

FALCON FLYER

Veterans Day 2024

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL CELEBRATES THEIR 14TH ANNUAL VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

By: Quinn

Assisted: Christopher, Athena, and Ivy

NORTH LITTLE ROCK - "I'm so thankful that we have such great support for our veterans in the community of I.C.," Kallie McCullough, music teacher and Veterans Day program organizer stated. The event was held on Monday, November 11, 2024. Hundreds of veterans and their families came to appreciate the occasion. There were many changes made to the program. "I changed some of the songs, and I added sign language. I wanted to add my own touch to the Veterans Day tradition at I.C.," Mrs. McCullough confirmed. It was a momentous occasion. The students performed many patriotic songs to commemorate the veterans, living and deceased.

There were three soloists on one of the new songs, *American Tears* by Teresa Jennings. Jaydon ██████ Savannah ██████, and Quinn ██████ all did wonderful jobs with their solos. There were also two smaller groups of singers in the song. In group one, Donnie ██████, Carson ██████, Logan ██████, Lakelyn ██████, Sterling ██████, Lucy ██████, Allie ██████ sang verse three. In group two, there was Jack ██████, Chinemeze ██████, Gabe ██████, Addison ██████ Harper ██████, Brady ██████, and Teddy ██████. Abby ██████ was not able to be there to sing her part of the song. *American Tears* was Kallie's and everyone's favorite song in the program. The jubilant veterans happily performed the *Armed Forces Medley*. They proudly stood when their branch of the military was called. The guest speaker, Colonel Janelle Guillebeau, did a wonderful job in giving the children and parents at Immaculate Conception a glance into what life was like serving in the Air Force C-130H. Her speech was much appreciated.

In conclusion, Mrs. McCullough did a wonderful job organizing this stunning program that beautifully honored our veterans. Dr. Thomas McCullough, Mrs. Christie Rader, Mrs. Jessica Morris, and the Immaculate Conception Student Government were also a great help setting up, speaking, and making this program work. Thank you to all the veterans and their families for helping us to commemorate this event.



Pictured above: the Little Rock Air Force presents the colors; the school performs a flag dance; Colonel Janelle Guillebeau speaks about her experiences in the Air Force; and the soloists perform *American Tears*.

Photo credit: Riley

Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd Grades' Thanksgiving and Christmas

By: Kingsley, Sofia, and Eva

NORTH LITTLE ROCK- Kindergarten, first grade, and second grade are going to have a great Thanksgiving and Christmas. Additionally, new second-grade teacher Mrs. Reeves has been having a great time at I.C. Veterans Day was a huge success according to the little kids. Kindergarten's favorite songs were *American Tears* and *Eleven Eleven*. For Christmas, some things that they want are balloon dogs, mini cars, Barbies, big dogs, TVs, and dinosaurs.

First grade made magazines and powwows for Thanksgiving and learned about the story of Thanksgiving. Veterans Day was a 10/10 and their favorite song was Send Me. For Christmas, Taylor wants a unicorn and Austin wants a toy shark.

Second grade's Thanksgiving will be exciting. Charlotte likes chocolate pie and her cousins. Hudson likes spending time with family, and Noah likes food, specifically turkey. The new second-grade teacher, Ms. Reeves has been loving her time at I.C. She said, "Veterans Day was very unique and I have never seen another school perform for Veterans Day, and I loved it." She was very impressed with how well I.C. performed.

Third Graders Take the Stage: What They Really Think about the Play!

By: Harper, Chandler, and Ivy

NORTH LITTLE ROCK- The third graders went to a fabulous play, *Charlotte's Web*. They had some different perspectives about the play. Mary Claire [REDACTED] said that she liked it but there needs to be more people. She said her favorite part was when Charlotte told Wilbur about the silk sack.

Audrey Harmon said, "It was good but kind of bad. I really did like the part where Wilbur met Charlotte so I would give it a 7/10." Harlow [REDACTED] said, "It was good but they needed to stop changing roles. There were 2 people playing as the rat. I say 9/10." Maddox [REDACTED] thought there should be more people and a real pig. Elijah Brown thought that it was really good and it was pretty funny.

Overall, the third graders really enjoyed the *Charlotte's Web* play. The students adored the tale of friendship and bravery, brought to life by talented actors. Colorful costumes and creative sets immersed them in Wilbur the pig's world. Laughter and cheers filled the auditorium as they enjoyed their favorite scenes, sparking conversations and a deeper appreciation for storytelling. They eagerly discussed their favorite characters and moments, wanting to relive the magic.

