



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

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Christian Brother Ownership of SPS

August 12 - 20, 2018



Welcome to the first full week of the 2018 - 19 school year. We've had a smooth opening. Thanks!

Our beginning of the year faculty meetings last week provided me with memorable moments. We began meetings on Aug 6 with Student Council President Josh Rovira reminding us of the power of teacher / student relationships – especially in terms of helping students get involved with SPS life. Josh exhorted the faculty to continue being older brothers and sisters to our students, which is in the finest Lasallian tradition. Throughout the meetings, presenters referred to Saint La Salle's belief that the school must be a place of salvation: both earthly salvation and eternal salvation. And, of course, we covered practical rules, practices and policies.

So what does all of the above have to do with you as parents? Well, I humbly submit the following:

- Just as Josh stressed teacher / student relationships, your relationship with your son is critical to your success as a parent – and with teenagers, that's not always easy! But help him involved with SPS life!
- Just as Saint La Salle wanted his schools to be places of salvation, **your home** must also be a place of salvation – both earthly and heavenly.
- Just as the school community invoked Our Lady of the Star last year to "guide us to God", you, as parents, must be the "star" that guides your sons to God.
- Just as we this year remember our Founding Brothers, you must help your son appreciate the foundational members of your family – and the sacrifices that were made to afford him all that he has today.
- And just as we went over policies and procedures with teachers, you as parents must make clear your rules for and expectations of your sons.

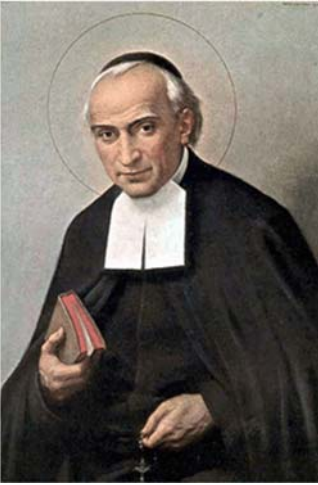


Student Hosts prepare to welcome students back to campus!

In my newsletter to teachers this week, I reminded them of what Christian Brother Superior General Brother Robert said to the Lasallian world three years ago: *if anything is to get done, it's up to the Lasallian world family to do it.* Similarly, it is up to you as parent, if your son is to be the man God is calling him to be.

Let us pray for and support each other as we begin our new school year, the 108th year of SPS history, thus continuing the Lasallian tradition of transforming lives since 1680.

Mon, Aug 13 (Assembly schedule; B C D E) – Feast of Saint Brother Benilde, FSC

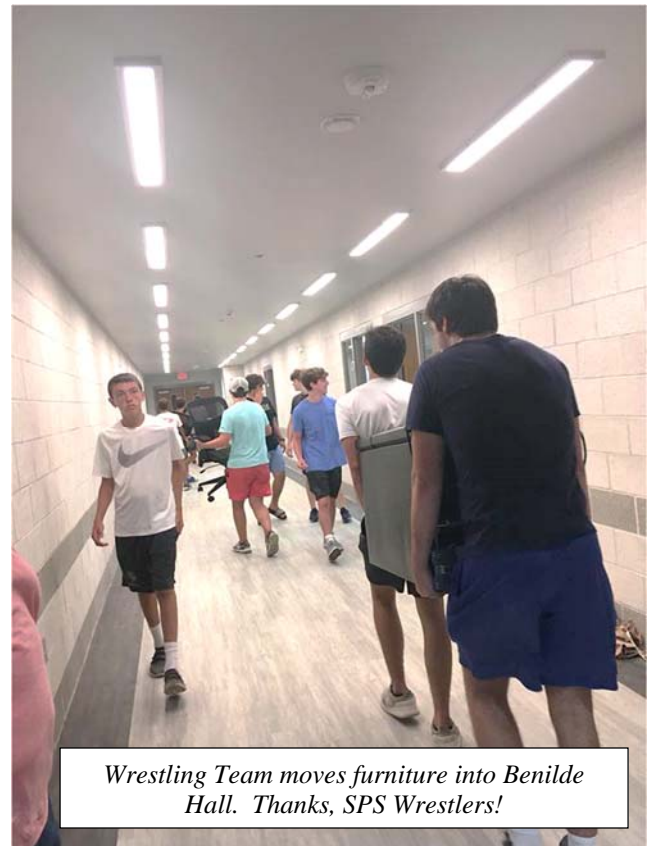


- Today we celebrate the feast of Saint Brother Benilde (1805-1862) -- the very person after whom we named Benilde Hall. His story should inspire us all. Doing the common things in an uncommon way led to Benilde's sainthood. This was our theme four years ago, and I do not want us to forget it. When you pass Benilde Hall, ask this wonderful Christian Brother saint to assist you in doing the common things in an uncommonly good way! But what else do you really know about St. Benilde? We ask him in prayer several times a day to help us to do ordinary things extraordinarily well. But, what do you really know about him?

- Did you know he was a hunchback and was unable to straighten out his right leg?
- Did you know that he was bullied in school because of his appearance?
- Did you know that that once the boys in his school found out how intelligent he

was they called on him to help with their studies?

