



The President's Hebdomadal Newsletter
Celebrating 110 years of educational excellence in Covington
341 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
September 20 – 26, 2021

Welcome to the final full week of September and the 7th week of the 2021 - 22 school year!
We begin the week celebrating the extraordinary accomplishment of 12 of our seniors:



These twelve seniors were among only 234 high school seniors in Louisiana to be named semi-finalists – which is the main recognition in this program, as almost all earn finalist status. Congrats to **Thomas Cazenavette, William Ditta, Walker Dubreuil, Gage Graham, Andrew Hightower, Carter Murphy, Zachary Nichols, Michael Olsen, Preston Orgeron, Brody Reina, Kason Shaw, Daniel Whalen!** And congrats to their teachers who prepared them so well for the test, administered in the fall of their junior year – in the midst of a pandemic!

Quality Education – a Lasallian Core Principle in operation here at Saint Paul's School!
And stay tuned! A special announcement about SPS will be made this week by the United States Department of Education (Hint, Hint!)

Mon, Sep 20 (F G A B)

- **This Day in History:** In 1519, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan sets sail, leading first exploration to circumnavigate the world. Magellan dies before the journey is completed and ship returns a year later.
- **Punch Day:** Have a glass of punch today! The word *punch* means *five*, originating from the Hindustani word *panch*. It celebrates the traditional punch base recipe of 5 key ingredients, which most punches still use - alcohol (usually spirits), lemon (or other fruits), sugar, water, and tea (or other spices, e.g., cinnamon). For our students, though, use only four of the five ingredients – I think you can figure out the one I’m not recommending for students!
- **Eat an Apple Day:** No explanation needed! Enjoy & wash it down with punch.
- **Fun Lunch for 9th Grade** **Etiquette Training for 8th Grade**

Tue, Sep 21 (C D E F; Pack Time; Feast of St. Matthew – Happy Feast Day to the 40+ faculty & students with Matthew as first, middle or last name!)

- **TDIH:** In 1779, the Louisiana governor Bernardo de Galvez, aided by American troops and militia, captures the British post at Baton Rouge, located in what was then British-controlled West Florida.
- **International Peace Day.** Let’s all do our part by at least keeping peace locally!

International Lasallian Days for Peace

Rise Together for Peace

21 September to 21 October 2021

ICYL@lasalle.org



- **The 15th Annual International Lasallian Days for Peace (ILDP)** begin today and run until Oct 21. The theme this year is *Rise Together for Peace*. The month-long observance encourages study, reflection, prayer, and action. As former Superior General Brother Alvaro Rodriguez Echeverria said concerning ILDP: *Peace is possible if each of us gets involved. It is possible when we place persons above things. It is possible if we make God's plan for humankind our own plan.* **May this event bring peace, especially to those most in need!** Please join the Retired Brothers who daily pray the following, official Lasallian Prayer for Peace: *We pray to You, Lord, God of life*

and God of those who hope! Listen to our prayer for the whole world, for peace among all peoples, for prosperity in all lands. We pray to You that evil may be overcome and that all wars may end. We pray to you especially for the members of our Lasallian Family, who suffer from war, injustice and intolerance and for the children and young people who are poor and neglected. We pray too, God, for peace in our lives; in our towns, in our schools, in our families and in our own hearts. We pray for a peace that the world cannot give us. We pray for a peace that will make us whole and transform us into ambassadors of justice for your sake. Lord, give us Your peace!

- **World Gratitude Day:** We should be grateful EVERY day, but be extra grateful today!
- **Fun Lunch for 10th Grade**
- **Teacher Appreciation and Student Snack Day:** These events are re-scheduled from last week.
- **Football:** 8th v. Franklinton (6)
- **Etiquette Training Period**

Wed, Sep 22 (G A B C)

- **The Autumnal Equinox**, when the sun crosses the equator from North to South, occurs today 2:20 pm, CDT. Fall officially begins! In the Southern Hemisphere, spring officially begins. Play Antonio Vivaldi’s incredible “Autumn” from his *Four Seasons Suite*! In Japan, the Autumnal Equinox is a holiday to mark the new season and to pay respects to deceased parents and relatives. How meaningful! Marvel at God’s wonderful creation today, anticipate the cool coming months (remember them?), and remember deceased loved ones.



- **Hobbit Day** and the celebration of two of JRR Tolkien's most beloved characters – Bilbo Baggins and Frodo Baggins. The Hobbit and the Lord of the Rings series is well known and loved by many. Here is a fun fact to remember: The Fellowship of the Rings, first in the Lord of the Rings series opens with Bilbo Baggins announcing his *eleventy-first* birthday. Instead of saying "one hundred and one" they say "eleventy first" and that with every other three plus digit number.
- **TDIH:** Ice cream cones debuted today in 1903 & the band aid in 1920! Where would we be without these?
- **TDIH:** In 1776, Nathan Hale was executed without trial after caught spying on the British. His famous last words? "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country." Thank you, Nathan!
- **TDIH:** In 2015, Pope Francis began a six-day visit to the US. The Pope visited DC, New York and Philadelphia. He became the first Pope to address a joint session of Congress and he also addressed the General Assembly of the United Nations.
- **TDIH:** In 2005, after having re-opened from Katrina, we closed school to brace for Hurricane Rita. While spared Rita's brunt, many in our area suffered additional damage, while the southwest part of LA took a major hit. We continue to pray for those healing from Rita's wrath.
- **White Chocolate Day:** Go ahead and indulge!
- **Elephant Appreciation Day:** Celebrate the elephant today and learn something about these **E**ndearing, **L**oyal, **E**legant, **P**owerful, **H**eavy, **A**musing, **N**oble, and **T**alented creatures. (Get it?)

