



Monthly Newsletter

February 2017

The mission of Vandebilt Catholic High School is to provide students with a holistic education that is rooted in religious values, structured through friendly discipline, nurtured by personal attention, and committed to academic excellence.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

I have finally recovered from the March for Life! It was an absolutely incredible experience that I will cherish forever. The young people of Vandebilt Catholic, and from around the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, represented our community well. It was a whirlwind experience, but a very powerful one, and I encourage all of our students and parents to make that pilgrimage at least once during their time here. Below, I am placing a group photo of the Vandebilt contingent in front the National Basilica in Washington D.C.



As I am sure many of you are aware “The Plague” has hit our school in full force! We have averaged over 100 students out per day for over a week. I have asked teachers to be patient with our students as they return to school and attempt to get caught up to speed with their coursework. Please don’t hesitate to let me know if you need help finding a peer tutor, teacher tutor, or anything else to help your child catch up.

I want to thank all of our parents that attended our open forum to discuss several potential policy changes. Your input was greatly appreciated!

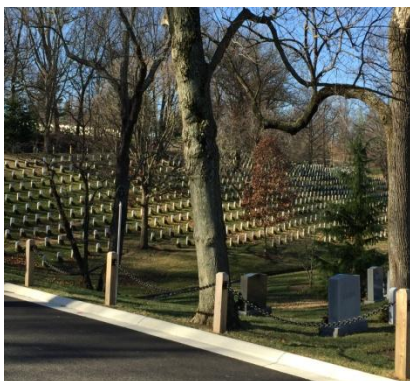
Please pay special attention to the updated exam schedule which can be found in the Academic section of this month’s newsletter.

I hope you find this month’s newsletter informative and helpful. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to call or email me.

Geaux Terriers,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeremy Gueldner". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jeremy Gueldner
Principal, Vandebilt Catholic High School



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Hebrews 13:8

Dear Parents,

I would like to thank the parents who came to our open forum last month for giving their time to assist in improving our school. In the future, we will send a "save the date" text out a month or so in advance in addition to having notice of the meeting in the monthly newsletter.



1. **Traffic Flow** – The rear traffic circle construction is complete! I appreciate your patience for any inconvenience created by this project. The circle will reopen on Monday, February 13, and we ask for your cooperation with the new flow. After meeting with law enforcement officials, we have developed the following:
 - a. All parents are asked to enter through our driveway off Hollywood Road in two lines.
 - b. Students should be dropped off and picked up behind the cafeteria.
 - c. Parents will then follow the circle through the gate closest to the softball field, turn left, and exit to Tunnel Blvd.
 - d. There will no longer be access to traffic flow behind the school for anyone entering from Tunnel Blvd. A chain will be installed as a reminder.
 - e. In the afternoon, the following traffic flow exiting school to Tunnel Blvd. should be observed from bell time until 3:20 p.m.:
 - i. Cones will be placed on Tunnel Blvd. to guide through traffic to the left lane heading east.
 - ii. Exit from the VCHS parking lot will be limited to a right turn to the rightmost lane and should be continuous.
 - iii. There will be no left turns into the parking lot from the eastbound lanes on Tunnel Blvd. from bell time until 3:20 p.m.
2. **2017-2018 School Calendar** – We are currently working on the next year's calendar, but have set the first few days of school to assist families in planning summer activities. Here are the dates in place:
 - a. Wednesday, August 2 - August 4 - Faculty and staff meetings
 - b. Monday, August 7 - Orientation for 8th and 12th graders
 - c. Tuesday, August 8 - Orientation for 9th, 10th, and 11th graders
 - d. Wednesday, August 9 - First full day of school for all grades
3. **School Raffle** – In a few weeks, raffle tickets will be mailed to each family. \$2.00 of each ticket can be directed to any club, team, or organization by listing its' name in the appropriate location on the ticket. All other proceeds will assist in building an elevator at school. Please help with this worthy cause.
4. **Advancement Director** – We thank Mrs. Lisa Vegas for 25 years of dedicated service to VCHS, many of which were as Advancement Director. We wish her well. Because of her departure, applications for Advancement Director are being taken at this time. A job description can be found on the school's web site under the "About VCHS" tab and then the "Job Opportunities" tab or by clicking on this link:
<http://www.vandebiltcatholic.org/about-vchs/job-opportunities/>

