

# The President's Hebdomadal Blue Ribbon Newsletter Celebrating 110 years of educational excellence in Covington 341 years of Lasallian excellence throughout the world May 03 – 09, 2021



Alleluia! He is risen!



"Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, the wisdom to find you, conduct to please you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you."

— St. Thomas Aquinas

Welcome to Week Seven of Spring, Week Seven of the fourth quarter, Week Five of the Easter Season – and the first week without the Class of 2021, who ended their SPS careers last Friday!

#### Mon, May 3 (G A B C; Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles)

- Happy Feast Day to all SPS students, parents, and staff named Philip or James!
- This Day in History: From The History Channel: In 1942, The Battle of the Coral Sea begins, which is the first modern naval engagement in history. The United States, having broken Japan's secret war code and attempted to intercept the Japanese armada. Four days of battles between Japanese and American aircraft carriers resulted in 70 Japanese and 66 Americans warplanes destroyed. This confrontation marked the first air-naval battle in history, as none of the carriers fired at each other, allowing the planes taking off from their decks to do the battling. Among the casualties was the American carrier Lexington; "the Blue Ghost" (so-called because it was not camouflaged like other carriers) suffered such extensive aerial damage that it had to be sunk by its own crew. Two hundred sixteen Lexington crewmen died as a result of the Japanese aerial bombardment. Although Japan would go on to occupy all of the Solomon Islands, its victory was a Pyrrhic one: The cost in experienced pilots and aircraft carriers was so great that Japan had to cancel its expedition to Port Moresby, Papua, as well as other South Pacific targets. We pray for an end to all war!
- **Melanoma Monday**" (1<sup>st</sup> Mon of May; aka National Skin Self-Examination Day.) Check for skin cancer signs! Use sun bloc! As one who has had a bout with skin cancer (thanks, Drs. Baldone and Reina!), I encourage all to get checked regularly.

- **Hug Your Cat Day** good luck with that!
- **Lacrosse**: JV at 7
- Golf: State finals through Tuesday in Lafayette
- Football: Spring practice continues through May 14 with the concluding Pie Bowl

#### Tue, May 4 (D E F G; final Wolf Packs meet)

- **TDIH:** 1965, San Francisco Giants outfielder Willie Mays hits his 512th career home run to break Mel Ott's National League record for home runs.
- Star Wars Day: This is a day for *Star Wars* fans to celebrate the franchise's films series culture. The date was chosen as "May the 4th" due to its sounding similar to the series' phrase "May the Force be with you!" Who knew?
- Laughter Day: Have a good laugh today! Laugh at me if you want! I laugh at myself all the time!
- **Firefighters Day:** We honor the unsung heroes and thank them for protecting our lives and property. Wear a blue and red ribbon today, symbolic of elements firefighters work with red for fire and blue for water.
- Hoagie and Oyster Day: Enjoy either or both of these treats!

#### Wed, May 5 (A B C D)

• **TDIH:** Today, known as Cinco de Mayo, commemorates the victory of the Mexican Army over the French at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. The Mexican army was defeated, but the "Batalla de Puebla" came to represent a symbol of Mexican patriotism.



Thu, May 6 (E F G A)

- **TDIH:** 1937, the German airship *Hindenburg*, the largest dirigible ever, explodes as it arrives in NJ.
- TDIH II: Four years ago, representatives from Project Lead the Way came to campus to evaluate our implementation of their Biomedical and Engineering curricula. This led to Saint Paul's being the first accredited PLTW school in the state a credential that is facilitating our students earning college credit for their work in these

electives. That we achieved

this after only four years is highly unusual and spoke volumes about Trevor's vision, the instructors' dedication, and the community's support. Since then, we have been the "poster child" for PLTW!

- **Nurses Day:** We honor all of those in the nursing profession especially in these days! Thank you!
- **No Homework Day:** I leave it to each teacher to decide whether to observe this day or not!
- **Day of Prayer** (First Thu of May): At SPS, every day is a day of prayer, but be extra prayerful today!
- Ultimate Frisbee Tournament: SPS v. Brother Martin and Rummel. Geaux Frisbee Wolves!

