

**Warning: This is a LONG newsletter, but there's a lot to cover as we begin school.
Pour another cup of coffee, relax, and read. Feel free to take breaks!**



*The SPS President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*
Opening of the 2022 - 23 School Year Edition
Celebrating 111 years of educational excellence in Covington
342 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
August 01 – August 07, 2022



Welcome to the 2022 - 23 school year – the twelfth year of our second century -- a year in which we will strive to keep the best of our 340+ year Christian Brother tradition with our 111-year Saint Paul's tradition while adding the quality of the present. And welcome to the ninth academic year of the San Francisco New Orleans District of Christian Brothers! Our District continues to evolve, but we have survived eight years. Our District is made up of a dynamic network of 18 secondary

schools, three middle schools, one elementary school, two Universities, and an Educational Center, as well as 14 Brothers' communities stretched across the western and southern United States, and Tijuana, Mexico.

By popular demand (OK, one retired brother asked), the President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter is back. I am sure your summer Sundays were vaguely unsettling without my weekly missive. As in the past, I plan to email the newsletter on Sunday mornings. If you have suggestions as to how I can make the newsletter more helpful & informative, let me know. Just email me a question or suggestion or topic to be addressed.

First and foremost, I hope and pray that this newsletter finds you and your family safe and well.

And I hope you are rejoicing with me that Saint Paul's will open for in-person instruction with a full day (8 am – 3 pm) on August 4, while continuing to follow guidelines from both the LA Departments of Education and Health and the Department of Catholic Education of the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

The emailed letter you received from the school administration a few days ago outlined the steps we are taking with our facilities, procedures, and curriculum to insure, to the maximum extent possible, the safety of our students and staff. As we prepare for an exciting and joyous opening of school, the health and safety of our entire community remains our number one priority.

And now on to August! According to *The Miriam-Webster* website, August comes from the Latin word *augustus*, meaning "consecrated" or "venerable." ... In 8 B.C., the Roman Senate honored Augustus Caesar, the first Roman emperor, by changing the name of their month "Sextilis" to "Augustus." Middle English speakers inherited the name of the month of August. August is Admit You're Happy Month, Family Fun Month, National Catfish Month, National Eye Exam Month, National Golf Month, Peace Month, Romance Awareness Month, Water Quality Month and National Picnic Month. Something for everyone. At SPS, it's Opening of School Month. I'm excited and hope you are, too. Thanks for being with us!



Campus butterflies are ready for school to begin!

Mon, Aug 1 – Faculty Meetings

- **This Day in History: In 1914, World War I erupts in Europe.** The so-called "Great War" that ensued would be one of unprecedented destruction and loss of life, resulting in the deaths of some 20 million soldiers and civilians and the physical devastation of much of the Europe.
- **TDIH: 1943, PT-109 sinks;** Lieutenant John F. Kennedy, later to become President Kennedy, is instrumental in saving crew. Unfamiliar with this inspiring story? I encourage you to read about it today.
- **Senior Portraits (refer to email sent by Counselor Miller or see below for more information)**

Tue, Aug 2 – Faculty Meetings

- **TDIH:** In 1990, Iraq invades Kuwait, ultimately leading the US into the First Gulf War.
- **Ice Cream Sandwich Day:** Enjoy this iconic treat!
- **Senior Portraits continue**
- **8th & New 9th Grade Orientation (5:30 – 7:30):** Our Lasallian Young Leaders have a great program planned for our newest wolves. Thanks to Campus Minister Jeff Ramon and all who help tonight.

Wed, Aug 3 – Faculty / Staff Preparation Day

- **TDIH:** 1958, U.S. nuclear sub-Nautilus accomplishes first undersea voyage to North Pole.
- **TDIH:** In 1923, Calvin Coolidge is sworn in as the 30th president of the US, hours after the death of President Warren G. Harding.
- **TDIH: In 1861,** the last entry of the serialized novel *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens is published. The novel tells the story of young Pip, a poor orphan who comes to believe he will inherit a fortune – and is one of my favorite novels.
- **TDIH:** In 1492, from the Spanish port of Palos, Italian explorer Christopher Columbus sets sail in command of three ships. Can you name the three ships? Answer at end of newsletter.
- **Watermelon Day:** Enjoy this iconic summer treat! And it's healthy for you, too!



Thu, Aug 4 – First Day of Class; Full Day (8-3) of Instruction for Periods A B C D

- Today, students who have religion class in Periods A, B, C or D must wear **DRESS UNIFORM** for school pictures. All others wear regular uniform.

