



*The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*
Celebrating 100 Years of Christian Brothers at SPS
October 01 - 07, 2018



This honor recognizes your students' accomplishments and the hard work and dedication that went into their success. Your journey has taught you collaboration, intentional instruction, and strong relationships in school and with your community. You represent excellence -- in vision, in implementation, and in results -- and we want to learn as much as we can from you.

--US Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, Sept 29, 2015

Saturday marked the three-year anniversary of Saint Paul's as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence – an honor that the Department of Education allows a school to celebrate for five years.

As we think back over the past three years, we must ask: have we rested on our laurels or truly lived up to the national recognition we earned in Oct of 2015? Are we a better school today than we were then by living the principle of continuous improvement or do we feel we are “good enough” and improvement isn't needed?

As I wrote last year, the Blue Ribbon status was earned by all of us, working “together and by association” in the finest tradition of Lasallian education. We worked hard to raise our test scores to a level where we could at least be considered. But the award demanded more than test scores. **Accordingly, I strongly invite you to re-read our application and you will the scope of accomplishment needed to win.** Here's the link:

http://nationalblueribbonschools.ed.gov/awardwinners/winning/151a348pv_st_pauls_school.html

Rejoice in our Blue Ribbon status – which is good for three more years – and know that we will not become complacent. **We are committed to live up to this standard each and every day.** We must be prepared to duplicate this accomplishment in the future (which is not an easy thing to do), but for now, continue to rejoice and be glad and thanks for being part of this wonderful, Blue Ribbon School of Excellence!

Mon, Oct 1 (Regular; B C D E) - Welcome to October! 75% of 2018 is over!

- **Feast of St. Theresa. Happy Feast Day to Carmelite & Teresian Sisters** – those incredible religious women here in Covington and elsewhere throughout the world. May God bless them abundantly for their prayerful ministries!
- **This Day in History:** In 1890, Congress creates Yosemite Park
- **TDIH II:** In 1908, Ford Motor Company completes the first Model T in Detroit. Between 1908 and 1927, Ford would build some 15 million Model T cars. It was the longest production run of any automobile model in history until the Volkswagen Beetle surpassed it in 1972.
- **CD Player Day:** Digital downloads, MP3s, smart phones and integrated media have made the humble CD player a thing of the past. Get lo-tech and celebrate today by enjoying music from a CD player. I still use mine at assemblies, even though my student helpers urge me to go digital!
- **Football:** 8th v. Sci Tech Academy

Tue, Oct 2 (Regular; F G A B)

- **Feast of the Guardian Angels.** This feast was a favorite of St. John Baptist de La Salle. The school year in France began on October 2 at that time, and the function of guardian angels became a metaphor that La Salle used often in exhorting the brothers to take seriously their work of Christian education of youth. In honor of this feast, I again offer these words from Saint La Salle. We need our angels!
- *Children need good teachers, like **angels**, to help them learn Christian truth.*
- Like **angels**, teachers help students understand the truths in the gospel and guide them in such a manner that they will be led to put these truths into practice.
- *It is your duty to act towards the students in the manner in which your guardian **angel** acts toward you. Your angel inspires you and helps you keep clear of whatever obstacle you might encounter.*
- *It is your duty, like the **angels**, to go up to God every day in prayer so that you can learn all you can about how and what to teach the students; and then come back down to their level to teach them what God taught you..*
- *You share in the ministry of guardian **angels**, helping students know the truth, and practice it. To do this, though, you must have great zeal for your work.*
- *As **angels**, you must cheer the faint-hearted, support the weak and be patient toward all. Is this what you have been doing? Has your zeal been ardent enough?*
- *Ask God for grace to watch so well over students confided to you that you take every possible care to shield them from fault. This must be your main concern.*



I'm asking the teachers, this week and every week, to view themselves as guardian angels to the students entrusted to their care!

I'm asking parents, this week and every week, to view yourselves as guardian angels to the children that God has blessed you with!

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And I'm asking students, this week and every week, to view yourselves as guardian angels to your friends and families!

- **TDIH:** In 1919, at the White House in President Woodrow Wilson suffers a massive stroke that leaves him partially paralyzed and effectively ends his presidential career. Miraculously, the government continues to run.

- **TDIH:** In 1967, Thurgood Marshall was sworn in as first African-American Justice of the US Supreme Court. Trivia Question: how many other African Americans have served or are serving on the Court? Answer at end of newsletter.

- **TDIH:** In 1968, CA's Redwood National Park was established. Redwoods are the tallest of trees, growing up to 400 feet during a lifetime that can span 2000. Scientists are currently concerned that the CA drought is stressing these incredible natural wonders.

- **Phileas Fogg's Wager Day:** from Jules Verne's *Around the World in Eighty Days*, of the famous wager upon which the book is based: *I will bet twenty thousand pounds... that I will make the tour of the world in eighty days or less.* Then, consulting an almanac, Phileas Fogg said: *As today is Wednesday, the second of October, I shall be due in London, in this very room of the Reform Club, on Saturday, the twenty-first of December, at a quarter before nine PM; or else the twenty thousand pounds . . . will belong to you.*

- **Custodial Workers Day:** Today honors those who clean our buildings. SPS is VERY fortunate to have an excellent custodial staff. I'm saddened, however, about how difficult we make their jobs by the amount of trash that is left in the classrooms and especially outside. Let's strive for cleanliness today (and every day) since it is next to Godliness.



Mason & Landon practice their hula-hoop skills during homecoming.

Wed, Oct 3 (Regular; 7:15 mass; C D E F)

- **TDIH:** In 1990, less than one year after the destruction of the Berlin Wall, East and West Germany come together on what is known as "Unity Day."
- **Football:** 9th & JV v. Covington (5:30)

Thu, Oct 4 (Regular; G A B C)

- **Today** is the Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi, one of the most venerated religious figures in history and founder of the Franciscan Order. It's most appropriate that we remember this iconic saint by reciting the prayer attributed to him:

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; Where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek To be consoled as to console, To be understood as to understand, To be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; It is in dying to self that we are born to eternal life.



Oldest known portrait in of St. Francis, dating to his retreat to Subiaco (1223-1224)

- **TDIH:** In 1957, the Soviet Union launches the first artificial satellite. The US is shocked. Trivia question: what was the name of this satellite that launched a space race between the US and USSR?
- **Ten-Four Day:** The 4th day of the 10th month is a day of recognition for radio operators, whose code words, “Ten-Four,” signal an affirmative reply.
- **Cinnamon Roll Day:** Indulge and enjoy – if your health permits!
- **National Taco Day:** Enjoy! From the NTD web site: *The history of the taco is unknown. According to some taco experts [a job I wouldn't mind having!], the word originates from the 18th C. silver mines in Mexico, when taco referred to little explosives workers used to extract ore. These were pieces of paper wrapped around gunpowder and placed in holes carved in rock. “A chicken taquito with a good hot sauce is*



Andrew, Jeb, & Chandara practice their bubble blowing skills during homecoming.

really a lot like a stick of dynamite,” says taco expert Jeffrey Pilcher [and I thought I had the best job!] “The first references [to the taco] come from the end of the 19th C. One of the first tacos described is called tacos de minero—miner’s tacos. Others claim tacos predate the arrival of the Spanish in Mexico in the 16th century. Anthropologists say there is evidence suggesting inhabitants of the lake region of the Valley of Mexico ate tacos filled with small fish. The fish were replaced by small live insects and ants in the states of Morelos and Guerrero, while locusts and snails were favorite fillings in Puebla and Oaxaca. Taco Bell is believed to have pushed widespread popularity of Mexican food in the U.S.... The hard-shell taco was invented long before Taco Bell. The U-shaped version is first noted in 1949 in a cookbook. And now you know....

