



We've Got Spirit!

A Message from Principal Todora...

As we embark on the second half of the school year, I am filled with gratitude for the vibrant spirit that defines our Catholic school community. It is heartening to witness the dedication of our students, the support of our parents, and the hard work of our exceptional staff. I encourage you to stay engaged with your child's education, and continue to celebrate their accomplishments while expressing gratitude to the teachers who guide them on their journey. Together, we will continue to foster the strong sense of community that sets St. Paul School apart from the rest.



As we look ahead, I encourage you to consider early enrollment for the upcoming academic school year. Your timely commitment ensures the continued growth and success of our school community. The coming months will be filled with learning, growth, and joy for each of our students. The fusion of faith and education creates a holistic foundation, fostering not just academic excellence, but also the development of responsible, compassionate citizens. In the tapestry of learning, faith is the foundation for developing a strong moral compass.

**"ACT JUSTLY, LOVE
KINDNESS, WALK
HUMBLY WITH
GOD."**

MICAH 6:6-8

In Christ's light, we find the guiding illumination that inspires our journey of faith and education. It is this radiant beacon that leads us to knowledge, compassion, and an understanding of God's love for us. Let us walk together in Christ's light, nurturing minds, kindling spirits, and fostering a place where education and faith intertwine to create a brighter tomorrow.

Principal Todora



Family School Agreement

As we begin registration for the 2024-2025 academic school year, I would like to take a moment to underscore the significance of our Family-School Agreement and how it reinforces the core values of our Catholic school community. The Family-School Agreement, included in your enrollment packet, serves as a guiding document that outlines the shared commitment between our families and the school and parish. It reflects our joint dedication to providing a holistic and nurturing educational environment for the children we serve.

This agreement not only establishes clear expectations, but also reinforces the importance of teamwork and collaboration between home and school. It emphasizes the role of parents as essential partners in the learning journey of our children. By actively engaging in the commitments outlined in the agreement, we fortify the bond between home and school, creating a seamless and supportive network for our students.

Our Family-School Agreement is a testament to our shared values, promoting a sense of shared responsibility for the well-being and success of every child. It reinforces the idea that our school is not just a place of learning, but a community that thrives on collaboration, communication, and a collective investment in the future.

As part of the Family-School Agreement, your involvement through volunteerism fosters a sense of belonging and collaboration among parents, teachers, and students. Volunteerism is not just about giving time; it's about building a strong foundation of support, unity, and shared values. In essence, volunteerism forms the backbone of our school community, teaching responsibility and the importance of giving back. It sets a powerful example, demonstrating that we are all part of a community where each member plays a crucial role.

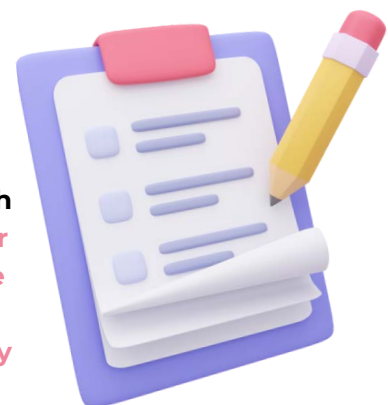
Please click on the [VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES](#) document to see the options for volunteering in the parish and school and how it will affect K-8th tuition in the 2025 - 2026 school year.

Your commitment to this shared endeavor is truly appreciated and instrumental in creating a nurturing environment for our children. Thank you for your ongoing dedication and for being an integral part of our school community.

Principal Todora

It's Registration Time!

Registration for the 2024 - 2025 school year is open! All current St. Paul families were sent an email to re-enroll through the Family Portal. There is a \$150 non-refundable registration fee when you register before March 1st. **Registrations submitted on or after March 1st will incur a \$300 fee. If you are enrolling a NEW student in your family, you must first apply through the portal. Please contact the school office FIRST so that you are not charged the \$22 new student application fee. And as always, contact the office with any questions.**





CSW - United in Faith & Community

To kick-off Catholic Schools Week, a special Mass was held on Sunday, January 28th. Thank you to the St. Paul School Educational Foundation who presented a check to Fr. Pat for student financial assistance. We also wish to thank our Mentor Match sponsors who visited on Wednesday and to the many donors & volunteers who so generously donate their time, talent, and treasure to our school.



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community
Jan. 28 - Feb. 2, 2024

We are blessed!



