

**EDITORIAL**

## March on ... toward Greater Glory

Another year to face, another battle to fight and more obstacles to hurdle -- this is the thought that lingers in the minds of the people who are determined to develop ISA into a kind of institution that helps our nation nurture socially responsible, morally upright and intellectually competitive young individuals. Yes, we welcome criticisms; they help us uncover undetected soft spots. So long as we continue to adhere to our principles, stand firm on our ground, do not lose sight of our objectives, we will always live with vigor and noble vision.

Happenings took place during the last school year were part of ISA's colorful history. All these have been faithfully recorded in every issue of *The Scholars*. Furthermore, aside from being the time capsule that keeps the records of ISA's 'ups' and 'downs', *The Scholars* serves as the school's means of communication to the outside world.

Iloilo Scholastic Academy will continue to live up to its dream to help molding Filipino youth into socially relevant individuals; ISA will constantly renew its commitment as vanguard of virtue and excellence. As the ISA School hymn appropriately states, "Let virtue and excellence lead the way... towards greater glory..."

## Bringing Reading Closer to the Reader's Heart

Iloilo Scholastic Academy opens its doors to those students who are interested to improve their reading competence and those who were not able to completely learn the linguistic skills that they ought to have mastered last academic year.

The Scholastic Reading and Comprehension program features the use of child-friendly teaching aids like Phonics Book and Fluency card for oral reading reinforcement and evaluation; Practice book and Reading Skills card for the assessment and mastery of basic reading and comprehension skills; and Scholastic Reading Skills kit that caters to varied interest of young readers like science, history, entertainment, music, and sports. The students are also motivated and guided to read materials with various topics for their book report.

Furthermore, this program is our way of developing intrinsic motivation among the learners and at the same time helping children cope with the demands of the English subject in the next academic year. (ep & if)

## Learning at ISA Preschool A Unique Experience

Conducive environment for effective learning is what our preschool can offer. Starting this summer, ISA introduces major innovations that aim at preparing pre-school children for the more advanced learning stage wherein they can further develop their mastery of the three R's.



The thrust of the reformed ISA preschool curriculum is to facilitate the development of the child into a well-adjusted and whole rounded individual with a positive outlook *vis a vis* his environment. To attain our objectives, we designed the physical environment in a way to encourage children to pursue activities in line with their interest and at the same time be able to interact with their peers. The corners of each classroom are categorized into four areas: Practical life, Sensorial, Language & Reading, and Math. In each area, pupils are guided to become disciplined individual by actually doing some simple, well-programmed activities. (mdd, mffj, & jmp)



ISA President Vicente Tiu presents a plaque of appreciation to the guest speaker, Dr. Elsa Consebit, during the 1<sup>st</sup> ISA Commencement Exercises and Recognition Ceremony

## Math Reinforcement

"The great aim of education is not knowledge but action" (Herbert Spencer)

ISA's 2<sup>nd</sup> Summer Camp has become more relevant and essential to those ISAers who are searching for more knowledge in their educational journey. Now, ISA offers Math Reinforcement workshop for those ISAers and transferees who unfortunately failed to meet all the mathematical skills required in their particular grade/year level. However, this program is also offered to those who wants to develop their mathematical capability specially involving word problems.

The prime objective of the said workshop is to follow up and upgrade the ISAers into a well-equipped Math-oriented individual. (obj)

## ISAMath:

### A MATH Intensive Training

It is the aim of ISA to develop the skill of every ISAer to the fullest. In view of this, ISAMath is offered this summer for selected grades one to second year high school pupils who are highly proficient in Math based on their performance during the last academic year with reference to their scores in the APSA evaluation.

The training is designed to improve the mathematical problem solving and computational skills of the pupils. This program will continue throughout the regular school days of the next academic year. The training is guided by the objective of maximizing the development of the math potentials of every participant. (mjb)

## Changes on ISA Ground

We want our kids to learn in school coupled with a great deal of fun. We remember in the latter part of the school year the ISA parents association donated a basketball fiberglass ring for the students to play during their free time. This summer, the administration decided to make the ISA ground more attractive by renovating some parts of the playground where plants can grow freely without fear of being trampled on. Colorful grills surround the area as protective fence so that students may not step on them. We should show to the students that taking care of plants should become part of their way of life.

## Cheers...Scholars!

**Scholars**, one of the many wings that help ISA continue to soar high. It has been a year since ISA family started to write informative articles that keep the readers abreast of what the ISA System is up to.

It was April, 2004 when the first issue of the **Scholars** was released. Inspired by the successful launching of its maiden issue, succeeding editors and layout artists enthusiastically looked forward to the publication of another more attractive issues in the months to come. In all of the 12 issues, we updated our readers of the major activities and important events that took place in the ISA Campus through out the year. Since time is essential, coming up with every issue has never been an easy job. But none of the editors ever shied away from this tough assignment in spite of the numerous dead lines they had to beat in their regular teaching undertakings.

Kudos to the editors and layout artists for a job well done!

## ISA Exec. Director unlocks S.Y. 2005-06 plans

In the first ISA facilitators and staff general assembly this SY held last May 6 at the faculty office, ISA executive director Mr. Peter Chan discussed the school policies and some major plans of action to be taken in the academic year 2005-2006.

Among the major changes introduced by the exec-dir was the shifting of the concept of student to that of a 'learner'; and teacher to 'facilitator'. This is by no means a play of words. This is a revolutionary innovation that compels every ISA faculty member to start realigning their position and reexamine their relations with the ISAers as learners.

He reiterated the significance of the 'speak-Chinese-&-English with correct intonation' policy and calls for its continued strict implementation. Adding new content to this ongoing campaign, starting this June, Wednesday is set as 'Chinese Language Day'; all ISAers are required to speak in Chinese during their break time. That is, even English is banned!

Mr. Chan also assigned facilitators to chair various committees tasked to organize and oversee the implementation of different intra-school activities.

## ISA math facilitator attends Metrobank confab

Iloilo Scholastic Academy's high school mathematics facilitator, Julie Herrera, together with the other 43 Metro Bank scholars from all over the country, attended a conference held in Metro Manila last April 30 - May 3.

Ms. Herrera, a magna cum laude graduate from West Visayas State University, joined other education graduates who had successfully maintained their Metro Bank scholarship, went through series of seminars and trainings that aimed at fostering teaching competence. The seminars were held at Philippine Normal University and Metro Bank Foundation Hall.



ISA Exec-Dir attends the opening ceremony and the first session of the seminar-workshop on Chinese language last April 25. Photo shows participants during the first session.

## An Opportunity To Do Better

Iloilo Scholastic Academy has successfully survived a year packed with academic, professional and financial challenges without losing its fervor to assiduously mold the learners into a shape this institution has envisioned -- virtuous and academically competent. However, we see no reason to slow down, for the dawning challenge of a risky and more perilous sojourn in the quest for excellence entails mustering enough courage and zealous commitment. ISA can not afford to drag its learners to the claws of mediocrity and sacrifice the welfare of the future builders of this country.

Come June, ISA is standing vis-à-vis a challenge of living up to the increasing expectations of the parents and students; heeding the demands of information technology age; taking positively criticisms; maintaining the culture of excellence; staying humble in every recognition received; and mustering enough strength to continue its momentum for the undying devotion in a crucial business of molding people and offering this society citizens it can lean on.

This is indeed another year of intense challenges; another opportunity for ISA to prove its worth in keeping the emblem of academic excellence and virtue it has zealously been upholding. By invoking the spirit of cooperation among the parents, students, teachers, and administration coupled with dedication, humility, loyalty, and love of teaching vocation we will surely go a long way with our mission and vision gradually coming into reality.

## Summer Rendezvous

ISA sent Mr. Johnny Co to join in a seminar-workshop on Chinese phonetics, Chinese characters and multi-media theory and applications conducted by 3 lecturers from China. The said 20-day seminar was sponsored by the Philippine Educational Research Center and was held at ICCHS - Main Campus.

This is the first part of the four-summer courses intended to enrich the knowledge and skills of the Chinese language teachers to meet the needs for the reform and modernization of the teaching method and strategy. (JC)

## A Day Out

Last May 22, ISA facilitators and staff with the executive director set off for an excursion to Puerto del Mar in Guimaras. Everyone was keyed up to the thought of communing with nature and strengthening the personal and professional bond that ties every component of ISA community.



Most of them swam or learn to swim inside a huge cave to avoid sun burn. Things turned out just the way everyone wished it to be -- a fun-filled, worthwhile learning experience, and a memory that will forever be cherished.