Junior High News

By: Jess and Basham

NORTH LITTLE ROCK – Mr. Gonzales is the new Junior High science teacher at Immaculate Conception, joining the school for the 2024-2025 academic year.

When asked why he chose to come to Immaculate Conception, Mr. Gonzales explained, “For the faith, for kids to be more engaged, and with the hope that parents would participate more in the school.”

He was then asked, “What were you expecting by coming to I.C.?” In response, Mr. Gonzales shared similar thoughts but added that he had higher expectations for the Junior High students, as well as hopes for a better working and learning environment for both himself and his students.

When questioned about what he likes about I.C. so far, he noted that he appreciates the students’ good behavior and has enjoyed his interactions with the teachers, staff, and administration.

Finally, when asked about his previous role, Mr. Gonzales shared that he was a 9th-grade physical science teacher at his former school.

Immaculate Conception is honored to have Mr. Gonzales join the I.C. family, and everyone hopes he continues to enjoy his experience here.

Buddies are a big part of Junior High at I.C., and some of the kindergartners were interviewed to share what they love most about their 8th-grade buddies. Their responses were truly heartwarming!

Jimmy, the first kindergartener interviewed, said he “likes that his buddy is very funny and gives him high-fives before Mass.” Harrison shared that he enjoys “how his buddy wears a watch every day.” Juliet said her “buddies laugh when they forget things and tell her jokes.”

One of the sweetest responses came from McKenzie, who said she “likes that she and her buddy get to go to Mass together every Friday.” Camilia mentioned that she “loves doing crafts and playing with her buddies, and also enjoys the hugs they give her.”

Addie shared that she “loves playing on the playground with her buddy and appreciates how friendly her buddy is.” Emmaline likes that her “buddy eats Cheez-Its just like she does.” Finally, Ben said he loves that he “gets to have two buddies.”

Everyone agrees—having a buddy is a special part of life at I.C.!

Events In the Church Lately

By: Blair and Evelyn

NORTH LITTLE ROCK- There were many fun events in the church lately. In All School Mass, Father Desam includes students in his homilies. Every Monday in October, we got to come together as a school and pray the rosary. On the last Monday

in October, kindergarten as well as their 8th-grade buddies got to do the living rosary.



Kindergartener Juliet [REDACTED] shared her excitement, saying, “Raising the beads was my favorite part of the living rosary.” Fellow kindergartener Charlie [REDACTED] added, “It was fun! Everyone got a turn, and I loved sitting with the 8th graders and seeing Jesus.” These events are a highlight for students, who cherish the opportunity to come together, grow in their faith, and create lasting memories with their peers.

SPORTS:

Cross-Country

By: James

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL- Oliver [REDACTED] was one of the many cross-country runners for this season. He was running with over 50 runners from 6 different schools.

Oliver [REDACTED] was one of the best runners from all schools. His average time was 12 minutes and 45 seconds over 3-4 races. He is a new kid, but has made many friends. He came from Lakewood Elementary School. He has come 3rd place twice and 4th and 5th places once each. He’s also running against kids from his age range who are 3 years older than him.

Cheer Shows Spirit Like No Other!

By: Rhett

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL-

In the junior high halls of I.C. from September to October, there are two things to talk about: Cheer, and Football. One cannot support one without the other, and that came out quickly in this interview with co-captains Kate [REDACTED] and Arianna [REDACTED].

According to captain Kate, they said that cheer was a fun and enjoyable experience, where they learned teamwork, and how to support each other. At I.C., they practiced in the gym after school and had cheer camp during the summer. They also cheered at four Firecracker football games, and put together two excellent halftime shows.

You would also be mistaken if you didn't talk about the spectacular Halloween pep rally they put together. The cheerleaders had people flying through the air and some great choreographed dances. The excellent music chosen for the pep rally was picked by Arianna. The pep rally also concluded with a picture

of beloved cheer coach Chanda Price. Overall, the cheer team had a good time, complete with flying, jumping, and tumbling around, and those reasons alone, are why I.C. has the best cheer team in the Diocese.



Pictured above: the I.C. cheerleaders perform at the Veterans Day assembly. Photo credit: Riley Hughes

5th and 6th Grade Fire Football

By: Boston

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL- We have many great I.C. Fire Football players in the 5th and 6th grades! They include Connor Bartlett, Grayson Huff, Dax Eanes, Beck Greer, Cruz Stricklin, and other players from other schools. The Fire Football team won the championship a couple of weeks ago against Episcopal Collegiate School and won 6:0.

