

FRESH EYES TO START THE SCHOOL YEAR

INTRO TO THE FEATURE

For our September Issue, we chose the theme of "Fresh Eyes" for our feature. We want to highlight new perspectives—those that our Freshmen and Sophomores share for the first time and those that the Juniors and Seniors continue to bring. Additionally, the experiences of the past year-and-a-half, especially COVID-19, have given every SI student a new lens with which to appreciate the pre-covid student and outside life we previously regarded as "normal." We hope you will join us in reflecting on the lessons we've learned and looking towards the St. Ignatius future with Fresh Eyes!

- The Editors-in-Chief

MORP: A NIGHT ON THE BAY IN PHOTOS



On September 25th, Junior and Senior MORP was held at the Exploratorium.

The Fresh Faces of New S.I. Faculty



See page 6 for the names of each new faculty member that joined S.I. this year!

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MOCK TRIAL CLUB: BRINGING COMPETITION TO THE CLASSROOM

Hannah Angsten '22

Managing Editor

While SI consistently dominates the court, field, pool, and track, it's time we brought that competitive fire into the classroom. Combining elements of Model UN, Speech and Debate, and theater, the new Mock Trial Club presents a unique opportunity for students to experience this academic competition first-hand.

Started by new social science teacher Mr. Dan Devitt, the Mock Trial Club will allow students to develop a deeper understanding of law through the hands-on experience of arguing real cases. While studying these cases will develop students' understanding of law and government in general, the performative side of Mock Trial also will push students to establish stronger argumentative and public speaking skills. Mr. Devitt emphasized that "the best thing that students gain is the ability to articulate arguments and points of view in front of a classroom, at home, and even in the courtroom in front of real judges and juries."

Unlike other academic clubs we have at SI, the Mock Trial Club plans on traveling to in-person competitions to face other local programs and even to

state and national competitions when SI students qualify for them. With regard to how these competitions run, Mr. Devitt explained, "There's a case that everyone has. The goal is to act, interpret, and then play out your side in front of a courtroom. Everything is scored, so from ten points to one point, your role on the team is based on: how good was your cross examination, did you make the kid stumble, did you make them stammer on the witness stand." As described, these competitions are highly structured and come extremely close to the complex way real courts are run.

Despite Mock Trial having grown in popularity over the past years, SI's program faces a challenge. Unfortunately, SI's status as a private school deems us unable to compete in San Francisco's Mock Trial program. Mr. Devitt said that "this is a real problem" and that his "job coming to SI with Mock Trial is to break that barrier." Until he does this, however, the club will continue to practice in hopes of attending their first competition soon. The Mock Trial Club presents a fresh, exciting way for students to challenge themselves and be part of an important new team on campus.

Aby Cha '22

SERVICE HOUR ADVICE

Emma Davila '22

Contributing Editor

Contributing Editor

All students at SI are required to complete 100 service hours by their senior year. While the number of hours may seem like a daunting task, there are many ways to have fun with it. Ms. Setiady and Angel The '22, offered some advice to Inside SI on completing these hours.

Ms. Setiady said that community service can be "fun and enjoyable" if you "pursue your passion." She also recommends that students "step outside your comfort zone," since service hours are a great way to discover and develop new passions. She advised that starting your freshman year could be very helpful in the long run. Lastly, do not forget to log your hours on MobileServe and to contact the community service office if you need any help.

Angel gave us some advice for her fellow senior classmates about finishing up our hours. She reminded us about the incentives for finishing these hours. She said, "make sure to get your hours done as soon as you can so you can focus on college applications and enjoying your senior year!"

And she's right! No one wants to be stressed about service hours during senior year, when we're supposed to be making the most of our final year. Besides, we already have enough to stress over with classes and college applications! This advice to begin early can benefit all SI students. SI, get your hours done and have fun with it! You got this.



The second annual Bay Area Youth Climate Summit is coming October 9-10. Don't miss it!



The Tennis and Learning Center is a great organization to earn service hours with!

REKINDLING OF TRADITION: MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Eve Goodrow '23

Contributing Editor

As the first event where the entire school gathers in order to give thanks, the Mass of the Holy Spirit serves as a uniquely Ignatian start to the school year. Following the virtual “Mass of the Holy Spirit” webinar in 2020, this year’s in-person ceremony allowed for the community to “make music in person,” according to Music Ministry leader Ms. Jewett. Revisiting our roots and getting to listen to “classic SI music” is one thing our community looks forward to every year.

The tradition of music enhancing liturgy has been a long-standing tradition at SI, so now the freshmen and sophomores can experience what the juniors and seniors value most as part of our prayer experience.

As we joined together for the first time in two years, SI had a chance to remember what we have been given: the gift of community, the gift of fresh eyes and souls, the gift of celebration, the gift of more than we had before. We gave thanks for the small luxuries we took for granted, and we belted out songs, happy to now have the barriers of computer screens halting our ability to harmonize. Our first communal mass of the year showered joy upon those who are beginning or continuing their SI journey.



Lavon Smith '22 and Rocco Brichler '22 begin the Mass, helping to usher in the new year.



Father Reese presided over the mass, and enjoyed the students' clapping, sharing that it created a joyous atmosphere.



FSA and SI students stand together in prayer.

A NIGHT IN VEGAS, PART TWO

Lucy Mahoney '23

Contributing Editor

SI students made their way back on the dance floor, 007 style as Casino Night made its return, back and better than ever! On September 11th, Student Council invited the student body to channel their inner James Bond for a 007 themed night of endless dancing and casino games like blackjack and roulette in McCullough Gym.

As the celebration of the return to campus continues, all Vegas attendees were invited to the Varsity football game against St. Mary's on the Murph. This was the first dance of the 2021-2022 school year, not to mention the first school-wide dance after a year-and-a-half of distance learning. After such an extended period of separation, *Another Night in Vegas* allowed students to come back together again to rebuild the community and to convene with old and new friends to experience a night full of laughter and memories.

Another Night in Vegas presented a great opportunity to enjoy a night surrounded by the Wildcat Spirit of the SI community.

The student council pulled out all the stops, as the event offered multiple different avenues to a great night. Katrina Strain '23 said, "I am really happy to be able to make connections with people I have not seen in over 18 months."

Throughout the night, various tournaments were held for \$10,000 worth of raffle prizes such as a MacBook Pro, AirPods, an iPhone 12, Warriors tickets. The highly coveted parking spot in the school garage was won by senior Kate Walsh.

In addition, exclusive raffle prizes like a 50" flat screen tv and an Xbox/Playstation were reserved for the finalists of the Junior/Senior "Hold Em' Like Texas" Tournament. Although the title "Another Night in Vegas" might only suggest a night of casino games like Roulette, Craps, and Blackjack, there was also a dance floor with a DJ and a photobooth. Every attendee got to try a hand at classic casino games or joined the dance floor, where they were transported away to the City That Never Sleeps for an unforgettable night!



Photographer sneaks a look at player's cards and notifies opponent.



Seniors break it down in the foyer.



Juniors practice their gambling tactics.



Students smile after winning a game of craps.

RETURN OF THE CLUB FAIR

Simone Idiart '23

Managing Editor

The highly anticipated Club Fair came with several new additions this year. With over 100 clubs on campus, students can easily connect with people that share their interests and engage in the SI community through service and other involvement. Though this year's Club Fair may have felt familiar, it included several brand new clubs with a wide range of focuses.



The Ski and Board Club gets ready to hit the the slopes.



A Senior and the Moderator of AMA (Arab-Middle Eastern Affinity) hold up their club sign.

The club president of Wildcat Productions, Laura Valentine '23, commented, "I wanted to start Wildcat Productions to offer a space for all students to come together to create impactful films as a community. Filmmaking is not something that teenagers get many opportunities to do, but I think that it can be a really unique and fun experience." She also touched on the immense amount of work done behind the scenes of these new clubs, continuing, "Starting a club has definitely taken a lot more organization and planning that I initially expected, but things are coming along so well already and I think it's going to be very worthwhile in the end."

When asked why she started her club, SI HEAL, this year, Kassandra Yeung '23 said, "I was inspired to start my club because although SI had many clubs that I enjoyed, they didn't have exactly what I wanted. SI HEAL was started because I enjoy baking very often, but eating baked good is not very good for our health. Therefore, I wanted to create a club with people who wanted to make healthy treats." SI HEAL is one of many new clubs students have started this year in response to their specific interests and passions.



Join SITV and see your work shown every Tuesday and Friday.



Students smile in front of the ASC club booth.

NEW FACULTY & STAFF

Lauren Mandel '22

Editor-in-Chief



Spanish Teacher: Dinorah Alvarez

Social Science Teacher: Dan Devitt

Religious Studies Teacher: Kristofer Koller

Physics/ Computer Science Teacher: Michael Oliva

Physics Teacher: Gabriel Ross

Pep Band Assistant Director: Kelly Cochran

Math Teacher: Brian Schwartze

Learning Specialist: Peter Collins

Latin Teacher: Xander Paras

English Teacher: Claire Halter

Director of Counseling: Allison Silvestri

Development Alumni Associate: Molly McFadden

Dance Instructor: Rachel Garcia

Copy Center Associate: Zachary Schuller

Community Service Liaison: Kelley McCann

Communications Manager: David Arnott

Campus Minister: Ellen Jewett

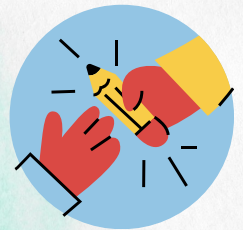
Campus Minister: Luke Hansen

AVC: Dessa Del Corro

AVC: Adela Valladares Lozano

Associate Athletic Director: Angelique Boccara

Assistant Athletic Trainer: Kayla Gradillas



REFRESHED, RENEWED, AND TOGETHER: WE WILL

Contributing Editor

Emma Chan '24

On August 20th, hundreds of St. Ignatius students flocked back onto campus to be reunited with the familiarity and comfort that the school offers. The scent of food wafted in the Commons, the bright fluorescent lights beamed through the never-ending hallways, and the subtle way student's hearts fluttered at the sight of all their friends; the SI community waited a long time for their return home. The beginning of the 2021-2022 school year allowed SI students to embrace the changes the global pandemic brought and to find solace within the SI community.

