



Welcome to the 2023 – 2024 school year! We look forward to seeing you the third week of August. Until then, we have many details to share with you. If you do not find the answers here, check our website www.illianachristian.org. You can also call us at 219-558-7066.

CALENDAR NOTES:

August 14 – New Viking Night
August 15 – Freshmen First Day of School/Freshman Orientation
August 16 – First Day of School for All Students
August 19 – Challenged to Ride/Disc Golf Tournament
August 22 – Senior Pictures
August 23 – Underclassmen Pictures
August 31 – Back to School Night
September 4 – Labor Day/No School
September 18 – Golf Outing
September 21 - Early Dismissal

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

TEXTBOOKS: Freshmen will receive their textbooks and chromebooks on the day of Freshmen Orientation. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors will receive their textbooks in homeroom on the first day of school.

REQUIRED HEALTH RECORDS:

- The Indiana State Department of Health requires that all incoming SENIORS receive a 2nd MCV4 (Meningococcal) vaccine. Please mail, email or drop off an updated immunization record BEFORE school starts in August. You may email records to shoffman@illianachristian.org.
- Any family that has filled out a Religious Objection [Form](#) for vaccinations must complete a new form EVERY YEAR. Please send an updated form, for the 2022 -2023 school year, to the office before the school year starts. You may email updated forms to shoffman@illianachristian.org, or bring them to the office.
- **REQUIRED FRESHMEN DOCUMENTS:** All freshmen are required by Indiana law to submit an UPDATED immunization record and birth certificate or other proof of age before school starts. Scans and photocopies are acceptable.

PARKING FOR 2023-2024: For identification purposes, all student drivers must display a parking tag in their car. The \$20 fee will be billed with tuition. Please carefully read, complete and submit the online [form](#) that is available until August 16. Paper forms will be available after the 16th. The parking tags will be distributed in homeroom on the first day of school.

NEW VIKING NIGHT: All freshman, transfer students and their guardians are invited to attend “New Viking Night” on August 14. Illiana staff members will be available to answer your questions. This night is all about getting to know other Viking families and spending time in fellowship. If you have any questions, please contact Admissions Director, Jenna Dutton, 219-558-7066, ext. 141 or jdutton@illianachristian.org. An email invitation was sent out. Please be sure to RSVP by August 5 here: <https://forms.gle/NddAPMa8bd79v9746>, for the dinner portion of the event!

FRESHMEN ORIENTATION: First day for freshmen will take place on Tuesday, August 15, 7:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Freshmen will meet with their SHIELD group leader in the Commons when they arrive. They will receive a copy of their schedule, their textbooks, and their Chromebook, as well as run through their classes and meet each of their teachers. Buses will run on this day.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: The first day of school is Wednesday, August 16. **Please note that we will be dismissing at 2:00 p.m.** Students will report to homeroom by 7:45 a.m. (the first bell rings at 7:40 a.m.). Students will receive another copy of their schedule in homeroom.

FALL PLAY: ICHS's Drama Department will be holding auditions for this fall's play, *Alice In Wonderland*, on August 17 and 18 after school in the music room. Audition material can be found on our website by using [this link](#). If you or your incoming students have any questions, please direct them to Mr. Jeff DeVries at jdevries@illianachristian.org.

CHALLENGED TO RIDE/DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT: We're hosting our annual bike ride and Disc Golf event again! August 19, 2023.

Challenged to Ride is this month, sign up today to ensure your spot on the bike ride or the Disc Golf Tournament! You'll have a great time all while supporting ICHS. You won't want to miss the incredible food, fellowship, and fun. The bike ride is on August 19 at Illiana Christian High School and the Disc Golf Tournament is the same day at Lemon Lake in Crown Point. Sign up here to ride, throw or be a sponsor! <https://www.illianachristian.org/life-ichs/challenged-to-ride/>

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT: Parents are invited to come to school to visit the classrooms and meet their student's teachers on Thursday, August 31, at 7:00 p.m. Remember this is for parents only.

FALL 2023 WASHINGTON D.C. SENIOR CLASS TRIP: The dates for the trip will be October 17 – 21, 2023. The fee of \$900 is due on September 13. More information will be shared as it becomes available. Please do not bring payment in before September 1, and do not combine payment with a tuition payment. Payment should be given to homeroom teachers for accurate record keeping.

GOLF OUTING: The Illiana Christian Athletic Association will be holding its [Fall Golf Classic](#) at Briar Ridge Country Club in Schererville, IN on September 18. Check-in and lunch take place from 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. with a shot gun start at 12:30 p.m. Dinner and awards follow at 5:30 p.m. Sponsorship opportunities available! For more information, contact Darren DeBoer at (219) 558-7066 ext. 114 or ddeboer@illianachristian.org or Bonnie Trepton at (219) 558-7066 ext. 124 or email btrepton@illianachristian.org.

EXAM EXEMPTION: The Exam Exemption Service Opportunities will now be posted for all students and parents in a Google Classroom. Use Class Code **4idc6lp** to join the Google Classroom where you will find up to date information about service opportunities, policies and procedures. Students are expected to join this Classroom, and parents are welcome to join as well.

SENIOR PICTURES: Class of 2024 photos will be taken on August 22. Please note: while the purchase of a photo package is not necessary, ALL seniors must be photographed by HR Imaging in order to appear in the 2024 *Spire* (yearbook). Contact HR Imaging at 815-433-1766 if you have any questions.