7th and 8th-grade Firecracker Football is over

By: George and Cruz

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL-

The Firecrackers football team has many I.C. football players. The 8th grade includes Rhett [REDACTED], Luke [REDACTED], Brennan [REDACTED], Sam [REDACTED], and Charlie [REDACTED]. The 7th grade includes George, Cruz, Whitten, Cooper, and Reece. Most practices were attended at the Catholic High School field, while others took place at the Christ the King field. Practices were mostly from 5:30 P.M. to 7 P.M. Some games also were played at Catholic High. The wonderful coaches that helped were Coach Sullenger, Coach G., Coach Reb, Coach Matt, and Coach Steele. Mr. Gonzales is the only IC member who coaches our team. Coach G. also coaches the Varsity Rockets football team. Coach G said: "The team learned from the off-season training. The team fought for these tough wins even though we didn't pull some of them out." He said, "Injuries affected this team the most from some devastating injuries. Overall the team really

improved from where it started." The quarterback from 8th grade was Cam [REDACTED], while the 7th grade quarterback started as Luke [REDACTED], but ended as Carson [REDACTED] after Luke broke his wrist.

I.C. and Mounties Wrap Up Seasons

By: Miller

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL- The Falcons volleyball teams have officially finished their seasons. The 8th grade team finished their season at 8-1, and made it to the finals, where they won! The 7th grade finished at 4-3, and they sadly lost in the first round of the Parochial League Tournament to IHM. The 6th-grade teams finished at 4-4, and they lost a very close match in the second round. The 5th-grade team finished at 6-1, sadly losing the tournament's first game. Mounties had six 7th graders make the 7th grade team. They also had two 8th graders on their 8th grade team.

7th graders:

Harper, Eva, Mia, Sofia, Ellie, Quinn

8th graders:

Greta and Fiona

What is I.C.'s Favorite Holiday?

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL-

Total: 316 votes

Halloween: 38 votes

Christmas: 227 votes

New Years: 11 votes

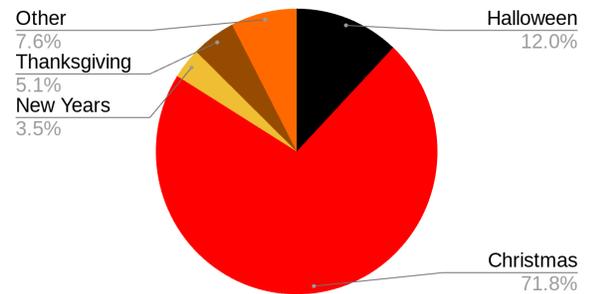
Thanksgiving: 16 votes

Other: 24 votes

(Classes polled: Prek-3 through 8th grade)

IC's Favorite Holiday

Made by Kate Walker and Riley Hughes



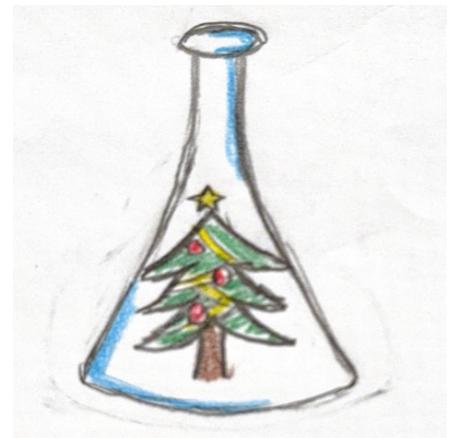
I.C.'s Favorite Holidays
Results collected and graph made by Kate and Riley

FALCON FUNNY QUESTION-

What was Santa's favorite subject in school?

Figure out the answer, then write it on a piece of paper and drop it inside the box located at the office.

Be sure to write your first and last name and your class on the paper.



Here's a hint! Drawing by Ivy.

Mrs. Callaway has picked two of her favorite art pieces that students have done. Congratulations to 5B- Christopher (left) and 8B- Ava (right)!



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Blair

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Evelyn

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Bottom Row Left to Right: Eva, Basham, Jess



Entertainment/Arts/Polls/Reviews

Left to Right: Riley, Athena, Quinn, Christopher, Kate



Sports

Top Row Left to Right: George, Boston, Cruz

Bottom Row Left to Right: Rhett, James, Miller

