

INSIDE SI MISSION STATEMENT

Tommy DeBenedetti '22, Lauren Mandel '22, Luke McFadden '22, Aiden Wong '22

Editors-in-Chief

This year, as we celebrate *InSide SI*'s 70th volume, we are committed to highlighting the vast talents of our student body through both our existing sections and our new Spotlight section. We are a newspaper for everyone—athletes, artists, activists, faculty, and students—and we will strive to ensure that all our work reflects this.

After adapting to the closure of school in March of 2020 and preparing for the reintroduction of 1400 plus Wildcats on campus for the 2021-2022 school year, *InSide SI* is and always will be a staple of the SI community. No matter the circumstances, we will always be a source of communication and unity.

We strive to give those who feel silenced during the pandemic as well as those who found their voice amidst the uncertainties an opportunity to speak to the Ignatian community through the safe space of our school newspaper.

Our first publication most pointedly marks the return of *InSide SI*, yet also a return of the community as a whole through a newspaper created by those who make SI, well, SI.

So no matter if you call yourself a student athlete, an aspiring musician, a natural introvert, a crazy extrovert, or just a high school kid who likes to write, know that *InSide SI* welcomes you and will serve as a voice for all Ignatians. A.M.D.G.

LETTER FROM MS. LEVINE

Welcome back students! It's difficult to put into words how excited we are to have you all coming back in person to SI. It's hard to believe that it's been 18 months since we've been able to gather the full student body back on campus, and the school has just not felt the same since. The teachers, counselors, coaches, administrators, Buildings & Grounds staff - everyone! - has been working hard during these last few weeks of summer to prepare our campus for a wonderful and exciting school year. And there is so much to be excited about, including the fact that it's the 70th year of our school newspaper, *InSide SI*! You will undoubtedly fill our halls with the spirit, curiosity and laughter that it's been missing these past months.

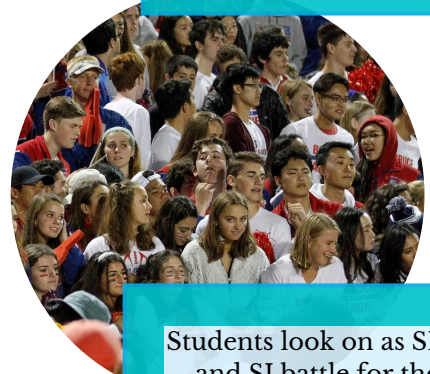
While we are looking forward to returning to a more 'normal' campus, we also have to remember that the COVID-19 variants are still a real concern and we will need to continue being diligent in following the guidance from the San Francisco Department of Public Health to keep our school safe for all. The first step in this is being vaccinated, which I'm proud to say our students and faculty have stepped up to make this happen - thank you! The second is that we will continue to require masks indoors at all times, whether or not you are vaccinated. There will be plenty of options and opportunities to be outside or in well-ventilated areas where you can eat without a mask on. It will also be extremely important that if you are feeling sick or ill that you stay home from school. We also encourage everyone to continue to wash their hands diligently and use hand sanitizer. Let's work together to keep people safe. I look forward to seeing (the top half) of your faces!

And lastly, get your work done IN SCHOOL. You have the gift of more time during the day to get your academic work completed. Don't stay up all night doing homework when you can do it here! Get some sleep and come to school ready to engage.

Thanks!
Ms. Levine



Ms. Levine welcomes new Ignatians at Freshmen Orientation.



Students look on as SHC and SI battle for the football Bruce Mahoney.



RETURN OF THE WILDCAT: THE YEAR TO BE BACK

Lauren Mandel '22

Editor-in-Chief

Feet pound the bleachers as the Red Sea roars under the glaring Friday Night Lights. Decks of cards are expertly shuffled while a crowd gathers around a table to watch the poker face of a winning student at Another Night in Vegas. Familiar voices echo around the church as a thousand students fill the once empty pews and sing—or for most of us, simply yell—tunes of “Sanctuary” and “We are One Body” at the Mass of the Holy Spirit.

With so much planned for the first six weeks of school along with the return of all 1400 plus SI students for the 2021-2022 school year, “this is the year to come back to” Ms. Levine states in her August 12th SI Parent Newsletter. Or as the St. Ignatius' school wide theme declares, this is the “Return of the Wildcat.”