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Boudreaux". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

David Boudreaux
President, Vanderbilt Catholic High School

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Vandebilt Catholic held retreat day for our underclassmen students on February 1. Student from all four grades gathered together for Mass to begin a day centered on the theme, *The Road to Emmaus: Our Journey to Christ*. Each class had times for fellowship and formation, with activities, games and talks. After a fun filled day, the school body gathered together for Adoration in the Kolb Center. It was a beautiful day of growing closer together and closer to Christ.



To celebrate Catholic Schools Week, Vandebilt Catholic had several activities, including gifts for students and faculty to celebrate our Catholic school, school wide retreat day, and daily prayer led by alum, priests, faculty member and their children. We culminated the celebration with Mass with Bishop Fabre and our school family.

Everyone is welcome to attend all Masses at Vandebilt Catholic High School. Daily Mass is celebrated in the school chapel at 7:20 a.m., preceded by the Liturgy of the Hours at 7:00 a.m. Each Wednesday, during both junior and senior high lunches, Reconciliation and Adoration is offered in the chapel. School-wide Mass is held at 9:20 a.m. in the Brother Alfred Kolb Center twice a month.

Thursday, February 16, 2017	
Thursday, March 9, 2017	Golden Anniversary Mass (Class of 1967)
Thursday, March 23, 2017	
Tuesday, April 11, 2017	Holy Week Mass
Wednesday, April 12, 2017	Passion Play and Adoration
Thursday, May 4	Senior Mass
Friday, May 12, 2017	Junior Ring Mass
Saturday, May 20, 2017	Graduation Mass

Service hour information is available at <http://www.vandebiltcatholic.org/catholic-identity/service-hour-requirements/>

We remember in our prayers:

Ms. Becky Gueniot
Mrs. Irma Colasurdo
Mrs. Janie Roger
Mr. Harold Haydel

Evan Fanguy
Mrs. Lisa Vegas
Ms. Anne Belanger
Liam Bascle

Mr. Spice Vegas
Mrs. Wendy Couvillon
Mr. Donald Banowetz
Alaina Maiorana

EVENTS

Registration for the 2017-2018 school year is taking place now. Below is some information regarding online registration. If you have any questions, please contact the school at 985-876-2551.

Online Registration: We are in the process of transitioning to online registration and optional online payment. An email with the electronic registration form has been sent to the parents' email address associated with each student's account. It is imperative that VCHS has a valid email address for every parent. We ask that you fill out the online form by **February 24, 2017**.

Payments can be made online using Acceptiva to process credit cards through a link on our Web page, <http://www.vandebiltcatholic.org/admissions/financial-information>. Because the school can't absorb the processing fee charged by credit card companies for online payment, a convenience fee of 3% is added to all online payments. Parents will still have the option to pay with a check or through a loan with Coastal Commerce Bank. New loan applications are due **April 3, 2017**.

Vandebilt Catholic Calendar of Events February - May

All Vandebilt Catholic school events and schedules are available on the Vandebilt Catholic Web site at:
<http://www.vandebiltcatholic.org/about-vchs/calendar/>

February

01-03 Catholic Schools Week
02 Mass with Bishop Fabre
11 ACT
16 Mass
21-24 Third Quarter Exams
27-28 Mardi Gras Break

March

01-03 Mardi Gras Break
06 BOSH In-service at VCHS *
07 Classes Resume
09 Mass (Golden Anniversary – Class of 1967)
13 Grandparent's Day
16 Reconciliation Day
23 Mass
25 Elementary Rally
31 Art Show

