

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Brother Duane Gregory, FSC, a member of Saint Paul's Retired Brothers Community. Brother died on Fri at the age of 96. Eternal rest grant unto your good and faithful servant, O Lord!



***The President's Hebdomadal Blue Ribbon Newsletter***  
***Celebrating 110 years of educational excellence in Covington***  
***341 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world***  
***October 18 - 24, 2021***



Welcome to the second week of the second quarter! Time marches on; all we can do is make the most of it.



As we begin the second quarter, now is a good time to remind ourselves of and recommit ourselves to the fundamentals of what we do and why we do it. Ten weeks ago, our faculty committed themselves to being Lasallian and to doing God's will – despite COVID 19. And then Ida hit us. Wow. Now at the start of the second quarter, we I asked our faculty to renew our Lasallian commitment to students and each other. **As we begin the second quarter, we again commit ourselves to the five Lasallian Core Principles: *Provide a quality education, Build an inclusive community, Respect all persons, Show concern for the poor and social justice, and Have Faith in the presence of God.***

As we pray daily to Saintly Brothers of Turon to help us live the Gospel, I offered the following words of St. John Baptist de La Salle and to our faculty and urged them to use these words of St. La Salle to inspire their work – just as, I'm sure, Saintly Brothers of Turon (Cirilo Bertrán, Marciano José, Julián Alfredo, Victoriano Pío, Benjamín Julián, Augusto Andrés, Benito de Jesús, and Anicet Adolfo) did:

- *It is God who has called you to this form of service;*
- *Every day God calls you anew to the needs these children have;*
  - *It is God's own work that he entrusts to you;*
  - *Your presence among young people brings salvation to them;*
- *Be satisfied with what you can do, since God is satisfied with it, but do not spare yourself in what you can do with grace; and believe that, if you want it, you can do more with God's grace than you think.*
- *In you, and through your ministry, these children encounter God, who knows each of them by name, who loves them, and who goes out searching endlessly for those who have gone astray.*

**Please pray for us this week that we live up the Lasallian Mission of education.**

By the way, the image of St. La Salle above is from an original oil painting that hangs in the Counseling Center. It was painted by famous Louisiana folk artist Eddie Mormon, known for his distinctive style of vivid colors, lots of paint, and use of a knife, not a brush for bold strokes. It was commissioned by a former SPS student who left here before he graduated – but remains grateful for SPS.





**Mon, Oct 18 (9 am start; F G A B)**

- **This Day in History:** In 1670, John Baptist de La Salle entered the Seminary of St. Sulpice in Paris, beginning his journey toward priesthood. By answering God's call, he opened himself up to future calls which allowed him to found the Brothers of the Christian Schools. May we, too, be open to the call of God in our lives!
- **Evaluate Your Life Day:** We reflect today upon our life -- where it's been, and where it's going. What do I need, or want, to change? I'll be evaluating!
- **Chocolate Cupcake Day:** Splurge!
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences (5-7 pm in the BAC; masks required)**

**Tue, Oct 19 (C D E F – Pack Time)** – Memorial of Saints John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, & Companions, Jesuit missionaries. By 1632, the Jesuits had a mission center in Quebec, ministering to 20,000 Huron in 30 villages. The missionaries converted about two thousand converts in their many years in Quebec. Then the enemies of the Huron, the Iroquois, who resented the French, captured, tortured, & killed the missionaries.

- **TDIH:** In 1781, as their band played *The World Turned Upside Down* (ya' gotta love the British!), the British Army marched out in formation and surrendered to the Americans at Yorktown. More than 7000 British & Hessian troops, led by British General Lord Cornwallis, surrendered to General George Washington, effectively ending the war between Britain and its American colonies. The final peace treaty was signed in Paris in 1783.





*Birthday parade ends with everyone marching through the arch, thus re-creating the opening of SP in 1911!*

### Wed, Oct 20 (G A B C)

- **TDIH:** In 1803, the Senate approves a treaty with France to purchase Louisiana Territory, doubling US size.
- **TDIH:** In 1944, Gen. Douglas MacArthur set foot on Philippine soil for the first time since his escape in 1942, thus fulfilling his promise, "I shall return!"
- **TDIH:** Today is the birthday of John Dewey, born in Burlington, Vermont (1859). Regarded as the father of progressive education, his best-known innovation was what he called "learning by directed living," which combined learning with concrete activity. He wrote *Democracy and Education* (1916), and he founded the New School for Social Research. He was a shy, scholarly youth; a friend said that ideas were like living objects to him, and the only things he was really interested in. He spent most of his career thinking and writing about education. He said that schools were useless unless they taught students how to live as members of a community; that they wouldn't succeed in teaching children anything unless they were receptive to what children were ready to learn; and that they wouldn't get anywhere unless they treated children as individuals. He once gave a speech at Michigan in which he said there was so much knowledge at universities because the freshmen brought everything they knew to college with them, and the seniors never took anything away.
- **Football:** 9<sup>th</sup> & JV at Mandeville (5:30)

