



IHM: A New Student's Perspective

By Lily Peisinger '24

Being a new student to IHM has been a fun experience so far. You will really enjoy being at this school. When it's the start of the year it's good to start getting involved with new projects and groups, for example: sports, choir, band, church choir and the newspaper! Being in these types of groups can help you discover a new skill, meet new people, and try something new.

IHM is great because it gets you prepared for the future. This school gives you more responsibility than many other schools. You have more things to do and remember like tests, due dates, and assignments. The activities we do at this school are amazing, and all of the staff members are great! Though things are difficult with COVID-19, our school handles it perfectly. We stay six feet apart and apply hand sanitizer before entering the building. IHM handles the pandemic very well with caring for the teachers and students.



Some of our new 6th graders!



I have met so many new people at IHM and they all have different perspectives on the school. 6th grader Madelyn Barton kindly agreed to share what it's like to transfer in from public school: "Coming from public school into private school was a huge change for me. When I went to public school I created an idea in my head of what school was. It was just school, but since I've been going to private school it has felt more like a community. There are so many opportunities to connect with other students, families, and staff members. There are so many events and extra curricular activities that make me feel excited to try new things. I would also like to talk about uniforms. The uniforms have made my life so much easier! The second I go to bed, I know exactly what I'm going to wear the next day and it saves me so much time in the morning. Mass has really made me think about my faith a lot. It has helped me pray more and made me feel welcome in the IHM parish. IHM has been a big and better change for me and it has really helped me grow academically and in faith." We are lucky to be a part of the IHM family. I look forward to spending my next three years here.

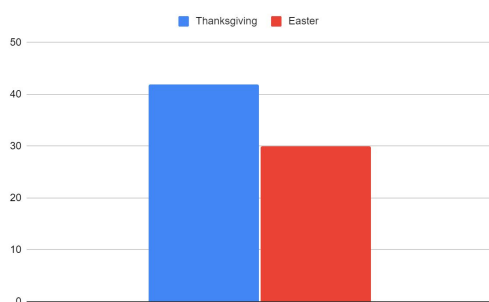


Between the Bells

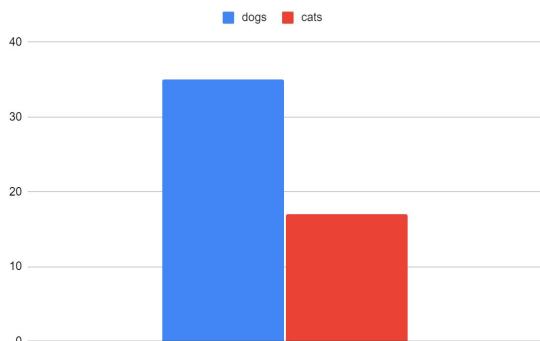
With Isabella Albert '23



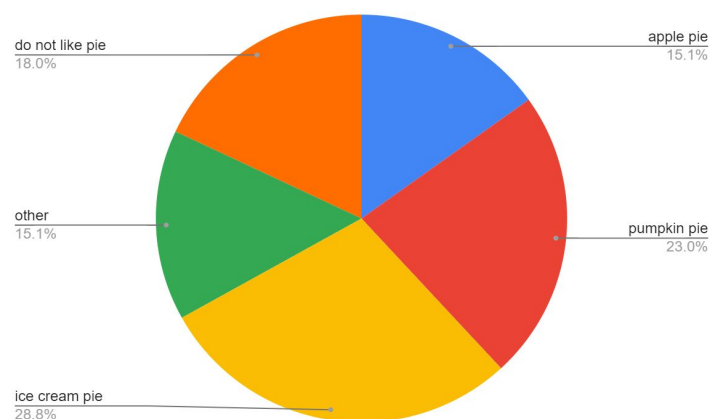
Hello! Isabella Albert here with some polls! I took to the hallways to find out what the IHM community thinks. Our first poll was, which is the better holiday, Thanksgiving or Easter? After calculating the answers, there were 42 votes for Thanksgiving and 30 for Easter. I interviewed Marylynn Kelly to see her opinion. She said "I like Thanksgiving because I get to see family." Thank you! I also interviewed Mrs. Roper. She said she likes Thanksgiving for the mashed potatoes, and the fun activities.



