



The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter
Celebrating 109 years of educational excellence in Covington
340 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
September 07 – 13, 2020



Monday is Labor Day, a day which celebrates the dignity of work and of all who labor. Each year, I reprint the following. It's important enough that I do so again now and that we take time to read it again:

If St. John Baptist de La Salle were with us today, he would have the faculty reflect on the work that we do at Saint Paul's. Here are some of the Saint's words on our work, taken from his meditations to the early Brothers:

- *You are doing **God's work**; rest assured **that he will take care of you** provided that you serve him faithfully and omit nothing that he asks of you.*
- *If, then, you devote yourselves to the harvest of souls, **how can you fear** that the One who employs you as his coworkers will refuse you the food you need to do his work?*
- ***Jesus Christ**, since you regard him as the one who can do everything in your work and you are an instrument to be moved only by him, **will not fail** to grant what you ask.*
- *You must, then, **look upon your work as one of the most important** and most necessary services, one entrusted to you by fathers and mothers.*
- ***God has called you, destined** you for this work, and sent you to work in his vineyard.*



I could go on, but I hope you get the point! For St. La Salle, the **work of the teacher in a Christian school was God's work (*Domine, Opus Tuum!*) -- nothing less. And since you, as parent, are the primary teacher of your children, you, too, are doing God's work in teaching your son to be a man of God.**

Thanks for supporting Lasallian Catholic education here at Saint Paul's School!

Mon, Sep 7 – Labor Day Holiday! No classes! Chillax!

- **This Day in History:** 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:** Each day, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses care for children, adolescents, and young adults with cancer and blood disorders. We honor and thank them.

Tue, Sep 8 (G A B C – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

- **TDIH:** In 1776, The United States came into existence as the Continental Congress changed the name of the new nation from the United Colonies to the United States.
- **TDIH:** In 1965, Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Sandy Koufax pitches the eighth perfect game in major league history, leading the Dodgers to a 1-0 win over the Chicago Cubs.
- **Teddy Bear Day:** Admit it: we all like Teddy Bears and we adults miss the ones we had as children. So today, it's OK to spend time with Teddy -- a special friend who's cuddly, lovable, and makes us feel secure & safe in an otherwise insecure and unsafe world. Confession: I keep one in my office for tough days.



Wed, Sep 09 (D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 1776, the Continental Congress formally declares the name of the new nation to be the “United States” of America. This replaced “United Colonies,” which had been in use. In the Congressional declaration dated September 9, 1776, the delegates wrote, “That in all continental commissions, and other instruments, where, heretofore, the words ‘United Colonies’ have been used, the stile be altered for the future to the “United States.”
- **TDIH:** In 1942, a Japanese floatplane drops incendiary bombs on an Oregon state forest-the first and only air attack on the U.S. mainland in the war.

- **It was on this day in 1504** that Michelangelo unveiled his sculpture *David*. The project was first imagined more than 30 years earlier, in 1463, when the sculptor Agostino di Duccio accepted a commission to sculpt a biblical figure for one of the buttresses of the Santa Maria del Fiore, a cathedral in Florence. Duccio was given a block of marble more than 19 feet high, but he gave up after a rough attempt at the feet and legs. The commission was passed to another sculptor, Antonio Rossellino, who also gave up.

The piece was forgotten for a while, and the hunk of marble sat in a courtyard until 1501, when the Church authorities revived their project. It was about that time that they started referring to the sculpture as *David*. The Church settled on awarding the commission to 26-year-old Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni. Michelangelo was undaunted by the huge piece of marble, even though it had the mistakes of the two previous sculptors already carved into it. He began sculpting in the fall of 1501 and finished less than two years later, in the summer of 1503. A group of artists — including Botticelli, Filippino Lippi, and Leonardo da Vinci — assembled to decide where to move the statue, since the idea of using it as a buttress for the cathedral seemed less practical now that the marble was weakened from years of exposure to the elements, and because the statue was 17 feet tall and weighed several tons. It took a huge effort to move *David* to its new location outside the Palazzo della Signoria. The diarist Luca Landucci wrote about the *David*, which he called 'the giant,' in his diary: "During the night stones were thrown at the giant to injure it, therefore it was necessary to keep watch over it. It went very slowly, being bound in an erect position, and suspended so that it did not touch the ground with its feet. There were immensely strong beams, constructed with great skill; and it took four days to reach the Piazza. It was moved along by more than 40 men. Beneath it there were 14 greased beams, which were changed from hand to hand; and they labored till the 8th July, 1504, to put it in place."