- Did you know that he was only 4'9" tall?
- Did you know that while in his early 30's he was already principal of a school?
- Did you know that he inspired over two hundred young men to become Christian Brothers?
- Did you know he learned sign language to help the students in his school who were deaf?
- Did you know he buried the dead, fed the hungry, visited the sick, and conducted night classes for adults?
- The many things St. Benilde did for the young to give them a human and Christian education seem quite extraordinary, but he had a very humble beginning. Although intelligent, initially the Brothers did not allow him to teach because of his appearance. For two years, following the Novitiate, he served in the community of Aurillac as a domestic Brother, cleaning the house, taking care of the vegetable garden, cleaning dishes and preparing the community meals. He did all of these very ordinary things very well. Eventually, he was allowed to teach and in a very short time, he became a great leader and good example to all the Brothers. He was a man of extraordinary charity. He died when he was only 57, his reputation for holiness spread rapidly and he was the first teaching Brother canonized by the Catholic Church in 1967.
- **This Day in History:** In 1521 - Present day Mexico City was captured by Spanish conqueror Hernando Cortez from the Aztec Indians
- **Did You Know (SPS Trivia in honor of Centennial of the Arrival of the Christian Brothers):** For most of its history, Saint Paul's had boarding as well as day students. On Saturday mornings, boarders would hike through the woods of St. Tammany. This was also the time when they took unsuspecting new borders on a "snipe hunt." The Junior Conservation Unit met once or twice a month to study animals, birds, plants and trees and ways to preserve and protect them.



Wrestling Team moves furniture into Benilde Hall. Thanks, SPS Wrestlers!

Dress Uniform Day on Wed, Aug 15!

Tue, Aug 14 (Assembly; F G A B)

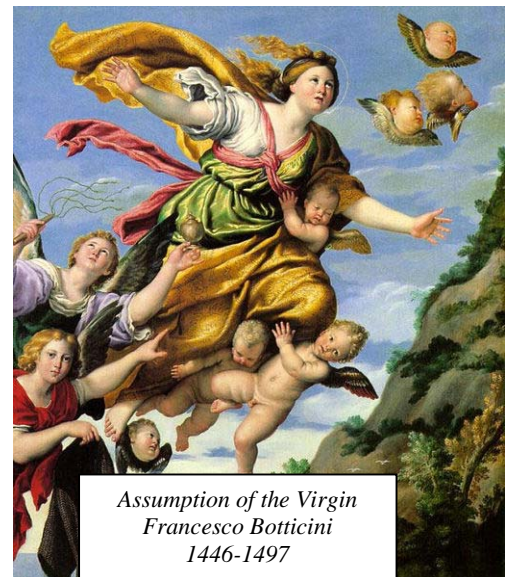
- **Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe.** Born in Poland in 1894, Maximilian became a Franciscan. After earning a doctorate in theology, Maximilian did missionary work in Japan and India, returning to Poland in 1936 due to ill health. In 1941, he was arrested by Nazis and sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz, where on July 31, 1941, in a reprisal for one prisoner's escape, ten men were chosen to die. *Father Kolbe offered himself in place of a young husband and father. He was the last to die, enduring two weeks of starvation, thirst, and neglect. He was canonized by John Paul II in 1982.*
- **TDIH:** On this day in 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs into law the Social Security Act.
- **TDIH:** In 1945, the Empire of Japan informs the US of its surrender, thus ending WW II.
- **DYK:** Our Lady of Peace Chapel, built in 1964, was a gift of Mr. & Mrs. Ernest V. Beck, parents of Brother Francis Beck who was principal of Saint Paul's from 1961-1968 and who built many of the buildings we currently use. Today, our chapel provides a place of welcome, comfort, and the Real Presence of God. Encourage your son to visit the chapel.
- **Navajo Code Talkers Day:** Today celebrates the young Navajo men who transmitted secret communications on the battlefields of WWII and played a vital role in helping America win the war.
- **Creamsicle Day:** Enjoy this iconic summer treat.
- **First President's Assembly (8:10)**
- **Theater Department Open House, 7-9 pm:** Come meet Mr. Gordon Carmadelle, our new theater instructor, and learn what plays we will do this year – and how to become part of the Marian Players – one of the best groups around! See below for more info.



Freshmen enjoy first lunch on Thu.

Wed Aug 15 – Solemnity of the Assumption (Mass schedule; dress uniform day; C D E F)

- **Today** celebrates Mary being assumed body and soul into Heaven at her death and being crowned Queen of Heaven. Pope Pius XII infallibly proclaimed the Dogma of the Assumption in 1950. May our Blessed Mother shower our school with her protection!
- **TDIH:** In 1914, the American-built Panama Canal, connecting the Atlantic and Pacific, is inaugurated with the passage of the U.S. vessel *Ancon*, a cargo and passenger ship.
- **TDIH:** In 1877, Thomas Edison wrote to president of the Telegraph Co in Pittsburgh. The letter stated that the word, "hello" would be a more appropriate greeting than "ahoy" when answering the telephone – which was the way people were answering. I like "ahoy" – and think I'll start answering the phone that way, thus scaring off callers!