- Today is the memorial of **St. John Vianney (1786-1859)**, whose most remarkable accomplishment was his work as a confessor. In winter months, he spent 11 to 12 hours daily hearing confessions. In summer, time increased to 16 hours. As his fame spread, more hours were spent serving God's people. Even the few hours he allowed himself for sleep were disturbed frequently by the devil. Here are wonderful words from St. John: *We do not have to talk very much in order to pray well. We know that God is there... Let us open our hearts to him. Let us rejoice in his presence. This is the best prayer.*

- **TDIH:** In 1944, acting on a Dutch informer tip, Nazi Gestapo captures 15-year-old Jewish diarist Anne Frank and her family in a sealed-

off area of an Amsterdam warehouse. Her father was the only family member to survive the Nazi death camps. After the war, he returned to Amsterdam via Russia, and was reunited with one of his former employees who had helped shelter him. She handed him Anne's diary, which she had found undisturbed after the Nazi raid. In 1947, Anne's diary was published by Otto in its original Dutch as *Diary of a Young Girl*. An instant best-seller and eventually translated into more than 50 languages, *The Diary of Anne Frank* has served as a literary testament to the nearly six million Jews, including Anne herself, who were silenced in the Holocaust.

- **Chocolate Chip Day:** Enjoy this iconic treat!
- **Assistance Dog Day** recognizes all the devoted, hardworking assistance dogs helping individuals mitigate their disability related limitations.
- **Coast Guard Day:** On August 4, 1790, the Revenue Cutter Service was created by the Congress. Congress authorized the construction of ten cutters. These ships enforced U.S. tariff laws. The Revenue Cutter Service was the predecessor the U.S. Coast Guard, a term first used in 1915. We salute and thank our Coast Guard!

Fri, Aug 5: Full Day (8-3) of Instruction for Periods E F G A)

- Today, students who have religion class in Periods E, F, or G must wear **DRESS UNIFORM** for school pictures. All others wear regular uniform.
- **TDIH:** In 1914, the world's first electric traffic signal is put into place on the corner of Euclid Ave and East 105th Street in Cleveland. Little did they know what they started!
- **TDIH:** In 1850, French writer Guy de Maupassant, who had the greatest impact upon the development of short story as a literary genre in Europe, is born. His stories are characterized by clever plots, clear style and surprise endings. Read de Maupassant today! "The Necklace" & "Piece of String" are classic!

- **Underwear Day:** I'll let you "briefly" (sorry!) decide if you're going to celebrate this – or not! DYK that sales of men's underwear - a discretionary purchase - is used by some Wall Street execs measure how people feel financially? When sales decline, it usually indicates the economy is headed for a fall. Who knew?
- **Oyster Day:** Indulge in this LA favorite. Some facts:
 - There are over 100 species of true oysters traditionally named after body of water where found.
 - The largest oyster-producing body of water is Chesapeake Bay.
 - Oyster farming can be traced to Roman times.
 - Two billion pounds are eaten annually and only 1 out of 10,000 will have a pearl!

Sat, Aug 6

- **Feast of the Transfiguration:** *In a resplendent cloud, the Holy Spirit appeared. The Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him. May we listen to the Lord on every day!*
- **TDIH:** In 1945, at 8:16 am Japanese time, an American B-29 bomber, the *Enola Gay*, drops world's first atom bomb over city of Hiroshima. Approximately 80,000 people die directly from the blast, and another 35,000 are injured. At least another 60,000 would die by end of year from fallout. We pray that no nation will use these weapons again.



- **Fresh Breath Day:** Floss, brush, rinse with mouthwash, and carry mints! ‘Nuff said!
- **Root Beer Float Day:** Celebrate the opening of school with this iconic summer treat!
- **Mustard Day (first Sat of Aug):** Spread this tasty condiment treat on your food today. Or visit the National Mustard Museum (who knew?) web site at <http://mustardmuseum.com/>
- **Student Council Retreat:** We look forward to a GREAT year from our Student Council.

Sun, Aug 7

- **Purple Heart Day:** **Today** in 1782, in Newburgh, NY, General George Washington created the "Badge for Military Merit," consisting of a purple, heart-shaped piece of silk, edged with a narrow binding of silver, with the word Merit across the face. The badge was presented to soldiers for "any singularly meritorious action" and permitted its wearer to pass guards and sentinels without challenge. After the war, it was largely forgotten until 1927, when US Army Chief of Staff sent an unsuccessful draft bill to Congress to "revive the Badge of Military Merit." On Feb 22, 1932, Washington's 200th birthday, the U.S. War Dept created of the "Order of Purple Heart." We remember all American soldiers who merited this badge of honor.
- **TDIH:** The US Congress overwhelming approves the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, giving President Lyndon Johnson nearly unlimited powers to oppose "communist aggression" in Southeast Asia. The resolution marked the beginning of an expanded military role for the United States in Vietnam.

- **Particularly Preposterous Packaging Day** -- Buy anything lately that was particularly hard to get out of the box or plastic wrap? What do we older people do when even mainstream society cannot open a simple bottle of aspirin, let alone a milk carton?

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.

ATTENDANCE: Please follow 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. **Do not allow your sons to miss school for less than very serious reasons.**

BOOK STORE: The Mothers' Club Bookstore will open:

- Mon, Aug 1 9:00am to 3:00pm
- Tue, Aug 2 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
- Wed, Aug 3 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- Thu, Aug 4 Bookstore Regular Hours (7:30 am to 8:15 am & 11:00 am to 12:30 pm)
- If you need something during summer for a birthday, etc. contact the school office.
- School supplies will be available for purchase, as well as St. Paul's apparel (except uniform shirts.)
- **If you have a returning student who has outgrown his SPS apparel, we gladly accept gently used items for bargain prices re-sale. Just drop the items off at the Administration Building.**



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. This summer, the MC donated \$23,000 toward the paver project for the Booth and Brother Alfred Pavilions. Go see how the project turned out! And that was on top of the \$10,000 they donated last year to the Band Building. Thanks, MC!