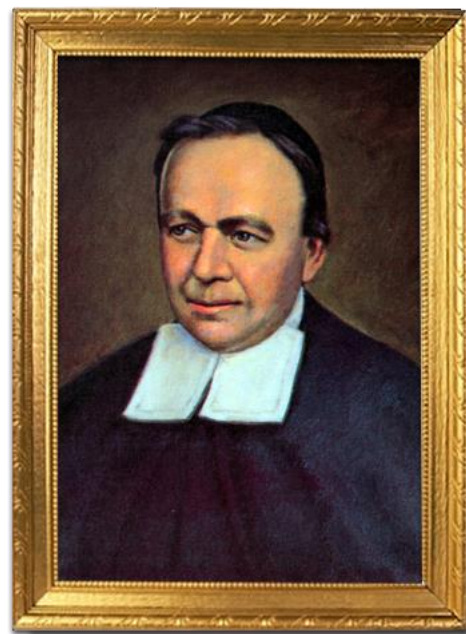
### Thu, Oct 21 (D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 2015, we held the official blessing and dedication of the new gym. Gene Bennett smiled on us as it was a magical evening, with many, many supporters in attendance.
- **TDIH:** In 1879, Thomas Edison successfully tested an electric incandescent lamp with a carbonized filament at his lab in Menlo Park, NJ, keeping it lit for 13 hours. We've come a long way! We have replaced ALL campus lighting with LEDs, which save electricity.
- **TDIH:** In 1967, 100,000 march on The Pentagon to protest Vietnam War.
- **Babbling Day:** Calling all blatherskites (people who babble – yes, it's a real word!): today isn't a day to remain silent. We celebrate those with glib tongues who never stop talking. They babble on and on and turn a simple one sentence statement into an endless dissertation.
- **Pumpkin Cheesecake Day:** Don't want to babble today? Then enjoy this classic fall dessert!
- **Clean Your Virtual Desktop Day:** My virtual desktop is as messy as my wooden desktop!
- **Reptile Awareness Day:** Become as aware as you want of these critters, but I'll stay clear of 'em!

### Fri, Oct 22 (Feast of St. John Paul II; A B C D)

- **TDIH:** In 1962, President John Kennedy announces a blockade of Cuba in response to the discovery that Soviet missiles were being installed on the island, pushing the US to a nuclear showdown with Russia.
- **CAPS LOCK DAY: FEEL FREE TO CAPITALIZE EVERYTHING TODAY!** I will abstain.
- **Stuttering Awareness Day:** 1% of the population stutters or has some other speech impairment. Let's be sensitive to them and learn how to assist. There are some great tips on the ISAD website.
- **Smart is Cool Day:** Flaunt your IQ today! Tout your ACT score! Quote Plato and Shakespeare! Take an on-line IQ test at [www.iqtest.com](http://www.iqtest.com) and see how smart you really are!
- **Football:** Varsity v. Mandeville (7)

**Sat, Oct 23** --Today, the Lasallian world celebrates the memorial feast of Blessed Brother Arnold Reche, a Christian Brother (1838-1890) who was beatified by Pope John Paul II. From the Brothers' web site: *Arnold was born into a poor family and left school early to work as a stable boy, coachman, and for local construction. He met the Brothers while attending evening classes at their school and joined. He taught for 14 years at a boarding school in Reims. Despite a full teaching schedule, he privately studied math, theology, science & agriculture. During Franco-Prussian War of 1870, he cared for medical & spiritual needs of the wounded on both sides; he was awarded the Bronze Cross. His work won the hearts of his students by his care for their spiritual and professional development. He died at 52 with a reputation for sanctity. Work and pray so that people will say the same about our reputations! Blessed Brother Arnold— watch over and inspire us!*



- **Mole Day:** Celebrated annually on Oct 23 from 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m., Mole Day commemorates Avogadro's Number ( $6.02 \times 10^{23}$ ), a basic chemistry measuring unit.
- **The Swallows Depart San Juan, Capistrano** today heading for winter home in Argentina.
- **Football:** 8<sup>th</sup> v. Jesuit (11)
- **Wrestling:** Jr Hi Tournament at Rummel
- **ACT on campus**