*Assumption of the Virgin
Francesco Botticini
1446-1497*

- **DYK:** Our present band building was originally a recreation hall for the boarding students. The building provided pool and ping-pong tables, pinball machines, table games, TV and a snack bar. It proved very popular from the beginning. Boarders could not go home during the week so most of them would spend their evening recreation period in the rec hall, which is now the band building.
- **Mass:** This morning we will have our first all school mass with Father Matthew Clark as celebrant. And there is room for parents to join us, too. **Students should wear dress uniforms!**
- **National Relaxation Day:** Self-explanatory! Celebrate, but only after 3:15!
- **Lemon Meringue Pie Day:** Enjoy this iconic dessert today!
- **Football:** Wolves scrimmage John Curtis (5:30) Come see the 2018 edition of SPS football!

Dress Uniform Day on Wed, Aug 15!



Seniors await the start of their English IV class!

Thu, Aug 16 (Regular; G A B C)

- **TDIH:** Baseball great Babe Ruth (aka The Bambino & The Sultan of Swat) and rock star icon Elvis Presley (The King) died in 1948 & 1977, respectively, at ages 53 & 42, respectively.
- **TDIH:** In 1812, General William Hull surrenders Fort Detroit to the British without a fight. In 1814, Hull was court-martialed for cowardice and neglect of duty in the surrender and sentenced to die. Because of his service in the revolution, however, President James Madison remitted the sentence.
- **DYK:** During the early 1940s, the New Orleans chapter of the Saint Paul's Parents Club paid half the cost of the installation of new space heaters in the two dormitories, the dining room and the gymnasium. Before that, the dorms had practically no heat in the winter. The steam was sent under pressure from the boiler in Dixon Hall, where Founders Circle is located, to the second and third floors of the building, a distance of 60 yards. The pipes in the dorm expanded noisily from the steam, awakening the boys, but giving them little heat in return.
- **National Tell A Joke Day:** Celebrate today by telling jokes! I've done my part below.

Fri, Aug 17 (Regular; D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 1978, The *Double Eagle II* completes the first transatlantic balloon flight when it lands in a barley field near Paris, 137 hours after lifting off from Preque Isle, Maine.
- **TDIH:** In 1969, “the grooviest event in music history”--the Woodstock Music Festival--closes after 3 days of peace, love and rock 'n' roll [and a lot more, too!] in upstate New York.
- **TDIH:** In 1896, prospectors find gold in Alaska, setting off the Klondike gold rush.
- **TDIH:** In 1969, Hurricane Camille devastates the Gulf Coast. We pray for a safe year!
- **DYK:** On the night before the big football game against Lyon High (which is now Covington High), Saint Paul’s would have a big outdoor pep rally with a giant bonfire on campus. Alums from those early years at Saint Paul’s remember the cool, dark nights with sparks ascending into the sky with songs, yells, cheers, and hand in hand snake runs around the fire, getting everyone psyched up about the game.
- **Black Cat Appreciation:** If you don’t like cats, read Edgar Allen Poe’s “The Black Cat” instead!
- **Jr Hi Back to School Dance – 7-9 at SSA**



Students chillaxing at Ben’s Fountain during lunch on the first day of school!

Sat, Aug 18

- **TDIH:** In 1920, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, guaranteeing women the right to vote, is ratified by Tennessee, giving it the two-thirds majority of state ratification necessary to make it the law of the land.
- **TDIH:** In 1963, James Meredith becomes first African American to graduate from the University of Mississippi.
- **Bad Poetry Day:** This day was started by a group of cynics who, after all of the “good poetry” they were forced to read in high school, wanted payback. They want people to celebrate this day by gathering with friends, writing bad poetry, and sending the poetry to their high school English teachers! So with apologies to the late Brother Hilary, the best high school English teacher ever who I was privileged to have for three years, here’s a really bad poems: *T’ was in a restaurant they met / Romeo and Juliet / He had no dough to pay the debt / So Romie owed what Julie ‘et!*
- **Football Meet the Team 9am in the BAC**

Dress Uniform Day on Wed, Aug 15!

Sun, Aug 19 -- We encourage Catholic families to attend mass and non-Catholic families to worship at place of choice.