Thu, Sep 23 (D E F G)

- **Checkers Day:** This day, begun on anniversary of then Vice President Richard Nixon's "Checkers Speech" (look it up, history buffs!), has morphed into a celebration of the game of checkers. Enjoy a game or two!
- **Innergize Day:** Today is the day to set time aside for yourself to do anything you want to do. OK to observe, but don't let it interfere with any of your obligations, especially students to their classes!

Fri, Sep 24 (A B C – field day last block)

- **TDIH:** In 1957, President Dwight Eisenhower ordered the National Guard to enforce racial integration of schools in Little Rock, Arkansas.
- **National Punctuation Day:** Let's all punctuate our writing correctly! I plan on celebrating! Here's a great website to help:
<http://www.nationalpunctuationday.com>.
- **Eat Dinner with Your Children Day:** Started by The Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia U, this day informs parents that frequent family dinners is an effective tool to help keep America's kids substance abuse free. *Dinner Makes A Difference!*
- **Brother Alfred's Birthday.** Brother would have turned 99 years old today. We value having had his presence at SPS for so long, both as teacher and a member of our retired Brothers Community for so long. We give thanks for his life as a Christian Brother in the cause of Lasallian education, especially at SPS, where he has labored for so many years of his religious life. As we did for his brother, Brother Ralph, we will distribute popsicles to the boys in his memory.

Happy 99th BD, Bro. Alfred!
Celebrate in heaven!



Sat, Sep 25

- **TDIH:** In 1513, Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa first sighted the Pacific Ocean after crossing the Isthmus of Panama. Imagine his reaction!
- **TDIH:** In 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor becomes the first female U.S. Supreme Court justice in history when she is sworn in by Chief Justice Warren Burger.
- **Comic Book Day:** Read a comic book today! Or at least the comics in the newspaper! I read 'em daily!

Sun, Sep 26

- **TDIH:** In 1580, Englishman Francis Drake returns to England in the *Golden Hind*, becoming the first British navigator to sail around the earth. His voyage started on December 13, 1577.
- **TDIH:** In 1960, the first-ever televised presidential debate occurred between John Kennedy and Richard Nixon. Many who watched said Kennedy won, while those who listened to the radio thought Nixon did better. Nixon, who declined makeup, appeared haggard on TV in contrast to the youthful, tanned Kennedy.



Biomed I students pay close attention to directions for experiment.

- **Shamu the Whale Day:** Today is Shamu's birthday (who knew?) He was born in 1985!
- **Rabbit Day:** Celebrate the rabbit today! But no hunting!

Rise Up, O Men of God

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

ACADEMIC SUCCESS: Help your son develop proper attitudes and habits for success. Show confidence in his ability; work with him to set realistic academic goals. **Help him develop an orderly study environment.** Teens enjoy chaos, so the trick is to help your son create enough order in his chaos for proper study to occur. Designate a place and time to study. **Require 1-2 hours of study per night. Do not accept the "I have no homework" excuse.** He always has homework -- review, study, and advanced preparation. At the end of his study session, have him organize books, assignments, PE clothes, etc. for the next day. **Students who do not have their homework in class are sent to assignment hall.**

ACT ACADEMY: Preparation for success on the ACT is a marathon, not a sprint. DAILY practice is ideal, starting in 8th grade. MANY materials (often free!) are available. Here is a good one: the ACT Academy. ACT Academy has a wealth of free prep. It grows each year and has turned into the *Khan Academy* for ACT. Encourage your sons to prep for ACT regularly. Here is the link: <https://academy.act.org/>

ADMISSIONS FOR 2022 – 23: Under different circumstance, we, along with all Catholic high schools, would be beginning our admissions season in accordance with the Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation guidelines. Obviously, COVID and IDA have complicated things. Thus:

- **Shadow Days:** Due to COVID, we have had to scrapped our traditional SDs – as we did last year. And as we did last year, we will replace them with a series of small group tours for parents and sons. We are still working out the details as to when these will begin.
- **Open House:** **Our Open House is Sat, October 30, from 1 – 3 pm. Please encourage prospective families to come.**
- **PLEASE** spread the word, especially to public school families who don't realize we start the admission process early. I count on you to spread the good news about SPS and inviting your friends and neighbors to come take a look at Lasallian education on the Northshore.



