

The Presient's Hebdomadal Blue-Ribbon Newsletter Celebrating 109 years of educational excellence in Covington 340 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world August 31 - September 07, 2020



Welcome to the fourth week of the new school year – a week that was decimated by tropical weather!

Our prayers and support extend to all who were negatively impacted by Marco and Laura – the most powerful hurricane ever to hit LA! More on our intent to help in the newsletter.

Our Lady of Prompt Succor! Hasten to help them – and us, too!



Archbishop Gregory Aymond sent a letter last week addressed to "All Catholic School Administrators, Faculty and Staff."

While addressed primarily to those who are working in Catholic schools, he addressed the role of parents, reminding us that you – the parent – are the primary educator of your children. We in the schools are your partners and co-workers, but you are the primary educator.

The following words of the Archbishop are worth reading:

The past five months have been extraordinary as we have experienced COVID-19 and the ramifications that still endure. The last school year ended abruptly, as least in the school building, and sent all students home for virtual classes. Thanks to all of you who made the sacrifices to continue educating and forming our young people in spite of the abnormal circumstances.

As we begin this year, there are still questions and uncertainties. The one thing that is certain is that God is faithful. He will help us to remain committed to the young church and Catholic education, and he will be with us in the most difficult moments.

With you, I remain grateful to parents who participate in the education and formation of their child. Please join me in challenging parents who do not in order that they may come to realize more fully that they are the first educators and formators of their children. We are there to walk with them and assist them.

I thank God for you and for the important ministry you provide. You have the privilege to allow God to use you to touch hearts and minds. You are very much in my prayers, and I extend to you God's blessings and peace.

Thank you, Archbishop, for articulating the exact sentiments of Saint John Baptist de La Salle: God is faithful; we are doing his work; example speaks louder than words; we are engaged in ministry; allow God to use us to touch hearts and minds; ask God to help us assist parents in their awesome work of raising their children.

Thank you for entrusting your son to the ministry of Lasallian education here at Saint Paul's School!

Mon, Aug 31 (A B C D)

- This Day in History: In 1997, Diana, Princess of Wales, dies in a car crash in Paris.
- Love Litigating Lawyers Day. Give your favorite litigator a big 'ol hug today and hope you aren't sued!
- **Trail Mix Day:** Trail mix is a high energy snack comprised of dried fruits, nuts and energy snacks, designed to keep you alert and energized when walking, hiking, and partaking in similar endurance and intense activities. **Trail Mix Day** is all about creating good trail mix and testing it out. After yesterday's marshmallows, go back to healthy today!
- Pre-ACT administered to current 10th & 11th graders. This important pre-ACT provides us with valuable date to drive ACT instruction. Encourage the boys to take this seriously.

Tue, Sep 01 (E F G A) – I will try again to do a President's Assembly via Google Classroom this morning after announcements. Wish me luck!

- **TDIH:** In 1830, "Mary Had a Little Lamb" was first published. Can you recite it from memory?
- TDIH: In 1939, 1.5 million German soldiers invade Poland, thus beginning WW II
- Cherry Popover Day: Enjoy!

Wed, Sep 02 (B C D E)

- **TDIH:** In 1790, Brother Solomon, FSC, is martyred by French authorities bent on Church suppression. The Christian Brothers Website says once Louis XVI & Marie Antoinette were overthrown, the next target was the Church. In 1790, the state took over the French Church. To function, priests & religious had to swear support. Most Christian Brothers refused and had to abandon schools and disband. Eventually, the
 - Institute was deprived of legal status ironic since the Institute began in France. Brothers Solomon, Roger, Leon & Uldaric were imprisoned for refusing to take the oath. Solomon was executed on Sep 2. Roger, Leon & Uldaric later died while confined in prison ships. Because of such heroism, Brother Solomon was made a saint and the others are beatified one step away from official sainthood. May their heroic lives give us strength in times of difficulty! May their devotion to Christian education inspire all of us!
- **TDIH:** In 1945, The Empire of Japan officially signs the Instrument of Surrender at 9:04 am aboard the USS Missouri, anchored in Tokyo Bay.