- **TDIH:** In 1812, the U.S. Navy frigate *Constitution* defeats British frigate *Guerrière* in a furious engagement off coast of Nova Scotia. Witnesses claim that British shot bounced off the *Constitution*'s sides, as if the ship were made of iron rather than wood. By the war's end, "Old Ironsides" destroyed or captured seven more British ships. The success of the USS *Constitution* against the supposedly invincible Royal Navy provided a tremendous boost in morale for the young American republic. (History Channel website)

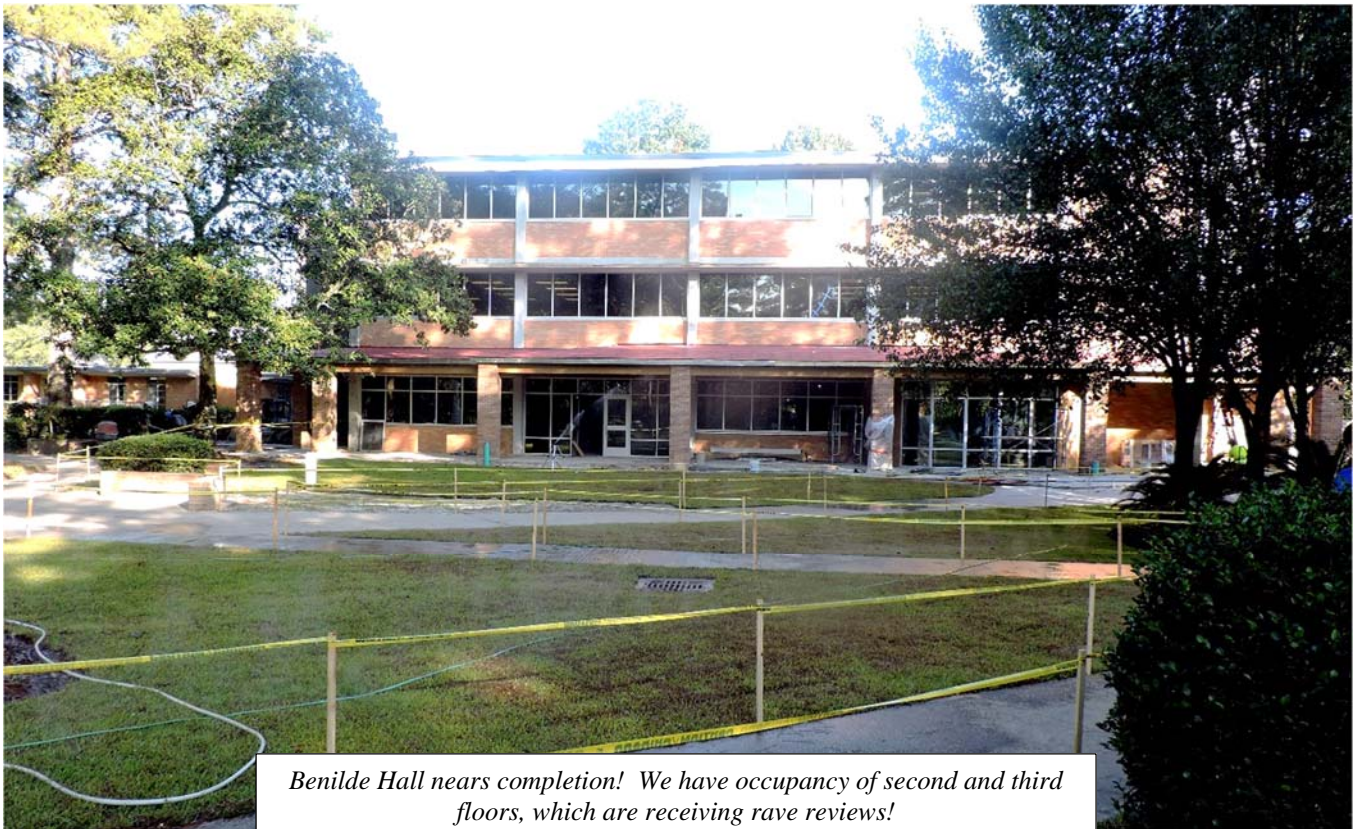
- **National “Black Cow” Root Beer Float Day:** With vanilla ice cream, coppery root beer, and frothy foam, a root beer float is a classic. Root beer was manufactured, bottled, and sold starting in 1880. Legend has it that 13 years later, the root beer float, often referred to as a black cow, was invented when Frank Wisner of Cripple Creek, CO floated vanilla ice cream on top of his root beer. The full moon allowed him to glimpse the snow on top of nearby Cow Mountain. The tasty treat was tremendously popular among the town's children, who then called it a "black cow." Note: several dates claim to be the “national celebration day” -- obviously, people want an excuse to indulge!

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

After School Issues: Assignment Hall (see below) and detention will soon be in operation. Parents, stress with your sons the need to do homework and follow rules. If your son does end up in AH or detention, establish a procedure for him to follow so you are not wandering around looking for him. We tell the AH student to call their parents. We'll provide a phone if needed.

Assignment Hall: AH will be in full swing this week. Students will be sent to AH if they report to class without homework. They will stay in AH until they finish the homework. AH is not a punishment but a helping structure. Stress with your son the need to complete his homework on time and to bring it to class.

Attendance: Please comply with our attendance regulations as printed in the handbook, which is posted on Edline. This is especially true when a student is absent or needs to check out during the day.



Benilde Hall nears completion! We have occupancy of second and third floors, which are receiving rave reviews!

Dress Uniform Day on Wed, Aug 15!