#### Fri, May 7 (B C D E)

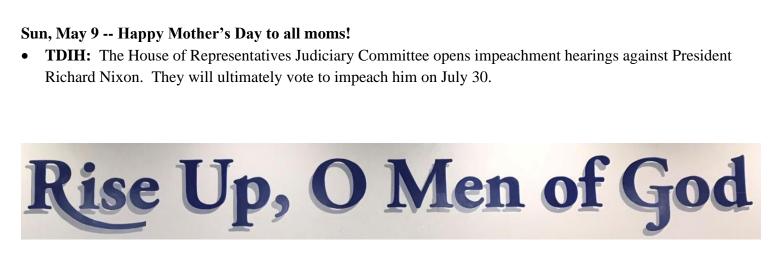
- **TDIH:** 1915, a German submarine torpedoes without warning British ocean liner *Lusitania*, bringing the United States closer to entry in World War I.
- Lacrosse: Quarterfinals begin

#### Sat, May 8

- **TDIH:** In 1945, Great Britain and US celebrate Victory in Europe Day. Cities in both nations, as well as formerly occupied cities in Western Europe, put out flags and banners, rejoicing in defeat of Nazi Germany.
- **No Socks Day:** OK with me if you observe this day! It's Saturday! I might do it myself -- not!
- Free Physicals: Local physicians from Pinnacle

  Medical Network will donate their time this morning to provide free physicals to our athletic and band students. As you know, all students in a sport or band must receive a physical each year. Thank you, Doctor Van Deventer et al!

And learning continues!



I offer the following in alphabetical order, not necessarily order of importance:

#### **ADMISSION LETTER EXCERPTS:** Here are the final excerpts for this year!

- I would like to take art but only after I have taken my favorite classes. I would also like to take normal engenierring. [but first you will need to take normal spelling!]
- I like the environment because of its large campus filled with lots of trees, bushes, and other plant life. The school even has a pond with ducks on its campus. [Yes, environment is important to us!]
- By accepting me, you will accept a student ready to be the best wolf possible. [We will hold you to that!]
- You should accept me because I make good grades, behave, and play football. [A winning combo!]
- I would be blessed to walk every day on SPS campus. [I consider myself blessed to walk it, too!]
- On my tour, the engineering program was my favorite. The class that we joined excited me with the vibrant chatter of students leaning Python programming. [Vibrant chatter? Love it!]
- Can we talk about the atmosphere of SPS? It is amazing, so kind and structured. [We can always talk!]
- Over the years, I have not been able to control my urge to attend St. Paul's. I tell my parents everyday "I can't wait to go to St. Paul's." [Your urge will soon be satisfied!]

ADMISSIONS FOR 21-22: Thank you for spreading the good news about Lasallian education at SPS! People are responding and next year's 8<sup>th</sup> grade class is almost full. All other grades are basically full, too. If you know of someone thinking about SPS 8<sup>th</sup> grade, have them initiate contact soon. Thanks!



ANNOUNCEMENT: I am pleased to appoint Coach Sam Francis to the position of Athletic Director of Saint Paul's School, effective July 1. Sam assumes the reins of one of the most successful athletic programs in the state following the retirement from SPS of Craig Ketelsen – under whose leadership our sports programs has experienced unparalleled success and to whom we will forever be grateful. Sam has "big shoes to fill" and his appointment did not come without much thought, discernment, consultation, and prayer. The committee I appointed to recommend a new AD had the privilege of interviewing a total of six quality candidates – all outstandingly capable individuals willing and able to keep our Wolves on the winning paths. I am grateful to all of them for volunteering to serve in the AD

position. I know we can count on them to aid Sam as he adjusts to his new position. Congratulate Sam and assure him of your support. Congratulations to the other candidates and thank you for their willingness to serve. *Ad multos annos, Sam and Craig!* 

**ANNUAL APPEAL:** Many thanks to those who have responded. If you can help at any amount, great. If not, I hope you will at least pray for us.

**ANNUAL APPEAL AND GRANDPARENTS:** We are blessed with many supportive grandparents. Many schools solicit donations from grandparents directly. Again, I do it differently than other schools that directly solicit grandparents. I ask that you inform your son's grandparents or, if you want, I'll be happy to send them the information directly if you wish. Just provide me with the information. I do not ask grandparents without your consent but we need their support. I have already received a number of grandparent gifts. Again, no gift is too small – and, of course, no gift is too large.