## A Step Higher

ISA welcomes 2<sup>nd</sup> year high school learners this SY 2005-06 with warm embrace and full of surprises. First, their section is named after the great Filipino hero Andres Bonifacio. The school expects them to emulate the hero's intrinsic motivation to learn; and above all his intense love for his motherland.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> year curriculum has been carefully examined and textbooks painstakingly scrutinized: they will continue to savor the wonders of *Intermediate Algebra* which ISAers initially encountered last year...this time coupled with the formidable *Geometry*. In *Asian History*, their text book is one published by Ibon Foundation, a staunch advocate of Filipino nationalism. In *Biology*, they will be the first at ISA to use the brand new McGraw-Hill Glencoe series shipped directly from USA. Another thing they could rightly boast of is their textbook in *English*, aside from Asian Literature, they will be entertained with award-winning short stories, plays and poems contained in Read XL 8 published by Scholastic, International. Let alone the unique ISA method of instructions in learning *Chinese*, both in Mandarin and Fukien ...

In our fast changing world, there is no room for mediocrity. Every 2<sup>nd</sup> year Bonifacio learner has to endure until they reach the finish line -- Excellence. ISA will see to it that they be equipped... and get there. (BG)

## EDITORIAL

### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Year of ISA

Iloilo Scholastic Academy has successfully hurdled all the obstacles it encountered during its first academic year. Now, ISA is more ready to continue the seemingly unending quest for excellence.

Many parents and prospective parents can't refrain from anxiously asking questions like: what kind of school am I sending my child into or where shall I send my child so that she could be imbued not only with wonderful knowledge but more so, with hopes and dreams? Is the school full of enlightening experiences and opportunity for discoveries? Is it inspired with a sense of wonder and curiosity?

Parents of two hundred ninety two ISAers have finally made up their mind. They entrust their children under the care of the ISA mentors. They believe that the ISA faculty and staff are working hard to awaken the passion and desire to learn more in every young learner. They believe ISA can help their child develop a keen interest in academic and non-academic works. Yes indeed, ISA campus has been transformed into a market place of ideas and information. It is a well crafted environment that caters to the need of young people to continuously improve their command of the two major international communication tools: English and Chinese.

ISA will never get tired of delivering services for the benefit of the learners. As always, ISA believes that in hard work there is success.

## Elementary - Secondary Parent's Orientation

In recognition of the significant role parents play in the total education of the learners, Iloilo Scholastic Academy makes it a healthy habit to call for a parents' orientation to keep them abreast with the changes in school rules and policies, enlighten them of the school's curricular and co-curricular programs, and to strengthen the bond that ties all concerned parties.

Mr. Peter Chan, ISA executive director, enthusiastically announced some changes in School Year 2005-06 and reminded the parents of the existing rules and policies which were intensified this year like the stern implementation of speaking English and Chinese Languages with correct intonation inside and outside ISA and the importance of hard work in order to pass in all subject areas.

The parents were also enlightened of the school's innovative grading system, i.e. the 75:100 passing score in all subject areas; of not using of the fancy transmutation table; and of lowering the lowest mark in the report card from 70 to 65. Another major policy change revealed during the orientation is the ineligibility of the retained learner to re-enroll next school year.

As expected, the activity turned out to be a resounding success as 95 percent of the parents in elementary and secondary levels attended. (EP)

## Preschool Parent's Orientation

It has been the school's SOP to meet all the preschool parents a week before the opening of classes. Last May 28, Parent's Orientation, with the Executive Director as speaker, was held in the library.

This is one way of informing the parents about the school's rules and policies at the same time to guide them in the academic pursuit of their child.

During the orientation, Mr. Chan discussed the awards that will be given to the learners who excel in class. Mr. Chan also emphasized the importance of the Anecdotal Record maintained for each learner. He further added that parents could read the anecdotal record during card day but can't bring it home.

After his talk, Mr. Chan introduced all the Preschool facilitators to the parents.

The orientation started at exactly 8:30 a.m. and ended in less than an hour. During the open forum some parents aired their concerns, specially with regards to the Chinese language. They were all satisfactorily answered by the Executive Director. After the orientation, learning materials were released to the parents. (JM)

## ISAers Celebrate Independence Day

For every freedom-loving Filipino, June 12 is a day worth remembering. 107 years ago, in an obscure town called Kawit, the adorable Philippine flag was first waived at the balcony by Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo while the exhilarating Marcha Nacional Filipina was played. On June 12 this year, we celebrate the 107<sup>th</sup> year of the Philippine Independence. We use this occasion to commemorate the selfless sacrifices of our heroes who shed their blood to set us free from the yoke of the colonizers.

To join the celebration, ISAers prepared an hour-long program that centers on freedom and nationalism. This is another great opportunity for the ISAers to showcase their talents in depicting something solemn through singing, dancing, declaiming and acting. This encourages them to value the legacy that our heroes left behind.

The 107<sup>th</sup> Independence Day celebration reminds us of the challenges history has posed on us. Our generation and the generations soon to follow shall take up the cudgel to liberate our nation from the twin cruel bondages of backwardness and poverty. (RJ)



## 1<sup>st</sup> School Day at ISA

Someone once said that a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. Yes ... a small step that sometimes turns out to be a giant leap.

The first day of school in ISA is like that single step. For facilitators and learners alike it is an exciting and tense step. It is the first day that separates the waiting from the beginning.

ISAers are full of excitements and expectations. To some, the first day was carefree and fun... Hey! Here are my friends again! To some, it was close to troubles ... will I survived a whole year of this? But it doesn't really matter, because ISA family is working hand in hand to make the school year a fruitful one. (BG)

## E.M. Curriculum

To further upgrade the knowledge of old and neophyte math facilitators about EVERYDAY MATH Curriculum, the Abiva Publishing House sponsored a half-day seminar last May 27 at Iloilo Scholastic Academy. Ma'am Ermhie, the resource speaker, discussed about the history, the 6 main domains, and the principles behind the formulation of the said curriculum.

The seminar ended with an open forum. Mr. Oscar Barrato Jr. shared his experiences regarding the use of the curriculum. Ma'am Ermhie suggested some essential strategies and interesting techniques to implement the curriculum more effectively and efficiently. (OBJ)

EDITORIAL

## "Health Awareness"

"Health is Wealth". This maxim is so familiar that often times is taken for granted by everyone. Only in time of crisis that health seems suddenly the only wealth we can claim.

In pursuit of good health, we've made exercise a part of our daily life. We get plenty of rest. And we try to eat nutritious foods to help us maintain a healthy body.

As ISA celebrates this month of July "Nutrition Awareness"...the school reminds ISAers that good health is one of the important virtues in achieving quality education.

But could we do better, aside from the conventional practices we've been doing? How about trying a vegetarian diet or a modified diet that puts plant-based foods such as whole grains, legumes, vegetables, and fruits on center stage?

Numerous studies show that a plant-based diet is associated with low cholesterol and therefore, lower blood pressure, less heart disease, lower risk to acquiring certain kind of terminal diseases, like cancer. With that in mind, some people have tried reducing their consumption of meat and has instead enriched their diet with a wide variety of plant-based foods.

A plant-based diet can be healthful to young and old alike, but the principle of balance diet should not be neglected.

So, ISAers, if you're considering becoming vegetarian or emphasizing more plant-based foods in your diet, it may be advisable to consult your doctor first. You can discuss health concerns you may have related to a major dietary change. A registered Dietician also can be helpful.

Remember ISAers your health is a priceless treasure.

## We've been fogged...

Last June 19, the entire premises of ISA underwent fogging treatment. ISA administration is concerned that with the onset of the rainy season mosquitoes may breed in the school drainage system and waterways. To help prevent the occurrence of mosquito-related sicknesses, specially dengue, drainage were so thoroughly treated. ISAers can be rest assured that the school is doing all it can to ensure their safety in the ISA Campus. (BG)



These grade 1 kids, Kevin, Edvi and Bryan, are among the winners in the Chinese Language contest held every Friday morning. The objective of the said contest is to develop the habit of conversing in Fukien and Mandarin among ISAers in the campus.

## "Cleanliness Drive"

Learning takes place only in an environment conducive for it. In response to the call of maintaining a cool surroundings, the school has an ongoing year-round cleanliness drive campaign that focuses on the cleanliness and orderliness of the classrooms and some assigned areas. Everyday each classroom is checked by a facilitator acting as judge. Learners are supposed to maintain their rooms clean the whole day. Trashcans are also checked if the garbage is segregated into biodegradable and non-biodegradable. That's why; each classroom has two trashcans. The cleanest classroom will be announced after a week of observation.