- **F’Ball:** Varsity at Covington (7) Because of Parish Fair, games are played on Thursday night this week.
- **Swimming:** SPS Cluster Meet at PAC

Fri, Oct 5 (SPS Fall Break; Public School Parish Fair Holiday; no classes)

- **Memorial of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos:** Father Seelos is a favorite in the New Orleans area. He was assigned in 1866 to the Redemptorist community in New Orleans. Here also, as pastor of the Church of St. Mary of the Assumption, he was known as a pastor who was joyously available to his faithful and singularly concerned for the poorest and the most abandoned. In God’s plan, however, his ministry in New Orleans was destined to be brief. In the month of September, exhausted from visiting and caring for the victims of yellow fever, he contracted the dreaded disease. After several weeks of patiently enduring his illness, he passed on to eternal life on October 4, 1867, at the age of 48 years and 9 months. Pope John Paul II beatified him in 2000. Father Seelos, pray for us!
- **TDIH:** In 1892, The Dalton gang attempts to rob two banks simultaneously in Coffeyville, Kansas, but meets resistance from townspeople, who wind up killing four of the five bandits. Emmett Dalton, the sole survivor, returned to the site of the crime nearly 40 years later and offered a caution to would-be thieves: “The biggest fool on earth is the one who thinks he can beat the law, that crime can be made to pay. It never paid and it never will and that was the one big lesson of the Coffeyville raid.”

- **TDIH:** In 1947, President Harry Truman (1884-1972) makes the first-ever televised presidential address from the White House, asking Americans to cut back on their use of grain in order to help starving Europeans. At the time of Truman's food-conservation speech, Europe was still recovering from WW II.
- **Do Something Nice Day:** Go ahead, do something nice – anything. It won't hurt; I promise!
- **World Smile Day (First Fri in Oct):** The original 'smiley face' (☺) was created by commercial artist Harvey Ball in 1963. Concerned about the commercialization of the quickly iconic graphic, Harvey established **Smile Day**, which encourages us to participate in acts of kindness and friendliness, and to smile and make others smile. I'll do my part! I promise get Coach Sears to do to so, too – although his smile may have to wait until after we beat Covington.
- **Mickey Champagne/Gene Bennett Memorial Golf Tournament:** Good luck,

Sat, Oct 6

- **TIDH:** in 2015, SPS students entered the new gym for the first time, to the resounding strains of George Fredrick Handel's Halleluiah Chorus! It was a magnificent moment! We thank all those who made this campus jewel possible!
- **TDIH:** In 1927, the first "talkie" opened in New York. *The Jazz Singer* starring Al Jolson was the first full-length feature film using spoken dialogue.
- **TDIH:** In 1979, President Jimmy Carter receives Pope John Paul II, the first Pope to visit the White House.
- **Mad Hatter Day:** Today refers to the character from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, where the Mad Hatter is always seen wearing a hat bearing a slip of paper with the notation "In this style 10/6" – an invitation to behave in the style of the Mad Hatter on 10/6. Mad Hatter Day began in Boulder, CO, in 1986, among computer folk who had nothing better to do. In 1988, it was recognized as an official holiday by an area business, and also received its first national press coverage by news services. What do people do on Mad Hatter Day? In general, people celebrate silliness – but not during school!
- **Frugal Fun Day** (always first Sat in Oct): Do something fun today that doesn't cost anything! Yes, it's possible!
- **SAT on campus this morning**
- **Cross Country in Catholic High (BR) meet**
- **Band and Golden Blues Camp**



Ethan & Carson on Twin Day

Sun, Oct 7 –

- **If today were not a Sunday, the Church would observe the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary. Pray the rosary today.**
- **TDIH:** In 1913, for the first time, Henry Ford's entire Highland Park, MI automobile factory is run on a continuously moving assembly line. We've come a long way, Henry!
- **You Matter To Me Day:** Four simple words, one single phrase, that makes a profound difference to all who hear it and share it. Tell people who matter to you that they do.

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

Admissions for 2019 - 20: Yes, we are already looking ahead to next year. Here's how you can help: If you know any family who might be interested in SPS:

- Shadow Days slots are filling quickly. Thank you for spreading the good word about SPS!
- Encourage any public school family that is interested in us to apply on time – early November. Priority is given to those students who apply on time.
- Encourage interested families to attend Open House on Sat, Oct 27 at 1 pm.
- We rely on current and former families to spread the word about SPS! I know I can count on you

Assembly on Sep 27: I hope the students enjoyed our Sep 27 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- In honor of Homecoming Week, the students entered the gym listening to a song called “I Feel Home” by O.A.R. This song was sung at an assembly in our gym fifteen years ago by then student council president **Kramer Johnson**, brother of SPS alums **Nick and Evan** and son of alumnus **Mark Johnson**, to express how he felt about Saint Paul's. It's become a ritual ever since at homecoming as alums return to the “SPS Home” to reconnect with the brotherhood of SPS. Three years ago, magically, Kramer appeared in the gym complete with his guitar. Unbeknownst to me, he had arranged to come in from Georgia to sing the song again for the then current student body – which he did to the obvious delight of everyone present. At the conclusion of the song, the student body burst into a rousing, spontaneous, standing ovation! It was a magical moment! BTW, Kramer graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in marketing and works for the marketing department of Chick-fil-A. He is married with two children. He's a fantastic young man!
- Prayed in a special way, as the prayer candle was lit by junior **Corbin Chitwood**, for those who have entered God's Kingdom since our last assembly: **Mr. Blake Cordes, SPS Class of 2017.**
- Reminded the students that September is almost over and asked them to reflect how their year has been so far. Have they “polished that Baroque pearl” that each of them were metaphorically given on the first day of school. Are they closer to God? To their families? To their friends? To humanity in general?
- Welcomed 30 young men from various local elementary schools who were spending the morning with us as they explored their choice for school next year. The student body applauded vigorously in welcome!
- Introduced and welcomed Ms. Michele LeGros from Forward St. Tammany, a non-profit organization that assists needy families in St. Tammany and also recognizes outstanding young people who make a difference. She was here to present an award to sophomore **Trey Paine** for the positive role model he has been.



Corbin lights prayer candle at assembly.

- Introduced and welcomed Brother Alfred Baltz, FSC to the assembly on the occasion of Brother’s 96th birthday. Brother spoke glowingly about his time at SPS and how proud he is of today’s students. The student body gave him a “standing O” and robustly sang “Happy Birthday.” In return, Brother generously arranged for the students to have popsicles in his honor. Thank you, Brother Alfred!

- Recognized and congratulated The Student Council for all of their Homecoming Activities!

- Recognized and congratulated our eight National Merit Semi-Finalists: **Max Gold, Hyde Healy, Ross Hightower, Cullen Irwin, Stephen Millet, David Needles, Andrew Norlin, & Christopher Wilson** – the largest number of semi-finalists from any school in St. Tammany.



We are incredibly proud of our 8 National Merit Semi-Finalists and PSAT Coordinator Christine Woodard!

