



*The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon (AGAIN!)** Newsletter*
Celebrating 110 years of educational excellence in Covington
341 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
September 27 – October 03, 2021



Welcome to the 8th week of the 2021 - 22 school year!
And welcome to our National Blue Ribbon School – again!
 We are beyond elated!

**Saint Paul's
 School**



**National
 Blue Ribbon
 School Awardee
 2015 and 2021**



And special congratulations, too, to our Blue Ribbon Sister School – St. Scholastica Academy!
 We are putting Covington on the map!

Here are my remarks to the students on Tuesday, October 20, about an hour after we were named 2021 Blue Ribbon School of Exemplary Performance by the US Department of Education:

Today is a special day for the entire Saint Paul's School Community. But before I tell you why, think about the privilege (yes, privilege) it is to be in school, especially a school like Saint Paul's. Children of Afghanistan, students in Africa, students in Lafource, Terrebone and other southeast LA parishes all wish they could be in a school like SPS right now. And you are here in comfort, safety, and a caring environment.

I tell you all the time, that SPS is one of the best schools in the state, if not the nation. And we regularly offer you proof of that statement through our ACT scores, our national merit students, our college acceptances, our scholarship offers, and our 2015 US Dept of Education Blue Ribbon School award.

And today I offer you even more proof that SPS is one of the best. About an hour ago, U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona recognized 325 schools in the United States as National Blue Ribbon Schools of Exemplary Performance. The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance. And Saint Paul's School was again in that number. In fact, Saint Paul's School is one of only four high schools in Louisiana and one of 23 private schools in the nation to receive the distinction this year.

You can only apply for the Blue Ribbon award every five years, so 2021 was the first year we were eligible to apply since we last won it in 2015. When we won the award in 2015, we were told it was extremely difficult to repeat. But we did it. And that's because of the incredible effort of each of you – Mr. Watkins, Mr. Dickens, Mr. Pierre, your teachers, counselors, staff, parents, and your hard work.

The coveted National Blue Ribbon Schools award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content.

So today is a day for celebration. Celebrate your being part of a nationally recognized Blue Ribbon School. Celebrate at lunch today with popsicles, courtesy of the retired Brothers Community. Celebrate this afternoon with snack day by our wonderful Mothers' Club by being respectful to the moms who are serving and by not littering. Celebrate by being men of peace – as we prayed for in our Wolf Packs today. Celebrate in our athletic practices and extracurriculars. Celebrate with the 8th grade football wolves, who play Franklinton tonight after beating Bro. Martin last Saturday. Celebrate homecoming. Celebrate with your families when you get home.

Before I close, I want to congratulate our sister school – Saint Scholastica, who was also named a Blue Ribbon school today. SSA and SPS are the only two private schools in Louisiana to receive this honor this year.

I will end with a quotation from US Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona”

“This year's cohort of honorees demonstrates what is possible when committed educators and school leaders create vibrant, welcoming, and affirming school cultures where rich teaching and learning can flourish. I commend this school and all our Blue Ribbon honorees for working to keep students healthy and safe while meeting their academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. In the face of unprecedented circumstances, you found creative ways to engage, care for, protect, and teach our children. Blue Ribbon Schools have so much to offer and can serve as a model for other schools and communities so that we can truly build back better.”

Now let's continue to act as befits a nationally recognized Blue Ribbon School. Congratulations, Saint Paul's!

Mon, Sep 27 (D E F G)

- **Feast of Blessed Brother Scubilion:** Jean Bernard Rousseau joined the Christian Brothers in 1822. After ten years in elementary schools, Scubilion left France to dedicate the remaining 34 years of his life to the enslaved natives on the island of Reunion in the Indian Ocean. Remembered as the "catechist of slaves," he started well attended evening classes, even after a long day of hard labor. He devised programs and techniques in order to teach essentials of Christian doctrine and prepare them to receive sacraments. He won them over by his kind manner and respect. 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. In the last years, despite failing health, he assisted pastors in visiting the sick, winning over sinners, encouraging vocations, and effecting what seemed to be miraculous cures. At his death he was venerated on the island as a saint. As the Brothers put it – "Brother Scubilion – one in a million!"
- **TDIH:** In 1540, The Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) is chartered by Pope Paul III. The Jesuit movement was founded by Ignatius de Loyola, a Spanish soldier turned priest.
- **TDIH:** In 1964, after a ten-month investigation, the Warren Commission Report was issued stating a long gunman had been responsible for the assassination of President John F. Kenney in Dallas on November 22, 1963. Conspiracy theorists continue to dismiss the Report.
- **Ancestor Appreciation Day:** We all have ancestors. With genealogy popular today, take some time to discuss your family's ancestors. Our students should have a deep appreciation for those who made their existence today possible. And ALL of us have "characters" in our family background. Enjoy the stories!