Our objective focuses mainly in developing every learner's sense of responsibility and make them aware of the importance of a clean environment in one's life. (mabf)



## Casting a Vote of confidence Class Officers Election

To develop leadership among the learners, ISA scheduled the election of classroom officers from Grades 1 to Second Year High school last June 22. Each learner was given the right to elect his classroom officers. The set of elected officers will help the facilitators to organize the classroom activities. Through this, learners are trained to accomplish certain task, develop their sense of responsibility, partly through their own planning and effort. This is a good start for those who aspire to be leaders in their chosen field in the future. And, this will also develop their self-confidence which they need to achieve academic excellence. (RJ)

## Book Report



All elementary and high school ISAers have got the chance to make their book reports this year. Aside from the stories taken from the Literacy Place, an ISAer will do book reporting based on stories from books owned by his classmates. Since ISA designates each learner to own a title, after every two weeks learners in each class will exchange books with their classmates. We call this 'own 1 book and read 30 books'. And there goes the cycle, until hopefully a learner would be able to read at least 15 books and finish at least 10 books reports formats in a year. Through this effort, learners will start to love and appreciate reading. (KGR)

## ISAthletes on the Go!

One of ISA's goals is to produce competitive learners in the field of sports. The program in P.E. comprises four specialized sports: badminton, table tennis, swimming, and track and field. During P.E. time, each class is divided into two groups and are trained under two P.E. facilitators. Training in badminton and table tennis starts from grade 3 and continues until grade 6; 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year high school learners are required to learn basic skills in swimming and track and field.

Facilitators were also tasked to spot learners to become members of the elite ISAthletes. These selected athletes then undergo formal, intensive training after class hours. Most Athletes are highly motivated.. They will soon test their skills in such tournaments sponsored by the Filipino-Chinese Amateur Athletic Federation (FCAAF) and Private Schools Athletic Association (PRISAA). (DN)

## ISA Health Break

Healthy body begets healthy mind. In line with the school's dream of shaping its learners into the best possible form they can be, Iloilo Scholastic Academy gives importance not only in strengthening the academic and mental prowess and cultivating positive values but also in maintaining good health and favorable physical condition which is an integral weapon in getting into successfully in each and everyone's desired end.



As a way of giving importance to good health and nutrition, ISA kicked off with worthwhile and fun-filled activities last July 16 the celebration of the Nutrition Month. The elementary and high school kids had fun as they participated in various parlor games and mascot presentation by the Yakult health drink. Learners were also subjected to medical-dental check-up in the school clinic.

Special prizes were also given to those who showcased their creativity and depth in visual arts in the poster-making contest anchored on this year's theme: "Ang Batang May Kinabukasan, Sa Wastong Nutrisyon Simulan".(EP)

## ISA Community warmly welcomes Delegation of ACFSP

The Executive Council of the Manila-based Association of Chinese-Filipino Schools in the Philippines, sends a delegation composed of Principals and department heads of major Fil-Chinese schools in Manila, namely, Chiang Kai Shek College, Uno High School, Patriotic High School, among others, to preside over the two-day 2<sup>nd</sup> Visayan Chinese-Language Teachers Conference to be held on August 27-28, 2005 at Amigo Terrace Hotel.

The ACFSP delegates are expected to arrive in the morning of August 26, and are scheduled to visit ISA Campus at 3:30 p.m. of the same day.

ISA's Executive Director and all its Chinese-Language facilitators will attend the said 2-day interschool conference.

**Welcome to ISA,  
ACFSP Delegates!**



## Preschool Celebrates Buwan ng Wika

Last August 13, ISA Campus was filled with excitement as the Preschoolers celebrated Buwan ng Wika with the theme, *Wika ng Filipino: Simbolo ng Kultura at Labing Pilipino*.

The preschool learners staged a fashion show of the different Filipino costumes found in the three major Philippine island group. Kinder 2 learners wore Mindanao costumes of malongs; the nursery learners for Luzon were in Maria Clara and barong attires. Kinder 1 represented Visayas in kimona and patadyongs by the girls and kamisa tsinos by the boys.

The learners also sang Filipino songs accompanied by a live band of selected high school learners. True to Filipino custom, the celebration ended with a fiesta-style lunch flaunting native delicacies.

## A Kick to Victory

Mary Elizabeth Chua, a Grade 4 learner, won a silver medal at the 2005 Regional Interschool Taekwondo Championship held in San Jose, Antique last July 23, 2005. The Philippine Taekwondo Association sponsored the said interschool competition. Mary had been training hard under Coach Aubrey for the said event. We wish her to be more motivated to do even better in her next competition on August 27 in Gaisano City, La Paz. (KGR)

## Editorial

### QUESTIONS...?

*“Ang hindi marunong magmabal sa sariling wika ay mas masabot pa sa malansang isda.”*

Through education we grew up admiring Jose Rizal, but education also taught us to question his credibility. *Ang hindi marunong magmabal sa sariling wika...* what did he really mean? Wasn't Rizal verbose in so many other languages and aren't most of his writings in Spanish? Was he showing his love for *his* language then?

There is a strong hint from our national hero's life that perhaps he understood that a real love for our language (and the rest of our heritage) should go beyond the surface forms. It is not enough to speak Filipino and patronize everything Filipino to show our nationalism...we must have the best interests of our country in mind. Sometimes, this means sacrificing something very Filipino in order to ensure the survival of our nation. Rizal must have wanted to write in Filipino, but what good would it do if his target audience cannot understand it? More than the form of nationalism we should realize functional nationalism.

So as we celebrate our Buwan ng Wika, let us enjoy the nuances of our language. But let us not forget that behind this outward show of activities is the deeper intentions of our hearts. In the final analysis, will we have sufficient love to die for our country...or even simply to give in to countless little sacrifices we could do for it? Well...that's a question only you can answer.

## As Above, So Below

Last July 15, learners from grade 6 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year had the privilege of listening to a talk given by Sister Fidelis of Assumption Iloilo as part of ISA's learner enrichment program. The Talk centered on the themes “As Above So Below” and “As Within So Without”. Since the quality of our thoughts affects actions and behaviors, the listeners were encouraged to think positive thoughts. Also, in relation to our country's political turmoil ISAers were taught to cultivate harmony within so as to generate positive energy that will later reflect in our surroundings. The school looks forward to another talk of Sister Fidelis before the year is over. (BGG)

## They Made It!

**Competition** is a good catalyst for excellence. Learners need to be taught to strive and put their best foot forward with their stored knowledge and passion for reading as their weapon.

Last July 21 and 29, selected ISAers from each level competed in the General Information Quiz Bee and Spelling Quiz Bee, respectively. The winners in the GI are the following: Level 1 (Grs. 1-2): Zeth Rodario Bebit (1<sup>st</sup>), Kevin Lance Gawte (2<sup>nd</sup>), Jemimah Anne Juantong (3<sup>rd</sup>); Level 2 (Grs. 3-4): Emma Guanco (1<sup>st</sup>), Michelle Louise Naces (2<sup>nd</sup>), Lawrence Frankie Locsin & Joseph Joshua Te (3<sup>rd</sup>); Level 3 (Grs. 5-6): Lara Judak (1<sup>st</sup>), Gian Trimañez (2<sup>nd</sup>), Randolph Tim Sumaray (3<sup>rd</sup>); Level 4 (1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Yr): Fritzie Gayle Diez (1<sup>st</sup>), Justine Betsy Aguirre (2<sup>nd</sup>), Arcel Yu (3<sup>rd</sup>).

Winners in Spelling: Level 1: Jemimah Juantong (1<sup>st</sup>), Marion Nicole Lim (2<sup>nd</sup>), Paul Bryan Buni (3<sup>rd</sup>); Level 2: Emma Guanco (1<sup>st</sup>), Elijah Ong (2<sup>nd</sup>), Kevinn Friedrich Chan (3<sup>rd</sup>); Level 3: Norm Vincent Julipa (1<sup>st</sup>), James Chiu (2<sup>nd</sup>), Gian Trimañez (3<sup>rd</sup>); Level 4: Fritzie Diez (1<sup>st</sup>), Arcel Yu (2<sup>nd</sup>), Eunice Serilo (3<sup>rd</sup>).

**Congratulations!** (MES)

## Making Every Child A Reader: A Challenge

Last July 30, four ISA reading facilitators attended a lecture-forum entitled “Making Every Child A Reader: reinventing reading instructions.” at the Hometel, WVSU.

The speaker, Dr. Sally Labanda, is the Chairperson of International Development Coordinating Committee of the International Reading Association. In her talk, she emphasized the crucial role of reading teachers, especially those teaching in the primary levels. She stressed that teachers should motivate and go out of their way in addressing the needs of the students in reading. Teachers should be innovative in delivering instruction so that learners will really enjoy and find reading enticing.

