 species of true oysters traditionally named after body of water where found.
  - The largest oyster-producing body of water is Chesapeake Bay.
  - Oyster farming and cultivation can be traced back to Roman times in France and England.
  - Two billion pounds are eaten annually and only 1 out of 10,000 will have a pearl

## Mon, Aug 6

- **Feast of the Transfiguration:** *In a resplendent cloud, the Holy Spirit appeared. The Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him.* May we listen to the Lord today – and every day throughout the new school year!
- **TDIH:** In 1945, at 8:16 am Japanese time, an American B-29 bomber, the *Enola Gay*, drops world's first atom bomb, over city of Hiroshima. Approximately 80,000 people are killed as a direct result of the blast, and another 35,000 are injured. At least another 60,000 would be dead by end of year from the effects of the fallout. We pray that never again will atomic weapons be used.
- **National Fresh Breath Day:** Floss, brush, rinse with mouthwash, and carry mints! 'Nuff said!
- **National Root Beer Float Day:** Celebrate the opening of school with this iconic summer treat!
- **International Forgiveness Day** (always first Sun in Aug): Let's all make an effort to forgive.
- **Faculty Meetings**



## Tue, Aug 7

- **Purple Heart Day:** Today in 1782, in Newburgh, NY, General George Washington created the "Badge for Military Merit," a decoration consisting of a purple, heart-shaped piece of silk, edged with a narrow binding of silver, with the word Merit across the face. The badge was presented to soldiers for "any singularly meritorious action" and permitted its wearer to pass guards and sentinels without challenge. After the war, the decoration was largely forgotten until 1927, when the US Army Chief of Staff sent an unsuccessful draft bill to Congress to "revive the Badge of Military Merit." On February 22, 1932, Washington's 200th birthday, the U.S. War Department created the "Order of the Purple Heart." We remember all American soldiers who have been wounded and thus earned The Purple Heart.
- **TDIH:** The US Congress overwhelmingly approves the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, giving President Lyndon Johnson nearly unlimited powers to oppose "communist aggression" in Southeast Asia. The resolution marked the beginning of an expanded military role for the United States in Vietnam.
- **Particularly Preposterous Packaging Day** -- Buy anything lately that was particularly hard to get out of the box or plastic wrap? What do we older people do when even mainstream society can't open a simple bottle of aspirin, let alone a milk carton?
- **Faculty Meetings**

- **8<sup>th</sup> & New 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation (5:30 – 7:30):** Our Lasallian Young Leaders have a great program planned for our newest wolves. Thanks to Campus Minister Jeff Ramon and all who will be helping tonight.

**Wed, Aug 8**

- **Sneak Some Zucchini Onto Your Neighbor's Porch Day (at your own risk!)**
- **Faculty Preparation Day**

**Thu, Aug 9 (First Day of School – a full day; periods A B C D only meet)**

- **Book Lover's Day:** What a great day to open school!
- **This is a FULL DAY OF CLASS INSTRUCTION.** Students must be in their Block A class by 8:00 am. **Traffic has not gotten any better of late, so please allow plenty of time for prompt arrival.**
- **Important Info About Uniforms for Thursday, August 9:** On Thu, August 9, students who have religion class in Periods A, B, C or D must wear DRESS UNIFORM for school pictures. Students who have religion in periods E, F or G wear regular uniforms on Thu, Aug 09. How will you know? Refer to class schedule that you should have received by now. If you have not received a schedule, contact me.
- **Important Info About Uniforms for Friday, August 10:** On Fri, August 10, students with religion class in periods E, F or G wear DRESS UNIFORM for pictures. Students who had their pictures taken on Thu wear regular uniforms.
- Students only need to bring materials for periods A B C & D on August 9. They only need to bring materials for periods E F G & A on August 10.
- Books will be in the classrooms and teachers will distribute them directly to students.

**I draw the following to your attention (in alphabetical order, not order of importance):**

**Academic Success:** Help your son develop proper attitudes and habits for success. Show confidence in his ability; work with him to set realistic academic goals. Help him develop an orderly study environment. Teens enjoy chaos, so the trick is to help your son create enough order in his chaos for proper study to occur. Designate a place and time to study. **Require 1-2 hours of study per night. Do not accept the "I have no homework" excuse.** He always has homework -- review, study, and advanced preparation. At the end of his study session, have him organize books, assignments, PE clothes, etc. for the next day.