Thank you

Plastic Lid Collection

Since before Thanksgiving break, students have been collecting plastic lids as part of their "House" competition. **Together, all houses collected a total of 533 pounds, with the St. Mark Community reining victorious with a total of 242 pounds!**

Lids were collected through the Madison County Green Program to benefit Leaps of Love. This local charity provides assistance to families dealing with childhood cancer and brain tumors. Way to go, SPS!





Let the Games Begin!

School spirit was in the "House" on Monday, Jan. 29th as the students showed their skill at the CSW House Games! Several "minute to win it" games were played by each House. St. Michael-House 8 were the champions when Iris Horan sealed the win with a game of Rock-Paper-Scissors!

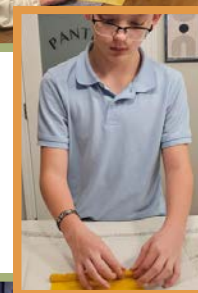


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Candlemas

Candlemas is a commemoration of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Presentation of Our Lord. Traditionally, candles that are to be used throughout the rest of the year are brought to Mass to be blessed. All preschool-8th grade students attended the Candlemas on Thursday, Feb. 1st to have their homemade beeswax candles blessed. **Families are encouraged to bring their blessed candles to the Easter Vigil Mass on March 30th!**



"A light to the revelation of the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel" -Traditional Antiphon



Mission Carnival Fun

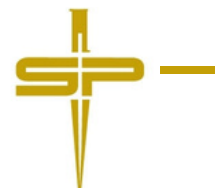
Catholic School's Week just wouldn't be the same without the fun and excitement of Mission Carnival! This long-standing tradition at SPS is a much anticipated event and a great way to end the week. Students raised over \$800 for the Missionary Childhood Association through the Diocese of Springfield.



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

Jan. 28 - Feb. 2, 2024





2nd Quarter Honor Roll

Congratulations to the following students for achieving academic honors during the second quarter of the 2023-2024 school year:

5th Grade High Honors

Kaden Klostermann
Madeline McGinley
Melanie Porzukowiak
Wyatt Todt

5th Grade Honors

Kerigan Athmer
Lillian Himsel
Edward Miller
Sophia Meridith
Ella Pokojski
Elliott Ringwald
Michael Schonhardt
Drew Schwarz
Elana Sheahan
Carly Sharp
Rhett Straeter

6th Grade High Honors

Seth Cureton
Burke Elliott
Halle Henrichs
Reese Keeven
Gavin McGinley
Ava Meyer
Camille Winkeler

6th Grade Honors

Chloe Elliott
Wade Kampwerth
Nolan Lengermann
Hannah Norgaard
Delaney Voss

7th Grade High Honors

Vivian Beer
Miriam Boulanger
Ava Klostermann
Emma Meyer
Oscar Scarborough
Amelia Tallman

7th Grade Honors

Dalton Gurley

8th Grade High Honors

Brynn Battas
Colby Lawson
Deacon Oravec
Leo Scarborough
Ava Schonhard

8th Grade Honors

Lexi Iberg
Anna Patel
Noah Ringwald



Scholar Bowl

Who knows who painted La Gioconda, how to find the slope of a line in under 30 seconds and how to spell "occasionally"? BUZZ! The St. Paul Scholar Bowl team does! The Scholar Bowl team works to answer questions in school subject areas faster than their opponents. This group is open to 7th and 8th graders. This year, we hosted a training match for schools from the Alton Deanery who started Scholar Bowl programs this year. Our team has played valiantly in matches against St. Mary's and St. Elizabeth's. We hope to compete in a tournament or two in March or April.

Team members are 8th Graders: Lucy M., Leo S., Ava S.; and 7th Graders: Miriam B., Cecelia E., Kylie M., and Oscar S. The team is coached by Andrea Henze and Aaron Hopfinger. Thank you to our moderators Suzanne Horan and Lisa Strieker!





Spring Photos Coming Soon!

Unforgettable by Anna will be taking Spring Photos at SPS on March 13th. All students will be able to wear Spring dress on this day. Save the date!

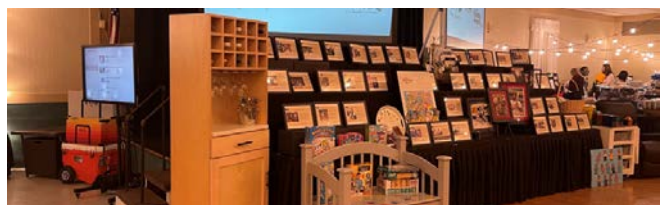




Viking Night

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to making the St. Paul Dinner Auction such a magical occasion! We deeply appreciate the countless hours of planning, as well as the generous donations that made this event possible. We are truly blessed!

