

*The SPS President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*  
*Celebrating 111 years of educational excellence in Covington*  
*342 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world*  
*August 08 – 14, 2022*



Welcome to the first full week of the 2022 - 23 school year. Your cooperation made the first two days last week very smooth. Thanks! Most are adjusting to the new safety protocols we have in place and are complying with dress code enforcement. Wonderful.

Now let's continue the energy of last week and remain faithful to doing God's work: (*Domine Opus Tuum.*). Remember, your work as parents and our work at Saint Paul's is God's work – and it is larger than just our classroom or this campus.

Welcome to a year of doing God's work in promoting the earthly and heavenly salvation of your children and our students. Remember – you as parents and we as teachers are to be instruments of salvation to our children and students! Welcome to a year in which we will continue to strive to do the ordinary things in extraordinary ways – and to make courageous choices (as we invoked during Brother James Miller's year as our icon), to do God's will (from Sister Louise's year), to remain faithful (from Saint Brother Solomon's year), to let us ourselves be guided to God by Our Lady of the Star in her year, to invoke the intercession of our holy founding Brothers to help us continue the Lasallian Catholic Mission (as we did in 2018), to ask Brother Scubilion to help us respect all persons, to ask the Saintly Brothers of Turon to help us live the Gospel and to ask the Holy Guardian Angels to guide and guard us.

**Let's pray for and support each other in this ministry of educating our students (your children), thus continuing the Lasallian Catholic tradition of transforming lives since 1680.**

**Mon, Aug 8 (B C D E; level assemblies) Feast of St. Dominic, founder of the Dominican Order.** We wish our Dominican sisters, brothers, and priests a blessed and happy feast day!

- **This Day in History:** In 1786, Congress unanimously chooses the dollar as the money unit for US.
- **Sneak Some Zucchini onto Your Neighbor's Porch Day – self-explanatory!**
- **TDIH: Brother John Fairfax, FSC was born!** Brother John turns 95 years young today. After an extraordinary career as an exemplary educator, he continues to be an important member of the SPS community through his friendly, generous, concerned and compassionate spirit. *Ad multos annos, Frater Johannes!* Happy Birthday!

**Tue, Aug 9 (President's Assembly; F G A B)**

- **TDIH:** In 1974, President Richard Nixon resigned at noon as 37th president of the US -- the only president ever to resign. VP Gerald Ford became 38<sup>th</sup> president. Ford, the first president who came to the office through appointment instead of election, replaced Spiro Agnew as VP only 8 months before. In a political scandal independent of the Nixon administration's wrongdoings in the Watergate affair, Agnew had been forced to resign after he was charged with income tax evasion and political corruption.
- **Book Lover's Day:** What a great day to begin the year!

**Wed, Aug 10 (C D E F; SCHOOL MASS; DRESS UNIFORM)**

- **TDIH:** In 1776, news of the July 4<sup>th</sup> Declaration of Independence reaches King George III of England.
- **TDIH II:** In 1945, Japan announces it will surrender, following the atomic bombing of Nagasaki.
- **S'mores Day!** Celebrate the opening of school and make some s'mores with the family!
- **Marching Wolves Booster Club Mtg (7 in band room)**



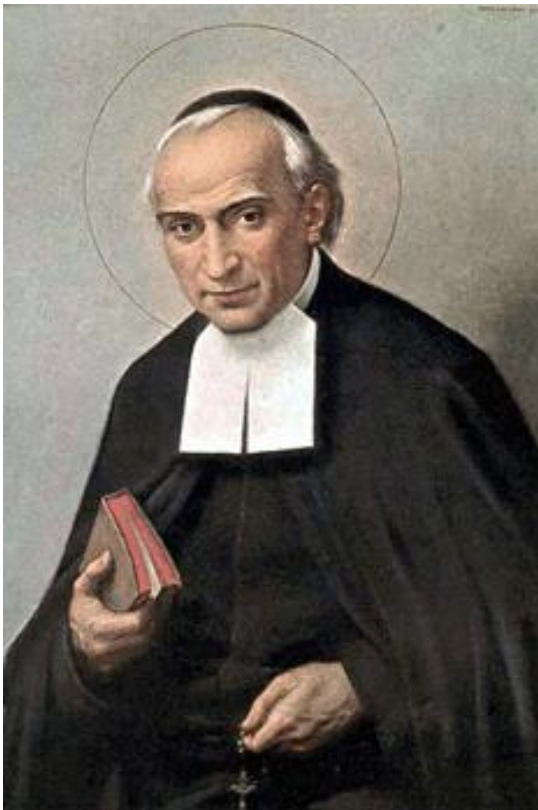
*Lots of smiles in the BAC for picture taking!*