*2018-19 Drum Majors Deuce and Ross receive encouragement from 2017-18 drum major Alvey at band camp last week.*

**Annual Fund: Last call for the 2018 Annual Fund, which ends on July 31!** Thanks to all who contributed, making all of our improvements possible. The President's Annual Fund Appreciation dinner will be held on Aug 29 for all who have contributed at the \$1000 level. I am humbled about how many fall into that category!



**Athletics:** No student may participate in our athletic program without completing the necessary paperwork, including an LHSAA official physical form.

**Attendance Office:** Please following all SPS attendance regulations as found in the Student-Parent Handbook and make Suzanne's job as easy as possible. Thank you for your cooperation. The State of Louisiana limits the number of days a student may miss and still receive credit. Saint Paul's adheres to these regulations. **Please do not allow your sons to miss school for less than very serious reasons.**



**Benilde Hall:** An extensive renovation of Benilde Hall is nearing completion. Second and third floor classrooms will be available for opening of school, while first floor and outside work will continue for a few more weeks. More classrooms, better restrooms, an elevator, improved lighting and HVAC, additional ingress and egress, student services, and more. I am grateful to Donahue-Favret Contractors and Fauntleroy Lathem Architects for their expedited work on this project!

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	<b>SOLD</b>
5 Display Cases	<b>SOLD</b>
Outdoor Covered Patio with Seating	<b>SOLD</b>

### **2nd Floor**

Spanish Classrooms (3 still available)	\$15,000 each
Faculty Office	Sold

### **3rd Floor**

Religion Classrooms	All sold
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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.

**Book Store:** The Mothers' Club Bookstore opens on:

Aug 6, 2018	Bookstore Opens	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Aug 7, 2018	Bookstore Opens	9:00 am to 6:00 pm
Aug 8, 2018	Bookstore Opens	9:00 am to 3:00 pm

All required school supplies will be available for purchase, as well as St. Paul's apparel. Our regular bookstore hours of operation will start on Thursday, August 9.

- M – F: 7:15 am - 8:00 am
- M – F: 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
- By appointment. Email [spsbookstore16@gmail.com](mailto:spsbookstore16@gmail.com) or text Angela Rovira at 985-788-3679

### **PLEASE patronize the MC's Bookstore.**

Proceeds not help fund wonderful activities throughout the year and campus needs. For example, the MC funded over \$40,000 worth of school projects this past year.

### **Cafeteria School Lunch / Breakfast**

- SPS participates in the federal school lunch/breakfast program managed by the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Saint



*Andrew mugs for the camera while his dad pressure washes La Salle Hall. Go help your dad, Andrew!*

Paul's does not manage the food service program; we follow the directives of the Archdiocese and the cafeteria workers are employed by the Archdiocese, not SPS.

- Breakfast (\$1.75) is served from 7:15-7:45 am. This is a GREAT program.
- Students may buy a basic lunch (\$2.75.) They will be charged for extra servings – make sure your son is aware and knows how much he can spend. On most days, there is a choice of hot lunch or sandwich lunch.
- **Students may not “order out” or have lunches delivered. WE CANNOT DELIVER LUNCHES.**
- **Students participating in the cafeteria program must make an initial payment before school opens. This may be done on Aug 3-5 between 7 and 2:30. A separate check will be needed. Students may NOT "charge" a meal if no money is on account.**
- **Students MUST use their ID cards for check out in the cafeteria. A temporary ID will be issued them on Thu, Aug 9, for use at lunch that day.**
- Parents may sign up for ON-LINE payments that will also allow them to see a complete record of everything their son is buying. Go to <http://www.schoolcafe.org/> and follow directions.
- **FREE or REDUCED LUNCH/BREAKFAST: There is no stigma to apply for free / reduced lunch. NO ONE knows but the cafe manager. Request forms from the cafeteria manager or me. NEW: You may also apply online for free / reduced lunch by following these steps:**
  - ✓ Go to [www.Applyforlunch.com](http://www.Applyforlunch.com) (or access the link from our website [www.schoolcafe.org](http://www.schoolcafe.org))
  - ✓ Click on “Start your Online Application”
  - ✓ Enter your Zip Code or State and select “Archdiocese of New Orleans” as the district.
  - ✓ Follow the wizard and use the guided help along the way
  - ✓ Continue to select “next” at the bottom of the page and “submit” when completed.

Should you list an email address, you receive an email confirmation that your application has been submitted.

If you have any questions regarding Online Applications, please contact (504)596-3440 or (504)596-3434. Meal eligibility applications should be received prior to the 30<sup>th</sup> day of school or current meal benefits may change. It is NOT embarrassing for a family to request free or reduced cafeteria meals if you have financial need. Nothing is done to identify which students are on free or reduced lunch.