- Although Emperor Hirohito had announced on Aug 15 Japan's intention to unconditionally surrender following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the official surrender ceremony did not occur until over two weeks later, and thus President Truman marked 2nd September as the official **V-J Day**. It is estimated that anywhere from 60 to 80 million people died during World War II, on all sides of the conflict. **V-J Day** should thus be seen as not only the celebration of the defeat of the tyrannical Japanese government of the time, but also the remembrance of those who lost their lives.
- **TDIH:** In 1969, America's first automatic teller machine (ATM) makes its public debut, dispensing cash to customers at Chemical Bank in Rockville Center, NY.
- **TDIH:** In 1789, the Congress founds the United States Treasury Department.

• **Blueberry Popsicle Day:** Enjoy a Popsicle today! Popsicles were invented in 1905 by 11-year-old Frank Epperson. He accidentally left a stirring stick in a fruit-flavored drink on his porch one winter night, which froze into an icy treat. He first named this delight the "Epsicle." This name was changed 18 years later.

Thu, Sep 03 – (F G A B) --March through Arch Part II: This morning, we will honor seniors who were unable (mostly due to quarantine) to participate in Aug 20 ceremony. This will just involve the senior class.

- **TDIH:** In 1783, the American Revolution officially ends when representatives of the United States, Great Britain, Spain & France sign The Treaty of Paris, signifying America's status as a free nation.
- **TDIH II:** In 1752, British citizens "lost" 11 days when the United Kingdom "left" the Julian calendar and adopted the Gregorian calendar, already in effect in the rest of the world (you know those independent British!) As a result, Sep 3 instantly became Sep 14 simply by an Act of Parliament. The people were outraged and demanded their 11 days back. Moral: make the most of each day God gives us; it's a shame to lose a day, but it's even worse to waste it.



Fri, Sep 04 (C D E F)

- **TDIH:** In 1774, the First Continental Congress convenes in Philadelphia.
- **TDIH:** The city of Los Angeles was founded today in 1781. Its original name was either "the Town of the Queen of the Angels" or "the Town of Our Lady of the Angels of Porciúncula," depending on which source is consulted. All can agree that the town was named after "los ángeles" the angels and the name that stuck. On the orders of King Carlos III of Spain, Governor Felipe de Neve drew plans for a settlement on the bank of the Porciúncula later known as the Los Angeles River. De Neve followed the usual Spanish model: a central plaza, a town house, a guardhouse, and a granary. The corners of the pueblo were laid out at the four cardinal directions, so that strong winds would not blow up and down the town's streets.

De Neve sent out a call to Mexico for settlers. Eleven families took him up on the offer, and the original Spanish population of LA was just 44 people.

- TDIH: In 1882, Thomas Edison flipped a switch to turn on the first commercial electric power plant.
- **TDIH:** In 1951, President Harry S. Truman's opening speech before a conference in San Francisco is broadcast across the nation, marking the first time a television program was broadcast from coast to coast.
- It was on this day in 1998 that Google was first incorporated as a company. Google was the brainchild of two Ph.D. students at Stanford University, Larry Page and Sergey Brin. They designed a search engine with one important difference from all the others: Instead of giving you results based on how many times your search term appeared on a Web page, they created software that would figure out how many times each relevant website was linked to from other relevant websites and sorted those and then laid them out for you, all on a clear, simple screen. Google is now an incredibly powerful and profitable company. In June of 2006, "Google" was added to the Oxford English Dictionary as a verb.
- Lazy Moms Day: OK, moms, relax and take it easy. Let them fix their own meals; wash their own clothes; find their own rides, etc. In short, "let them eat cake" today! They'll appreciate you tomorrow!
- **Be Late for Something Day:** Be late all you want today except for classes.
- **Cheese Pizza Day:** Enjoy if your arteries permit!
- **Newspaper Carrier Day** honors Barney Flaherty, the first newspaper carrier or paperboy hired in 1833, as well as all current newspaper carriers whose jobs were downsized when the TP went digital two years ago.

Sat, Sep 05

- **TDIH:** In 1901, President William McKinley is shot while shaking hands at an exhibition in Buffalo by 28-year-old anarchist Leon Czolgosz. President McKinley dies of his wounds on Sep 14, thrusting Theodore Roosevelt into the presidency, making him the youngest president ever.
- Read a Book Day: This should be EVERY day!
- **Fight Procrastination Day:** If you don't have time today for this, put it off until tomorrow.
- **Bacon Day (Sat before Labor Day):** Go ahead and spurge!