Though seemingly simple, this year's overarching theme encompasses the reuniting of the Ignatian community in-person from its initial physical separation in March 2020, the beginning of Covid shutdown and virtual SI.

And because of the importance of the school year, Assistant Director of Student Affairs Mr. Glosser and the student council had a big decision to make in regards to the school theme: “There are 61 students in the student council this year, so it was a good discussion. I feel that many groups are definitely

represented by this year's council which makes me feel confident that it will be well received by the student body,” Mr. Glosser explained.

In order to maintain a focal point on reuniting students as one community, the Student Council decided to avoid separating each class into different types of cats (for example sophomores might be Jaguars while seniors are Pumas) as had been done in previous years and to instead put students under a unified umbrella of a wildcat. Mr. Glosser also hinted that the theme has a “Star Wars twist” that will be revealed in future school events. A more apparent reason for

“This is the year to come back to!”

-Ms. Levine

the school theme is that we are, Mr. Glosser says, “‘returning’ to school, so “Return of the Wildcats” supported that we are returning to campus together as one student body.”

The theme “Return of the Wildcat” takes the spirit of future Friday night games, the motivating competition of casino night, and the united spark of school masses and creates one phrase that embodies what the SI community stands for. So, as Mr. Glosser commented, for those who take their first steps on campus and the seniors who are taking their last, “Be present, show up and have fun! Let's return and create a culture that is loving, inviting, and welcoming to all.” Welcome back SI!

AS POPE FRANCIS SAYS, “GET VACCINATED”



Father Reese blesses a student at Freshmen Orientation.

“Getting vaccinated is a simple yet profound way to care for one another, especially the most vulnerable.”

- Pope Francis

SI's Current student
Vaccination Rate:

96%

In a video published to social media on August 18, Pope Francis encouraged people to get the COVID-19 vaccine for themselves and for others. SI reminds everyone to stay safe by **wearing masks** and **practicing safety protocol**.

EXTRAORDINARY AWARDS FOR THE CLASS OF 2021

Tommy DeBenedetti '22

Editor-in-Chief

InSide ST's very own former Editor-in-Chief Luke Veit '21 spoke as the class' valedictorian. After a small setback involving a paper speech and a particularly strong gust of wind, Veit recovered gracefully and delivered his speech, encapsulating his class' experience and eloquently concluding their time together.



The ceremony's highest honor, The Ignatian Award, went to Erika Morris '21 for her dedicated work and inspiring ambition in student leadership, community service, dance and drill and BSU.



The Loyalty Award for the class of 2021 was granted to Lucia Doty for her uplifting presence and the talents she shared across the school as "a born leader, natural mentor, and a gifted artist and author."



Olivia Mills '21 and Kassandra Navarette '21 were the co-recipients of The General Excellence Award, "conferred upon a senior who is distinguished by scholarship, excellence in conduct, and outstanding devotion to the school through participation in both curricular and cocurricular student affairs"



2021 SEASON 2: CCS CHAMPIONSHIPS UPDATE

Luke McFadden '22

Editor-in-Chief

Boy's Varsity Basketball

SI defeated Serra in the quarter finals 54-46, before losing a heartbreaker to Riordan 66-65 in the semis.



Six seniors depart the program following a strong CCS run.

Girl's Varsity Basketball

The Cats defeated Menlo in the quarters 49-42, before losing a tough one to Pinewood, the eventual Open Division champions, in the semis.



A loss to Pinewood does not take away from the dominant season that the Cats had this year.

Girl's Varsity Soccer

The Cats defeated Leland 2-0 in the Quarterfinals, before falling to Leigh 2-1 in the semis.



Congratulations to the entire girl's soccer team, especially its seniors!

Boy's Varsity Lacrosse

The Cats received a first round bye in the first ever CCS Championship for lacrosse. They defeated Bellarmine in the semis before losing to Sacred Heart Prep in the Championship.



Although the Cats could not win the first CCS championship, their remarkable season still stands.

Track and Field

Girl's 4x100 Meter Relay

1) Aij McFarland 2) Kate Walsh 3) Kennedy Bluford 4) Megan Ronan: 2nd place

Boy's Pole Vault

Logan Lehnert: 2nd place

Girl's Long Jump

Megan Ronan: 3rd place

Boy's Long Jump

Edgar Silva: 10th place



Congratulations to all of the SI athletes who competed hard and made us proud.