SAINT PAUL'S MOTHER'S CLUB BOOKSTORE



Back to School “Book Week” at the Bookstore:

NEW FAMILIES ONLY:

Friday, July 29th -- 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

OPEN TO ALL:

Saturday, July 30 -- 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Monday, August 1 -- 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Tuesday, August 2 -- 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday, August 3 -- 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

School Supply Packs MUST be picked up at the bookstore!

Regular Bookstore Hours:

Monday - Friday -- 7:30 A.M. - 8:15 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Friday of HOME Football Games -- 2:45 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

PE Uniforms, Outerwear,
Sack Packs, New and Old
St. Paul's Apparel, Ladies
Apparel, Socks, Used
Uniforms, School Supplies,
and Much More...

Your one stop
shop for just
about everything
you need!



*Business was brisk in the bookstore on Friday!
Thanks, MC, for ALL you do!*

CAFETERIA:

- SPS participates in the federal school lunch/breakfast program managed by the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Saint Paul's does not directly manage the food service program; we follow the directives of the Archdiocese and the cafeteria workers are employed by the Archdiocese, not Saint Paul's.
- **Breakfast and lunch are no longer free. Breakfast will be \$2.75 and lunch \$3.75.** If a student wants "seconds", though, he must pay for the additional lunch along with any "extras" he wants (ice cream, etc.)
- **Students may not "order out", e.g., pizza, or have lunches delivered. WE CANNOT DELIVER LUNCHESS TO STUDENTS. Please do not ask us to do so.**
- **Students participating in the cafeteria program must make an initial payment before school opens. This may be done on Aug 1 - 5 Between 7 and 2:30. A separate check will be needed. Students may NOT "charge" a meal if no money is on account.**
- **Students MUST use their ID cards for check out in the cafeteria. A temporary ID will be issued them on their first day of school.**
- **Free and reduced meal applications can be found on the cafeteria website: <https://schoolcafe.org/>**

CALENDAR FOR 2022-23:

Mon - Tues, Aug 1 & 2	Teacher Meetings
Tue, Aug 2	Orientation for 8 th grade and new 9 th grade students (5-7 pm)
Wed, Aug 3	Teacher Prep Day
Thurs, Aug 4	School Opens with a full day of instruction
Mon, Aug 15	New Parent Reception and Information Meeting (6:30)
Thu, Aug 18	Senior March through the Arch, Breakfast, Unity Day, Ring Day
Fri, Aug 19	Senior Ring Holiday
Mon, Aug 22	Parent – Teacher Mini Schedule Night (6:30)
Fri, Sep 2	Lasallian Convocation for Faculty (no classes for students)
Mon, Sep 5	Labor Day Holiday
Fri, Oct 7	End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
Fri., Oct 7	Grandparents Day (11:30 – 1:00)
Mon, Oct 17	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7
Sat, Oct 29	Prospective Student Open House (1 – 3 pm)
Mon-Fri, Nov 21 - 25	Thanksgiving Holidays
Mon, Nov 28	Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holiday
Tues - Fri, Dec 13-16	Semester Exams
Fri, Dec 16	Christmas Holidays begin at 11:45 following exams
Tues, Jan 03	Classes resume & Second Semester begins
Mon, Jan 16	Martin Luther King Holiday
Mon, Feb 06	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7
Fri, Feb 17	Faculty Retreat Day
Mon-Fri, Feb 20 - 24	Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays
Mon, Feb 27	Classes resume
Fri, Mar 10	End of Third Quarter
Fri – Fri Apr 07 – 14	Easter Holidays (not spring break)
Mon, Apr 17	Classes resume from Easter Holidays
Wed-Fri, Apr 26 – 28	Senior Final Exams
Sat, May 13	Senior Graduation (4 pm)
Thurs – Tues, May 18-23	Final Exams
Wed, May 24	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day
Thurs, May 25	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day

In case of emergency closings, make-up days will be taken from scheduled holidays. PLEASE do not schedule vacations during school. Thank you for recognizing the need to make the most use of our academic time.

Note that public schools schedule 175 instructional days while Catholic schools schedule 177.

In case of closings, we will make up days from holidays. **School begins with all students on Thu, Aug 4th for a full instructional day (8 – 3).** Also, check the calendar for vacation dates and do not schedule vacations in conflict with school. 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** – do 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 as schools open. Please plan accordingly.

DADS' CLUB: Thanks to the Dads Club for a great work day on July 2. Led by President Chris Brown, former principal Trevor Watkins, and new principal Joe Dickens, the dads managed to:

- Weed-eat the island
- Clean campus signage
- Clean the statues & brick benches around campus
- Power wash Founder's Circle, the pavilions, several sidewalks and curbs
- Power-blow the leaves off the chapel roof and clean gutters.

