



# Our Friend in Jesus

*A Message from Principal Todora...*



Jesus is our faithful friend who walks with all of us at every moment. His reflection of love manifests itself in all the wonderful times of our lives, as well as the challenging times.

Live in the moment and seize every opportunity to spend time with your child to be present with Christ. Make the little joys in life become gifts to God through love.

This time of year, parents ask what they can do to help their child grow and learn over the summer. Our answer is: Be Present! Spend time reading with them, have fun reviewing math facts with them, slow down, and don't worry about tomorrow.

Lose the temptation of fear and anxiety and trust in God. Childhood is a joyful time marked by dreams, so embrace every moment with your child to reconnect through love, laughter, and learning.

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**"FOR WE ARE HIS  
HANDIWORK,  
CREATED IN CHRIST  
JESUS FOR THE GOOD  
WORKS THAT GOD  
HAS PREPARED IN  
ADVANCE, THAT WE  
SHOULD LIVE IN  
THEM."**

**EPHESIANS 2:10**

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*Principal Todora*



# April Happenings

The Season of Easter brings new life and hope to our school community. You can tell summer vacation is getting closer! April and May are full of field trips, activities, and prepping for graduation and promotion. We have been busy!







# Let's Get Ready to GROW!

Volunteers have been working hard to prepare our new Educational Sensory Garden in the back playground. Thanks to many generous donors, we are excited to offer this garden as a hands-on, learning area for students to experience gardening, learn about diet and nutrition, and environmental stewardship. The fenced garden features four garden beds, a trellis, bench seating, and several bordering plants. More interactive elements will be added soon!

Special thanks to our Pre3 teacher, Mrs. Cheryl Ransick, and our former School Secretary, Mrs. Mary Thole, for their creative design and gardening knowledge to bring this idea to life!



## Notice From Fr. Pat

April 19, 2023 - NOTICE TO PARENTS AND STAFF

Pursuant to the Illinois Asbestos Abatement Act, you are being notified that asbestos abatement work is to occur in the school toilet rooms beginning on May 30, 2023, and all material must be removed from those areas to be abated prior to the start of work.

Respectfully Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Pat G. Jakel, Pastor  
St. Paul Catholic Church



# Student Files

Does your child need an updated physical, dental, or eye exam for the new school year? Start making your appointments now to keep your student's file current. See a summary of requirements below or [Download the requirements for the 2023-2024 school year here.](#)

## Preschool Students:

Birth Certificate  
Baptismal Certificate  
Physical Exam

## Kindergarten Students:

Birth Certificate  
Baptismal Certificate  
Physical Exam  
Dental Exam  
Eye Exam

## Second Grade:

Dental Exam

## Sixth Grade Students:

Physical Exam  
Dental Exam

## Sports Physicals:

K-8th grade students playing a sport must have a sport physical (within 395 days) or current health exam on file before their first practice.



**All forms are due by September 1st and must be on the required Illinois forms.**

**Health & Eye exams must be completed within one year prior to the first day of school.**

**Dental Exams must be dated after November 15, 2022.**

# Discount Cards

Our most sought after fundraiser continues to be the St. Paul Discount Card! Thank you to all parents and students for selling the cards and to the many businesses who sponsor the cards each year. Mrs. Abert's class was awarded a pizza party for being the top seller! Over 1,400 cards have been sold. Now that's a lot of savings!



thank you thank you thank you





## Americanism Award Winners



Congratulations to Lorelei R. for winning 1st Place in the VFW Auxiliary 12th District 2nd Grade Poster Contest! Lorelei's submission was based on the theme, "My Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Veteran." Her poster is moving up to the State competition!

Congratulations also to 5th grader, Hannah Norgaard, for her first place, "What does patriotism mean to you?," essay. Her essay will also be heading to State! Great job, Girls!