With this fresh start of another in-person school year, SI students expressed the desire to work towards

promoting a safe, healthy environment for learning and socializing, through simple acts such as wearing masks properly and following similar rules consistently. The "new" normal of classroom settings and the overall dynamic of student-student and teacher-student relationships have vastly changed as well.

Sophomore, Shea Tran '24 expressed her goal for the school year by saying, "This year I will try my very best to get to know my classmates and reach out to people I don't know yet because we didn't have many chances to socialize last year!"

The beginning of a new school

year also provided students with an opportunity to join extracurricular activities within the SI community. In the second week of school, SI's numerous clubs hosted a Club Fair to help introduce their opportunities to SI students.

Oliver Raber '24 showed his excitement by pledging, "I will work on furthering my co-curricular activities in the time of COVID-19."

The impact of the pandemic on SI will continue to be apparent, but the path to a normal school year started with the revitalization and connection amongst the SI community. The SI Student Body already began and will continue to make a comeback from the setbacks the pandemic brought.



OPINION: YOU WILL, EYE WILL, WE ALL WILL

Contributing Editor

Ava Murphy '25

I have always loved beginnings. They represent a clean slate where we can start fresh and be the best version of ourselves. Beginnings also give us the chance to develop and master good habits...and hopefully stick to them. I know what EYE (I) will do this school year. I will try to be an advocate for myself and others. As a person who came from a school with a student body of less than 350 kids, I know for a fact SI is a huge adjustment and it will take some time to settle in. I know I will really need to be vocal and ask for help when I need it. I also know it will take work to make new friends.

As teenagers, we always think about what others can do for us rather than what we can do for others and for ourselves. We tend to believe everyone should accommodate our needs rather than asking what we can do to help others. Instead of hoping others will take the initiative, perhaps we should take action for ourselves. This year, I plan to be an agent for

change and step up where my skills are useful.

Something each of us can do every day is to put ourselves out there. As a freshman, I know how hard it can be to introduce ourselves to another student and start a conversation. But what I have realized in my short time at SI is we are all in the same "boat" and overthink the same things. A great way to meet new people and make your mark on the school is to start a club. It gives you the ability to showcase what you are passionate about. You can also collaborate with students with similar hobbies and bring more attention to your particular interest along the way.

One of the MOST important things I want to convey to the SI Student Body in this article is we are all going through the same struggles as we come out of our previous COVID isolation. We all had a difficult 18 months "zooming" from home and hybrid learning.

2021-2022 offers us the ability to be in person and back to a new sense of normalcy. Let's not waste it! I encourage all SI students this year to get involved and to enjoy the amazing year the administration has planned for us. Try not to be so hard on yourself and savor the moment because the future can be uncertain as we have learned over the course of the pandemic.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that kindness goes a long way. You never know how much your words can impact another person so use them wisely.

I have promised myself that EYE WILL try to be an advocate for myself and others this year. I will try my best to make new friends and foster worthwhile friendships while getting involved.

Okay, I have given you some ideas. Now it is your turn. What will YOU do to make SI a better place this school year? All "S EYES" are on you!

Amelia Chen '24

Contributing Editor

Hey SI! Have any of you been wondering how the freshmen are doing this year in extracurricular activities such as performing arts and sports? If so, read on because we're taking a closer look into the ins and outs of the class of 2025.

This year, SI has charged head first into sports, performing arts, and so many more extracurriculars. This also comes with the revival of SI pride both during and after school. To welcome in some of this year's freshmen, I decided to interview a couple people to hear about their thoughts on the SI community within activities and as a whole.

First up is Baylie Ruiz '25, who is on both the Varsity Dance and Drill team and Dance Workshop. She stated, "Through dance here in SI, I have gained many friendships and once in a lifetime experiences." During our conversation, she told me how inclusive and inspirational the community here is which makes getting used to a new environment so much easier.

Another freshman who similarly felt immediately included and welcomed here, is Anni Sandoval '25, who is on the soccer and dance team. She reflected upon her first three weeks on these teams as joining, "a built-in family away

from home" where all your peers and teachers "challenge you to do better and support you through the process."

All of these incredible opportunities in SI are certainly different than last year. With most Covid restrictions lifted, there is so much more freedom to connect as a community and revive SI spirit. There are so many events planned for this year and that is only the start of adapting to a new normal.



FRESH TAKES ON A FRESH NEW YEARS STRAIGHT FROM THE HALLS OF SI.

"Reunited with the familiarity and comfort that the school offers"

"What will YOU do to make SI a better place this school year?"

"Freedom to connect as a community and revive SI spirit."

"Comeback from the setbacks the pandemic brought"

"A built-in family away from home"

"Ability to showcase what you are passionate about."

"Peers and teachers challenge you to do better and support you through the process."

"The scent of food wafted in the Commons"

REIGNITED: THE REFRESHED VOICES AND FACES OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Kate Quach '25

Contributing Editor

As Wildcats returned back to campus, fresh voices filled Orradre Chapel on a Wednesday morning. In the first in-person liturgy after a year, Music Ministry jubilantly rejoiced through fan-favorite songs such as “Holy,” “Set A Fire,” and “Lamb of God” to a packed crowd. To the choir, it was a routine performance, but to the students and teachers in attendance it was a mark of a renewed comeback of the SI community.

Leading this new Music Ministry cohort is Director Ms. Ellen Jewett. Though this is her first year leading SI’s ministry group, participating in singing is not a completely new activity for her: since middle school, Jewett has been involved in her church’s choir. Cherishing her previous experiences deep within her heart, she was more than enthusiastic to carry her passion of music to SI.

“I think a few of us cried because it was so nice to be back in community singing again,” Jewett recalled the return of in-person liturgies. For her, these first days of meeting up and singing together point toward deepening camaraderie among student performers in the coming months — something that she is grateful for.

“This is going to grow and keep getting bigger and better,” Jewett added. Alongside Ms. Jewett, student vocalists felt similar emotions play out during practices and live performances.

“After a year of Zoom Masses, the sense of community I felt was a welcome change,” said Senior Alessia Gatti ’22. On September 10, Alessia sang the solo for the outgoing song of Mass of the Holy Spirit, a special occasion that she had not gotten to experience since the beginning of her sophomore year.

Tommy DeBenedetti ’22, a fellow Senior and participant in Music Ministry, found the Mass of the Holy Spirit to be one of the key ceremonies that Campus Ministry leads, especially because of the buzzing excitement from the entire school in the gym.

“What excites me about Mass of the Holy Spirit is how many students will be there,” Tommy remarked. “Mandatory attendance usually means more students in Music Min, which boosts the energy, and — if we’re lucky — some congregation participation.”

Even a veteran Music Minister like Tommy found joy in the little details of liturgy and mass after being away from them for so long. Back in Orradre Chapel, he felt a wave of familiarity as he sat in a packed Music Ministry section, performed in front of a conductor, and huddled in a prayer circle after the liturgy. “[These elements] brought a bigger smile to my face than my mask could hide,” he said.

Bella Fontanilla ’22 upheld her hope by relating to Music Ministry’s famous closing song for mass, “River of Hope,” and its exciting and uplifting beat. “I feel like [“River of Hope’s”] message is also important in applying it to any circumstance—especially when referring to events from this past year—because it can be hard to feel hopeful with everything that has been going on,” Bella conveyed.

As the entire school step-clapped to “River of Hope” to conclude Mass of the Holy Spirit, McCullough Gymnasium filled with voices and cheers as a grand welcome back to the glowing Music Ministry.



Music Ministry, joining Campus Ministry, performed in the first Mass of the Holy Spirit since the pandemic began in a packed McCullough Gym.

“I think a few of us cried because it was so nice to be back in community singing again.”

- Ms. Jewett

A FRESH START TO A YEAR OF FAITH

Milan Murphy '22

Managing Editor

With SI's "fresh start" this school year and the transition from a divided to a unified community, SI calls students to embrace "Journeying With Ignatius" to promote self and communal growth.

As a Catholic school, St. Ignatius College Preparatory incorporates religious ideas into students' everyday lives. This year's religious theme is "Journeying With Ignatius" (#TheIgnatianYear).

The Ignatian Year started in May of 2021, marking the 500th Anniversary of Ignatius' "cannonball" moment at Pamplona (considered to be the beginning of Ignatius' conversion). It ends in March of 2022 with the 400th anniversary of Ignatius and Francis Xavier's canonization.

According to Ms. Pryor Lorentz, a teacher in Adult Spirituality and Religious Studies, "all of our school prayer services and many other all-school formation activities will explore the life of Ignatius, important moments in his story, and how his life can serve as inspiration and guidance for our own journeys."

