

Wolfpack Post

DECEMBER 18, 2025

LOOKING AHEAD

December 19

Exams Conclude

December 20 - January 5

Christmas Break

January 5 - 23

Senior Service Capstone

January 6

Classes Resume

January 10

Deadline to donate to
Coat Drive

January 13

Civic Leadership Panel

DESIGN, BUILD, TEST

Now in its 42nd year, the Walsh Construction Bridge Contest stands as one of Saint Ignatius College Prep's longest-running and most meaningful academic traditions - an enduring example of hands-on, real-world learning rooted in Ignatian values. Established in 1983 and modeled after a similar contest at Purdue University, the competition reflects a longstanding partnership with the Walsh family and a deep commitment to mentorship that has shaped generations of future engineers.

This year, the Science Department, alongside engineers from Walsh, tested approximately 140 bridges. Judging was more precise than ever this year - for the first time judges utilized specialized equipment that applied a controlled, increasing force and accurately measured the load at the moment of failure, rather than adding bricks until the bridges broke.

We are proud to celebrate an all-female winning lineup, advancing to the regional competition at IIT in January: **Ilde Pons Grau '26 (first), Lucy Martens '26**

6:00 p.m. - Brunswick
Room

January 14 & 15

Senior Service Reflection
Nights

6:15 p.m.

*For a full list of events,
please see our [school
calendar](#).*

[PRAY](#)

[SPIRIT](#)

[QUEST FOOD
SERVICES](#)

[GRAD-AT-GRAD
VALUES](#)

Open to Growth

Intellectually Competent

Religious

Loving

(second), Molly Kiergan '26 (third) and Gabrielle Blackman '29 and Mia Ortega '29 (tied for fourth). A special congratulations to Ilde, who has advanced to regionals in all four years - a remarkable testament to her skill and perseverance.



**Committed to Doing
Justice**



FORMATION AND MINISTRY - STUDENT

Senior Capstone Starts January 5

It has been a long and beautiful journey to prepare and launch our first annual Senior Service Capstone Program. The Class of 2026 received a formal blessing during our First Friday Mass on December 5. Our continued prayers go with our 385 seniors as they set out on this incredible journey with 80 organizations to emulate the life of Christ.

All seniors (unless told otherwise through their Partner Site Folder) should report to their assigned Capstone Site on **Monday, January 5**. This is an official school day for seniors even though the rest of the school is not yet in session.

Please see the [Capstone Program Manual](#) and the Google Partner Site Folder to review site details, including information about dress, parking, schedules and other volunteer requirements.

Seniors will attend a **Capstone Dinner and Night of Reflection** on either January 14 or 15 from 6:15 to 8:00 p.m. We will conclude the Capstone program with a special



seniors-only Mass on January 23 at 1:30 p.m. Family members are welcome to attend this ceremony.

Please email senior.capstone@ignatius.org with any questions.

Summer Offerings for Juniors

Juniors, please fill out this [Google Form](#) by January 12 to indicate interest in possible faith and justice programs this summer, such as immersion trips or justice conferences. Keep an eye out for an email from Mr. Nunez with more information about faith and justice opportunities at Saint Ignatius College Prep and other Catholic institutions.

Freshman and Sophomore Service

The due dates for all freshman and sophomore first-semester service hours have passed and all submitted hours have been reviewed and approved in MobileServe where applicable.

Students may continue completing service over winter break, with account updates resuming in the second week of January.

Looking ahead, sophomores must complete **15 service hours by March 24** and freshmen must complete **10 hours by April 28**. Please stop by FAM for questions or support.



ATHLETICS



The Winter Calendar for the Wolfpack is off to a hot start, with victories in Hockey, Girls Bowling and both Girls and Boys Basketball setting a strong tone for the season. Let's keep this momentum going into the new year!

For a full recap, check out our [Athletics Newsletter](#) from Mike Hurley '07.

ACADEMICS

2026 Global Exchange Program

Applications are now open for the 2026 Global Exchange Program between Saint Ignatius College Prep and Colegio San Ignacio in Santiago, Chile.



This program offers students in both Santiago and Chicago a Jesuit-rooted linguistic and cultural exchange.

Selected students will participate in a reciprocal experience that includes two weeks in Santiago in late July to early August and a return visit from Chilean students to Chicago in mid-September, including school and family immersion on both ends.

Applications are due by January 9. Please [apply here](#) and consult [this document](#) for additional details. Questions may be directed to [Ms. Crawford](#) or [Mrs. Carney](#).

Summer Scholars London



Summer Scholars Programme London - 2026

The Summer Scholars London Program is an innovative, session-based, affordable, faculty-led summer enrichment experience which empowers high school students to explore their interests using London as our classroom. Participation is open to high schoolers from any school, from current freshman to graduated seniors.

For program information, please visit
www.summerscholarsprogram.com.

Spaces are limited.

Our program dates
are June 19-26, 2026.