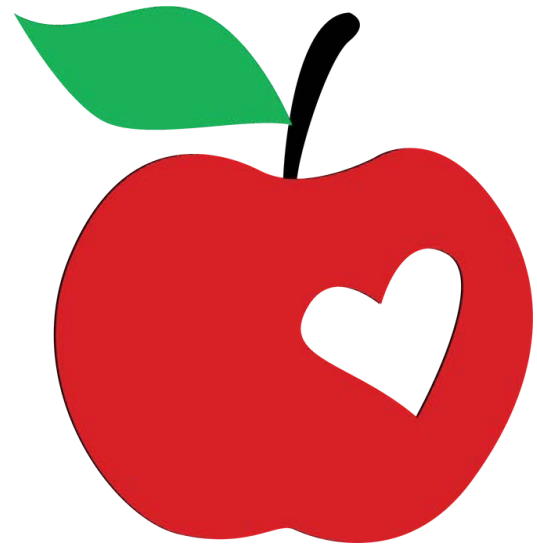


**Mrs. Tallman and Mrs. Strieker's classes celebrated Earth Day at Carlyle Lake on Friday, April 21st.**



## Teacher Appreciation Week - May 8-12th

Teacher Appreciation Week will be held May 8-12th! This special week provides an opportunity for students, parents, and friends to show their appreciation for the many contributions our teachers make in our lives and the lives of our children. Reach out to your child's teacher (or a past teacher!) and let them know how much you care!



## Student Appreciation Day!

Every year, a special day is set aside for our students! On May 17th, several outdoor stations will be set up with games and activities for students to enjoy. Lunch will be provided to all K-8th grade students. The Snowy Sweets Ice Cream Truck will also stop by bringing treats for the entire school community!

Activities will begin at 10 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. for grades K-7th. Preschool-JK students will begin at 10 a.m. and end at 11:30 a.m. More information will be provided as the date gets closer. All 8th grade graduates are welcome to attend!

**Volunteers and donations are needed!**  
**Please sign-up to help [here!](#)**



## Volunteer Requirements

All parents and grandparents offering to volunteer or chaperone at SPS must have a current background check and received safe environment training. This is a requirement of the Springfield Diocese and can be achieved online through their CMG Connect platform. Please [download instructions](#) to get started.

If you have already completed a background check and/or safe environment training (formerly Protecting God's Children), but believe your background check needs to be updated, please check with the school office first to renew. The instructions above are only for those who are NEW to training.



# ST. PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL | 2023-2024 CALENDAR

## AUGUST '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- 14 Open House-Bring Supplies
- 15 Staff In-Service
- 16 First Day of School
- 25 1:35 p.m. Dismissal; No PM Bus
- 28 No School - Kirchenfest Clean-Up

## FEBRUARY '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

- 2 1:35 p.m. Dismissal; No PM Bus  
3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Mid-Term
- 19 No School - Presidents' Day
- 21 2:25 p.m. Dismissal

## SEPTEMBER '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- 4 No School - Labor Day
- 13 2:25 p.m. Dismissal
- 15 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Mid-Term
- 22 1:35 p.m. Dismissal; No PM Bus

## MARCH '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 1 1:35 p.m. Dismissal; No PM Bus  
End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- 15 11:35 a.m. Dismissal; No Bus
- 20 2:25 p.m. Dismissal
- 28-29 No School - Easter Holiday

## OCTOBER '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- 9 No School - Columbus Day
  - 13 End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter
  - 18 2:25 p.m. Dismissal
  - 26 11:35 a.m. Dismissal; No Bus  
P/T Conferences\*
  - 27 No School - P/T Conferences\*
- \*K-8<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to attend with parent.

## APRIL '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

- 1 No School - Easter Holiday
- 2 Classes Resume
- 5 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Mid-Term
- 8 11:35 a.m. Dismissal; No PM Bus
- 17 2:25 p.m. Dismissal

## NOVEMBER '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

- 3 11:35 a.m. Dismissal; No PM Bus
- 10 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Mid-Term
- 15 2:25 p.m. Dismissal
- 22-24 No School - Thanksgiving

## MAY '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- 3 1:35 p.m. Dismissal; No PM Bus
- 9 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion
- 16 Last Day of School  
11:35 a.m. Dismissal  
No PM Bus; No VKC  
End of 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter  
Staff In-Service

## DECEMBER '23

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 1 1:35 p.m. Dismissal; No PM Bus
- 20 11:35 a.m. Dismissal  
No PM Bus; No VKC  
End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter
- 21-29 No School - Christmas Holiday

## JANUARY '24

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- 1-3 No School - Christmas Holiday
- 4 Classes Resume
- 15 No School - MLK Day
- 17 2:25 p.m. Dismissal



**ST. PAUL  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

■ Event/Staff ■ Early Dismissal ■ No School

Revised March 28, 2023



## Enrollment OPEN!

If you know your child will be attending St. Paul School next year, please complete their enrollment online through the [FACTS Family Portal](#). If you would like to enroll a new student in your family, please contact the school office so that we can waive the application fee before applying through the portal.