*Ben and Ben bring books to Benilde
(how's that for alliteration?)*

Benilde Hall: We received a certificate of occupancy for the second and third floors from the State Fire Marshall and the City of Covington last week – after extensive renovation of Benilde Hall. The first floor and outside areas will need a few more weeks. The wait was well worth it. 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!

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

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.

Dress Uniform Day on Wed, Aug 15!

Book Store: Our regular bookstore hours of operation are in effect:

- M – F: 7:30 am - 8:15 am
- M – F: 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
- Also by appointment. Email spsbookstore@gmail.com.
- **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.

Cell Phones:

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



Centennial Celebration: On Saturday, July 28th, hundreds of people filled St. Louis Cathedral to celebrate with the Christian Brothers of the San Francisco New Orleans District on the 100th anniversary of the Brothers' continuous service in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The assembled included three archbishops, numerous priests, over 30 Brothers (including General Counselor Brother Tim Coldwell, all the way from Rome), affiliated members, students from the four Lasallian schools in the Archdiocese, and many, many alumni and parents of students, past and present. Following a very moving mass, guests were invited to visit a special centennial collection at the Old Ursuline Convent, tracing the last 100 years. Following that, guests were invited to a special celebration on the Steamboat Natchez, which cruised the Mississippi River – showing our Brothers from the West what Southern hospitality and celebration is all about. It was a magical day. Special thanks for former SPS Vice President for Development, Brother Gale Condit, who was responsible for organizing the events of the day, and to the many generous benefactors who underwrote the celebration. Ad multos annos, Lasallian education in the Archdiocese of NO! BTW, the Ursuline Convent display will remain for the entire month of Aug.

Centennial Tidbit: Though we are celebrating our 100 years of continuous presence in Louisiana, the Brothers' roots here go back as far as 1819 when three Brothers came to the Archdiocese of New Orleans from France with the new Archbishop who stationed them in St. Genevieve, MO, part of the diocesan territory of the time. That venture was short lived. The Brothers returned to Louisiana from 1851-1900, operating the following schools:

- St. Patrick's School in New Orleans (1851)
- Our Lady of the Gulf in Bay St. Louis (1852)
- St. Mary's Academy in New Orleans (1854)
- St. John the Baptist in New Orleans (1859)
- St. Joseph School in New Orleans (1859)
- St. Mary's College in New Orleans (1865)
- St. Joseph's in Baton Rouge (1867)
- St. Theresa's School in New Orleans (1870)

Because of epidemics and financial hardships, the Brothers were forced to leave, not to return until 1918, when they assumed ownership of Saint Paul's and the administration of Saint Peter's (now Catholic High) in New Iberia.



Football Wolves mug for the camera at a special supper after practice on Tuesday.

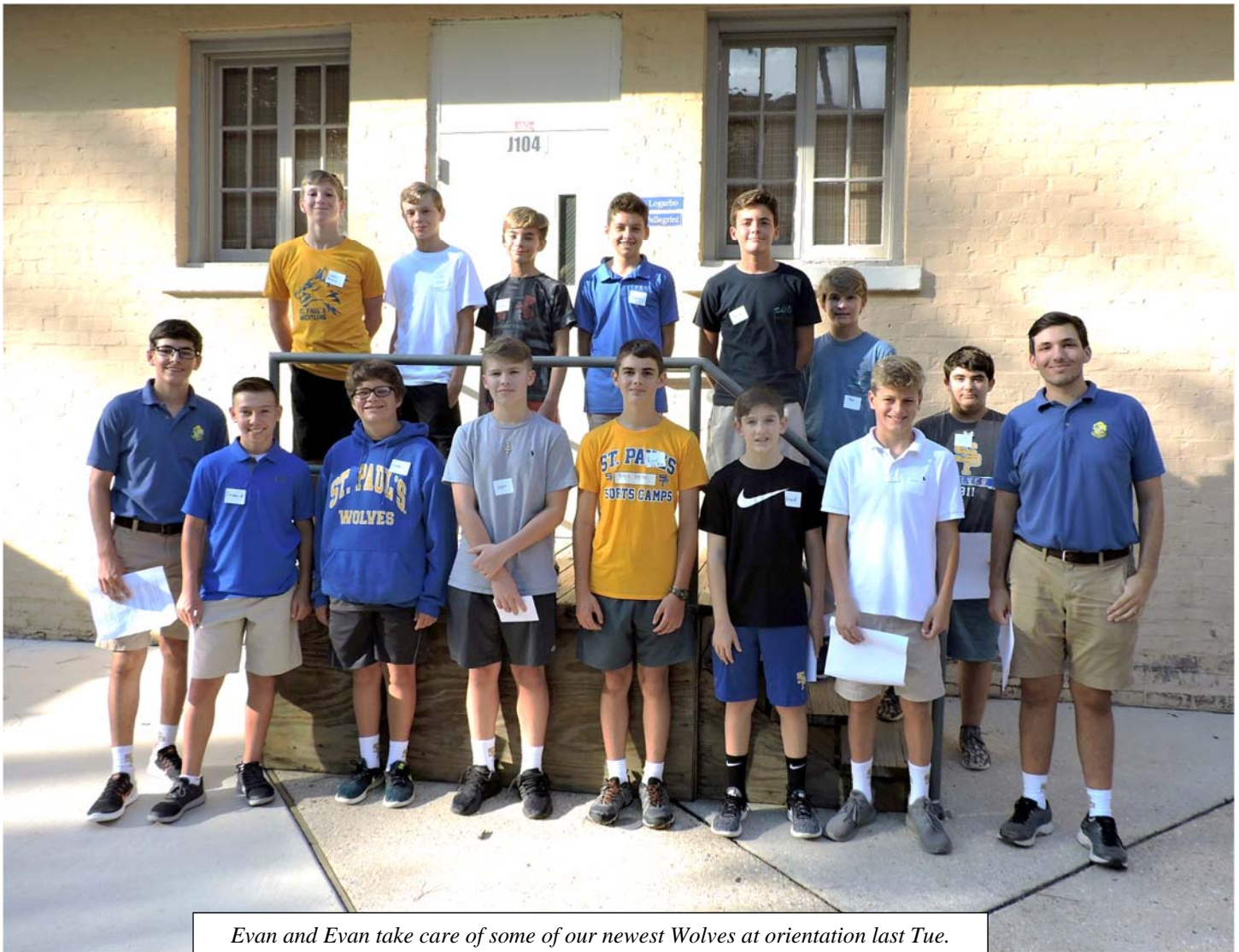
Dress Uniform Day on Wed, Aug 15!