Scan this QR code to enroll

The Summer Scholars Programme brings together faculty and students from various high schools around the US to dive into one of the world's great cities. Students will

choose between various elective mini-courses, tour London's famous monuments and take advantage of London's vibrant theater scene. **This program is open to all current students.**

Summer Scholars runs from June 19 to 26 and will be accompanied by Latin & Greek teacher Mr. Sparapani. Please click [here](#) to learn more or contact [Mr. Sparapani](#) directly for more information.

2026–2027 AMDG Program at Boston College



Saint Ignatius College Prep has been invited by the Institute for Advanced Jesuit Studies at Boston College to participate in the AMDG program, a faith and service-based Jesuit initiative for high school students.

Members of the Class of 2028 are invited to apply for this fully funded, yearlong Jesuit formation experience that combines monthly service, spiritual formation, retreats and a pilgrimage - all rooted in Catholic faith and Jesuit spirituality.

Applications are due Friday, January 23, and can be [accessed here](#). Questions may be directed to [Mrs. Carney](#).

COMMUNICATIONS

School Portraits for Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors

Any freshman, sophomore or junior who missed portrait day or would like a retake should stop by the President's Conference Room on **Friday, January 23, between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.** This room is near the elevator in the Grand Gallery. No appointments are necessary. Just give the check-in person your name when you arrive.

Senior Portraits

The next round of senior portraits will take place on campus from February 2 to 6. Seniors, please look for an email from Mr. Bergin with details and [message him](#) with questions.

CLUBS + STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Art Show Winners

The Visual Arts Team of Ms. Steffen, Mrs. Ness and Mr. Arreguin is proud to announce the Winners of the People's Choice Award from the 2025 Winter Canon Ball Art Showcase.

First Place goes to Sophie Buquid '27 for "Firestorm" (top). Rory Griffin III '28 and his piece "Joseph Taylor" (bottom right) and Sophie Anderson '28 and her piece "My Dad" (bottom left) tied for runner-up.

Congratulations to these talented young artists and all of the students who contributed to the Winter Art Showcase!



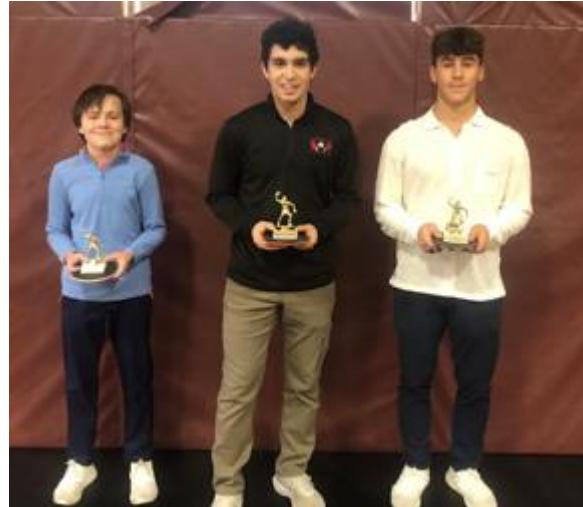
King Kong Ping Pong!

Our annual King Kong Ping Pong Tournament brought some riveting stress relief to students and faculty alike ahead of final exam week. Congratulations to our champions!

King Pong: Cyrus Darki (center)

Runner-up: Gavin Sexton (left)

3rd place: Palmer Wong (right)



2026 Student Events

- **January 23** - Jesuit Cup Girls and Boys Basketball versus Loyola Academy
- **January 26-30** - Winter Spirit Week
- **January 31** - Freshman and Sophomore Formal Dance
- **March 14** - Junior Prom

COLLEGE COUNSELING

Seniors

Please revisit our [Christmas Edition](#) E-Newsletter for important reminders and information.

Junior Questionnaire

The questionnaire sent to all students in the Class of 2027 is **due by January 16**. Only once you thoughtfully and thoroughly complete the survey may you schedule a Junior Family Meeting with your College Counselor through their Calendly links.

Junior Course Registration Meeting

Juniors will be meeting jointly with their School Counselor and College Counselor in January to discuss their senior year course selection.

ACT and SAT Prep Classes

We will host ACT and SAT prep classes on campus in partnership with Academic Approach.

Classes will be **Mondays and Wednesdays after school from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m.** Sessions begin in January and will run up until the March 11 SAT and April 11 ACT. Three practice tests are offered with the class.



[Click here](#) to register. Financial aid is available. **The registration deadline is January 11.**

2026 College Counseling Dates

- **January 24** - [Global and Gap Opportunities Fair](#) at New Trier Township High School
- **February 10** - Family College & Course Planning Webinar (Sophomore families)
- **February 11** - Mock Admissions Night (Junior families)
- **March 18** - [Coffee Talk In-Person](#) (Freshman and Sophomore families)
- **March 26** - 35th Annual Spring College Fair
- **April 21** - [Coffee Talk Virtual](#) (Freshman and Sophomore families)

COUNSELING

Happy Holidays from School Counseling! Please refer to our [Resource Guide](#) if you need support over winter break.

DEANS OFFICE

Lost and Found

All items in the lost and found will be donated at the conclusion of semester exams **tomorrow, December 19**. Please come to the Deans Office to collect your lost items.

