November 2020 Newsletter

Student Attendance (630)907-5029 / attendance@imsa.edu

Student Affairs (630)907-5009 / mratsamy@imsa.edu

ITS Helpdesk (630)907-5995 / helpdesk@imsa.edu

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Use your IMSA email address for any and all IMSA purposes. Using another email address will delay your communication and may cause confusion.

IMSA HOLIDAY LIGHTS TOUR
DECEMBER 15-18, 2020

We’ll be stopping into different regions to see which area has the BEST Holiday Light Display. Join the IMSA community caravan and safely view the lights from the comfort of your own vehicle. Snap a quick pic at our IMSA photo station, plus you might even win some IMSA swag! Masks and Social Distancing REQUIRED!

*Only members of your household may be taken in the photo. Prizes will be placed in the trunk of your vehicle.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15
AURORA FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS
• MEET AT EAST AURORA HS PARKING LOT 3:30-4:30PM
  *Drive thru lights begin at 5pm (Free)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16
ROSEMONT HOLIDAY LIGHTS
• MEET AT DUNNE PARK
  (NEAR ROSEMONT WATER TOWER) 3-4PM
  *Citywide lights begin at 4pm (Free)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17
EAST PEORIA FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS: FOLEPI'S WINTER WONDERLAND
• MEET AT FON DU LAC PARK DISTRICT 3:30-4:30PM
  *Drive thru lights begin at 5pm
  Admission covered

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18
DUQUION HOLIDAY LIGHTS FAIR
• MEET AT DU QUOIN STATE FAIRGROUNDS HWY 51 SOUTH 4-5PM
  *Drive thru lights begin at 5:30pm
  Admission covered

Questions? Contact Student Activities Coordinator, Brittney Walker at bwalker1@imsa.edu
IMPORTANT DATES

- December 14-16 final exams (December 17 open if needed for makeups) Final Exam Schedule: https://www.imsa.edu/academics/academic-schedules-mod-schedules/
- January 12-14 – Intersession
- January 15 - Student Affairs Mandatory Program for ALL Students
- January 18 – Dr. Martin Luther King Day (academy closed)
- January 19 – second semester begins; Martin Luther King Assembly

RESOURCES:

- Nicor - https://www.nicorgas.com/residential/billingandpaymentoptions/energy-assistance-programs.html

**All K-12 schools will provide meals to IMSA students through their local school distribution plans.**

- If you are in need of services during this taxing time, call 2-1-1. Live specialists are on hand 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to discuss your needs and connect you to a wide range of local and state-wide resources. This includes food, shelter, help with aging parents, legal assistance, domestic abuse and much more. This also includes the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding the Coronavirus from our most reliable and trusted local and national experts. Calls are confidential and help is available in over 150 languages. Learn more about 2-1-1 here. Alternate toll-free number: 888-865-990.

- **Free Internet Services** If you are in need of free internet for distance learning, Comcast has free wi-fi for 60 days (must apply before June 30, 2021). Review the link to see if you qualify  https://www.internetessentials.com/covid19

- **Applications to the IMSA Student Emergency Relief Fund** are ongoing and provide assistance for basic essentials, including food, rent, utilities, and access to remote learning technology. Preference is given to Tier 1 and Tier 2 families, but all families are eligible to apply. If you have any questions about the Student Emergency Relief Fund, please reach out to Mrs. Tami Armstrong at tarmstrong@imsa.edu.

- **Links to Food Banks, Soup Kitchens, Homeless Shelters in Illinois** - When you first click on the link, you will see a screen that allows you to click on the “Alphabetic list of all sites” to see all the food banks, soup kitchens, and homeless shelters in Illinois. Alternatively, by filling out at least one text box and checking at least one corresponding filter, a list of sites that match that criteria will appear.