- Recognized and congratulated **Andrew Norlin, Blake Inzinna, and Blake Bollinger** for being invited to speak at the state LaSTEM conference by virtue of their outstanding participation in VEX Robotics, garnering consecutive state championships.

- Recognized and congratulated Physics and computer science teacher Rachel Peak was in Kansas City for 10 days over the summer, reading AP Computer Science Principles exams. She was selected as a Table Leader this year and is working with 8 readers from around the country as their group grades 75,000 AP Computer Science Principles exams!

- Recognized and congratulated science teacher Mrs. Julie Beck who was chosen to teach Medical Detectives to other teachers for PLTW at the University of Ohio.

- Recognized and congratulated counselor Christine Woodard, who was chosen by SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING (which covers the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee) to participate in a SACAC Sweet Tea Tour visiting 14 universities in Florida. During her visit at Florida State University, she met SPS alum Harrison Prieto ‘16, who is excelling as a meteorology major and member of Florida State’s Basketball team.

- Recognized and congratulated senior quarterback **Jack Mashburn** for being named the R&L Carriers New Orleans Bowl/Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation Quarterback Club, CrescentCitySports.com, WGSO 990 AM and Friday Night Football Prep Player of the Week for the metro New Orleans area for week four.
- Then, as if by magic, The Water Music by George Frideric Handel started playing! And if The Water Music is playing, then the Aqua Wolves must be swimming – and they are having an excellent season. I projected the following results:

- **Swim Meet on Sep 06, 2018 -- 1st Place**

- **200 Yard Medley Relay: 1st & 3rd**

- **200 Yard Freestyle:**

- 1st - Jesse Cheng (State Qualifier)
- 2nd - Cameron Smith (Metro Qualifier)
- 3rd - David Barcelona (MCQ)

- **200 Yard Individual Medley:**

- 2nd place - Austin Peak (SCQ)
- 3rd place - Drew Putfark (SCQ)
- 6th place - Jack McNamara (Metro)

- **50 Yard Freestyle**

- 1st place - Harrison Juneau (Metro)
- 4th place - Scott Messa
- 5th place - Jacob Eilers

- **100 Yard Butterfly**

- 1st place - Jesse Cheng (State Q)
- 2nd place - Cameron Smith (Metro)
- 5th place - Harrison Juneau

- **500 Yard Freestyle**

- 2nd place - Alex Rawls (Metro)
- 3rd place - Jack McNamara
- 4th place - David Barcelona

- **200 Yard Freestyle Relay - 1st, 4th & 5th places**

- **400 Yard Freestyle Relay - 1st, 3rd & 4th places**

- **100 Yard Backstroke**

- 1st place - Austin Peak (Metro)
- 2nd place - Niko Williamson
- 3rd place - John Buckley
- 4th place - Jack Rodgers

- **100 Yard Breaststroke**

- 1st place - Drew Putfark (State)
- 3rd place - Evan Abraham (Metro)
- 4th place - Bradford Day (Metro)

- **100 Yard Freestyle**

- 1st place - Bradford Day (Metro)
- 4th place - Jacob Eilers



Drew swims the breaststroke, finishing 1st!



Austin swims the 200 medley and finishes 2nd!

- 5th place - Kristian Ernst
- And in the Sep 20 meet, we again took first place!
- 200 Medley Relay
- - 1st place and 5th place
- 200 Freestyle
- - 2nd, Austin Peak (State)
- - 3rd, Alex Rawls (Metro)
- - 4th, Christian Kramer (Metro)
- - 8th, David Barcelona (Metro)
- 200 IM
- - 2nd, Jessie Cheng (State)
- - 4th, Drew Putfark (State)
- - 7th, Bradford Day (Metro)
- - 8th, Jack McNamara (Metro)
- 50 Free
- - 4th, Scott Messa (Metro)
- 100 Fly
- 3rd, Harrison Juneau (Metro)
- 5th, David Barcelona (Metro)
- 7th, Jacob Eilers
- 100 Free
- 2nd, Austin Peak (Metro)
- 3rd, Cameron Smith (Metro)
- 7th, Bradford Day (Metro)
- 500 Free
- 3rd, Cameron Smith (State)
- 5th, Alex Rawls (Metro)
- 7th, Jack McNamara (Metro)
- 200 Free Relay - 3rd place and 5th place; 400 Free Realy - 2nd and 5th place
- 100 Back
- 1st, Jessie Cheng (State)
- 4th Place, Harrison Juneau (Metro)
- 6th Place, Kristian Ernst
- 100 Breast
- 1st , Drew Putfark (State)
- 7th, Christian Kramer (Metro)



I have no idea who this is but it's a great pic and shows tenacious swimming!

- Recognized and congratulated the cast and crew of The Marian Players, whose fall production of “To Kill a Mockingbird” opens soon. I encouraged the students who wish to attend to get their tickets early as the play is sure to sell out.
- Projected the following quotation on the screen: *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.*
- I then recognized the following for their volunteer service to Our Lady of the Lake School over the summer: **Philip Garcia, Jordan Eberts, Jared Kreeger, Bear Palazzo, Jeb Juge, Matthew Algero, Chandara Kim, Colton Porter, Max Dufour, Jarrett Meibaum, Dylan Porche, Nick Stanton, Thomas Rushing, Ben Dufour, Evan Cochran, Chase McClelland, Michael Philippe, Nicholas Vining, and Michael Capritto**
- Recognized and congratulated the SPS Habitat Club for their work in building affordable housing for those in need.
- Encouraged students from OLL to volunteer for the upcoming Festival of the Lake on October 19 – 21.. **Sign up to volunteer @ festivalofthelake.com, sign up genius, or contact Volunteer Coordinator, Shawn Klein at ollfestivalofthelake@gmail.com**
- Discussed the recent hate vandalism at the Northshore Jewish Congregation synagogue in Mandeville and congratulated pre-freshman Cager Bloom for being the one who first reported the desecration.
- **Andrew Lacoste, Blake Bollinger, and Patrick Kilgore** then spoke to the students about a new prayer group they are starting: reciting one decade of the rosary each morning before school. Here’s the info:
 - What?: a decade of the rosary before school to start the day off in prayer
 - When?: 7:40 on Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Fri.; directly after mass on Wednesday.
 - Where?: On Mon.- Thurs., in the chapel; on Friday, near the Ben Bragg Memorial Fountain.
 - Who?: all SPS students, faculty, staff, and parents are welcomed, and if you allow so and if time allows, SSA students as well.
- I then had the boys sing “O God Beyond All Praising.” They were magnificent. It was a a moving moment.
- As I was running out of time, a whole bunch of items will bet pushed to the next assembly.

