Dear Parents,

Thank you to all who have been actively involved in this year’s annual auction. This including committee members, those who have been organizing class baskets and projects, those who have donated to these baskets, those who have asked businesses for donations, those who have purchased and/or sold tickets, those who have talked their friends into buying tickets, along with any others I may not have mentioned specifically. This is our single largest fundraiser with proceeds going directly to our school budget, allowing us to maintain the lowest tuition in the west deanery. If you have not yet had a chance to be active in helping us be successful this year, it’s not too late! Spread the word. Get your family and friends to buy tickets and enjoy a great evening of fun.

God bless you,

Karen King, Principal

**eLearning Survey**
Parents received an email earlier today regarding a SHORT (3 question) survey. Please take a moment to complete this survey ASAP! Thank you! [https://goo.gl/forms/blcYTVEz5kVoB9VN2](https://goo.gl/forms/blcYTVEz5kVoB9VN2)

**Snow day**
Because we did not have school on Wednesday, January 30, **school will be in session on Monday, April 22.** (The only reason this could possibly change is if we have another day on which we have to close.)

**Early Bird Registration Winners**
Congratulations to the following parents whose names were chosen by random draw of all families who registered their child/ren for the 2019-2020 school year. Winners may pick up their Schoolbelles gift certificates in the office. If you prefer that we send the $60.00 worth of gift certificates home with your child, please email kking@stchrisindy.org or dguenin@stchrisindy.org.

**Winners:**
Maria Marrufo  
Simon Urayo  
Violeta Velez  
Summer Stone  
Tracie Smith

**Registration for the 2019 - 2020 school year**
Please click this link to begin: [Registration Form for 2019 - 2020](https://www.saintchristopherschoolindy.org/registration). It is important that we have enrollment numbers as we begin making decisions for the upcoming school year.
**Yearbook Sales**
The deadline to order a yearbook for this school year is **February 22nd**. The price of a yearbook is $15.00 and you can order online at ybpay.lifetouch.com using the yearbook ID code: 1925719 or send the money in with your student in the envelope that went home. **There will be a cash sale on Thursday, February 21 from 7:30-8:00 a.m. outside of the school office.**

**Reminder from Aftercare**
I want to remind students and parents, that toys brought from home are not allowed in Aftercare. If toys are brought in with their teacher's permission, they are to stay in their backpacks during aftercare. Unfortunately, we have been having too many issues with student's belongings disappearing. There are plenty of toys for students to play with while they are in Aftercare.

**Help us earn $300.00 of PE equipment**
Dear St. Christopher Parents,

Your child should already have received a collection envelope for the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge (which you may remember as Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart.)

We’re excited to continue to help those with special hearts! We just kicked off and already have **24** students registered online!

Our school has been selected to pilot a new incentive: If we can get half of our 200 students to register online, we will be awarded $300 in PE equipment! Your child will also receive an awesome wristband! All you have to do is register! No donation is necessary!

[Follow this link to Register!](http://bit.ly/stchriskhc)

**Giving Back to the Community**
Last year when we upgraded our interactive whiteboards, we donated one (through a connection with our own Miss Walker) to a teacher in a Wayne Township School. The following was recently shared on their school webpage:

*These North Wayne Elementary students follow along and complete their morning worksheets as teacher Brice Laigle reviews verb tenses using a Promethean Board donated by St. Christopher Elementary School. The morning worksheet served to reinforce the students’ knowledge of past, present, and future verb tenses.*
Results from CYO Music Contest
Here are the results from the CYO Music Contest that the band attended on February 9:
Andrew Barber and Ben Pipher received a second place ribbon for the trombone and trumpet duet.
Andrew Barber received a first place medal on his trombone solo.
Lucy Rios received a first place medal for her trumpet solo. Lucy was also named as the outstanding soloist in her competition and will be performing on February 17 at the CYO Honors recital.
The St. Christopher Band received a first place rating for their performance. This is the sixth year in a row that the band has received a first place rating.

Fat Tuesday on a Saturday
We hope you’re talking to your friends and inviting them to attend Fat Tuesday on a Saturday, our annual auction event, on Saturday, March 2.
It is sure to be a fun evening with games, raffles, good food, adult beverages, silent and live auction items, music and a great atmosphere for the Catholic Community of St. Christopher having fun! Tickets will be on sale now at the school office. Also, tickets may be purchased online through our Qtengo bidding site: https://stchristopher.ticket.qtego.net/tickets/list

If you can help, here is the link to sign up to volunteer or donate specific items:
Sign up for Volunteer Time: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0445ADAD2BA4FC1-auction
Sign up for Donated Items from Amazon and Sam’s Club: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0445ADAD2BA4FC1-auction1

Registration for the 2019 - 2020 school year
Please click this link to begin: Registration Form for 2019 - 2020. It is important that we have enrollment numbers as we begin making decisions for the upcoming school year.

1st Grade News
The students in Miss Gillaspy’s class have been hard at work adding 2 two digit numbers together to find the sum. They have discovered that some equations involve regrouping, while others do not. Absolutely mind blowing!! To help the class not forget about the number that has been carried into the tens column, the students were taught a lyric from the 80s hit, “Don’t You (Forget About Me)” by Simple Minds. Thankfully, the students rarely forget about that regrouped number….and hearing them sing the lyric is just an added bonus!