The next poll was Which is better, Cats or Dogs? After calculating the answers, 35 chose dogs and 17 chose cats. Wow! I interviewed my brother to see his opinion. He said, "I like dogs better because they are cute, more playful, they can alert you, and I just prefer them." Thanks! The next person I asked was my mom. She said, "dogs because you can walk them and they don't get on your kitchen counter!"



The last poll for this month was a Thanksgiving theme: "What is your favorite pie?" After calculating the votes, Ice cream pie was our winner with 40 votes, pumpkin pie had 32 votes, apple pie had 21, "other" had 21 votes and 25 said they do not like pie! Now I want to hear what some 3rd graders think. The first people I interviewed were Maeve Conly and Charlotte Keady. They said they "prefer pumpkin pie because it is festive and creamy and easy to eat!" Thanks for the interview! The next person I interviewed was Justin Foster. He said he does not like pie but that he has never had it and it doesn't look good to him. The last person I interviewed was Victoria Okai and she said, "I prefer ice cream pie because I love ice cream." Well done! Thanks to everyone who participated in these polls. Stay tuned for more Between the Bells! Tell me if you have any ideas for future polls!





By Alyssa Cramer '23

To help get you into the Thanksgiving spirit start by making these cute paper pumpkins! These pumpkins are fun craft to make and will help you get in the mood for the season.

You will need:

- Color or patterned paper (full sheets)
- Paper trimmer (or a ruler and scissors)
- Double Sided tape
- Hot glue and glue gun
- Sticks
- Twine
- Scissors



Instructions:

1. Cut each piece of paper vertically into 1.5 inch wide strips.
2. Then cut two strips to 7 inches long, two 9 inches and keep the remaining two at 11 inches long.
(You need two pieces of paper for one pumpkin. Each pumpkin will need two 7 inch , four 9 inch and four 11 inch strips.)
3. Fold each piece into accordion strips.
4. Tape the *two sets* with the same lengths together with double sided tape the form a circle. You will end up with one circle with the 7 inch, two with the 9 inch, and two with the 11 inch.
5. Create a medallion with the circles by placing a small dab of hot glue in the center and then hold it until dry.
6. Next, glue each medallion together by starting with the 7 inch on top, then the 9, then the 11, then the other 11, and then other 9 on the bottom.
7. Hot glue a stick, paper leaves, and twine on the top of your pumpkin.

Now you have your very own paper pumpkin!

For other holidays you can just change up the color of the paper and create these for any season!

Faculty Feature

By Henry Roper '25, Junior Correspondent

There are so many great teachers at IHM! This week, I was able to interview Ms. Pat Luongo, who teaches middle school religion. Here's what I found out:

1. Have you ever had any other jobs besides teaching?

I work part time at JCPenny because I like to meet nice people and I like making them happy!

2. Did you play any sports as a kid?

I used to play football with the boys in my neighborhood. I was the only girl on the team!

3. How long have you been teaching, in total and at IHM, and where?

I have taught for 47 years total. I taught 30 years at the Shrine of the Little Flower and 17 years at IHM.

4. Why do you like teaching?

I like teaching because I love kids and I like being with them all day.

5. What is your favorite topic to teach?

My favorite topic to teach is religion. I really enjoy the Old Testament about the Jewish ancestors because I love the stories about David and Goliath, Abraham, Isaac, and Moses. These people did a lot of very interesting things to prepare the way for Jesus!

6. What are your hobbies and how do you relax after school?

I like to read and that helps me to relax after school. I sit down, read and relax a little bit, and then I get my work done.

Thank you Ms. Luongo for sharing your answers with us. I hope you have a great school year!

