



IWA Weekly Newsletter
December 20, 2025

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

*It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like
Christmas!*





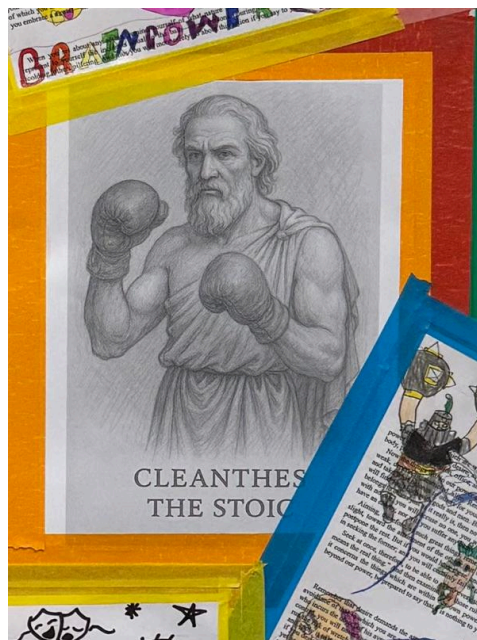
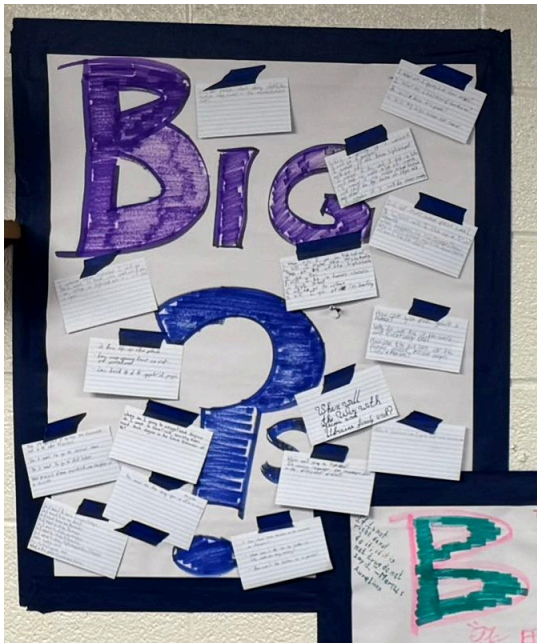


This month has been filled with Christmas spirit at IWA! From Grinch Day, Christmas dress down days, Polar Express Day, an Advent Prayer Service and sing-along, Christmas concerts, a pep rally, our annual door decorating contest, Reconciliation, our Giving Tree, a visit from Santa, Christmas Around the World, Santa Shop, and so much more!

A very special thank you to all of the faculty, staff, and parents that helped make these events so very memorable!

WE BELIEVE: ***LEARNING IS INTENTIONAL***





STOICISM FOR LIFE!

In Mr. Havel and Mr. Halusker's preparatory enrichment course, students are creating a living wall that is an evolving visual record of their Stoicism and philosophy journey. At the center are Epictetus' first five chapters, surrounded by student-created artwork that shows what living as a Stoic looks like in real life. The quote wall and "Big Question" board reinforce Stoic language and give students ownership by highlighting the ideas and questions they are actively exploring. Together, the wall makes student thinking visible and helps connect ancient philosophy to their everyday lives.

WE BELIEVE: **FAITH IS OUR FOUNDATION**

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Matthew 11:28 NIV

Students in Mr. Havel's Social Studies classes participate in Genius Hour, time set aside to learn about something new or perhaps to develop a passion project. Eighth grade students Molly D., Olivia G., and Cassidy R. decided to focus on an organization that needs support from the community to help others. Laura's Home Women's Crisis Center, which houses 166 beds and 61 rooms, offers wraparound services that empower families and individuals so that they can live healthy lives.