## Financial Assistance

Grant & Aid applications for K-8th grade must be submitted before April 30, 2023. Applications can be accessed through your [FACTS Family Portal](#). As always, the Business Office (618-654-2339) is happy to answer any questions you may have!

**Thank you to the St. Paul School Educational Foundation and its donors, who provide the financial resources for the tuition assistance program for St. Paul Catholic School.**



Are you passionate about Catholic education and want to be part of the opportunities provided to our students?

Join the SPS Advisory Board!  
Please complete an [application](#) on our Website and contact Principal Todora at:  
[htodora@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:htodora@stpaulhighland.org)  
or 618-654-7525 to learn more.



Come work with us! SPS is seeking a part-time cafeteria, preschool, and Viking Kid Care aide for the 2023-2024 school year. To apply, please visit our [website](#) to download an application and send to Principal Todora at: [htodora@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:htodora@stpaulhighland.org) or contact the school office at 654-7525 for more information. All applicants must be willing to complete safe environment training, employment forms, and a background check.







# Spring Concerts - Save the Dates!



Tuesday, May 2: K, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd will perform at 6:30 p.m. in Church. All students should be in church by 6:15 p.m. Please dress nicely.



Thursday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m.: 4th-8th Grade Chorus will perform in Church, followed by 4th-8th Grade Bands in Trinity Hall. All students should arrive at 6:30 p.m. to get warm-up and set-up. Please dress nicely.

Tuesday, May 9 at 7:00 p.m.: The 4th Graders will present their musical in Trinity Hall. Students should arrive at 6:30 p.m.



**STAFF Spotlight**

Congratulations to our Cafeteria Manager, Mrs. Janet Ezell, for receiving a 100% rating from the Illinois Department of Public Health on April 4, 2023. Impromptu inspections by the Health Department are held to ensure our cafeteria staff is following safe food handling procedures.

She was also commended for her very clean kitchen!

**Thank you to Mrs. Janet and our awesome volunteers for keeping students safe!**



## Family Portal



Have you checked your family portal lately? This is a great resource for accessing student information, grades and report cards, school directory, and calendar of events.

Our school district code is: **STH-IL**

## Student Council Raffles

The St. Paul Student Council members are hosting a Book Basket and Kindle Fire raffle during the Book Fair. Tickets can be purchased for \$3 ea. or two for \$5.

Stop by to see a Student Council member during the Book Fair buying days to enter!





St. Paul Catholic School

Spring  
**BOOK FAIR**  
**AND ART SHOW**

**April 27 - May 5, 2023**  
**St. Paul Room - Trinity Hall**

**PUBLIC SHOPPING DAYS**

**Saturday & Sunday, April 29 & 30 - After Masses  
& After Spring Concerts**

Parents are invited to attend student buying days (see back).  
All major credit cards, cash, and checks (written to St. Paul Catholic  
School) are accepted OR scan QR Code below to shop online!

**ART SHOWINGS**

April 27th: Pre3 - Junior Kindergarten  
May 2nd: Kindergarten - 3rd Grade  
May 4th: 4th - 8th Grade  
*(During Band & Choir Concert)*

**Scan to  
Shop Online!**





## Spring Book Fair School Buying Times

May 1 – 5, 2023

**Monday, May 1, 2023**

2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade <i>New Time!</i>	9:15 – 9:45 a.m.
JKL	10-10:30 a.m.
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	12:45-1:15 p.m.
Kindergarten	1:30-2 p.m.
Additional buying time to all grades and Preschool (after dismissal)	2-4 p.m.; 5:30-7 p.m. Family Reading Night

**Thursday, May 4, 2023**

4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	1:15 – 1:45 p.m. <i>New Time!</i>
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12:20 p.m. - 1 p.m. (after lunch)

**Friday, May 5, 2023 (Last Day Open)**

JKM	9-9:45 a.m. - after Mass
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9:44-10:26 a.m.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	10:30-11 a.m.
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11:08-11:50 a.m.
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12:30-1:12 p.m.