Sun, Oct 24

- **Let Us Remember Dept:** Today marks the 15-year anniversary of the death of prodigious SPS English teacher Brother Bill Parsons. While few still at SPS remember Bill, his presence and influence continue. We remember Bill and his contribution to the Christian education and take comfort in the role he played here. Brother Bill, pray for us! In his memory, let's pay attention to our English today – and teach the entire period – which he was passionate about.
- **TDIH:** In 1945, The United Nations is founded.
- **TDIH:** In 1861, Western Union sends the first transcontinental telegram from San Francisco to Washington, DC, addressed to President Abraham Lincoln from the Chief Justice of California.
- **Bologna Day:** Eat a bologna sandwich! I'll pass!

*Philip prepares to don his Wolf costume for the BD parade last Tue!*

# 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 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.



**Saint Paul's School**  
Grades 8 – 12

**Open House**  
**Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>**

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

Register online for Open House  
at [www.stpauls.com](http://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.

**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

#### **BLUE RIBBON LATEST:**

- If you did not read The Clarion Herald's article on SSA and SPS's Blue Ribbon, it's worth the read. Here is the link: <https://clarionherald.org/news/two-catholic-high-schools-garner-blue-ribbon>
- Yours truly represented SPS at the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) meeting last week at which the eight LA 2021 Blue Ribbon Schools were recognized. Superintendent Cade Brumley made warm and affirming remarks about the significance of the award and the rigor needed to obtain it. Thanks to Al Nastasi for acting as my chauffeur. I never could have navigated the beyond brutal BR traffic.



*Yours truly accepts BESE recognition in Baton Rouge for our Blue Ribbon from State Superintendent Cade Brumley, Catholic School Superintendent RaeNell Houston and BESE Non-public Schools member Mr. Thomas Roque.*



**BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH:** I have been remiss in mentioning this and it's certainly more important that National Dessert Day or Frustration Day. As an all-boys school, we must not overlook the teachable moments concerning issues pertaining primarily to women, and our boys need to know about this insidious disease, which can strike their grandmothers, mothers, sisters, and future wives and daughters. And we have current parents and friends battling this medical scourge. I encourage enlightened, appropriate discussion of this important health issue with our students when possible. We reach out in prayerful support to any family struggling with this issue. I invite you to pray the following:

We pray for those who are now ill. O God, Source of Life, heal them!

For those who are affected by illness, anguish and pain. O God, Source of Life, heal them!

Grant courage to those whose bodies, holy proof of Your creative goodness, are violated by illness.

O God, Source of Life, encourage them!

Grant strength and compassion to those who give loving care, support and help to overcome despair.

O God, Source of Life, strengthen them!

Grant wisdom to those who labor in the search for treatment and cures.

O God, Source of Life, inspire them!

Grant clarity of vision and strength of purpose to the leaders of our institutions and our government.

May they be moved to act with justice and compassion and find the courage to overcome fear and hatred!

O God, Source of Life, guide them and bless us all!

#### **CAFETERIA:**

- ALL students may receive a **FREE BREAKFAST and LUNCH throughout the rest of the school year!** Students **MUST** still obtain the meals with their ID card (no ID, no food) but it is **FREE**.
- This is a great opportunity for our students – and savings for you! And it helps keep the cafeteria staff employed! Encourage your son to take advantage of this!
- **Breakfast and lunch remain FREE – but the boys are charged if they order “extras” servings.**



**CALENDAR EDITS:** 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. 17<sup>th</sup>.

**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, Oct 18 Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7 in the BAC (masks required)
  - 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.



*Drum Majors Zach and Walker lead the Marching Wolves down Jahncke Avenue in the 110<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration parade! Thanks to Covington PD for providing security!*

**DRAMA:** Our acclaimed drama department, The Marian Players, opens its fall season on Nov 10 with “Peter and the Starcatcher” – sure to be a favorite. It’s a prequel to the Peter Pan story. Due to COVID, seating is very limited and some performances are already sold out! Reserve the remaining tickets on our website, <https://ticketpeak.co/stpauls/events>

**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.



Becoming a legend is never easy.