Tue, Sep 28 (A B C D)

- **TDIH:** In 1066, William the Conqueror invades England, defeating Harold the Great in Battle of Hastings – changing course of British (and thus US) history.
- **TDIH:** In 1542, California was discovered by Portuguese explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo upon his arrival at San Diego Bay.
- **Good Neighbor Day:** Let's be good neighbors today and every day.
- **Ask a Stupid Question Day:** Today is your opportunity to ask all those questions you have been afraid to ask. The roots of this day go back to the 1980s; teachers started a movement to get kids to ask more classroom questions. Feel free to ask me any question you want; I promise not to laugh or make fun.
- **Sudden Impact for Eubanks and Etiquette Training for 8th**

Wed, Sep 29 (Feast of Ss. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, archangels; E F G A)

- Today we celebrate the feasts of Ss. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels -- the only named archangels in the Bible.



Bro. Javier inspires a student on Twin Day

- **Michael** (meaning “Who is like God?”) is mentioned in the Book of Daniel as Israel’s protector, acting as captain with other angels to thrust earth’s evil rulers into the flames. His status as conqueror of God’s enemy is further stressed in the Apocalypse (12:7-9) where he and his angels cast down Satan and his rebellious followers. Michael is also portrayed as an intercessor with God for mankind.
- **Gabriel** (meaning “God is my strength”) appears in four biblical episodes: twice to the Daniel to



Yours truly was humbled that Jonah wanted to be his twin on Twin Day! He needs a pen in his shirt pocket, though!

explain Messianic visions; once to Zachary to announce the birth of John the Baptist; & once to Mary: “Hail thou who art full of grace, the Lord is with thee! Blessed art thou among women!”

- **Raphael** (meaning “God has healed”) plays an important part in the Book of Tobias, where God send him to cure Tobias’ blindness.

- May these three great angels protect us at SPS’s, where we have many who have Michael, Gabriel, or Raphael as a first or middle name. Happy Feast Day to them all!

- **TDIH:** In 1954, Willie Mays, centerfielder for the New York Giants, makes an amazing over-the-shoulder catch of a fly ball hit by Cleveland Indians first baseman Vic Wertz to rob Wertz of extra bases in Game 1 of the 1954 World Series. The catch has gone down as one of the greatest in the history of baseball. You can watch the catch on You Tube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUK9IG-7HTc>

- **TDIH:** Today marks the 169th birthday of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). On this date in 1899, a small group of Spanish-America war veterans joined together to form what would become the nation’s largest and most dedicated group of combat veterans. Thank you, Veterans!

- **Women’s Health & Fitness Day:** Take care of yourselves, ladies! We need you!
- **Coffee Day** is a day to savor and appreciate coffee. Have some coffee while reading the newsletter today!
- **Confucius Day:** Today honors one of the world’s great philosophers, who was born in China in 551 BC
- **Football: 9th/JV v. Hammond**

Thu, Sep 30 (Regular; B C D E)

- **TDIH:** In 1938, British and French prime ministers sign the Munich Pact with Adolf Hitler. The pact averted war but gave Czechoslovakia to Germany. The Munich Pact has become a metaphor for surrender.
- **Mud Pack Day** (who knew?): Ladies, this is your day! Mud packs were once the rage. They are still popular, but the “mud” has been replaced with a variety of other ingredients to keep the skin young, soft and supple. A real mud pack, though, is a quick treatment for bee stings. Guys -- make this a special day & buy a facial gift certificate for your lady -- not that she needs it, but because it is a feel-good thing.
- **Football: 8th at Rummel (5)**

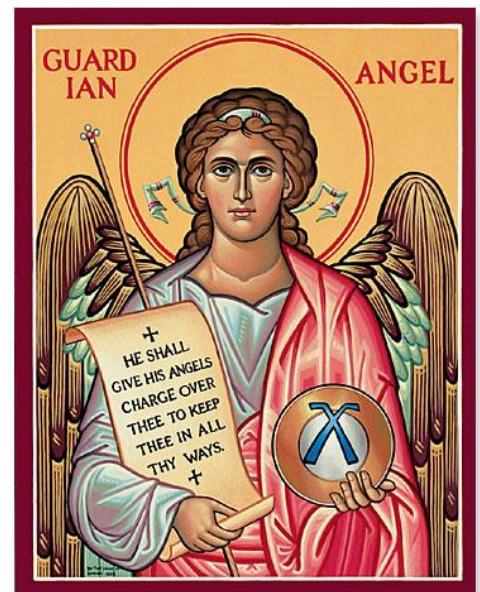
Fri, Oct 1 (F G A B – Full Day of School; Fall Break Cancelled due to Ida)

