



IWA Weekly Newsletter  
*August 8, 2025*

**SAVE THE DATE**

INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY

# OKTOBERFEST

\$50  
ENTRY

1935



2025

21+  
ONLY

## FALL FESTIVAL

**BEER • FOOD • MUSIC**

6620 PEARL RD. PARMA HEIGHTS, OH

**SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER 27**

**6:00PM TO  
9:00PM**

**WITH FOOD FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

**EVENT LIMITED TO 250 GUESTS**

Celebrate IWA's 90th Anniversary  
with a full day of fun for all ages!

**Fall Fun Run | 9:00 AM**

Students, families, and friends can sign up to run or walk and help raise funds for our school.



## Oktoberfest Fall Festival | 6:00–9:00 PM (21+ only)

Enjoy food tents, beer, live music, games, raffles, and more at this festive adults-only evening!

Tickets go on sale soon!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Supply Drop Off Monday, Aug. 18th

#### Anytime between 4-6 pm.

Students: stop by and meet your teacher, take some photos with friends in our outdoor photo booth, and enjoy a Kona Ice treat!

The following school supplies will be available for purchase outside of the school.

- Warrior pencil pouch
- Bow ties (boys grade K-2)
- Ties (boys grade 3-8)
- Science aprons (grades 6-8)
- Laddie pencils (KP - grade 2)
- Iron-on emblems



## Welcome New Staff!

### Intervention Specialist

Please welcome Fran Cullins! Her career began as a kindergarten teacher in the Catholic Diocese of San Diego. Over the years, she has taught a variety of elementary grade levels in both California and Ohio. For the past six years, Fran has focused on reading and math intervention through the McKeon Education Group. During that time, she received her Wilson Dyslexia Practitioner Certification, as well as her intervention specialist license. Fran has two children of her own, a son and daughter that are both in college. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking and reading. Fran looks forward to joining our school community!



### Advancement & Admissions Associate

Rachel Stepanik is the parent of two IWA students (Connor in 4th grade and Mason in 1st grade) and is excited to take on this new role in the advancement and admissions office alongside Mr. Kessler! Prior to starting at Incarnate Word, Rachel worked in communications, primarily in nonprofit organizations around Cleveland. Earning both her BA and MA from John Carroll University, Rachel is looking forward to putting her education and previous work experience to use at IWA. In her free time,



Rachel enjoys attending her boys' sporting events, traveling, walking the family dog (Teddy), and reading.

### School Counselor

Dan Tirgiani has spent over 25 years working in mental health and school psychology, supporting students from kindergarten through high school, as well as clients of all ages in clinical settings. He has a Master's in Counseling and Human Development from John Carroll University and a Bachelor's in Psychology from Cleveland State. Most of his work has focused on psychological evaluations, counseling, and cognitive behavioral therapy. He has led intervention teams in schools, conducted forensic and disability evaluations, and collaborated with professionals across education, healthcare, and the court system. Dan lives with his wife and two boys, Brayden (14) and Christian (12), in Avon Lake. He enjoys coaching their sports teams, going out to dinner, and spending time with friends. He loves all sports, with football being his favorite.



## WELCOME BACK!







The IWA Class of 2021 returned to campus today to reunite before heading off to various colleges and new paths in life. The students had the opportunity to reconnect, tour the building, and explore all of the updates at IWA since they left. We wish them all the best in the coming months as they start this new chapter in their lives.

## BEGINNING OF THE YEAR FORMS

### Beginning of the Year Forms

All families must complete Beginning of the Year Forms (for each child) in Digital Academy by **Monday, August 18th**. The forms will be available to complete beginning August 1st.

We appreciate your time in completing these forms, as the information collected helps keep your child safe concerning issues such as transportation, medical information, media releases, etc. Please note: **STUDENTS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ATTEND CLASS UNTIL THE FORMS ARE COMPLETE.**

### Class Lists

Class lists have been finalized and will be shared on **August 11th** through Digital Academy. Teacher requests are no longer able to be placed and all class lists are final.

## IMPORTANT DATES

The 2025-26 school year is right around the corner. Mark your calendar with these important

dates which can also be found on our calendar in Digital Academy and on our IWA App.

Aug. 14

- Popsicles and Pajamas for Kinder Prep and Kindergarten at 7 p.m. Students in these grades and their families are invited to enjoy a fun event outdoors at IWA.

Aug. 18

- Supply Drop Off! Meet your teacher and bring your supplies to school. Stop by anytime between 4-6 p.m.