Leaving Campus

Students, once you arrive to campus, **you are not permitted to leave the premises** - even if you have a free period. Leaving campus without permission will result in a Saturday JUG.

DEVELOPMENT

The San Ignacio Society Coat Drive



THE SAN IGNACIO SOCIETY COAT DRIVE

In conjunction with:
FAM, ALAS, Latinx, and
Sociedad Honoraria
Hispánica

**ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF LIKE
NEW OR NEW COATS**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MS. HUGHES:
MARY.HUGHES@IGNATIUS.ORG

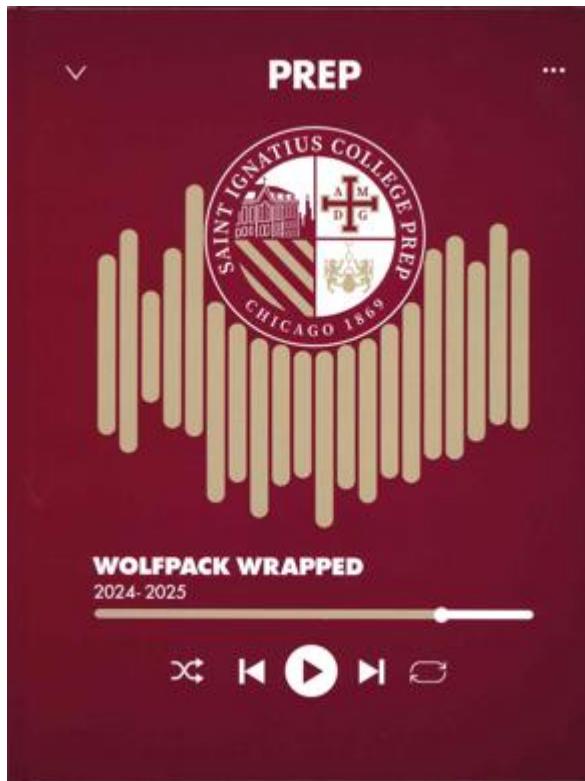
**WRAPPING OF COATS WILL OCCUR ON
JANUARY 10, 2026 AND DISTRIBUTED TO
COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING
HOMELESS AND IMMIGRANT POPULATIONS**

Collection boxes are in the Link and will remain there **until Friday, January 9**. You may also drop coats at 1019 S May St. on Saturday, January 10 from 10 a.m. through

3 p.m.

Coats will be distributed through community organizations and non-profit social service providers in the Chicagoland area.

Please contact [Mary Hughes](#) for more details.



Class of 2025 Yearbook Pick Up and Signing

All members of the Class of 2025 are welcome to join us on **Tuesday, December 30, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in Tully Hall** to reconnect with classmates and pick up their senior yearbook. Please [register here](#) for this exciting event!

If you can't attend, please pick up your yearbook at the main entrance between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. over break.

Cookie Kindness - Thank You!

Thank you to the Parent Organization and the generosity of our parents and guardians for another year of Cookie Kindness! We had thousands of treats to thank all of our faculty and staff to enjoy for the hard work they do for our students.



FORMATION AND MINISTRY - ADULT

Pray With Our Community

All are welcome to join our community in prayer on the first and third Wednesdays of the month with other parents and alumni. We will gather next on Google Meet on January 7 from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. If you are interested, email [Gail.Krema](mailto:Gail.Krema@stjude.org) for the Google Meet link.



DILEXI TE PANEL



Dilexi te Panel

“I have loved you”

Monday, January 26, 2026
7:30PM ET / 6:30PM CT / 5:30PM MT / 4:30PM PT



Sr. Clare Bass, CSJ



Estela Garcia, CSJA



Sr. Darlene M. Kawulok, CSJ



Michael McKeon

All are invited to a dynamic discussion on the new papal exhortation. Hear from theologians and those in direct service with people experiencing poverty. Make connections to our charism and founding documents.

We're thrilled that our very own Theology teacher Mr. Michael McKeon will be participating in a panel discussion on Pope Leo's first exhortation, *Dilexi Te*, for the US Federation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

The panel will take place virtually at **6:30 p.m. on January 26**. Please [register here](#) for this exciting event!

SPIRIT STORE



Find us on [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#) and visit [our website](#) for store hours and additional details.

Our next Wolfpack Post will be sent **Thursday, January 15** in order to accommodate the holiday season. We wish everyone in the Wolfpack a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Ignatius College Prep, a Jesuit Catholic school in the heart of Chicago, is a diverse community dedicated to educating young men and women for lives of faith, love, service and leadership. Through outstanding teaching and personal formation, the school challenges its talented student body to intellectual excellence, integrity, and life-long learning and growth. Inspired by the gospel of Jesus Christ, this community strives to use God's gifts to promote Catholic social justice for the greater glory of God.



Please note, clicking on the unsubscribe button below will remove ryan.bergin@ignatius.org from **all** Ignatius emails. If you would like to opt back in, please [click here](#).

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Saint Ignatius College Prep](#)

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