A special thank you to this year's dedicated 2024 Dinner Auction Chairpersons: Jenna Kampwerth & Kirby Klostermann and our Co-Chairpersons: Angie Daley & Heather Hulvey





St. Paul Catholic School

Cafeteria Menu

February 2024

Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
			1 1: Bosco Sticks 2: Ravioli w/ marinara Corn Peaches	2 NO SCHOOL Teacher Retreat
5 1: Chicken Nuggets 2: Mini Corn Dogs Tater Tots, Mandarin Oranges	6 1: French Toast Sticks 2: Bagel w/Cream Cheese Sausage, Hash Browns, Apple Juice	7 1: Cheeseburger 2: Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Buttered Noodles, Grapes	8 1: Grilled cheese 2: Hot Dog Chicken Noodle Soup, Crackers, Peaches	9 1: Cheese Pizza 2: Fish on Bun Tossed Salad, Applesauce
12 1: Soft Tacos 2: Ham & Cheese Sandwich Corn, Apple Slices	13 1: Chicken Strips 2: Corn Dogs Fries, Peaches	14 ASH WED. 1: Nachos & Cheese 2: Pretzel & Cheese Green beans, Pineapple	15 1: Waffles 2:Yogurt Parfait Sausage, Hash Browns, Apple Juice	16 1: Cheese Pizza 2: Grilled Cheese Tossed Salad, Orange Slices
19 NO SCHOOL Presidents Day	20 1: Spaghetti & Meatballs 2: Ham & Cheese Sandwich Green Beans, Applesauce	21 1: Hot Dogs 2: BBQ Chicken Sandwich Fries, Peaches	22 1: Pancakes 2: Biscuit & Gravy Sausage, Hash Brown, Apple Juice	23 1: Cheese Pizza 2: Fish on Bun Tossed Salad, Pineapple
26 1: Chicken Sandwich 2: Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Corn, Apple Slices	27 1: Pepperoni Pizza 2: Hot Dog Green Beans, Mandarin Oranges	28 1: Scrambled Eggs & Biscuit 2: Bagel & Cream Cheese Sausage, Hash Brown, Applesauce	29 1: Cheeseburger 2: Corn Dog Tater Tots, Grapes	

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 (Must be purchased with entree order.)

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.*



Spelling Bee

A total of 25 spellers competed in the SPS Spelling Bee on Friday, January 26th held in Trinity Hall. The top three spellers for grades 4th-8th were Gavin M. (3rd place), Deacon O. (2nd place), and our first-place winner, Miriam B., with the word, "boycott".

All three winning spellers will be attending the K of C Spelling Bee on February 25th. Good luck!



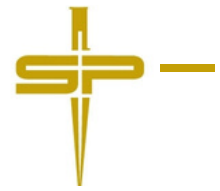
MD Band Visit

The Mater Dei Band visited SPS on Tuesday, Jan. 30th. Thank you for sharing your talents, especially to alumni, Ella Marron and Andrew Sinnock, who were excited to be back at their "old" school with their favorite band teacher, Mrs. Henze!



Vocations Visit

Dr. Mark Newcomb, the Director of the Department for Catholic Education in the Springfield Diocese and Deacon Michael Halbrook spoke with the 5th - 8th grade students about vocations on Jan. 30th. Dr. Newcomb challenged the students to look at the world through different lenses.



Bowling, Volleying, and Check Mating!

The St. Paul volleyball season has begun for boys & girls in 4th-8th grade. Special thanks to our coaches: Amber Tallman, Kim Venarsky, Jyl Wallace, Jessica Pokojski, Stephanie Kuhn, Jennifer Miller, and Jennifer Hilling.

The St. Paul Bowlers are back in action for their second season. Special thanks to our sponsor Hi-Top Bowl for hosting our team and to our coaches, Jeff and Karla Voss.

Our Chess Club, coached by Jim Gallatin for the second year, is growing and has advanced to competitive play with local schools. Chess is known to improve memory, attention, and overall brain function. Thanks Jim for helping our players shine brighter!



Congratulations to the 4th Grade Boys Basketball team for winning the Championship game against St. John Neumann on January 6, 2024! Great way to end the season, boys!!



Sign-Up to Volunteer at Volleyball Games Here!