April

08 ACT
11 Mass
12 Passion Play
14-21 Easter Break
28 Vandyfest
29 Prom

May

02 Band Concert
04 Senior Mass
05 Senior Breakfast
08-11 Senior Exams
11 Choir Concert
12 Mass – Junior Ring
13 Band Dance
15 Athletic Convocation
16 Underclassman Awards
17 Senior Honors Convocation
20 Graduation
22-25 Final Exams
26 Records Day

* No School for students

ACADEMICS

Scheduling for the 2017-2018 school year begins this week. Guidance Counselors will be visiting each grade level through their Religion classes to explain the process. Students will now complete course selection requests through Plus Portals. Parents will have to log into Plus Portals to verify the request, which will then be processed by guidance. We are excited to embark upon this new adventure, but understand there may be some glitches to work out in the process. Should you have any questions please contact the guidance department or the academic office for assistance.

We are looking for donors for t-shirts for our Elementary Literary Rally. The cost of the shirts will be approximately \$1200.00. Any business that would be willing donate will be asked to provide a logo for the back of the shirt. Thank you for your consideration.

We have made changes to the original exam schedule due to our Soccer teams being possible playoff contenders. We would like for our players and fans to be able to attend the games, while minimizing the academic impact on our students. Please, note the following changes:

- We are moving the 1st period exam from Thursday to Tuesday.
- If either or both of our teams play in the finals Wednesday night, the 8th period exam will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday afternoon ending at 2:30 p.m.
- If our teams do not play in finals, the 8th period exam will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday morning, ending at 9:30 a.m.
- We will know which of these scenarios will be utilized by Sunday, February 19 and will communicate this via e-mail.
- If the exam is at 1:00 p.m., any student who needs to arrive on campus at 8:00 will be asked to report to the library for study hall. There will be no breakfast or lunch services through the cafeteria available, so students arriving early should bring a lunch from home.

3rd Quarter Exams

February 21 - 5th/6th & 1st

February 22 - 2nd & 4th

February 23 - 8th

February 24 - 3rd & 7th

ACT TEST DATES FOR 2016-2017

TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION (EXTRA FEE REQUIRED)
June 11, 2016	May 6, 2016	May 7-20, 2016
September 10, 2016	August 5, 2016	August 6-9, 2016
October 22, 2016	September 16, 2016	September 17-30, 2016
December 10, 2016	November 4, 2016	November 5-18, 2016
February 11, 2017	January 6, 2017	January 7-20, 2017
April 8, 2017	March 3, 2017	March 4-17, 2017
June 10, 2017	May 5, 2017	May 6-19, 2017

STUDENT LIFE

Early checkouts for medical or dental appointments during the school day should be avoided. Requests for such dismissals, when necessary, must be in **written** form and signed by the student's parents. The student must present this note before 7:55 A.M. in Mrs. Robertson's office for an early dismissal slip.

Students who are absent from school or checkout at anytime during the school day must return to school with a note from the parent or a doctor's excuse. These notes should be brought to Mrs. Robertson's office before 7:55 a.m. All absences must be covered by written verification.

Reminder to students and parents: You can anonymously report bullying and harassing issues by sending an e-mail to bethechange@htdioocese.org. This e-mail is seen only by the Dean of Students, Mrs. Amanda Robertson.

ATHLETICS

With 3rd Quarter Exams around the corner, please be reminded about the failure rule. Any student-athlete who earns an F on his or her report card for the 3rd Quarter will NOT be able to leave early for a game and miss that class period during the 4th Quarter. Student-athletes may be excused for participation during the playoffs ONLY with the approval of the Principal.