Sun, Sep 06

• TDIH: In 1813, the United States gets a nickname, Uncle Sam. The name is linked to Sam Wilson, a New York meat packer, who supplied barrels of beef to the US Army during the War of 1812. Wilson stamped the barrels with "U.S." for United States, but soldiers referred to the food as



- "Uncle Sam's." The local newspaper ran the story on this date and Uncle Sam gained widespread use as the nickname for the U.S.
- TDIH: in 1940, the German Luftwaffe begins it Blitz Bombing campaign against London during WW II.
- **TDIH:** In 1533, Queen Elizabeth I is born to King Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn. During her reign, Britain became a world power by defeating the Spanish Armada. The irony? Henry did not think a woman capable of leading the kingdom. Shakespeare wrote many of his plays during her tenure as queen.

- Salami Day: From the Salami Day website (yes, it really exists!): Salami is a too-often overlooked meat in the deli world, and the Salami Appreciation Society felt that it deserved its day in the sun. Salami has a rich history, providing important nutrients such as protein and potassium. It can be eaten on sandwiches, crackers, in pita wraps, tortilla wraps, or even by itself. No one can resist the ultimate duo of salami and cheese, for that matter!

Mon, Sep 07 -- Labor Day Holiday! No classes! Chillax!

- TDIH: In 1565, the first Catholic settlement in American was founded in St. Augustine, FL.
- **TDIH:** In 1900, a hurricane with winds of 120 mph struck Galveston, TX, killing over 8,000 persons, making it the deadliest natural disaster in US history. Over 2500 buildings were destroyed.
- **TDIH**: In 1935, Senator Huey Long is shot in the Louisiana state capitol building. He died about 30 hours later. Also, Star Trek premiers on TV in 1966. Live long and prosper
- **Pediatric Hematology / Oncology Nurses Day**: Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses care for children, adolescents, and young adults with cancer and blood disorders. We honor them today and thank them.



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

AFTER SCHOOL: The library is open until 4 pm, Monday - Friday, to accommodate students waiting for rides. It's environmentally friendly and welcoming for students to wait and start on their homework.

ASSIGNMENT HALL: AH has started. Students go to AH if they come to class without homework. They will stay in AH after school until they finish the homework. AH is not a punishment but a helping structure. Please stress with your son the need to complete his homework on time and to bring it to class.

ATHLETICS:

- **Football:** The earliest the varsity season can begin is Oct 9. 8th grade will begin with conditioning on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Actual practice is on "hold" until the LHSAA approves.
- Cross Country is allowed to practice. Please see Coach Al Nastasi in the alumni office for details.
- **Swim Team:** Any swimmers interested in joining the Aqua Wolves for the 2020 season should contact Mrs. Rachel Peak at <u>rachelp@stpauls.com</u> for info regarding this year's team and schedule.
- Any St. Paul's student wishing to participate in a sport must have a completed physical on file. Forms can be found under the athletic tab on our website.

ATTENDANCE: Please comply with our attendance rules as printed in the handbook which is posted on Plus Portals. This is especially true when a student is absent or needs to check out during the day.

BOOK STORE: All required school supplies will be available for purchase, as well as St. Paul's apparel. Our regular bookstore hours of operation have started:

- M F: 7:30 am 8:15 am
 M F: 11:15 am 12:45 pm
- By appointment. Email spsbookstore16@gmail.com
- PLEASE patronize the MC's Bookstore. Proceeds help fund activities throughout the year.

CAFETERIA: Again, for those families experiencing difficult financial times, the free and reduced lunch/breakfast program can help. This does not embarrass your son, as no one knows. It's all very confidential. You can apply on line by clicking: http://www.schoolcafe.org/

Also, each morning the students must indicate which lunch they want: sandwich or hot lunch. Here is the August menu to help your son decide:

https://docs.google.com/viewerng/viewer?url=http://www.schoolcafe.org/wp-content/uploads/2020-August-Menu.HS_.HYBRIDLUNCH_.pdf&hl=en



Free & Reduced Lunch Apply On-Line, AFTER JULY 15th!!!

Applying for your child(ren)'s school meal benefits is now faster, safer & easier than ever. To apply please visit our website at: www.schoolcafe.org and click on the link "Click Here to Apply for Reduced/Free Lunch" on the home page to begin your application. This service is provided to you free of charge by School Food & Nutrition Services of the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

Entering your application online is quicker, easier, and more accurate than filling out a paper application. Our step-by-step process and guided help makes applying for school meals simpler and easier to understand than ever before. Processing times are faster; therefore benefits are applied quicker too!