Their Genius Hour project began with a fundraiser to earn money, selling bracelets with printed biblical messages. After speaking with the Senior Manager

of Community engagement, Jaime Buxton, the girls learned what needs the organization needs fulfilled and how they could support.

The girls learned that Laura's Home was hosting a festive Christmas event for their residents, complete with a cookie station, family photos, a visit from Santa, and games. Using money raised from the bracelet sale, the girls were able to create one of the Christmas games, which included lots of fun prizes for the kids and mom!

A special thank you to the girls for using their time and talents this Advent Season to put others first!



Students in Ms. Shalala's ELA class have the opportunity to make a "Rally Board" to recognize those in the community, thank someone special, or perhaps let someone know that we are praying for them.

Sixth grade student Aiden M. truly embodied the Warrior trait of being Open-Hearted when he presented his Rally Board to SaraCare of Strongsville, a special place that cares for the elderly.

"We were truly touched today when a very special 6th grader presented us with a beautiful thank-you poster signed by his entire class. It thanked our team for taking such great care of the seniors who attend our center—one of whom is his grandmother. Moments like this remind us why we do what we do. And what a remarkable young man we have the honor of knowing."

WE BELIEVE: *OUR PAST INSPIRES OUR FUTURE*



MS. ROSSMAN, YOU WILL BE MISSED!

Sadly, all great things must come to an end. Although Ms. Cindy Rossman retired in June of 2025, she remained at IWA for the first half of the 2025-26 school year acting as a mentor to our new preparatory science teacher, Mrs. Maddy (Mostoller) Clement, IWA Class of 2015. The last 4 months have allowed for a smooth transition, ensuring that the IWA science program continues to nurture a love of learning, science, and stellar preparation for science courses and careers after graduation. As a former student of Ms. Rossman, Mrs. Clement knows how impactful her time was at IWA, especially in Cindy's classroom.

Ms. Rossman, we wish you all the best on your retirement! We are grateful for the impact you have made at IWA, shaping young minds and hearts, and modeling the mission of our school in all that you do!

IMPORTANT DATES

Mark your calendar with these important dates which can also be found on our calendar in Digital Academy and on our IWA App.

December 25

- **Merry Christmas!**

January 5

- **School Resumes**

Get a bird's eye view of the clubs offered at IWA throughout the year. Registration for clubs can be found in our newsletter closer to the date when the club starts. Click clubs@IWA!

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Board of Directors of Incarnate Word Academy has engaged [*Partners in Mission*](#), a nationally recognized leader in Catholic school strategic planning, to guide IWA's strategic planning process and help shape the school's future. All members of the IWA community are invited to attend a **strategic planning kick-off session** on **Saturday, January 10, at 9:00 a.m.** in the Sisters' Dining Room. The session will provide an overview of the process and opportunities for community involvement. Additional details and ways to share your input will be shared in the coming weeks.

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP FOR JANUARY 10](#)

DIRECTOR OF SECURITY

We're excited to welcome Mr. Randy Daley as IWA's new Director of Safety beginning January 12, 2026. Mr. Daley comes to IWA with over 30 years experience in the public safety field, most recently with the Cleveland Police Department.

Please read our full announcement and watch a brief welcome video from Mr. Daley to learn more.



READ OUR FULL
ANNOUNCEMENT

WATCH A VIDEO FROM MR.
DALEY

MLK JR DAY OF SERVICE



IWA FAMILIES
PLEASE JOIN US



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE

REGISTER NOW



**JANUARY 19, 2026
9 A.M.-NOON
SAINT JOSEPH HALL**

[CLICK HERE
TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT THE STATE
OF OHIO GRANT
FUNDING THIS
PROJECT](#)

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT MRS. HJORT
EHJORT@INCARNATEWORDACADEMY.ORG

SERVE WITH THE WHOLE FAMILY

DANCING WARRIORS

Dancing Warriors are back! That's right, graduates Josie B. and Sophia Z. will be joining us here at IWA on **Mondays after school from 2:45-4:15** in Saint Joseph Hall **beginning January, 12 and concluding with a showcase and potluck on Monday, May 4.** There will be no practices when school is closed. Registration is **\$20 per dancer** and will be billed to your Digital Academy account. Simply complete this registration form. Dancing Warriors is open to students in grades 1-8.