Mass at IHM

By Blaise Mazzulli '24



Every Friday morning, all IHM students attend Mass, either through livestream or in person. Our Pastor, Father Jeff, always presents the Mass in a kid-friendly manner. Each week, students are chosen to assist as altar servers. One server processes with the crucifix and the other two carry the candles to the altar. These servers also help with the preparation of the gifts of bread and wine. Other students serve as lectors (readers) during the Liturgy of the Word.

During the Liturgy of the Eucharist, Father consecrates the bread and wine which become the most precious body and blood of Christ. Those who are spiritually ready to receive the blessed sacrament of the Eucharist come forward to the altar. Other faithful friends may come forward for a blessing. Ending a school week in the true presence of Jesus reminds us how lucky we are to attend a Catholic school!

IHM has a new liturgical music group under the direction of Sister Audrey Frances! We rehearse every Thursday after school and provides music for all school masses. If you are interested in being part of this fantastic ministry, please contact Sister Audrey Frances. And remember, "Music is well said to be the speech of angels."

Trunk or Treat and Parish Picnic 2021 - Festivity, Fun, and Fellowship in the IHM Community

By Ella Hickson '24



On Saturday, October 23rd, IHM had our traditional Trunk or Treat and parish picnic. This is the first year that we've combined these two annual events. Trunk or Treat is an event where families and friends can meet up and decorate cars. After the decorating time period concludes, kids come dressed in their Halloween costumes with candy baskets and walk around the lot, collecting candy from each trunk. More than 30 families came together and decorated cars for our students and parish community! Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers, Sister Susan Louise and Father Jeff attended to help make the day special. Awards were distributed to the cars that were most creative, spookiest, and best theme. My favorite car was the pirate ship made by the Merrill family!

When the kids' candy bags were full, we moved to the back of the school for the parish picnic. The HSA organized many activities such as hand/arm painting, a raffle of 4 Ravens tickets, and cornhole. The children got to have fun on the Eagle's Nest playground. Boss Burgers was on the back blacktop selling burgers, drinks, fries and more! Father Jeff was planning to do an outdoor mass at 4:00, but unfortunately it was cancelled because of the rain storm. Thank you Father Jeff, the HSA, and all the families who participated for making this day so wonderful for all of us!





Opinion - Global Warming

By Maeve Flynn '24

Global warming is a very big issue in the world. Many animals are almost extinct due to increasing temperatures. Humans are burning fossil fuels for everyday use. When we burn fossil fuels it changes the climate. Most of the heat is radiated in all directions, warming the Earth. Earth's average temperature has increased by about 2 degrees Fahrenheit during the 20th century.

The ocean has absorbed much of this increased heat, with the top 100 meters of ocean showing warming of more than 0.6 degrees Fahrenheit since 1969. The oceans and Earth are warming up and will continue to do so. Greenland has a layer of snow and ice to prevent the Earth from burning up. The snow and ice are melting into water. When Greenland's cold layer is melting, the rest of the Earth's land mass is getting hotter. We need to take a stand to prevent climate changes from getting worse than they already are!

Atlanta Braves Finally Champs Again!

By Jesse Mixson '24

The Atlanta Braves won the 2021 World Series in Houston. The last time they won a World Series was in 1995! It took six games for the Braves to win, and they shut out the Astros 7 to 0 in the final game. The home by Jorge Soler in the 3rd inning of game 6 will be talked about for years to come.

Houston couldn't come back as many Astros fans hoped. The Braves proved that they belong in the series and could win. The Braves' bats hit balls out of the park that night. Dansby Swanson hit a two-run homer in the 5th inning.

Although the Braves lost Game 5 they came back with good pitching and great hitters in Game 6.. Freddie Freeman hit a home run that put the Braves up by 7. He is soon going to be a free agent but hopefully the Braves will not mess up and let him go.

Congratulations Braves for being the best team in baseball! Their hard work sure paid off!

"I See..." by Molly Gilley '22



Band and Choir Return: Music to our Ears!