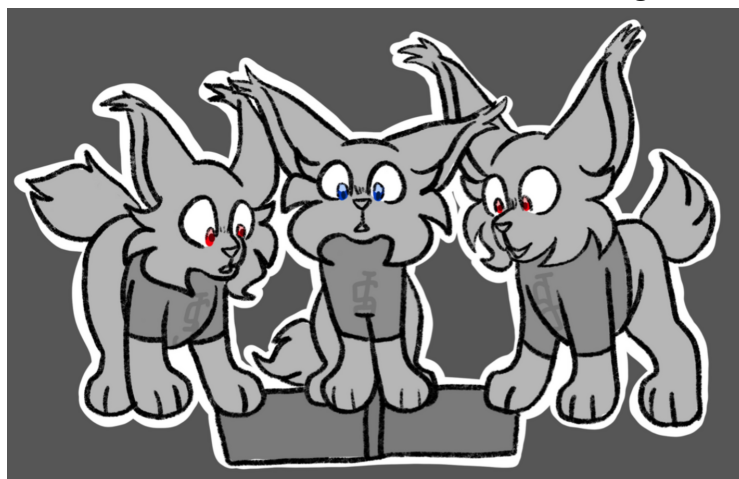
Ms. Miguens, a member of the Religious Studies and Campus Ministry Departments, related Ignatius' journey to SI students by saying, "After the cannonball moment, St. Ignatius had to learn how to discern and move forward with his life in a VERY NEW WAY! Everything was different for him and he had to learn how to look inward and look to God for support. In a similar way, our community needs to learn how to move forward in new ways."

Ms. Miguens added, "I hope students can connect to St. Ignatius' life — before he was a Saint, he was a normal person like you and me trying to figure out his place in the world, who he was, and his relationship with God. I would like to invite students to be grounded in Ignatian Spirituality this year, which asks us to consider three things: How is the world doing and what's my role? How am I living my most authentic self? What is my relationship like with others, self, and God?"

THE FRESH EYES OF WILDCATS ILLUSTRATION

Viv Lum '24

Contributing Editor



Senior Insignis member Pauline Luedorf '22 commented, "This year's religious theme is about journeying, which we are all going to be doing this year as we come back for our 'fresh start.' The theme is trying to bring Ignatius and God into our journey."

Ryan Stretch '22, another Senior Insignis member, elaborated that "for much of the school community, this year's religious theme is going to remind us of topics we're familiar with, but also invite us to go further, relating to our new school year. We're returning to a place that we've come to love over our years here (or just settling into life as a Wildcat), but we're also looking to engage in new experiences and opportunities — we're looking to get closer as a school community, and to grow during the process."

This year's religious theme calls students to model St. Ignatius' journey through developing a closer relationship with God and one

another. With the whole community back on campus, students have the opportunity to undergo a fresh start and new approach to their journey of faith with the support of the SI community.

“I hope students can connect to St. Ignatius' life — before he was a Saint, he was a normal person... trying to figure out his place in the world, who he was, and his relationship with God.”

- Ms. Miguens

SEE NO EVIL, HEAR NO EVIL: SI STUDENTS' SMALL ACTS OF KINDNESS

Nam Nguyen '24 & Leia Kwan '23

Contributing Editor & Managing Editor

At the start of a new school year, the hectic halls are quite a place to get lost in. Students busy with new experiences and activities often forget to take a break and appreciate the small things.

This issue's "fresh eyes" theme gives an opportunity for students to put these acts of kindness into perspective, bringing to light what would normally go unnoticed.

Kylie Landers '24 wrote about Markaela Gadduang '24, "she has always [been] so kind to me and probably many more people.

She always has something good to say and has a smile on her face... Markaela is a great person to be friends with. She is so genuine and kind. When I am with Markaela I feel happy and inspired to be kind like her." Markaela, in return, wrote about Kylie and how she is "so grateful that she is a friend where I never fail to smile around her. [I] feel happy and lucky that I even met Kylie in the first place. I felt worthy and encouraged, and I do my best to make her feel the same."

JT Hardemen '23 similarly recalled a friend's

kindness: "On the first day of school this year, during upper lunch I was looking for some of my friends to sit with. As I was walking towards the gym from the student center, I saw some of my friends walk by. They didn't say anything except for one person: I mran Maayah '23. He saw me and saw that I was trying to find somewhere to eat. He said, 'Come on JT, let's go eat in the gym.' Imran and I have been friends since freshman year and he has always been there for me. I can always count on him."

Tran Nguyen '22 noted

that Jamie Jew '23 bought her boba; it particularly "made [her] happy."

For Nicholas Chiu '24, his friend Ethan Lo '24 "has walked



to school every morning with me. It made me feel a lot less lonely." Matthew Lim '24 also wrote about Nicholas Chiu, who "complimented one of my favorite sweaters the day I wore it to school. Whether serious or not, it made me feel better about myself, and it made me glad that someone noticed it in any way at all."

And in Daniel Meijia's '23 case, "Thomas Fong '23 has been such a great friend. I recently have wanted to improve and learn some art skills and Thomas has definitely helped me with constructive criticism. He's a person I enjoy hanging out with because of his warm and friendly personality. This made me feel grateful and happy."

Not all acts of kindness are put on a paper, but let these accounts inspire good deeds, no matter how big or small. All these recipients' feelings reveal a widespread truth: a small act can go a long way.

Although the aftershocks of the pandemic still remain apparent, the SI community continues to prove their strength and perseverance with a great return to an unforgettable school year.

A FRESH START

Jeslyn Oum '24

Contributing Editor

It is no secret that these past two school years have been anything but normal. After months of hybrid and online learning, students are finally allowed to return to campus in person full time. Due to SI's impressive vaccination rate, classes, school events and athletics resume with near normalcy. However, the Administration's hard work remains apparent as faculty and staff continue to enforce some COVID-19 precautions.

A key element in SI's Safe Return Plan requires proper face coverings or masks at all times. Although many are vaccinated, the threat of COVID-19 and its variants is still a concern. With daily reminders from faculty and staff, the SI community works to protect the safety of all students. Jessica Lin '22 related, "It has been interesting to see how SI has made certain changes to the school in order to make the campus safe while also

promoting school spirit and Ignatian values." Since the class of 2022 is the only class on campus to have experienced a full normal year at SI, Jessica said, "I hope that our senior class can set an example for underclassmen and provide a sense of belonging inside and outside of the classroom."

Relieved to finally have a school year without cohorts or zoom, Mia Colabianchi '24 said, "I've really enjoyed being able to get back on campus and actually meet my classmates in person this year. I've found that it's a lot easier to stay focused and learn in class when everyone is present in the classroom at the same time and we never have to go on Zoom."

Compared to last year, many rules have also changed or lightened. The Commons are now available to eat in, and there are no longer marked seats on bleachers. The staircases are once again crowded, and

chaotic, with the lifting of the single-direction movement rules. Most excitingly, school events have come back in full force. Just within the first month of school, the student council hosted the annual Fall Sports Pep Rally, a Friday Night Lights event, a big turnout at home varsity football games, the Another Night in Vegas Casino Night, and the MORP.

Milan Murphy '22, an enthusiastic member of student council, shared, "I am excited to be back on campus this year with all the fun activities the student council has planned. Since the senior class is the only one that has experienced a full year at SI, it is our responsibility to pass on the school's traditions and show the underclassmen what SI is all about."

If students continue to follow the COVID-19 guidelines, more school events will take place, such as Homecoming and Winter Formal.

Luke McFadden '22
Jack Stecher '23
Philip Luongo '23

SPORTS UPDATE

Editor-in-Chief
Managing Editor
Managing Editor

Wildcat sports are back! After a crazy spring season at the end of last year with almost every sport playing at the same time, sports are back to their regularly-scheduled seasons. Football, cross-country, water polo, field hockey, women's volleyball, women's tennis, women's golf, and our new varsity team Dance and Drill, all have begun their respective seasons. The players and coaches have prepared and are ready to begin and continue their season. Here's a quick update on some recent varsity scores:

Boy's Cross Country



Liam Milby '22 races against other WCAL athletes in Golden Gate Park on September 21st.

"The Varsity boys are very close together time-wise right now, and we are focusing on trying to run as a pack and give the opportunity for runners to go if they are feeling it." - Tim Abbott '22

Girl's Cross Country

"The Varsity girls this year are a newer group, but we're extremely supportive of each other and I cannot wait to watch them grow as runners and teammates" - Zoe Keane '22



Four SI runners during the first WCAL Meet of the year in Golden Gate Park on September 21st.

Field Hockey

Record: 2-4-1

The Varsity Field Hockey team lost a tough game at Saratoga in the blistering heat, 1-0. To end the month of September, they are scheduled to face off against Los Gatos on the 28th and will play Archbishop Mitty at home on September 30th. The JV Field Hockey team has a record of 4-3 following 5-0 win vs Saratoga.



The Varsity Field Hockey team defeated Palo Alto 1-0 on September 14th.

Football

Record: 2-2

The Varsity Football team is 2-2 after suffering setbacks vs St. Mary's and #1 ranked St. Francis. They are gearing up to take on Sacred Heart Cathedral on Oct. 8th for one of five games between the two schools to determine the winner of the Bruce Mahoney Trophy. JV Football is 3-0 after defeating St. Mary's 28-21. Freshman football also defeated St. Mary's, moving them to a record of 2-0 on the year.



The Varsity Football team huddles during their game against St. Mary's

Girl's Golf

Record: 1-5-1

The SI Girl's Varsity Golf Team is 1-5-1 following a tough loss at St. Francis on September 23rd. Their next match is against Presentation on September 27th. The JV Golf Team is 8-1 following a win at a SHC tournament, and they will face off next against Valley Christian and St. Francis on October 4th.



The Cats tied with Mitty on September 8th.