**ATTENDANCE:** If your son is absent, phone Suzy in the Attendance Office before 9 am at 892-3200, ext. 1980, & **SEND A NOTE when he returns** 

#### **Annual Free Athletic Physicals and Paperwork Collection**

A physical exam and completed paperwork are required annually for all athletes participating in sports at St. Paul's.



Who:

All St. Paul's Athletes

When:

Saturday, May 8, 2021

**Time:** 7:00 am

Where:

Pinnacle Orthopedics 1200 Pinnacle Pkwy, Covington, LA

Social distancing will be enforced and masks are required.

What to bring to free physicals

3. Athletic Physical Packet (see link below)

filled out completely including parent signatures

- 2. Birth Certificate (for new athletes only)
  - 3. Copy of Insurance Card

Click here for Athletic Packet

Claire Coutrado | clairec@stpauls.com | (985) 892-3200 ext 1985

Thank you, Doctors and Staff of Pinnacle Orthopedics!



**BAND HALL HISTORY:** In the summer of 1966, the school constructed a "recreation center" for the recreational needs of the students living in La Salle Hall dorm. At a cost of \$15,000, a building was constructed to provide ping pong, pool, games and TV for boarders. Eventually, arcade-type games and a snack bar were added. In addition, a nine-hole miniature golf (putt-putt) course was built in front of the building, complete with lighting for nighttime use.

The facility, known simply as "the rec hall", served the recreational needs of the boarding students until the summer of 1995, when, once again, the needs of the school dictated change. The overall population of the school was growing, but the population of the boarding program was shrinking. Accordingly, the decision was made to move the "rec hall" into La Salle Hall itself and to move the band hall (which was located on the third floor of Benilde Hall) into the rec hall building, thus allowing us to construct five more classrooms in Benilde Hall. The miniature golf course had also deteriorated and was removed.

The building has served the Marching Wolves well since that time, but, again, needs dictate change. In addition to overall building deterioration, our band programs have been expanding of late and now include concert, jazz, and drum corps components in addition to the renowned Marching Wolves, now almost one hundred members strong! They are deserving of a better facility. This new facility will provide expanded space, restrooms, acoustics, and aesthetics to our music program. Construction has begun and this \$2.3 million project will be completed in the summer of 2021. Interested in supporting the renovation, whose overall cost will approach \$2.3 million? We have <a href="Maing Opportunities!">Naming Opportunities!</a> For more information, call Danielle Lavie at 985-892-3200 ext 1970 or <a href="maing-development@stpauls.com">development@stpauls.com</a> or Br. Ray Bulliard at 985-892-3200 ext 1901 or <a href="maing-development@stpauls.com">broray@stpauls.com</a>.

**BOOK STORE**: All school supplies will be available for purchase, as well as St. Paul's apparel. Hours?

- M F: 7:30 am 8:15 am and 11:15 12:45. By appointment: Email spsbookstore16@gmail.com
- PLEASE patronize the MC's Bookstore. Proceeds fund activities throughout the year. Recently, we received \$10,000 worth of Chromebooks for student use in main school building!

**CAFETERIA:** ALL students may receive a FREE BREAKFAST and LUNCH **throughout the rest of the school year!** Students MUST still obtain the meals with their ID card (no ID, no food) but it is FREE. ONLY the basic lunch / breakfast is free. If students purchase "extras", they will be charged for these. Make sure your son understands this policy.

**CAFETERIA REFUNDS:** Parents of Students not returning to school in August must contact the Cafeteria Manager at 985-809-7112 by May 5<sup>th</sup> to request a refund of any unused monies.' A request for Refund' form will be sent home upon request, for a signature for all refund checks greater than 20.00.