### Thu, Aug 11 (G A B C)

- **TDIH:** In 1951 - The first major league baseball game to be televised in color was broadcast. The Brooklyn Dodgers defeated the Boston Braves 8-1.
- **TDIH:** 1994, major league baseball strike leads to cancellation of World Series (the world shrugged.)

### Fri, Aug 12 (D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 1877, Thomas Edison invented the phonograph and made the first sound recording
- **TDIH:** In 1981, IBM releases its first personal computer (PC), a Model 5150 that had a whopping 16K memory and used 5.25-inch floppy discs (who remembers these?) Today's most basic phone can do more!
- **TDIH:** In 1939, *The Wizard of Oz* premieres in Oconomowoc, WI. We're not in Kansas anymore, Toto!
- **TDIH:** In 1961, East Germany begins construction of the Berlin Wall.
- **World Elephant Day:** Celebrate the elephant today!
- **Middle Child Day:** As a middle child myself, I'll celebrate!
- **Back to School Dances:** 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> at SSA gym; 10-12 at SPS BAC; see below for more info.



### Sat, Aug 13 – Feast of Saint Brother Benilde, FSC

- Today we celebrate the feast of Saint Brother Benilde (1805-1862) -- the very person after whom Benilde Hall is named. His story should inspire us all. Doing the common things in an uncommon way led to Benilde's sainthood. This was our theme four years ago, and I don't want us to forget it. When you pass Benilde Hall, ask this wonderful Christian Brother saint to assist you in doing the common things in an uncommonly good way! But what else do you really know about St. Benilde? We ask him in prayer several times a day to help us to do ordinary things extraordinarily well. But, what do you really know about him?
  - Did you know he was born a hunchback and unable to straighten out his right leg?
  - Did you know that he was bullied in school because of his appearance?
  - DYK that that once the boys in found out how intelligent he was they called on him to help with their studies?
  - DYK that he was only 4'9" tall?
- DYK that in his early 30's he was already school principal?
  - DYK that he inspired over 200 men to become Brothers?
  - DYK he learned sign language to help deaf students?
  - DYK he buried the dead, fed the hungry, visited the sick, and conducted adult night classes ?

- The many things St. Benilde did for the young to give them a human and Christian education seem quite extraordinary, but he had a very humble beginning. Although he was quite intelligent, initially the Brothers did not allow him to teach because of his appearance. For two years, following the Novitiate, he served in the community of Aurillac as a domestic Brother. He was given the assignment of cleaning the house, taking care of the vegetable garden, doing dishes and preparing meals. He did all of these very ordinary things very well. Eventually, he was allowed to teach and in a very short time he became a great leader and good example to all the Brothers. He was a man of extraordinary charity. He died at only 57, his reputation for holiness spread rapidly and he was the first teaching Brother canonized in 1967.
- **TDIH:** In 1521, Spanish conqueror Hernando Cortez captured Mexico City from the Aztecs.

**Sun, Aug 14** – If today were not a Sunday, we would celebrate the **Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe**. Born in Poland in 1894, Maximilian became a Franciscan. After earning a doctorate in theology, he did missionary work in Japan and India, returning to Poland in 1936 due to ill health. In 1941, he was arrested by Nazis and sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz. During his escape, ten men were *chosen to die*. Father Kolbe offered himself in place of a young husband and father. He was the last to die, enduring two weeks of starvation, thirst, and neglect. He was canonized by Pope Saint John Paul II in 1982.



*Connor leads pre-freshmen on tour during orientation.*

- **TDIH:** In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs into law the Social Security Act.
- **TDIH:** In 1914, the American-built Panama Canal is inaugurated with the passage of the US vessel Ancon.
- **Navajo Code Talkers Day** celebrates Navajo men who transmitted secret communications in WW II and played a vital role in helping America win the war.
- **Creamsicle Day:** Enjoy this iconic summer treat!
- **Financial Awareness Day:** How much do students know about personal finance? How much do we?