Saint Paul's School
Grades 8 – 12

Open House
Saturday, October 30th

1:00-3:00 pm
Briggs Assembly Center
917 S. Jahncke Ave.

Register online for Open House
at www.stpauls.com

Call 985.892.3200 ext.1903 (Admissions) for more information.

*Successfully educating young men in the
Christian Brothers' Lasallian tradition for over 100 years*

Saint Paul's does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national
and ethnic origin in the administration of admissions policies.

AFTER SCHOOL: The Library will remain open to students until 4 pm. If your son is looking for a comfortable place to wait for his ride and get a jump on his homework, this is a good option for him.

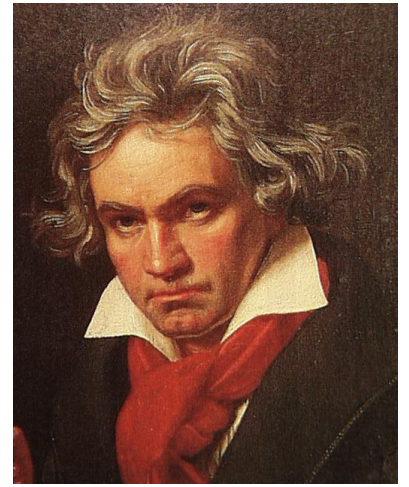
AFTER SCHOOL ISSUES: Assignment Hall (see below) and detention are in operation. Parents, stress with your sons the need to do homework and follow rules. If your son does end up in AH or detention, establish a procedure for him to follow so you are not wandering around looking for him.



ASSEMBLY ON SEP 14: I hope the students enjoyed my assembly on Tue. Here is some of what we did:

- Asked the boys how their “pearl” was coming along. Ask your son to explain the metaphor!
- Listened to the final movement of Ludwig van Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony, more commonly known as “Ode to Joy” – one of the most beloved pieces of music in the world. I explained that Beethoven (1770-1827) was a “post-Baroque” composer, ushering in the Romantic Period, with its equally powerful music. Romantic does not refer to mushy love music but powerful music inspired by nature. The Ninth Symphony and its “Ode” premiered in 1824, just three years before Beethoven’s death. It was one of the first instances of combining symphonic music with vocal accompaniment. Amazing fact: Beethoven was completely deaf when he composed this piece; he did it all in his head. The story has it that while he conducted the premier, he kept conducting even when the piece was finished – it kept playing in his head! The audience went wild with approval! I encouraged the students to learn from Beethoven and not let their challenges defeat them or prevent them from achievement.

And why did I choose Ode to Joy for the assembly? Because we were celebrating the 110th birthday of Saint Paul's School – and that's a cause for joy! And while I had several birthday activities planned, the weather and storm forced us to postpone (not cancel!) these events. Stay tuned! In any event, we have come a long way in 110 years!



- Prayed in a special way for victims of Hurricanes and for the family of freshman Patrick Darrah, who lost his grandfather since our last assembly.
- I taught the boys the etymology of the word “exaltation” – ex, meaning upward or out and altus, meaning high. Thus, the word means raising up in praise. Why? Because Sep 14 was the feast of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. I reminded the boys that for us Christians, the cross is central and that we should embrace those moments when we have crosses in our lives – as that is the way to salvation. Jesus said, “Take up your cross and follow me.”
- Welcomed everyone to the sixth week of the school year, although just the fourth week of class, since we lost two weeks due to Ida.
- Introduced the boys to the German composer Gustave Holst and his famous work “The Planets” in which he musically interprets the planets of our solar system. I played a selection from “Mars – Bringer of War” since that is the piece I thought of as Hurricane Ida began bearing down on our area. While the music played, I projected pics of SPS the day after the storm. It was sobering. I ended with congratulating the boys who worked so hard in helping others:
 - I projected an email I received praising Riley and Rhodes Hidalgo and their work around their neighborhood.
 - I projected pics of the Varsity Football Team helping with distribution of food, water, ice, and materials to those in need.
 - I projected pics of the large number of students and parents who helped with campus clean up on Saturday, Sep 11.
- Congratulated Counselor Amanda Duplantier on the birth of her daughter, Aimee. I also congratulated drama teacher Gordon Carmadelle on the birth of his daughter, Kira. Student Council President Walker Dubreuil presented each of these with a small token of welcome to the SPS Community!
- Apologized to sophomore Joey Mire. We inadvertently omitted awarded a Superior Academic medal to Joey at last May's awards ceremonies. The SA medal is given to the highest averages on each level. I had promised Joey we would make the presentation at an assembly, so counselor Christine Woodward draped the medal on Joey while we clapped.
- Congratulated the Senior Class on their outstanding Senior Week: the BBQ, March through the Arch, Unity Day, Ring Ceremony and holiday. You are off to a great start, Class of 2022!
- Reminded all of our State Champion Golf Wolves. Why? Because during the summer. The National High School Golf Association recognized the 2021 Wolves as the **SECOND-BEST TEAM IN THE NATION!**

Wow! And 2021 graduate Griffin Dorr and 2022 senior Kason Shaw were recognized and #4 and #34 in the NATION. In addition, the team was honored at the summer session of the Louisiana State Legislature with a special commendation, sponsored by State Senator (and SPS Alum!) Patrick McMath. Geaux Wolves!

