

THE WEEKLY WORD

Aug. 14, 2020

A Message from Sister Lauren Beck, C.V.I.

Welcome back to another IWA school year! I know this spring and summer have been challenging for all of us. It's good to get back into the swing of things.

This summer a lot of changes have been put into place, from mandatory mask wearing and proper social distancing to refitting the school to meet the required safety protocols to reopen, developing remote and in-person learning plans and recalibrating educational strategies. I am grateful for all those who gave their dedication, talent and enthusiasm to bring it all together. In the midst of all this change, one thing remains unchanged: our commitment to our mission and your daughters.



Today I completed my welcome to the new freshman class at their orientation. It is so much fun to see a new class come through the doors. They came in four groups of 20, Tuesday through today. They bring so many gifts and talents that will serve them well and enrich our IWA community. We are happy they and their families have joined us.

Earlier this week, we sent you our Learning Plan (there's a refresher on it below.) I must remind you that the plan will work most effectively when your daughter follows the guidelines. I suggest that before school begins on Monday, you sit down with her to review the remote learning portion of the plan so she can be successful in her studies.

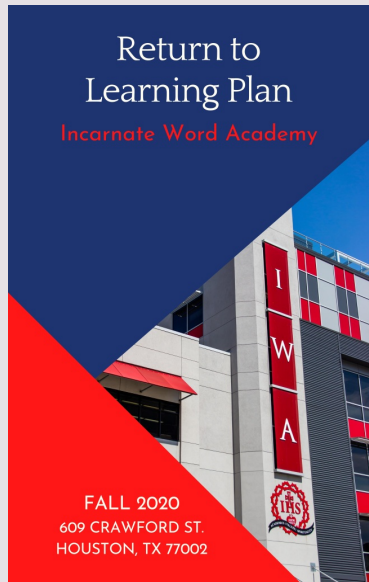
We know the opening of this school year is really different from what you imagined or wanted it to be. No doubt, we are moving forward with a "new normal," at least for a while. I only ask that all of us practice patience and flexibility. The best made plans may need to undergo revision based on necessary safety measures. You can be assured that we will bring all co-curricular activities back on board as safety permits.

I wish all of us in our IWA Family a wonderful school year! I know we can make it happen. Please know that I keep you in my prayers as do the other Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament. God bless all of you.

Praised be the Incarnate Word!

Sr. Lauren Beck C.V.I.

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President



Return to Learning

Earlier this week, we shared our remote learning plan for the 2020 - 2021 academic year. In case you missed it, click on the picture to the left and you can see all of the safety measures we have in store, the way we'll conduct classes and come of what we have planned to keep our IWA community connected.

You can also view the plan on our [2020 - 2021 School Year webpage](#). It's your one-stop shop for details about the coming year.

Important Dates

August 17

- First day of school (remote learning begins)

September 21

- Hybrid learning model scheduled to begin

Spirit Week

As we head back to school and remote learning, one of our most-loved traditions goes remote, too. Check out the activities we have planned for Spirit Week, Aug. 17 - 21!

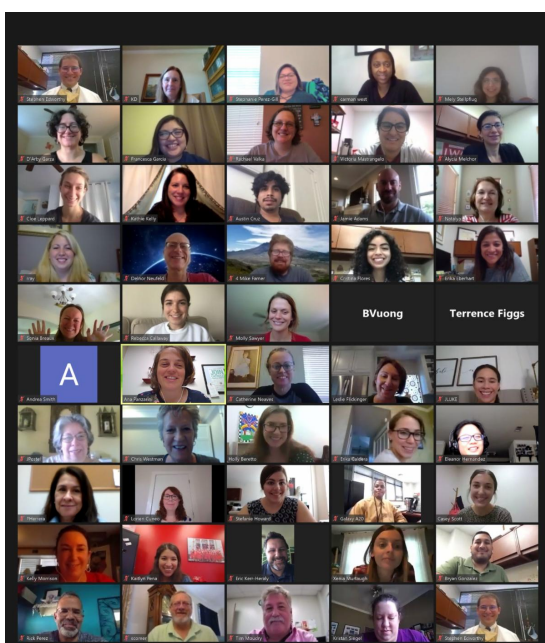




New Faces at IWA

We have several new additions to our IWA community this year. We'll be introducing them more fully throughout the fall semester. Here are some of the new faculty and staff, from our new teacher and staff orientation earlier this month.

Left to right: Ms. D'Arby Garza (science), Ms. Carman West (dean of students), Ms. Xenia Murtagh (English), Mrs. Alicia Melchor (data base administrator), Ms. Cloe Leppard (dance/theater), Ms. Mely Stellpflug (math), Mrs. Kathie Kelly (English).



We also held a virtual in-service session for all of our faculty and staff. Check out our screen capture on the right from our Zoom call on Aug. 5.

IWA

Service Hours Update

As a reminder, the deadline for completing service hours has been extended, and will be adjusted as the coronavirus situation develops. Students looking for ideas on how to complete service hours at home during the pandemic [should consult this list](#). Anyone with questions should [contact Ms. Panzarini](#).

Athletics

The Athletics Department has been working on protocols for student-athletes interested in participating in cross country and volleyball. We'll send detailed information once these are in place, including tryout dates, times and locations.

As we plan for a safe return to sports, we would like all students who plan to try out for any sport to have an updated physical form and complete a [Rank One profile](#). [Please see here](#) for instructions on the process. Parents are encouraged to have all forms completed prior to student athlete tryouts.

[Contact Bryan Gonzalez](#) with any questions.

Mothers' Club



Our Mothers' Club is a group of passionate IWA volunteers and supporters. The group is hosting two virtual get-togethers on Zoom this month. All IWA parents are welcome!

Welcome Back Coffee

Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2020
10 a.m.

Brew a cup of java and join the Welcome Back social call.

Virtual Happy Hour

Thursday, Aug. 20, 2020
7 p.m.

Pour a drink, grab some bites and be part of this parent social.

[Email the Mothers' Club](#) to RSVP and receive the Zoom links.

IWA Snapshots



Incoming freshman participated in IWA 101 this week, a week-long, socially distanced version of freshman orientation. Join us in welcoming our freshman Falcons!



Theology teacher Rachael Valka shared this selfie, showing her preparing video lessons for remote learning. Classes start Monday, Aug. 17!

Hey, IWA students and faculty! Want to be featured in our IWA Snapshots? Send us a photo of yourself studying, making Flipgrid assignments, teaching classes or something else that demonstrates what you're doing during remote learning, and we may incorporate them into this weekly segment and on our social media. Email photos to communications@incarnateword.org.

[Visit incarnateword.org](https://www.incarnateword.org)

MISSION

Incarnate Word Academy provides young women with a Catholic college preparatory education helping them grow in their relationship with Jesus, the Incarnate Word, and live according to His values.

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