- **Sacrament of Penance:** Confessions will be available in most, if not all, Catholic churches in the Archdiocese this evening from 5 – 6:30 pm. From Archbishop Aymond: *“Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity to invite the healing Christ into your heart with his promise of forgiveness and reconciliation. Pope Francis has reminded us that God never tires of forgiving us. Perhaps we grow tired of asking for forgiveness. He reminds us instead that we must humbly ask for God’s mercy knowing that he gives it in abundance. Consider having the family come to church together for Confession tonight.”*



One of the many campus faunae looking for a snack!

Thu, Sep 10 (A B C D)

- **TDIH:** In 1940, in light of the destruction inflicted on London by German bombing raids, aka "the Blitz," British Cabinet instructs British bombers over Germany to drop their bombs "anywhere" if unable to reach targets.

- **Swap Ideas Day:** Swap your good ideas with others! I'm always in need of good ideas, so feel free to send 'em here
- **World Suicide Prevention Day:** I list many ridiculous observances in my newsletters, but this one is very serious. St. Tammany Parish has a high suicide rate – which has gone up since the suicide of Robin Williams. Unfortunately, each year we deal with students who feel that suicide is the answer to the problems of life. In October, we will hold an annual suicide prevention program for all sophomores. Please speak to your students about this issue if the occasion arises. Pray for all who think that it is a solution. We ask God's help. And we are compliant with LA Law that mandates the publication of suicide prevention hotlines on our ID cards.

Fri, Sep 11 (E F G A)

- **TDIH:** Today we remember the terrorist attack on our country in 2001. We pray for all who lost loved ones. We pray for an end to terrorism of all kinds, foreign and domestic. We pray for men and women who defend our freedom in all parts of the world. We pray for all people of peace, regardless of race or creed.
- **Make Your Bed Day:** Pretty self-explanatory! I make mine every day!

Sat, Sep 12

- **TDIH:** In 2013, the **Catholic Lasallian Assessment Process** Team began its visitation. SPS passed glowingly! In a couple of weeks, the latest iteration of CLASP (now called
- **TDIH:** In 1940, near Montignac, France, a collection of prehistoric cave paintings are discovered by four teenagers who stumbled upon the ancient artwork after following their dog down a narrow entrance into a cavern. The 15,000- to 17,000-year-old paintings, consisting mostly of animal representations, are among the finest examples of art from the Upper Paleolithic period. What to see them? Click here: http://www.lascaux.culture.fr/?lng=en#/fr/02_00.xml
- **Chocolate Milkshake Day!** Enjoy – if your health allows, of course!
- **Banana Day:** Eat this healthy snack today! Wash it down with a Chocolate Shake!

Sun, Sep 13

- **Grandparent Day:** In 1978, the United States Congress passed legislation proclaiming the first Sunday after Labor Day as National **Grandparents Day**. A presidential proclamation was signed by President Jimmy Carter and thus began the observation of this special **holiday**. Let's remember our grandparents today and pray for them! SPS usually holds Grandparent Day in October but will not be able to do so this year. We hope to have the day in the spring!
- **TDIH:** In 1814, Francis Scott Key pens words, later set to music, that in 1931 becomes USA's national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner." The poem, titled "The Defence of Fort McHenry," was written when Key saw Fort McHenry in Maryland bombarded by British in the War of 1812 & was inspired by a lone U.S. flag flying at daybreak.
- **Peanut Day** is the peanuttiest of days. Native to South America, the locals there couldn't keep this great nut to themselves. Actually, peanuts are not nuts. They are "legumes", like peas, beans, and lentils. Who knew?
- **Blame Someone Else Day:** self-explanatory! Feel free to blame me!
- **Hollerin' Day!** Feel free to holler today – but not at school!
- **Iguana Day:** Celebrate the lowly iguana today! I may re-read *Night of the Iguana* by Tennessee Williams

Rise Up, O Men of God

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.

ASSEMBLY ON SEP 01: I hope the students enjoyed our Sep 01 virtual assembly. Here's what we did:

- Logged into Google Classroom to join the assembly!

- Listened to Baroque composer Jean-Joseph Mouret's "Rondeau" and used this wonderfully stirring baroque piece of music to set the tone for the year. Ask your son to hum it for you! The older students should be able to do this! I explained how the word "baroque" means "rough, irregular pearl" and used that metaphor for our new school year: a rough pearl for which we must spend the next nine months polishing and shining it through our actions and accomplishments.