- Recognized junior Seth Gardner for winning the summer Tchefuncta Golf Tournament.
- Recognized and congratulated senior Brody Reina for signing a football scholarship with Davidson College, one of the most prestigious smaller colleges in the nation.
- Recognized and congratulated senior Riley Hnatyshyn for signing a golf scholarship with Louisiana Tech.
- Encouraged all students to Get Involved!
- We then had our annual remembrance of September 11, 2001 attack on the Twin Towers in New York, which changed our lives forever. While I played a recording of a song written/recorded by our own Mr. Gene Lipps, I projected images of that fateful day. It was a sobering time, one what we pray will never happen again.
- To end on a more hopeful note, I projected a slide from last year's luminarias celebration, in which the word HOPE was spelled out in luminarias in our stadium.
- We then ended with a technical malfunction! I had intended to play a 2011 recording of the student body of that year singing Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You (which is set to the melody of Beethoven's Ode of Joy) and have everyone sing along. But my boombox failed me. So, we will sing it next assembly!
- I projected a slide of an extinguished candle and reminded students that the candle may be extinguished but that what it represents can never be – the love of God, the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. I exhorted them to go forth and live those three things in their daily lives.



It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!



ASSIGNMENT HALL: AH is in full swing. Students will be sent to AH if they report to class without their 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: 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 follow all SPS attendance regulations in the Student-Parent Handbook and make Mrs. Suzy's job as easy as possible. Thank you for your cooperation. The State of Louisiana limits the number of days a student may miss and still receive credit. Saint Paul's adheres to these regulations. **Please do not allow your sons to miss school for less than very serious reasons.**

AMAZON SMILE: As you replace storm-damaged items via Amazon Smile, remember that AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. Select SPS!



BAND HALL HISTORY: The work nears completion! Some 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.

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 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 early fall of 2021. Interested in supporting the renovation, whose overall cost will approach \$2.3 million? **PLEASE CONSIDER A GIFT TO THE NEW BAND HALL IF YOU HAVE NOT YET DONE SO. NO GIFT IS TOO SMALL!** No gift is too small! (Not shouting; just emphasizing!)

BOOK STORE: The Mothers' Club Bookstore will be open:

- Mon, Aug 2 9:00am to 3:00pm
- Tue, Aug 3 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
- Wed, Aug 4 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- Thu, Aug 5 Bookstore Regular Hours (7:30 am to 8:15 am & 11:00 am to 12:30 pm)
- **PLEASE patronize the MC's Bookstore when possible.** Proceeds not only help fund wonderful activities throughout the year, but the proceeds also help with campus needs.

CALENDAR: As Trevor wrote last week, we are adjusting our calendar to eliminate the Fall Break Day on Oct 2, the Archdiocesan Formation Day on Nov 8, and the start of Christmas holidays on Dec 17. These are now school days, which Christmas holidays beginning after exams on Dec. 17th.

CALENDAR FOR 2021 - 22: The calendar assumes full operation. Any disruption to the school operation due to COVID 19 or other natural disasters may result in alteration of the calendar.

- Mon - Tues, Aug 2 & 3 Teacher Meetings
- Wed, Aug 4 Teacher Prep Day
- Thurs, Aug 5 School Opens **with a full day of instruction**
- Mon, Aug 16
- Thu, Aug 19 Senior March through the Arch, Breakfast, & Evening Ring Ceremony
- Fri, Aug 20 Senior Ring Holiday
- Mon, Aug 23 Parent – Teacher Mini Schedule Night (6:30)
- Mon, Sep 06 Labor Day Holiday
- Fri, Oct 8 End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
- Fri., Oct 8 Grandparent Day (11:30 – 1:00)
- Mon, Oct 18 Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7
- Sat, Oct 30 Prospective Student Open House (1 – 3 pm)
- Mon-Fri, Nov 22 - 26 Thanksgiving Holidays
- Mon, Nov 29 Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holiday
- Mon - Fri, Dec 13-17 Semester Exams
- Fri, Dec 17 Christmas Holidays begin at 11:45 following exams
- Mon, Jan 03 Classes resume & Second Semester begins
- Mon, Jan 17 Martin Luther King Holiday
- Mon, Feb 07 Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7 pm
- Fri, Feb 25 Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
- Mon-Fri, Feb 28 -Mar. 04 Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays
- Mon, Mar 7 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
- Thu, May 12 Pre-freshman Promotion Ceremony (6:30 pm)

- Sat, May 14 Senior Graduation (4 pm)
- Tues – Fri, May 17 - 20 Final Exams for Grades 8 - 11
- Mon, May 23 Conflict/Makeup Exam Day
- Tues, May 24 Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day

In case of emergency closings, student make-up days will be taken from scheduled holidays – as we did with Ida. Please do not schedule vacations during school time.