St Paul's Marian Players Theatre

# Peter & the Starcatcher

A play by Rick Elise    Music by Wayne Barker

Based on the Novel by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson

Originally produced on Broadway by  
Nancy Nagel Gibbs, Greg Schaffert,  
Eva Price, Tom Smedes, and Disney  
Theatrical Productions

Presented by special arrangement with  
MTI. All authorized performance  
materials are also supplied by MTI.  
[www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

[www.stpauls.com](http://www.stpauls.com)

10/27-11/6/21





*Students approve of the BD celebration!*

**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. e pray.**

**COGNIA:** Our five-year Cognia Accreditation visit took place last week. Cognia, which used to be Advanced Ed, which used

to be Southern Association, is our regional accrediting agency. Being accredited is EXTREMELY important in the educational world. We owe Joe Dickens a huge vote of thanks for all the prep work he did for this visit. We will share results soon, but suffice it to say we passed with flying colors.

**HELPING SPS:** Don't forget: here are painless way to help SPS:

- If you shop at Office Depot, give the SPS school code (70041640) and SPS receives 5% of your purchase!
- We also collect Box Tops for Education (have your son bring them to his math teacher)
- We also receive a portion of sales from Amazon Prime.

#### **LAST WEEK:**

- **Admissions:** Our campus tours are going well. Thank you for your cooperation. We have many more lined up, but keep spreading the good word about SPS!
- **COGNIA:** Kudos to all who cooperated with the accreditation committee's virtual visit last week. Special thanks to Joe Dickens for doing the yeoman's share of the work. Thank you, Joe!
- **Cross Country:** The varsity and JV teams enjoyed their best performances of the season en route to a third-place finish at the STA -Rollette Chiropractic invitational. The junior high team finished a fine season as the meet runner up due to a tiebreak.
- **Football:** Big wins over N'shore.
- **PSAT:** A flawless administration by counselors! We hope and pray for the best.
- **SPS Birthday Celebration:** Thanks to all who made our 110<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration a memorable one. The boys seemed to enjoy the events and I know the staff enjoyed the MC's scrumptious Mexican meal! Ole! We were honored to have Parish President Mike Cooper '71) and Covington Mayor Mark Johnson '76) with us to address the boys in assembly and lead the parade.

**MASKS:** Governor John Bel Edwards has extended the mask mandate until October 27. He specifically identified schools as falling under the mandate. The order was reinforced by 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.*** Saint Paul's will comply, continuing to enforce masking while indoors.

**MOMS FOR MUMS:** The MC asked is they could resurrect this tradition of a few years ago. I said “of course” as I remember the campus ablaze with mums at this time of year. Thanks, MC, and all who can help.

# Moms for Mums

The Mothers' Club would like to tell you about *Moms for Mums*. Over the next few weeks, please honor your sons by donating a potted mum which will be used to beautify the campus. Please send the mum(s) with your sons, or drop off at one of the planters in Founders Circle.



Our annual appeal for mums is scheduled for

October 18-29

just in time for our Open House for prospective students. Help make the campus ablaze with mums to celebrate the fall and to welcome visitors on Open House.



**NEED MORE INFO?** For academic issues, contact teachers, counselors, Principal Trevor Watkins, Assistant Principal Joe Dickens, or Curriculum Coordinator Lee Pierre. For discipline, attendance, or dress code, call Mr. Ken Sears, Dean of Students. Finances? Call Mrs. Jo Sutherlin or me. Athletics? Contact the coaches or Mr. 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](mailto: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](http://www.stpauls.com)



SAINT PAUL'S SCHOOL  
COVINGTON, LA



**OKTOBERFEST**

EST. 2021

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 5:00PM

917 S. Jahncke Avenue,  
Covington, LA 70433

(985) 892-3200 ext. 1970  
[www.stpauls.com](http://www.stpauls.com)



**OLL'S FESTIVAL OF THE LAKE:** Our Lady of the Lake Festival is back this year on November 5th, 6th and 7th. Please visit our website for entertainment schedule, tickets and volunteering. Here is the link:

[www.Festivalofthelake.com](http://www.Festivalofthelake.com)

## **PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES ON OCT 18, 5 – 7 PM in the BAC**

**Teachers will be at individual tables. Visit with  
as few or as many as you wish. Please limit  
conversations to five minutes.**

**Masks are required.**

**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.



**PAPER WOLF:** Please read The Paper Wolf! ([www.thepaperwolf.com](http://www.thepaperwolf.com)) I do! We've got an outstanding, AWARD WINNING digital newspaper! Compliment the outstanding staff. Subscribe! Support the future of journalism! Geaux Paper Wolves!