#### CALENDAR FOR NEXT YEAR (2021-22): Some important dates:

Mon - Tue, Aug 2 & 3 Teacher Meetings Wed, Aug 4 Teacher Prep Day

Thu, Aug 5 School Opens with a full day of instruction

Mon, Sep 06 Labor Day Holiday

Fri, Oct 8 End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal Fri., Oct 8 Grandparents Day (11:30 – 1:00 -- Tentative) Sat, Oct 30 Prospective Student Open House (1 – 3 pm)

Mon, Nov 08 Archdiocesan Formation Day (no classes for students)

Mon-Fri, Nov 22 - 26 Thanksgiving Holidays

Mon, Nov 29 Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holiday

Mon - Thu, Dec 13-16 Semester Exams

Thu, Dec 16 Christmas Holidays begin at 11:45 following exams

Mon, Jan 03 Classes resume & Second Semester begins

Mon, Jan 17 Martin Luther King Holiday

Fri, Feb 25 Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Feb 28 - Mar 04 Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays

Mon. Mar 07 Classes resume

Fri, Mar 11 End of Third Quarter Fri – Fri Apr 15 – 22 Easter Holidays

Mon, Apr 25 Classes resume from Easter Holidays

Wed-Fri, Apr 27 – 29 Senior Final Exams

Sat, May 14 Senior Graduation (4 pm)
Tue – Fri, May 17 - 20 Final Exams for Grades 8 - 11
Mon, May 23 Conflict/Makeup Exam Day

Tue, May 24 Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day

**CAR BURGLARIES:** From Mayor Mark Johnson, SPS '76: As Covington PD Police Chief Culotta says, "rifling through cars is just too easy." Nice subdivisions are target-rich environments. Most illegal guns are stolen from unlocked cars. In the last week we have had three guns stolen from unlocked vehicles. Some of the thieves are local, but sometimes they are from out of state traveling along 1-12 getting off at populated exits.

- Lock your car and do not leave valuables visible on the seat.
- Cameras, cameras, cameras. The cost of wireless cameras has decreased substantially. With more residents adding cameras, the likelihood of catching the perps is much better.
- Download Tip 411 Covington PD app. Your text messages, pictures or video will be sent DIRECLY to the shift operator. You can include contact information or remain anonymous.

**CARE AND VIGILANCE:** We must stay focused in these final days. Make sure your sons know that we will enforce rules and policies and teach until the very last day of the semester. And I pray that he makes good, safe choices as we move into the final weeks of the school year. Please speak to him about this.

COVID VACCINE: Our faculty / staff received their second dose of the vaccine on March 26. Everyone at least 16 years old can receive the vaccine. I encourage all to seriously consider following the example of yours truly, our faculty/staff, Pope Francis, Archbishop Aymond, Governor Edwards, Covington Mayor Johnson, President Biden, VP Harris, former President Trump and former VP Pence – and get vaccinated.

EIGHTH GRADE PROMOTION CEREMONY ON THURSDAY, MAY 13 AT 6:30: Each pre-freshman may invite up to FOUR guests – who must all sit in a pod of four chairs. Ceremony will last a little over an hour. Awards will be given at the same time. Unless changed by Governor Edwards by May 13, masks must be worn during the ceremony.



**May 4.** Saint John Baptist de La Salle wrote, "Young people need the light of watchful guides to lead them on the path of salvation." (Med 197.3) Saint Paul's is fortunate to have many knowledgeable, caring, watchful guides to light the way for its students. These campus heroes are dressed as educators and their superpowers are generosity, wisdom, patience, zeal, piety and vigilance. All proceeds from **GiveNOLA 2021 will benefit Saint** Paul's educators for their willingness to do the ordinary things extraordinarily well. Remember: our teachers willingly returned to school last Aug 6 in order to begin in-person instruction – which is what everyone asked. NO TEACHER refused to return due to COVID. Let's show our faculty that we

GIVING DAY: GIVENOLADAY IS

appreciate their efforts!

Early giving is now open. Giving Day is May 4, 2021

**Click Here to DONATE TODAY** 

**GROOMING:** Our students are looking a bit sloppy of late: haircuts are needed, shaving is not being done (hidden by masks!), shirt tails are untucked, non-SPS cold weather wear is being worn. We will become much more vigilant in enforcing our dress code through the end of the year. Parents – please support us in this and check your son's appearance before he leaves for school.

#### **HELPING SAINT PAUL'S:** Don't forget these painless ways to help:

- Office Depot, please give the SPS school code (70041640) & SPS receives 5% of purchase!
- Box Tops for Education these are redeemable for cash. ring them to his math teacher.
- And, of course, there's AmazonSmile!