Aug. 19

- Kinder Prep Orientation: This is for all parents with a child entering Kinder Prep. The meeting will be in Saint Joseph Hall at 6:00 p.m. This event is only for parents.
- Kindergarten Orientation: This is for all parents with a child entering Kindergarten. The meeting will be held in Saint Joseph Hall at 7 p.m. This event is only for parents.

Aug. 20

- Welcome back! First Day of School for grades 1-8

Aug. 25

- Welcome back! First Day of School for Kinder Prep and Kindergarten.

Aug. 28

- Back to School Night Grades 1-5. This event is for parents of students in grades 1-5. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. in Saint Joseph Hall.

Sept. 4

- Back to School Night Grades 6-8. This event is for parents of students in grades 6-8. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. in Saint Joseph Hall.



## IWA SPIRIT WEAR

IWA spirit wear is an online store that offers a wide variety of items. These items are able to be worn on your child/children's physical education day and tops may be worn with the uniform on Mondays for Spirit Day. The joggers or sweatpants must be worn from October 1st to April 30th. This large sale is held in August, November and in the Spring. Items will vary per sale but all items will be delivered to the school at no additional cost and sent home with the student named on the order. If you prefer to pick up the order in the office, please contact Mrs. Bleakley.



Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery to the school after the store closes on Sunday, September 7, 2025.

This year, the store includes the option to get IWA's 90th Anniversary logo on many of the apparel options!

**ALL SALES ARE FINAL.**

**Order Spirit Wear Here**

## ORDER FORMS

### GYM UNIFORMS:

- Gym shorts (K-8)
- Gym t-shirt (K-8)

Kinder Prep students will only change shoes for gym class. Kinder Prep families are not to purchase any items on this form.

All students in grades K-8 are required to wear the school gym uniform. The uniform consists of a 50/50 cotton-poly blend and gray heavyweight t-shirt with the school insignia on it. The shorts are 100% maroon mesh.

Please submit 1 order form per child to preorder any items needed for the school year. The items will be filled and distributed to your child's homeroom during the first week of school. Your total order will then be billed to your account. Please process payment upon receipt of the invoice. Should any items be on backorder you will be notified via email.

Please fill out all fields on the order form.

**Order Gym Uniforms  
Here**

### SUPPLIES:

- Warrior pencil pouch (optional)
- Bow ties (boys grade K-2)
- Ties (boys grade 3-8)
- Science aprons (grades 6-8)
- Laddie pencils (KP - grade 2)
- Iron-on emblems

Please submit 1 order form per child to preorder any items needed for the school year. All students in grades 3 to 8 are required to have a homework assignment pad. This year all accounts will be billed the first week of August for the homework assignment pad and distributed to homeroom teachers.

Additional items ordered through this jot form will be filled and distributed to your child's homeroom no later than the first week of school.

Your total order will be billed to your Digital Academy account. Please process payment upon receipt of the invoice. Should any items be on backorder you will be notified via email.

Please fill out all fields on the order form.