Dances;

- The SSA Student Council will host the **8th and 9th graders** from St. Paul's and St. Scholastica Academy at the Back to School Dance on **Friday, August 17th from 7-9PM** in the SSA gym. All students must arrive no later than 7:15PM and may begin to leave at 8:45PM. All students will be breathalyzed upon entry. Attire is appropriate casual (shorts and t-shirt/polo/jersey) The \$10 admission includes water & DJ.
- **Homecoming Dances:** The Junior High Homecoming Dance will be Saturday, Sep 22. The Senior High Homecoming Dance will be Saturday, Sep 29.
- Note: we expect students to comply with rules and regulations of events at other schools. We expect students to respect staff from other schools. We will take disciplinary action against SPS students who do not uphold our standards while they attend such events. This applies BEFORE, DURING, & AFTER the event.

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

Dress Uniform Day on Wed, Aug 15!



Evan and Evan take care of some of our newest Wolves at orientation last Tue.

Extracurricular Activities: Clubs and teams have begun forming. Get Involved Day, which will introduce our students to a wide variety of activities, will be on Aug 22. Encourage your son to get involved. So far we've had callouts for all sorts of activities. Research shows correlations between academic achievement and extracurricular involvement. So far, we've had call outs for football, cross country, swimming, the Guerilla Wolves Video Club, the Liturgical Band, the Marching Wolves, the Paper Wolf Newspaper, Student Hosts – to name just a few.

ID Cards: Students must wear their ID cards on a lanyard every day. No one has to pay for an ID card unless you want an extra one. We will give one to your son on picture day. You will have to pay for a replacement if he loses the one we give him or if for some reason you want an extra one.

Information: 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 or hit "reply" to this email!**

Handbook Signature Card: The signed cards are now overdue!

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!

Last Week Musings:

- **Back to School Dance:** All went well. Thanks to Student Council and chaperones!
- **Benilde Hall:** Thanks to DonahueFavret for finishing enough of Benilde to allow us to gain occupancy of second and third floors! Thanks to all who helped move furniture into the building. It’s looking nice!
- **Bookstore:** Thanks to the Mothers’ Club for the long hours of business last week!
- **Bulletin Boards:** Thanks to Karen for decorating many of heretofore (haven’t used that word in a while!) underutilized bulletin boards.
- **Campus Striping:** Mr. Anthony Seruntine, father of junior Miguel, did the excellent roadway striping. Miguel was his father’s “helper” so congrats to him on a job well done.
- **Class of 2018 Yearbook Day:** Many grads showed up (in varying degrees of sartorial demise!) to get yearbooks and pictures of them receiving diplomas. They also received a picture receiving diplomas from the 8th grade promotion ceremony five years ago. Quite a contrast that produced laughs – and a visible reminder of how quickly the years passed. They agreed: SPS was a great place to grow up. It was good to see them. Godspeed Class of 2018! Thanks to Al, Danielle, Karen, Mimi, Renee and Paul for giving up part of their evening to organize the event.
- **Faculty Meetings:** Thanks to all who helped organize our meetings last week. The time was well-spent.
- **New Student Orientation:** Thanks to Lasallian Young Leaders for a great orientation program for our newest Wolves last Tuesday evening!
- **Orientation Assemblies:** The first two went well; we will finish on Monday!
- **Pictures:** Thanks to Religion Department for cooperating with picture taking.



Ian, Nicholas, and Jackson are eager to begin their senior year!

Dress Uniform Day on Wed, Aug 15!

Lost & Found: We are already finding shirts, books, lunch boxes, etc. left around campus. PLEASE stress responsibility with your. And please CLEARLY mark his clothing with his name to facilitate return of lost items. BTW, the lost and found locker is located outside the School Attendance Office.