- Asked the students, level by level, if they were ready to assume the tasks ahead of them; I hope they responded "Yes, Saint Paul's, I'm ready!"
- Welcomed the new Pre-Freshmen as the Class of 2025. Had we been allowed to assemble in the gym, they would have gotten a rousing ovation by the rest of the student body and faculty while The Rondeau would have been playing loudly in the background.
- We prayed for the following relatives of SPS families who have died since my last assembly – in March:

- *Mrs. Rita Adragna, g'grandmother of Cody '20 and Conner '24 Crettit*
- *Mr. Paul J. Hubbell, Jr. , great-grandfather of Bryce DePino '23*
- *Mr. Michael Paul Restivo, grandfather of Zachrey Gros '22*
- *Mrs. Cheryl Guidroz Daussat, grandmother of Gunnar Daussat '21*
- *Mrs. Winnie Jordan, mother in law of Mrs. Susan Jordan*
- *Mrs. Marilyn Stant, mother of Coach Mike Stant*
- *Mr. Joseph Carl Henry, grandfather of Lawrence Henry '22*
- *Mrs. Constance "Connie" S. Rebaudo, g'mother of Cody Campbell '21 & Jacob Rebaudo '25*

- *Gerald Leonick, grandfather of senior Ryan Leonick*
 - *Mr. Kenneth Philibert, grandfather of Evan & Aiden Philibert '23*
 - *Catherine "Cab" Fielding, grandmother of Drake Fielding '25*
 - *Robert Raymond Vining, grandfather of Ben '23, Nick '21 & Jack*
 - *Mrs. Leah Baummy Loescher, grandmother of Chandler Loescher '23*
 - *Victims of Hurricane Laura and COVID 19*
 - *Mrs. Elise Charbonnet Angelette, daughter of long time SPS teacher Denny Charbonnet*
- Recognized and congratulated Campus Minister Mr. Jeffrey Ramon on the birth of his first child, Joseph Lloyd Ramon, and Mrs. Julie Beck on the birth of her daughter, Lola Ruth Beck. Student Council President **David Lagarde** presented Jeff and Julie with small gifts to symbolize our thanks and pride.
- I then welcomed everyone to the 2019 - 20 school year, the beginning of our 110th year of existence and continuing the Lasallian tradition that has been transforming lives since 1680. I projected views of the campus from several decades and pointed out how much has changed. I projected pictures of Father Augustine, OSB, the first president of Saint Paul's College (as it was called then) from 1911-18 and a picture of Brother Lawrence, FSC, the first Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's – who only lasted two years! I reminded the students that I am the 17th Christian Brother President of SPS – and the 18th overall President.
- Ran out of time before I could do accomplish any more individual recognitions – which will “roll over” to the next assembly!
- I then had the entire student body listen to Rise Up O Men of God.
- As junior **Zachrey Gros** extinguished the prayer candle (which I had forgotten to light!), I reminded everyone that while the light of the candle is extinguished, what the candle represents can never be extinguished: the love of God, the grace of peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. I then reminded the students that we must leave the gym and be the love, grace, peace and fellowship of God to everyone we meet. We then exited to stirring strains of Mouret's Rondeau.
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so, all things considered! But I can't wait until we can all meet in the gym again!



*Fr. Augustine,
OSB, the 1st
President of
Saint Paul's
from 1911-18.*

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: Below is the latest from the LHSAA. Remember that 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.**



EDDIE BONINE, M.Ed., CAA
Executive Director

LEE SANDERS
KAREN HOYT
ADAM MACDOWELL
MICHAEL FEDERICO
Assistant Executive Directors

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: LHSAA Membership
Subject: Football 2020
From: LHSAA Executive Director / Eddie Bonine
Date: September 4, 2020

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Eddie Bonine', written over a horizontal line.

Principals, Athletic Directors, Parish Athletic Directors *and* Superintendents, we had approximately 27 parishes and 179 member schools that were in the path of Hurricane Laura. The damage and devastation varies tremendously from landfall, and all points in between until Laura left the state in northern Louisiana. We have schools that have already made repairs, cleaned up and are waiting for power to be restored, but we have a large number that will take months before they can return to their sites. Thoughts, prayers and helpful relief to our colleagues, their school communities and all of their families.