Dr Labanda's talk focused on the five areas of Reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and text composition. (ET)

## Preschool Health Break

Preschool facilitators, ISA administration, and parents spearheaded a day of fun, learning and health training in celebration of the Nutrition Month last July 30.

This half-day affair kicks off with various worthwhile and fun-filled activities like games, a medical-dental check up and a short talk from Dr. Eva Ong and Dr. Sy. There were also mascot presentations from Dumex Milk and Yakult.



- Editorial -

A Unique Way of Celebrating  
**2<sup>nd</sup> ISA Foundation Day**

International Literacy day celebration falls on the month of September. This month is a very busy month for ISA because everybody is preparing to celebrate ISA Day on October 1. Facilitators, learners and parents are working hand in hand seriously preparing for the up coming open house presentation. Invited students from different schools are expected to visit ISA Campus and witness some of the intellectual outputs of ISAers in four areas: English, Science, Social Studies and Chinese Language. Learners, under the guidance of the facilitators, work hard on their assigned project, memorizing their script, decorating every classroom... as always, the exhibit receives strong backing from the parents who have been strongly supporting ISA in its pursuit of academic excellence. Learners have the chance to enhance their skills and develop, or even discover, their talents because of the unique way of presenting their work during the open house presentation that deviates from conventional exhibit. Outputs are presented not as static display to satisfy the visual aesthetic sense but are intended to serve as means for presenters to interact with the viewers. One add on benefits ISAers could derive from this activity is that they can effectively develop their confidence and oral communication skills.

## Science Quiz Bee

ISA held its inter-class Science Quiz Bee last August 22, 2005, from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm at ISA library. The top three placers of each category are the following:

**Grades 1 and 2 category – 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Marion Nicolle Lim; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Camille Billones; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Patricia Tan**

**Grades 3 and 4 category – 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Emma Rose Guanco; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Abigail Jeanne Juantong; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Michelle Anne Louise Naces**

**Grades 5 and 6 category – 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Lara Hudak; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Gian Francis Timañez; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Randolph Tom Sumaray**

**1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year category – 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Fritzie Gayle Diez; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Justin Betsy Aguirre; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Arcel Mih Yu**



Talent show. last Sept. 11, Fairie, Janina, Haydee and Rita showcased their talent during the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration of Mr. Tan Tiakwan, the father of ISA-BOT Chairman, Mr. Alfonso Tan. And, upon the invitation of Mr. Earlwayne Tan, also a member of ISA-BOT, the quartet sang on the 75<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> birthday of Mr. Tan's parents. The budding singers are members of the newly organized ISA Glee Club.

## Buwan ng Wika sa ISA

Isang matagumpay na pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng Wika ang idinaos noong Agosto 26, 2005 sa paaralang ito na may temang "Wikang Filipino, Simbolo ng Kultura at Lahing Pilipino".

Pinasimulan ang palatuntunan sa isang patimpalak sa Deklamasyon at Sabayang Pagbigkas na linahukan ng mga mag-aaral mula Unang Baitang hanggang sa Ikalawang Taon. Maliban dito ay nagpakitang-gilas din ang mga mag-aaral sa pag-arte, pag-awit, pagsayaw at pagtula.

Pagkatapos ng maikling palatuntunan ay sinundan ito ng isang masayang salu-salo o "Pista sa Nayon" kung saan ay dinaluhan ng mga magulang at panauhin.

Nakuha ni Zeth Rodario Bebit ng unang baitang ang unang gantimpala sa deklamasyon *category A* at nakuha naman ni Johann Marie Genesela ang ikalawang gantimpala at ni Jan Maxinne Palomata ang ikatlong gantimpala. Sa *category B* naman hinirang si Emma Rose Guanco bilang kampiyon, pinangalawahan ito ni Trisha Chavez.

Nakuha naman ni Lara Hudak ng ikalimang taon ang ikatlong gantimpala at ang ika-apat na lugar ay napasakamay ni Camille Anne Jungco. Napatunayan ng ikalima at ikaanim na baitang ang kanilang galing sa sabayang pagbigkas sa kanilang pagkapanalo bilang kampiyon. Ang ikalawang gantimpala ay nakuha ng unang taon at ang ikatlong gantimpala ay napunta sa ikalawang taon.

Nagtapos ang programa na may ngiti sa saya sa mukha ng bawat isa. Magulang, mag-aaral at guro ay kapwa nagtulungan para maisakatuparan ang ganitong programa. ANB

## ISAers... Go Global

Sunshine Do and Jan Jarnel Geyenne Tiu, both first year learners, left the Philippines on June 17, 2005 to join the Children's International Summer Village in Michigan City, Indiana, USA. The activity proper started on June 25 and ended on July 23, 2005. CISV is applying cross-culture educational efforts to combat racism, xenophobia and religious prejudices. They spent their 28 days away from home living in Springfield Elementary School together with children of different races and diverse cultures coming from 12 nations around the world. Every weekend the two stayed with foster parents approved by CISV. The CISV centered on cultural awareness activities, which emphasize cooperation and intellectual interaction.

They left together with 12 other Filipino kids and an adult leader. They met children from across the globe and had the chance to exchange ideas with them. More so, they boasted of our country's natural wonders. They were also given the chance to display our Philippine Folk Dances such as *Maglalatik* and *Tinikling*. They cooked *adobo*, one of our famous and delicious Filipino delicacies.

This was one great opportunity for ISAers to develop excellent international relations. It seems ISA is quite eager to lay down the foundation for active international exchanges, to eventually make itself more ready to go global. (RMJ)

## ISA shines at Golden Pen

29 young writers of Iloilo Scholastic Academy were among the more than 300 participants from private and public schools joined the Regional Golden Pen Journalism Writeshop held at Saint Paul School, Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo last September 10 to 11. The first part of the activity was a lecture conducted by resource speakers on photojournalism, sports, editorial writing and cartooning. It was followed by series of contests on news, editorial



writing, among others. Isaers brought home honors by placing third in the overall ranking. ISAers won three 1<sup>st</sup> place, two 2<sup>nd</sup> place, two third place and thirty-three runners up. James Eduard Chiu, Erina Fahy, Emma Rose Guanco, Trixie Christine Shane Ledesma were cited *Promising Young Writers*. RJ

## 'ISA Orchestra' A Perfect Blend of Innovation & Will Power

October 1 is a special day for the ISAers, for it is Foundation Day of our school. But there is one thing that made this day more significant this year – the maiden public appearance of the 'ISA Orchestra'.

After a month of preparation, ISA community was able to come up with an instrumental ensemble or what is now popularly known as the ISA Orchestra. It was a tough job indeed to organize, train beginners to play musical instruments, considering the limited time we had, the number of learners to be trained and the lack of experience in blending different kind of musical instruments.



Members of the ISA Orchestra tried to blend the four instruments during one of their practice sessions

The ISA Orchestra is composed of 50 members coming from different levels (Grade 3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> year). Majority of the members do not have any prior background in playing an instrument. For the winds we have bamboo flute, recorder and harmonica; strings we have violin and guitar; percussion we have cymbals, snare drum, lyre and maracas; plus two electronic keyboard. The instruments that compose the orchestra are unique and unconventional. But, to our own delight and disbelief, they blended nicely.

That evening, the ISA Orchestra presented different repertoire of both classic and folk music. The performers played four songs namely: Auld Lang Syne, Edelweiss, Leron-Leron Sinta and Paru-Parong Bukid. They also played the National Anthem and School Hymn. Through the efforts of the learners, facilitators and the invaluable support from the parents we can call its initial attempt a big success.

As of now, the ISA Orchestra is preparing for the upcoming school activities. It still has much to learn, to improve and to show. The goal of this venture can be summarized in two words: *experience* and *exposure*. This is just the beginning of a long journey. To all ISAers...Congratulations! It was a performance worth remembering. (DMC)



A Ballet Dance performed by young dance enthusiasts, a mixture of preschool, grades 1 and 2 girls

## ISA Night

ISA celebrated its 2<sup>nd</sup> Founding Anniversary at Iloilo Grand Hotel last October 1, 2005 at 6:30 in the evening.

The program started with a display of skills of learners with their different musical instruments. It was followed by the singing of the Philippine National anthem and the ISA Hymn led by the ISA Glee Club.

Mrs. Debbie Chan gave the Words of Welcome in behalf of Mr. Peter Chan, the school's Executive Director. The content of the speech was an expression of happiness and congratulations to all who made the extraordinary success of the three-day Open House Presentation possible.