Listed below is what you will need to provide during the on-line application process:

- The names and incomes of every member of your household
- The school, grade, & birthdate of every student in your household
- Your social security number and electronic signature
- A valid email address and phone number for communication purposes about the status of the application.

If you have any questions, call the School Food & Nutrition Services office at (504) 596-3434.

CALENDAR FOR 2020-21: Here is our calendar for this year. The calendar assumes that we are in full operation. Naturally, any disruption to the school operation due to COVID 19 will result in alteration.

- Mon, Sep 7 Labor Day Holiday
- Fri, Oct 2 In-service for faculty (no classes for students)
- Fri, Oct 9 End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
- Mon. Oct 19 Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7 -- Tentative
- Sat, Oct 31 Open House for Prospective Students (1-3 pm) -- Tentative

• Tues, Nov 3 Archdiocesan Formation Day (no classes for students)

• Mon-Fri, Nov 23 - 27 Thanksgiving Holidays

• Mon, Nov 30 Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holiday

• Mon - Thu, Dec 14-17 Semester Exams

• Thu, Dec 17 Christmas Holidays begin at 11:45 following exams

Mon, Jan 4 Classes resume & Second Semester begins

• Jan 6-8 Senior Retreat

• Mon, Jan 18 Martin Luther King Holiday

Mon, Feb 1 Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7 pm

• Fri, Feb 12 Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)

Mon-Fri, Feb 15-19
 Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays

• Mon, Feb 22 Classes resume

• Fri, Mar 12 End of Third Quarter

• Fri – Fri Apr 2-9 Easter Holidays

Mon, Apr 12 Classes resume from Easter Holidays

• Wed-Fri, Apr 28-30 Senior Final Exams

• Thu, May 13 Pre-freshmen Promotion Ceremony (6:30 pm)

Sat, May 15 Senior Graduation (4 pm)
 Tues – Fri, May 18-21 Final Exams for 9 - 11
 Mon, May 24 Conflict/Makeup Day

• Tues, May 25 Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day

Note that public schools schedule 175 instructional days while Catholic schools schedule 177.

In case of emergency closings, student make-up days will be taken from scheduled holidays. Also, please check the calendar for vacation dates and do not schedule vacations in conflict with school.

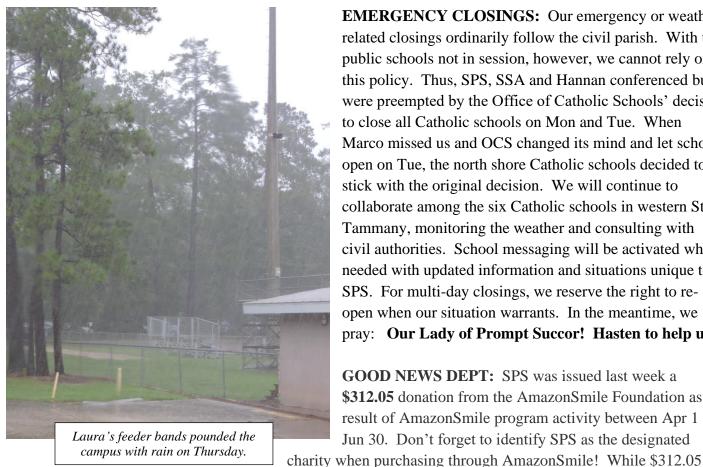
CAR LINES: There is no absolute designated drop off spot. Be patient the first few days of school as traffic patterns form. Safety is paramount, so if you use Founder's Circle as a departure point, **cars must drop off students in Founders Circle in the LEFT lane onl**y – you may not block traffic in 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.

CELL PHONES:

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

DRESS CODE: Students must be in compliance with the dress code – which includes temperature bracelets and masks. 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 here in the admin bldg. 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 families who supply us with their outgrown uniforms.

DRIVER'S LICENSE PROOF OF ATTENDANCE: Your son needs proof of attendance in order to get a learner's permit and another one when he gets his permanent license. The forms are in the counseling department or the admin building. I feel terrible when a parent waits hours at DMV only to be turned away b/c the son doesn't have his proof of attendance. This is a legislative act; don't blame me!