Important Dates to Remember:

February 8 and 9 - Girls/Boys Regional Soccer deadline

February 9-13 – Cheerleaders compete at Nationals

February 13 and 14 - Girls/Boys Quarterfinal Soccer deadline

February 16 – Bi District Girls Basketball deadline

February 17 and 18 - Girls/Boys Semifinal Soccer deadline

February 20 – Regional Girls Basketball deadline

February 22 - Division III Girls/Boys Soccer Championships

February 24 - Bi District Boys Basketball deadline

February 28 - Regional Boys Basketball deadline

Terrier Club Golf Classic 2017

Monday, April 10, 2017

Ellendale Country Club

Click the following link for more information:

<http://www.vandebiltcatholic.org/parent-groups/terrier-club/>

MUSIC

We are excited to announce that Mrs. Sarah Todd will be guest conducting the Lafourche Parish Elementary Honor Choir this February. It is a tremendous honor to represent Vandebilt Catholic as their guest conductor.

All of the musicians in the Brother Alfred Kolb center are vigorously working on new music for the spring semester performances and festivals. The Winter Guard will be performing to "Angels in the Architecture" and "Lux Arumque." The Indoor Percussion Ensemble is performing music from "La Mer" and "Claire de Lune." One of new ensembles this year, the Indoor Winds are working on music from Beethoven's "7th Symphony," and Camille Saint Saen's "Carnival of the Animals."

The choir program has many ensembles prepping for the spring semester as well. The 8th Grade Choir will be performing "Antiphonal Kyrie," "Will There Really be a Morning," and "Promised Land." The mixed choir is working on "With a Voice of Singing," "Agnus Dei," and "Festival Sanctus." The choir department's elite ensemble, The Women's Choir, will be performing "Je le Vous Dirai!," "The Poet Sings," and "Bandyrowe."

The band program has several pieces in their folders for the spring semester: "Appalachian Spring," "Horkstow Grange," "La Peri," "Celebration Fanfare," "There Was a Pig Went Out to Dig," and "In Memoriam." In addition to working on concert literature, the band, guard, and dance teams are also preparing a variety of music for the Mardi Gras parades: "Hey Baby!," "Seven Nation Army," "Fancy," "Downtown," and "The Horse." The Regiment will be performing for the Krewes of Hyacinthians, Terranians, and Houmas - as well as parades at St. Bernadette and Maria Immaculate Elementary Schools.

We are also proud to mention that Vandebilt Catholic music students performed in New York City with the Carnegie Hall Honors Ensembles in February. Ms. Carlie Hay performed with the Women's Choir, and Ms. Harley Trahan performed with the Symphony Orchestra. Congratulations Ladies!

ART

The Art Department and Art Club are in full swing in the second semester preparing works for several upcoming competitions and exhibition opportunities. Students in Art I through IV have been challenged to submit works for possible competition at Nicholls State University for District Art Rally. Our Art Club members have also been invited to submit works for competition in this year's Terrebonne Fine Arts Guild Annual Student Art Show. We are excited for the opportunity to showcase and compete against other talented high school artists in our area. Our Art Department, photography students, and Art Club members are also busy planning for this year's annual Student Art Show on March 31, at 6:00 P.M. in the Brother Alfred Kolb Center.

MOTHERS' CLUB



February has us busy preparing for our garage sale in March. Please continue to bring items in! Drop offs at the VCH Annex are Mondays from 8 A.M. to 9 A.M. and Wednesdays from 5 P.M. to 7 P.M. (We are constantly sorting and pricing to be prepared ahead of time, so the sooner we get sale items in the better.) Thank you to those who have already donated! And a special thank you to those who are assisting in the sorting and pricing. If you are interested in helping, please email us at vchsmothersclub@gmail.com. You don't have to be a Mothers' Club member to help!!!!

February also brings Mardi Gras, and we will have some seasonal fun in store for the students...so stay tuned for information!

Our next Rosary will be mid-February so please watch announcements for a confirmed date.

Thanks to all of our volunteers for your continued support.

Kerry Diebold
Communications/Publicity Officer
VCH Mothers' Club 2016-2017
Vchsmothersclub@gmail.com

LIBRARY NEWS

Mrs. Danae' Jackson (school librarian) and Mrs. Barbara Bourg (library aide) would like to invite all students to visit the Vanderbilt Catholic Library.