[Click here to sign up.](#)

We hope to see you there!



CHESS COMPETITION

The Greater Cleveland Scholastic Chess League (GCSSL) has multiple upcoming events for students in grades K-12 with trophies, medals, and

scholarship prizes available.

Upcoming events include:

Jan 17 @ Solon MS

Mar 14 @ Rocky River HS

[Click here to view the flyer for more details.](#)



DRAWING CLASSES AT IWA- Grades K-5



Drawing
Classes for Kids



Young Rembrandts

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NEW LESSONS EVERY SESSION!

JOIN US AT INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY!

Young Rembrandts students will flex their artistic muscles with an exciting lineup of drawing lessons. We'll warm up with whimsical Winter Birdhouses and a festive birthday cake—perfect projects to spark imagination. Budding artists will take on dynamic challenges like a Snowboarder, adorable Llamas, and a Young Rembrandts take on Grant Wood's American Gothic. We'll wrap things up with a blend of elegance and graphic design in imaginative lessons like Trolls at Home. Don't let the winter blues stick around—enroll your artist today and make this season a masterpiece!



THURSDAYS
2:45pm - 3:45pm
1/8/26 - 3/26/26

TUITION
\$176.00
(11 Week Session, NO
CLASS on 3/5)

ENROLLMENT
ENROLL ONLINE at
www.youngrembrandts.com/gcw-oh



SCAN ME OR VISIT
YOUNGREMBRANDTS.COM
to find a class near you

440-554-0272
www.youngrembrandts.com/gcw-oh
gcw@youngrembrandts.com

facebook.com/YoungRembrandtsGCW
instagram.com/youngrembrandtsgcw

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION NEWS

Join us for our upcoming Athletic Association meetings! These gatherings are a great opportunity to get involved, share ideas, and support our Warrior athletic programs.

All parents and supporters are welcome. Come see how you can make a difference for our student-athletes!

- Monday, January 12th @ 6p
- Monday, February 9th @ 6p
- Monday, March 9th @ 6p
- Monday, April 13th @ 6p
- Monday, May 11th @ 6p

A poster for Athletic Meetings. At the top, it says "Join us for the" in a cursive font. Below that, "ATHLETIC MEETINGS" is written in large, bold, red capital letters. Underneath, "MONDAYS @ 6PM" is in bold black capital letters. A black box contains the text "ST. JOSEPH HALL HOSPITALITY ROOM" in white. To the right of this box is a drawing of a cheerleader. Below the box, a list of dates is shown in red: "DECEMBER 15TH", "JANUARY 12TH", "FEBRUARY 9TH", "MARCH 9TH", "APRIL 13TH", and "MAY 11TH". To the left of this list is a drawing of a basketball player. At the bottom, it says "JOIN US TO DISCUSS ATHLETICS AND ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS YOU MAY HAVE" in bold black capital letters. There is also a drawing of a basketball at the bottom left.

Join us for the

ATHLETIC MEETINGS

MONDAYS @ 6PM

ST. JOSEPH HALL HOSPITALITY ROOM

DECEMBER 15TH
JANUARY 12TH
FEBRUARY 9TH
MARCH 9TH
APRIL 13TH
MAY 11TH

JOIN US TO DISCUSS ATHLETICS AND
ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS YOU
MAY HAVE

ALUMNI UPDATE

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!](#)

PTSU



We've moved!

All PTSU related meetings, information, events, and fundraisers can now be viewed **EVERY THURSDAY** in our newly created PTSU newsletter. Find everything you need in one location!

Incarnate Word Academy

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Get In Touch



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