By Marylynn Kelly '23

This year, we are happy to say that band and choir are back at IHM under the direction of our beloved Mrs. Bickraj! Last school year, because of Covid, we did not have any band or choir. It was sad to miss out on lessons, concerts, fellowship and great music. This year, everyone is happy to have it back.

Currently, students in grades 4-8 are able to participate in these 5 groups. There are 2 choirs. The first is the Eaglet choir which is open to 4th and 5th graders. The second is the Eagle choir which is open to middle school students. This year, there are 3 bands! The first is the Eaglet band and is open to beginner musicians. The second is the 5th and 6th grade Eagle band. The third band is the 7th and 8th grade Eagle band. All of these groups are thriving and working hard to learn notes, songs, and more!

Once a week, band members go to the band room for a 30 minute lesson. They go in small groups, typically with people that play similar instruments to them. Most band students are required to have a special instrument mask and bell covers for the bottom of the instrument. All of these things are in order to have band in the midst of Covid. The band is working on many songs, specifically theme songs! Some of the theme songs that the band is working on right now are "Star Wars," "Indiana Jones," and "Jurassic Park."



Every other week, choir members go to the music room with the other choir members in their grade. The choir is singing many songs and hopes to perfect them in time for a possible spring concert. Some songs that the choir is working on are "Halo" by Beyoncé and "Waka Waka" by Shakira.

Many people are saying how much they enjoy having band and choir back. Our director, Mrs. Bickraj, said that her favorite thing about having band and choir back was that "we all enjoy practicing our music together and we really missed that last year." Brendan Knorr, a 6th grader in the Eagle 5-6 band who plays trombone, said that he enjoys "the social part about it." Ella Okai, a 7th grader in the Eagle choir, agrees, saying "I really like the bonding we have and being able to participate in an extra class with my classmates." These activities are a great way to learn new things, make friends, and have fun. I hope that it is a successful year for the band and choir!



Got an interest in journalism, photography, or reporting? Then this is the perfect activity for you! The Eagle Eye is always looking for new members in 6th to 8th grade to take part in a fun extracurricular activity!

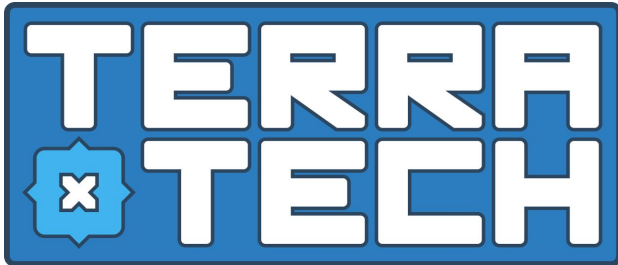
JOIN THE EAGLE EYE NEWSPAPER TEAM!

It's a chance to gain new experiences on the job and build lifelong friendships.

Contact the Moderator Ms. Datz - mdatz@ihmschoolmd.org

GAME TIME

By Shaun O'Brennan '24



Hi, I am here to tell you about a game called *TerraTech*. This game is available to buy on Microsoft Windows, Playstation 4, Xbox One and Nintendo Switch.

In this game you start as a mini robot. You get crates to upgrade your robot and you can also do quests to upgrade your robot. Just a warning, some periods throughout the game will get tough. You might have to battle other robots and even destroy them! Your "Tech" is the main character and it should remain safe. You can mod your tech to have force fields and radars. But, while mods may sound cool you can even play in creative mode and then the only limit is your imagination!

Finally, the gauntlet is a series of challenges putting your tech building abilities to the test on a PvP (player vs. player) race or Pv A.I. race. If you have a setup where you can play with friends online in-game, then you can select the "Multiplayer" option in the menu.

In my opinion this game would be great for kids ages 8 to 14. I give it a rating of 4 out of 5 stars. Thanks! That's all for now. See ya!



Spirit Wear~By Evie Weaver '23



NJAHS Creates Mural in Pre-K Patio

By Maddie Merrill '23

It's Maddie here with the NJAHS News! By now you have most likely seen the four seasons mural on the wall down by the Pre-K. As a member of the National Junior Art Honor Society I am proud to report that it is finally done!