EMERGENCY CLOSINGS: Our emergency or weatherrelated closings ordinarily follow the civil parish. With the public schools not in session, however, we cannot rely on this policy. Thus, SPS, SSA and Hannan conferenced but were preempted by the Office of Catholic Schools' decision to close all Catholic schools on Mon and Tue. When Marco missed us and OCS changed its mind and let schools open on Tue, the north shore Catholic schools decided to stick with the original decision. We will continue to collaborate among the six Catholic schools in western St. Tammany, monitoring the weather and consulting with civil authorities. School messaging will be activated when needed with updated information and situations unique to SPS. For multi-day closings, we reserve the right to reopen when our situation warrants. In the meantime, we pray: Our Lady of Prompt Succor! Hasten to help us!

GOOD NEWS DEPT: SPS was issued last week a \$312.05 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between Apr 1 and Jun 30. Don't forget to identify SPS as the designated

won't keep us solvent, every \$ helps! And don't forget Home Depot and Box Tops for Education, too!

HELPING SPS: 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) or use the new Box Tops App. Download the new Box Tops App and scan your receipt within 14 days of purchase. Here is a video explaining how it works. https://youtu.be/Hh94b2BvFK4
- We also receive a portion of sales from Amazon Prime.
- These are painless ways to help SPS.

HOMECOMING DANCES: At the present time, homecoming dances are cancelled. As soon as we are allowed to hold large social events, we will discuss scheduling dances for the students.

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 gave one to your son on picture day. You will have to pay for a replacement if he loses the one we gave him or if for some reason you want an extra one

LAURA RELIEF: As mentioned above, our thoughts and prayers extend to the victims of Laura – but we need to offer more. Campus Minister Jeff Ramon has been in communication with the campus ministers of SSA and Hannan, and the three Catholic high schools of western St. Tammany will mount a joint relief effort. We will probably join with the Archdiocesan relief efforts. Details to come. You know the need if you were here 15 years ago!



LAST TWO WEEKS: Since I didn't publish this feature last week, I'll cover the past two weeks:

- **New Parent Virtual Welcome:** The video to parents was well-received. Thanks to Development Team, especially interns Zach van Zandt and Adam Philippe who did incredible editing work.
- **Senior Week:** It wasn't what we wanted, but it was the best we could do. The MTA and ring distribution went well. Thanks to all who helped make it so, especially Joe, Renee, Paul, Karen, and the Physical Plant Crew. And the Mothers' Club provided water. Even the weather cooperated it was ideal for late August!
- New Schedule: Thank for your cooperation and acceptance.
- School Closures Last Week: Thanks for your cooperation and understanding.
- Student Council Elections: A well-run virtual campaign and election for class officers! Thanks, SC!

LOST & FOUND: We are already finding shirts, books, lunch boxes, etc. left around campus. PLEASE stress responsibility with your son. 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.

MASKS v. GAITERS: An email received from Children's Hospital, our official COVID medical partner: We have new information that suggests gaiters might not be an optimal choice for face coverings due to the type of material in which they are usually produced. Until we have more info, we strongly recommend the use of traditional masks. Accordingly, we are instituting a "no gaiter" policy, only traditional masks.

NEED MORE INFO? For academic issues, contact teachers, counselors, Principal Trevor Watkins, Assistant Principal Joe Dickens, or Curriculum Coordinator Lee Pierre. For discipline, attendance, or dress code, 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!**

POSTPONEMENTS: The following have been postponed due to COVID 19 restrictions:

- Get Involved Day in August
- Grandparent Day in October
- Mini-Schedule (meet the teachers) on August 24
- Homecoming Dances in September
- Start of football season in August
- Start of many extracurricular activities
- We hope to re-schedule or begin these events as soon as possible.



More Wolves on Wheels!

PLUS PORTALS: Please activate your account and check Edline regularly for important info about your son's grades and SPS life. *Call Mike Holmes, Plus Portals administrator, at 892-3200, ext. 1944 if you need assistance*. And please adjust your setting to allow you to receive emails from school. It's very annoying when we get a Plus Portals email with a question but your setting won't accept our response.

