



Growing in Holiness

A Message from Principal Todora...

As we embark on another exciting academic and faith filled school year, we want to thank you for allowing us to be a part of your child's education. Forming a community through partnerships between home and school, especially your child's teachers, is crucial to ensuring that your child has productive opportunities to both enjoy the school experience and learn effectively.

Respect and accountability are not just traits we hope to instill in our students; they are shared responsibilities between our dedicated and professional educators, our students, and most significantly, our parents and families.



As we work together to empower our students, I urge all parents to actively support and reinforce the value of respect and accountability at home. Here are a few ways to help you contribute to this essential aspect of your child's education:

- **Establish Clear Expectations:** Set clear expectations for your child's academic performance and behavior. Encourage them to take ownership of their responsibilities.
- **Monitor Progress:** Regularly review your child's progress in school. This includes checking their homework, assignments, and grades. SPS provides tools for you to access this information easily.
- **Open Communication:** Maintain open and honest communication with your child. Discuss their goals, challenges, and successes regularly. Encourage them to seek help when needed.
- **Time Management:** Help your child develop effective time management skills. This will enable them to balance academics, extracurricular activities, and personal responsibilities.
- **Attendance:** Ensure your child attends school regularly and arrives on time. Consistent attendance is fundamental to their academic progress.
- **Encourage Responsibility:** Encourage your child to take responsibility for their actions and choices. Teach them the importance of integrity and honesty.
- **Support Teachers:** Collaborate with teachers and staff. Attend parent-teacher conferences and stay engaged in your child's education.
- **Examination of Conscience:** Teach and encourage your child to honestly review their day by identifying times when they chose to do God's will and times they chose to go against God's will. Embrace their struggles and successes and help them grow in faith and love.



Continued...



Here at St. Paul Catholic School, we believe in fostering an environment where every student has the opportunity to excel academically and develop the skills necessary for future success. We are ministers of the Catholic Church who are to teach the mysteries of faith and the rules of moral conduct. St. Paul School is blessed to employ a most impressive staff whose vocation in life is ministering to God's children - your children. Please trust and respect what your child's teacher communicates to you about their behaviors and social interactions at school.

We are noticing that this generation of students has normalized the need for multiple profiles, both online and in person. Many children are participating in an online digital presence which is instant, unmonitored, and disappears without any digital footprint. This is a place where they can say and post whatever they like without the threat of consequences or being seen or monitored by adults. This is a real issue we face.

In a world facing various secular challenges, our teachers and staff will continue to play a critical role in providing a holistic education that nurtures the mind, spirit, and character of students, preparing them to be responsible and compassionate individuals in an ever-evolving digital and problematic society. This hidden world our children are living in is alarming.

Collaboration between parents and professional staff is essential for addressing current behavioral and social challenges. Two-way communication and trust is crucial if we are going to work together to help children learn how to overcome societal challenges. It is the mission and goal of every SPS staff member to help every student be successful and thrive both academically and spiritually. Teaching truth in Jesus Christ is fundamental to salvation and serves as a guiding light for all on our journey to Heaven; we teach Truth in Jesus Christ!

Thank you for partnering with and supporting our teachers and our school. You have the ability to strengthen the home-school partnership, which creates a unified front focused on every child's academic and moral development. When parents support teachers, they reinforce shared values and contribute more fully to their child's moral and spiritual growth. I am confident that with your unwavering support, our students will thrive academically, spiritually, and personally.

Thank you for being valuable partners in your child's educational journey. Together, we can help our students become respectful, responsible, empowered individuals, who are trustworthy disciples of Christ.

Wishing you and your child a rewarding and successful school year ahead.

Sincerely,

Principal Todora



It's Happening at SPS!

Only a few weeks into the school year and we've had a lot to do! Take a look at what's happening...



110 steps for 110 floors of the World Trade Center





Is Your Child's Student File Up-To-Date?

The following paperwork is required for your child's student file. If you haven't already turned in the appropriate forms, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you!

- **Birth Certificates - All new students**
- **Baptismal Certificates (Catholic students only)**
- **Health (Preschool, K, 6th) & Vision Exams (K)**
- **Dental Exams (K, 2nd, 6th)**



Trash Bags for Sale!