Thank you for recognizing the need to make the most use of our academic time.



Mr. Smith's science class does an outdoor experiment. Don't ask me to explain it!

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.
- **School Cell Phone Policy:** 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.

COVID: With Ida occupying our every waking moment for the past two weeks, we must not forget that COVID is still very much in our midst. Thus, all of our COVID mitigation efforts remain in place, especially the mask mandate, which was extended by Governor John Bel Edwards until September 29. Please make sure your son comes to school with this mask, prepared to wear it inside any building.

COVID PROTECTION LAYER: We have added an additional layer of protection by installing Caspr in-duct air filtration units for each HVAC System in the school – over 100 units. These units “scrub” the air and eliminate 99.96% of any virus, unhealthy air, germs, bacteria, mold, and mildew along with odors. It treats all the offices, ductwork, bathrooms, fixtures, hallways, door handles, handrails, seating, desks, offices, workstations & showroom areas, too. In short, it will “clean” all currently HVAC conditioned space. Such equipment does not come cheap. Fortunately, we, along with all other private schools, qualified for federal funds from the CARES and EANS Acts, which helped immensely.

DRESS CODE: Students must be in compliance with the dress code – and this includes wearing masks. **We are not granting exceptions to the mask requirement so please don’t ask.** Refer to previous newsletters or the student handbook on our website for particulars if you are still unsure about dress code. **Note: We have a number of clean, pre-owned SPS uniform shirts and khaki shorts in good condition. Feel free to ask for some of these clothes. Nothing is done to embarrass a student and no one will know. Thanks to those families who supply us with their outgrown uniforms. Just call Andrea in the Admin Bldg.**

DRESS DOWN DAYS: Here is a summary of the themes for the week. The theme applies to shirts/jerseys only! Uniform pants/shorts, shoes, socks remain in place:

- Mon: USA Day and 9th grade activity day
- Tues: Tropical Day and 10th grade activity day
- Wed: Twin Day and 11th grade activity day
- Th: Jersey Day and 12th grade activity day
- Fri: Blue and Gold and Faculty/Senior Volleyball; pep rally with SSA in stadium

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 administration building. This is a legislative act; don’t blame me!

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS: As with Ida, I remind all of our emergency or weather-related closing policy – which is to follow both the civil parish and / or the directives of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Thus, if needed

(and we hope it's not), Saint Paul's School will follow the same decision of closure as the public school system of St. Tammany Parish. School messaging will also be activated with updated information and situations unique to SPS. **For multi-day closings, Saint Paul's reserves the right to re-open when our situation warrants, even if the public school remain closed, as was the case in Hurricane Katrina. In the meantime, we pray.**

ENROLLMENT: We opened this year with a very healthy enrollment – in spite of COVID-19 and after having graduated a very large class. I am humbled and proud that so many parents are willing to entrust their sons to us and make the sacrifices necessary to do so. **Please stress with your son that he is being given a gift – a gift that others want. He must use this gift wisely and make good choices.**

ETIQUETTE TRAINING: From the Development Office for pre-freshmen: *Saint Paul's Development Office has paired with a local area restaurant to provide a short course on proper dining behavior. We will divide the pre-freshmen students into five groups. A restaurant staff member will instruct our students in place settings, table etiquette, ordering, dealing with waiters, tipping, and making reservations. During the class, the boys will enjoy a meal and put into practice what they have learned. Saint Paul's Development Office will cover the cost of the meal.*

The students will gather in the Briggs Assembly Center on the dates listed below. When your son has H&PE after lunch, he will attend Etiquette with his class.

- [Friday, Sept. 17: H&PE Period D](#)
- [Monday, Sept. 20: H&PE Period A](#)
- [Tuesday, Sept. 21: H&PE Period E](#)
- [Thursday, Sept. 22: H&PE Period B](#)
- [Tuesday, Sept. 28: H&PE Periods C](#)

The boys should wear their formal uniform on the day of their Etiquette Training so please check your son's class schedule and mark your calendar. Note: All Covid safety procedures will be followed. Contact me if your son will be virtual on the day of his session; we will make accommodations.

In addition, the Development Office is asking for volunteers to assist in serving the boys lunch. Please contact me if you can assist on one or more of these days.

Lastly, the menu for lunch will be soup of the day, Caesar salad, baked chicken breast Alfredo with pasta, and dessert. If your son has any food allergies, please contact me at d.lavie@stpauls.com or 985-892-3200 ext 1970.

GET INVOLVED DAY: We held our annual Get Involved Day on Aug 23, when our numerous clubs, sports, and activities recruited new members. Our plethora of activities hold something for all. Encourage your son to explore new horizons and take a chance on a new activity.

HELPING SPS: Don't forget:

- 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)
- We also receive a portion of sales from Amazon Prime.
- These are painless ways to help SPS.