Over the course of the past four weeks or so there has been growing concern from many around our state as it related to the start of fall sports while in phase II. Cross Country and Swimming have both made incredible strides in making the appropriate adjustments, mitigation measure and administrative applications during their start. Volleyball has followed suit with making roster adjustments adhering to the 25 student group requirements, mitigation measures and the allowance of 10 essential personnel to assure match proficiency. So far, so good, and best of luck to all athletes, coaches and officials. Now, football ... by now you have probably heard we will be staying on schedule for the start of the football season, whether we move to phase III or remain in phase II.

LHSAA... Beyond the Game

12720 OLD HAMMOND HIGHWAY · BATON ROUGE, LA 70816
PHONE 225.296.5882 · WWW.LHSAA.ORG · BEYONDTHEGAME@LHSAA.ORG

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.
- **RESTOCKED:** A new shipment of SPS masks (blue with SPS logo) has arrived! \$5! We are told by Children's Hospital that the mask mandate is NOT going away soon, so invest in these comfortable, stylish, and re-usable masks, as ALL students and adults must wear them on campus.

CAFETERIA: A MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT from the Federal School Lunch Program:

- ALL students may receive a FREE lunch beginning on Tuesday and extending until funds expire or Dec 31. Students MUST still obtain the lunch with their ID card (no ID, no lunch) but it is FREE.
- Students MUST still order lunch during first block, indicating their choice of hot lunch or sandwich lunch, but it will be FREE.



Pre-freshman watch presentation in Into to Technology.

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 only** – you may not block traffic in the right lane to discharge the occupants. Dropping off at La Salle Hall or by the BAC is OK. Traffic will be heavy heading into Covington this week as schools open. Please plan accordingly.

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 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 policy violation. 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



SPS brotherhood in action as Bennett is helped to next class.

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 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 weather-related 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 re-open when our situation warrants. In the meantime, we pray.

GET INVOLVED DAY: This event is now Get Involved Week – and will begin this week. Each day, reps from various clubs, etc. will make presentations on WOLF TV about their club or activity and inform students how to become involved. This new format is driven by COVID prescriptions and we hope will be useful.

GOOD NEWS: Last week we received a \$62 credit at Office Depot from people mentioning SPS at checkout at that store. While \$62 won't keep us solvent, every \$ helps. And don't forget similar programs at Amazon Prime and Box Tops for Education! We need them all!

GREATER LASALLIAN WORLD: Mr. Mark DeMarco, president of De La Salle High School in Concord, CA for the past fourteen years, announced last week his intent to retire at the end of this academic year. During his tenure, DLS Concord has developed into an outstanding institution with many similarities to Saint Paul's: size, all boys – and an amazing football program! President DiMarco has every reason to be proud. We wish him an outstanding final year and offer prayer for a successful successor search.

HELPING SPS: Don't forget: these are painless ways to help SPS:

- If you shop at Office Depot, 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.

ID CARDS, TEMP BRACELETS AND MASKS: Students must have all three of these with them

LAST WEEK:

- **DOTEW (Doing Ordinary Things Extraordinarily Well):** I hope your son has made this his motto for this year! Ask him about it. Does he DOTEW in SSR, using Plus Portals / Google Classroom, paying attention for the full period, wearing his mask, practicing social distancing, being silent during announcements, keeping the campus clean, being responsible for his belongings, following COVID procedures, being brother to all and respecting all?
- **Marching Wolves:** The sound of drums last week was sweet music as Marching Wolves slowly begin to practice and even paraded throughout the school on Friday afternoon! In Phase II, only percussion instruments are allowed – but we will take it!
- **Wolf Tracks:** Thanks, Danielle Lavie, for a GREAT issue. A highlight is Zach van Zandt's short video of March through the Arch. Here is the link if you haven't seen it: <https://youtu.be/zhxynfE8U2I>
- **Popsicles:** Thanks to Development Team for the treat in what would have been Brother Ralph's 100th!
- **March through the Arch (Part II):** All went well for the seniors who missed Part I. I was very glad we were able to do this. All seemed appreciative.
- **Laura Relief:** Thanks to Campus Minister Jeff Ramon for organizing our effort to help and to the students and staff for their generosity.
- **Dr. Tony Gonzales:** Dr. Tony Gonzales is our liaison with Children's Hospital for "all things Covid." Dr. Gonzales's presentation to faculty and staff on Friday afternoon was informing and comforting. He assured us our protocols are correct when it comes to masks, sanitizing, social distancing, and quaranting. He also held out hope that a vaccine is in the works. We are VERY grateful to Children's Hospital for being our partner in this unprecedented time. Thanks for the overwhelming support we are receiving from parents and students in our efforts to remain open while staying safe. Dr. Gonzales says we are doing the right thing. We continue to pray.