This work is a huge help in helping us prepare the campus for school opening next week. Congratulations and thanks Dads' Club.

If you would like to be included on the SPS Dads' Club email list to keep informed about upcoming meetings and events, please email spdadsclub@gmail.com. Also, if you would like to subscribe to the Dads' Club calendar or Facebook page, please see: Join our Facebook group at

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/169835833172361/> Subscribe to our calendar at

<http://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=spdadsclub%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Chicago>

Special thanks to the dads who worked on 7/23: **Chris Brown, John Ward, Joe Duval, Brant Lorio, Brant**

Lorio, Jr. Troy Verges, Keith Krebs, Gordon Reese, Jack Groner, Jeff Philippus, Students Brant Lorio, Jr., Reece Philippus, and Staff members Joe Dickens, Trevor Watkins, & Brother Javier Hansen.



Dads cleaned the island on Clean Up Day. Thanks, DC!

DANCES: The following dances are scheduled for the first semester:

- On **Friday, August 12**, SSA and SPS will hold Back to School dances for their students. Admission is \$10 per person, paid in cash at the door. Students must show a SPS or SSA ID for admission and will be breathalyzed.
- **At SSA Gym: 8th grade Social 6:30; 9th graders arrive at 7; dance lasts until 9PM.**
- The dance for the **10th, 11th, and 12th graders** will take place in the **Briggs Assembly Center** on St. Paul's campus from **7-9 PM**; All students must arrive no later than 7:30 PM and must remain until 9:00
- Please dress for the theme: **Hop on the Magic Dove Bus (Fieldtrip!)**. Students may wear shorts, jeans, or pants along with each class's corresponding theme costume.
 - 12th: circus: traditional toga (wear shorts underneath)
 - 11th: planetarium: NASA, aliens, black out (all black clothing)
 - 10th: aquarium: mermaids, sailors, fishing, all things PFG
 - 9th: insectarium: antennae and wings, butterfly, tropical, Hawaiian shirts
 - 8th: zoo: safari, animal prints, jerseys
- The Junior High (grades 8 & 9) Homecoming Dance will be Saturday, September 24.
- The Senior High (grades 10 – 12) Homecoming Dance will be Saturday, October 01.

DRESS CODE: Students must be in compliance with the dress code beginning Aug 4. Contrary to the belief by some, most of these are NOT new regulations. As I wrote in July, WE INTEND TO INCREASE OUR ENFORCEMENT OF THE DRESS CODE THIS YEAR – particularly with grooming and SHORTS. Refer to previous newsletters or the student handbook on our website for particulars if you are still unsure. **Note: We have a number of clean, pre-owned SPS uniform shirts and shorts in good condition. If the family budget is tight, feel free to ask for some of these clothes. Nothing is done to embarrass a student and no one will know. Thanks to those families who supply us with their outgrown uniforms.**

DRIVING POLICY: The driving habits of some students (speeding, horn blowing; engine revving, tire screeching, etc.) cause grief for the neighbors. I have spoken at length with some neighbors and also with the Covington PD. As our handbook states, driving and parking on our campus is a privilege, not a right. Thus:

- Covington Police will increase their presence and issue tickets;
- Neighbors have been instructed to take pictures or get license plates of speeding or unsafe drivers;
- SPS has increased the number of faculty street supervisors after school;
- SPS has a series of monetary fines (beginning at \$50 for a first offense) against students shown to be violating traffic laws around school;
- SPS reserves the right to revoke the driving to school privilege – which we have done in the past.
- And remember: **it's against Louisiana law to use a cell phone (except hands free) during school zone times. Don't drop your son off while using a cell phone – it's against the law and sets a bad example.**
- Parents of students who drive to school – please practice safe driving with your sons.

EMAIL ADDRESSES: An SPS email address (printed on the schedules) is issued to all students. The format is Firstname.Lastname.gradyr@stpauls.com, e.g., John.Smith.2023@stpauls.com. This will allow us to better communicate with students. The student may keep this email forever, thus allowing us to continue contact with him as an alumnus. Naturally, we will delete the email upon graduation at the student's request. Your son's email will be printed on the schedule that you receive. **Since 95% of our communication with you is via email, please let us know if you change your email address.** And check your spam filter as sometimes our emails end up there.



*Covington Mayor Mark Johnson (SPS '75) thanks the lacrosse team for their day of service at the Covington Community Garden on a hot July day!
Geaux LAX Wolves!*

ENROLLMENT: We open this year with a healthy enrollment. 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.**

EXTRACURRICULARS: New parents often ask how their sons find out about our extracurricular program. Shortly after school opens, we will introduce students to our offerings.

HELPING SAINT PAUL'S: If you shop at Office Depot, please 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) and we receive a portion of sales from Amazon Prime. These are painless ways to help SPS.

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.** We will issue one to your son on picture day. You will have to pay for a replacement if he loses the one we give him, or if for some reason you want an extra one.