Our annual trash bag fundraiser is happening now! First turn-in date is Thursday, Sept. 14th and will end on Friday, September 22nd. Order forms were sent home with students last week. You can also order [online!](#)

Bags come in three sizes and will be sold for \$12 ea. If you need extra sale forms, please see the school office. Thank you for participating in this fundraiser!

Mum Sale

The 8th grade mum sale was a HUGE success with a total of 625 mums sold! Mums should arrive mid- to late-September. If you ordered from a student and/or added their name to your online order, they will contact you with a pick-up or delivery time. If you didn't specify a student on an online order, we will contact you by email or phone to pick up your order. Money raised will be used toward 8th grade activities and field trips.



To Hoodie, or Not to Hoodie....

Several questions have come up regarding the dress code, especially the wearing of hoodies in the classroom. One of the main reasons for school uniforms is to formalize the school setting. A uniform conveys respect and shows a seriousness toward education. In the past, hoodies of all different styles have been worn over uniform clothing, cluttering this message.

We strongly suggest that students refrain from wearing hoodies in the classroom. Other options can include both blank and logowear long sleeve shirts, crewneck sweatshirts, quarter-zip pullovers, and sweaters. Our uniform and spiritwear store will be open soon, if you would like to purchase logowear options. If you have questions regarding dress code, please review the [dress code](#) requirements in the Parent/Student Handbook. Thank you for your help in keeping our school's message clear among our students!



St. Paul Catholic School

Cafeteria Menu

September 2023

Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
4 NO SCHOOL	5 1: Chicken Nuggets 2: Mini Corn Dogs Corn Applesauce	6 1: Cheeseburger 2: Hot Dog Fries Peaches	7 1: Bosco Sticks 2: Turkey & Cheese Sub Green Beans Banana	8 1: Cheese Pizza 2: Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tossed Salad Orange Wedges
11 1: Pretzel & Cheese 2: Nachos & Cheese Baby Carrots w/ Ranch Pineapple	12 1: Popcorn Chicken 2: Ham & Cheese Sub Fries Peaches	13 1: Toasted Ravioli 2: Breaded Mozzarella Sticks Marinara Sauce Buttered Noodles Grapes	14 1: French Toast Sticks 2: Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Sausage Patty Tater Tots Apple Juice	15 1: Cheese Pizza 2: Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tossed Salad Applesauce
18 1: Chicken Strips 2: Corn Dog Tater Tots Orange Wedges	19 1: Spaghetti w/ Meatballs 2: Turkey & Cheese Sub Green Beans Mandarin Oranges	20 1: Cheeseburger 2: Hot Dog Mac & Cheese Pineapple	21 1: Pancakes 2: Waffles Sausage Hash Brown Patty Orange Juice	22 1: Cheese Pizza 2: Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tossed Salad Apple Slices
25 1: Bosco Sticks 2: Toasted Ravioli Marinara Sauce Applesauce	26 1: Chicken Patty on Bun 2: Ham & Cheese Sub Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy Peaches	27 1: BBQ Chicken on Bun 2: Mini Corn Dogs Buttered Noodles Apple Wedges	28 1: Chicken Nuggets 2: Turkey & Cheese Sub Tater Tots Pineapples	29 1: Cheese Pizza 2: Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tossed Salad Orange Wedges

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.

BE A VIKING AMBASSADOR!



2 Corinthians 5:20
"Therefore, we are
ambassadors for Christ,
as though God were
making an appeal
through us."

MISSION:

To increase overall engagement with parents, our parish, and the community as a whole with the aim to foster new relationships and seek ways to expand and enrich the opportunities of our school.

Who?

Viking Ambassadors are comprised of all individuals who seek to spread the good news of St. Paul Catholic School - students, parents, teachers, grandparents, alumni, and parishioners!

In the Community...

- Spread the word about SPS
- Encourage positive communication among parents and friends of SPS
- Inspire parents to get involved
- Build relationships with community organizations
- Use social media to share experiences
- Connect with new parents
- Reach out to prospective families

What?

- 1 Community Outreach
- 2 Teacher & Classroom Support
- 3 Special Events

Take Charge!

REPRESENT A GRADE SECTION!

- One parent from each grade section (Pre3-K, 1-4, 5-8)
- Church or school-affiliated grandparents and parish volunteers are welcome to join!