- **Welcome to October! 75% of 2021 is over! Good riddance!**
- **Feast of St. Theresa. Happy Feast Day to Carmelite & Teresian Sisters** – those incredible religious women here in Covington and elsewhere throughout the world. May God bless them abundantly!
- **TDIH:** In 1890, Congress creates Yosemite Park
- **TDIH II:** In 1908, the first Model T Ford is completed at the company's Piquette Avenue plant in Detroit. Between 1908 and 1927, Ford would build some 15 million Model T cars. It was the longest production run of any automobile model in history until the Volkswagen Beetle surpassed it in 1972.
- **CD Player Day:** Digital downloads, MP3s, smart phones and integrated media have made the humble CD player a thing of the past. Get lo-tech and celebrate today by enjoying music from a CD player. I still use mine at assemblies, even though my student helpers are urging me to go digital!
- **Football: Varsity at Hammond**
- **National Honor Society & Mu Alpha Theta Induction Ceremony (7:15 AM in the BAC – yes, AM!)**

Sat, Oct 2 (Feast of the Guardian Angels)

Today, we celebrate the **Feast of the Guardian Angels**. This feast was a favorite of St. John Baptist de La Salle. The school year in France began on October 2 at that time, and the function of guardian angels became a metaphor that La Salle used often in exhorting the brothers to take seriously their work of Christian education of youth. In honor of this feast, I again offer these words from Saint La Salle. We need our angels!

- *Children need good teachers, like **angels**, to help them learn Christian truth.*
- Like **angels**, teachers help students understand the truths in the gospel and guide them in such a manner that they will be led to put these truths into practice.
- *It is your duty to act towards students in the manner in which your guardian **angel** acts toward you. Your angel inspires you and helps you keep clear of whatever obstacle you might encounter.*
- *It is your duty, like the **angels**, to go up to God every day in prayer so that you can learn all you can about how and what to teach the students; and then come back down to their level to teach them what God taught you.*
- *You share in the ministry of guardian **angels**, helping students know the truth, and practice it. To do this, though, you must have great zeal for your work.*
- *As **angels**, you must cheer the faint-hearted, support the weak and be patient toward all. Is this what you have been doing? Has your zeal been ardent enough?*
- *Ask God for grace to watch so well over students confided to you that you take every possible care to shield them from fault. This must be your main concern.*
 - **Today and every day, view yourselves as guardian angels to students entrusted to your care!**
- **TDIH:** In 1919, at the White House in President Woodrow Wilson suffers a massive stroke that leaves him partially paralyzed and effectively ends his presidency. Miraculously, the government continues to run.
- **TDIH:** In 1967, Thurgood Marshall was sworn in as first African-American Justice of the US Supreme Court. Current Justice Clarence Thomas is the only other African-American to sit on the SC.
- **TDIH:** In 1968, California's Redwood National Park was established. Redwoods are the tallest of trees, growing up to 400 feet during a lifetime that can span 2000.



- **Phileas Fogg's Wager Day:** from Jules Verne's *Around the World in Eighty Days*, of the famous wager upon which the book is based: *I will bet twenty thousand pounds... that I will make the tour of the world in eighty days or less.* Then, consulting an almanac, Phileas Fogg said: *As today is Wednesday, the second of October, I shall be due in London, in this very room of the Reform Club, on Saturday, the twenty-first of December, at a quarter before nine PM; or else the twenty thousand pounds . . . will belong to you.*
- **Custodial Workers Day:** Today honors those who clean our buildings. SPS is VERY fortunate to have an excellent custodial staff. I'm saddened, however, about how difficult we make their jobs by the amount of trash that is left in rooms and outside. Let's strive for cleanliness every day since it is next to Godliness.
- **The comic strip Peanuts** made its debut on this date in 1950. The strip's creator, Charles M. Schultz, was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1922. In 1950, he approached a large U.S. syndication service with the best of his work, and he was given a syndication of eight local papers in a variety of U.S. cities. His strip was renamed *Peanuts*. The strip was an almost immediate success that expanded from its original eight newspapers to more than 2,600 papers in 75 countries at its peak.
- **Cross Country:** Wolves run in St. Joseph Meet in Baton Rouge
- **Homecoming Dance for Grades 10, 11, & 12**

Sun, Oct 3

- **TDIH:** In 1990, less than one year after the destruction of the Berlin Wall, East & West Germany unite.