Children's Hospital
New Orleans
LCMC Health

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.



Seniors March through the Arch – Part II!

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 – rescheduled to this week
- Grandparent Day in October – rescheduled to the spring
- Mini-Schedule (meet the teachers) on August 24 – still working on rescheduling this
- Homecoming Dances in September – working on re-scheduling when possible
- Etiquette Training for Pre-freshman – working on re-scheduling when possible
- Start of football season in August – now it looks like October!
- Start of many extracurricular activities – but we are working on it!
- We hope to re-schedule or begin these events as soon as possible.

OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS RE-ORGANIZED: As you are aware, the bankruptcy of the Archdiocese has caused Archbishop Aymond to re-organize several existing departments. The Office of Catholic Schools has been combined with the Office of Religious Education and is now called The Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation (from OCS to DCEFF). Dr. RaeNell Houston will continue to serve as superintendent but her title is now Executive Director. Two Deputy Superintendents have been appointed to assist RaeNell in her new role.

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.

PAPER WOLF: Please read The Paper Wolf! (www.thepaperwolf.com) I do! We've got an outstanding, AWARD WINNING digital newspaper!



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PICTURE RETAKES: Picture retakes will be Friday, September 18 in the theatre lobby from 11:00-1:00 during the lunch periods. This is for anyone that was absent on the September 6, 7 or September 10 or anyone else that needs a retake.

POLITICAL ACTIVITY: Elections are only a few weeks away and the political season is heating up faster than cyclone activity in the tropics. As expected, several SPS alums are vying for office. I remind all of the policy on the Archdiocese: we may NOT publicly endorse or favor any candidate. We also are prohibited from allowing campaigning on our campus. We regularly have to deny several candidates their wish to distribute campaign material on our campus. If you have interest in the full Archdiocesan policy, here is the link: <https://d2wldr9tsuuj1b.cloudfront.net/16596/documents/2019/9/Political%20Activities%20Policy%20Copy%20for%20the%20e-Bulletin.pdf>



Alumni Director Al Nastasi distributes popsicles to socially distant students on what would have been Brother Ralph Baltz's 100 birthday!

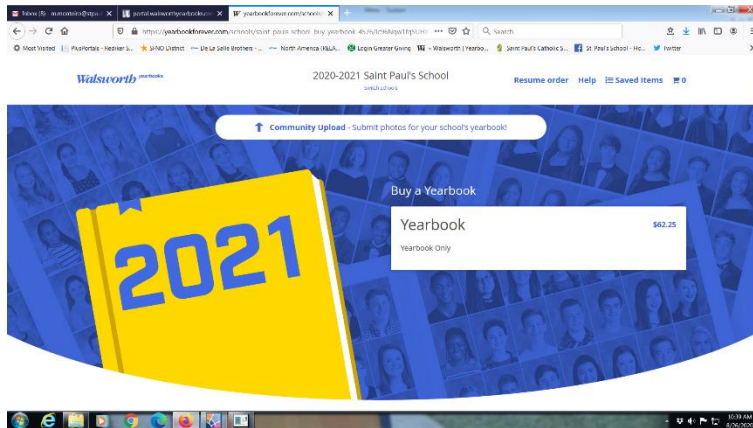
TUTORING: The National Honor Society will offer tutoring on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays during both lunches in the library. Encourage your son to take advantage of this FREE service (which includes proofreading papers!) if he needs a little help.

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?

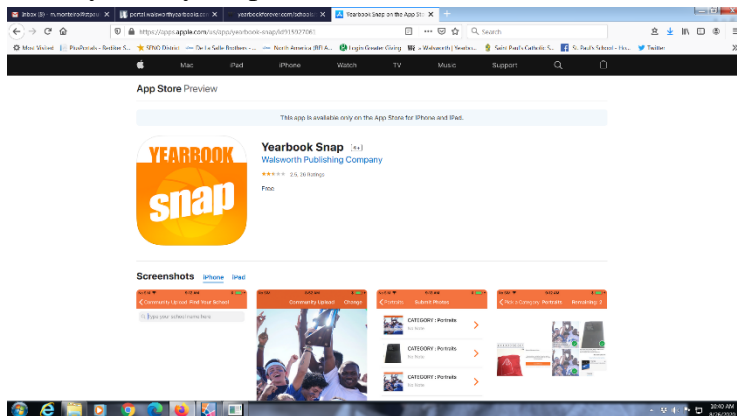
- Yearbooks can only be purchased online at www.yearbookforever.com. Make sure to spell out the word *Saint* when searching for *Saint Paul's School*.
- Purchase a yearbook before Oct 9 to receive the \$60 discounted price. The Conifer will be available for the regular price of \$65 beginning Oct 10.