Events to help with...

- Open Houses
 - Kirchenfest Clean-Up
 - Trunk-or-Treat Fall Festival
 - Student Appreciation Day
 - Breakfast Buddies
 - Catholic Schools Week
 - Teacher Appreciation
 - Parades
 - Open Gym
 - 3vs3 Basketball Tourney
 - Restaurant Nights
 - and More!
- 

How do I GET INVOLVED!

Make a difference in the lives of our students by becoming a Viking Ambassador! Coordinate a school event, offer to volunteer, or take charge of a community outreach program. Contact Katelyn Zobrist at 618-409-7833 or katelynzobrist@gmail.com to GET INVOLVED!



Save the Dates!

First Reconciliation (2nd Grade)

- Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023 @ 10 a.m.-St. Paul Church

First Communion/Confirmation (3rd Grade)

- Saturday, Mar. 23, 2024 @ 10 a.m.-Cathedral Springfield, IL

Emergency Drills

October is Fire Prevention Month and also a great time for us to practice a variety of emergency drills. The Highland Fire Department will be on campus on Friday, October 13 for a fire drill and fire engine visit. We will also be having an Earthquake drill on "Great Shake Out" day, October 19th and First Student will be conducting a bus evacuation drill on October 24th. Preparation is everything!

SPS Golf Tournament - Oct. 7th



Visit our website at www.stpaulvikings.org to sign up a team or become a sponsor at the 27th Annual SPS Golf Tournament to be held on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Thank you in advance for your support!

Mentor Match

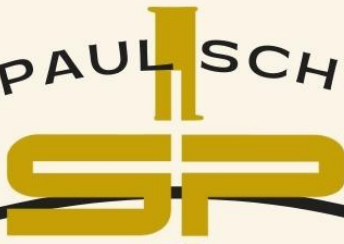
Do you know a business, organization, or individual that would like to sponsor a classroom? With a \$500 donation to a classroom, teachers are able to purchase learning materials or supplies not covered by the normal budget. See a list of last school year sponsors [here](#). Download a [sponsor form](#) to participate this year.

Grandparents Day

We are excited to welcome Grandparents to St. Paul School on Friday, September 22nd! A flyer was sent home last week with more information. **Please RSVP by Monday, September 18th.** Limit of four grandparents or special friends only.

Looking for parent volunteers! If you would like to volunteer to help serve cookies and refreshments during Grandparents Day, please email Mrs. Deb at dkoishor@stpaulhighland.org with your interest. Thank you!

★ ST. PAUL SCHOOL ★



8TH GRADE

Night



5 P.M.

**SEPT.
13
2023**

**ST. PAUL
VIKINGS**

VS

**HOLY FAMILY
HAWKS**

HIGHLAND KC FIELDS

12454 IL-143, Highland, IL 62249

RECOGNITIONS BEFORE GAME

CONCESSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.



Chess Club

We will again be offering Chess Club to students in grades 5th-8th. The club will be held on Mondays and Thursdays from 7:45 - 8:10 a.m. An orientation by Mr. Jim Gallatin will be held on Thursday, September 14th where he will give an overview of the game and expectations for participation. Last school year, the students who participated really enjoyed playing! If your child is interested, please have them attend this week. Mr. Gallatin does start promptly at 7:45 a.m. so please have your child ready to play!



Caring for our Environment

As you may have noticed, the recycling bin is back! On Thursdays, our 6th grade class collects recycling items at both the school and parish that will be picked up by Royal Oak Recycling. At this time, the program is a no fee, no pay system, however the benefits of recycling to our environment are worth all the effort! Special thanks to our recycling sponsors, Mrs. Horan and Mrs. Pellman!

Items being recycled include:

- Newspaper
- Magazines/Catalogs
- Office and School Papers
- Junk Mail
- Envelopes
- Colored Paper
- Shredded Paper (bagged)
- Cardboard
- Books
- Folders

Items not accepted:

- Food wrap/containers
- Tissue products
- Plastic, glass, or aluminum

How else can we improve the environment? Learning how to garden! Our Sensory Garden has been very plentiful this Fall. Students were able to see the fruits of their labor, harvesting onions, lettuce, potatoes, and soon pumpkins and radishes! We also had a few additions to the garden, including a grotto of the Blessed Mother Mary, chimes, water table, and stepping stones. Many thanks to Mrs. Ransick, Fr. Pat's Patriots, and the many donors who helped make this garden possible!