LOST AND FOUND: At the end of last year, we “rounded up” dozens of sweatshirts, uniform shirts, pants, socks, books, lunch boxes and numerous other items that were “shed” or left behind by students in various parts of the campus and never claimed. Everything was washed and dried. Most of the items had NO IDENTIFYING INFO and the ones that did had info that was illegible. Again, PLEASE stress with your son the need for personal responsibility of his items. **Please clearly label all clothing.** The items collected at the end of May represent hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars.

MINI-SCHEDULE NIGHT: We will hold our annual mini-schedule for parents on Monday, August 22, beginning at 6:30. Come follow your son’s schedule with ten-minute classes and meet his teachers. This is always a popular event, so place it on your calendars. Thanks!

NEED MORE INFORMATION? For academic issues, contact teachers, counselors, Principal Joe Dickens, Assistant Principal Lee Pierre, or Curriculum Coordinator Matt Pinero. For discipline, attendance, or dress code questions, 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 or hit “reply” to this email!**

NEW PARENTS: We traditionally hold a **welcome reception and information** meeting for **new parents.** **This year, it is scheduled for** Monday, August 15, at 6:30 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. The program will be over by 8:00.

NEW 8TH GRADE AND NEW 9TH GRADE STUDENT ORIENTATION: Our Lasallian Student Leaders are planning an Orientation Session for our incoming 8th graders and NEW 9th graders on Tue, August 2, from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. An invitation was sent to you, and we hope you have marked this date on your calendars and plan to be present. Naturally, attendance is optional, but the evening will be an informative introduction to SPS. Do not worry, however, if you cannot make it. We will “orient” you when school begins. Please RSVP by emailing our Lasallian Youth Leader moderator, Mr. Jeff Ramon, at j.ramon@stpauls.com.

NEWS WORTH NOTING: I have published this for the past few years, but it bears repeating – perhaps now more than ever. Parents, please stress responsible social media use with your sons and monitor his accounts.

- **Harvard Rescinded Admission of 10 Students Over Obscene Facebook Messages:** A definite lesson for our students. Here’s the National Public Radio article:
http://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2017/06/06/531591202/harvard-rescinds-admission-of-10-students-over-obscene-facebook-messages?utm_source=npr_newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=20170611&utm_campaign=&utm_term=

OFFICE DEPOT: If you shop at Office Depot, give SPS school code (70041640) or just mention our name and we receive 5% of purchase!

OKTOBERFEST: Holy Schnitzel! Oktoberfest is back!! 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 adult celebration will make its oom-pa return with contest traditions for best costume, stein-holding and the best chicken dance, along with dancing, live entertainment and an array of authentic, Bavarian food



The poster features a blue background with a white and blue diamond pattern. At the top, it reads "SAINT PAUL'S SCHOOL COVINGTON, LA" in a curved banner. Below this is the school's crest, which includes a shield with a cross, a star, and a banner that says "SAINT PAULS 1911". The word "OKTOBERFEST" is written in large, white, stylized letters. Below the title, it says "EST. 2021" and "SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 6:00PM" with a green hat icon. At the bottom, there is a yellow location pin icon, the address "917 S. Jahncke Avenue Covington, LA 70433", the phone number "(985) 892-3200 ext. 1970", and the website "www.stpauls.com".

[I want to SPONSOR OKTOBERFEST](#)

Live entertainment and authentic Bavarian food!

PE UNIFORMS: For the past two years, we have not required that students wear the SPS PE uniform due to COVID as we did not want them crowding in the locker rooms. We now will return to our pre-Covid policy: students in PE must wear PE uniforms, available at the bookstore. We will be lenient the first week or so, but please have your son start bringing his PE uniform to school if he is taking PE.

PICTURES: Ordering school pictures is optional;

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.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT: all individuals planning to volunteer with St. Paul's must complete safe environment training as mandated by the Archdiocese of New Orleans.



Marching Wolves learn their steps at band camp. Geaux Marching Wolves!

SUPPLIES: Needed school supplies are posted on our school web site (www.stpauls.com). Just click on the link on the homepage. Supplies are listed by COURSE. While we encourage you to shop at the Mothers Club bookstore, if you shop at Office Depot, give the SPS school code (70041640) and SPS receives 5%!

SENIOR PARENTS: Note the following upcoming senior events in Senior Week, Aug 15 - 19. Again, these are all TENTATIVE due to COVID:

- **Senior Class BBQ, Tue, Aug 16, 5 – 7 pm.** Appropriate casual attire required. This is for seniors only.
- **March through the Arch, Thu, Aug 18, at 8 a.m.** Senior parents are invited to attend this traditional "rite of passage" ceremony for our seniors. SPS dress uniform required of seniors.
- **Senior-Parent Continental Breakfast** following the March. The breakfast will be in the cafeteria and "al fresco" (from the Italian meaning "in the fresh" -- in this case, fresh air! We will have some outdoor seating.) Following breakfast, seniors will participate in **Senior Unity Day**, followed by complimentary lunch and then Ring Ceremony practice. I will dismiss them following practice – usually around 2 pm (or earlier if they cooperate!) Seniors may remain in dress uniform or change to regular school uniform after the breakfast.
- **Senior Ring Ceremony at 6:30 pm** in the Briggs Assembly Center. Senior parents are encouraged to attend this traditional ceremony, a highlight of the senior year. ALL seniors are required to attend the ceremony whether they are receiving a ring or not. And, yes, family rings can be used. **Seniors' dress for the ceremony is ANY dress shirt, tie, slacks, shoes and socks. Note: There is NO school-sponsored "senior party" following the ring ceremony. We urge parents to investigate if their son**

says he is going to such an event. And, naturally, seniors are minors in the eyes of the law and, therefore, alcohol at any post-ring ceremony event is inappropriate and illegal. While we don't limit attendees, more than 4-5 guests per seniors will cause people to stand!