Girl's Tennis

Record: 5-0

The SI Girl's Tennis program is off to a fantastic start this year. Following a dominant win over University, the Varsity team is 5-0. Their next match is against Notre Dame. The JV Tennis team is also undefeated at 4-0 following their own 3-2 win over University.



The Varsity Tennis team huddles after beating Mercy.

Girl's Water Polo

Record: 3-7

The Varsity Girl's Water Polo team fell to St. Francis 13-5, moving their record on the year to 3-7. The JV Girl's Water Polo Team dropped to 2-2 on the year after also suffering a loss at St. Francis on September 22nd.



The Varsity Girl's Water Polo routed Menlo earlier this year.

Boy's Water Polo

Record: 4-8

After losing at St. Francis 7-4 on September 22nd, the Cats are 4-8. Looking forward, they will be on the road at Sacred Heart Prep on the 29th and at Soquel on October 1st. After defeating St. Francis 8-7, the JV Water Polo team moved to 5-3 on the year.



The Varsity Boy's Water Polo team defeated Mitty 10-8 on September 15th.

Girl's Volleyball

Record: 14-5

The Girl's Varsity Volleyball team is having a very successful season, and there is a lot of excitement building up ahead of their Bruce-Mahoney debut on October 5th. They are scheduled to play on the road at Valley Christian and Riordan before the SHC game. The Cats recently returned from a tournament in Las Vegas. Hannah Angsten '22 said, "At the tournament, we had an extremely strong second day, going undefeated and winning our division. Coming back from a tough first day, this win really solidified our standing as a resilient, strong team that has great potential this year."



The Varsity Girl's Team lost a tough one against Marin Catholic, but they rebounded with a win vs St. Francis at their next home game.

PINK GAME 2021



The senior girls chant the Fight Song after their win (left). Junior Olivia Ripple catches a ball in mid air (right).

On Friday, August 17, the senior girls took on the junior girls at the annual Pink Game on J.B. Murphy field. The senior girls came out victorious from this flag football matchup with a win of 29-7.

VARSITY CHALLENGE UNITES SI

Caroline McFadden '24

Contributing Editor

With last year's restricted sports seasons of limited games and fans, both traditional and new events are being planned for this school year. One of the first events that already took place this year was the Varsity Challenge, a three day competition involving students from every sport and members of each class.

As fall sports seasons started to kick off, the Varsity Challenge brought together varsity athletes, dance and drill, and student council members to take part in a friendly and fun competition.

With over 200 students participating, 32 teams took part in games such as spikeball, knockout, cornhole and more. The final eight teams were rewarded with a finals round of games with a chance to win first place.

This challenge turned out to be the perfect way to bring the athletic teams, dance groups and student councils together to build community, comradery and the spirit of SI. It also raised the hopes for a successful year for all the SI community and likely plants the seeds for a new SI tradition at the start of each school year.



Teams featured Varsity athletes, student council members, and Dance and Drill athletes.



The championship winning Red Tigers, with Will Armstrong, Kathleen Malouf, Emma Burns, Brigitte Mahoney, Neel Noronha, Rocco Brichler, Olivia Peo, Anna Scandalios, Jackson Muzzy



Spikeball games were played on the upper and JB Murphy fields.

THE FALL PLAY - RADIIUM GIRLS

Isabella Alcantara '24

Contributing Editor

"In 1926, radium was a miracle cure, Madame Curie an international celebrity, and luminous watches the latest rage—until the girls who painted them began to fall ill with a mysterious disease."

D.W. Gregory's award winning play *Radium Girls* dramatizes the gripping story of several young women from Orange, New Jersey, who develop radium poisoning as a result of their employment with the U.S. Radium Corporation. The girls were dial painters, required to paint watch dials with radium-laced, glow-in-the-dark paint. Their fight for justice was one of the first instances in the United States where a corporation was held legally responsible for the safety of its employees.

The play takes place between 1918 and 1928, focusing on the

experiences of Grace Fryer, one of the original dial painters and a key plaintiff in the case against the U.S. Radium Corporation. As her friends begin getting sick and dying, the girls' quest to uncover the mysterious illness slams against the corporation's attempt to hide the truth in a "cinematic, brisk-paced" style. As the case goes on, however, Grace finds herself battling with not only the U.S. Radium Corporation, but also with her own family and friends who are fearful that Grace's campaign for justice may backfire.

In his announcement, Director of Performing Arts Ted Curry said, "I picked *Radium Girls* because it has a large cast, with more than 30 parts. There are leads, there are supporting leads, there are featured roles, and there are ensemble roles.

It also has an uplifting and empowering message about how one person can stand up for what's right."

Written with warmth and humor, the play is a fast-paced production about wealth, greed, the environment, courage, and science. Called a "powerful" and "engrossing" drama by critics, *Radium Girls* offers an unflinching look at the peculiarly American obsessions with health, wealth, and the commercialization of science.

Tickets for SI's own production of *Radium Girls* sell on November 1st, and shows run on November 17th, 18th, and 19th at 4 and 7 pm.

A LOOK "BEHIND THE CURTAIN"

Aidan Stecher '23

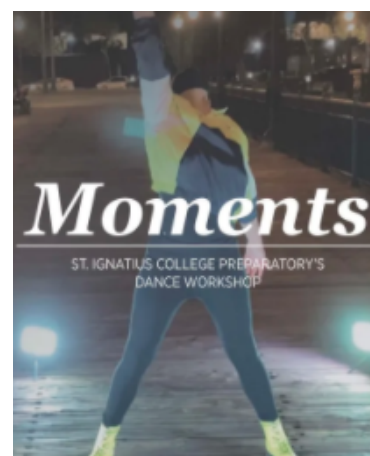
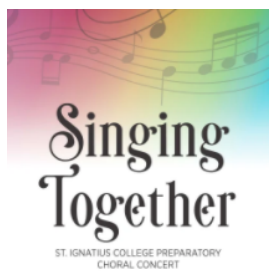
Managing Editor

As a new school year has started, the Performing Arts have already started to work hard on upcoming events and performances. Every year, these events have been heralded and applauded by students and alumni. This year, Performing Arts is adding a new performance called "Behind the Curtain," for those that have always been intrigued by the behind the scenes of all the Performing Arts.

"Behind the Curtain" opens the door and offers a peek into how productions are put together. The audience will be allowed to watch as all the areas of the Performing Arts rehearse. Fall play will open their rehearsal in Bannan Theater, Jazz Band will open their rehearsal in the band room, while Dance will open

their rehearsal in Wiegand Theater. Finally, the orchestra and choir will open their rehearsal in the choral room.

This event will offer a new and informative experience. James Nicholson '23, who is part of the fall play said, "It's going to be a super cool, new opportunity for the audience to enjoy our performance." If you express any interest in joining in on the fun, Performing Arts invites all to attend on November 2, 2021.



Come to catch a sneak peak of the fall season's shows, including the Winter Instrumental Concert, the "Singing Together" Choir Concert, and dance workshop's "Moments."

THE SPIRIT: SI'S NEW PEP BAND

Samantha Major '23 & Meredith Foster '23

Contributing Editors

As the new year begins, we get to experience SI's great spirit at football games, dances, rallies. Adding to this excitement is SI's new Pep Band, The Spirit of Ignatius!

Prior to establishing the current pep band, St. Ignatius had one until the 1990s. Outside the Choral room, a picture display reads, "Before 1972, SI student musicians played in a concert band primarily at rallies and games, performing Sousa marches and the fight song."

Re-established this year, the Pep Band will be at all home football games, with Dr. Clements, Mr. Green, and Kelly Cochran leading the band.

Before school started, a two-week band "camp" was held to teach musicians the song repertoire, get to know one another, and prepare for the fall season. Many of the current



SI student musicians in the 1970s.



The SI Pep Band in 2021.

musicians actually had to learn the instruments they play from ground zero. Now, the band has almost 30 members playing instruments that include the bass drum, tuba, flute, and French horn! Naomi Ko, a sophomore, said, "Learning a new instrument was interesting, but I'd say the best part about Pep Band was getting to connect with new people."

Songs that the school can look forward to hearing include "Sweet Caroline" by Neil Diamond, "Born This Way" by Lady Gaga, "High Hopes" by Panic! At The Disco, and of course, the National Anthem. It's going to be a wonderfully spirited football season, and the students at SI continue to find ways to energize the community. If you are thinking about joining, pep band email Dr. Clements, the Band Director, at gcllements@siprep.org or stop by the band room anytime!

IN THE ROOM WHERE IT HAPPENED: "HAMILTON" PERFORMERS REVEAL THEIR STORIES AT LIVE SI EVENT

Jack Quach '23

Associate Editor-in-Chief for Production

On August 31, Juniors, Fr. Sauer Academy scholars, and faculty filled the benches of Cowell Gym. During X-Period, the buzz unfamiliar to the times of distanced COVID-19 learning settled down to make way for San Francisco *Hamilton* performers Ixchel Cuellar and Christopher Henry Young at center court.

The in-person event kicked off with Young's rendition of "History Has Its Eyes on You" from the world-renowned musical. While all eyes focused on the two performers, a Q&A segment immediately following the song spotlighted the emphasis on interactive engagement. Students raised hands to ask questions ranging from Young and Cuellar's personal journeys in acting to inside looks at their roles and their favorite musical numbers.

Young and Cuellar are swings, meaning they switch between several different roles. On a given night, they can find themselves performing entirely different choreographies — and wearing different costumes — than the night before.

As a teenager, theater gave Young an outlet and language to express himself amid his life's challenges. Finding the power of the narrative, he immediately connected with the art. Additionally, this perspective has guided him as he navigated the world of theater as a person of color.