When dinner was being served, the guests were entertained by the different adorable presentations of the ISA learners. It started with a Ballet Dance by young dance enthusiasts, a mixture of Nursery, grades 1 and 2 girls, then the Michael Jackson – inspired Billie Jean dance of the Grade 1 boys coupled with the Elvis Presley Grade 2 boys, dancing to the tune of the Blue Suede Shoes.

These were Followed by the Chinese folk songs and dances. First were the energetic Chinese song of the Grades 3 and 4 in their red and white outfits, then the Kerchief and Fan Dance of the grades 1 and 2 girls, and finally the graceful musical Chinese dance of the Grades 3 and 4 girls.

Two Chinese plays followed after these, there's the 'Lie Doesn't Pay' and the comedy 'Generation Gap' by the high school learners.

The Grades 5 and 6 performed an interpretative dance with the singing of the song "I Can", and a group of high school girls showcased a dance drama entitled "I am, I can."



Michael Jackson – inspired Billie Jean dance of the Grade 1 boys

The night concluded with the awarding of winners of the various contests held the past months, like the Quiz Bees in Math, Spelling, Science, and Civics, and there's the Sabayang Pagbigkas and Filipino Declamation. Officers of the ISA Board of Trustees namely: Mr. Vicente Tiu, President, Mr. Venido Peña, Vice Chairman-Internal Affairs and Mr. Emilio Diez, Vice Chairman-External Affairs, assisted by the respective Committee Coordinators, gave the awards.

The emcees of the ISA Night were Reena Janella Que and Gian Francis Trimañez, both Grade 6 learners. (LT)



The Kerchief and Fan Dance of the grades 1 and 2 girls



The ISA Orchestra playing the National Anthem and the ISA School Hymn, with them are members of the glee club who lead the singing of the National Anthem and the ISA School Hymn

## MTG Updates

Since its establishment ten years ago, every year the well-known mathematics organization, the "Mathematics Trainers' Guild, Philippines" (MTG) has been conducting qualifying examination nationwide for those prospective students who are proficient in Mathematics. This program is open to students from Grades III to Second year high school. Qualified examinees may undergo training during Saturdays at West Visayas State University Campus.

Last July 23, a total of 61 ISAers took the qualifying examination held at WVSU Campus. 36 passed the qualifying tests.

At present, those qualified ISAers are undergoing intensive training according to their scheduled sessions during Saturdays. (OBJ)

## Preschool Literacy Week

The preschoolers celebrated the Literacy Week on Sept. 26-30. It was a week full of activities prepared by the facilitators for the learners. It is also a time for parents to witness the literal and musical forte of their children. The preschoolers were busy preparing their artworks and crafts for the exhibit for the parents and invited guests from other schools to view. They aptly showed their



An elaborately decorated preschool exhibit room

creativity through the decors spread neatly all over the classrooms. The highlight of the Literacy Week took place on Sept. 30, which was also the last day of the celebration. They produced a variety show with dance and song numbers that unveiled the talents nurtured and developed during their stay at ISA. The show was very well- applauded.

It was a truly memorable, fun-filled week for everybody in school, particularly for the preschoolers. (mfj)



The cute Hawaiian dancers in their colorful outfits



Grade 3 Chinese-language corner presenters, Caryl and Karll, taught pupils from a visiting school how to say 'How old are you?' in Chinese

## Exhibit Away

The ISA Open-House Presentation held last Sept. 27-29 was made possible by the conjoined efforts of the administration, faculty, learners and parents. Each level from Grades 1 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year High School artistically designed their classrooms into four different corners: Chinese, Science, English, and Social Studies. The real beauty of the exhibit, however, lies in the learners themselves. Each ISA learner has a chance to face visitors from other schools and perform, explain or teach them the varied things that they have learned in ISA and thus, practice their people and communication skills.

Higher grade learners also acted as tour guides for an orderly sequence of visiting classrooms, which ends in a visit to the Math corner where one answers a math problem and wins a prize. Although the exhibit was a hub of feverish activity and preparation, the tiredness was well compensated. At the end of the day learners and facilitators can say that they have shared something worthwhile to others, and learned valuable lessons themselves.

Ten schools sent teachers and students: Iloilo National High School, Sun Yat Sen High School, Ateneo de Iloilo, La Paz Elementary School I and II, La Paz National High School, Saint Joseph High School, Graciano Lopez Jaena Elementary School, Jalandoni Memorial National high School and St. Therese Children School. DepEd Regional and Division Supervisors Dr. Elsa Consebit and Mr. Jude Thaddeus Iledan also graded the affair. We take this opportunity to express our sincerest thanks to the DepEd officials, school administrators, teachers and students who responded positively to our invitations. (BG)



Christina Ashley and Nel Yee of Gr. 5 talk about history of ISA. Dr. Elsa Consebit of DepEd listens attentively



Ms. Beulah Gerada, Chairperson of the Open House Committee, presents a souvenir banner to Ms. Ivy Funtanilla of Iloilo National High School

## ISAers' Battle of Linguistic Eloquence and Dramatic Prowess

ISAers revealed their linguistic eloquence and dramatic prowess in English Declaration Contest held last October 7.

Talented ISAers showed their best and their best was indeed good enough for they captured the attention of the audience and won the nod of the judges. Among the talented ISAers who joined in the said battle of talent, three emerged to be undefeated — Shayne Trinidad (gr. 2), Elijah Erl Ong (gr. 4), and Shireen Shahmardani (1<sup>st</sup> yr.).

This contest is a way of fulfilling the school's thrust to offer quality education to the ISAers by exposing them to various activities that enable them to discover their strength and overcome their weaknesses. (EP)



Elijah Ong of Gr. 4 Confucius was Champion in the English Declaration Contest Grades. 4 to 6 Category



Shayne Angelie Trinidad of Gr. 2 Socrates won the First Place in the English Declaration Contest Grades 1 to 3 Category

## 2 ISAers joined Karatedo

Robert Michael Hudak, and Lara Hudak, Grade 3 and Grade 5 ISAers respectively, joined the Mayor Thadeo Z. Quano National Invitation Karatedo Championship held at Mandaue City, Cebu last Sept 24-25 where Robert won a silver medal in the Kata Competition.

They will go to Bacolod on Oct. 22-23 for the VISMIN Invitational Karatedo Competition. (KR)



## ISA Camping: An Education for Life

The objective of education is to equip all learners with the necessary crutches to survive life outside the comfort of air-conditioned environment. Education is preparation for life – a challenge that every school has to face.

Last October 25-27, learners, facilitators, and the administrators took time to break the routinary school life by spending two evening camping out at Anhawan Leisure Camp!

This three-day activity was kicked off by an opening program, raising of team banners and cheering contest. Prior to that campers busy themselves putting up tents. Parlor games immediately followed the opening. Several games and activities like treasure hunting, relays, swimming, etc. were prepared by the committee members not only to measure the agility and physical strength of the campers, but their wit and intelligence as well.

After a tiring yet fun-packed and worth cherishing activities, campers and teams who did their best in performing all the tasks they ought to perform were given due recognition.

After two days of heated competition, the Blue Hawk emerged as the Champions and the Red Phoenix as the First Runner-up.

This year's Mr. and Ms. Camping are Ian Lawrence Que and Justine Betsy Aguirre, both active members of Blue Hawks.

For the ISAers, this activity is more than just a camping. It's a day out from all the academic tasks, an application of the theoretical and practical know how they learned in the classroom, and above all, a test to measure their independence and maturity. EP



ISA Preschool Chinese language Art facilitator, Ms. Marjorie Yap, during her nursery math demo class held at Days Hotel. Seated at the back were administrators and teachers from other schools. Aside from Ms. Yap, there were four other teachers from ICCHS, Sun Yat Sen High School and Philippine Cultural High School gave their demo lessons. Ms. Yap was the only Filipino-Chinese teacher who held a demo class.

## In Search of Optimal Chinese Language Art Teaching Techniques

The Visayas Chinese-Filipino Schools Convention was held last October 28-29 in Iloilo city. This is the second of its kind sponsored by the Visayan Chinese Education Research Center since it was formed two years ago. The first was held in Cebu last year.

More than one hundred twenty administrators and teachers from eighteen schools in Cebu, Bacolod, Roxas, Capiz, Cadiz and Iloilo, together with the top administrators of Philippine Chinese Education Research Center convened at Iloilo Days Hotel for one and a half day. The convention boasted two symposia, five teaching demo sessions and three discussion fora. All these attempts were designed to help improve the

the quality of teaching methodology and techniques in the Chinese language art class.