HUNTER STADIUM: I hope everyone knows that SPS Hunter Stadium is named for the late Dr. Patrick Hunter, long time team physician who had six sons graduate from Saint Paul's. Last week, St. Tammany Parish Hospital published the following story, which appears in a new book entitled "A History of Healing: The St. Tammany Health System Story," which can be purchased in the hospital gift shop. Part of the book chronicles the lives of legendary physicians who helped build STPH into the incredible medical blessing to our community. One of the doctors featured is Dr. Hunter – and his ties to SPS. Here is the story:

Like the other men on St. Tammany Parish's wall of honor, surgeon Dr. Patrick Hunter was a giving man, although he often did his giving quietly. "Dr. Hunter used to give us five scholarships a year," former principal Brother Jeffrey Calligan told New Orleans' WGNO-TV in 2015. "He would choose kids from the public system who were poor, and the kids never knew, nor did the family. We would take them. It was wonderful."

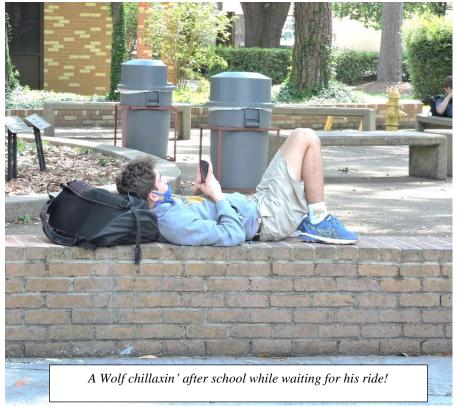
It was part of a long, close relationship with St. Paul's School, where Hunter served for 21 years as the team physician for the football team. Six of his eight children played on the team. He's also the reason the Wolves play at Hunter Stadium, which was named after



Portrait of Dr. Pat Hunter in St. Tammany Parish Hospital Wall of Fame

him. A graduate of the LSU School of Medicine, he completed his surgical residency at Charity Hospital in New Orleans before briefly going into private practice in Greenville, Mississippi. He moved to St. Tammany Parish around 1966. In late 1984, Hunter was named a member of St. Tammany Parish Hospital's Board of Commissioners, where he served until his death in July 1986 of an apparent heart attack.

Thank you, Doctor Hunter! And thanks to all the wonderful doctors since his time who have helped keep our student athletes well and safe!



#### LAST WEEK:

- **Baseball:** A tough week for the Wolves! We are grateful to the LHSAA for allowing us to participate in playoffs in spite of our rule violation which was entirely the school's oversight. The player involved, along with the rest of the team, did absolutely nothing wrong. The team then went out and won the first round of the playoffs, besting Holy Cross in a 2 out of 3 competition.
- Exchange Club Student of the Year breakfast was held on Wed a very uplifting event, as the Club honored 9 of West St. Tammany's best! Senior Davis Lagarde was our contribution! Well-deserved!
- **Fun Lunches:** 8<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> grades celebrated end of year with food and fun

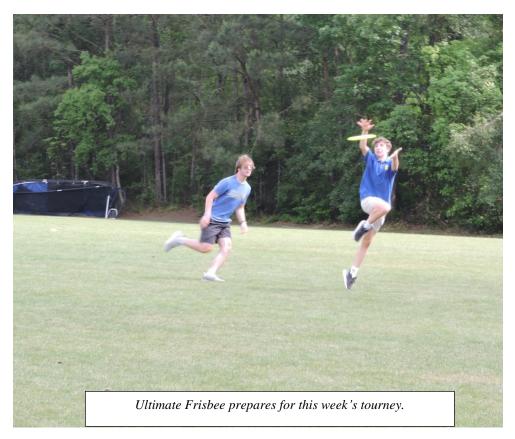
during last block. Thanks to all who made this possible.