- **Fri, Aug 19, is the Senior Ring Holiday. Seniors do not need to come to school.**

SENIOR PORTRAITS: Expressions Photography will be at St. Paul's School to photograph the Class of 2023 on **Mon & Tue, August 1-2**. Here is the info that Mrs. Miller emailed to all senior parents in mid-July:

- Expressions Photography will be at St. Paul's School to photograph the senior class of 2023 on Monday, August 1 and Tuesday, August 2.
- Each senior will be photographed in cap and gown and tuxedo (both will be provided by Expressions).
- When: Seniors/parents have received a detailed email on with the designated date (either 8/1 or 8/2) and time. It is important to arrive promptly so your scheduled group can be photographed in a timely manner. Groups will be in alpha order, so Monday 8/1 will be Achee—Martin and Tuesday 8/2 will be Mary—Yancey. If you know of a conflict, please email as soon as possible so I can adjust schedule
- Where: Lobby area of New Gym
- What to wear: White dress shirt and school tie with a plain white tee-shirt underneath. You can wear shorts (any kind are fine as long as they are in good repair) with dress shirt because you are only being photographed from the waste up. Seniors should be clean-shaven and have an appropriate school-length haircut. Facial hair will show if not properly shaved. Portraits:
- After seniors are photographed, the senior proofs/order form will be mailed to your home address within the next three weeks. An email will be sent to notify families when proofs are mailed. If you do NOT receive proofs within a reasonable amount of time, please call the studio.
- Return completed order form and proofs to Expressions.
- Select tux pose that will be used for the yearbook (even if you DO NOT order portraits, a tux pose MUST be selected).

STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK SIGNATURE CARD: The Student-Parent Handbook is posted on the Student Life page of our website. All students and parents must be familiar with our policies and agree to follow them. As evidence of that agreement, **students and parents must sign a form attesting that they have read the Handbook, understand the rules contained within the document, and intend to follow them. Print out the signature card (posted on the website under "recent news" and which is also the last page of the handbook) and bring it on their first day of school.**

SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: 988: On July 16, 2022, Louisiana joined the rest of the nation in launching 988, the new three-digit dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to make it easier for people to receive assistance during a mental health crisis. When you call (multiple languages), text (English only) or chat 988, you will be connected to trained, compassionate crisis counselors who will listen to your concerns, provide support, and connect you with local resources. The chat feature is available through the Lifeline's [website \(www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/\)](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/). People can use 988 if they are having thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crises, or any other kind of emotional distress. People can also dial 988 if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support.



WDSU News ✓

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STARTING TODAY: It now only takes three digits to reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. People who need to talk to trained professionals can dial or text 988.

bit.ly/3odaQUI



988

The mental health version of 911 is set to launch nationwide July 16.

Please discuss this new service with your sons!

SUMMER READING: All students should be finishing their summer reading.

WEEKLY HUMOR: Some jokes to start off the school year:

- *Joey: "My new teacher's mean but fair." Mom: What does that mean? Joey: She's mean to everyone.*
- *Johnny: Mom, I don't like my teacher; she told me to sit in front for the present but didn't give me one.*
- *Son: I can't go to school today; I don't feel well. Mom: Where don't you feel well? Son: In school!*
- *Teacher: How can you make so many mistakes in a day? Johnny: I get up early!*
- *Teacher: You missed school yesterday, didn't you? Johnny: Not very much!*
- *Johnny: If I took the school bus home, mom would make me bring it back.*
- *Johnny: I don't deserve a zero on the test! Teach: Yes, but that's the lowest mark I can give!*
- *TEACHER: Why are you late? STUDENT: Class started before I got here.*
- *Teacher: Where's your homework?" Johnny: "My dog ate it." Teacher: "Do you expect me to believe that?" Johnny: "I swear it's true. I had to smear it with honey, but I finally got him to eat it."*

- *Teacher (after explaining map reading): "If I asked you to meet me for lunch at 23 degrees, 4 minutes north latitude and 45 degrees, 15 minutes east longitude, where would I be? Johnny: You'd be eating alone!*
- *TEACHER: Why are you doing multiplication on the floor? BOB: You told me to do it without using tables.*
- *TEACHER: Johnny, how do you spell 'crocodile?' Johnny: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L' TEACHER: No, that's wrong Johnny: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.*
- *TEACHER: Raymond, what is the chemical formula for water? RAYMOND: H I J K L M N O. TEACHER: What are you talking about? RAYMOND: Yesterday you said it's H to O.*
- *TEACHER: Why do you always get so dirty? Bob: I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are.*
- *TEACHER: Robert, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy? ROBERT: It's the same dog.*
- *Teacher: What's a person who keeps talking when people are no longer interested? Pupil: A teacher*
- *Due to current economic conditions the light at the end of the tunnel has been turned off!*