## Art Show (Trinity Hall)

There will be art from all grade levels on display during the concerts in Trinity Hall on the following dates. Parents may pick up art after the May 4<sup>th</sup> concert or on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Thursday, April 27, 2023	Pre3-JK Spring Concert
Tuesday, May 2, 2023	K-3 <sup>rd</sup>
Thursday, May 4, 2023	4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Band and Choir Concert



# St. Paul Catholic School

## Cafeteria Menu

### May 2023

Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
1 1: Hot Dog 2: Cheese Quesadilla Fries Applesauce	2 1: Pretzel & Cheese 2. Corn Dog Green Beans Mixed Fruit	3 1: BBQ Chicken Sandwich 2. Fish Sticks Corn Pineapple	4 1: Cheeseburger 2. Ham Sandwich Baked Beans Peaches	5 1. Cheese Pizza 2. Pepperoni Pizza Tossed Salad Sliced Oranges
8 1: Popcorn Chicken 2: Grilled Cheese Mashed Potatoes Pineapple	9 1: Fish Sandwich 2: Turkey Sub Macaroni & Cheese Mandarin Oranges	10 1: Pancake on a Stick w/ Syrup 2: Eggs & Biscuit Hash Brown Apple Juice	11 1: Meatball Sub Ham & Cheese Sub Buttered Noodles Applesauce	12 1: Cheese Pizza 2: Sausage Pizza Tossed Salad Sliced Oranges
15 1: French Toast 2: Bagels w/ Cream Cheese Sausage Patties Hash Brown Apple Juice	16 1: Chicken Sandwich 2: Turkey Sandwich Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy Mandarin Oranges	17 <b>STUDENT APPRECIATION DAY!</b> Lunch & snacks provided.	18 <b>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!</b> <b>NO CAFETERIA</b>	19
22 <b>HAVE</b>	23 <b>A</b>	24 <b>GREAT</b>	25 <b>SUMMER</b>	26 <b>VACATION!</b>
29	30	31		

**School Lunch: \$4 (Does not include milk); Choose Option #1 or #2**  
**White or Chocolate Milk: \$.50 ea.**  
**A La Carte Fruit and Extra sides: \$.50 ea.**  
**Extra Entree: \$1**  
**Snack of the Day: \$.75 ea. (Limit one per student) For Grades 2nd - 8th ONLY**

*Menu subject to change. All items will be charged to the student's FACTS account during the school day.  
 A La Carte Items will vary depending on availability.*





## Looking Ahead...

### APRIL 27 - May 5

Book Fair & Art Show (April 27-May 5)

### MAY 1

6th and 7th Grade Field Trips  
Family Reading Night 5:30-7 p.m.

### MAY 2

K-3rd Spring Concert @ Church - 6:30 p.m.

### MAY 3

4th, 5th, and 8th Grade Field Trips

### MAY 4

2nd-3rd Grade Field Trip  
4th-8th Band/Chorus Concert @ Church  
7-8 p.m.

### MAY 5

Mass @ 8:20 a.m.  
1:35 p.m. Dismissal (1:20 p.m. Preschool)  
No PM Bus

### MAY 8-12

Teacher Appreciation Week

### MAY 9

Teacher Appreciation Day!  
4th Grade Musical @ Trinity Hall 7 p.m.

### MAY 10

8th Grade Last Day!

### MAY 11

Mass & May Crowning @ 8:20 a.m.  
8th Grade Breakfast  
8th Grade Promotion @ Church 6 p.m.

### MAY 17

Student Appreciation Day!

### MAY 18

Last Day of School!  
Mass @ 8:20 a.m.  
End of 4Q  
11:35 a.m. Dismissal (11:20 a.m. Preschool)  
No PM Bus Service; No VKC

## Contact Information

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1416 Main Street

Highland, IL 62249

TEL: 618-654-7525

FAX: 618-654-8795

[www.stpaulvikings.org](http://www.stpaulvikings.org)

### SCHOOL HOURS:

School Office: 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

Preschool: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Grades K-8: 8:15 am - 3:15 pm

Fr. Pat Jakel - Pastor

[pjakel@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:pjakel@stpaulhighland.org)

Mrs. Haidee Todora - Principal

[htodora@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:htodora@stpaulhighland.org)

Mrs. Renee Mitchell - Vice Principal

[rmitchell@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:rmitchell@stpaulhighland.org)

Mrs. Stephanie Kuhn - Office Admin.

[officeadmin@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:officeadmin@stpaulhighland.org)

Mrs. Debbie Koishor - Office Manager

[dkoishor@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:dkoishor@stpaulhighland.org)

Mrs. Lori Lucia - Viking Kid Care

[llucia@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:llucia@stpaulhighland.org)



Mrs. Tallman's classroom turned into Zuckerman's Farm on Charlotte's Web day!

*Every minute you spend with a child is a way to slow down and connect with them. When you listen and speak to a child about their emotions and what they are feeling, it engages their brain and can make learning easier.*

*Make listening, speaking, and reading books with a child part of your daily routine, and you just might create new language pathways in their brain.*

*Make your voice the language pathway they learn!*