



ILLIANA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2024

COMMUNICATION NOTES

- **Directory:** We do not publish a hard copy of the directory. You can find the contact information for staff and families by going to: Family Portal>School >Directory> use the sort options available for families and staff.
- **Newsletters:** If you need to refer to a previous Newsletter from Illiana, you can find them at illianachristian.org>Parents>FamilyNewsletter>Recent Posts.
- **Sports Schedule Changes & Updates:** Updates will be sent via emails from a coach or athletic director, and can be found by going to our website and following the link for schedules on the [athletic page](#). Changes are usually posted by 2:00 p.m.

CALENDAR NOTES

September 2: Labor Day – No School

September 3 – 9: Canned Food Drive

September 6: Wiffle Ball, Staff vs Students 6:00 p.m.

September 13: Freshman Retreat

September 16: ICHS Golf Outing

September 17: PSAT Coaching 7:00-9:00 p.m. - New date

September 19: Early Dismissal 2:25 p.m.

September 19: PSAT Coaching 7:00-9:00 p.m. - New date

September 20: PIE Mum Sale Pick-up 2-5 p.m.

September 26: PSAT Coaching 7:00-8:30 p.m. - New date

September 28: Illiana Dedication/Foundation Event

September 30: 2025-2026 Application Open for CURRENT FAMILIES (with incoming students) New

October 3: All School Picture Retakes

October 3: School Picnic

October 4: Spire Party

October 5: Sadie Hawkins Dance - Date has changed

October 8: Fall Choir Concert 7:30 p.m.

October 14: College Financial Aid Night - New date

October 16: PSAT-NMSQT test for Juniors

October 18: Dodgeball Tournament

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Bible Study: Morning Bible Studies meet from 6:45-7:30 am on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Girls meet in the media center and are led by Janna Van Essen and Denise VanRyn. Boys meet in room 216 and are led by Craig Slings and Neil Zandstra. Rise-N-Roll and iced coffee are served. Everyone is invited!!!

Canned Food Drive: StuCo is excited to sponsor the third annual Canned Food Drive for the Our Daily Bread Food Pantry in Sauk Village. The Our Daily Bread Food Pantry serves between 100 - 150 families each week, providing them with fresh food items like garden vegetables, bread and meat as well as canned food items like fruit, soup, tuna and tomato sauce. StuCo is sponsoring a canned food drive this week to help support this pantry and the work it does in the communities of Sauk Village, Lynwood and Chicago Heights. Bring in an unexpired can or three of any kind of food to your homeroom teacher next week. The grade level with the highest average of cans per kid will win an ice cream sundae bar during homeroom lunch.

Carpool Update: Any family that is looking for carpool should email Mr. Boer - dboer@illianachristian.org.

Fall Play: The Drama Department is excited to present the play *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder. The play serves as a reminder to us all of how beautiful and precious a gift life is. Performances are on Nov. 7, 8, and 9 at 7 pm. There will also be a matinee on the 9th at 2 pm. Tickets will be going on sale mid-October.

ICHS Golf Outing: The Illiana Christian Golf Outing will be on Monday, September 16, at Briar Ridge Country Club in Schererville, IN. Please contact Darren DeBoer (219-558-7066 ext 114 or ddeboer@illianachristian.org) with questions or to sponsor the event. [Online registration](#) is available on our website.

Illiana Community Choir: ICHS is starting a new adventure for those in the community who love to sing - the Illiana Community Choir. If you love to sing and miss being in choir, consider joining us! No auditions are required, but singing experience is a definite plus. The group will practice every Monday night from 7-9pm at ICHS. There will be one concert per semester. To receive a rehearsal schedule along with other details including how to register to join, reach out to Kathy Sliemers at ksliemers@illianachristian.org.

Moms in Prayer: COME AND JOIN US for our first meeting of the school year! We welcome new moms! Meet fellow moms and feel the power of prayer at work as we lift one another up, our families and also all things Illiana. The Illiana Moms in Prayer group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays when school is in session. Join us when you can after drop-off at 8:00 a.m. in the Conference Room for an hour of prayer. . For more details, please email Nate-Becky@outlook.com or dougntam@hotmail.com or text Becky at 219-213-1444

Service Opportunities: There are a number of service opportunities available to students to help them meet their 10 hours of community service for their exam voucher. Please join the Exam Exemption Google Classroom to find opportunities and policies. The join code is 4idc6lp.

Staff vs. Seniors Wiffle Ball Game: Wiffleball is back with a twist. Come on out and watch a rag-tag group of teachers battle it out with a ready-to-trouble group of seniors. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students. And the Menu of Mischief is back, so bring your cash or checkbook. Concessions will be available. All of the proceeds will go to Illiana on Mission!