**Calendar** for 2018 - 19 is posted on our web site ([www.stpauls.com](http://www.stpauls.com)). NOTE: since the State of Louisiana has tightened the attendance policy, we will be even more insistent that students not miss school for less than serious reasons. PLEASE DO NOT SCHEDULE VACATIONS DURING SCHOOL TIME.





*Josh receives instruction on pressure washing from his dad on Dads' Club Clean-Up Day!*

**Car Lines:** There is no absolute designated drop off spot. Be patient the first few days of school as traffic patterns form. Safety is paramount, so if you use Founder's Circle as a departure point, **cars must drop off students in Founders Circle in the LEFT lane only** – you may not block traffic in the right lane to discharge the occupants. Dropping off at La Salle Hall or by the BAC is OK. Traffic will be heavy heading into Covington this week as schools open. Please plan accordingly.

**Dads' Club:** If you would like to be included on the SPS Dads' Club email list to keep informed about upcoming meetings and events, please email [spdadsclub@gmail.com](mailto:spdadsclub@gmail.com) or [shea.duet@gmail.com](mailto:shea.duet@gmail.com). Also, if you would like to subscribe to the Dads' Club calendar or Facebook page, please see: Join our Facebook group at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/169835833172361/> Subscribe to our calendar at <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=spdadsclub%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Chicago>

**Dress Code:** Students must comply with the dress code beginning Aug 9. WE INTEND TO INCREASE OUR ENFORCEMENT OF THE DRESS CODE THIS YEAR. Refer to previous newsletters or the student handbook on our website for particulars if you are still unsure. **Note: We have a number of clean, pre-owned SPS uniform shirts in good condition. If the family budget is tight, feel free to ask for some of these clothes. Nothing is done to embarrass a student and no one will know. Thanks to those families who supply us with their outgrown uniforms.**

**Driving Policy:** The driving habits of some students (speeding, horn blowing; engine revving, tire screeching, etc.) cause grief for the neighbors. I have spoken at length with some neighbors and also with the Covington Police. As our handbook states, driving to school and parking on our campus is a privilege, not a right. Thus,

- Covington Police will increase their presence and issue tickets;
- Neighbors have been instructed to take pictures or get license plates of speeding or unsafe drivers and send the information to us;
- SPS has increased the number of faculty street supervisors after school;
- SPS has a series of monetary fines (beginning at \$50 for a first offense) against students shown to be violating traffic laws around school;

- SPS reserves the right to revoke the driving to school privilege – which we did with one student who enraged the neighborhood on the last day of school a year ago.
- And remember: **it's against Louisiana law to use a cell phone (except hands free) during school zone times. Please don't drop your son off while using a cell phone – it's against the law and sets a bad example for him.**

Parents of students who drive to school – please stress safe driving with your sons.



*One of the new Spanish classrooms in Benilde Hall still looking for a sponsor (see above!)*

**Edline -- Time to Move on:** Edline has retired. Please refer to email sent by Assistant Principal Joe Dickens concerning our new PlusPortal platform, which will give you access to teacher lesson plans, homework, and grades. We emailed PlusPortal **activation codes last week. Please activate your account.** Mr. Mike Holmes is the PlusPortal administrator. Contact him for help at 892-3200, ext 1044 or [mikeh@stpauls.com](mailto:mikeh@stpauls.com). **WE NEED EVERYONE TO ACTIVATE A PlusPortal ACCOUNT.** (Sorry – I'm not shouting, just emphasizing.)

**Email Addresses:** An SPS email address (printed on the schedules) is issued to all students. The format is Firstname.Lastname.gradyr@stpauls.com, e.g. [John.Smith.2019@stpauls.com](mailto:John.Smith.2019@stpauls.com). This will allow us to communicate better with students. The student may keep this email forever, thus allowing us to continue contact with him as an alumnus. Naturally, we will delete the email upon graduation at the student's request. Your son's email was printed on the schedule that you received. **Since 95% of our communication with you is via email, please let us know if you change your email address.** And check your spam filter as sometimes our emails end up there.





*Some of our newest Marching Wolves! More are welcome!*

**Enrollment:** We open this year with a more than healthy enrollment (our largest ever!) – and that’s after having graduated a large class. I am humbled and proud that so many parents are willing to entrust their sons to us and make the sacrifices necessary to do so. **Please stress with your son that he is being given a gift – a gift that others want. He must use this gift wisely and make good choices.**

**Extracurriculars:** New parents often ask how their sons find out about our extracurricular program. Shortly after school opens, we will introduce students to our offerings.