St. Paul School's Restaurant Night at



Thursday Sept 21st



A portion of the proceeds will benefit St. Paul School.

(Dine in & carry out included!)

*** reservations highly recommended for groups larger than 6.

*** to order online go to: <http://broadwaybargrill.com>

Broadway Bar & Grill
1013 Broadway, Highland
(618)654-9032

Business hours:
4:00 – 9:00



Baseball & Softball

Our softball and baseball seasons started on August 15th and 16th, respectively against both Alton and Aviston Middle School. **Come out to the KC Fields on Wednesday, September 13th to honor our 8th grade students! See flyer in this newsletter for details.**

Special thanks to Coach Jim Meridith and Jake Gutzler for volunteering their time to coach this year!

Baseball Team Roster: Delaney Davis, Brady Driemeyer, Burke Elliott, Lucas Hilling, Wade Kampwerth, Nolan Lengermann, Gavin McGinley, Jimmy Meridith, Leo Scarborough, Oscar Scarborough, and Everett Thompson.

Softball Team Roster: Chloe Elliott, Addison Gutzler, Lexi Iberg, Reese Keeven, Ailey Lawson, Ava Meyer, Emma Meyer, Hannah Norrgard, Elora Thompson, and Delaney Voss



SPS Soccer

Our Athletics Department was able to purchase soccer goals this year for our students! We have had an overwhelming interest in soccer the past two years and are happy to put them to use. Thank you to our St. Paul Dads for helping piece them all together!

This year, we have over 75 students playing soccer in grades K-8th! Special thanks to this year's volunteer soccer coaches: Kyle & Ericka West, Jason & Katelyn Zobrist, Karla Voss, Jake Gutzler, Suzy Bushur, Tom Klostermann, and Ryan DeSelm.



Soccer 8th grade night will be held at Glik Park on Wednesday, September 27th. 8th grade players being honored are Brady Driemeyer, Colby Lawson, Deacon Oravec, Noah Ringwald, and Leo Scarborough.

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



BOOK FAIR

September 18-22, 2023

St. Paul Catholic School

AFTER-SCHOOL BUYING DAYS:

Tuesday, September 19th: 3:15-4 P.M.

Thursday, September 21st: 3:15-4 P.M.

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!

The Book Fair will be open for Grandparents Day on Friday, September 22nd!

Reading is fun!

Scan to
Shop Online!



Book Fair Buying Dates & Times - Sept 18-22, 2023

Monday, Sept 18, 2023

Time	Class
8:30 am - 9 am	4R
9:45 am -10:15 am	Preschool-3 Cawney <i>(Preschool-3 McCloud: After school ONLY. See below.)</i>
1:12pm -1:54 pm	7P
2 pm - 2:30 pm	KM/KR

Wednesday, Sept 20, 2023

11:08 am -11:50 am	6HA 11:10-11:30 6HB 11:30-11:50
1:54 pm - 2:36	8K

Thursday, Sept 21, 2023

9 am - 9:30 am	3S
9:30 am - 10 am	2T
10:15 am - 10:45 am	1R
10:45 am - 11:15 am	5A

***Preschool-McCloud and Junior Kindergarten/Pre4 class buying days will be after school on Tuesday, September 19th & 21st from 3:15 – 4 p.m.



St. Paul Smarts Trivia Night!

Friday, Sep 15th
Highland KC Hall



- **\$500 First Place Prize**, Donated by Double J Doggie Play N Stay
- **\$250 Second Place Prize**, Donated by Anthony Supply Company
- Priest Prison, Sponsored by Bailout Escape Rooms
- \$20 per Person, Tables of 8-10
- Cash Bar, Bring Your Own Snacks
- Benefits St. Paul Catholic School

Reserve a table and pay at the door by emailing lisaengelke25@gmail.com or pay online at StPaulVikings.org



Safety Film Installation

Safety film has been added to the front doors and windows of the school to provide an extra layer of protection against an intruder. The clear film is designed to delay an intruder and hold shattered glass together.