A LOOK AHEAD:

August

- 1 & 2 – Senior Portraits; Faculty Meetings
- 4 – ABCD - First Day of School – Pictures during religion periods/Level assemblies after announcements
- 5 – EFGA – Pictures during religion periods/Level assemblies after announcements
- 8 – BCDE – Level assemblies after announcements
- 9 – FGAB – President’s Assembly
- 10 – CDEF – Mass (dress uniform day)
- 11 – GABC
- 12 – DEFG – Back-to-School Dances
- 15 – ABCD – New Parent Reception
- 16 – EFGA – Pack Time (get involved); senior BBQ; get involved day at lunch
- 17 – BCDE
- 18 – FGAB – MTTA/ Senior Unity Day/ Senior Ring Ceremony
- 19 – CDEF – Senior Ring Holiday/8th grade officer class elections
- 22 – GABC – Parent Teacher Mini-Schedule Night/ Safety Week Drills
- 23 – DEFG – President’s Assembly/Shadow Day
- 24 – ABCD – Safety Week Drills
- 25 – EFGA – Safety Week Drills
- 26 – BCDE – Pep Rally/ Safety Week Drills
- 29 – FGAB
- 30 – CDEF – Sudden Impact Group 1
- 31 – GABC



Frisbee team members Caleb and Jackson attended the World Games in Birmingham, AL to watch the USA Frisbee Team defeat Australia!

September

- 1 – DEFG
- 2 – Lasallian Convocation for Faculty (no classes for students)
- 5 – Labor Day Holiday
- 6 – ABCD – Pack Time
- 7 – EFGA
- 8 – BCDE
- 9 – FGAB – Mass (dress uniform day)
- 12 – CDEF
- 13 – GABC – Assembly/ Shadow Day
- 14 – DEFG – Teacher Appreciation Lunch/SPS Birthday Parade/ Snack Day*
- 15 – ABCD – late start*
- 16 –EFGA
- 19 – BCDE
- 20 – FGAB
- 21 – CDEF – Morning prayer service
- 22 – GABC
- 23 – DEFG
- 24 – Jr High Homecoming Dance
- 26 – ABCD – Homecoming Week begins
- 27 – EFGA – President’s Assembly/Shadow Day
- 28 – BCDE
- 29 – FGAB
- 30 – CDE* Field Day followed by pep rally w/ SSA

October

- 1 – Senior High Homecoming Dance
- 3 – FGAB – Morning Prayer Service/Guardian Angels Theme
- 4 – CDEF – Pack Time
- 5 – GABC
- 6 – DEFG
- 7 – AB – End of 1st Quarter/Grandparents Day – 11 AM Dismissal
- 10 - CDEF
- 11 – GABC - President’s Assembly/ Shadow Day/Teacher Appreciation Lunch/ Snack Day
- 12 – DEFG - PSAT*
- 13 – ABCD – late start*
- 14 - EFGA
- 17 – BCDE – Parent/Teacher Conferences 5-7 in BAC
- 18 – FGAB – Pack Time
- 19 – CDEF
- 20 – GABC
- 21 – DEFG
- 24 – ABCD
- 25 – EFGA – President’s Assembly/Shadow Day
- 26 – BCDE

- 27 - FGAB
- 28 – CDEF – Pep Rally
- 29 – Open House for Prospective Students
- 31 – GABC

November

- 1 – DEFG – Mass w/ SSA (outdoor/dress uniform day)
- 2 – ABCD – Pack Time/ 8th Grade HR Breakfast
- 3 – EFGA – 9th Grade HR Breakfast
- 4 – BCDE – 10th HR Breakfast
- 7 – Archdiocesan Formation Day for Faculty (no classes)
- 8 – FGAB - Arch Day(no classes for seniors)*
- 9 – CDEF - President’s Assembly/Shadow Day (Wed.)
- 10 – GABC -11th HR Breakfast
- 11 – DEFG - 12th HR Breakfast
- 14 - ABCD
- 15 – EFGA
- 16 – BCDE
- 17 – FGAB -- late start*
- 18 – CDEF
- 21-25 – Thanksgiving Holidays
- 28 - GABC
- 29 – DEFG - Pack Time – Luminarias
- 30 – ABCD

December

- 1 – EFGA – Luminaries Tonight*/Snack Day
- 2 – BCDE
- 5 – FGAB
- 6 – CDEF – President’s Assembly
- 7 – GABC
- 8 – DEF – * late start for remediation & make-up work/mass (dress uniform day)
- 9 – GABC
- 12 – DEFG
- 13-16 – First Semester Exams
- 16 Faculty Luncheon

January

- 3 – ABCD – Classes Resume
- 4 – EFGA – President’s Assembly (Wed.)
- 5 – BCDE
- 6 – FGAB
- 9 – CDEF
- 10 – GABC – Pack Time
- 11 – DEFG