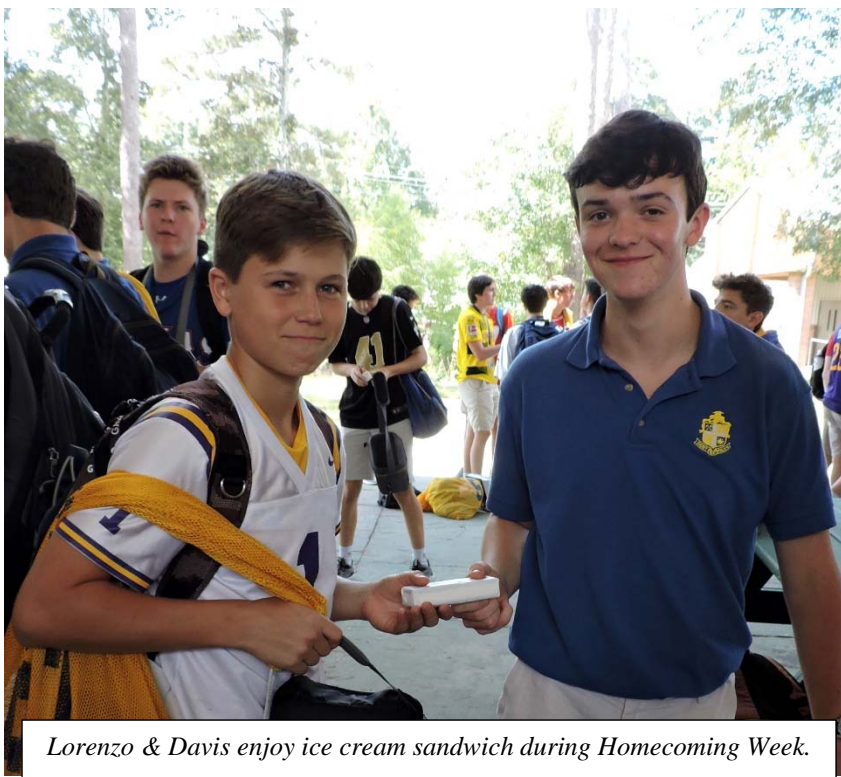


Blake and Cameron on Twin Day!

- **I then reminded the student that today was the official blessing and dedication of Benilde Hall, which will be open to them next week. I pleaded with them to respect the building – enjoy it but treat it well as many people made it possible because people believe in them! Please reinforce this at home.**
- As the prayer candle was extinguished by junior **Ian McCarthy**, I reminded the students that they must leave the gym and be the Light of God to all whom they meet. The students exited to the strains of O.A.R.’s “I Feel Home”
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!

Attendance: We take attendance seriously. Please follow procedures for checking out a student (which I hope you do for only very serious reasons.) Send a note with your son BEFORE SCHOOL or email Suzy (attendance@stpauls.com) to let her know. We can’t always answer your calls as there is only one of her and over 1500 of you! Thank you for your cooperation.

Benilde Hall Update: Alleluia! On Thursday afternoon, the Fire Marshall gave us occupancy of the first floor – just hours before the official dedication and blessing was scheduled! Amazingly, the Mothers’ Club (‘ya gotta love ‘em!) mobilized their forces and moved into the new bookstore to prepare for commerce during the dedication! And the cleaning crews were incredible! Note the new signage and lighted tower. Mark Daigle outdid himself. Our Development Team produced a beautiful dedication ceremony. And Field General Watkins beamed with pride – as well he should. He has “birthed” another building! Saint Paul’s Forever More!



Lorenzo & Davis enjoy ice cream sandwich during Homecoming Week.

Bookstore: The Bookstore has moved to Benilde Hall! Come see the new and improved Bookstore.

- 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.

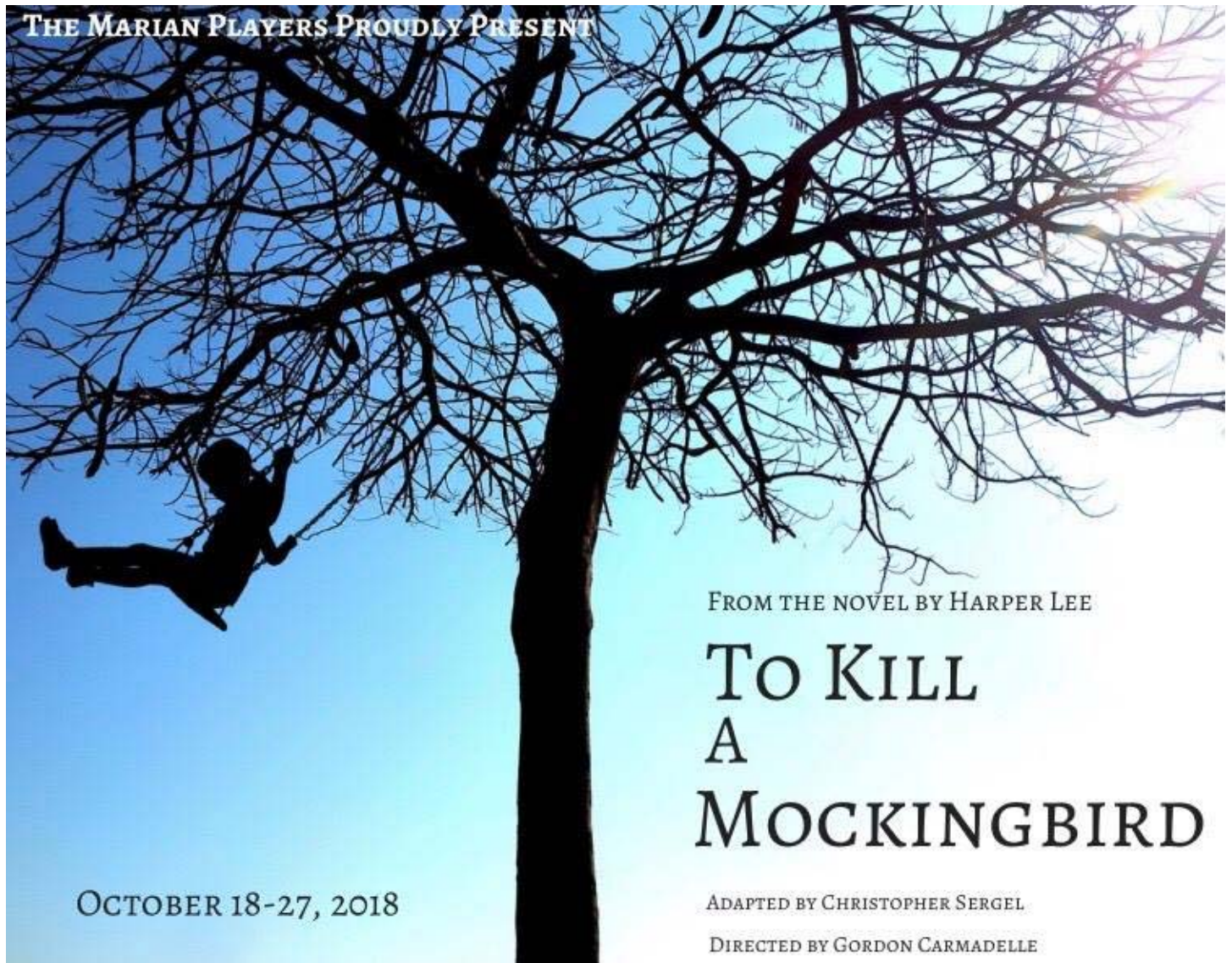
Cell Phones:

- State Law: Motorists are prohibited from using any type of hand held wireless communications device while traveling

through schools zones during posted hours. The law includes use of a cellular/wireless device for engaging in a voice call, accessing, reading, or posting to a social networking site, and/or writing, sending, or reading a text-based communication. The school zone cell phone ban does not apply if the device is being used to

report an emergency, is being used in a hands-free manner, or while the vehicle is lawfully parked. Upon first violation of the school zone ban the fine is \$175, subsequent violations can be up to \$500, and if a crash occurs during the time of the violation, fines can be increased.

