



### **CALENDAR NOTES:**

- February 1 – Blood Drive
- February 5 – Late Start, 8:15am
- February 7 – ICHS SAT Coaching
- February 8 - PIE Supper
- February 8 – Concert: Symphonic Band, Women’s Chorale, Concert Choir and Orchestra
- February 12 – ICHS SAT Coaching
- February 14 – Concert: Wind Ensemble, Chambers and A Capella Choir
- February 15 – Praise Crowd Breakfast
- February 16 – NO SCHOOL, Teacher In-service and Praise Crowd
- February 19 – NO SCHOOL, President’s Day
- February 22 - Challenge Day
- February 22 - ICHS SAT Coaching
- February 23 - Middle School Basketball and Praise Crowd Night
- February 24 – Midwest Band Festival Competition
- March 13 – School-Wide Testing - SAT for juniors, PSAT 10 for sophomores, PSAT 8/9 freshmen

**NO SCHOOL:** There will be no school on the following dates:

- Friday, February 16, due to the Faculty In-Service day
- Monday, February 19, due to President’s Day
- Friday, March 29, due to Good Friday
- Spring Break is March 30 through April 7; school will resume on April 8
- Monday, May 27, due to Memorial Day

### **EVENTS**

**GRANDPARENTS DAY:** Save the Date- Grandparents Day is Friday, April 19, 9:15am!

**SPRING MUSICAL:** Sound of Music is coming to Illiana in March! Students take to the stage for 4 performances March 7, 8 & 9. Tickets will be \$10 and will be for sale through the front office starting at the end of February.

**FUSION:** FUSION IS BACK! Fusion is the collaboration between Illiana Christian, Highland Christian, Lansing Christian, Calvin Christian and Crown Point Christian schools to ensure that Christian education is accessible for tomorrow’s generations. Fusion seeks to enhance our Foundations, support the Christian education system, and promote Fellowship by offering an annual, community-wide event. This year, Fusion presents Matt Maher at Faith Church in Dyer, IN on August 1st! More information to come and ticket sales will open soon! If you need more information please contact Cassie Siersema at [csiersema@illianachristian.org](mailto:csiersema@illianachristian.org)

**VIKING ACADEMY:** Viking Academy 2024 is July 8-26. We can’t wait to see you all! Keep an eye out on our website for all the camps being offered this year! Registration opens March 15, 2024.

### **FRONT OFFICE**

**REMINDER:** If you have a new driver, please have them grab a parking pass form on the wall across from the office.

### **ADMISSIONS & ENROLLMENT NEWS**

#### **ATTENTION PARENTS OF EIGHTH GRADERS:**

High School is just around the corner for your soon-to-be-graduating student! Illiana is still accepting online applications for the 2024-2025 academic year. Current Illiana families can access the application in their Family Portal under Apply/Enroll. New families should visit the Admissions page on the Illiana website. Please pass this information on to friends and family.

**PREVIEW ILLIANA:** Join us on March 14 for the Spring Edition of PREVIEW ILLIANA. Please be sure to register online.

**RE-ENROLLMENT:** Re-enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year will be automatic again this year. Principal Peter Boonstra will be sending a letter to all parents this week.

**CONTACT:** Please direct all questions and inquiries to our Director of Admissions, Jenna Dutton, at 219-558-7066 Ext. 141 or [jdutton@illianachristian.org](mailto:jdutton@illianachristian.org)

## **ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** Illiana Christian's Athletic Department is looking to fill the following coaching vacancy for this spring. Those interested should contact Darren DeBoer at [ddeboer@illianachristian.org](mailto:ddeboer@illianachristian.org):

- Track and Field Throws Coach: Applicants should be able to coach both boys' and girls' shot put and discus. This can be a part-time position (1-3 practices a week and some meets) or a full-time position (4-5 practices a week and most meets).

### **SPRING SPORTS TRYOUTS:**

- Boys and Girls track will start February 12
- Boys Volleyball Tryouts begin February 26
- Softball Tryouts begin March 4
- Girls Tennis Tryouts begin March 11
- Boys Golf Tryouts begin March 11
- Baseball Tryouts begin March 11

**PANCAKE PACER:** Our 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Pancake Pacer 5k run/walk will be held on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at 7:30 a.m. Following the race will be our famous pancake breakfast. All of the proceeds will benefit the Illiana Athletic Department. You may [register online](#).

MOMS IN PRAYER AT ILLIANA WILL MEET WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7 and 21 @ 8:00 am in the conference room in the main office. WE WELCOME NEW MOMS TO JOIN US!