Learning to take control of his

seat at the table, Young said that his role in *Hamilton* held a special place because of his ability to celebrate uniqueness rather than always playing "the worst circumstances" of his identity's history.

He also shared his favorite memory while a cast member of the Puerto Rico *Hamilton* production: enjoying a day with fellow actors at a water park rented by Lin Manuel Miranda himself.

Relating to Young, San Francisco native Ixchel Cuellar found that the theatre community drew her to performing arts as a child. From dancing to singing and dancing, she always enjoyed this connecting aspect. Her inspiration, she said, continually comes from her grandparents. Remembering their journeys to build the opportunities she has in her life makes her want to embody and honor them.

As for her favorite song to perform, Cuellar said she would definitely choose "The Battle of Yorktown." It jolts a sense of energy into the ensemble cast, who take center stage during the song.

Meanwhile, excited students wouldn't have been able to gather into the seats of Cowell without the work of faculty coordinators, including social science teacher Ms. MZ. When she and Ms. Miller heard about the opportunity to have a Q&A with Cuellar

and Young, they knew they "had to try and make it a reality for our students."

Working since the summer to organize the speakers, Ms. MZ said that the hope was for students of all interests

— such as English, religion, and theater — to relate to the guests and their stories. "It was a fun challenge to do such a big event," she added. But the organization she worked with "was flexible and worked well to meet our needs." For Ms. MZ, the ability to connect live with the special guests represented an exciting lesson about the intersections of "race, storytelling, history, and drama."

A big fan of theater and *Hamilton*, Ms. MZ said she "was quite nervous to host and chat with the actors," adding that she is "grateful to the administration, Mr. Curry, and Ms. Miller for helping make this happen."

On August 31st, this work culminated in the sight of hundreds of students who didn't throw away their 'Shot' for the exclusive presentation. And at the end of it all, Young and Cuellar exited to the applause of a bustling, 'Satisfied' crowd.



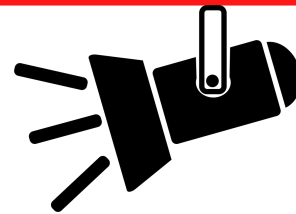
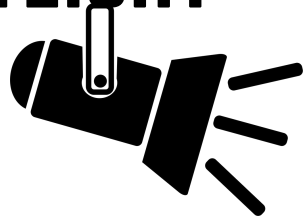
Christopher Henry Young



Ixchel Cuellar



The S.I. crowd joined Cuellar and Young for group selfies. (Photos courtesy of Young)



WHAT IS SPOTLIGHT?

Lindsay Yamamura '22

Associate Editor-in-Chief

Hello SI! We are excited to introduce *Inside SI's* newest section: Spotlight! Spotlight, hence its name, spotlights the stories, achievements, and hobbies of various members of our SI community. From our classmates to faculty, our section focuses on sharing how individuals explore their passions outside of the classroom in ways we may have never learned about. Our goal is to shine a light on the experiences of our community to start conversations and discover more about the talents of those around us. We are always looking for people to spotlight, from a friend with a hidden talent, to a peer with a moving story, to a faculty member we need to recognize. So, please feel free to email lyamamura22@siprep.org with any Spotlight suggestions and/or if you are interested in writing for Spotlight!

PALOMA HUERTAS '24: LEADING THE NEW WAVE OF SI YOUTH ACTIVISTS

Melissa Hua '23

Managing Editor

Many SI students will recount the all too familiar pains at hours and hours spent mindlessly scrolling through social media. Yet not many can say they mastered the intricacies of social media community engagement — mobilizing thousands of youth nationwide to make positive social change in their communities.

Paloma Huertas '24 first became enamored by activism after hours of scrolling through social media. She eventually landed on a social media post by Youth Advocates for Change and immediately got to work on submitting an application for the budding non-profit. Now, in her second year (and first year as Director of Community Engagement), Paloma has exponentially grown through the social media presence of Youth Advocates for Change — becoming an integral member of community projects ranging from donation drives for Afghan refugees to working with a thirteen year old activist's New York Fashion Week Show. Her central mission is to "uplift the voices of smaller creators, businesses, and activists" and hopes to use her powerful media platform of over three thousand followers

to "spread honest, genuine human and social justice." In particular, Paloma takes strong inspiration from San Francisco activists. A proud SF native, she prides herself in scoping out the best food locations throughout the

San Francisco Bay Area (hint: Blue Plate on Mission) as well as advocating for projects in intersectional feminism and sustainability projects led by Bay Area Youth.



Paloma Huertas '24

A leader inside SI, as well, Paloma cultivates the social media presence of SI's Speech and Debate, Bring Change to Mind, and Psychology Club. She is also an innovator inside the classroom: she is a recipient of the Fox Memorial Award AND the national Latin exams Maxima Cum Laude. She balances all of this with an innate interest in the legal system: an intern for the San Francisco's Public

Defender's Office. It's no surprise to find her at the student center or Magis center rapidly typing away on her research analyzing legal policy.

Check out @youthadvocatesforchange on Instagram if you're interested in following Paloma's journey!

Sally Kharadze '24

GEMMA OAKLEY-LYNCH '22

Contributing Editor

Jillyn Acosta '24

Contributing Editor

Every football game, pep rally, and welcoming ceremony is a one of a kind experience thanks to the Dance and Drill team. Gemma Oakley-Lynch, a senior here at SI, is 1 of 4 varsity captains on the team. Ever since she was 2 years old, Gemma has had a passion for dance, and thanks to SI she has gotten to continue that while showing her school spirit.

The Dance and Drill team demonstrates many characteristics of Saint Ignatius such as inclusivity, diversity, and leadership. During her interview, Gemma mentioned how Dance and Drill has made her feel more welcomed to the school. She said, "Dance has made SI much more welcoming place to me. The Dance community at SI is incredibly diverse and open to everyone." While being an incredible dancer,



Gemma Oakley-Lynch '22

Gemma has taken on being a leader and a role model for the team. She makes sure that everyone feels as welcomed as she did when she first joined the team. Being a captain of the Dance and Drill team is not an easy task, but Gemma has grown and learned new skills through this experience. She explained, "Patience is a big thing that I learned. In order to be a really good dance teacher or choreographer, you need to be able to deal with different dance levels, which can be frustrating."

With this in mind, Gemma has been able to choreograph, coach and dance for such an amazing team. Gemma models leadership, inclusivity, empathy, passion, and kindness on and off the dance floor. Most importantly, be sure to see Gemma's Wildcat Spirit in action at every Dance and Drill performance!

Melissa Hua '23

MS. JEWETT

Managing Editor

Quick Questions

Who would play you in a movie about your life?: "Amy Pohler"

All time favorite song: "Dear Theodosia from Hamilton"

Where are we most likely to find you on campus?: "In Orradre, probably at the piano"

First word that comes to mind when you think of SI: "Community"

Fun fact about yourself: "I'm a theology nerd!"

Before coming to SI, Ms Jewett graduated from the Jesuit School of Theology in spring 2020, and because of the circumstances of the pandemic, decided to stay an extra year to get her second Masters Degree.

Ms. Jewett grew up in a Jesuit parish and is still part of one to this day, which greatly impacted her desire to seek a job that offered a connection to her faith. While shadowing Ms. Miguens' class last year, Ms. Jewett was intrigued by the engagement and participation of the students. The infectious enthusiasm of Ms. Miguens drew Ms. Jewett to SI along with the feeling of community centered around Jesuit values.

Specifically, Ms. Jewett fills the roles of Music Ministry director, Liturgical Ministry member, and sophomore religion teacher. Through these various positions Ms. Jewett hopes to bring back the in-person spaces for students to come together and bond over shared passions. Since she was seven years old,

Ms. Jewett has been a part of a church choir and was also involved in field hockey and tennis in high school as well as competitively shot archery in college. With these experiences, Ms. Jewett understands the divisions that the competitive atmospheres of sports and academics create, which is why she wants to really emphasize the openness of Music Ministry as a space for all students from any background to connect.

Some activities Ms. Jewett enjoys outside of SI are singing in her church's choir, cross stitching and knitting, painting, and playing cello. She also followed Saint Ignatius' pilgrimage in a long distance hike, which is another activity you might find her doing when she's not in the kitchen baking homemade bread and tarts (a hobby she picked up over quarantine).

Overall, Ms. Jewett plans to spend her first few months at SI focusing on getting to know the community and being in the learning process with everyone, as these are unprecedented times for us all.



Ms. Ellen Jewett

Q&A WITH ANNIKA MUGIN '22

Emma Gorin'22

Managing Editor

For the longest time, dancing has been a part of my life. When I heard that one of the most competitive dancers at my studio was entering SI as a freshman this year, I knew this would be a great opportunity to share her experience as a competitive dancer adjusting to high school. I interviewed Annika Mugin, a rising star who continues to impress with her story and passion.

What type of dance & category do you do?

Annika (A): I do competitive ballroom dancing in which there are two styles - Ballroom & Latin. I consistently compete in the Under19 and Under21 categories.

How did you start dancing?

A: My mom signed me up for a camp at my current dance studio, Sukachov Dance Academy; I was only 7 ½ years old!

When did you start becoming serious about dancing?

A: Dancing became serious after I began dancing with my first competitive partner - I was 8 years old and already starting to travel to international competitions.

How often do you practice?

A: I practice 6 days a week, heading to my studio right after school. I typically dance from 3:30pm-8:30pm.

With the start of in-person school, how has it been balancing competitions with your workload?

A: I learned how important communicating with teachers and coaches is. Education is my #1 priority, so I also learned to stay on top of work while maximizing time in the ballroom.