# Rise Up, O Men of God

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

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

**ADMISSIONS FOR 2023-24:** Yes, it is time to think about NEXT year! We will soon begin our Shadow Day program for current 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> graders considering SPS for NEXT year. We count on you to spread the good news about SPS to your friends and neighbors. Here is the Shadow Day Sign Up info:

The graphic features a yellow background with a blue border. At the top left is the school crest, followed by the text "SAINT PAUL'S SCHOOL" and "WWW.STPAULS.COM". Below this are two circular seals from the U.S. Department of Education, dated 2021 and 2015. On the right, a circular inset shows two students talking, with the text "A good place to grow up!" written in a script font. In the center, three male students are smiling, wearing blue school apparel. On the left, a yellow box with a blue border contains the following text:

**SHADOW DAYS**

- Aug 23
- Sept 13 and 27
- Oct 11 and 25
- Nov 9 and 15

**OPEN HOUSE**

- Sat, Oct 29
- 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

At the bottom left, the contact information is listed: (985) 892-3200 x1903 and admissions@stpauls.com.

The link to create an account and sign up for a shadow day is <https://forms.rediker.com/stpauls>  
This is also the link for Open House and submitting an application.



*Coach Mick teaches tie-tying to 8<sup>th</sup> graders in PE! It was quite a sight!*

**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.**

**BOOK STORE:** The Mothers' Club Bookstore will be open 7:30 am to 8:15 am & 11:00 am to 12:30 pm each school day. **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.



### **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION:**

Box Tops for Education continues to be an easy way to earn money for Saint Paul's. The traditional clip box tops have been replaced with an easy-to-use app. All you have to do is buy Box Tops participating products (like Cheerios!) and scan your grocery receipt. Box Tops are worth \$.10 each and twice a year, our school receives a check.

Download the Box Tops for Education app here:

[https://btfe.smart.link/c2jjdifkw?referral\\_code=R26O6QQ0](https://btfe.smart.link/c2jjdifkw?referral_code=R26O6QQ0)

Use this referral code R26O6QQ0 when you sign up and you'll get 20 Bonus Box Tops when you scan your first receipt now through 05/31/2023, while supplies last!

If you have any questions email Shannon d'Hemecourt at [s.dhemecourt@stpauls.com](mailto:s.dhemecourt@stpauls.com)

### **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.** Plus, if a student wants "seconds", he must pay for the additional lunch along with any "extras".
- **Students may not "order out", e.g., pizza, or have lunches delivered. WE CANNOT DELIVER LUNCHES TO STUDENTS. Please do not ask us to do so.**
- **Students participating in the cafeteria program must have money in their accounts. You can do this on line at <https://schoolcafe.org/>**
- **Students MUST use their ID cards for check out in the cafeteria. A temporary ID was issued them on their first day of school.**
- **Free and reduced meal applications can be found on the cafeteria website: <https://schoolcafe.org/>**  
This is not embarrassing to your son. No one knows.

## CALENDAR FOR 2022-23:

Mon - Tues, Aug 1 & 2	Teacher Meetings
Tue, Aug 2	Orientation for 8 <sup>th</sup> grade and new 9 <sup>th</sup> grade students (5-7 pm)
Wed, Aug 3	Teacher Prep Day
Thurs, Aug 4	School Opens <b>with a full day of instruction</b>
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. 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. In the afternoons, it is OK to come a few minutes after 3, which allows the line to dwindle. Your son is safe, waiting in Founders' Circle.

### **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 only outside. If you need to call or text your son, do so during the lunch hour – NOT during CLASSTIME. Disciplinary action and fines will continue for violation of this policy. With our campus wide wi-fi, he can use his phone to access the internet if needed. And, yes, our security firewalls are in effect.

**CROSS COUNTRY:** Attention all students--If you are interested in joining the Cross Country Team, there will be a brief meeting during the first half of lunch on Tuesday 8/9 in front of the Alumni Office behind Benilde Hall.