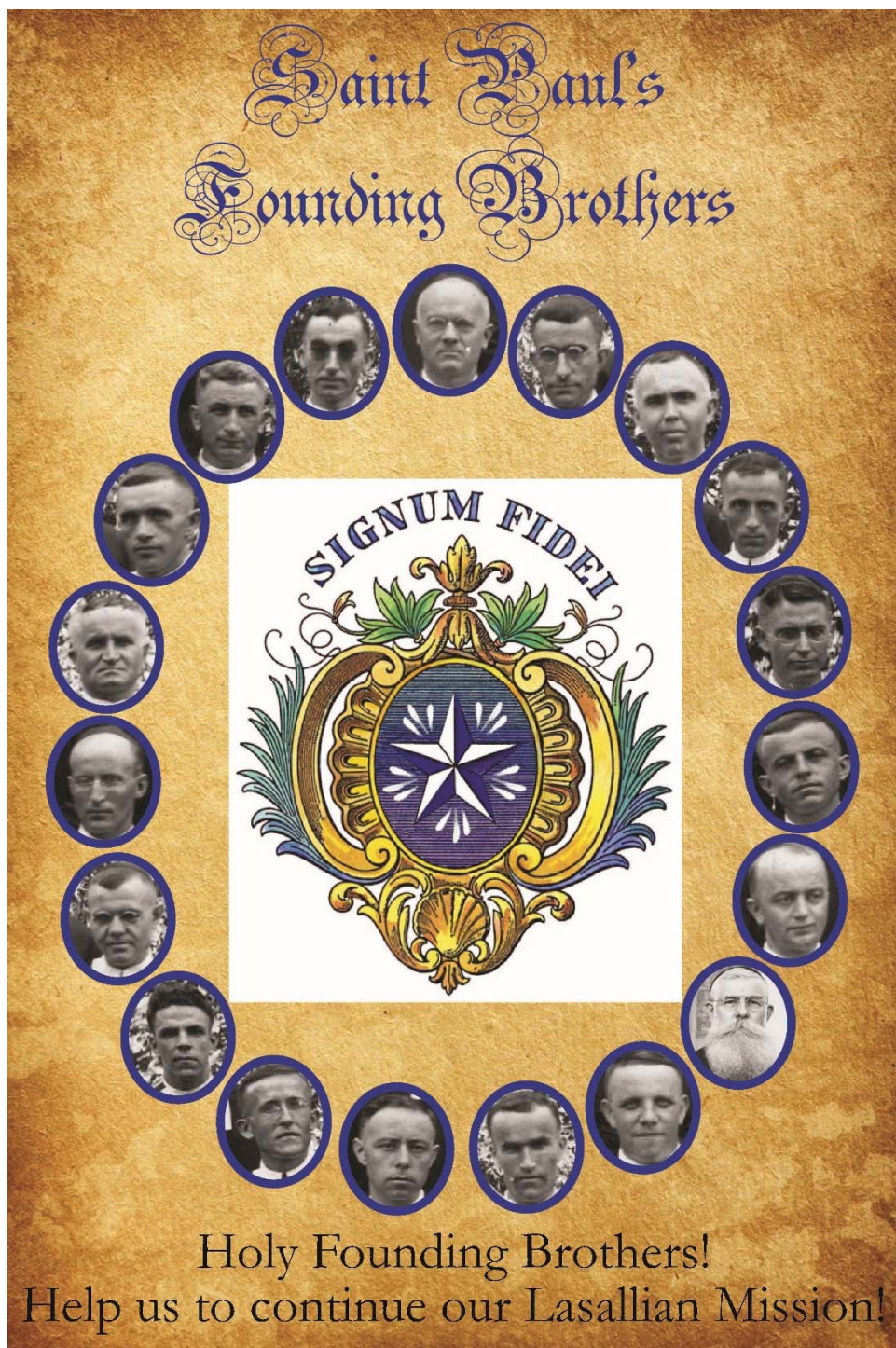
- SPS Law: students may use their phones during lunch but only outside. If you need to call or text your son, do so during the lunch hour. Disciplinary action and fines will continue for violation of this policy. With our campus wide wi-fi, he can use his phone to surf the internet if needed. And, yes, our security firewalls are in effect



Driver's License Proof of Attendance: Don't forget: you son will need proof of attendance in order to get a learner's permit. The forms are in the counseling department or the administration building. I feel terrible when a parent waits two hours at the DMV only to be turned away b/c the son doesn't have his proof of attendance.

Driving: Please drive carefully and, if your son drives to school, stress traffic safety with him. Saint Paul's is located in a residential neighborhood, so be VERY careful when approaching campus. Covington Police will ticket violators – and we will take disciplinary action against students as well. And remember: **cell phone use in a school zone is against the law and can be ticketed by police!**

Drug Testing: We have begun drug testing, choosing students both randomly and “for cause.” Just because a student is tested does not mean he is suspected. Naturally, you may confidentially request that we add your son to the test list. We have committed more resources this year to increase the number of students tested. Know our policy by reviewing the handbook. A second positive result jeopardizes a student’s place at SPS. Pray that students resist the allure of temporary pleasure over finding true meaning in life.



Emergency Closing: Although we have passed the statistical peak of Hurricane Season, we remain vigilant. And with safety foremost in our minds, I remind all of the directives from the Office of Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of NO:

- **Catholic schools will follow the closure and reopening schedules of their civil parish.** Therefore, monitor the St. Tammany Public School system announcements. Naturally, we reserve the right to close earlier if we feel it necessary and to reopen earlier if we are able and civil parish authorities give permission. For example, we opened weeks before the public school system following Hurricane Katrina.
- **Listen & Watch** for a robo-text message or phone call or email before calling school since it is difficult to handle a large volume of calls. Also, our phone system goes dark in a power failure. We have a new notification system and will send texts and emails.
- **Consult** PlusPortals and our web site.
- **Pray** to Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Patroness of Louisiana.

Grandparent Day: GP is this Friday, October 12. Here's the info:

- Grandparents arrive on campus on Fri, Oct 12 and report to the Briggs Assembly Center to meet grandsons. School dismisses at 11:00 for the students, and the Grandparent Day Program begins at 11:30. Make sure you inform your son if his grandparent(s) will be attending. If a student has no grandparent attending, he is free to leave at 11.
- SPS moms will volunteer to take pictures on phones or cameras.
- A prayer service will begin shortly after everyone has been seated;
- A "President's Assembly" will follow;
- Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the program (a little over an hour or so.)

Past programs have been very successful, and we receive many compliments from the grandparents who attend. Thank you for helping us make this annual event so successful. Please let me know if you have any questions.

In order to adequately prepare, we ask that you RSVP with the TOTAL number (students plus grandparents) who will be attending. Reply to reception@stpauls.com or just reply directly to me. Please indicate if handicap accommodations will be necessary. Please RSVP by Friday, October 05. I know that some of you have suffered a loss lately; know that I am sensitive to these situations and offer our prayers for you. **Students attending Grandparent Day are asked to wear their dress uniforms!**

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

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!**

Jazz n Roll: Join us for the 29th anniversary of Jazz 'N Roll on Saturday, November 10! Come together with parents, alumni, sponsors and supporters in the community for Saint Paul's major fundraiser. This event generates resources critical to preserve, promote and enhance education and extracurricular programs and facilities. I'm humbled by the many sponsorships we are receiving, but we need you to purchase ticket. Contact the Development Office (892-3200, ext 1270, for more info.