### **COUNSELING OFFICE:**

- SCHOOL-WIDE TESTING will take place on March 13, 2024.
  - Freshmen will take the PSAT 8/9
  - Sophomores will take the PSAT 10
  - Juniors will take the SAT. More information regarding the SAT can be found below.
- The SAT TEST will be offered at Illiana Christian High School on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 for Illiana students only. Indiana requires ALL juniors to take the SAT as part of graduation requirements. Students do not need to pay or register for the test on this date. In addition to meeting a graduation requirement, the results from this test can also be used for students' college entrance exam scores.
- SAT COACHING is available for all juniors. Mr. DeVries and Mr. Gorter will provide coaching on 2/7, 2/12 & 2/22 from 7:00-9:00 pm. The cost is \$70 and must be paid in advance by check or cash. We are not able to charge this to your tuition. Those interested need to sign up in the office with Mrs. West by February 2nd.
- COURSE SELECTION: In February, the counselors will be meeting with students in their English classes to go over their transcripts, courses required for graduation, Graduation Pathways, the Indiana Core 40 requirements, and the 2024-2025 course selection process. Each student will be given paperwork to bring home to share with parents/guardians. This is a great opportunity for families to discuss courses for next year and their child's potential career plans. **The deadline for choosing courses is February 26 .**
- If you have any questions regarding the SAT test or course selection, contact your student's counselor - Mrs. Melanie Benes for students with last names A – K ([mbernes@illianachristian.org](mailto:mbernes@illianachristian.org)) or Mr. Neil Zandstra for students with last names L – Z ([nzandstra@illianachristian.org](mailto:nzandstra@illianachristian.org)).
- **NEW & REQUIRED!!! FAFSA (Free Application for Financial Aid)**

During 2023, Indiana passed a law that **REQUIRES ALL** high school seniors, regardless of future plans, either to file the FAFSA **OR** to opt out of filing by April 15, 2024. Completing the FAFSA is an important step in a postsecondary education. Students pursuing short-term certificate training, associate/bachelor's degrees, or participating in some trade school/apprenticeship programs may receive financial aid by completing the FAFSA. Think you may not qualify for financial aid? The federal government has made some changes, so you may qualify after all. An email with more detailed information about this requirement went out to all seniors and their families in November. Another one was sent out in December. Be sure to complete the [23-24 FAFSA Questionnaire](#) to assist us with the tracking process for the state. **Even those who do not live in Indiana must complete this requirement due to attending an Indiana school.** Contact Mrs. Melanie Benes or Mr. Neil Zandstra with any questions.

## **FROM THE TUITION OFFICE:**

**INCIDENTAL CHARGES:** *Please note that your next Incidentals Invoice will be sent on March 5, 2024.*

**Incidental Charges** that you will see on that invoice:

- **Re-enrollment Fee:** All Freshman-Junior students will be automatically re-enrolled for the 2024-2025 school year. A fee of \$165 per student will be added to your Incidental Invoice. Please note: you will then receive a \$100 enrollment fee credit on your first tuition statement of the 24-25 school year. If you need to make changes to your child's enrollment, please contact Jenna Dutton at [jdutton@illianachristian.org](mailto:jdutton@illianachristian.org).
- A **SPIRE fee** of \$68 will be added to your Incidental Invoice IF your child placed an order. If there is NO yearbook charge on your invoice, then an order was not placed. To change your child's order, please email Kathy West at [kwest@illianachristian.org](mailto:kwest@illianachristian.org). Please note, yearbooks may also be purchased the night of the next year's SPIRE party at the door for \$80.

**PIE FEES & CREDITS:** NEW THIS YEAR!! The annual PIE fee of \$250 will now be billed in May ONLY to families who have NOT completed their volunteer hours. If you have completed all of your PIE volunteer hours by May, you will simply not be charged. If you have completed some of your volunteer hours, you will only be billed for what you have not worked off. As the year comes to a close, any hours that are worked in May/June will be credited to your account weekly. If you have questions regarding this new system, please contact Kathy West at [kwest@illianachristian.org](mailto:kwest@illianachristian.org).

## **P.I.E. NEWS:**

- **SCRIP:** SCRIP payout was applied to your tuition statements in January. You should see the tuition credit on your February statement. Just a reminder that the SCRIP store is open during regular school office hours. Tuition earnings for last quarter were \$6011.95. Since August families using the program earned a total of \$14978.07 in tuition credit! Order forms can be found online or in the rack outside of the office. Your student can drop off your form in the office also. Just please fill out the form ahead of time so that the denominations that are given are the ones you would like. If you have questions about SCRIP, please contact Jill Rozendal at [scrip@illianachristian.org](mailto:scrip@illianachristian.org).
- Thank you to those who have volunteered in the lunch program! For those of you looking to sign up, please click on this link thru signup.com, <https://signup.com/go/TWBkAWs>.
- The P.I.E. Fundraiser Dinner is happening on Thursday, February 8. Order today! Don't miss your chance to enjoy Rosati's pizza, Rise 'n Roll apple pie & salad. Along with sausage and cheese pizza, we are also offering pepperoni pizza this year. Take it home for dinner or keep it frozen for another night. Orders must be received by Wednesday, January 31. Simply click this [LINK](#) to access the form. If you have any questions regarding the ordering process please reach out to Terri Schaaf at [tschaaf@illianachristian.org](mailto:tschaaf@illianachristian.org) Your dinner donation directly supports our students and staff through the Excellence in Education program.
- In light of the new billing system this school year, the **P.I.E fee** will be billed as an incidental expense in May. Previously, all families were billed the \$250 P.I.E. fee in December then they were credited after they volunteered. With the new system, families who have met all their volunteer credits by May will not see this fee. We believe this change makes more sense for our families and school staff. Thank you for your patience as we continue to make improvements to our procedures! If you are looking for ways to volunteer for P.I.E. credit, check out opportunities at [signup.com/go/TWBkAWs](https://signup.com/go/TWBkAWs)