How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your dance career?

A: The pandemic has made me realize the importance of time dancing. During the pandemic, we had to practice via zoom from our homes, so coming back to the studio,

dancing with my partner, and traveling made me appreciate it so much more.

What has been your favorite competition to this day?

A: My top 2 are New York Dance Festival and International Championships in Brentwood, UK.

What are the achievements you are most proud of?

A: Being 3-time National Champion and 5-time Junior Olympic Champion has been amazing, as has being a 2-time world finalist and representing Team USA.

For an average competition, how much effort goes into completing your look?

A: Wow... there is a lot. It takes 3 months of planning to design a dress for each style, Ballroom and Latin, and my shoes are replaced every 2 months. On competition day, a minimum of 2 hours are dedicated to makeup and hair.

What has been the greatest disaster you have overcome at any event?

A: During the winter of 2019, I was competing at the World Championships in Dublin, Ireland. This was one of my biggest competitions of all time, and everything seemed to be going well. The day of the actual competition, I woke up with horrible abdomen pain and could barely walk, let alone dance. I had to choose between giving up months of endless training or dancing through the pain. On a ton of medications and with the help of my amazing coaching team, I chose to dance. Whether it was the medication or pure adrenaline, I felt so connected to the music and energy on the dance floor that all of my pain went away. We placed 5th in the World Final out of over 100 dancers.

Any final advice?

A: As one of my mentors Mr. Ray Rivers once said, "Everything is simple, nothing is easy." I have been living by this ever since I heard it; if you find something you love, go for it, no matter how difficult it may be.



Annika Mugin '22 (left)



IN FAVOR OF THE BELL SCHEDULE



Megan Stecher '24

Contributing Editor

Through the challenges of the last year and a half, SI has worked tirelessly to find a bell schedule that fits both students' and teachers' needs in a constructive way. Last year's COVID distance learning schedule was a favorite of many students, especially because of the off day Wednesdays. The new schedule this year, while different from last year's, has had definite positive impacts on student productivity.

Sophomore Leanna Leung said, "I think the new schedule has been great! At first I didn't like it because last year I was able to sleep in,

but now I think it makes me more productive and lets me get work done more quickly."

The new schedule this year was designed to put students' needs first, in order to allow them to finish homework at school in a quiet environment, while also providing them with the chance to meet with teachers if needed.

Additionally, the Wednesday schedule is a much-needed break in the middle of a hectic week. The new schedule this year might be confusing to learn at first but ultimately it will prove beneficial to everyone in the SI community.

SI Red & Blue Weeks

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday (Red)	Wednesday (Blue)	Thursday	Friday
9:00 1 10:15 10:25 2 11:40 Upper Lunch 3 12:30 3 1:05 Upper Lunch 4 1:25 4	9:00 5 10:15 10:25 7 11:40 Upper Lunch 6 12:40 6 1:05 Upper Lunch X 2:00 8:00	9:00 1 9:30 2 10:00 10:30 Upper Lunch 3 11:00 Upper Lunch 3 12:00 4 1:00 4 1:30 SI Community Engagement 3:00	9:00 5 9:30 Liturgy 10:00 10:30 Upper Lunch 6 11:00 Upper Lunch 6 12:00 7 1:00 7 1:30	9:00 4 10:15 10:25 2 11:40 Upper Lunch 3 12:30 3 1:05 Upper Lunch 1 1:25 1	9:00 7 10:15 10:25 5 11:40 Upper Lunch 5 12:40 6 1:05 Upper Lunch X 2:00 8:00

SI's new bell schedule has been the source of much debate.



IN OPPOSITION TO THE BELL SCHEDULE



Lily Sheehan '23

Contributing Editor

St. Ignatius' new bell schedule is not very beneficial for student athletes and upperclassmen. First and foremost, the ten minute passing periods have replaced the break we used to receive before lunch or our next period. The break was especially convenient for upperclassmen because it was a good time to eat a snack and refuel before their next class. It also benefited student athletes with morning practice since they normally eat their breakfast at 5 or 6 a.m. Now upperclassmen athletes have to wait close to 7 hours after breakfast to eat their next meal.

Eating during school will not solve this dilemma since eating in the hallways is against the rules and earns a detention. Further, teachers have been instructed not to allow students to eat in the classrooms.

Another factor that makes the schedule less desirable is the X-periods at the end of the day. Last year X-periods with meetings and FML were a great opportunity for students to get some extra hours of sleep. Now the hallways are filled during Wednesday liturgy, making it difficult to get work done or even find a seat in the school.

Moreover, the X-periods at the end of the day leave athletes stuck at school, tired and restless as they wait for their practices to start. The schedule for the 2019 school year was put to good use by all students by giving them the option of sleep or study time. This year, the schedule is slowly but surely wearing students down and forcing them to power through long classes with little food, rest, or sleep.

IN SUPPORT OF GLOBAL DEMOCRACY

Luke McFadden '22

Editor-in-Chief

Since the United States is without a single, coherent foreign policy, this is a pivotal moment in the history of the United States. Our involvement in Iraq, which was mainly based on intelligence of the presence of weapons of mass destruction, turned out to be wrong. After 20 years of conflict in Afghanistan, the United States has left the

country with arguably negligible results. The current wariness of the American public and their leaders to engage militarily or otherwise in the world poses as great a threat to our national security and the future of global democracy as any threat we have faced before. Steps must be taken to rebuild the American public's belief in the value of foreign aid and intervention.

Firstly, there must be an independent, non-partisan investigation into the events of the past 20 years. What led to the disconnect between military and public officials? How did our intelligence agencies get so many important questions wrong? How much planning was done before the conflict, and how did strategies change over time? The public needs clear answers as to why Afghanistan and Iraq

have gone down the way they have.

Secondly, the government needs to take a serious look at the effectiveness of international development funds and packages. We have sent large sums of money to overseas governments and have seen no tangible results. Writing blank checks with taxpayer money is not making a positive impact on

the world. Our foreign aid and development programs should be treated as the most crucial part of our foreign policy. The criteria for aid must be more rigorous, personal, and consistent. Our physical presence, not just our financial presence, will make the difference if we hope to steer developing countries away from the authoritarian pressures they feel from China and Russia.

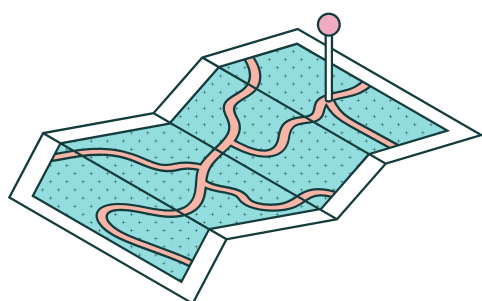
There is no better way to improve the public's understanding of the world than through education. Many isolationists quip that most Americans cannot even find Afghanistan on a map, so we shouldn't even be there. The American people must understand that while we have serious problems to solve at home, they pale in comparison to the human rights abuses, daily fear, and oppressive

regimes that too many people face. The responsibility also falls on our leaders. While we do face pressing domestic issues, geographic literacy and a deeper understanding of the world around us are crucial to improving education in America.

American foreign policy today is anchorless and aimless — an extremely dangerous combination for the world. In order to develop a foreign policy for the 21st Century, there must be buy in from the public and consistency from our leaders. In the absence of a coherent policy, isolationism is quietly seeping into our country. A new generation of American leaders will be taking the helm very soon. The next generation might be so influenced by Iraq and Afghanistan and enamored by the false proposition that withdrawing from

“In order to develop a foreign policy for the 21st Century, there must be buy in from the public and consistency from our leaders.”

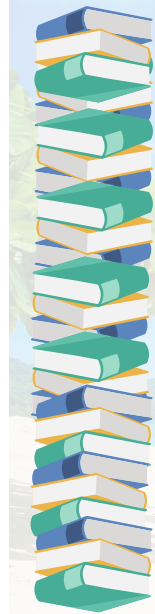
the world will fix our domestic problems, that they will miss the lessons of World War II, the Cold War, Bosnia, Kosovo, and countless other examples throughout our 245 year history. Freedom isn't uniquely American. What is uniquely American is the ability to defend and promote freedom around the world.



THE CASE AGAINST SUMMER READING

Megan O'Sullivan '22

Managing Editor



Getting up early, adjusting to less free time, suddenly having a ton of work to do-- each year, students at SI make the difficult transition from the sunny, unstructured summer into the cold, time consuming school year. As everyone slowly gets back into the swing of school, many English teachers have decided to give a summer reading test.

Students often benefit from summer reading, which prevents them from losing their analysis skills and comprehension; however, summer reading tests

help students who procrastinate their work rather than those who manage their time better.

The tests actively discourage students from getting their work done early; reading a book in June and taking a test in August can be detrimental to a student's grade in the first quarter. Even students who read later in the summer may still have trouble with the tests; especially with longer books, students may forget some details due to the pressure of having to complete

a comprehensive test.

Without summer reading tests, teachers could argue that students may not finish their assigned books, but there are many other options, such as projects, essays, or class discussions, to assess whether a student read. Despite the positive effects of summer reading, summer reading tests often do more harm than good for students.

WHY FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORES NEED CURA AND WELLNESS MORE THAN EVER

Melissa Hua '23

Managing Editor

Like many students entering SI, I became entranced by the biweekly "resource period"... until I learned that once a week I would be forced to engage in "heart-to-heart" talks in a tight circle with a group of fellow freshmen and a teacher. Needless to say, I was not happy. This year, however, will be the first without both Freshman Cura and Sophomore Wellness. For now, freshmen will receive a condensed version of the sophomore wellness class. Freshman me would be absolutely SHOCKED that now I look back with a new perspective and think this change is not good. I might just be one of the only Cura and Wellness advocates left on campus.