The idea for this mural was brought up a few years ago by Ms. Kristin, one of our Pre-K teachers, but the idea never became a reality until last summer. Ms. Kristin got the approval from Sister Susan Louise and Father Jeff asked Ms. Datz if we would like to tackle this project. Needless to say we were very excited to get working! We ran into many bumps in the beginning but things started to work out.

Ms. Datz and her husband began the process last May by prepping the wall with primer. Then we divided the wall into four equal sections and painted in a horizon line with a sky. Next we started to paint the land and water in each season section. After that we worked on this mural bit by bit throughout the summer. Once we had a general idea of who would do what season, it was easier to get started each time we came to help. I can't even begin to tell you how many times we had to remix the same custom paint colors! There were always more ideas to be heard and things to be fixed.

Then just like that, the end of the summer came and everyone started asking when it would be done and if it would be done before



school started. Although it looked like it was mostly done, for us that was not enough. So we continued to work after school days just to get things just right. It felt like we still had so much more to do! But as it started getting dark out earlier we had less time after school each day. But we needed to get things done, because Ms. Datz had just announced our next project to us. That project was painting the poles in the library with story book characters for Sister Mariam. This is going to be so fun and might even take us less time now that Ms. Datz won't have to take weather in to consideration. Now the NJAHS will always have a piece of us at IHM for the rest of its years.



Spaghetti Dinner 2021 - a Tasty IHM Tradition Lives On!

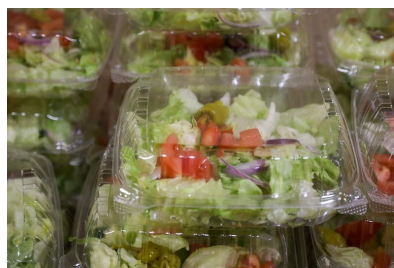
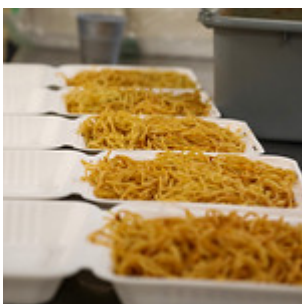
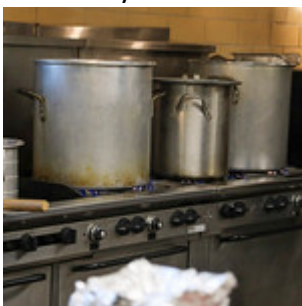
Meg Ruopp '24

Hello IHM! I interviewed the one and only new teacher (but not new to the school), Mr. Corbett, to learn all about our annual spaghetti dinner.

My first question was: **How much spaghetti?** And you may not believe his answer but 100 lbs of spaghetti! I know, I was just as shocked as you, but it does make sense for serving over 500 people!

Next I asked: **How long does it take to make it?** And he had two different answers.

"It all depends on how the spaghetti dinner is set up. Pre-COVID, when we still served all of the food in the gymnasium, we would par-cook the spaghetti the night before and then cook all of the sauce and meatballs the day of. Now that COVID has forced us into a carry-out model, we cook everything the day of the event. That means spaghetti, sauce, meatballs, and salad are all cooked and packaged on the day of the event. We will be working from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Saturday".



Mr. Corbett

My third question was, **how much sauce does it take?** Which goes along pretty much with the first question. The answer to that question is roughly 30 gallons of sauce!

Another question I asked was: **Are the meatballs homemade?** This was another long answer so I'll use his exact words:

"The meatballs are, unfortunately, not homemade. Right now it is only my father, Kevin, long time father's club member Brian Keller, and myself who cook all of the food. We would love to be a scratch kitchen but spaghetti and sauce for around 500 people is

(continued on next page)



Spaghetti Dinner 2021 (continued from page 12)

all we can manage at the moment. If there are any charitable *nonnas* who would be willing to volunteer their time next year to make homemade meatballs, we are accepting applications!"