**Order Supplies Here**

## WE ARE HIRING!

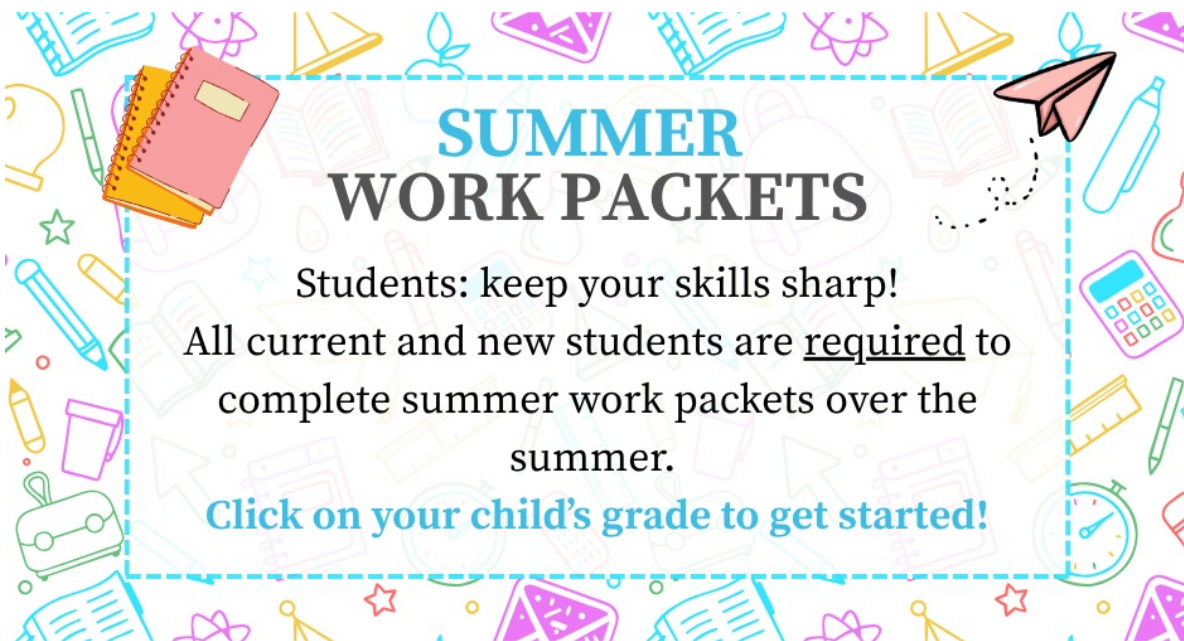
Attention parents and grandparents! We are in need of more lunch monitors for the 2025-26 school year. This position is daily from 11am- 1pm. Lunch monitors are responsible for a specific class during lunch and recess time. Ideally, the person



would work Monday through Friday; however, we are open to monitors working anywhere from 1-5 days a week. This is a paid position. Interested? Contact [Mrs. Steffany Congelio](#)



## SUMMER WORK PACKETS: FOR CURRENT AND NEW STUDENTS!



### Primary & Intermediate

<a href="#">Entering Kinder Prep</a>	<a href="#">Entering 2nd Grade</a>	<a href="#">Entering 4th Grade Math</a>
<a href="#">Entering Kindergarten</a>	<a href="#">Entering 3rd Grade</a>	<a href="#">Entering 5th Grade ELA</a>
<a href="#">Entering 1st Grade</a>	<a href="#">Entering 4th Grade ELA</a>	<a href="#">Entering 5th Grade Math</a>

### Preparatory English Language Arts & Service

<a href="#">Service Hours</a>	<a href="#">Entering 7th ELA On-Track</a>	<a href="#">Entering 8th ELA On-Track</a>
<a href="#">Entering 6th Grade ELA</a>	<a href="#">Entering 7th ELA Honors</a>	<a href="#">Entering 8th Honors</a>
<a href="#">ABC Assessment - 6th Grade Only</a>		



# Preparatory Science Fair

## 7th Grade (Mandatory) & 8th Grade (Optional)

<a href="#">Science Fair Packet</a>	<a href="#">Science Fair Proposal Packet (for new students)</a>	<a href="#">Science Fair Report (example)</a>
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### Preparatory Math

<a href="#">Entering 6th Math</a>	<a href="#">Entering 7th On-Track</a>	<a href="#">Entering 8th On-Track</a>
	<a href="#">Entering 7th Honors</a>	<a href="#">Entering 8th Algebra</a>
	<a href="#">Entering 7th Algebra</a>	<a href="#">Entering 8th Geometry</a>

## 2025-2026 SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

School Supply Lists for the 2025-2026 school year are now available! Click on the links below for your respective list. Let us know if you have any questions!

<a href="#">Kinder Prep &amp; Kindergarten Supply List</a>	<a href="#">Grades 1-5 Supply List</a>	<a href="#">Prep Academy (6-8) Supply List</a>
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**SCHOOL TOOL BOX**

**Order Your School Supplies Online!**

[schooltoolbox.com](http://schooltoolbox.com)

The graphic features a blue circular inset showing a cardboard box labeled 'SCHOOL TOOL BOX' filled with school supplies like Crayola markers and notebooks. Below this, a green mountain-like shape contains a blue book and a red ruler. The background is white with faint blue lines and various school supply icons like a pencil, eraser, and compass.

## School Supply Boxes

School Tool Box is once again offering a one-stop shop for all of your school supply needs! Select the items you need, the grade levels you are seeking, and let School Tool Box do the rest! Items will be delivered to your doorstep.

[Click here to shop for your School Tool Box online](#)

## KINDER PREP ENROLLMENT

Enrollment for our Kinder Prep program is open! This is a wonderful opportunity to begin your child's educational journey at Incarnate Word Academy.