12th Annual International Lasallian Days for Peace (ILDP) began on Sep 21 and run until Oct 21. The theme this year is *Ignite Our Hearts of Peace*. The month-long observance encourages study, reflection, prayer, and action. As former Superior General Brother Alvaro Rodriguez Echeverria said concerning ILDP: *Peace is possible if each of us gets involved. It is possible when we place persons above things. It is possible if we make God's plan for humankind our own plan.* **May this event bring peace and love, especially to families who need it most!** I invite you to join the Retired Brothers who daily pray the following, official Lasallian Prayer for Peace: *We pray to You, Lord, God of life and God of those who hope! Listen to our prayer for the whole world, for peace among all peoples, for prosperity in all lands. We pray to You that evil may be overcome and that all wars may end. We pray to you especially for the members of our Lasallian Family, who suffer from war, injustice and intolerance and for the children and*

young people who are poor and neglected. We pray too, God, for peace in our lives; in our towns, in our schools, in our families and in our own hearts. We pray for a peace that the world cannot give us. We pray for a peace that will make us whole and transform us into ambassadors of justice for your sake. Lord, give us Your peace!

Last Week in Review:

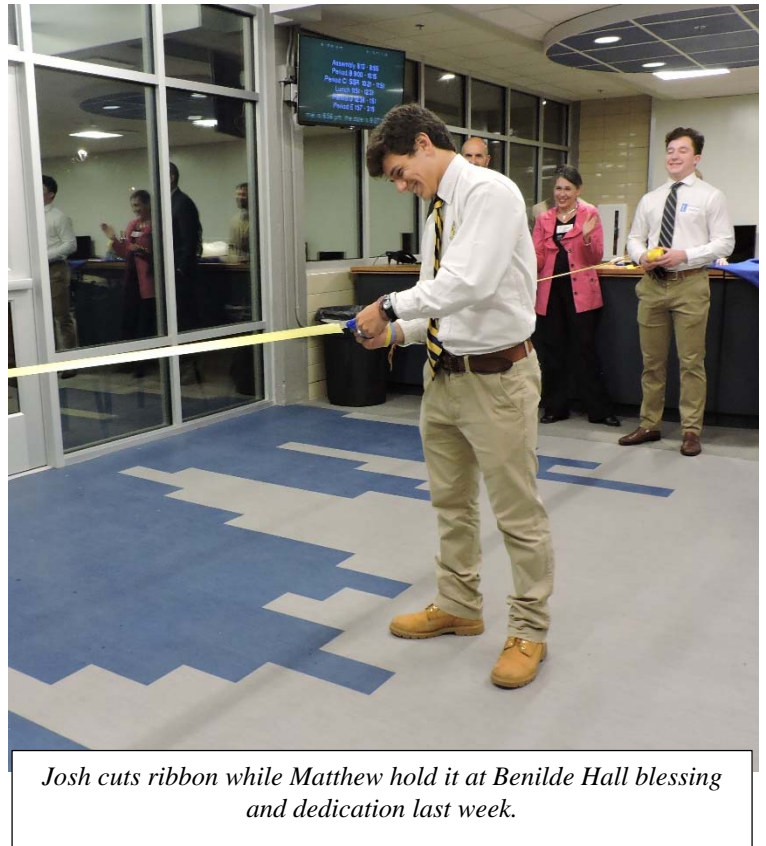
- **Alumni Gatherings:** Lots of alums showed up during homecoming week. It was great to see them.
- **Annual Audit:** The auditors worked hard last week but will be back this week. Again,, please be sensitive to the Business Office staff at this time.
- **Cross Country:** Wolves were up and at 'em early Sat, representing us in an exemplary manner.
- **Football:** 8th and 9th posted victories and the Varsity scored a victory against Hammond!
- **Key Club** deserves a special shout out for cleaning the campus Sat morning after homecoming game!
- **Homecoming:** An all-around great week! Thanks, Student Council!
- **Marching Wolves:** Again, a great homecoming show! Thanks!
- **Media Classes:** An informative field trip to Loyola U by our three media classes (can you name them?) and Yearbook came back with three awards! Congrats to Mimi on her inaugural yearbook competition!
- **Shadow Day:** Another successful day!
- **Wolf Tracks:** Another great issue, Danielle. Thanks!

Lost & Found: Lunch boxes, uniform shirts, books, shoes – all sorts of things are being left behind on campus – almost all with no names on them. Please stress with your sons to need to keep track of his belongings. Putting his name on items helps, too. Lost & Found cabinet is located outside of the Attendance Office.

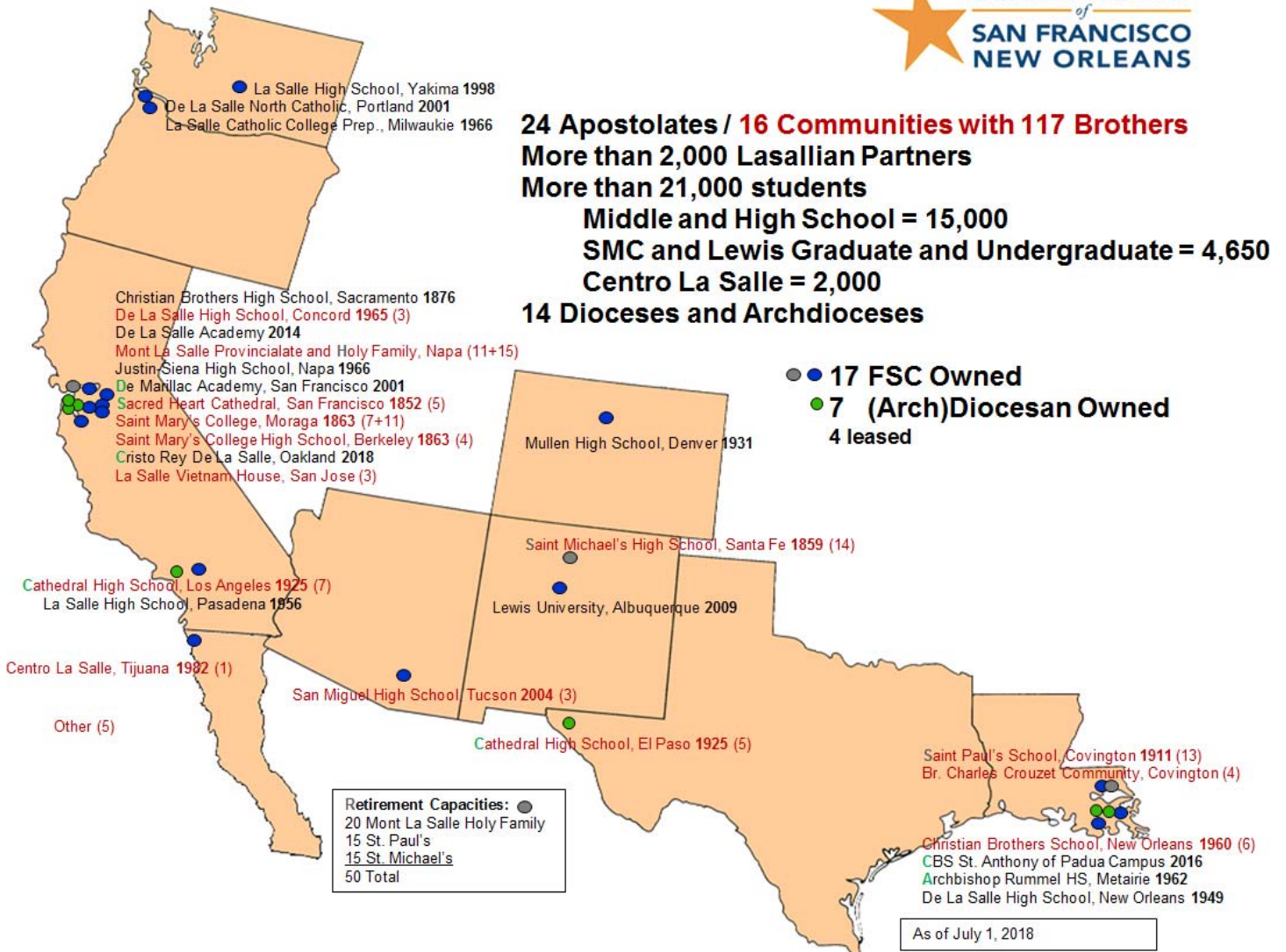
News We Can Use: In an [unusually candid letter](https://www.vox.com/2018/9/12/17850598/fda-juul-vaping), the Food and Drug Administration chief, Scott Gottlieb, announced last week that the agency could intensify its crackdown on e-cigarettes in the face of an “epidemic” of teen use — a trend that’s caught the agency off guard. “I use the word epidemic with great care,” Gottlieb wrote. “E-cigs have become an almost ubiquitous — and dangerous — trend among teens.” To read a summary of the letter, click here: <https://www.vox.com/2018/9/12/17850598/fda-juul-vaping>. The stats are pretty amazing – and scary. Worth the read.