Girl's 3200 Meter Run

Evie Cohen: 3rd place

Girls Triple Jump

Jackie Acosta: 3rd place

Boys 110 Meter Hurdles

Liam Woodruff: 3rd place

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

DATE & TIME	EVENT & ATTENDANCE
Aug 20 - 9:00-2:20	First day of classes. Mandatory for all students.
Aug 20 - 2:30-3:30	Performing Arts Reveal in Bannan Theater. All are invited.
Aug 21	Falls Sports Media Day. Mandatory for athletes, parents encouraged.
Aug 24 6:00-7:30 pm	Varsity Challenge Draft. All varsity athletes are invited.
Aug 25 12:00-12:45	Club Fair in Cowell Gymnasium. All are invited.
Aug 25	Lunchtime and Tuesday evening intramural signups. All are invited.
Aug 31 6:00-8:00 pm	Varsity Challenge. All varsity athletes are invited.
Sep 3 2:00-3:00	Rally during X period. Mandatory for all students.
Sep 3 6:00-9:30 pm	Friday Night Lights. Big Cats & freshman expected, all are invited.
Sep 4 12:00-2:30	First varsity football game. Attendance expected.
Sep 9	Lunchtime Intramurals begin. All are invited.
Sep 9 7:00-9:00 pm	Virtual Back to School Night. All parents should attend.
Sep 10 9:00-11:00	Mass of the Holy Spirit. Mandatory for all students.
Sep 10	Varsity Challenge Finals.
Sep 11 1:00-3:30	2nd Varsity football game & 9/11 anniversary. Attendance expected.
Sep 11 7:00-11:00	Another Night in Vegas. All are invited.
Sep 14	5 on 5 Basketball League begins. All are invited.
Sep 15 5:30-7:00	Volleyball Game vs. Mitty. All athletes are expected to attend.
Sep 17 5:00-7:00	Powder Puff Game on JB Murphy. All senior and junior girls invited.
Sep 25 7:00-10:30	MORP Dance at Exploratorium. All seniors and juniors are invited.

Go to [this link](#) for a full events calendar.

MAGIS IN-PERSON RETREAT

Jack Quach '23

Associate Editor for Production

On August 13, the Magis Center for Equity and Inclusion hosted an in-person retreat for first-year Magis students. The event marked a milestone in the transition toward more on-campus activities after more than a year of distance learning. New Magis students explored the campus from 9 am to 4 pm. They became introduced to Magis faculty, met classmates and student leaders through active discussions, and roamed S.I. in a scavenger hunt to bond the new members of the S.I. family and help them become comfortable with the campus before the first day of school. The day ended with circling around a fire on the Piazza to make s'mores. "You've earned your place here, and we're excited to welcome you in your four years," Magis Director Ms. Hernandez said to the incoming Wildcats.



THE CLUB FAIR IS BACK IN-PERSON!

Luke McFadden '22
Jack Quach '23

Editor-in-Chief
Associate Editor for Production

On August 25th, SI will host its annual club fair from 2pm-3pm, during the last period on Wednesdays reserved this year for community engagement. Last year, clubs presented through Zoom, but the 2021-22 fair will be held in Cowell Gym. Special efforts are being made to ensure that the gym never gets too crowded. For example, each club booth table will be assigned a number, and a list of clubs and their corresponding numbers will be shared with SI students to allow them to move as efficiently as they can. Tables will also be divided according to the different types, such as social, community engagement, and academic clubs. The Student Council's Club Committee will be sending reminders through email to attend the club fair leading up to the event. "We're having our club fair a little bit earlier than we normally would because we know that students are coming back after a year off," Ms. Finn said. "We need for them to get excited and feel like they belong to something."

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

CLUB FAIR

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25TH

JOIN YOUR FELLOW CLASSMATES IN THE COWELL GYMNASIUM TO LEARN ABOUT THE DIFFERENT CLUBS HERE AT SI. THIS IS ALSO YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO FIND CLUBS TO JOIN!

TIMES:
JUNIOR/SENIOR: 12:00-12:50
FROSH/SOPHS: 1:50-3:00

THE LITTLE CATS JOIN THE PRIDE

Aiden Wong '22

Editor-in-Chief

Starting the school year off strong, the entire freshman class gathered this week for not one, but two orientations! Throughout the day on Sunday, the incoming freshmen met each other and learned what life is like at SI. They met with counselors and deans, took their first high school photos, and participated in a scavenger hunt across the SI campus. The freshmen even got to experience their first Mass of the year in McCullough gym. Opened by Arielle Mendoza '22 and presided over by Father Reese, the Mass welcomed SI's new class of "men and women with and for others."