Executive Director Mr. Peter Chan and all ISA Chinese language facilitators took part in all the activities. Ms. Marjorie Yap represented ISA to give a demo math lessons to nursery learners. After presiding a discussion session with the administrators of member schools, Mr. Chan, in his capacity as the newly elected Vice-President of the Visayas Chinese Education Research Center, gave a concise report on the insights of the administrators of Chinese-Filipino schools in the Visayas regarding the current trend of the Chinese Education in this part of the country during the final plenary session.

The ISA Chinese language facilitators said it was indeed a great experience for all of them. M.Y



On behalf of the ISA facilitators, the Executive Director receives Certificates from the immediate past President of VCERC, Mrs. Xu Shuwei



ISA Chinese Language Art facilitators leisurely posed for souvenir during recess

## ISA's Pride

Last month, another honor was brought to the school by Lara Hudak, a Grade 5 – Shakespeare learner and her brother, Robert Hudak, a Grade 3 – Beethoven learner.

After their victory barely a month ago in Mandaue City, they joined the Regional Karatedo Championship held in Robinson's Place, Bacolod City last October 22. Lara won two gold medals in both Kata (showmanship) and sparring categories, while Robert won gold medal in showmanship and silver in sparring. This tournament was participated by different teams from Bacolod, Boracay and Iloilo.

This only proves that ISAers do not only excel in academics, they are formidable athletes as well. MF



## ISAthletes: 'We are set for PRISAA!'

The annual Iloilo Private Schools Athletic Association (ILOPRISAA) meet is an arena for students of private school in Iloilo City to compete in the field of sports, literary and music. This year, forty six member schools look forward to this event to prove their mettle and to give their schools in general and their students in particular a chance to show their various talents and intelligences.

According to Mr. Oscar Co, ISA-BOT Sports Committee Chairman, this year, after a one-year probationary period, Iloilo Scholastic Academy is joining the ILOPRISAA meet. ISA will send thirty three athletes to compete in six major sports areas: table tennis, lawn tennis, swimming, track and field, badminton and taekwondo. And, another eighteen ISAers will join in the literary-musical and academic contests.

ISA joins in English and Filipino declamation, extemporaneous, oration, vocal solo, spelling, mathematics, and general information quiz bee.

For the ISAers, PRISAA meet is more than just a contest of intellectual, creative and athletic skills; it is an opportunity to learn from other schools and an avenue for the ISA learners to prove themselves and put into action the theories they have learned. EP



ISAthletes 2005, Go for the gold!

### Out of the Four Walls

After a demanding examination week, the grade One learners, with their parents and facilitators, took a big break from the hassle and bustle of the city to a private resort in Barangay Cabanbanan, Oton, Iloilo.

The children truly enjoyed swimming, playing and sharing of foods and ideas in the outing. Through this, bonds were strengthened among the Grade one parents, learners and facilitators. This made learning possible outside the four-walls of the classroom.

The activity was a resounding success as the learners and parents truly had a worth cherishing experience as manifested in the never-ending tales the learners keep on telling after the excursion. Indeed it was a day! MS



#### Track & Field:

Shot put (HS) - Rosellette Daguro - SILVER  
 Shot put (EL) - Steven Que - GOLD  
 Shot put (EL) - Geraldine Benjamin - SILVER  
 Discus (HS) - Rosellette Daguro - BRONZE  
 Discus (EL) - Steven Que - GOLD  
 Discus (EL) - Geraldine Benjamin - GOLD  
 400M (EL) - Lee Montero - BRONZE



#### Badminton and Taekwondo:

Badminton Double (EL) - SILVER  
 John Matthew Tan; Steven Que  
 Taekwondo (EL) - Mary Chua - GOLD

#### Lawn Tennis and Table Tennis:

Lawn tennis (HS) - Shena Blancaflor - GOLD  
 Table Tennis Boys(EL) - GOLD  
 Gian Trimanez, Eduard Calaguas,  
 Alej Shem Chua

(Note: this is a PARTIAL RESULTS of the games)

### A New Dimension in Teaching and Promoting Philippine Music & Dance

ISA music facilitator Diane Cartagena participated in the two-day workshop on new approaches in teaching and promoting Philippine music and dance last October 28-29 at St. Paul's university gymnasium. The participants came from various provinces of Region 6. About 600 Music and P.E. teachers, coordinators, dance instructors and choreographers attended the workshop.

The workshop was spearheaded by the KABAYAO Family, Business and Arts, Inc. and by famous choreographers here in Iloilo City. It aims at promoting different approaches in interpreting Philippine dance, music and theatre.

On the first day, there was a short lecture on choreography, followed by movement exercises such as mirroring, sculpturing, name game, tension and release exercises, use of levels and stage anatomy. In the afternoon, there was a lecture on dance improvisation with the use of levels, traveling and partnering. Most of the participants were given the chance to participate in the activity. Before the day ends, all the participants were given a task to choreograph a folk song. There were twelve groups who showed excellent performance during the Culminating Activity on the second day of the workshop. DC

## 4<sup>th</sup> FCAAF Cup Table Tennis ISAers brought home 6 trophies

ISAers proved again they are not just scholars but also champions in sports. They showed this at the 4<sup>th</sup> Filipino Chinese Amateur Athletic Federation (FCAAF) Table Tennis Tournament held last November 26 and 27 at Gaisano City.

Bona fide students from four Chinese-Filipino Schools, namely ICCHS, SYSHS, Ateneo de Iloilo and ISA, joined in this year's table tennis tournament. ISAers outshone the other players in the girl's division. Players from the three other schools divided the trophies in the boy's category. Only Gian Francis Trimañez of Grade 6 made it to the top three in the boys Elementary Level, he bagged 3<sup>rd</sup> place. While in the girls elementary, Trixie Shane Ledesma of Grade 6 was the Champion and Jia Fem Bolinas of Grade 4 won the 2<sup>nd</sup> place.



Justine Aguirre ready for action

In the high school division, Grace Rebollos of 2<sup>nd</sup> year proved herself unchallenged by winning the 1<sup>st</sup> place and her classmate Justine Aguirre won the 2<sup>nd</sup> place. In the Women's Open, Grace Rebollos defeated many adult players to finally emerged second.

## ISA Student Council's Share-A-Joy Project

The officers of ISA Student Council have started the campus-wide campaign for the success of their **Share-A-Joy Project**. They gave out letters to parents asking for donations of toys and old clothes to be given to the nearby indigent kids. The solicitation officially started last November 29.

The Council places a big box at the school entrance where anybody can drop his donation anonymously.

They will continue to accept donation until December 16. Then they will turnover these goods to the invited kids who will visit the school during the Christmas gift-giving activity, the HALAD sang ISA sa PASKUA, on December 18, 2005.



## PRESCHOOL SPORTSFEST '05

Last November 25, the Preschool Department held its 2005 SportsFest. This activity is chaired by Ms. May Dumaguin with the cooperation of other preschool facilitators. This is not only an all-game activity but also served as family day. The program started with the field demonstration of each level. The Nursery pupils performed their dance in red shorts and white shirt to the tune of "Follow the Leader" while shaking their red and gold pompoms. The Kinder I pupils pretended to be penguins and space invaders as they performed their number. And of course the Kinder II pupils were the last but not the least performers, holding their hoola hoops and dumb bells as they marched forward.

The field demo was followed by series of games, the most awaited part of the preschoolers and parents as well. All the games were participated by the parents and their children. Parents sat on the chairs with the children during the "Musical Chair" game. Moms were very busy helping their child in wearing school uniform during the "Going to School" relay. Moms and dads tried to outdo each other to see who is the fastest in eating bananas, with the help of their blind-folded kids. The kids enjoyed riding at the back of their mom or dad while holding with their mouth a spoon and calamansi on it. It is like they are having horse-back riding. After the tiring but fun-filled activity, everybody gathered again for his snacks and together children danced with Jollibee. JMP

## UPDATE: ISA Medal Tally at PRISAA Meet

Last November, ISA joined the PRISAA for the first time. ISAers brought home 8 gold, 4 silver and 4 bronze. The additional 2 gold came from H.S. girls table tennis (Grace, Justine & Helinda) and Elem. girls javelin (Geraldine); 1 silver from Elem. boys javelin (Steven) and 2 bronze from Elem. Boys backstroke (Ian) and H.S. girls javelin (Rosellette).