**Football:** Calling all 8th graders interested in playing football for the Wolves! Come sign up for 8th grade football on Tuesday, July 31 at 5pm in the new gym. You will receive information regarding the upcoming season, practices, games, etc. You will also have a chance to meet the coaches. You are also invited to come out early and watch the end of Varsity practice prior to the meeting.

**Homecoming Dances:** The Junior High Homecoming Dance will be Saturday, Sep 22. The Senior High Homecoming Dance will be Saturday, Sep 29.

**Helping Saint Paul’s:** Don’t forget – If you shop at Office Depot, please give the SPS school code (70041640) and SPS receives 5% of your purchase! We also collect Box Tops for Education (have your son bring them to his math teacher) and we receive a portion of sales from Amazon Prime. These are painless ways to help SPS.

**Jazz ‘n Roll:** J n R XXVII is Sat evening, Nov 10. If you have questions, auction items and/or would like to work at J n R, call Shellie Campo at 892-3200, ext. 1273. More info to come, but mark your calendars!





**Late Start Dates:** Here are late start (9 am) dates and days of no classes. If possible, please use these opportunities for your son's off campus appointments. I grow concerned about the amount of class time some students are missing:

- Sept. 17
- October 22
- December 3
- Jan. 28
- Feb. 25
- March 22
- April 8

**Lost and Found:** At the end of last year, we “rounded up” dozens of sweatshirts, uniform shirts, pants, socks, books, lunch boxes and numerous other items that were “shed” or left behind by students in various parts of the campus and never claimed. Everything was washed and dried. Most of the items had NO IDENTIFYING INFO and the ones that did had info that was illegible. Again, PLEASE stress with your son the need for personal responsibility of his items. **Please clearly label all clothing.** The items collected at the end of May represent hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars.

#### **Musings on Last Two Weeks:**

- **Band Camp:** Lots of Marching Wolves showed for camp. Fantastic but I want more! And the MWs did a great Meet the Band evening on Fri evening.

- **Cross Country** also had camp last week as they prepare to defend their season.
- **Dads' Club:** The SPS Dads Club spent Saturday, July 21, on a number of campus projects, from power washing to tree trimming to minor repairs. Their work has made quite a difference! Thanks, SPS Dads Club! The campus is looking GREAT!
- **Football Team** left for Camp on 7/24 at Nicholls & returned Fri; MANY FB guys this year!
- **Mothers Club:** The Bookstore Crew was VERY busy preparing for sale this week.
- **Strength & Conditioning Camp:** The finale of the camp season was last week, which was very successful.



*Paul conducts experiment for bio-med campers.*

**Need More Information?** For academic issues, contact teachers, counselors, Principal Trevor Watkins, or Assistant Principal Joe Dickens. For discipline, attendance, or dress code questions, call Mr. Ken Sears, Dean of Students. Finances? Call Mrs. Jo Sutherlin or me. Athletics? Contact the coaches or Mr. Craig Ketelsen, Athletic Director. Naturally, call me if I can help. **My office phone is 985/892-3200, x 1001 & my cell phone is 985/966-1138, my email is [broray@stpauls.com](mailto:broray@stpauls.com) or hit "reply" to this email!**

**New Parents:** The following events are designed to welcome you and help you make the most of your SPS experience:

- The **Mothers' Club New Moms' Reception** is Monday, Aug 13th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Briggs Assembly Center. ALL SPS new moms are invited to this event. All moms automatically belong to the Mothers Club, so get involved.
- A **welcome reception and information** meeting for **new parents** will be held on Monday, August 20, at 6:30 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. More information will be emailed in August. We hope you have this on your calendar and that you will be with us!

**Office Depot:** If you shop at Office Depot, give SPS school code (70041640) and we receive 5% of purchase!

**Orientation for 8<sup>th</sup> & NEW 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Students:** Our Lasallian Student Leaders are planning an Orientation Session for our incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders and NEW 9<sup>th</sup> graders on Tue, August 7, from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. An invitation was sent to you, and we hope you have marked this date on your calendars and plan to be present. Naturally, attendance is optional, but the evening will be a fun and informative introduction to SPS. Do not worry, however, if you cannot make it. We will "orient" you when school begins. Please RSVP by emailing our Lasallian Youth Leader moderator, Mr. Jeff Ramon, at [j.ramon@stpauls.com](mailto:j.ramon@stpauls.com) so we can plan.