HOMECOMING: From the SPS Student Council:

- *Congratulations to the 2021 St. Paul's Homecoming Court: Junior Maids Caroline del Rio, Annabella Jones, Abbey Nastasi, Allie Robison, and Bailey VanAs; Seniors maids Chloe Chehardy, Presley Lang, and Austill May. Queen Brooke Brandau will be crowned during a half-time presentation at the Game on Friday, Sep 24.*
- *Student Council is pleased to announce that the 2021 Homecoming Dances will be held for Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors on Saturday, October 2 from 8:00 until 10:00 PM and for Pre-freshmen and Freshmen on Saturday, October 9 from 7:00 until 9:00 PM. Online tickets will go on sale this week for \$30 a couple--stay tuned for the link to purchase. Please see attached link for dress code and dance details.*
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_RnshjKMWpzc8u6NZSubKgi0SsHbEppZ8rcGVzMhiM0/edit?usp=sharing
- *Student Council will sponsor Homecoming Dress Down days this week. **Students must wear uniform shoes, socks, and shorts with dress down shirts.***
 - *Mon: USA*
 - *Tues: Tropical*
 - *Wed: Twins Day*
 - *Th: jersey day*
 - *Fri: blue and gold*
- *Classes will celebrate Activity Periods each day celebrating brotherhood with outdoor games. The Pre-Freshmen already enjoyed theirs on Friday. Students may wear PE shorts on their assigned activity day. Thank you to the Mothers' Club for providing water and popsicles for us to beat the heat!*
 - *Monday: Freshmen*
 - *Tuesday: Sophomores*
 - *Wednesday: Juniors*
 - *Thursday: Seniors*
 - *Friday: Senior/Faculty Volleyball/students only pep rally with SSA*

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 or lose the one we gave students on picture day.

LAST WEEK:

- Thanks to everyone for returning on Monday to almost full attendance. It was great to be back!
- Thanks to those of you who are accommodating students who experienced significant loss due to the storm.
- Thanks to Don and his crew for continuing to make repairs and keep the campus looking as presentable as possible. The heavy rains last week revealed some additional roof damage, which we attribute to Ida.
- Thanks to Luke and the Religion Department for the special post-storm Prayers and Eucharistic Adoration.
- Thanks to Counselors, especially Christine Woodward, to feasting the TWELVE national merit semi-finalists on the day that the information could be publicly announced.
- Thanks to Joanna, Shannon, & Student Council for their hard work in preparing for homecoming activities.
- Thanks to Development Team for hosting the first Etiquette Training session for our pre-freshman.
- Thanks to LA State Police and Lakeview Hospital for continuing Sudden Impact program for sophs.
- Thanks to SSA for the delicious cake on SPS's birthday last Tuesday. We will have our own celebration in a few weeks, once things have settled down.
- Congrats to Football Wolves: 14-0 9th grade win over De La Salle and 17-13 varsity win over Catholic/New Iberia. And 8th Grade Wolves beat Brother Martin on Saturday, 22-8. Wow. Geaux Wolves!
- Cross Country Wolves competed hard in their first meet of the season on a muddy course in Hammond.

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: From Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Dr. RaeNell Houston: *As part of the emergency order issued by Governor John Bel Edwards, all schools including Catholic schools must implement mandates issued by local and state governmental authorities as they address the COVID-19 pandemic. In an effort to protect the health and well-being of all members of our school communities and to preserve our ability to provide in-person learning for our children, we will implement various mitigation efforts, including masking. If we do not, we risk not only the health and safety of our school communities but also our operations as we could be forced to shut down by governing bodies for failing to comply. We would also lose all protections from liability should someone choose to file any lawsuit against a school after contracting COVID-19 on a school campus.*

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES ON OCT 18, 5 – 7 PM. MORE INFO TO COME.

MISSION COLLECTION: We begin our weekly mission collections this Wednesday. While our mission collections typically benefit Saint Paul's School in Marsabit, Kenya, the first two mission collections of this academic year support Hurricane Ida relief. Donations will benefit those impacted in the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. If you are able to support this relief effort, donations are welcome in cash, check, or electronically. Cash and check (written to Saint Paul's School) donations will be collected in first period classes on the Wednesdays of September 22nd and 29th. Electronic donations to Ida Relief are open through Wednesday, September 29th. If you choose to donate electronically, you may do so using the online giving link on our website (<https://www.stpauls.com/support/donate-now/>). Click the crest under "Other", and specify your donation as "Mission Collection- Ida." Thanks for your generosity!

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 Sutherland or me. Athletics? Contact the coaches or Mr. Sam Francis, Athletic Director. Naturally, call me if I can help. **My office phone is 985/892-3200, x 1901 & my cell phone is 985/966-1138, my email is broray@stpauls.com or hit “reply” to this email!**

PHYSICALS: No student may participate in our athletic program or our band program without the necessary paperwork having been completed, including an LHSAA official physical form.



We treated National Merit Semi-finalists to a celebratory breakfast. What would a celebration at SPS be without food?

PLUS-PORTALS: Please activate your account (if you have not yet done so) and check PP 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.