Yearbooks: The 2023-2024 yearbook, The Spire, will be available for pick up on October 4. Sophomores, juniors, seniors and graduates (class of 2024) may pick them up at the Spire Party between 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

ADMISSIONS

The 2025-2026 Application will open to current families on September 30th at 8am. You will be sent a link via email, which will grant you access to completing the application.

COUNSELING OFFICE NEWS

- **College Financial Aid Night:** Juniors, seniors and their parents/guardians are encouraged to attend this meeting in the Commons which will be on October 14, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Important information will be given regarding the FAFSA and general scholarship information. **Indiana now requires ALL SENIORS to complete the FAFSA regardless of whether they plan to attend college or not.** This informational night will be helpful in understanding how to complete the FAFSA.
- **PSAT:** **ALL JUNIORS** will be taking the PSAT-NMSQT on October 16. Indiana requires ALL juniors to take the SAT test in the spring. The PSAT will continue to be the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, but it will also serve as a practice test for the SAT. **Coaching dates are September 17th, 19th, and 26th, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The fee for coaching is \$70.** There is no fee to take the test itself. Students may sign up for the **COACHING** in the office with Mrs. West beginning September 3rd. Additional test preparation resources can be found [here](#) through the College Board. Details will be sent by email to all juniors and their parents/guardians. Any questions should be directed to the counselors, Melanie Benes (mbenes@illianachristian.org) or Neil Zandstra (nzandstra@illianachrsitian.org).

PARENTS INVOLVED IN EDUCATION (P.I.E.)

- **Lunch ordering** for the month of October will be open from September 1 -10. A reminder email with instructions will be sent each month. No late orders are accepted. Also, we encourage you to pay by checking or savings account transfer to help save on your credit/debit card fees.
- **PIE opportunities to serve** at lunch, evening salad prep and Saturday kitchen cleanings are available on signup.com. More dinners will be added soon. If you haven't made an account yet, please do so, that way if we have last minute openings, you can be notified of those. Click [here](https://signup.com/go/CKZzLwY) to sign up/see the spots: <https://signup.com/go/CKZzLwY>.
- **Volunteers:** Managers are scheduled each day to show you what to do. Park in the front of school on the north side. Stop in the office with your driver's license, take a visitor badge, and meet us in the kitchen. Please wear a hat or a hairnet will be provided for you to wear. This is a great way to meet other parents and see your kids!
- **Mum Fundraiser:** Don't forget to order your beautiful fall mums! **Mums are \$10 each** and come in a variety of colors. Order forms are due in the office on September 12th by 3pm with check or cash. Pick up will be on September 20th at school in the South parking lot from 2-5pm. All proceeds will go toward funding classroom purchases that are not covered by tuition.
- **SCRIP:** All monthly orders go out on the first Tuesday of the month. All orders are due online by 8:00 am. If you are paying by check for the monthly order all checks must be in the office by 8:00 am on the first Tuesday of each month. Reminder that checks are only accepted for physical gift cards ordered through the monthly orders. Any ScripNow, Reload, or ReloadNow cards must be paid online with a bank account.

SPORTS NEWS

- **Trainer Fee:** The \$50 trainer fee for fall sports will be added to your tuition account sometime this month. This is a per-student/per-sport fee for all athletes.
- **Admission prices for all indoor and outdoor athletic events (excluding tennis):** Adults: \$7, Students (with ID): \$5, Seniors: \$5.00, and the Fall Family Pass: \$40. The Family Pass covers Soccer and Volleyball.

- **Save the date:** The Illiana Christian Auction will be held on Saturday, November 16. If you are interested in donating to the auction, please complete [this form](#).
- **Coaching Openings:**
 - Boys Freshman Basketball Coach

TUITION OFFICE NEWS

- **Foundation Fund Earnings:** The Foundation Fund offers an *estimated* yearly tuition credit of \$200 available to all students. All funds that are NOT claimed by October 31, 2024 will automatically be given to the Tuition Assistance Fund of the school. The Tuition Assistance Fund is used throughout the year to help families in need who are struggling to pay tuition. If you would like to donate your credit to the Tuition Assistance Fund, you do not need to do anything. If you would like to accept the credit, please fill out the [Foundation Fund Earnings form](#).
- **Tuition Payments:** All families should be receiving automated emails from FACTS containing tuition invoices and payment notifications. If you are NOT receiving emails and/or have not made a payment yet this year, please contact Kathy West ASAP at kwest@illianachristian.org or 219-558-7066 x111.
- **Incidental Billing:** Incidental Fees such as Bus Fees, Sports Fees, etc. are billed separately from tuition. You will only receive an Incidental Invoice via email if charges have been added to your account and payment is due. **PLEASE** take note whether or not you are signed up for Auto Pay on these invoices. If you are **not** signed up for Auto Pay, you must pay these invoices **on time**. Payment can be made online through your Family Portal or by check/cash in the office. If you would like to enroll in Auto Pay, contact Kathy West.