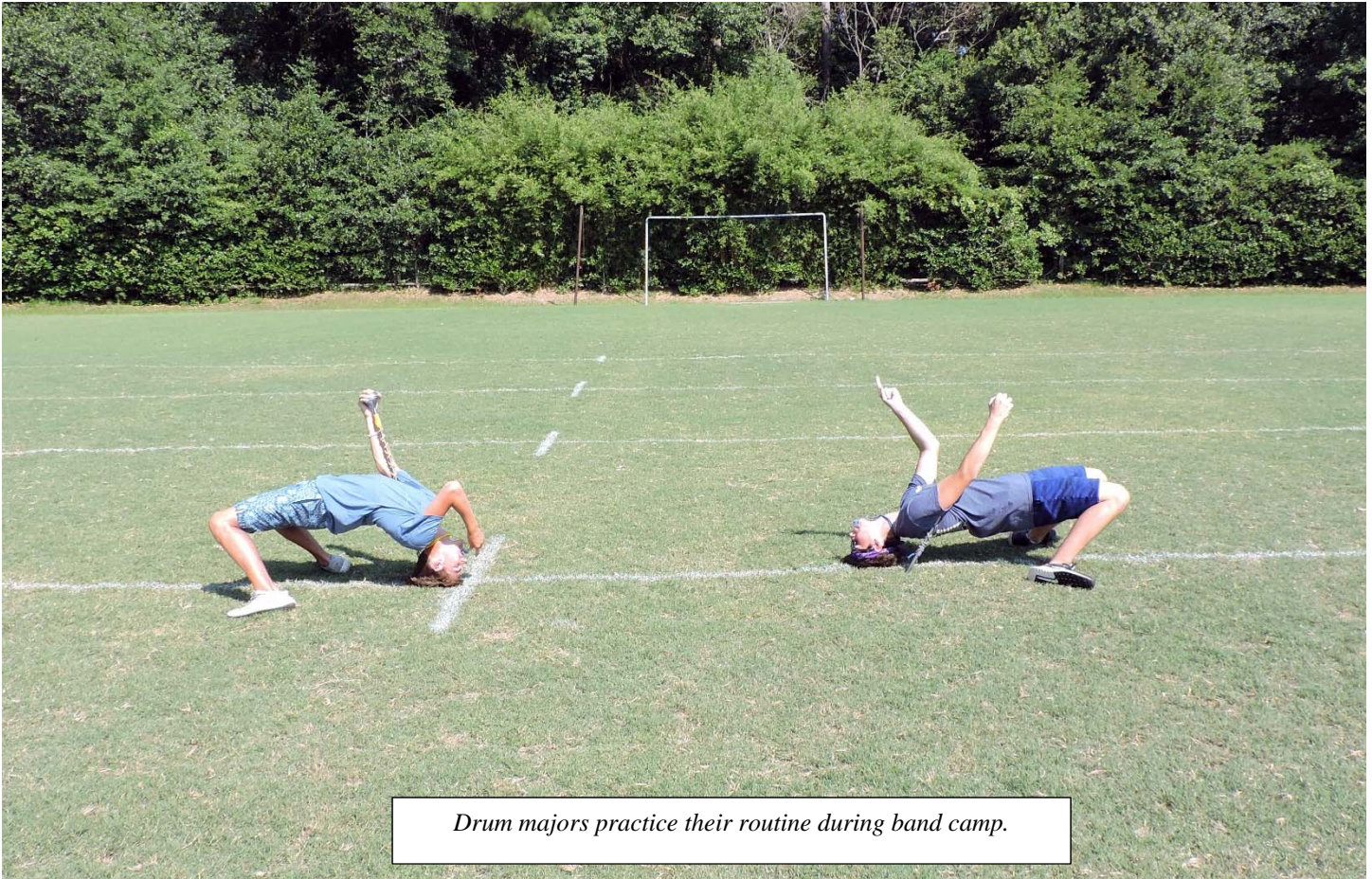
**Safe Environment:** all individuals planning to volunteer with St. Paul's must complete safe environment training. Here are upcoming training dates:

- 8/2            SSA            1:30 - 3:00 pm
- 8/9            OLL            10:00 – 11:30 am
- 8/22          OLL            7:15 – 8:45 pm



**School Pictures:** Ordering pictures is optional; an order form was mailed to you and will soon be posted on our web site. If you wish to order pictures, please have your son bring the order form and check with him on the day he is scheduled to take his picture (see above) – either Aug 9 or 10.

**School Schedules:** Class schedules were emailed last week if tuition payments were current. If you request a change, read info on the schedule sent and follow directions. Changes will be made for only serious reasons. A \$25 fee will be charged unless we made a mistake.