On day two, Thursday the 19th, the first ever Freshmen Olympics took place, which included activities such as tug of war, an obstacle course, relay races, dodgeball, musical chairs, and even a jumpy house!

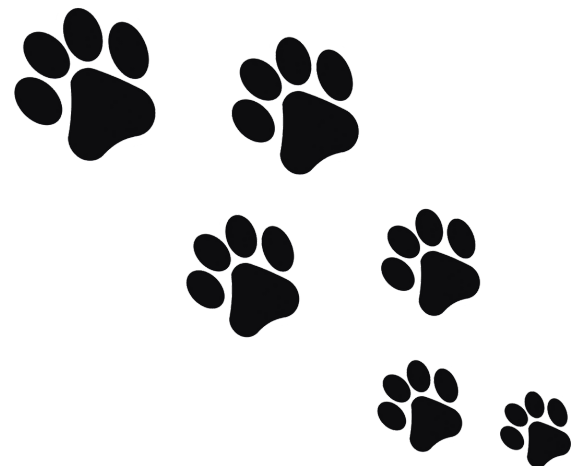


Freshmen and Big Cats participate in a cheer presentation led by Wildcat Nation.

The goal of this year's freshman orientation was not only to explain the logistics of the school year and get to know the school they'll call home for four years, but also, of course, to allow the freshmen to have a fun first week and meet new people! Freshman Thomas Niclas said, "My favorite part was getting to understand more about the school, the facilities and getting to meet the faculty!"

Not only did the freshmen get to know SI better, but they also got to bond with their Big Cats, the volunteer senior mentors. Similar to previous years, each Big Cat was paired with 2-3 freshmen with a common interest (i.e. sports, arts, clubs), neighborhood, or other similarity. The aim of the Big Cat program is to provide a warm wildcat welcome to each and every incoming freshman, which is why over the summer the freshmen got to meet with their Big Cats on Zoom and in person.

The transition from middle school to high school can be intimidating, and SI is certainly not a small school. However, with the help of a senior mentor and a group of friendly faces, the Big Cats help ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible. Needless to say, the success of the freshman orientations was a sure sign of the exciting activities in store this year!



FRESHMEN CLOSEUP

The Class of 2025

Jack Quach '23

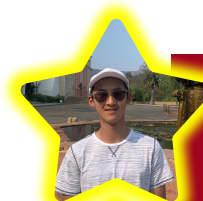
Calling the Class of 2025!

We are asking you and the Freshman class to take on the mantles of this year's cast of our section devoted to sharing the journeys and experiences of the newest faces in our SI family...the FRESHMEN CLOSEUP!

The cast of the Freshmen Closeup represents all the diverse areas of student life: athletics, math and sciences, arts and literature, music, and performing arts — and you have the chance to showcase your 9th grade adventures in all of *INSIDE SI*'s newspaper issues! Connect with students of all grades your experiences, passions, and fun facts about yourself as you set out on the once in a lifetime Class of '25 expedition!

Please use this link to apply to become one of the 5-6 members in this year's cast: bit.ly/froshcloseup21! You will also be able to find this link in an email sent from *INSIDE SI* later this year.

And the Class of '24 Freshmen Closeup Crew have shared their words of advice, what you have to look forward to, and what they're excited about for this year:



Once you go outside of your comfort zone on the first day, you can truly benefit from new friendships.



Have fun during your Freshman year and try new things!



Don't be afraid to reach out to other people and form connections, because it's way less scary than you think it is.



I'm looking forward to having all my friends together at lunch.



During this year, I can't wait to see people on a daily basis!



Going into high school can feel like a big change, but there is so much support and guidance at SI!



I have loved how caring the SI community is.

*From top: Cayden Tu, Megan Stecher, Isabella Alcantara, Spencer Phillips, Nam Nguyen, Niamh Concannon & Jazmine Hernandez

Spotlight Nominations

Do you have a friend that you think should be spotlighted for their special skills or stories? Well, this is your time to get them the attention they deserve! Scan the QR code to the left to nominate an SI student to be featured in the new Spotlight section of Inside SI!