## "Teacher ko ... ... Idol ko"

Teaching is a noble profession. This adage makes all teachers proud of themselves. Last December 2, ISA celebrated Teacher's Day with the theme: "Teacher ko, Idol ko". The Parents Association, headed by Mr. Emma Chiu, prepared a very exciting program "The Search for Most Popular Teacher, Well-Loved Teacher and ISA Best Personality". Parents and ISAers vote for their favorite teachers. The 'Most Popular Teacher' was awarded to Mr. Oscar Barrato; Ms. May Ann Farillon was cited 'Well-Loved Teacher' and the 'ISA Best Personality' title was given to our supportive Executive Director, Mr. Peter M. Chan.

ISAers performed some song and dance numbers. The program lasted the whole morning. ISAers and parents enjoyed giving cards, flowers and other special gifts to their beloved teachers.

You may ask how was the feeling of teachers that day? Well, we ISA teachers were very proud of ourselves. We felt so great especially hearing the messages from our pupils. To be into teaching profession is indeed rewarding. AME

## Young Writers of ISA Writers Guild 13 Qualified to Join in Regional Competition

Thirteen ISA young writers were among the qualifying winners in the Iloilo City Press Conference – Division Level held at DepEd Division Social Hall on November 29, 2005. Writers from public and private schools in the city of Iloilo participated in the conference. Of the twenty schools participated in the elementary level, ISA ranked fifth in the overall score. Out of sixteen joined in the high school level ISA ranked eighth. The following are members of ISA Writers Guild who qualified to join in the Regional competition to be held in Passi City on December 9-11:

Elementary --- Photojournalism: Karl Francis Chan (4<sup>th</sup>); English Editorial Writing: James Eduard Chiu (7<sup>th</sup>); English Feature Writing: Trixie Ledesma (1<sup>st</sup>); English Sports Writing: Norm Vincent Jalipa (3<sup>rd</sup>); English Copy Reading: Christopher Jon Gaw Put (10<sup>th</sup>); Filipino Editorial Writing: Haydee Que (1<sup>st</sup>).

Secondary --- Photojournalism: Anne Margaret Co (4<sup>th</sup>); Editorial Cartooning: Sunshine Elizabeth Do (4<sup>th</sup>); English News Writing: Pearly Joy Gallos (9<sup>th</sup>); English Editorial Writing: Neil Kevin Tan Yau (6<sup>th</sup>); English Feature Writing: Eunice Marie Serilo (7<sup>th</sup>); English Copy Reading: Eunice Marie Serilo (2<sup>nd</sup>); Filipino Feature Writing: Rita Nina Chua (9<sup>th</sup>); Filipino Copy Reading: Jan Jarnel Geyenne Tiu (10<sup>th</sup>).

## HALAD SANG ISA SA PASKUA

Gift packs of goods and toys were given to 70 chosen families of Brgy. Nabitanan last December 18, 2005. It was a half day filled with Christmas fun and spirit of joy experienced by the parents and children from the adopted barangay together with the ISA learners (Grades 5 to Second Year), faculty and staff.

The event, organized by the ISA Student Council, started with a program full of games and a showcase of talents of the Brgy. Nabitanan kids. And of course, it shows also talents of the ISA learners. Most of all, it had been an opportunity to share the joy and blessings the ISA learners had last year.

The families and kids went home very happy and thankful for the gifts they have received. ISA learners and facilitators were at the same time filled with joy to have experienced making other people happy. Indeed, it had been a very fulfilling experience to all.



Children from Brgy. Nabitanan arrived very early for the Christmas gift-giving and games sponsored by ISA Student Council



(clockwise): Japanese walk; Gift-giving; Talents show; 'Paint me a picture'



ISA junior facilitators share the joy of the winning team

Visit ISA Website  
[www.isa.edu.ph](http://www.isa.edu.ph)

### EDITORIAL

#### NEW YEAR, A New Beginning

New Year marks another start for us to live and cherish. A year, which we hope would be more fruitful than the previous years. We often make resolutions which somehow serve as our guidelines to do better. The problem is, are these really kept and pushed through the end? The easiest way to start and do better for the year ahead is to see it as a new beginning, and not simply a continuation of our past. A journey which starts with a single and small step until we are ready to take a bolder and bigger step. This will better keep us focused on our goals.

If we want to do something new, we must first know how to sever our ties with the past. Dwelling in the past would only remind us how insignificant we had lived our life then. We **must let go of our misgivings and mistakes for these would hinder us from seeing the dreams ahead. Besides, new beginnings signify new hope, new dreams and new challenges.**

### ISAers join

#### REGIONAL PRESS CONFERENCE

Members of the ISA Writers' Guild form part of the delegates of the Division of Iloilo City to the 2005 Regional Press Conference after qualifying in the Division Press Conference held in DepEd Iloilo city Division Office. The division qualifying round was participated by both private and public schools in the city.

The RSPC was held in Passi City on December 9-11, 2005. more than a thousand student-delegates from region 6 elementary and high schools converged in Passi vying for the honors to represent Region 6 to the National Press Conference. The three-day affair was highlighted by the announcement of winners.

The following are ISA young writers who made it to the top twenty in their respective categories:

Elementary: Sports Writing (Eng.) 16<sup>th</sup> place: Norm Vincent Jalipa; Photojournalism 8<sup>th</sup> place: Karl

Francis Chan; Editorial Writing (Eng.) 7<sup>th</sup> place: James Eduard Chiu.

High School: Feature Writing (Eng.) 4<sup>th</sup> place: Eunice Marie Serilo; Copy Reading (Fil.) 8<sup>th</sup> place: Jan Jarnel Geyenne tiu.

## PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY

It is time to have a party! Yes, after days of preparation and sleeping late for the exams, the preschoolers were very excited for their Christmas Party. The yuletide gathering was held last December 16, 2005. the children really enjoyed the games and surprises prepared by the preschool facilitators. Even the cute Nursery pupils were indulged in the fun and excitement of everybody. They were so enthusiastic in joining every game. Everybody is also eager to receive gift from his SP. The Nursery kids were very quiet as they listen to their facilitators to call out their names. They do not want to miss it of course.

### ISA Facilitators, HS, Elem. Learners celebrated Christmas last December 16-17

Each grade/year level held its own Christmas party on the last day of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter exams. There were presentation of dances, songs and even musical drama. Sure, each class was not short of exciting games prepared by the advisers. This was in fact the part that kids love most. Prizes were of course awarded to the winners. Delicious foods were prepared by the parents. The highlight of the Christmas party was the exchanging of gifts. Every learner was excited to reveal and at the same time receive his gift from his SP. With all exams finally done, the learners were able to unwind and enjoy with their classmates and facilitators. It was a good end for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and a great preliminary for the Christmas vacation.

On December 17, the faculty, staff and members of the Board celebrated Christmas where everybody enjoyed a lot. There were games, prizes, foods, gifts and lots of fun. Christmas presentations of the facilitators were the highlight of the occasion. Hidden talents were revealed and unknown skills were shown.



## editorial

I believe a strong family bond builds a strong and well-functioned community. The month of February is not only filled with love but also filled with lots of fun and surprises as the ISA community will hold its second Sportsfest and Family Day with the theme 'We are a family, we are one'. These series of activities aim to unite and strengthen good relationships within the ISA community. Furthermore, they will also enable each family to share quality and fun-filled time with their children. So come and be a part of the ISA family. (ed.)

**DepEd Fund for Assistance to Private Education Certifies ISA as ESC Participating Institution**  
**All incoming First Year learners of ISA will enjoy government GASTPE Scholarship Grant**

## ISA Aiming to Reach the Top

ISA's 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year learners were qualified in the 2006 MetroBank-DepEd-sponsored MTAP Math Challenge Division Level Elimination Round for Secondary Level held at DepEd Division of Iloilo City Social and Cultural Hall, last January 31.

The participating schools were ranked based on the average score of the students. The top 2 students from the qualified schools will represent their school in the team category, which will be held at Iloilo Central Elementary School on February 25, 2006.

The Iloilo Scholastic Academy will be represented by Jan Jarnel Geyenne Tiu and Ma. Rita Niña Chua for the 1<sup>st</sup> year level. Emil Ivan Magpoc and Fritzie Gayle Diez will represent 2<sup>nd</sup> year level. Go for it, ISAers! (JH)

## MetroBank Math Challenge Four levels in Elem. made it to the final rounds

A total of 18 ISAers in the elementary level (Grade 1 to 6) were sent to participate in the MTAP (Mathematics Teachers Association of the Philippines) – MetroBank Math Challenge 2006 at the Social Hall of DepEd Division of Iloilo last January 30. This is our second year of participation in the said competition. The participants took a 50-item written examination for 60 minutes. Then, the two highest scores of the three representatives from each school were summed-up and ranked.