12 – ABCD – late start*
13 – EFGA
16 – MLK Holiday
17 – BCDE – President’s Assembly
18 – FGAB – 8th HR Breakfast
19 – CDEF – 9th HR Breakfast
20 – GABC – 10th HR Breakfast
23 – DEFG
24 – ABCD – Pack Time
25 – EFGA – Mass – Feast of St. Paul (dress uniform day)/Snack Day
26 – BCDE – 11th HR Breakfast
27 – FGAB - 12th HR Breakfast
30 – CDEF
31 – GABC – President’s Assembly

February

1 – DEFG
2 – ABCD
3 – EFGA
6 – BCDE – Parent/Teacher Conferences 5-7 in BAC
7 – FGAB – Pack Time
8 – CDEF – Pre-ACT 10
9 – GABC – Pre-ACT 9
10 – DEFG – Pre-ACT 8
13 – ABCD
14 – EFGA – President’s Assembly (dress uniform day)/Snack Day
15 – BCDE – Junior Retreat
16 – FGAB – Junior Retreat
17 – Faculty retreat (no classes)
27 – CDEF
28 – GABC – Pack Time

March

1 – DEFG
2 – ABCD
3 – EFGA
6 – BCDE
7 – FGAB – President’s Assembly
8 – CDEF
9 – GABC
10 – DEFG – End of 3rd Quarter
13 – ABCD
14 – EFG – SSA Challenge/1 PM Activities in Stadium*
15 – ABCD
16 – EFGA – late start*

17 – BCDE – Mass (dress uniform day)/Snack Day
20-24 – Senior Retreats*
20 – FGAB
21 – CDEF
22 – GABC
23 – DEFG – 8th HR Breakfast
24 – ABCD – 9th HR Breakfast
27 – EFGA
28 – BCDE – President’s Assembly
29 – FGAB – 10th HR Breakfast
30 – CDEF – 11th HR Breakfast
31- GABC – 12th HR Breakfast

April

1 – Junior-Senior Prom
3 – DEFG
4 – ABCD – Pack Time*
5 – EFGA – Passion Play for Juniors
6 – BCDE – Mandatum (dress uniform day)
7 - 14 – Easter Holidays
17-21 – Leadership Week
17 – FGAB
18 – CDEF – Leadership Breakfast/Teacher Appreciation Lunch/Snack Day
19 – GABC – Leadership Guest Speaker
20 – DEFG
21 – ABCD – Year in Review Assembly
24 – EFGA – Last Pack Time for Seniors; Class Level Elections
25 – BCDE – President’s Assembly (last for seniors)
26 – FGAB – Senior Exams
27 – CDEF – Senior Exams
28 – GABC – Senior Exams

May

1 – DEFG – Mass (dress uniform day)
2 – ABCD – Pack Time (last one)
3 – EFGA
4 – BCDE – late start*
5 – FGAB
8 – CDEF – 8th Grade Exams
9 – GABC – Last President’s Assembly / 8th Grade Exams
10 – DEFG – 8th Grade Exams/Senior Grad Night
11 – ABCD – Athletic Awards/8th Grade Promotion
12 – EFGA – Academic Awards – dress uniform day
13 – 12th Grade Graduation
15 – BCDE

- 16 – FGAB
- 17 – CDEFG*
- 18-23 – Final Exams
- 23 – Last Day of School – 11:30 Dismissal/ Faculty Luncheon

I will again close with the passage that I like to use at the beginning of each new school year. I've been using it now for 35 years, but it still makes sense today! I wish I could take credit for the quotation, but it was written in the 1960's by the headmaster of St. Alban's School in New York. It provides food for thought for all of us:

The raising of children is a lot of fun and a lot of pain, whether it has to do with cars, books, the opposite sex, parties, or drinking, but it is also the greatest privilege we can have in life. We shall do it well or poorly, depending upon the quality of life we ourselves have been able to develop, the way we are able to learn, the humility of heart that is ours, which helps us to recognize that we do not have all the answers and that we can learn from each other, occasionally from our children, through whom God has been known to speak even to parents, and especially from that teacher who we recognize as The Teacher, Jesus the Lord.

Whew! That was a lot of information! Hope I have not scared you off! I am sure I've forgotten something but that's enough for now. **Email me if you still have a question about the opening of school.** As usual, I will close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which is now officially off the air but which I still listen to on its website): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings. Pray for us daily! Thanks for being part of SPS! May our year be one of grace and blessing!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC
 Anticipating a Great 2022 - 23 as the 17th Christian Brother President/CEO (yes, I'm still here!) of Saint Paul's

Answer to Aug 3 Trivia Question: Columbus's three ships were the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria.

A Prayer for the Start of the School Year

Blessed are you, Lord God, Creator of body and mind and heart; you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge to guide your people in all their ways. At the beginning of this new school year, we implore your mercy: bless the students, teachers, and staff of our Catholic schools that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love as we learn from you and each other how to follow your Son Jesus.

Expand the horizons of our minds, that we may grow in wisdom, understanding, and knowledge; deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways; and enliven our faith to reach out to those in need. Glory and praise to you, Lord God, in the Church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever. Amen