SEPTEMBER: Welcome to the ninth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars and one of four months with 30 days. September in Northern Hemisphere is the seasonal equivalent of March in the Southern Hemisphere. In the Northern hemisphere, Sep 1 is the beginning of the meteorological autumn. In the Southern hemisphere, the beginning of the meteorological spring is on the 1st of Sep. September begins on the same day of the week as December every year, because there are 91 days separating September and December. September (from Latin *septem*, "seven") was originally the seventh of ten months on the oldest known Roman calendar, with March (Latin *Martius*) the first month of the year until perhaps as late as 153 BC. After the calendar reform that added January and February to the beginning of the year, September became the ninth month,

but retained its name. It had 29 days until the Julian reform, which added a day. September is National

Cholesterol Education, National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, National Honey Month, National School Success Month, Whole Grains Month, Prostate Cancer Awareness Month & Leukemia & Lymphoma Awareness month. That's probably more than you wanted to know about September! Have a great one!

SCHOOL SAFETY: School safety remains paramount for all of us. Promote safety with your son. In our faculty meetings, we reviewed all safety procedures that we have in place – and they are many. Safety is our priority – and it is EVERYONE'S JOB. Report ANY rumor or threat to safety about which you hear. Encourage your sons to report, too. **All visitors to campus must sign in and receive a visitor's pass.**

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.

STUDENT COUNCIL: Kudos to the SC for getting up and running in spite of the challenges. Special congrats to all who ran. Here is the 2020-21 Student Council:

President: Davis Lagarde Vice-President: Alvin Marks

Secretary: Walker Dubreuil Treasurer: Marco Vargas Parliamentarian: Michael Slimming

Class Officers:

Senior President: Ryan Daly Senior VP: Chris Franke

Junior President: Andrew Hightower

Junior VP: Zachary Nichols

Sophomore President: Ben Barousse Sophomore VP: Sam Gold

Freshmen President: Jacob Strecker Freshmen VP: Peyton Kilgore

Pre-Freshmen President: Eddie d'Hemecourt Pre-Freshmen VP: Noah Montz

STUDENT EMAIL ADDRESSES: We issued each student a unique Saint Paul's email address through which we will communicate with him. He should use this email address when contacting his teachers or the school for any reason.

SUSTAINED SILENT READING (SSR): we have begun daily SSR (Sustained Silent Reading) during 15 minutes of Block 4. During this time, everyone in the school 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. Students were instructed 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. He should bring a PRINTED READING MATERIAL – not electronic material You might want to consider initiating a family SSR time, too! I'll keep you posted as to how things go.

VISITOR'S PASS: You may not just wander the campus. You must sign in at the Administration Building, the Attendance Office, or the Counseling Office to obtain a pass to be on campus during school hours. Thanks for understanding this procedure. Our prayers rise to heaven for a safe school year and the elimination of violence of all kinds in our schools – and in all of society.

WEEKLY HUMOR: Points to ponder sent by a former SPS mom – blame her!

- 1. Is it good if a vacuum really sucks?
- **2.** Why is the third hand on the watch called the second hand?
- 3. If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?
- **4.** If Webster wrote the first dictionary, where did he find the words?
- **5.** Why do we say something is out of whack? What is a whack?
- 6. Why does "slow down" and "slow up" mean the same thing?
- 7. Why does "fat chance" and "slim chance" mean the same thing?
- 8. Why do "tug" boats push their barges?
- **9.** Why do we sing "Take me out to the ball game" when we're already there?
- 10. Why are they called "stands" when they are made for sitting?
- 11. Why is it called "after dark" when it really is "after light"?
- 12. Doesn't "expecting the unexpected" make the unexpected expected?
- 13. Why are a "wise man" and a "wise guy" opposites?
- 14. Why do "overlook" and "oversee" mean opposite things?

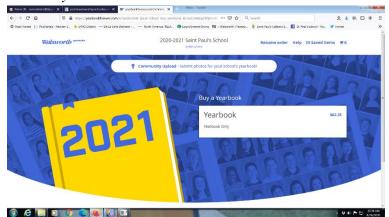
YEARBOOK: The Conifer 2019-2020 is on the press as I write this. The 2020-2021 Conifer staff is already hard at work on the new yearbook. What you need to know for 2020-2021?