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 questions.

WEEKLY HUMOR: I use these puns every Labor Day because they are worth repeating. Some job woes:

- *My first job was in an orange juice factory, I couldn't concentrate on the boring rind, so I got canned.*
- *Then I worked in the woods as a lumberjack, but I just couldn't hack it, so they gave me the axe.*
- *I then tried working in a donut shop, but I soon got tired of the hole business.*
- *I manufactured calendars, but my days were numbered.*
- *I tried to be a tailor, but I wasn't suited for it because it was a sew-sew job, de-pleating and de-pressing.*
- *I took a job as an upholsterer, but I never recovered*
- *Next, I tried working in a car muffler factory, but that was exhausting.*
- *I wanted to be a barber, but I just couldn't cut it.*
- *Then I was a pilot, but tended to wing it, and I didn't have the right altitude*
- *I studied to be a doctor, but I didn't have enough patients for the job.*
- *I became a Velcro salesman, but I couldn't stick with it.*
- *I tried my hand at a professional career in tennis, but it wasn't my racket. I was too high strung.*
- *I became a baker; it wasn't a cakewalk, & I couldn't make enough dough.*
- *I was a masseur for a while, but I rubbed people the wrong way.*
- *I managed to get a good job working for a pool maintenance company, but the work was just too draining.*
- *Then I was a gym personal trainer, but they said I wasn't fit for the job.*
- *I thought about being a historian, but I couldn't see a future in it.*
- *Next, I was an electrician, but I found the work shocking and revolting, so they discharged me.*
- *I tried teaching, but I soon lost my principal, my faculties, and my class.*
- *I turned to farming, but I wasn't outstanding in my field.*
- *I took a job as an elevator operator. The job had its ups and downs.*
- *I sold origami, but the business folded.*
- *I took a job at UPS, but I couldn't express myself.*
- *I tried being a fireman, but I suffered burnout.*
- *I became a banker, but I lacked interest and maturity, and finally withdrew from the job.*
- *I was a professional fisherman, but I couldn't live on my net income.*
- *I next worked in a shoe factory, but I just didn't fit in. They thought I was a loafer, and I got the boot.*
- *I worked at Starbucks, but I quit because it was the same old grind.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

A Look Ahead:

September

- 1 – EFGA – Pack Time
- 2 – BCDE
- 3 – FGAB
- 4 – CDEF
- 8 – GABC – Period G “Pack Time”
- 9 – DEFG – Activities Announcements
- 10 – ABCD - Activities Announcements
- 11 – EFGA - Activities Announcements
- 14 – BCDE – Student Snack Day



Donations for Laura victims!

15 – FGAB – T, Appreciation Lunch/V. Assembly
16 – CDEF
17 – GABC
18 – DEFG
21 – ABCD
22 – EFGA
23 – BCDE
24 – FGAB
25 – CDEF
28 – GABC
29 – DEFG – Virtual Assembly
30 – ABCD – LCAP Begins

October

1 – EFGA
2 – No classes meet LCAP
Concludes
5 – BCDE
6 – FGAB
7 – CDEF
8 – GABC
9 – DEFG
12 – ABCD
13 – EFGA
14 – BCDE - PSAT Test
15 – FGAB
16 – CDEF
19 – GABC
20 – DEFG
21 – ABCD
22 – EFGA
23 – BCDE
26 – FGAB
27 – CDEF
28 – GABC
29 – DEFG
30 - ABCD



Whew! That’s enough for Labor Day Weekend! 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 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!

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.

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Chillaxin' on Labor Day as the 17th Christian Brother President /CEO of Saint Paul's School



Have a great Lasallian Week! ...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!
Help us respect all people!*

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 respect for them.

After the emancipation of the slaves in 1848, he 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.

Stop the spread of germs that can make you and others sick!



Wash your
hands often



Wear a cloth
face cover



Cover your coughs
and sneezes



Keep **6 feet** of space
between you and
your friends