*Drum majors practice their routine during band camp.*

**School Supplies:** All needed school supplies are posted on our school web site ([www.stpauls.com](http://www.stpauls.com)). Just click on the link at the bottom of the homepage. Supplies are listed by TEACHER, so check your son's class schedule that was emailed last week. While we encourage you to shop at the Mothers Club bookstore, if **you shop at Office Depot, please give the SPS school code (70041640) and SPS receives 5% of your purchase!**

**Senior Parents:** Note the following **upcoming special senior events in Senior Week, Aug 20-24:**

- **Senior Class BBQ, Wed, Aug 22, 5 – 7 pm.** Appropriate casual attire required.
- **March through the Arch, Thu, Aug 23, at 8 a.m.** Senior parents are encouraged to attend this traditional "rite of passage" ceremony for our seniors. SPS dress uniform required.
- **Senior-Parent Continental Breakfast** following the March. The breakfast will be in the cafeteria and "al fresco" (from the Italian meaning "in the fresh" -- in this case, fresh air! We will have some outdoor seating.) Following breakfast, seniors will participate in **Senior Unity Day**, followed by complimentary



lunch and then Ring Ceremony practice. I will dismiss them following practice – 2 pm at the latest. Seniors may remain in dress uniform or change to regular school uniform after the breakfast.

- **Senior Ring Ceremony at 6:30 pm** in the Briggs Assembly Center. Senior parents are strongly encouraged to attend this traditional ceremony, a highlight of the senior year. ALL seniors are required to attend the ceremony whether they are receiving a ring or not. And, yes, family rings can be used. Seniors' dress for the ceremony is dress shirt, tie, slacks, shoes and socks.
- **Fri, Aug 24, is the Senior Ring Holiday. Seniors do not need to come to school.**

**Student Hosts:** Student Hosts will recruit and enroll new and returning members during the first few weeks of school in preparation for service at Jazz N Roll, Open House, Drama productions, Celebrity Waiters and other events. Students should see one of the ladies in the Development Office for information.

**Student-Parent Handbook Signature Card:** The Student-Parent Handbook is posted on the Student Life page of our website. All students and parents must be familiar with our policies and agree to follow them. As evidence of that agreement, **students and parents must sign a form attesting that they have read the Handbook, understand the rules contained within the document, and intend to follow them. Print out the signature card (posted on the website under “recent news” and which is also the last page of the handbook) and bring it on August 9.**

**Summer Reading:** All students should be finishing their summer reading.

**Swim Team:** Any swimmers interested in joining the AquaWolves for the 2018 season should contact Mrs. Rachel Peak at [rachelp@stpauls.com](mailto:rachelp@stpauls.com) for information regarding this year's team and schedule.

**Uniforms:** Reminders:

- Uniform shirts and socks are sold by Bayou Uniform (13488 Seymour Myers Blvd) in Covington. Only white SPS socks are allowed.
- Sweatshirts, fleeces, PE uniforms, etc. are sold by the Mothers Club bookstore.
- Khaki pants/shorts may come from any vendor as long as they are NOT cargo pants and are standard tan khaki color, not green or brown.
- There is no uniform shoe but no sandals, etc. are allowed. The more conservative the better.
- We now have a “dress uniform” which will be worn on special occasions: LONG khaki pants, dress white shirt (any brand is OK even if it has a small logo), dress socks, belt, SCHOOL TIE, and any shoe that is not a tennis/athletic shoe.
- ID cards must be worn DAILY on an SPS lanyard that will be given to students. This is a school safety measure.

**Weekly Humor:** Since you've read this far, you deserve the traditional “Weekly Humor”:

- *Q: Why did the teacher wear sunglasses? A: Because his class was so bright!*
- *Q: Why were the teacher's eyes crossed? A: She couldn't control her pupils!*
- *Q: How is an English teacher like a judge? A: They both give out sentences.*
- *Q: Why did the teacher go to the beach? A: To test the water.*
- *Teacher: You missed school yesterday, didn't you? Student: Not really.*

- *Teacher: If I had 6 oranges in one hand & 7 apples in the other, what would I have? Student: Big hands!*
- *Teacher: If you got \$20 from 5 people, what you get? Student: A new bike.*
- *Teacher: I hope I didn't see you looking at John's exam? Student: I hope you didn't either.*
- *Teacher: What is the shortest month? Student: May, it only has three letters.*
- *Teacher: Didn't I tell you to stand at the end of the line? Student: I tried but someone was already there!*
- *Teacher: Name two pronouns. Student: Who, me?*
- *Teacher: Please pay a little attention! Pupil: I'm paying as little as I can!*
- *Teacher: In music, f means forte. What does ff mean? Pupil: Eighty!*
- *Teacher: What's the longest word in English? Pupil: Smile – there's a mile between first & last letters!*
- *Teacher: How do you make so many mistakes in a day? Pupil: I get here early!*
- *OK, I'll stop!*