Freshman Year Cura provided the perfect resources for the vast array of SI freshmen. For some it was the place to learn WHEN to actually

show up to school prayer services, for others it provided a safe haven to rant and receive reassurance with the freshman year finals cram, but most importantly it was a place to grow with one another.

Cura provides a safe space for freshmen to lean into their discomforts — to lean on each other as they struggle to master the complexities of high school.

Although I wouldn't know it then, Cura would become the foundation for my SI experience. Like many freshmen, I struggled to "connect" with other SI students — from my Cura group sparked unexpected friendships that quickly blossomed to my closest friendships on campus. A rebirth of Cura would continue to nurture the beauty of unexpected connections and friendships for future freshman classes- it's what

we need to unite our school community.

Sophomore Wellness marked the introduction to "cura personalis," diving deep into the intrinsic need for self-care. SI students need balance, but especially in sophomore year, these lessons of self care must take precedence. Sophomore year is rough with balancing increased pressure to take on more responsibilities in extracurriculars and academics ALONG with dealing with the ritual sophomore year friend swaps. The sophomore wellness class introduced the tools needed to thrive at SI through meditation, new communication strategies, and mental health resources. An introductory optional sophomore wellness group (prototyped by Ms. Pam Spaulding's CALM) may just be the perfect help for future sophomore classes.

WELCOME TO YOUR AFFINITY GROUPS!

Julianna Alegria '23
Olivia Leigh '23

Contributing Editor
Contributing Editor

The Jewish Affinity Group is a community that shares and celebrates the Jewish culture with SI. Liza Kosoy '23, the co-president of JAG, explained her hopes this year by saying, "I believe our plans concerning holding enriching activities and actively sharing Jewish culture with the school will allow the group to shine and have an effective role in the SI community as a whole...As one of our goals this year is to grow JAG in numbers, we hope to welcome more who resonate with the group's purpose and wish to form these close-knit bonds, which are particularly special to have a school where the amount of Jewish students stands on the smaller side. Additionally, we look forward to building a foundation for JAG this year that will allow it to last." JAG plans to make the presence of Jewish students more visible by hosting events and increasing their social media outreach. JAG members and the SI community enjoyed a caramel apple decorating for Rosh Hashanah on September 15th; future planned events include a gingerbread Sukkah contest for Sukkot, tree planting activity for Tubeshmat, Hamantash bake sale for Purim, Anti-Semitism learn in, and a Dreidel competition for Chanukah.



September 15 marked the beginning of Latinx Heritage Month, a time where individuals who identify as Latinx can celebrate their culture, history, and rising future. The Association of Latin American Students (ALAS) creates a space for Latinx individuals to find support, engage in dialogue and reflection, contribute to an inclusive school community, and celebrate one's heritage and history. This month holds many exciting opportunities for the SI community and Latinx students to get involved. On September 20, ALAS began hosting Latinx Lunes which will take place every Monday during the month. There will be fun activities such as Loteria, bake sales, dancing, and much more. If you would like to help prepare for these events, please contact Jenilynn Durante '22 (jdurante22@siprep.org) or Izzy Escalante '22 (iescalante22@siprep.org). During Latinx Heritage Month, there will also be an opportunity for ALAS members to create Hero's Posters. Please contact Jenilynn or Izzy if you would like to create a Hero's Poster describing your role model. Wildcats please save the date! On October 16, ALAS will be hosting the Latinxcellence Showcase, where there will be delicious food, dancing, singing, and more.

Now, a special message from co-president Izzy Escalante '22, "After a year of covid and online school, I hope to bring ALAS together again for both members and the whole SI community. I definitely hope that we get as many students involved in identity formation events and the Latinxcellence Showcase!"



The Arab and Middle Eastern Association provides a space for students of Arab and Middle Eastern backgrounds to share their voices, identities, and cultures. Co-presidents Fiona Ruane '22 and Eleka Wilson '22 hope to help incoming students feel more connected to their culture, and learn more about other Arab/Middle Eastern cultures. They also hope to raise awareness about various Arab/Middle Eastern current events, including holding a fundraiser to support Afghan refugees. AMA is also planning many fun events throughout the year, including a "getting to know AMA community" event in the fall, and a celebration of Nowruz, the Iranian new year in the spring. This year the AMA hopes to "demonstrate a strong presence of the Arab/Middle Eastern community on campus."



For the Black Student Union's (BSU) 50th anniversary, they hope to expand and grow a stronger connection with the SI student body. Joi Bryant '22, one of the co-presidents, said that the BSU will achieve this by "creating more allyship" and "explor[ing] new opportunities for BSU to be noticed within the school all year round." The BSU will host multiple "What is Black" events throughout the school year, designed to amplify Black voices and educate the SI community, the first one being on Tuesday, November 16. During Black History Month (February), the BSU-led prayer service and showcase will highlight the many voices and talents of the Black community at SI. They also have planned many social events, including movie nights and bowling nights, to welcome incoming students and build community.

As one of the largest affinity groups at SI, the Asian Students Coalition hopes to create a closer community for Asian American students after over a year of separation. Ethan Tam '22, the lead historian/publicist for ASC shared that "ASC hopes to share the Asian American identity and culture with SI," this year through in-person events. ASC had their kickoff event on September 23rd, and Pasko (Filipino Christmas celebration with performances and dinner) will be on December 11. Irianna Morales '22, one of the co-presidents, explained that she hopes ASC will "provide a safe environment where all of the Asian and Asian-American students at SI feel comfortable celebrating their Asian heritages and identities!" ASC will hold identity formation meetings for their members throughout the year, at least once a month. In these meetings, they will discuss the Asian-American experience and explore different Asian-American identities, issues, and cultures.



Safe Space Affinity group creates a community in which LGBTQ+ students and faculty, along with allies, discuss discrimination issues based on gender identity and sexual orientation at SI and out in the world. By working as men and women with and for others, the Safe Space Affinity group strives to build a compassionate and respectful atmosphere in the SI community. One of the main goals of the Safe Space Affinity group is educating SI and normalizing queerness based on Jesuit values. A second goal is fighting ignorance by providing a visible presence of positive LGBTQ+ representation. The Safe Space Affinity group will be hosting a variety of events for the SI community to participate in to learn more about the history of the LGBTQ+ community in and out of school. Some exciting events coming up are guest speakers, student and alumni panels, LGBTQ+ movie nights, and queer outings for students who identify as members of the LGBTQ+ community.



A NEW ADDITION TO THE FAMILY: PACIFIC ISLANDER ASSOCIATION

Izzy Escalante '23

Managing Editor

At SI, Affinity groups include Safe Space, Association of Latin American Students (ALAS), Black Student Union (BSU), Arab Middle Eastern Associate (AMA), Asian Student Coalition (ASC), and Jewish Affinity Group (JAG). Recently, the Pacific Islander Association (PIA) has been added to the list of affinity groups at SI. I had the opportunity to speak with the founder and president of PIA, LaVon Smith '22, about the hopes of this new space and how the SI community can demonstrate their allyship.

It was important to LaVon to form this new affinity group because she found "it very hard for Pacific Islander students to identify with any current affinity groups on campus." She hopes this club will allow, "more Pacific Islander students to feel welcomed and empowered at SI so they can see that their identity matters."

LaVon emphasized how "many people think Pacific Islanders are from Asia, but that is not true" and she hopes to educate more people with the help of the ASC "to clear up misconceptions as well as work together and strengthen the relationship between [their] communities." It is also important to realize and understand that Hawaiians are not the only ones who identify as Pacific Islander and to learn more about the culture and history of Pacific Islander cultures. LaVon has a lot of fun ideas in mind to teach more about PIA's respective cultures, especially for APIHM.

SI can support the Pacific Islander Association through attending school-wide events hosted by PIA, educating yourself about their cultures, and understanding cultural appropriation vs cultural appreciation.

“PIA will become a space for students to explore and discuss Pacific Islander history, culture, social issues, and representation at SI.”
- Lavon Smith '22

SHANG CHI: A MIRROR AND A LENS

Penny Pyo '24

Contributing Editor

Naomi Ko '24

Contributing Editor

Shattering Labor Day box office records, the Marvel movie *Shang-Chi and The Legend of the Ten Rings* is being very well received by Asian diaspora viewers all over the world, and many praise it for its faithfulness to Chinese culture. This begs the question: when it comes to film, what exactly makes representation accurate?

First and foremost, it's important to remember that a movie having a diverse cast does not make it a diverse film. What makes the difference in positive portrayals of marginalized groups is having diverse writers and artists on the production side. From the screenplay to the musical soundtrack, the production crew of *Shang-Chi* has just as many Asian Americans working behind the scenes as in front of the camera.

Throughout the movie, characters switch between speaking English and Mandarin in a way that feels very natural. Angelica Chu '24 shared, "There's a scene where Shang-Chi calls Xialing 'Ling-Ling.' My Chinese name is Jia Xian, but my family calls me Jia-Jia. It's really nice to see that they added these kinds of specific cultural details, even for something as small as the way nicknames work!"

Recently, I watched Marvel's *Shang Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings*, and was genuinely struck at how represented I felt. While the plot centers around a fantastical set of power-giving "rings" and martial arts, I never once felt the movie was embodying stereotypes. It felt more like an accurate representation--that martial arts was cool, that speaking Chinese was cool, that even not-understanding Chinese was cool (thanks, Akwafina).