Please note that your child must be **4 years old** to begin the program and a **non-refundable \$250 registration fee and 10% of tuition** are required at the time of enrollment to reserve your child's place.

If you currently have a child enrolled in Kinder Prep who will remain in Kinder Prep for the 2025-2026 year please contact Mr. Kessler.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Gabe Kessler in our Admissions Office at (440) 842-6818 x304 or by email at [gkessler@incarnatewordacademy.org](mailto:gkessler@incarnatewordacademy.org)

[Click here to enroll in Kinder Prep](#)

## MESSAGES ART GALLERY

Please join us in celebrating the art and design that went into this collaboration with our amazing partner, Bernadette Glorioso, for Parade the Circle. This unique gallery exhibit will be open on **Saturday, August 30.**

Visit the gallery and check out all that went into the mobile puppets and more. So many students contributed to the beautiful messages incorporating the theme of the parade, transcending into inspiring works of community art.



### Messages

Work created for Parade  
the Circle  
HAC Gallery

Saturday  
August 30th  
12pm-5pm

Hildebrandt Building  
3619 Walton Ave.



# THE FOUNDRY: ROWING & SAILING

Are you interested in joining a new sport this fall? Join one of our community partners at the Foundry! The Foundry offers middle school rowing and sailing teams that are focused on developing young athletes while building lasting friendships over the course of the fall season.



See below to learn about our offerings or contact (216) 413-3966 for more details!

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## ATHLETICS NEWS

### 6th Annual Golf Classic

Mark your calendars for the IWA Athletic Associations 6th Annual Golf Classic on Friday, September 19 at Ridgewood Golf Course.

Additional details and registration to follow.



## PTSU NEWS



## IWA PTSU 25-26 Meeting Dates

Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of each month in SJH, and a Google Meet option is available. All parents are welcome; no commitment.

**8/21/2025 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**9/18/2025 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**10/16/2025 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**11/20/2025 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**12/18/2025 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**1/15/2026 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**2/19/2026 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**3/19/2026 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**4/16/2026 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**5/21/2026 @ 6:30 p.m. Parent Social**

Babysitting will be available for IWA children, by student volunteers, while parents attend the meeting.

Teacher/Community Members will have a highlighted topic to present each month. Stay tuned for more info.

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### IWA PTSU Sponsored Student/Family Events:

Fall Festival, Saint Nicholas Day, The Giving Tree, Catholic Schools Week, Spring Craft Fair, Mother Daughter Event, Mother Son Bowling, Father Son Event, Father Daughter Dance, Family and Parent Night Out

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### IWA PTSU Sponsored Fundraisers:

**Foertmeyer and Sons Mum Sale**

Start: 9/3/2025 End: 9/17/2025

Mum Pickup: 9/26/2025

**Santa Shop and Grade Level Raffle Baskets**

December 9 - December 12

**Butterbraid, Pretzels, and Cake Rolls Sale**

Start: 2/3/2026 End: 02/17/2026

Butterbraid Pick Up: 3/12/2026

**Spring Craft Fair**

Saturday, April 18, 2026

**Dine to Donate**

Marco's Pizza 10/22/2025

Aladdin's 01/15/2026

Culver's 03/26/2026

## We Want to Hear from You!

The PTSU is already looking ahead to next school year, and we'd love your input! Please take a few minutes to complete our short survey. Your feedback helps us plan events, allocate funds, and better support our students, teachers, and school community.

[2025-2026 PTSU Contact Form](#)

Thank you for being an important part of the IWA family!



# 2025-2026 CALENDER



The official school calendar for the 2025-2026 school year is here! Click the button below to download and review next year's calendar.

**August 20** - First Day of School for Grades 1-8.  
**August 25** - First Day of School for Kindergarten and Kinder Prep.

**2025-2026 Parent Calendar**

## SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

**SUMMER**  
*Office Hours*

<b>JUNE*</b>	<b>Tues, Wed, Thurs, 8 AM TO 2 PM</b>
<b>JULY</b>	<b>Tues, Wed, Thurs, 8 AM TO 2 PM</b>
<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>M-F 8 AM TO 2 PM</b>

*\*Closed the week of June 30*

## ALUMNI

Are you an Incarnate Word Academy alum? We'd love to hear from you! Please take a moment, click the button below and send us an update!

**Are you an IWA alum? Click here!**

**Incarnate Word Academy**

**Address:** 6620 Pearl Rd  
Parma Heights, OH 44130  
**Tel:** 440-842-6818

**Get In Touch**