In Phonics, the students discovered the wonderful world of DIPHTHONGS!! Not only is it a fun word to say, but the sounds of diphthongs are just as wild. They have successfully spelled words with oi and oy; knowing that oi comes in the initial and medial positions of a word, while oy comes in the final position.

We are combining Reading and Social Studies this month to celebrate Black History Month. This is one of my favorite topics to discuss because ordinary people changed the world and our country is a better place because of them. The class becomes very invested in the people we discuss
and add such meaningful comments to our discussions! My hope is for them to realize that they have the ability to do world changing things too!

In Science, we are talking teeth! February is National Children’s Dental Health Awareness Month! We are discussing the names of different teeth, oral health, comparing a child’s mouth to an adult’s, and getting up close and personal with my most recent mouth x-ray! Shout out to the dentists at West 10th Dental Group for donating toothbrush and toothpaste kits for our class! (They come highly recommended by yours truly!)

First grade is truly fascinating!
Miss Gillaspy

Math Goal: Number Sense

This year, we are once again working with number sense as our focus for our math instruction. After looking through our data from standardized testing as well as teacher observation, it was determined that number sense would be the area of greatest need.

Children need opportunities to learn and experience numbers. Learning to count, identify numbers, and understand quantity are a few of the important concepts. Repeated experiences build understanding and fluency with numbers. These experiences help expand understanding and learn new concepts. A strong number sense is vital for future understanding of more complex math topics.

- Count out loud starting at 1 and building to higher and higher numbers.
- Sit with someone else and take turns counting by 1’s.
- As counting develops, teach number patterns and counting by 2’s, 5’s, and 10’s.
- Use a number chart to visually see what numbers look like. Point to each number as it is said.
- Encourage kids to practice one-to-one counting with small objects. Have small groups of objects set up in a center for them to count.
- Provide number cards (like those seen below) for kids to represent with counting chips.
Giant Aquatics Swim Club 2019

Do you love to swim?
Come try out the Giant Aquatics Swim Club on President’s Day, Monday, February 18 from 6p – 8p at the Ben Davis High School Pool, enter Door 5. This will be a free event for swimmers under the age of 17.

Questions - Email bdacswimteam@gmail.com.
Requirement – Have goggles, swim suit and towel.

For more information visit www.teamunify.com/inga or contact Board President, Tricia Shepherd at bdacswimteam@gmail.com.

INPEA Job Opening
We have a job opening at the Indiana Non-Public Education Association, based in Indianapolis. We’re looking to hire a part time (M-Th, 9-2) Coordinator of Office Operations to manage daily activities at the office including financial reporting, billing, and database management, among other general office management tasks.

We think a skilled parent with school age children or active community member of your school or church would be perfect for the position.

More information, along with the job posting, can be found on our website.

Thank you! INPEA Staff

Important Dates
February 14 - Out of Uniform for $1.00 - St. Valentine’s Day theme
February 15 - No School, Bingo Team 3 (possible snow day make up)
February 16 - First Communion Workshop (rescheduled from January 19)
February 18 - No School (possible snow day make up)
February 20 - 4th grade field trip to Southeastway Park
February 22 - Bingo Team 5
February 27 - 1:30 p.m. dismissal, City Barbeque Fundraiser-All day, 9116 Rockville Rd
March 1 - 5th and 6th Grade field trip to JA Biztown
Out of uniform for $1.00 - Dr. Seuss theme
Bingo Team 6
March 2 - Our annual Auction in the cafeteria and the gym, 6:00 p.m. - Mardi Gras theme, *Fat Tuesday on a Saturday*

March 2 & 3 - Trash bag sale after all masses

March 6 - Ash Wednesday - All school mass at 9:00 a.m.

March 7 - No all school mass
   - PreK to Art Museum

March 8 - 2nd grade field trip to the Statehouse
   - Bingo Team 1

March 10 - Daylight Savings Time begins

March 12 - PTP meeting in the Cafeteria, 8:00 p.m.

March 15 - 2nd grade to walk in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade
   - End of 3rd quarter
   - Bingo Team 2

March 17 - Happy St. Patrick’s Day

March 18 - PreK and K to field trip to the Children’s Museum
   - IREAD test for 3rd grade begins

March 19 - 1:30 p.m. Dismissal

March 21 - 3rd quarter Honors Mass, 9:00 a.m. in Church

March 22 - Bingo Team 7

March 25-29 - Spring Break - NO SCHOOL

March 29 - Bingo Team 3

**St. Christopher School Mission Statement**

St. Christopher School, established in 1949 as an educational ministry of St. Christopher parish, serves the West Deanery of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the surrounding community.

St. Christopher School strives to provide an exceptional education permeated with Catholic Christian values, promoting spiritual, moral, intellectual, physical and social growth for our students, preschool through sixth grade.

St. Christopher School seeks to be an extension of our students' homes, challenging them to achieve their potential and helping them to realize their great worth as children of God, capable of making significant contributions at home and throughout the world.