- Golf: Regional Champions again! Geaux Golf Wolves! On to state this week!
- **Graduation Practices:** For the most part, the seniors participated well and are understanding of the limitations. We pray that all goes well on May 15<sup>th</sup>. It will be a great ceremony.
- Lacrosse: Wolves played Sat but I don't have scores. AD Ketelsen did inform me that one of our seniors suffered a serious bone break during the night game. We pray for his swift and complete recovery.
- Mothers' Club Bookstore Sale: Lots of shopping at the bookstore on Sat! Thanks, MC!
- **Rugby:** State championship to be played later today!
- **Stuff the Bus** was an incredible success! Thanks to all who donated, to Joe who drove, and to students who loaded and unloaded the bus at the Food Bank.
- **Tennis:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in State in Division I! Wow! Great showing, Tennis Wolves!
- Track: A good time was passed by all at year-end party. Thanks, Track Wolves, for an excellent season!
- Wolf Tracks: Thanks to Danielle Lavie for an excellent April edition!
- Wrestling: Lots of wrestling activity in some sort of tournament on Sat, using both our gyms.

MASK MANDATE: From an April 30 email from Superintendent of Catholic Schools Dr. RaeNell Houston: In making his proclamation [to lift the statewide mask mandate], Governor Edwards confirmed that the mask mandate remains in place for K-12 schools.... It is imperative that your schools adhere to these regulations. This applies to all faculty, staff and students and all parts of the school day. This includes: school masses, pic-up/drop-off, and other school events. We respectfully request that you continue to adhere to the regulations set forth by Governor Edwards, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Louisiana Department of Education, and the Louisiana Department of Health.

Yes, we are disappointed as we were hoping for some mask-relief. But we must adhere to the policies in order to remain open for in-person instruction. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

MAY: Welcome to May, a month named for the Greek Goddess Maia, who was identified with the Roman era goddess of fertility, Bona Dea, whose festival was held in May. Conversely, the Roman poet Ovid provides a second etymology, in which he says that the month of May is named for the maiores, Latin for "elders," and that the following month (June) is named for the *iuniores*, or "young people" (Fasti VI.88). May is the fifth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian Calendars and the third of seven months to have a length of 31 days. The month of May



observes the following: Foster Care Month, Lupus Awareness Month, National Barbecue Month, National Blood Pressure Month, National Hamburger Month, National Photograph Month, National Salad Month, Older Americans Month – something for everyone!

MAY AS MARY'S MONTH: Catholics traditionally devote May to Mary, the Mother of God. How did this come to be? In many ancient cultures, May 1 was a day for spring festivals to celebrate the beginning of new life. For instance, the Greeks dedicated May to Artemis, goddess of fertility. The Romans dedicated May to Flora, goddess of springtime and flowers. To counter these pagan celebrations, the Church eventually came to celebrate May as the month of May. And now you know!

**RIP:** We received word on Saturday that SPS alumnus Dr. Peter "Mark" Li – nationally known and respected neurosurgeon -- died on April 30 from complications of ALS. Mark was an outstanding scholar during his SPS career and always professed a fondness for his time here. We offer prayer and thoughts of condolence to his family. He was a member of the SPS Class of 1982.



SLOW YOUR ROLL -- Mayor Mark's initiative to improve driving habits in Covington. Mayor Mark's goal is "to change driving habits in our city...to have each of us understand that speeds over 25 MPH are not safe on most of our streets." The Mayor is asking everyone to "relax, take a deep breath and slow down. I applaud the Mayor's initiative and pledged to him our support. Reinforce this with your sons whenever possible. And set a good example yourself!

# Starting Roster Jacob Pyburn Aidan Lagasse Nash Rung Carter Laborde Ian Lyons Gabriel Simpson Shawn Williams Jackson Peak Gabe Osborne Caleb Voltz Ben Dufour 19 Aiden Phillibert Carter Impastato Konnor Blanchard Nicholas Piazza Niko Williamson Walker Lobdell James Breaux Connor O'Quin Blain Cascio Anthony Laporte Coaches: Ricky Zimmer, Jay Cripple, Nick Hnery, Albert Freyder, Richie Fields

Our State Finalist **Rugby** Wolves play for State Championship on May 2.

(Note: this was a proof of the program. We caught the spellings errors on Connor and Coach Nick and they were corrected before final printing – so don't email me with complaints!)

Geaux Rugby Wolves!

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA:**

- Parents: stress with your sons the consequences of inappropriate social media posting. Cyber-bulling is against the law and has legal implications. And the school will take strong measures.
- Students: THINK before you post!