**REPORT CARDS, SEMESTER GRADES, & HONOR ROLL BREAKFAST:** We emailed a first quarter report card on Friday, Oct 15. Let me know if you don't receive it, but check your spam folder first as they often land there. **Remember that the first quarter accounts for 40% of the semester grade, with the second quarter accounting for 40% and the semester exam accounting for 20%. Remember that the only grade that really counts is the SEMESTER grade – that's the one that goes on transcripts and is used to calculate grade point average. And HONOR ROLL** invites for parents and students will be emailed soon. Dates for the level breakfasts are printed below in the Look Ahead calendar. They begin in early November.

**SCHOOL SAFETY:** School safety remains paramount for all. Promote safety with your son. 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, when everyone 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. And read about Tic Toc!**

**SLOW YOUR ROLL.** This week is the two-year anniversary of Mayor Mark Johnson's initiative to improve driving habits within Covington – one of his main campaign pledges. Did you know:

- Two of the most often repeated complaints to the candidates in last year's election were speeding and the running of stop signs? And SPS students/parents came in for their fair share of blame!
- On any given weekday, over 15,000 people drive into and out of Covington?
- Many of our streets were laid out PRIOR to the invention of the automobile, thus not designed for cars?

Mayor Mark's goal is "to change driving habits in our city...to have each of us understand that speeds over 25 MPH are not safe on most of our streets." The Mayor is asking everyone to "relax, take a deep breath and slow down. I applaud the Mayor's initiative and pledged to him our support. Please reinforce this with students whenever possible. I do so with parents. And please set a good example yourself, as in the words of Saint La Salle: **"Preach by example, and practice before the eyes of the young what you wish them to accept."**

**TIC TOC SCHOOL VANDALISM:** TIC TOC (don't ask me to explain it; ask your son) is encouraging school bathroom vandalism. And their latest is even worse: encouraging students to slap teachers! 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.

**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 13<sup>th</sup> and Jefferson St. or the parking lot at LaSalle Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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!

**WOLF PACKS:** Each student is assigned 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. We meet again this Tuesday.

**WEEKLY HUMOR:** You may have to read some of these out loud to get the “joke” – some are hilarious!

- *Why don't ants ever get sick? Because they have anty bodies!*
- *Did you hear about the cheese factory that exploded in Paris? Nothing left but de Brie!*
- *Which bird has the worst manners? Mocking birds!*
- *What do you get from a pampered cow? Spoiled milk!*
- *Why did the ducks try to bite the dog? He was a pure bread dog!*
- *What did the big flower say to the little flower? Hi, bud!*
- *How does NASA organize a party? They planet!*
- *How many tickles does it take to get an octopus to laugh? Ten tickles!*
- *Why is a poorly dressed man on a unicycle different from a well-dressed man on a bicycle? Attire!*
- *Why were they called the Dark Ages? Because there were lots of knights!*
- *Two goldfish are in a tank. One says to the other: “You know how to drive this thing?!”*
- *Why aren't koalas actual bears? The don't meet the koalafications.*
- *Is this pool safe for diving? It deep ends!*
- *My boss texted me: “Send me one of your funny jokes!” I texted: “I'm busy working. I'll send one later.” “That's hilarious,” he said. “Send another one!”*
- *What is worse than raining cats and dogs? Hailing taxis!*
- *My teachers said I'd never amount to much because I procrastinate too much. I replied, “Just you wait!”*
- *I couldn't figure out why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.*
- *What happens to a frog's car when it breaks down? It gets toad away!*
- *What gets wetter the more it dries? A towel!*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

**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**

#### **October**

- 18 – FGAB - Late Start; parent-teacher conferences 5 – 7 pm in the BAC; MASKS ARE REQUIRED
- 19 – CDEF- Pack Time
- 20 – GABC
- 21 – DEFG
- 22 - ABCD
- 25 – EFGA
- 26 – BCDE- President's Assembly



- 27 - FGAB
- 28 – CDEF
- 29 – GABC

### 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 17<sup>th</sup> – 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

Enjoying the Second Quarter as the 17<sup>th</sup> 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!*



*Doing ordinary things extraordinarily well,  
making courageous choices, doing God's will,  
remaining faithful, being guided to God,  
continuing our Lasallian Mission, living  
courageously, respecting all people, and living  
the Gospel!*



# Saint Paul's School



## National Blue Ribbon School Awardee 2015 and 2021



## Saint Paul's School

### 2021 National Merit SemiFinalists



RISE UP, O MEN OF GOD!

 Saint Paul's 

2021 National Merit Commended  
Scholars







Marco Vargas

Blake Weimer