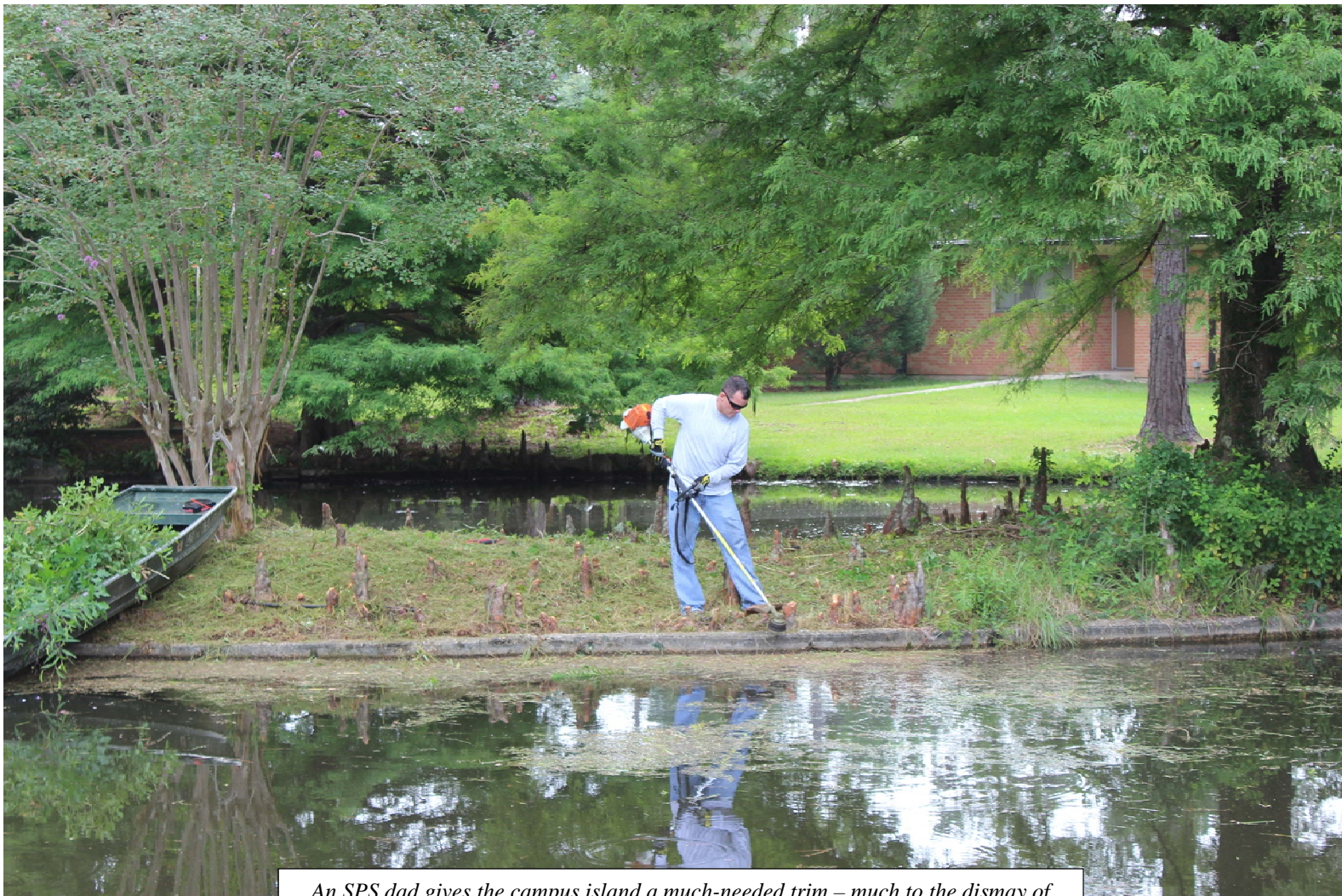
*Band Boosters prepare to serve lunch to Marching Wolves during band camp.  
Thank you, Band Boosters, for all you do for the Marching Wolves!*