#### SPORTSMANSHIP TALKS: We received complaints about our students at the Holy Cross game.

Trevor, Joe Dickens, Lee Pierre, and I spoke to all sophomore, junior, and senior classes concerning the increasing incidents of poor and inappropriate "sportsmanship" by students at our athletic events. We had even banned students from attending events for two weeks. Please reinforce this message with your sons. And parents – this sometimes applies to a few of you, too. We will not tolerate abusive behavior by anyone at events.



**STUDENT COUNCIL:** Last week's level elections, like the executive council elections the week before, had no Russian interference, hanging chads (I am dating myself), or voter fraud and we had GREAT candidates. All incumbents who lost vow smooth transitions. Here is the student body leadership for next year:

Student Council Executive Board for 2021-2022

President: Walker Dubreuil VP: Marco Vargas

Secretary: Ben Barousse Treasurer: Ethan Wilson

Parliamentarian: Isaiah Ayo

Senior Class President: Andrew Hightower Senior VP: Joseph Cresson

Junior Class President: Peter Verges Junior VP: Sam Gold

Sophomore Class President: Jacob Strecker Sophomore VP: Peyton Kilgore

Freshmen Class President: Eddie d'Hemecourt Freshmen VP: Carter Plaisance

**STUDY HALL AFTER SCHOOL:** Ben's Den (aka the library) opens every afternoon (Monday-Friday) until 4:00. You are encouraged to mention this service to your sons who are on campus after school with nothing to do or who may be waiting for a late ride or a practice to begin. All we ask is that they treat the facility with respect and that they are quiet. The space will be supervised by faculty.

**SUPERINTENDENT DR. RAENELL HOUSTON:** From Dr. Houston to all Catholic schools: *I respectfully* request that you use prudent judgement and follow all civil parish guidelines for... events that take place outside of the regular school day and outside of typical school operations. If compliance with local civil guidance cannot be guaranteed and/or an event is likely to lead to a high risk of transmission of the COVID-19 virus, the event should be rescheduled for a later date when it is safer to do so.

TEEN LIFE COUNTS – 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE EDITION: Because of the exploding suicide rate in St. Tammany Parish, St. Paul's takes this issue especially seriously. We strive to do everything possible to keep our students safe. Our sophomores have already participated in Teen Life Counts. We believe it is a beneficial experience for both them and their families. In view of recent events, however, the counseling department arranged for portions of the program to be delivered to our current eighth graders last month. 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents and students were notified via an email from Gina Hall. This is being proactive, and I commend the counselors for taking this step. Know that we take ANY hint of self-harm by a student very seriously, with protocols in place for handling the matter. For additional information about Teen Life Counts, visit <a href="http://www.jfsneworleans.org/programs-services/teen-life-counts/">http://www.jfsneworleans.org/programs-services/teen-life-counts/</a>

TUITION INVOICES for 2021 – 22 have been sent, if your son is returning and registered for next year.

Tuition is due by June 1 and pre-payment is always welcomed. SPS can't exist without tuition. Thank you for your understanding.

TUTORING: Tutoring offered by National Honor Society members is underway and occurs every day at lunch in the library for the remainder of the school year. All students are welcome to utilize this free tutoring service. Essay proofreading services also provided. Encourage your son to use this awesome

Rachel Peak "crowns" her AP Computer Science Jewels!

opportunity to get help from their most

capable peers. It is not embarrassing to do so!

VALS & SALS: We are pleased and proud to announce that Valedictorian Honors for the Class of 2021 will be shared by Luke Beckendorf, Ben Broussard, Adam Cazayoux, Evan Greene, Trey Paine, Aiden Plauche, and Max Salvant. Our sole Salutatorian is Thomas Bitterwolf. Congrats to them and the teachers who worked so diligently with them.

#### VAPING: ALERT! VAPING IS ON THE RISE AND WE CAN'T CONTROL IT WITHOUT

**PARENTAL HELP!** After having made headway against this insidious habit, we are discovering increased levels of usage by some students. The message is clear: there are too many unknowns in vaping for it to be considered safe – especially for the young (who, unfortunately, all too often ignore the warnings of science.) Please stress this with your sons. We have made our position very clear – it is prohibited and strong consequences are imposed if it is discovered. But we can't police outside of school – parents, PLEASE insist with your sons that the dangers of his trend are not worth the risk. Do not allow him to become addicted. We have made too much progress in this area to go backwards.