Talking with my dad in the car, I realized I truly hadn't seen many movies featuring Asian-Americans where they weren't cliched characters. Many Asians in blockbuster movies have the main feature of having a tiger mom, being a nerd, or being a piano aficionado. This brings me back to why *Shang-Chi* is so important: because there's finally genuine, real representation. Shang-Chi and his friend Katy go to karaoke clubs. They work as hotel valets. They go to bars. They're regular people, and though their race is a part of them, it does not define who they are.

Simu Liu, who plays Shang-Chi, says this: "We are not an experiment. We are the underdog; the underestimated. We are the ceiling-breakers. We are the celebration of culture and joy that will persevere after an embattled year. We are the surprise."

WORLD NEWS

What's Going on in Afghanistan

Kate McFarland & Kai Lamb '24 Contributing Editors

On Sunday, August 15th, the Taliban seized Afghanistan's capital Kabul. Quickly, the U.S., with plans to evacuate by August 31st, began evacuating American and Afghan allies from the country. On Thursday, August 26th, Islamic State terrorists attacked the evacuation operation, killing thirteen U.S. service members and nearly 200 Afghans. More than 100 American citizens and thousands of Afghans left behind, and Afghan citizens are living in fear for what is to come for their country.



Afghan Refugees and Aid

Senna Nijagal '24

Contributing Editor

America is offering their aid to the many Afghans displaced after the end of the war. The U.S. ordered six commercial airlines to help Afghani evacuees. When Afghan refugees arrive in America, they are sent to military bases and then transferred to a more permanent home. Humanitarian organizations are also hard at work giving refugees the easiest possible transition into their new lives. SI students can volunteer with or donate to The Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services or JFCS East Bay to help.



Earthquake Shakes Haiti

Haiden Barki '23 & Branden Oum '22

Contributing Editors

Louisiana and other parts of the Northeast have declared states of emergency due to Hurricane Ida, the second-most intense hurricane to ever strike the United States. Sixty-six direct fatalities and forty-three indirect deaths in association with the hurricane have been confirmed. Over fifty billion dollars of damage have been done, and many have lost power. Rescue and recovery efforts such as F.E.M.A. work to help citizens of the affected areas return to normalcy as soon as possible.



The Impact of Hurricane Ida

Sydni Karanian & Ella Liang '23 Contributing Editors

On August 14, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake hit Haiti, leaving over 2,000 people dead with thousands more injured or missing. The United States has sent assistance in the form of military delivered aid packages, but many communities are only reachable in paths that have now been blocked by the earthquake. Those looking to help can donate food, clothing, and water to affected Haitians.



China Bans Minors from Gaming on Weekdays

Nina Schmidt '23

Contributing Editors

On August 30, the Chinese National Press and Publication Administration announced that children under the age of eighteen will be limited to three hours of video game time per week, which will only be allowed on weekends. The decision follows concerns over the physical and mental health of the 110 million minors who currently play video games in China. S.I. student Philip Luongo '23 stated, "I don't think it should be the government's responsibility to regulate how much time anyone can play video games. To some people, gaming is really fun and they are taking that away."



WHAT THE TEXAS ABORTION BAN MEANS FOR AMERICA

Reilly Derrick '22

Associate Editor-in-Chief Production

On September 1, 2021 a controversial abortion ban, SB8, went into effect in Texas. This law bans abortion once fetal cardiac activity is detectable, which typically occurs six weeks into pregnancy. Because most women discover their pregnancy four to seven weeks in, this law proves troubling to women for whom it may be too late to consider an abortion.

Many other states have attempted to write abortion bans into the law, but federal courts have always overturned these bans. In Texas's case the Supreme Court refused to block the law. Why is the Texas ban different than those in other states? Because it allows private citizens rather than public officials to enforce the ban.

Under SB8, private citizens have the power to sue any person who helps a woman obtain an abortion, from abortion providers to those who give a woman a ride to their abortion appointment. The state incentivizes citizens to enforce this ban by promising at least \$10,000 to anyone who successfully sues someone involved in an abortion.

Typically when Texas passes a strict conservative law, companies pull out of Texas in an effort to reverse the law. So far, only three major companies - Lyft, Uber, and Salesforce - have taken action against SB8. Both Lyft and Uber promise to cover any legal fees

of drivers sued under the ban and prohibit drivers from asking riders about the purpose of their ride. Salesforce also promises to pay to relocate employees worried about their reproductive rights.

So what does this ban mean for the entire country? As the law continues to work its way through the lower federal courts, many women begin to worry about the protection of their rights under *Roe v. Wade*, a Supreme Court decision that protects the right to obtain an abortion without government interference. With a vote of 5 to 4 the Supreme Court refused to block SB8, so the status of *Roe v. Wade* looks unstable. If SB8 stands, many other conservative states also signify that they will attempt to pass similar laws. A similar bill has already been proposed in Florida.

Many challenges to SB8 are in progress. A doctor in Texas who claimed to have performed an abortion is under two lawsuits, the outcomes of which will test the law. On September 24, the House of Representatives also passed a bill that would put the right to abortion into federal law. If the law is passed by the Senate, which is unlikely, it will nullify SB8.

In the coming weeks America will watch and learn whether SB8 or the reproductive rights of women will be protected.

RESULTS OF THE CALIFORNIA RECALL

After a petition successfully acquired signatures from 12% of California's population, the California Secretary of State announced that a recall election of Governor Newsom would be held. Each eligible voter in California received a ballot with two questions on it. The first was a simple "yes" or "no" on the question of whether or not to recall the governor. The next question asked voters to pick a replacement. The second question on the ballot only mattered if a majority of voters had voted "yes" on the first question. The recall took place on September 14th, and because 62.7% of voters voted "no" on the recall, Governor Newsom retained his office and the second question on the ballot was meaningless.



California Governor Gavin Newsom celebrates his victory before the media.

CONTROVERSY IN THE CHURCH: POPE FRANCIS RESTRICTS TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

Grace Brady '23

Contributing Editor

On July 16, 2021, Pope Francis released an unexpected *motu proprio* (a document signed by the Pope containing instructional or administrative content for the Church) which reversed his predecessor Pope Benedict's signature stance on the traditional mass. The document, titled *Traditionis Custodes*, enacts strict restrictions on the celebration of this mass. Some see these restrictions as a step towards further Church unification and others as an attack on traditional members of the Church.

The traditional mass, or Tridentine Mass, was the approved form of worship from 1570 until the 1960s, when the Second Vatican Council moved towards modernization of the Church with the form of mass people are most familiar with today. With these new reforms came restrictions on the Tridentine Mass, in an attempt to transition towards the newer mass.

In 2007, Pope Benedict greatly eased these restrictions in his *motu proprio Summorum Pontificum*. This change was extremely popular among traditional Catholics who prefer the Tridentine Mass to the newer version.

Yet this rule changed again with Pope Francis' *motu proprio*. These new restrictions include pre-approval by local bishops, the celebration of the mass

in a location outside of the parish, and that newly-ordained priests must be approved by the bishop before celebrating the mass (in consultation with the Vatican). Bishops can also not authorize any new traditional masses in their diocese. Even more unexpected is that Pope Francis ordered the new restrictions to take place immediately. In the past, significant changes such as this have been phased in slowly.

The reason given for these changes is to foster greater unity in the church. Ironically, this is the same



The debate over how the Catholic Church should look in the future is just beginning.

reason Pope Benedict gave for lessening restrictions on the celebration. Pope Francis, however, believes the opposite has occurred and thinks that traditional mass-goers have used this mass to oppose Vatican II reforms. On the other hand, others see these restrictions as causing more division in the Church. They argue that not all traditional Church-goers are against Vatican II, and simply find

traditional mass preferable.

In San Francisco, Archbishop Cordileone has held back on enacting these restrictions for the meantime; however, he states that the Pope's decision must be respected. It is without a doubt that this *motu proprio* will have lasting effects on the Church. Whether those effects will be beneficial or harmful, only time will tell.

Congratulations to SI's National Merit Scholarship Semi-finalists!

The following students have scored in the top 1% of seniors in the nation who took the PSAT examination during their junior year. They will move to the next round of the scholarship competition where they will have the chance to earn full or partial scholarships for college.



Anika Brinkerhoff

Tommy DeBenedetti

Sonali Feeley

Ethan Tam

Ashley Yoshii



2% VACCINATED AGAINST THE BUBONIC PLAGUE

Quinn Goldberg '22

Leo Priesman '22

Managing Editor

Contributing Editor

Amid the resurgence of the 14th-century disaster, students still continue to not take the necessary precautions in order to protect themselves. Dean Carlos Escobar sullenly announced the school's lack of success in defending potential outbreaks over the Black Death, which has only had 3 cases so far this year. From the maskless monsters playing primitive sporting activities in the gym to lunch tables ignoring the three-foot distance rule, many students have failed to comply with school law.

While the shortcomings of students are glaring, there have been some hopeful moments throughout the beginning of the year.

For example, students have been quick to call out others for poor mask-wearing etiquette with a lot of joy and enthusiasm. With that being said though, students have not met the administration's safety expectations - Dr. Davis and Mr. Escobar have made it clear they will give detention to these health guideline breakers. It's a shame that these rules need to be enforced constantly throughout each and every school day since SI students are known for being with and for others. Time has come for all members of the SI community to do the Examen and use fresh eyes to see the necessity of these crucial guidelines. Leprosy and a slow miserable death are NOT cool SI, get your act together!

Cassidy Chew '25

AYE, AYE, CAPTAIN

Contributing Editor



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VOLUME 70 ISSUE 3
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