Rise Up, O Men of God

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

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

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.

accordance with the Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation guidelines. Obviously, COVID and IDA have complicated things. Thus:

- **Shadow Days:** Due to COVID and Ida, we have 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. Those tours have begun, so spread the word. Just call SPS to arrange a tour.
- **Open House: Our Open House is Sat, Oct 30, from 1 – 3 pm. Encourage prospective families to come. Please ask them to register for a time slot on our website, but walk-ins are welcome!**
- **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.

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.

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 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.



Pre-freshmen enjoy Homecoming Fun Afternoon!

CALENDAR EDITS: As Trevor wrote, 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.

- Fri, Oct 8 End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
- Fri., Oct 8 Grandparent Day postponed to the spring
- 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.

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.



Frisbee was popular during Homecoming Fun Afternoon!

COVID: With Ida occupying our every waking moment for the past few 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. While we hope the mandate will be lifted, we must follow it. Please make sure your son comes to school with this mask, prepared to wear it inside any building.

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.**

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.**

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.



Illustration of three people dancing in a stylized, colorful manner.

HOMECOMING DANCE

10TH, 11TH, & 12TH GRADE

OCTOBER 2ND 8:00-10:00PM	Under Wolf Dome Semi-Formal Attire
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Tickets go on sale next week for \$30



Illustration of three people dancing in a stylized, colorful manner.

HOMECOMING DANCE

8TH & 9TH GRADE

OCTOBER 9TH 7:00-9:00PM	Under Wolf Dome Semi-Formal Attire
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Tickets go on sale next week for \$30

HOMEcomings: 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 Prefreshmen and Freshmen on Saturday, October 9 from 7:00 until 9:00 PM. Online tickets are now on sale for \$30 a couple. *Tickets will not be sold at the door and must be purchased by the Friday prior to the dance.* Please see attached link for dress code and dance details. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_RnshjKMWpzc8u6NZSubKgi0SsHbEppZ8rcGVzMhiM0/edit?usp=sharing
- Tickets can be purchase at <https://ticketpeak.co/wolfnation> -- note that charges will show on credit card as "Ticketpeak.")

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:

- **Five Guys:** Thanks for supporting SPS!
- **Homecoming Week:** Thanks Student Council for a successful week! And great field day/pep rally on Fri! This was a lot of hard work, and we owe thanks to Joanna, Shannon, and all of the SC members. And we needed a break like this, too. Marching Wolves deserve kudos for Fri night and Al et al deserve kudos for alumni involvement. **Well done, everyone!**
- **Mission Collection:** Over \$2800 was collected last Wednesday. As Jeff Ramon indicated, we are using this collection for Hurricane Relief for Catholic Charities of the Houma/Thibodeaux Diocese, which suffered significant damage during Hurricane Ida.
- **Mothers' Club Appreciation Lunch / Snack Day:** Outstanding, as always! Thanks, MC!
- **Football:** 8th beat Franklinton; 9th & JV beat Slidell; Varsity won over Slidell. Geaux Wolves!
- **Etiquette Training:** The boys are learning the art of fine dining! Thanks, Development Team!
- **Cross Country:** Junior High team finished in first place at the CES-TA JH Invitational on Tue; JV and Varsity teams enjoyed beautiful weather at City Park en route on Sat to several season best performances.



Red, white, & blue were abundant on USA Day!

- **Fire Drill:** We held our monthly fire drill last week. The boys did well – but some were a bit chatty. Please help us stress with your sons the need for absolute quiet during these drills. In case of need, we will be issuing instructions during an emergency and students must be listening. Thanks. We take these seriously.

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.*

MAYOR MARK'S EMAIL: In his latest email blast Fri night, Mayor Mark Johnson (Covington Mayor, SPS Alum and Father of Three SPS Alums), gave a Big Shout Out to SPS and SSA on being named Blue Ribbon Schools of Exemplary Performance. And he posted pics of our pep rally and parade! Thanks, Mayor Mark! Here is what the Mayor put in his newsletter:

Big Congrats to SPS and SSA



Both Saint Paul's and SSA were recently named 2021 National Blue Ribbon "Exemplary High Performing" Schools





"Exemplary High Performing" schools have their state's highest high school graduation rates and the highest achieving students (the top 15%) in English and mathematics, measured by state assessments. This is the second time Saint Paul's School has received this distinction from the U.S. Department of Education.

The Marching Wolves led the SSA student body down Jahncke for a joint school Pep Rally and celebration.