## **A Look Ahead – Far, Far, Ahead:**

- M-T, Aug 6-7 Faculty Meetings
- Tue, Aug 7 New student orientation (5:30 – 7:30; details will be sent as date approaches)
- Wed, Aug 8 Teacher Preparation Day
- Thu, Aug 9 Classes begin; Full Day of Instruction; periods A, B, C, & D meet
- Mon, Aug 13 Mothers Club Welcoming Social for New SPS Moms
- Wed, Aug 15 All School Mass (Feast of the Assumption) Dress uniform day!
- Sat, Aug 18 Football Meet the Team
- Mon, Aug 20 New Parent Welcoming Reception and Informational Meeting (6:30 in the BAC)
- Thu, Aug 23 Senior March through the Arch, Unity Day, Ring Ceremony (6:30)
- Fri, Aug 24 Senior Ring Holiday
- Mon, Sep 03 Labor Day Holiday
- Thu, Sep 13 All School Mass in honor of the Centennial Arrival of the Christian Brothers to SPS
- Sat, Sep 15 SPS Math Tournament
- Sat, Sep 22 Homecoming Dance (grades 8 & 9)
- Sat, Sep 29 Homecoming Dance (grades 10, 11 & 12)
- Tue, Oct 02 On-campus ACT for seniors
- Fri, Oct 05 SPS Alumni Golf Tournament
- Fri, Oct 12 End of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter; 11 dismissal followed by Grandparent Day
- Mon, Oct 22 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Sat, Oct 27 Open House for Prospective Students
- Thu, Nov 01 All School Mass (Feast of All Saints)
- Mon, Nov 5 Archdiocesan Retreat Day for all schools; no classes for students
- Sat, Nov 10 Jazz 'n Roll
- M – F, Nov 19 – 23 Thanksgiving Holidays
- Thu, Dec 06 Luminarias
- 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
- Sat, Jan 12 Application Day for Prospective Students (8 – noon); Football Awards Ceremony
- Fri, Jan 25 All School Mass (Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul)
- Wed, Feb 20 On campus ACT for juniors
- Fri, Mar 1 Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
- M-F, Mar 4 -8 Mardi Gras /Beginning of Lent holidays
- Wed, Mar 13 Mother-Son Dinner
- Mon, Mar 18 St. Joseph Altar Day
- Thu, Mar 21 Celebrity Dinner Event
- Sat, Mar 23 Father-Son Dinner
- Sat, Mar 30 Junior-Senior Prom
- Sat, Apr 13 Alumni Crawfish Cook-Off
- F-F, Apr 19-26 Easter Holidays (not “spring break”)
- W-F, May 1-3 Senior exams



- M-T, May 13-16 Pre-freshman exams
- Fri, May 17 Pre-freshman promotion ceremony (6:30 pm)
- Sat, May 18 Senior graduation ceremony (4 pm)
- M – T, May 20-23 Semester exams for grades 9 – 11
- Fri., May 24 Conflict exam day
- Mon, May 27 Faculty Records Day
- In case of emergency closings, student make-up days will be taken from scheduled holidays. **Note that school begins with all students reporting on Thursday, August 9th for a full instructional day.** Also, please check the calendar for vacation dates and do not schedule vacations in conflict with school. Thank you for recognizing the need to make the most use of our academic time.



*An SPS dad gives the campus island a much-needed trim – much to the dismay of the campus ducks, however, who were none too pleased with this intrusion into their space!*

I will again close with the passage that I like to use at the beginning of each new school year. I've been using it now for 31 years, but it still makes sense today! I wish I could take credit for the quotation, but it was written in the 1960's by the headmaster of St. Alban's School in New York. It provides food for thought for all of us as we begin another school year:

*The raising of children is a lot of fun and a lot of pain, whether it has to do with cars, books, the opposite sex, parties, or drinking, but it is also the greatest privilege we can have in life. We shall do it well or poorly, depending upon the quality of life we ourselves have been able to develop, the way we are able to learn, the humility of heart that is ours, which helps us to recognize that we do not have all the answers and that we can learn from each other, occasionally from our children, through whom God has been known to speak even to parents, and especially from that teacher who we recognize as The Teacher, Jesus the Lord.*

Whew! That was a lot of information! Hope I have not scared you off! I am sure I've forgotten something but that's enough for now. Email me if you still have a question about the opening of school.

As usual, I will close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which is now officially off the air but which I still listen to on its website): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings. Pray that we 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

Anticipating a Great 2018 - 19 as the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President/CEO (yes, I'm still here!) of Saint Paul's School

**Answer to Aug 3 Trivia Question:** Columbus's three ships were the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria, and he landed on Oct 12, 1492.