So let your parents read this article, show them how they can help and be a part of the next spaghetti dinner!

My Next question was: **Where do you get the ingredients?** "The spaghetti and sauce are donated by Weis markets each year, the meatballs are purchased from Pastore's Italian Delly, and the bread is from Maranto bakery."

The next question was probably the one I was most curious about. As I mentioned earlier Mr. C may be a new teacher but he did attend IHM so his family has been a part of IHM for a long time. This question is, **how long has your family been doing this?** Mr. Corbett's answer was, "the current version of the I.H.M. Father's Club was started by my dad, Tim Keffer, and Frank McShalley in 2000. In the 21 years since then, he has volunteered at the spaghetti dinner in some capacity every year. I've been helping him for the past 5 years or so. Some fun facts, in the 21 years that my dad has been volunteering for the spaghetti dinner, he has helped cook approximately **2000 lbs. of pasta (one ton!), 600 gallons of sauce (from scratch), and close to 25,000 meatballs.**"

I thought this next one would be an easy yes, but I just have to share his exact response! My question was: **Do you enjoy making the spaghetti dinner?** And his response was, "I very much enjoy making the food. Before I was a teacher, I worked in

restaurants. Over the years, I have done just about every job there is to do in a kitchen from washing dishes, cooking on a line, shucking oysters at a raw bar, and everything else in between. While teaching is my vocation, I am passionate about cooking and I often miss the kitchen. The spaghetti dinner is a good chance to dust off my apron and chef's knife and get to work! In addition, I love cooking with my dad. Food and cooking for one another is one way my family shows love and I have always admired how he extends that love to the I.H.M. community every year; I'm lucky to get to share it with him now. Furthermore, we are both cuckoo for Thanksgiving and, in our opinion, turkey brining and roasting is an art form. We like to joke that the spaghetti dinner is how we loosen up before cooking on Thanksgiving day."

The last question I had was: **What is one reason you have continued doing it?** And his answer was, "I have been a student and parishioner of I.H.M. since 1997. As a result, this school and parish has been responsible for nourishing my mind and soul for almost 25 years. The way I see it, the least I can do is give some nourishment back in the form of spaghetti, meatballs, and sauce!"

I really really recommend getting the spaghetti dinner next year if you weren't able to get it this year. It is one of the most delicious IHM traditions!





Ask An 8th Grader



With Rosemary DeSantis '22

How do I prepare for my HSPT and other major tests?

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!

Make sure to take the optional after-school test preparation classes that they offer here at IHM because trust me, it is worth the time and money. When you get the practice book, do more of the activities than the ones that are assigned by the teachers for homework.

Practice your math facts for computation and logic, learn how to read more quickly for the reading comprehension section, and study your vocabulary.

Try studying with your friends, if you work and focus better in groups. Make sure that you prioritize school and pay attention in class because this will not only help you on those big tests, but also in high school, the rest of your school career, and life!

Got Questions for an eighth grader? Email questions to rosemary.desantis@ihmschoolmd.org



Movie Review

By Joshua Schneider '24



Vivo is a great choice for family movie night! This movie is rated PG, but this movie is made for kids. In my opinion, I think it is appropriate for kids above the age of 5 or 6. If you would like to watch this movie, it is on Netflix. It is about a man in Cuba who finds a kinkajou (a small mammal) who loves to sing with him... but that's as much of a spoiler as I will give you so I don't ruin it for you! This movie is a fun musical with lots of catchy, upbeat songs, written by and starring Lin Manuel Miranda (as the title character), and Gloria Estefan. I give this movie a 4 out of 5, because it is a good movie for kids and I have watched it at least 5 times and also my class watched it together at lunch! Over 46 million people have watched this movie; I am one of them, and I hope you will be too!

The Eagle Eye News Team

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What do you want to read? Let us know! Faculty Moderator: Ms. Datz — mdatz@ihmschoolmd.org