#### **WEEKLY HUMOR:** Humorous business signs:

- In the front yard of a funeral home, "Drive carefully, we'll wait."
- On an electrician's truck, "Let us remove your shorts."
- Outside a radiator repair shop, "Best place in town to take a leak."
- In a non-smoking area, "If we see you smoking, we will assume you are on, fire and take action."
- On a maternity room door, "Push, Push, Push."
- On a front door, "Everyone on the premises is a vegetarian except the dog."
- At an optometrist's office, "If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."
- On a taxidermist's window, "We really know our stuff."
- On a butcher's window, "Let me meat your needs."
- On a fence, "Salesmen welcome. Dog food is expensive."
- At a car dealership, "The best way to get back on your feet miss a car payment."
- Outside a muffler shop, "No appointment necessary. We'll hear you coming."
- In a dry cleaner's emporium, "Drop your pants here."
- In a veterinarian's waiting room, "Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"
- At the electric company, "We would be delighted if you send in your bill. But if you don't, you will be.
- In a restaurant window, "Don't stand there and be hungry, come in and get fed up."
- Inside a bowling alley, "Please be quiet. We need to hear a pin drop."
- In a cafeteria, "Shoes are required to eat in the cafeteria. Socks can eat any place they want."
- On a shoe repair shop, "I can save your soles."
- At a locksmith shop: Back in five minutes. If not, just re-read the sign.
- OK, I'll stop!

#### **YEARBOOKS:** Price went up to \$75 on April 1.

- Go to www.yearbookforever.com and Search for "Saint Paul's" exactly as displayed here.
- Select "Purchase a 2020-21 Product" in the list & select "Buy a yearbook" option on the right side.
- Follow the rest of the on-screen instructions and submit your results.
- \*Seniors do not purchase a yearbook. The yearbook is included in the senior fee.
- Please contact Mimi Monteiro at <u>m.monteiro@stpauls.com</u> if you have any questions.



**A LOOK AHEAD AND SECOND SEMESTER PERIOD ROTATION:** Here is the period rotation for rest of year. This is subject to change if unavoidable conflicts (weather, etc.) occur:

#### MAY

- 3 GABC
- 4 DEFG Pack Time
- 5 ABCD
- 6 EFGA
- 7 BCDE
- 10 FGAB
- 11 CDEF President's Assembly
- 12 GABC
- 13 DEFG Academic Awards & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony
- 14 ABCD Athletic Awards TBD
- 15 110<sup>th</sup> Commencement Exsercises of the Saint Paul's School
- 17 EFG
- 18 Exams 9-11th

- 19 Exams 9-11th
- 20 Exams 9-11th
- 21 Exams 9-11<sup>th</sup>

Whew! Enough for now. Even though it's the first of May of 2021 (can you believe it?), I will still close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I can't listen to anymore since it stopped broadcasting but I still remember it and LOL): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings! Know of my prayer for you and your family in these challenging times! Again, thanks for being part of the 2020-21 edition of SPS.

#### Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Fully COVID-Vaccinated and Ready for the Final Days of the School Year as the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President / CEO of Saint Paul's School



by doing the ordinary things extraordinarily well, doing God's will, remaining faithful, letting Our Lady of the Star guide us to God, beseeching our Holy Founding Brothers to help us continue the Lasallian Mission, living courageously, and respecting all people!

### Our Lady of Prompt Succor! Hasten to help us!



Pre-freshmen learn the Lasallian Way by bringing food for Stuff the Bus for the Foodbank!







Congratulations to the Division 1
State Champion Powerlifting Wolves!



# THE CLASS OF 2021

# National Merit Finalists





Davis Lagarde



Lucca Ferrante



Ben Broussard



Gabe Gros



**Hunter Kergosien** 



**Brady Talley** 



Trey Paine



**Axel Henderson** 

## THE CLASS OF 2021

# National Merit Commended Scholars



Vageli Liokis





Aiden Plauché



Scott Woodard



Cole Piazza