**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:** Thanks for your assistance in making sure your sons are in compliance with our dress and grooming regulations. Several students were denied picture taking due to non-compliance. Soon, disciplinary action will be taken. 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.**

**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!

**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 neighbors and with Cov 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 LA law to use a cell phone (except hands free) during school zone times. Don't drop your son off 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 is issued to all students. The format is Firstname.Lastname.gradyr@stpauls.com, e.g., [John.Smith.2023@stpauls.com](mailto: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.

**ENROLLMENT:** We open this year with a very 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.

**HANDBOOK SIGNATURE CARD:** The signed cards are now overdue! Students who have not turned in the card will soon receive detention.

**HELPING SPS:** Don't forget:

- 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 (see above for info)
- We also 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 gave 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.

### **LAST WEEK MUSINGS**

- **Faculty Meetings:** Kudos to Mothers Club for providing lunch for our meetings.
- **Senior Portraits:** The gym lobby worked well, and all was handled well with no class time used. Thanks to Renee Miller for organizing and the senior moms for helping.
- **Student Pictures:** A few hiccups are being corrected. The boys looked great in dress uniforms.
- **Physical Plant** crew responded to every request – the school was ready for the students on Thu.
- **New Student Orientation:** Congrats to all who conducted an organized evening for our new Wolves.
- **Mothers' Club Bookstore:** The moms outdid themselves with service, selection, and smiles.

**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.

**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 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!**

**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. Hope you can join us!

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

SAINT PAUL'S SCHOOL  
COVINGTON, LA



# OKTOBERFEST

EST. 2021  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 6:00PM

A green dirndl hat with a red flower on the side is positioned in the center of the text. The hat is a traditional German headpiece, and the flower is a red carnation. The text 'EST. 2021' is positioned above the hat, and 'SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 6:00PM' is positioned below it, all within a decorative yellow laurel wreath.

917 S. Jahncke Avenue  
Covington, LA 70433

(985) 892-3200 ext. 1970  
www.stpauls.com

**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. For more information, click here: <https://saintpaulsschool.salsalabs.org/oktoberfest2022/index.html>



*Seniors begin their senior year with official portraits!*

**PE UNIFORMS:** We now return to our pre-Covid policy: students in PE must wear PE uniforms, available at the bookstore.

**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 Archdiocese.

**SENIOR PARENTS:** Note the following **upcoming senior events in Senior Week, Aug 15 - 19.**

- **Senior Class BBQ, Tue, Aug 16, 5 – 7 pm.** Appropriate casual attire. 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.**



*Campus flora welcomes the students back!*

**SCHOOL MASS THIS WED:** Our first all-school mass is this Wednesday at 9:30 in the new gym. Students must wear their DRESS Uniforms. We will commission our senior Eucharistic Ministers; their parents have been invited. **We can also accommodate a number of other parents who wish to join us. Just email me and we will have a parent section.**

**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. 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:** On Thursday, we began daily SSR (Sustained Silent Reading) during the first 15 minutes of Block 2. During this time, everyone in the school (students, teachers, administrators, and staff) will read 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 the Wolves on Social Media to see the latest pictures and posts of all the wonderful 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, please speak with your sons about responsible social media use. Inappropriate postings can have legal ramifications. In addition, SPS reserves the right to impose consequences on our students who misuse social media.**



*8<sup>th</sup> graders practice tie-tying during PE last week!*

**STUDENT COUNCIL:** All are welcome to attend the first Student Council meeting of the year on Tuesday in room 107. Please bring your lunch or wait and get lunch after the brief meeting. Elections for the Pre-Freshman class offices of President, Vice-President, and Secretary will be held during the week of August 15. Stay tuned for more details.

**STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK SIGNATURE CARD:** This card is now overdue.

**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.

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



WDSU News ✓

12h · 🌐

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](https://bit.ly/3odaQUI)



# 988

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

**SUPPLIES:** Needed school supplies are posted on our school web site ([www.stpauls.com](http://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%!**

**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.

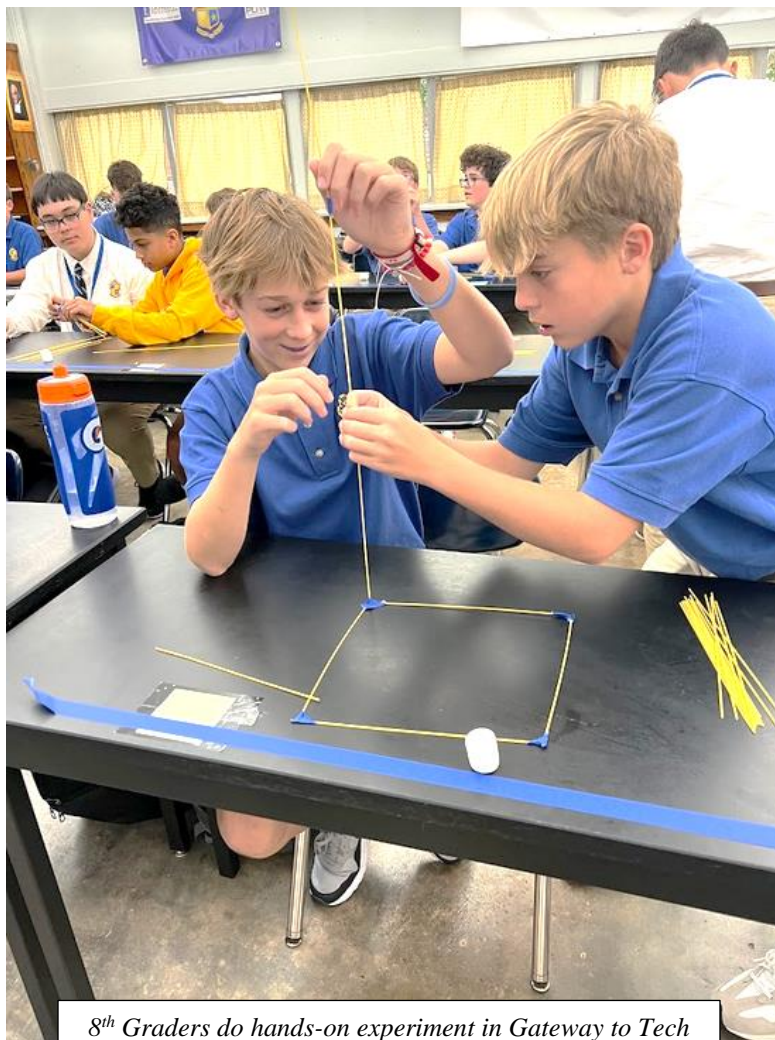


- If you use the LaSalle Drive (main entrance) car line, please wait to the left so that thru traffic can still move through our campus using the right lane.
- Coordinate with your son about where and when you will meet him in the afternoon. If he is not present when you drive through, please proceed 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.

**WEEKLY HUMOR:** In honor of World Elephant Day, with apologies in advance:

- *An elephant that doesn't matter is called an irrelephant [I'm LOLing!]*
- *What's big and grey and wears a mask? The elephantom of the opera!*
- *What do you get when you mix an elephant with a rhino? Elephino [say with a long i]*
- *What do you call an elephant at the North Pole? Lost!*
- *What's grey, has a wand, huge wings and gives money to elephants? The tusk fairy!*
- *What's grey, beautiful and wears glass slippers? Cinderelephant!*
- *When should you feed milk to a baby elephant? When it's a baby elephant!*
- *Why did the elephants get kicked out of the pool? Because their trunks kept falling down*
- *What do you call a passenger plane shaped like an elephant? A dumbo jet [Sorry, Walt!]*
- *What did the grape say when the elephant stood on it? Nothing, it just let out a little wine!*
- *If you cross a parrot with an elephant, you get an animal that tells you everything that it remembers!*
- *What did the elephant say when the man grabbed him by the tail? This is my end!*
- *Elephants have short tails because they can't remember long stories!*
- *What do elephants sing at Christmas? Noel-ephants, Noel-ephants... [HA!]*
- *Elephants don't like playing cards in the jungle because of all the cheetahs!*
- *Teacher: "Name six wild animals" Pupil: "Four elephants and two lions!"*



8<sup>th</sup> Graders do hands-on experiment in Gateway to Tech

- *What name do you give an elephant that lies across the middle of a tennis court? Annette! [Hilarious!]*
- *What do you get when you cross an elephant with a fish? Swimming Trunks*
- *The last to leave the ark were the elephants as they had to pack trunks!*