Americanism Award Winners

Sixth grader, Hannah N., recently received first place in State honors for her Americanism Essay contest submission, with the theme, *"What does patriotism mean to you?"*

She, along with Lorelei R. (3rd Grader), who won first in State for her Americanism poster entry, were honored on August 23rd at the Highland VFW. Congrats to both winners!

Welcome Mrs. Rachel!

We would like to welcome Mrs. Rachel Welch as our new Preschool aide. She will be spending time with the students in Miss Cawvey's Pre-3 classroom and in other classrooms, as needed.

Mrs. Welch holds a Bachelor of Science from Maryville University and is also a 2007 St. Paul School alumni!

Welcome BACK to St. Paul School, Rachel!





How to Download

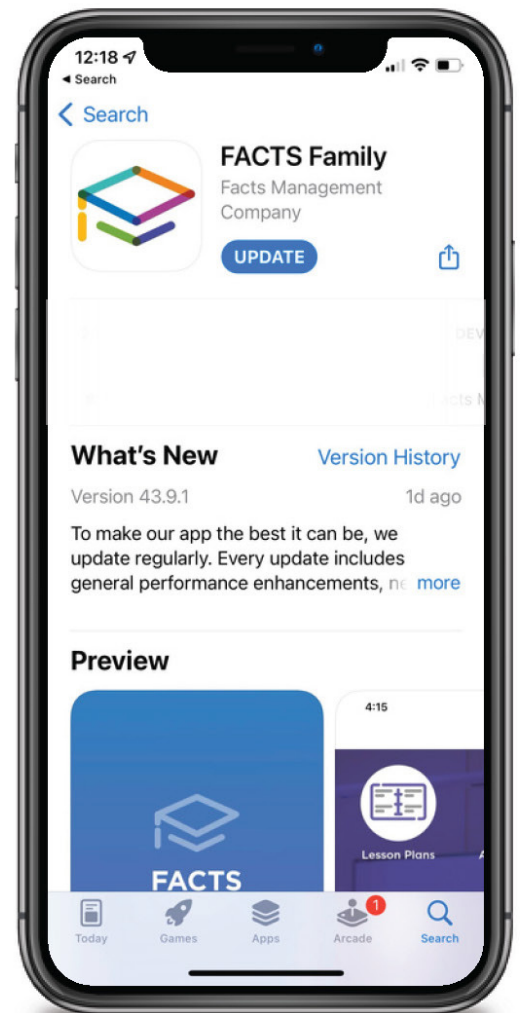
FACTS Family App

Steps to Download

- Go to your app store (Apple or Android)
- Search for FACTS Family App and download
- Enter your school's district code and your username and password used to login to Family Portal (\$4.99/year/family subscription)
- Begin using the app and all of its features

Features

- Access Family Portal information anytime, anywhere via iPhone and Android devices
- Send emails or place phone calls instantly to School Directory listings
- Export homework assignments, school calendar events and directory listing to smartphone calendars and contacts
- Make payments for miscellaneous charges and tuition fees at participating schools



School District Code:

STH-IL



Looking Ahead...

SEPTEMBER 13

2:25 p.m. Dismissal;
BB/SB 8th Grade Night

SEPTEMBER 14

Trashbags 1st Turn-In Date

SEPTEMBER 15

10 Mid-Term; 8:20 a.m. Mass
SPS Trivia Night

SEPTEMBER 21

Trashbags 2nd Turn-In Date
Broadway Fundraiser

SEPTEMBER 22

Grandparents Day; 8:20 a.m. Mass
1:35 p.m. Dismissal
No PM Bus

SEPTEMBER 27

Soccer 8th Grade Night

SEPTEMBER 29

8:20 a.m. Mass

OCTOBER 4

Photo Retakes
Blessing of the Pets @ 3:10 p.m.

OCTOBER 7

SPS Golf Tournament

OCTOBER 9

No School - Columbus Day

OCTOBER 10

Kelsie's Hope Fundraiser

OCTOBER 13

End of Q1
Fire Drill & Visit

OCTOBER 18

Vision & Hearing Testing (K-8th)

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

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

dkoishor@stpaulhighland.org

Mrs. Lori Lucia - Viking Kid Care

llucia@stpaulhighland.org



Be kind to one another,

**compassionate, forgiving one another as
God has forgiven you in Christ.**

Ephesians 4:32