- **Safety Concerns**
  - Linden Oaks Behavioral Health: 630-305-5027
  - National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255
  - Crisis Text Line: Text START to 741-741

YEARBOOK

Yearbook photos are being collected from our publisher Balfour. You should be receiving an email from no-reply@balfour.com. Please look into it, for there is a link designed especially for you. Yes everyone has their own personal link! (If you do not see the email please check your spam). The picture is a selfie right from your phone. Please follow the directions given to you in the email. The deadline for sending in students’ portraits is December 18th.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Thank you for notifying the attendance office of any emergent or planned absences. We appreciate your communication. As a reminder:

- **The IMSA offices are not open, therefore, staff is not able to answer phone calls immediately. Please leave a message so someone can return your call as soon as they are able. (may ring 7-8 times before you can leave a message)**
- We ask that the Attendance Office be notified at least 24 hours in advance of any planned absences that would cause a student to miss classes.
- If a student is having technology issues, we do need a parent confirmation of the problem on that same day.
- Please stay updated with your students attendance by logging into PowerSchool.

Submit your Recipes for the PAC Cookbook!

Are you missing your favorite Friday Fest meal? Thinking about a wonderful Wing Dinner of the
past? The PAC Student Life and Friday Fest committees are excited to collaborate together to bring you a PAC cookbook filled with the delectable and delicious recipes from Friday Fest, Wing Dinners, and more! We are looking for your recipes to fill our book with love. ALL IMSA families are invited to send us their recipes! Please click here to submit your recipes today. The deadline to submit your recipes is Monday, January 25, 2021. The cookbook will be released in February 2021. Questions? Email Maria at pacstulife@gmail.com or Robyn at fridayfest002@gmail.com.

Shortened Link To Submit Recipes: https://forms.gle/m4TvS7qXC6EabmpVA

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**STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

**IMSA StudCo. Endiro Coffee Fundraiser**

We've been thinking of you a latte and can't espresso enough how much you've bean missed on campus. To give you a taste of home, we found a brew-ti-ful blend from our local (Aurora) Endiro Coffee shop.

Start the year off fresh while supporting Student Council and our student-run clubs and activities by placing your order today! Purchase using the MySchoolBucks tool in PowerSchool. Kits are just $15. **Sales end Monday, January 11th.**

Parents/Students can purchase Endiro Coffee Fundraiser items following these steps:
1. Go through the MySchoolBucks link in Powerschool
2. Search the "School Store" tab in your account.
3. Select "Endiro Coffee" link, under Categories.
4. Select "View Details" button
5. Fill out information and add Endiro Coffee to your cart.
6. Check out using your credit / debit card or electronic check
Sale ends Monday, January 11, 2021 so please act quickly.

Student Council: Club Leaders are invited to a Winter Retreat on the afternoon of January 15th from 2-5pm. More information will be sent out via email by the Student Council President.

Sophomore @Larges Michelle Li and Yina Wang are collaborating with Club Terra in planning an IMSA sustainability week. The week-long events will begin after intersession. Events will include cooking sustainably, growing your herb kit, and conversations around fast fashion.

RESIDENCE LIFE

LEAD: The LEAD spring semester for Sophomores will begin on Wednesday, January 20th at 2:30 pm. Information regarding the elective and classroom assignment will be emailed out by the Program Coordinator, Andrea Stuiber.

January Mandatory Program: Shaun Derik is coming back to IMSA on Friday, January 15th to meet with each class in a Student Affairs mandatory presentation. Shaun will be bringing high energy, humor, and his fresh perspective around the challenges young people are facing today. With the whole country on pause, young people are feeling an indescribable crunch—and as a result, some students have been the recipients of cyber-bullying, unethical behavior, and immoral interactions. While many have suggested giving more leeway and consideration to the actions and behavior of virtually-fatigued teens, On Your M.A.R.K. boldly pushes for personal responsibility from young people. Students who attend this presentation will gain a better appreciation for what it means to be Learner/Influencer in these uncertain times. “Find more meaning, explore your values, and build bridges,” Shaun says. As with all his presentations, Shaun uses music, anecdotal humor, and group challenge to equip students with the tools and distinctions needed to complete a successful run for the school year.

The times for the presentations are as follows and attendance will be taken for this event.

9am Sophomores
10am Juniors
12:30pm Seniors

SERVICE LEARNING

Nearly half the academic year is complete. With that being said, don't forget about the service learning graduation requirement of 200 hours that must be completed. Virtual opportunities are available.

Class of 2021, please make sure that you have a plan for completion of your hours before the end of the academic year. Need help? Please contact commserv@imsa.edu for assistance.

Also, check out our webpage for important information: https://www.imsa.edu/student-life/student-engagement/service-learning/

Have a great winter break!