SCHOOL SAFETY: School safety remains paramount for all. Promote safety with your son. In our meetings, faculty reviewed all safety procedures that we have – and they are many. Safety is EVERYONE’S JOB. Report ANY rumor or safety threat. Encourage your sons to report, too. **All visitors to campus must sign in and receive a Visitor’s Pass – and wear a mask. You may not just wander the campus. 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.

SILENT SUSTAINED READING: SSR occurs during the first 15 minutes of Block 2. During this time, everyone in the school (students, teachers, administrators, and staff) reads 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 every day for SSR.** 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.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Connect with SPS on social media to see the latest pics and posts of all the great 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, speak with your sons about social media use. We have already dealt with issues. Inappropriate postings can have legal ramifications. In addition, SPS reserves the right to impose consequences on our students who misuse social media.

STUDENT EMAIL ADDRESSES: We issued each student a unique Saint Paul's email address through which we will communicate with him. If a student asks about how to get to his new email, there's a link on Edline in the bottom right, it says **St. Paul's Gmail access.**

TIC TOC SCHOOL VANDALISM: This is tragic and embarrassing: **TIC TOC (don't ask me to explain it; ask your son) is encouraging school bathroom vandalism – and it is spreading throughout the nation. Just google it.** Unfortunately, and this is the embarrassing part, it hit SPS last week, with soap dispensers being ripped off of walls – in our newly constructed buildings, no less! **PLEASE speak with your son about this and have him report any vandalism about which he knows. SERIOUS disciplinary measures will be imposed when we find the perpetrators – and we will. They will be looking for other schools.**



*Pre-freshmen build brotherhood and community on Sep 17 – and have fun while doing so.
Thanks, Student Council, for arranging these days!*

TRAFFIC FLOW ON CAMPUS: If you drop off or pick up your son, you will meet road congestion around our campus. We ask your help in improving the traffic flow and safety:

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

TUTORING: Our National Honor Society has begun FREE tutoring during lunch periods, Monday through Thursday in the library. Subjects offered are Science, Math, and English. Encourage your son to take advantage of this free service and to stay on top of his academic progress.

UNIFORMS: Reminders:

- Uniform shirts, ties, and socks are sold by Bayou Uniform (13488 Seymour Myers Blvd) in Covington. Only white SPS socks are allowed.
- Sweatshirts, fleeces, PE uniforms, etc. are sold by the Mothers Club bookstore.
- Khaki pants/shorts may come from any vendor as long as they are NOT cargo pants and are standard tan khaki color, not green or brown.
- There is no uniform shoe but no sandals, etc. are allowed. The more conservative the better.
- We now have a “dress uniform” which will be worn on special occasions: LONG khaki pants, dress white shirt (any brand is OK even if it has a small logo), dress socks, belt, SCHOOL TIE, and any shoe that is not a tennis/athletic shoe.
- ID cards must be worn DAILY. This is a safety measure.
- **MASKS must be worn daily. This, too, is a safety measure,**

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.

WOLF PACKS: We began WPs before Ida -- a time to practice a quality of Lasallian education: building relationships. Each student is assignment to a multi-level Wolf Pack, led by a staff member. Most students stay with that staff member throughout their SPS career. We address various issues during the twenty-minute meeting.

YOM KIPPUR: I apologize to our Jewish brothers and sisters for failing to mention in last week’s newsletter that **Yom Kippur** began at sundown on **Sep 15 and ended at nightfall on Sep 16**. This is the most important holiday of the Jewish year, which means "Day of Atonement". It is a day to atone for the sins of the past year. This day is a last appeal, a last chance to change the judgment, to expiate for sin. Yom Kippur atones for sins between man and God, not for sins against another person. For the latter, one must first reconcile with that person, righting the wrongs if possible. Yom Kippur is a complete Sabbath; no work can be performed, and you are supposed to refrain from eating and drinking (even water) on Yom Kippur. **We pray that our Jewish brothers and sisters had a holy and blessed Yom Kippur! May they be written in the Book of Life!**

WEEKLY HUMOR: Some rabbit jokes in honor of Rabbit Day on Sep 26:

- *Why don't rabbits get hot in the summer? They have hare conditioning.*
- *What do rabbits say before they eat? "Lettuce pray."*
- *What do you get if you cross a rabbit with an insect? Bugs Bunny.*
- *What did the carrot say to the rabbit? "Do you want to grab a bite?"*
- *What airline do rabbits use? British Hare-ways.*
- *How do you catch a unique rabbit? Unique up on it.*
- *What do you get when you cross a rabbit with a leaf blower? A hare dryer.*

- *Why did the rabbit like the adventure? It was a hare-raising tail.*
- *What do you call a group of rabbits hopping backward? A receding hare line.*
- *What is white and has long ears, whiskers, and 16 wheels? Two rabbits on rollerblades.*
- *What's a rabbit's favorite game? Hopscotch.*
- *What do you call a rabbit who is angry over getting burnt? A hot cross bunny.*
- *What do you call a rabbit working in a hotel? A bell-hop.*
- *Tonight, we're having Himalayan rabbit stew for dinner. We found himalayan in the road.*
- *Elton John got a treadmill for his pet rabbit. It's a little fit bunny. [Gotta' be an Elton John fan to get this!]*
- *What did the rabbit give his girlfriend? A 14-carrot ring.*
- *What's the name of the rabbit who stole from the rich and gave to the poor? Rabbit Hood.*
- *Where do rabbits work? At IHOP restaurants.*
- *How do you know a rabbit is in a good mood? He's hoppy.*
- *OK, I'll stop – hope you are a bit hoppier now!*