Mass: Our first all-school mass is this Wednesday, August 15, at 9:30 in the BAC. This is the Catholic Feast of the Assumption of Mary. Students are required to wear their DRESS UNIFORM. **And, yes, parents may join us for mass.**

Dress Uniform Day on Wed, Aug 15!

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.
- We will hold a welcome reception and information meeting for **new parents** on Mon, Aug 20 at 6:30 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. The reception begins at 6:30 pm and an information meeting starts at 7:00 and will be over by 8:00. We hope you will be with us! I will send out more info next week.

Office Depot: Make sure you give SPS's name whenever you check out at Office Depot.

Orientation Last Week: Please discuss with your son the orientation assemblies. He had two last week and one this week on Monday. They will cover:

- A chapel prayer service
- A meeting with the counseling department
- A meeting with Coach Ken Sears to review expectations of conduct. **Note: during this assembly, Coach Sears conducted the Archdiocesan-mandated Child Protection/Safe Environment presentation which informs students about the dangers of abuse, how to prevent it, and what to do if it is suspected.** Please discuss this with your son. We also strongly address bullying – which we will not tolerate.



Pre-freshmen are very attentive to their religion teacher in the new Benilde Hall classroom.

Senior Week: SW is fast approaching! Here is the basic plan:

- Wed, Aug 22 – Senior BBQ (5:30-7:30) under the Wolf Dome
- Thu, Aug 23 – March through the Arch at 8 am (seniors must arrive by 7:15 in school dress uniform)
- Thu, Aug 23 – Senior – Parent continental breakfast 8:30
- Thu, Aug 23 – Senior Unity Day /Ring Ceremony Practice: 9:30 – 2:00 (I'll dismiss earlier if we finish)
- Thu, Aug 23 – Senior Ring Ceremony at **6:30 pm** in the Briggs Assembly Center (lasts about 90 minutes). If you wish to use a family ring (father, brother, etc.) or state championship ring, that is perfectly OK. You can bring these rings to the Administration Building and we will present on Thursday evening at the ceremony. A student does not need a ring to participate in the ceremony. All seniors are expected.
- Fri, Aug 24 – Senior Ring Holiday – no classes for seniors

Dress Uniform Day on Wed, Aug 15!



Faculty members Kevin Moore and Pam Cullen have their pictures taken on first day of school.

Student Email Addresses: We issued each student a unique Saint Paul's email address through which we will communicate with him. If a student asks about how to get to his new email, there's a link on Edline in the bottom right, it says **St. Paul's Gmail access**. The temporary password for all students is **stpauls1**.

Silent Sustained Reading: On Tuesday, we will begin daily SSR (Sustained Silent Reading) during the first 15 minutes of Block 2. During this time, everyone in the school (students, teachers, administrators, and staff) will read silently for 15 minutes. This is not a time for homework, tutoring, studying textbooks or doing assigned reading, but is designed to make reading a school-wide priority by reading for pleasure. We hope to develop a population of self-motivated readers. The program was created over 30 years ago at the University of Vermont and over the years has resulted in increased vocabulary development, reading fluency and comprehension, writing quality, improved standardized

test scores, increased background knowledge on a wide range of topics, and increased reading time out of school. We instruct students to bring their own reading material but we will have classrooms stocked with magazines, novels, short stories, etc. Help your son prepare for this initiative and have him come prepared on Monday and every day thereafter. **You might want to consider initiating a family SSR time, too!** I'll keep you posted as to how things go.

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

Social Media II: Parents, please speak with your sons about responsible social media use. Inappropriate postings can have legal ramifications. In addition, SPS reserves the right to impose consequences on our students who misuse social media.

Theater Department: The Theater Department will do a Season Announcement Party where Mr. Gordon Carmadell, our new theater teacher, will announce the two shows for the new season. The event will be an Open House and field any questions from parents and students about the program. It will be a nice event for students and parents to meet Mr. Carmadell and get to know him, as he takes over the leadership of The Marian Players, one of the best drama departments around. Light refreshments will be served. Auditions for the fall play will be Tues. and Wed, Aug 21-22 from 3:30-5.

Traffic Flow on Campus: If you drop off or pick up your son, you will meet congestion on the roadways in the morning and afternoon around our campus. We ask your help in improving the traffic flow and safety:

- Consider an alternate pick up location for your son other than Founder's Circle. These include the drop off area by the Gene Bennett Sports Complex, the parking lot on the corner of 13th and Jefferson St. or the parking lot at LaSalle Hall on 11th Avenue. You can drive through these parking lots or wait in a parking space there without holding up traffic elsewhere.
- DO NOT pick up your son using the shoulder of 11th Avenue. This is a dangerous area with poor visibility and further backs up traffic when you stop to load or unload.
- If you use the LaSalle Drive (main entrance) car line, please wait to the left so that thru traffic can still move through our campus using the right lane.
- Coordinate with your son about where and when you will meet him in the afternoon. If he is not present when you drive through, please proceed to a parking lot and wait for him there. If you stop in the car line to wait, you are holding up all cars behind you.
- Remind your son to be on the lookout for your car as you drive up.
- Our primary concern is safety, so please adhere to all speed limit and traffic rules in the school area. We are working closely with the Covington Police Department to find solutions to traffic around school. Working together, we can improve both safety and circulation around our campus.