February: 5-8 Volleyball

March 9: 4th Grade Volleyball

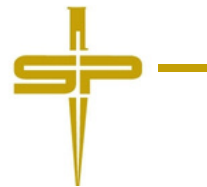
March 2: 4th Grade Volleyball



100 Days Smarter

Kindergarten was ready to get to work, first grade had to wear shades, and second grade was 101 years young for their 100th day of school!





Growing Crystals

As part of their unit on Rocks and Minerals, our 6th grade class "grew" crystals to demonstrate one of the ways a mineral can form. By dissolving fine crystals and then cooling them, this encouraged growth on the remaining large crystals, creating a heart-shaped formation. They shared their creations and its process with the kindergarten classes.





ST. PAUL 6TH GRADE CARRY OUT SPAGHETTI DINNER

Sunday, March 10, 2024
11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Pick up from: St. Paul School Cafeteria
(Corner of Ninth and Lemon Street, Highland, Illinois)

**Includes Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Italian Salad,
Breadsticks, Freshly Baked Desserts**

Carryout - \$12

For tickets, see any 6th Grade student or
contact St. Paul School (654-7525)

Proceeds will held fund the class trips in 7th & 8th grade



Ava A., Leah F., and Leah N. received recognition for their entries in the Catholic War Veterans' "Veteran's Day Patriotic Poster Contest, which was available to 4th and 5th graders. Congratulations, girls!



HELP WANTED

CAFETERIA MANAGER

Do you love to cook and have an interest in preparing and serving healthy meals to children? St. Paul Catholic School is in search of a part-time cafeteria manager to oversee operations of the school cafeteria M-F from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

All interested applicants must complete the approved food handler training. Download an application online or contact Principal Haidee Todora for more information. Thank you!

CONTACT:

Principal Haidee Todora
St. Paul Catholic School
1416 Main Street
Highland, Illinois
htodora@stpaulhighland.org
618.654.7525

Download an application online at www.stpaulvikings.org



a dozen reasons to choose Catholic Schools





Looking Ahead...

FEBRUARY 12

Pre-School Valentine's Parties

FEBRUARY 13

K thru 8th grade Valentine's Parties

FEBRUARY 14

Ash Wednesday Mass; 8:20 a.m.

FEBRUARY 16

Science Fair

FEBRUARY 19

No School - Presidents' Day

FEBRUARY 21

2:25 p.m. Dismissal

FEBRUARY 23

8:20 a.m. Mass; Yearbook Orders Due

FEBRUARY 24

5th - 8th Grade Band & Chorus, Solo & Ensemble Contest

FEBRUARY 26 & 27

Model UN Conference

FEBRUARY 28

Band, Chorus and Club Photos

MARCH 1

8:20 a.m. Mass; 1:35 p.m. Dismissal; No Bus; End of the 3rd Quarter

MARCH 10

Spaghetti Dinner; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MARCH 13

Spring Photos

Contact Information

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1416 Main Street . Highland, IL 62249

TEL: 618-654-7525 . FAX: 618-654-8795

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

Don't miss a game! Check out our [sports calendar](#) to stay up to date!

Fr. Pat Jakel - Pastor

pjakel@stpaulhighland.org

Mrs. Haidee Todora - Principal

htodora@stpaulhighland.org

Mrs. Renee Mitchell - Vice Principal

rmitchell@stpaulhighland.org

Mrs. Stephanie Kuhn - Office Admin.

officeadmin@stpaulhighland.org

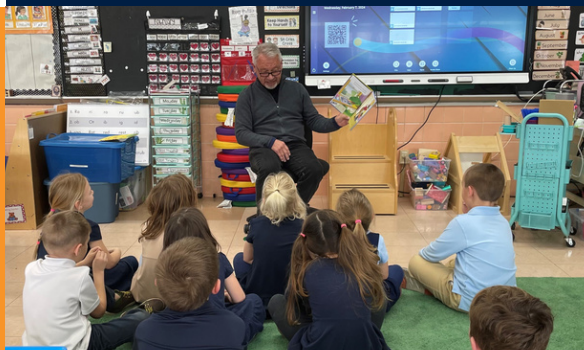
Mrs. Debbie Koishor - Office Manager

Mrs. Kimberly Venarsky - Office Manager

secretary@stpaulhighland.org

Mrs. Lori Lucia - Viking Kid Care

llucia@stpaulhighland.org



Mrs. Ransick's Kindergarten had a special guest reader on Feb. 7th! Thanks, Grandpa Jeff!

*"I am not capable of doing big things, but I want to do everything, even the smallest things, for the greater glory of God."
St. Dominic Savio*