A LOOK AHEAD: Here are the period rotations for the first semester (assuming no more interruptions) to help you plan. If your son needs a driver's license or doctor appointment, try to schedule it during a "no school" day. I am always disappointed when we return from a week holiday and a student misses the first day of class to go get his license. **PLEASE respect the academic time we have with your son.**

First Semester Period Rotation – REVISED, POST-IDA

September

20 – FGAB – Fun Lunch for 9th Graders during B
 21 – CDEF – Fun Lunch for 10th During F
 22 – GABC – Fun Lunch for 11th during C
 23 – DEFG – Fun Lunch for 12th during G
 24 – ABC – Special Schedule
 27 - DEFG
 28 - ABCD – President's Assembly
 29 – EFGA
 30 – BCDE

October

1 – **FGAB; Fall Break Cancelled Due to Ida**
 4 – CDEF – Wolf Pack Time
 5 – GABC – Senior in ACT
 6 – DEFG
 7 – ABCD - Mass
 8 - EF- End of Quarter 1 11:00 dismissal; GP Day postponed
 11 – GABC – Start of 2nd quarter
 12 – DEFG- President's Assembly
 13 – ABCD- PSAT test
 14 - EFGA
 15 – BCDE
 18 – FGAB - Late Start; parent-teacher conferences 5 – 7 pm in the BAC



19 – CDEF- Pack Time
20 – GABC
21 – DEFG
22 - ABCD
25 – EFGA
26 – BCDE- President’s Assembly
27 - FGAB
28 – CDEF
29 - GABC- Seniors at Archbishop’s Day

November

1 – DEFG- Mass
2 – ABCD - Pack Time
3 - EFGA
4 – BCDE- 8th Grade HR Breakfast / Level Meetings
5 – FGAB - 9th Grade HR Breakfast / Level Meetings
8 – CDEF Archdiocese Formation Day CANCELLED; Full day of class
9 – GABC - President’s Assembly
10 – DEFG - 10th HR Breakfast / Level Meetings
11 – ABCD - 11th HR Breakfast / Level Meetings
12 – EFGA - 12th HR Breakfast / Level Meetings
15 - BCDE
16 – FGAB - Pack Time
17 – CDEF – Fall food drive begins
18 – GABC
19 – DEFG
29 - ABCD
30 – EFGA - Pack Time – Luminarias

December

1 – BCDE
2 – FGAB
3 - CDEF
6 – GABC - Late Start
7 – EEFG- President’s Assembly
8 – ABCD – Mass – Immaculate Conception
9 – EFGA
10 – BCDE
13 – FGAB
14-17 – First Semester Exams. Christmas holidays begin after exams on the 17th – approximately 11:45ish.

Whew! That’s enough for now! I’m sure I’ve forgotten something so email me if you still have a question. 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 recover and help those in need!

Thanks for being part of Saint Paul's! May our year be one of grace and blessing – in spite of Ida and COVID! Know of my prayer for you and call on me if I can help!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Giving Thanks for Having Survived Ida as the 17th Christian Brother President /CEO of Saint Paul's School

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

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

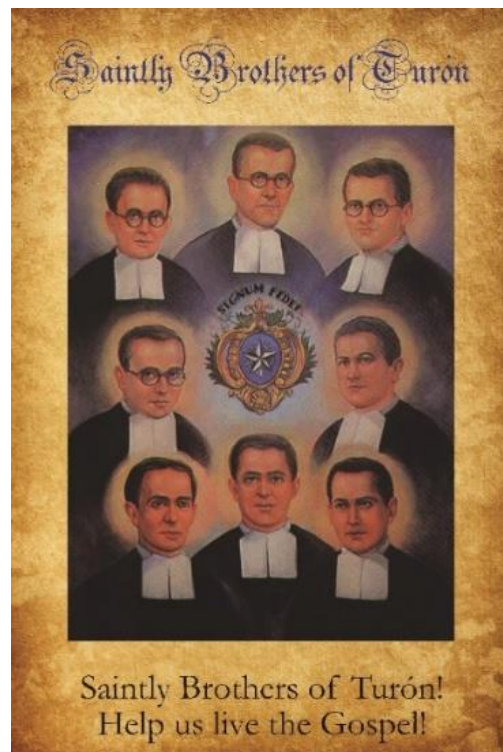
Let's end with Prayer for Protection During Hurricane Season:

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.

Have a great Lasallian post-Ida week!



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





WE ARE PROACTIVE!



We use DIS.IN.FX™ to help PREVENT the spread of Corona and Flu viruses



www.disinfx.com



Treat *Test* *Certify*