Dress Uniform Day on Wed, Aug 15!

Weekly Humor: In honor Black Cat Day on Friday, and with apologies in advance:

- *Why don't cats play poker in the jungle? Too many cheetahs!*
- *How do cats keep the law? Claw Enforcement!*
- *What happened when the cat swallowed a ball of wool? She had mittens!*
- *What do you call a cat caught by the police? The purrpatrator!*
- *Why was the cat so grouchy? He was in a bad mewd!*
- *Where can your cat sit but you can't? Your lap!*
- *Why did the cat run away from the tree? It was afraid of the bark!*
- *How many cats fit in an empty box? One; after that, the box isn't empty!*
- *How do cats end a fight? They hiss and make up!*
- *How about the cat who drank 13 bowls of water? He set a new lap record!*
- *What kind of car does a rich black cat drive? A Catillac!*

- *What is a cat's favorite magazine? Good Mousekeeping!*
- *Why don't cats shop online? They prefer cat-a-logues!*
- *What's it called when a cat paints itself? A self paw-trait!*
- *What do you call a cat who likes to read? Litter-ate!*
- *What's a cat's favorite color? Purrurple!*
- *OK, I'll stop!*



*Several sophomores smile at the start of the school semester!
(Even more alliteration!)*

Yearbook: The 2017 - 18 Yearbooks are hot off the press and we will deliver them next week to the students that pre-ordered one. The Yearbook Staff did a fantastic job documenting a spectacular year at St. Paul's School. Unfortunately, we have no extra ones for sale. Sorry!

A Look Ahead – Far, Far, Ahead:

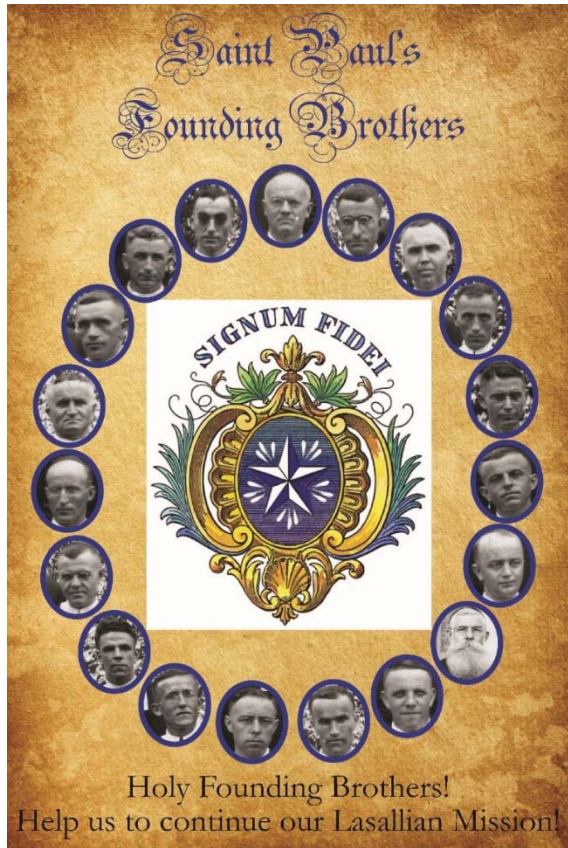
- Mon, Aug 13 Mothers Club Welcoming Social for New SPS Moms
- Wed, Aug 15 All School Mass (Feast of the Assumption) Dress uniform day!
- Sat, Aug 18 Football Meet the Team
- Mon, Aug 20 New Parent Welcoming Reception and Informational Meeting (6:30 in the BAC)
- Thu, Aug 23 Senior March through the Arch, Unity Day, Ring Ceremony (6:30)

- Fri, Aug 24 Senior Ring Holiday
 - Mon, Sep 03 Labor Day Holiday
 - Tue, Sep 04 Parent Mini-Schedule Night (a change from Aug 27 as printed on some calendars)
 - 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 Fall break holiday; SPS Alumni Golf Tournament
 - Fri, Oct 12 End of 1st 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 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
 - 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 01 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, we will make up days from scheduled holidays. **Note that school begins with all students reporting on Thursday, August 9th at 8:00 am 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.

Whew! That's enough for now! I'm sure I've forgotten something so email me if you still have a question about the opening of school.

As usual, I'll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I'm listening to as I write and LOLing): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!



Pray that we continue to have a good beginning! Thanks for being part of Saint Paul's! May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and call on me if I can help!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Off to a Great Start for 2018 - 19 as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

“Preach by example, and practice before the eyes of the young what you wish them to accept.”

~ St. John Baptist De La Salle (Meditation 99.2)



Did I mention we have a dress uniform day on Wed, Aug 15?