This year, the MTAP committee chose 12-qualified schools in each grade level out of more than 30 schools both public and private in Iloilo City to compete for the team final to be held at Iloilo Central Elementary School on February 24. ISAers from Grades 1, 4, 5 and 6 levels were able to make it to the team final round. (OBJ)

Visit ISA Website  
[www.isa.edu.ph](http://www.isa.edu.ph)

## ISA ORCHESTRA A dream come true

ISA Orchestra had its maiden performance during the ISA Foundation Anniversary on October 1, 2005. The Chinese New Year Celebration gave the members another opportunity to perform better and show to the public what they have got.

The Orchestra started from a small group of less than 50 members. Now it reaches up to 80 performers. It is composed of Grade 3 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year H.S. learners plus one grade 2 and one kinder 1 learners. It takes great effort, let alone big risk, to train such a big group who are all beginners. And the repertoire is quite complicated. For months, learners had to stay after the class review to hone their skills in different musical instruments. For the whole week before January 31, every morning and afternoon learners and facilitators would practice under the heat of the sun.

The effort was not put into waste after all; it is worth all the hassle and hardship. Feedback after the Chinese New Year performance was encouraging. Many people conveyed their appreciation and amazement of the members' splendid show. It was indeed a very unique presentation. Go the distance, ISAers! We know, we've just started the long journey to excellence. Congratulations! (DC)



Music facilitator Ms. Diane Cartagena is the person responsible for the training and organizing of the ISA Orchestra. This was taken during the rehearsal for the Chinese New Year presentation.



(clockwise from top-left) The 3 violinists are Sunshine Do (2<sup>nd</sup> Yr), Angela Ahn (Gr 3), Donald Po (Gr 2); playing the recorder are Gr 3 & 4 learners; the guitarists are all from 2<sup>nd</sup> Yr; Anne Melissa Co, the youngest member, is one of the keyboard players; the drummers and the harmonica players are from Gr 5 to 2<sup>nd</sup> yr. Playing of musical instruments is now integrated in ISA's music program. The program requires all ISAers should be able to play at least 5 musical instruments upon their graduation in high school.



Ignoring the heat of the burning sun, the dancers unyieldingly went on with their practice

## Unity of Two Cultures

Last January 31, Ilonggos and visitors from other parts of the country witnessed again one of our city's grandest celebrations, the Chinese New Year. This year, ISA joined in this annual celebration for the second time.

ISA uniquely depicts the harmony and unity of the Chinese and Filipino cultures through a medley of Chinese and Filipino dances with live musical accompaniment, courtesy of ISA Orchestra. The dancer's Chinese traditional costume is one of a kind. It was modeled from a doll bought from China by our Executive Director, Mr. Peter Chan. It had attractive colors with authentic design.

All the efforts and sacrifices that ISAers had during the rehearsals paid off. Even during the parade, wherever the ISA dancers and musical ensembles are, there you hear the appreciative applause of the viewers. The dancers and the ensembles specially displayed their best during the stage presentation that evening. They successfully captured the full attention of the amazed audience. (AME)

## Reading Disability Detection and Intervention

ISA English facilitator, Ms. Beulah Gerada, attended a whole day seminar entitled 'Reading Disability and Related Disorder: Detection and Intervention' at the Division of Iloilo Monfort Hall last February 4. The seminar was organized by E-Creations Book Station in cooperation with Hiyas. The speaker, Dr. Marlene M. Alon, is the directress of Alpha Angelicum Academy, a member of the Advisory Council of the ADHD of the Philippines and a board member of the Reading Association of the Philippines.

Dr. Alon stressed the important position of teachers in detecting reading disabilities and disorders in their learners as early as possible. Early intervention is necessary in disorders, like ADHD, because of its tendency to develop into other disabilities and difficulties. Attendees, composed of private and public school teachers, were introduced to the symptoms for such disabilities and disorders, and a basic knowledge of the *how to's* in reading disability detection.

Teachers, however, are only a part of a team that should include parents and medical professionals for an intervention attempt to be a success. (BG)

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## ISA Yesterday & Today

### 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> APSA Evaluation a comparison

This is the second year ISA has engaged the service of Asian Psychological Services and Assessment Corporation (APSA) to help objectively evaluate the proficiency of ISAers in English, Math and Science.

The following figures are the results of the written evaluation taken on February 24, 2005 and February 23, 2006, respectively:

#### K2 English, Math and Science

Description	No. of learners	
	2005	2006
Highly Proficient	16	24
Proficient	6	4
Progressing towards std.	1	0
Do not meet std.	0	0

#### Elementary (Gr. 1 to Gr. 6) Math

Description	No. of learners	
	2005	2006
Highly Proficient	31	66
Proficient	57	62
Progressing towards std.	39	11
Do not meet std.	5	1

#### First and Second Year Math

Description	No. of learners	
	2005	2006
Highly Proficient	4	6
Proficient	14	17
Progressing towards std.	6	19
Do not meet std.	1	4

#### Elementary (Gr. 1 to Gr. 6) English

Description	No. of learners	
	2005	2006
Highly Proficient	45	58
Proficient	47	60
Progressing towards std.	37	21
Do not meet std.	3	1

#### First and Second Year English

Description	No. of learners	
	2005	2006
Highly Proficient	2	8
Proficient	11	33
Progressing towards std.	10	4
Do not meet std.	2	1

#### Elementary (Gr. 1 to Gr. 6) Science

Description	No. of learners	
	2005	2006
Highly Proficient	12	17
Proficient	63	81
Progressing towards std.	45	40
Do not meet std.	12	2

#### First and Second Year Science

Description	No. of learners	
	2005	2006
Highly Proficient	0	3
Proficient	6	19
Progressing towards std.	17	24
Do not meet std.	2	0

## editorial

### A new beginning...

Graduation day marks an end of a stage in one's academic pursuit and the beginning of the higher and more challenging episode in life.

For the thirty Kinder 2 preschoolers it means the end of leisurely learning and playful activities on one hand and the beginning of a totally different formal elementary learning on the other. For the sixteen 6<sup>th</sup> graders it marks an end of childhood and the start of adolescent period. With that comes more school work and unforeseen challenges. High school years are understandably characterized by emotional storm and stress; though both parents and graduates are expected to be happy to see what they have so far accomplished through their joined effort and close collaboration with ISA facilitators. Altogether, the parents, the school and most of all the learners are full of hopes that their accomplishments eventually would help the learners to cope up with emotional and social conditions that accompany the new stage of their life. (ed)

### A day of Family togetherness

ISA Family Day was celebrated for the first time. It was a whole day full of fun, games, and family togetherness.

The ISA grounds last Feb.19 was transformed into a festive place for the Family Day Celebration. There were tents, food stalls, hanging flaglets and game booths prepared by the different grade and year levels. There was a Talent Showdown and parlor games in the morning. The BINGO was played in the library in the afternoon.

The First Year, Grade 2 and Shayne Trinidad also a grade 2 learner were the winners of the Talent Showdown. Many learners and their parents joined the parlor games.

This affair organized by the ISA Student Council turned out to be a memorable event where everybody enjoyed and had built better relationships among other families of our ISA community. (LT)



The Student Council officers used the proceeds they earned from the Family Day projects to buy books for the ISA Library to enrich its reading resources.

## CITY TOUR

February 17 was a red day for the preschool department. The little learners together with their facilitators had a fun-filled day in touring interesting places in Iloilo. The first site they visited was the Taoist Temple in Tanza where they were exposed to traditional Chinese religious beliefs and culture. The 2<sup>nd</sup> stop was the Museo de Iloilo where the ISAers learned about their Ilonggo heritage. From the Museo the group proceeds to CPU to visit the butterfly farm. It was quite a unique educational experience for the preschoolers. The last stop was Dunkin' Donuts to replenish their energy which was spent touring the places mentioned. It was not just a fun-filled day for the learners it was a day full of adventure that they will not forget. (MFJ)

## ISA Sportsfest '06



The ISA one-day sports meet was a resounding success. This annual sport event include: track and field, badminton, table tennis, volleyball, basketball and parlor games. Below are the team champions of each sport event:

### Champions

Badminton: White eagles  
Table tennis: Blue Hawks  
Basketball: Blue Hawks  
Volleyball: Blue Hawks  
Parlor Games: Green swallows & Yellow Sparrows  
Track and field: Yellow Sparrows



### Overall Results

Champion: Green Swallows  
1<sup>st</sup> runner up: Blue Hawks  
2<sup>nd</sup> runner up: Yellow Sparrows

The dedication and careful planning of members of the different committees also greatly contributed to the success of this annual intramural of ISA. Learners as well did their best, particularly the small kids who joined in the track events. (DN)