Please remember that the library is continuing to collect Box Tops for Education and Community Coffee labels all year. We send these off a few times in the school year and have already collected \$149.20 from Box Tops. The money earned from both goes toward the purchasing of new books and e-books, or anything else the library may need. Thank you for your participation in this beneficial library fundraiser.

The Vanderbilt Catholic Library also has a memorial program in which a person can honor another by donating money to purchase a book in his or her memory.

Required reading novels for English classes (\$1.00 per book) are sold in the library (by the Mother's Club). These sell out quickly!

Ask us about our new books and e-books that are ready to be checked out. Do not forget about our numerous online resources that will help with your class projects.

Check the school web-site or Plus Portals for more library information and links, such as databases that students can utilize on or off campus. The library page on Plus Portals is under Groups.

Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Bourg would like to give a shout out to the Social Justice class (especially Michael Larose and Sean Folse) for assembling our new library shelving units and helping move books! We greatly appreciate all of these amazing, helpful seniors.



The VCHS Book Club has already had several meetings. The Book Club is reading its second book, *The Fifth Wave* by Rick Yancey. Students may still join Book Club, even though they may not be able to attend every meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS

THIRD QUARTER AND FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE 2016-2017

3rd Quarter Exams

February 21 - 5th/6th & 1st
February 22 - 2nd & 4th
February 23 - 8th
February 24 - 3rd & 7th

Senior Final Exams

May 8 - 3rd & 4th
May 9 - 1st & 2nd
May 10 - 5th/6th & 7th
May 11 - 8th

Finals (8th- 11th Graders)

May 22 - 3rd
May 23 - 1st & 2nd
May 24 - 5th/6th & 7th
May 25 - 8th & 4th

Interims

3rd Quarter- January 26
4th Quarter- March 30(seniors)
April 6 (8th-11th graders)



Vandebilt Catholic Bell Schedule 2016-2017

1 Regular (50 min. Classes)	2 Mass (40 min. Classes)	3 Pep Rally (46 min. Classes)	4 EXAM
7:56 Warning Bell	7:56 Warning Bell	7:56 Warning Bell	7:56 Warning Bell
7:59 – 8:49 1 st Period	7:59 – 8:39 1 st Period	7:59 – 8:45 1 st Period	7:56 – 8:05 Prayer & Announcements
8:52 – 9:42 2 nd Period	8:42 – 9:22 2 nd Period	8:48 – 9:34 2 nd Period	8:05 – 9:35 Exam
9:45 – 10:01 Homeroom / Recess	9:25 – 10:35 Mass	9:37 – 9:55 Homeroom / Recess	9:35 – 9:50 Recess
10:04 – 10:54 3 rd Period	10:35 – 10:51 Recess	9:58 – 10:44 3 rd Period	9:53 – 11:23 Exam
10:57 – 11:47 4 th Period	10:54 – 11:34 3 rd Period	10:47 – 11:33 4 th Period	
11:47 – 12:15 LUNCH I	11:37 – 12:17 4 th Period	11:33 – 12:01 LUNCH I	
11:50 – 12:40 5 th Period	12:17 – 12:45 LUNCH I	11:36 – 12:22 5 th Period	
12:18 – 1:08 6 th Period	12:20 – 1:00 5 th Period	12:04 – 12:50 6 th Period	
12:40 – 1:08 LUNCH II	12:48 – 1:28 6 th Period	12:22 – 12:50 LUNCH II	
1:11 – 2:01 Prayer & 7 th Period	1:00 – 1:28 LUNCH II	12:53 – 1:39 Prayer & 7 th Period	
2:04 – 2:54 8 th Period	1:31– 2:11 Prayer & 7 th Period	1:42 – 2:28 8 th Period	
	2:14 – 2:54 8 th Period	2:28 - 2:54 Assembly	