## **A LOOK AHEAD:**

### **August**

- 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

### **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; in-school ACT for seniors
- 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 – 10<sup>th</sup> 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 -11<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- 11 – DEFG - 12<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- 14 - ABCD

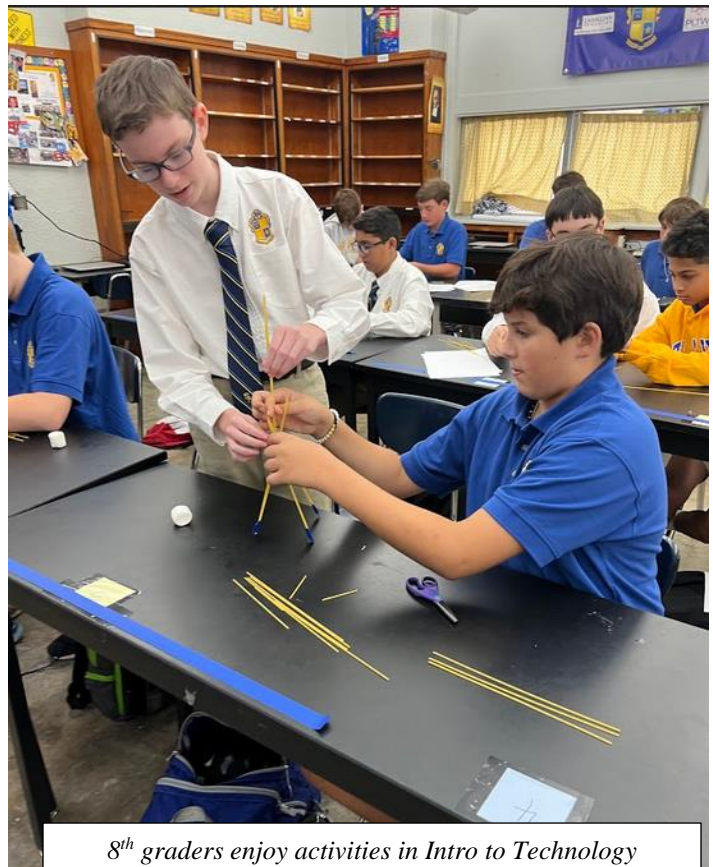
- 15 – EFGA
- 16 – BCDE
- 17 – FGAB -- late start\*
- 18 – CDEF
- 21-25 – Thanksgiving Holidays
- 28 - GABC
- 29 – DEFG - Pack Time – Luminarias\_
- 30 – ABCD

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



*8<sup>th</sup> graders enjoy activities in Intro to Technology*

## **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 – In-school ACT for juniors
- 8 – CDEF
- 9 – GABC
- 10 – DEFG – End of 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 – 8<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- 24 – ABCD – 9<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- 27 – EFGA
- 28 – BCDE – President’s Assembly
- 29 – FGAB – 10<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- 30 – CDEF – 11<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- 31- GABC – 12<sup>th</sup> 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 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Exams
- 9 – GABC – Last President’s Assembly / 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Exams
- 10 – DEFG – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Exams/Senior Grad Night
- 11 – ABCD – Athletic Awards/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion
- 12 – EFGA – Academic Awards – dress uniform day
- 13 – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation
- 15 – BCDE
- 16 – FGAB
- 17 – CDEFG\*
- 18-23 – Final Exams
- 23 – Last Day of School – 11:30 Dismissal/ Faculty Luncheon

Whew! That’s enough for now! I’m sure I’ve forgotten something so email me if you still have a question about the opening of school.

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 have a good beginning! Thanks for being part of Saint Paul's! May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and call on me if I can help!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Off to a Great Start for 2022 - 23 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)

***Have a great Lasallian Opening of School!***

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***Please join me in prayer for our new school year. Here is one you can use:***

**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

+++++



***...by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, doing God's will, remaining faithful, being guided to God, continuing the Mission, and living courageously, respecting all persons and living the Gospel, and praying to our guardian angels to protect us!***

# Holy Guardian Angels



Holy Guardian Angels,  
guide and guard us.





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