October: Welcome to October – the tenth month of the year, even though “octo” means eight. I hope you know why this discrepancy exists! I draw the following to your attention as we begin Oct:

- **The Rosary:** The Catholic Church dedicates Oct to Mary, our Blessed Mother. The rosary is a great devotion, and I encourage you to recite it regularly. **A group of moms and the retired brothers recite the rosary each Mon morn at 8 in the Brothers Residence chapel for the intentions of the school.** And students will begin reciting one decade before school (see below). And football parents pray in the chapel on Friday morning at 7:30. All are welcome!
- **Respect Life Month:** October is designated by the Catholic Church as Respect Life Month. In addition to the unborn, the Church also reminds us of our obligations toward other life issues: Marriage/Family Life, Children, Women, The Aging, and Death/Dying. We offer prayers this week that life will be respected, from conception to natural death. We pray that our students learn by our word as well as example.
- **October** is also *Country Music Month, Family History Month, Computer Learning Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, National Book Fair Month, National Car Care Month, Gourmet Adventures Month, National Cosmetology Month, Polish American Heritage Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, National Stamp Collecting Month, National AIDS Awareness Month, National Cyber Security Awareness Month, National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Month and National Depression Education and Awareness Month* – something for everyone!



Open House for Prospective Students will take place on Saturday, Oct 27, at 1 pm starting in the Briggs Assembly Center. Spread the word! Parents and students are our best publicity! People would much rather listen to you than to me!



Our New Orleans Vacati....uh, Conference: Here's a brief summary of what the presidents & principals of the 22 schools in the San Francisco New Orleans Province did last week, along with members of the Provincial Staff. Southern hospitality was in overdrive as we hosted guests from WA, OR, CA, AZ, TX, CO and LA. They treated us very well!

- Mon Morning: A group of about 25 new administrators visited Saint Paul's for the first time. I was honored to tour them around the school and discuss aspects that have led to our success. They were impressed!
- Mon Afternoon: for a change, I didn't have to board a plane as the conference was in New Orleans, so Trevor and I drove to the hotel – The Renaissance Pere Marquette Hotel. Since I hate flying, I was relieved!
- Mon Evening: Prayed, welcomed and reunited with one another; ate a wonderful meal, had a nice post-meal social and then called it an early evening due to the fatigue of travel.
- Tue Morning: Had a “wellness” presentation from a nationally recognized psychologist on how school administrators need to take care of themselves. It was research-based and chocked full of data. I think I take care of myself fairly well – most of the time!
- Tue Afternoon: The Presidents met by themselves and discussed such things as finances, development issues, public relations issues, etc. Believe it or not, our schools in CA, CO, NM, and OR are dealing with medical and legal marijuana issues! Thank you, God, I'm still in LA!

- Tue late afternoon and evening: we traveled to The Palace Café where we had a wonderful social and delicious meal.
- Wed Morning: Our provincial, Brother Donald, presented to us about many topics, too numerous to list.
- At 10 am, we adjourned. Trevor and I headed back to Covington while our more distant colleagues headed for the airport. And while I gave a prayer of thanks for my time with my Lasallian colleagues, I also said a prayer of thanks when I again entered the holy ground of Saint Paul's School.



The Paper Wolf: Congrats to TPW for the flurry of articles being written and published. The quality of writing is excellent. I do hope you subscribe.

If not, support our guys and do so. It's free. Here's the link: <http://thepaperwolf.com>

Rosary: A group of students will say one decade of the rosary each morn, beginning at 7:40 on M, T, Th, and F and following mass on W. They would love to have your son join them. Since Oct is the month of the rosary – what a great witness!

Senior Parents: The official March through the Arch pictures are in! I don't want to just hand them to the seniors as many pictures will end up at the bottom of a book bag or the back seat of a car. If you are on campus, stop by the admin building for the picture. Or give your son a note authorizing him to get the picture for you – after you talk to him about treating the pictures with respect! These pictures are FREE, courtesy of Expressions Photography. Thanks, Expressions!



Deuce, Seth, & Blake enjoy ice cream treat during HOCO.

Service Opportunities: Please encourage your son where possible to support:

- Family Promise of St. Tammany: Did you know that St. Tammany School System as identified 1,124 children as homeless? Their parents choose to be “invisible” in order to keep their families together, but just because you can't see a problem doesn't mean it is not real. Family Promise of St. Tammany. Family Promise of St. Tammany does everything they can to help these families and their children get back on their feet emotionally, financially, mentally & spiritually. The next host week at St. Michael's in Mandeville is coming up Nov 4-10. Students are needed in the evening to tutor children and engage them in games and social activities. This is a VERY Lasallian endeavor and I encourage our students to volunteer. Contact: pat.jensen.ejr@gmail.com or hm: 985-231-

7582 or cell: 281-797-8337. For more info about Family Promise, go to: <http://www.fpstp.org/>

- Our Lady of the Lake's annual Festival of the Lake on Oct 19 – 21. Sign up to volunteer @ festivalofthelake.com, [sign up genius](#), or contact Volunteer Coordinator, Shawn Klein at ollfestivalofthelake@gmail.com



Freshmen enjoy Hawaiian Day during Homecoming Week!