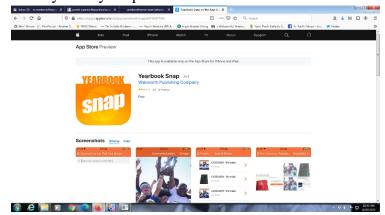
- Yearbooks can only be purchased online at
 <u>www.yearbookforever.com</u>. Make sure to spell out the word *Saint* when searching for *Saint Paul's School*.
- Purchase a yearbook before Oct 9 to receive the \$60 discounted price. The Conifer will be available for the regular price of \$65 beginning Oct 10.

New this year....share your best Saint Paul's photos with the yearbook staff! You can upload photos from your computer or your smart phone.

• On your computer, go to Walsworth website at www.yearbookforever.com. Search for Saint Paul's School, remember to spell out the word Saint. Click on the Community Upload - Submit photos for your school's yearbook button and follow directions.



• On your smart phone, download the *Yearbook Snap* app. Select Saint Paul's School and upload photos directly from your phone.



Please contact yearbook adviser Mimi Monteiro at m.monteiro@stpauls.com if you have any question

A Look Ahead:

August

31 - ABCD

September

- 1 EFGA Virtual President's Assembly
- 2 BCDE
- 3 FGAB
- 4 CDEF
- 8 GABC
- 9 DEFG
- 10 ABCD
- 11 EFGA
- 14 BCDE
- 15 FGAB
- 16 CDEF
- 17 GABC
- 18 DEFG
- 21 ABCD
- 22 EFGA
- 23 BCDE
- 24 FGAB
- 25 CDEF
- 28 GABC
- 29 DEFG
- 30 ABCD LCAP Begins



A student quietly waits for his after school ride under the protective gaze of the Virgin Mary.

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.

Let's end with Prayer for Protection During Hurricane Season:

Our Father in Heaven, through the intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, spare us during this hurricane season from all harm. Protect us and our homes from all disasters of nature.

Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

As usual, I'll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I miss listening to while writing the newsletter since it no longer broadcasts but I still LOL thinking about it!): 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!

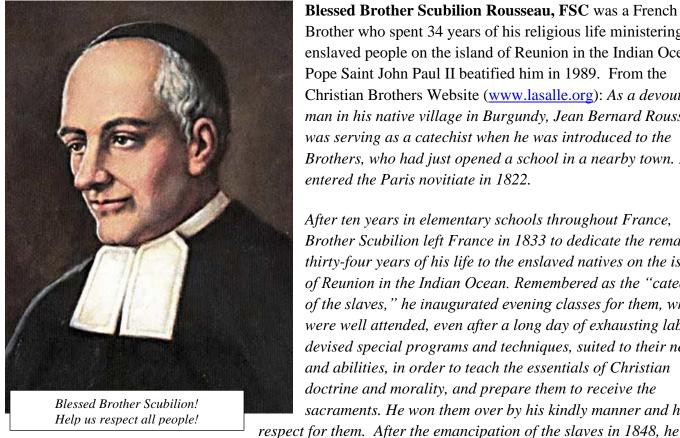
Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Made It to the End of August 2020 as the 17th Christian Brother President /CEO of Saint Paul's School



...by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, doing God's will, remaining faithful, being guided to God, continuing the Mission, living courageously, and respecting all people.

"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



Blessed Brother Scubilion Rousseau, FSC was a French Brother who spent 34 years of his religious life ministering to the enslaved people on the island of Reunion in the Indian Ocean. Pope Saint John Paul II beatified him in 1989. From the Christian Brothers Website (www.lasalle.org): As a devout young man in his native village in Burgundy, Jean Bernard Rousseau was serving as a catechist when he was introduced to the Brothers, who had just opened a school in a nearby town. He entered the Paris novitiate in 1822.

After ten years in elementary schools throughout France, Brother Scubilion left France in 1833 to dedicate the remaining thirty-four years of his life to the enslaved natives on the island of Reunion in the Indian Ocean. Remembered as the "catechist of the slaves," he inaugurated evening classes for them, which were well attended, even after a long day of exhausting labor. He devised special programs and techniques, suited to their needs and abilities, in order to teach the essentials of Christian doctrine and morality, and prepare them to receive the sacraments. He won them over by his kindly manner and his

continued to care for them and to help them adapt to their new life of freedom and responsibility. In the last years of his life, despite failing health, he assisted the local pastor in visiting the sick, winning over sinners, encouraging vocations, and even effecting what seemed to be miraculous cures. At his death he was venerated everywhere on the island as a saint.