During my congratulatory remarks, the students began chanting

"Slow Your Roll." Those kids ;)

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

MISSION COLLECTION: We began our weekly mission collections last Wednesday. While our mission collections typically benefit Saint Paul's School in Marsabit, Kenya, the first mission collection of this academic year will 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!**

OCTOBERFEST: Saint Paul's first Oktoberfest has been **re-scheduled** for Saturday, December 4 on Saint Paul's campus. Dust off your dirndl dress, launder your lederhosen and join us for an EPIC day of stein slurping with your best mates! The German-inspired, family-friendly celebration will make its oom-pah, inaugural arrival with contest traditions for stein-carrying, pretzel-whistling, and strudel-eating, along with a dancing, live entertainment and an array of authentic, Bavarian food. General admission is \$5 per person. Children 6 and under are free. Check out our sponsorship opportunities today at www.stpauls.com

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.



Seniors enjoy Homecoming Fun Afternoon!

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 recently, 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.



Freshmen get refreshments during their Homecoming Fun Afternoon – thanks to the Mothers Club!



Seniors finally defeat Faculty in annual volleyball game!

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.



Jersey Day is always a hit with the students!

WEEKLY HUMOR: The Nobel Prizes will be awarded soon for prodigious accomplishments in academic fields. The Ig-Nobel Prizes (sponsored by Harvard) were awarded in mid-Sep. These prizes honor real achievements that make people laugh, then think. The prizes, given by Nobel winners, celebrate the unusual. Some will make you laugh, so this is H of the W. Here are 2021 Ig-nobel Prizes:

- **Biology:** for analyzing variations in purring, chirping, chattering, trilling, tweedling, murmuring, meowing, moaning, squeaking, hissing, yowling, howling, growling, and other modes of cat-human communication.
- **Ecology:** for using genetic analysis to identify the different species of bacteria that reside in wads of discarded chewing gum stuck on pavements in various countries.
- **Chemistry:** for chemically analyzing the air inside movie theaters, to test whether the odors produced by an audience reliably indicate the levels of violence, sex, antisocial behavior, drug use, and bad language in the movie the audience is watching.
- **Economics:** for discovering that the obesity of a country's politicians may be a good indicator of that country's corruption.
- **Peace:** for testing hypothesis that humans evolved beards to protect themselves from punches to the face.
- **Physics:** for experimenting why pedestrians do not constantly collide with other pedestrians.
- **Kinetics:** for conducting experiments to learn why pedestrians do sometimes collide with other pedestrians.
- **Entomology:** for a research study "A New Method of Cockroach Control on Submarines".
- **Transportation:** for determining whether it is safer to transport an airborne rhinoceros upside-down.
- **I wish SPS could get some of this research money!**



This pre-freshman enjoyed his blue popsicle in honor of our Blue Ribbon Award!

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

- 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



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

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.

Kahlil & Hastings on Twin Day!



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 a Successful Homecoming 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 with our Lasallian Prayer for Peace:

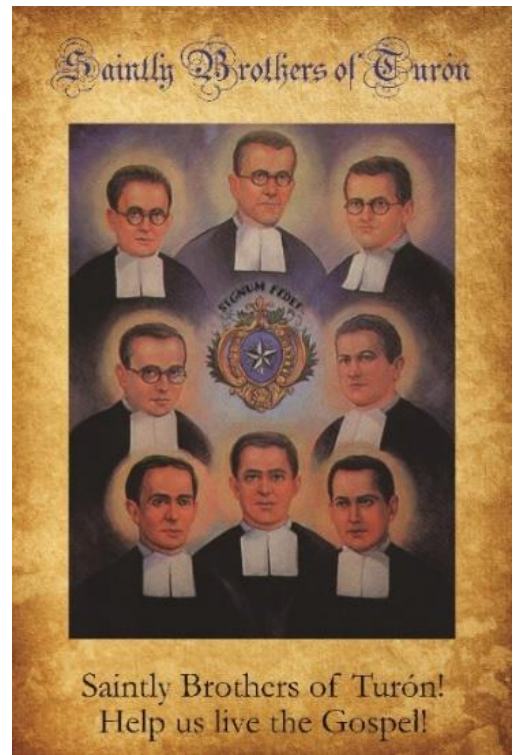
We pray to You, Lord, God of life and God of those who hope! Listen to our prayer for the whole world, for peace among all peoples, for prosperity in all lands. We pray to You that evil may be overcome and that all wars may end. We pray to you especially for the members of our Lasallian Family, who suffer 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!



LASALLIAN
EDUCATION

Transforming Lives Since 1680

*...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!*



Saint Paul's School

2021 National Merit
SemiFinalists



RISE UP, O MEN OF GOD!