Weekly Humor: The Nobel Prizes will be awarded this week for prodigious accomplishments in academic fields. The Ig-Nobel Prizes (sponsored by Harvard) were awarded in mid-Sep. These prizes honor real achievements that make people laugh, then think. The prizes, given by Nobel winners, celebrate the unusual. Some will make you laugh, so this is H of the W. Here are 2018 Ig-nobel Prizes:

- **MEDICINE PRIZE** [USA] — Marc Mitchell and David Wartinger, for using roller coaster rides to try to hasten the passage of kidney stones. REFERENCE: "[Validation of a Functional Pyelocalyceal Renal Model for the Evaluation of Renal Calculi Passage While Riding a Roller Coaster](#),"
- **ANTHROPOLOGY PRIZE** for collecting evidence, in a zoo, that chimpanzees imitate humans about as often, and about as well, as humans imitate chimpanzees. REFERENCE: "[Spontaneous Cross-Species Imitation in Interaction Between Chimpanzees and Zoo Visitors](#),"
- **BIOLOGY PRIZE** — for demonstrating that wine experts can reliably identify, by smell, the presence of a single fly in a glass of wine. REFERENCE: "[The Scent of the Fly](#),"
- **CHEMISTRY PRIZE** for measuring the degree to which human saliva is a good cleaning agent for dirty surfaces. REFERENCE: "[Human Saliva as a Cleaning Agent for Dirty Surfaces](#),"
- **MEDICAL EDUCATION PRIZE** for the medical report "Colonoscopy in the Sitting Position: Lessons Learned from Self-Colonoscopy." [I do not even want to think about such research!] REFERENCE: "[Colonoscopy in the Sitting Position: Lessons Learned From Self-Colonoscopy by Using a Small-Caliber, Variable-Stiffness Colonoscope](#),"
- **LITERATURE PRIZE** for documenting that most people who use complicated products do not read the instruction manual. REFERENCE: "[Life Is Too Short to RTFM: How Users Relate to Documentation and Excess Features in Consumer Products](#),"
- **PEACE PRIZE** [SPAIN, COLOMBIA] — for measuring the frequency, motivation, and effects of shouting and cursing while driving an automobile. REFERENCE: "[Shouting and Cursing While Driving: Frequency, Reasons, Perceived Risk and Punishment](#),"

- **ECONOMICS PRIZE** for investigating whether it is effective for employees to use Voodoo dolls to retaliate against abusive bosses.: "[Righting a Wrong: Retaliation on a Voodoo Doll Symbolizing an Abusive Supervisor Restores Justice,](#)"
- And there were others best left out of the family-friendly newsletter!

I wish SPS could get some of this research money!

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

Sunday Activities: I remind all of the policy of Archbishop Gregory Aymond that Catholic schools are not to schedule any activity on a Sunday without permission.

Tutoring: National Honor Society tutoring takes place 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!**

A Look Ahead – Far, Far, Ahead:

- 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.

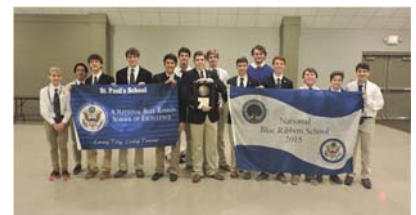
Whew! Enough for now! I can’t believe we are starting the eighth week of the school year – the second to last week of the first quarter!

As usual, I’ll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I can’t listen to any more since WWNO stopped broadcasting the show but I’m still LOLing over past shows on its website!): well, it’s happened again – you’ve squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Pray that we continue our good beginning! May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and your family and call on me if I can help! Again, thanks for being part of the 2018 - 19 edition of Saint Paul’s!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Can’t Believe It’s October 2018 and I’m Still the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul’s School



...by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, making courageous choices, doing God’s will, remaining faithful, being guided to God and continuing our Lasallian Mission!

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

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

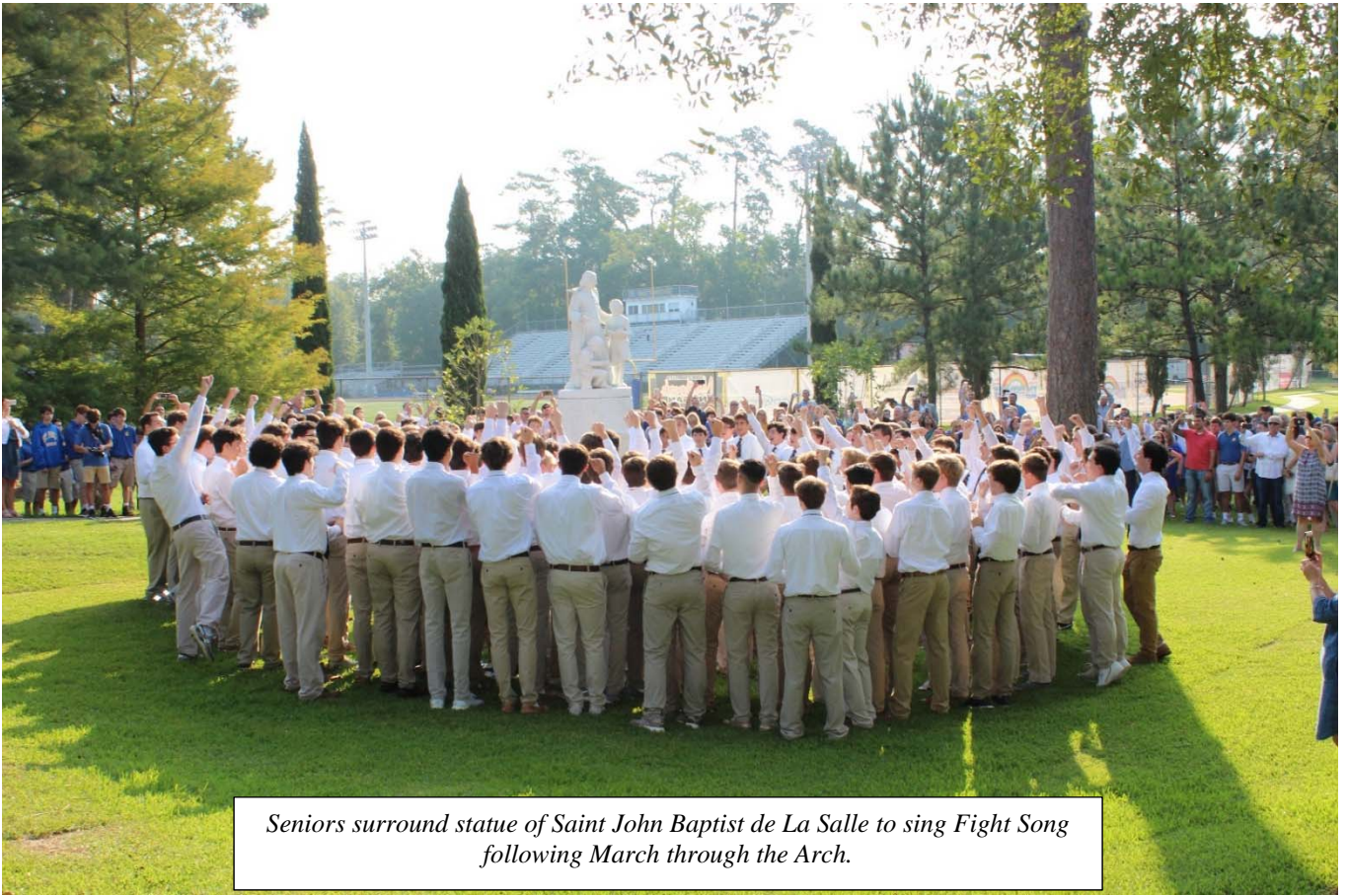
Answer to Oct 4 Trivia Question: The Russian satellite was named Sputnik I. It weighed just 184 lbs and transmitted a beeping radio signal for 21 days.



Thanks, Sign Gypsies!

“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)



Seniors surround statue of Saint John Baptist de La Salle to sing Fight Song following March through the Arch.