MOMS IN PRAYER: The Illiana Moms in Prayer group will meet the 1st, 3rd, and 5th **Wednesdays** of the month. We meet at Illiana on days when school is in session beginning **August 30 at 8:00 a.m.** Meet with us for an hour of prayer for our school, faculty, staff and students. For more information, email Nate-Becky@outlook.com or dougntam@hotmail.com or check out the website at www.momsinprayer.org.

FROM THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE:

If you have questions about anything related to Illiana admissions and re-enrollment, they can be directed to Director of Admissions, Jenna Dutton, at 219-558-7066 ext. 149 or jdutton@illianaweb.org.

TRANSPORTATION:

BUS SIGN UPS: The 2023 – 2024 bus registration [link is open](#) if your student will need bus transportation next school year, please take a moment to register them. There is transportation from South Holland, Lansing, and Highland. The bus registration fee for next year is \$230 and will be billed on your August tuition statement. Contact Duane Kamstra with questions at dkamstra@illianachristian.org.

FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE:

2023 – 2024 TUITION INFORMATION:

- All of you should have tuition payment plans set up in the new FACTS billing system. If you have yet to do so, please contact Kathy West ASAP at 219.558.7066 x111 or kwest@illianachristian.org. Look for additional email communications throughout this month containing further tuition/incidental fee information.

P.I.E:

- The P.I.E. (Parents Involved in Education) is excited for the year ahead. An email with all the information about PIE and volunteer PIE credit openings will be sent out later this week. **Please read** through everything!
- Hot Lunch - We can't wait to see our lunch volunteers back to help us prepare the daily lunches. Please wear a baseball hat and have your hair up to help, otherwise, we do have hair nets for you to wear while we prepare the food. This is a wonderful way to meet other parents and see you kids at lunch! Be sure to register and sign up for your lunch spots!
- Lunch is served daily, one option every day. All lunches are pre ordered and pre paid every month for the next month. Aug/Sept lunch ordering is now "open" from Aug 1-10. Please follow the directions on the lunch email that was sent out. Ordering is done on Renweb/lunches. Questions- please call Terri- 708-259-0749.
- Looking for two **Chicken Nugget managers for Tuesday morning** about 1 x a month. This will fulfill your \$250 in pie credit with an additional \$100 for your extra time. You will be fully trained, it's fun and easy! Call Terri- 708-259-0749

SCRIP:

SCRIP tuition credit was paid out at the end of July. You should see your tuition credit on your August statement.

We have about 75 families (current/future/grandparents) using the program. **In the last year the families using the program earned a total of \$35,879.45 in tuition credit!** If you would like more information about how to use SCRIP or need help with signing up please email scrip@illianachristian.org. If your student who was authorized to pick up your gift cards has graduated, please fill out a new registration form authorizing another student to pick up your gift cards. All monthly orders will be due online by 8:00 am on the first Tuesday of the month. Cards will be ready for pick up the following Tuesday.

ATHLETIC NEWS:

The Athletic Department enlists the services of a certified athletic trainer. The trainer, Melissa Vargas, will be available at many of the home events and after school on practice days to provide athletes with prompt treatment as well as preventative measures such as taping, bracing, etc. Every student who participates in sports at Illiana will be assessed a fee of \$50 per sport to help defray the expense of this program. This fee will be added to your tuition statement.

COUNSELING OFFICE UPDATES

SCHEDULES: Schedules are available online through your family portal. Students will receive a copy in homeroom on their first day of school. Due to new enrollments, section balancing and schedule changes throughout the summer, please check your schedule just before school starts as it may have changed since you reviewed it online. The counselors will be in the office starting the week of August 7. If any changes are needed, please email your requests to your counselor. Some changes can be made after school starts but only under very limited conditions. Students whose last names begin with the letters A-K, contact Mrs. Melanie Benes (mbenes@illianachristian.org) and students whose last names begin with letters L-Z, contact Mr. Neil Zandstra (nzandstra@illianachristian.org).

ACT: Students who wish to take the ACT must register online at www.actstudent.org. Our school code is 154444. This code should be used for both SAT and ACT testing registration to ensure your scores are sent to Illiana so they can then be included on your transcript.

SAT: Illiana offers the SAT in the spring for every junior as a state-required test. If your student wants to take the SAT on a national test date, go to www.collegeboard.com to register using the school code 154444.

COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID NIGHT/FAFSA INFORMATION: Parents/guardians of juniors and seniors are invited to the College Financial Aid night on November 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commons. This is an important seminar to attend as you begin college and financial aid applications. Please make this a priority.

GENERAL REMINDERS

STUDENT INSURANCE: Illiana does not have medical insurance coverage for your child. If your child is hurt, even if at school, we do not have a policy to cover that injury. We expect that all our families have their own health insurance.

DIRECTORY: The directory is available on your [Family Portal](#)>ParentsWeb>School Information>Directory. You may search by Family or School Staff. The School Staff option will display all faculty and staff and their contact information, including email addresses.

SECURITY: After the school day has started, doors will be locked. **Anyone arriving after 8:00 a.m. must use the entrance by flagpole.** Late students and all visitors, will need to be buzzed in by the office staff. Late students must sign in and receive a pass. Visitors are required to sign in at the main office and wear an identification badge. You must sign out when you leave.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Keep up to date with what's happening at Illiana by following our two official social media accounts.

– Facebook: www.facebook.com/IllianaChristianHighSchool

– Instagram: www.instagram.com/illianachs

Please follow us and like our content to help spread the word about all the wonderful things happening at Illiana!

****ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**