Aiden Wong '22
Reilly Derrick '22

Editor-in-Chief
Associate Editor for Production

As we start off the year with a totally new schedule, it's normal to feel overwhelmed by the colorful boxes and confusing numbers. (Let's just ignore the two X periods and community engagement for now). But don't lose hope! We'll get it... eventually... hopefully. To show just how much we love the new schedule, we, your 2021-2022 InSIde SI editors, have created a song dedicated to it (to the tune of the SI Fight Song)!



Red & Blue Weeks

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday (Red)	Wednesday (Blue)	Thursday	Friday
9:00 1	9:00 5	9:00 1	9:00 5	9:00 4	9:00 7
10:15 2	10:15 7	9:50 2	9:50 Liturgy	10:15 2	10:15 5
10:25 2	10:25 7	10:00 2	10:00 Liturgy	10:25 2	10:25 5
11:40 2	11:40 7	10:50 2	10:50 Liturgy	11:40 2	11:40 5
Lower Lunch 3	Lower Lunch 6	Lower Lunch 3	Lower Lunch 6	Lower Lunch 3	Lower Lunch 6
11:50 3	11:50 6	11:00 3	11:00 6	11:50 3	11:50 6
12:20 3	12:20 6	12:00 3	12:00 6	12:20 3	12:20 6
1:05 3	1:05 6	1:15 3	1:15 6	1:05 3	1:05 6
1:35 3	1:35 6	1:45 3	1:45 6	1:35 3	1:35 6
Upper Lunch 4	Upper Lunch X	Upper Lunch 4	Upper Lunch 7	Upper Lunch 1	Upper Lunch X
1:45 4	1:45 X	1:50 4	1:50 7	1:45 1	1:45 X
3:00 4	3:00 X	3:00 4	3:00 7	3:00 1	3:00 X



To the Red and Blue we might be true?
One more schedule change and we'll cry.
We don't get you, old Red and Blue,
Whoever made this must be high!
And different Wednesdays make no sense.
With no more late starts, we'll be tense.
Already lost—but we'll still try—
We're gonna try, try, try, try, try!



Even though this year's new schedule may bring a bit of confusion as we start the new year, we will eventually adapt to it and grow to like it, just like the last schedule change... and the last one... and the last last one. If you need any clarification on the new schedule make sure to check out Ms. Devencenzi's slideshow screencast at

<https://www.loom.com/share/ea3b913bae1046e690686f8bb3660bb2>

After almost a year and half of online and hybrid classes, the transition to a fully in-person school year may feel overwhelming and strange. “Who will I eat lunch with?” “Will I make friends?” “What are friends?” Questions like these are totally normal, even for upperclassmen. Unfortunately, real life is not like Zoom; you cannot stay on mute. To prepare you for inevitable awkward hallway conversations and meeting that one friend you’re not sure is still a friend or not, here are some tips for socializing with other human beings:

1

Talk to people, as in with your mouth. OTHERS have their own interests, talents, and quirks, just like you! You might even have some in common, but you’ll only know if you put yourself out there.



Students quickly walk away from socialization.

2

Wave to people in the hallways! This is a great way to socialize when you’re not in the mood for a full-fledged conversation. If you’re feeling really lazy or aren’t sure whether you actually recognize someone, try smiling at them! (If you don’t actually know them, just pretend like you meant to smile at the person behind them. No one will notice, hopefully.)



Senior says hello to crazy Ginger.

3

Get involved! Sometimes the best way to make friends is by doing something you’re passionate about.

Whether you join lacrosse, orchestra, stage crew, or Disney Club, SI has plenty of opportunities for you to find something you enjoy and people to enjoy it with. (Bonus points, if you join inside SI!)



Last resort: play Fruit Ninja.

2021-2022 FAMILY PHOTO



Meet your 2021-2022 Inside SI staff!

The Sun: Mr. Devine, Ms. Nickolai

Po: Luke McFadden '22

Laa-Laa: Aiden Wong '22

Dipsy: Tommy DeBenedetti '22

Tinky-Winky: Lauren Mandel '22

Sprinklers: Reilly Derrick '22, Jack Quach '23

Do you like to write? Is layout design your forte? Do you love The Teletubbies? If you answered yes to any of these questions, fill out the form and scan the QR to sign up for InSide SI today!

<https://forms.gle/UZP4qfj6Cdt1vZuE7>



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