

Editorial

ISA's Direction

The first few years of a child's life are the most important in forming his personality and character. These are the formative years. I find this an apt metaphor for ISA's first 2 years. They have been a time of setting foundations and of learning how to implement principles in various shades and colors of everyday school life. We had a lot of first times, and it had indeed been a very exciting time!

ISA understands that having a solid foundation is crucial for the school's vision of growth. We need to be vigilant and dedicated to make sure that we stay true to our course during the last 2 years of existence and beyond. Thus, we came up with our system—refining it along the way. Rigorous it may seem, it is also challenging and stimulating for individual growth.

ISA also believes in constant evaluation. There is no room for mediocrity. The APSA tests near the end of the school year is one of the tools to rate how much ground we've gained in reaching our goal. Hitting 2 birds with one stone, APSA also helps the learners assess themselves academically. We would surely be hearing more of APSA in our future years and hopefully with more and more positive results.

Amazingly for a 2 year old "child", ISA has proved to be proactive if I may say so myself. The bold step of making multimedia-aided classroom instruction belies its toddler stage. The school's passion for the best possible education for its learners has a very broad vision, and young though it may be it is not afraid to take risks and to get into it.

ISA is growing and growing fast. We'd like to make sure it grows up right, and this takes a team effort. As the saying goes '*It takes a community to raise a child*', it takes a community of parents, ISA facilitators and the administration to raise a school to its highest possible potential. Let us all rise to the occasion! (BGG)

What is ISAMath

ISAMath is an intensive training program. It is designed to meet the special needs of learners who have the potential to absorb more math lessons in a relatively shorter span of time. This training enables the trainees to learn lessons far advance than are intended for their present academic levels.

About thirty selected ISAers who are highly proficient in Math are encouraged to take part in the ISAMath program starting this summer.

ISAMath aims to enhance the mathematical potentials of the trainees. To prepare them for future exams and other math training programs, and even for competitions. Thus, the school is offering separate classes for these purposes.

Meanwhile, three ISA learners were qualified to join the 2006 *Young Mathematicians In-House Intensive Training Program (YMIITP)* this April. The qualifiers of Mathematics Trainers' Guild (MTG) Training Program were **Nesan John Muleta** (Grade 3), **James Eduard Chiu** (Grade 6), and **Jan Jarnel Tiu** (First Year). They were among the high scorers in the first phase of the training, *MTG Mathematical Challenge for Filipino Kids Training Program (MCFKTP)*. This qualifies them to join the next level of intensive training. (JTH)

Grade I Adds Another Section

ISA has to open another section in Grade One next school year due to a substantial increase in the number of learners. Many come from other schools. ISA limits the number of learners to 30 per class in the elem. and high school levels. 12 in nursery, 15 in K1, 17 in K2. (OBJ)

Visit ISA Website
www.isa.edu.ph

Experience MCI+ ... Only at ISA

Iloilo Scholastic Academy will activate the Multimedia Classroom Instruction (MCI+) program starting school year 2006-2007. The second year and third year high school are designated to be the pilot classes. Classrooms under the MCI+ program are equipped with built-in LCD projectors and DVD players. (Sound system will be added during the 2nd phase of its implementation). ISA facilitators involved in MCI+ program are all equipped with laptops, principally for their multimedia presentations in class. In order to give the best possible education, ISA wishes to stay abreast with all of technology's latest innovations and make full use of the advantages that it has to offer. As of this writing, 16 of the ISA facilitators have started working on their individual laptops – busy designing their multimedia presentation. According to the Executive Director, 80% of the ISA facilitators *should* own laptops by SY 2007-2008. And in five years all ISA classrooms will be under MCI+ program. (BGG)

Reservation Updates: Available slots in each level have been reduced to no more than 10 to reach our target: **Nursery-3; k1-3; k2-0; G1-7; G2-1; G3-1; G4-0; G5-5; G6-5; 1st yr-7; 2nd yr-4; 3rd yr-5.** So why wait? Make reservation for your child now!



Ma'am Maychelle Lao with elementary pupils in Shanghai. Ms. Lao together with Mr. Sherwin Lao and Ms. Marjorie Yap joined an educational study group sponsored by the Office of the Overseas Chinese of the PROC last April 2 to 22

Changing Lanes

A Shift to Mandarin Instruction

In the advent of providing the necessary tools to further develop the Chinese Language instruction at ISA, and not without profound discussion, contemplation and debates, the administration had finally decided to switch to Mandarin language instead of Fukien dialect as the principal medium of instruction in Chinese classes.

The decision is based on the belief that Mandarin has its edge because of its wide geographical usage and international recognition. The fact that it is also the national language of China farther strengthened its case.

Mandarin as medium of instruction will take its full effect starting in school year 2006-2007. With full implementation in Grade 1 and the Preschool Department, while Grade 2 up to the Third Year will initially have some units in Mandarin conversation, and eventually experience gradual shift from Fukien dialect to Mandarin. (JBC)

ISA Summer Workshop '06

ISA Summer Workshop '06 started April 17 and will end on May 19. We provide suitable venue for ISAers and even students from other schools to develop their talents and enrich their knowledge. They have the following workshops to choose from: Kindergarten Place, Mandarin for Beginners, ISA Writeshop, Art and Painting, Piano and Organ Lessons, American Speak for Kids, Scholastic Reading and Comprehension, ISAMath and Chinese Language. (RCD)

Congratulations, Graduates!

Last March 25 and 26, 2006 at 4 p.m. ISA held its 2nd Commencement Exercises and Recognition Ceremony for the Preschool and Elementary. 30 K2 graduates received their diplomas on March 25, while 14 Elementary graduates received theirs on March 26. The following are the academic awardees of the said graduating classes: (MF)

Kindergarten II Love

- 1st Honors: Chavez, Toni Harriet B.
- 2nd Honors: Chankingwai, Jason Ryan H.
- 3rd Honors: Jalipa, Venise Natannie S.

Kindergarten II Hope

- 1st Honors: Alve, Kent Rouie A.
- 2nd Honors: Sebanta, Chysrinel U.
- 3rd Honors: Flores, Matthew Valentin D.

Elementary

- 1st Honors: Chiu, James Eduard A.
- 2nd Honors: Chan, Karl Francis Y.
- 3rd Honors: Ledesma, Christine Shane T.

Editorial

ISA Moving Ahead

Abraham Lincoln was quoted saying that he was a slow walker but he never walked backwards. With the MCI+ activated, ISA this school year advanced another step towards its vision. Our learners will have new learning experiences this year. Aside from the MCI+, the school will have its student publication – The Juniors Scholars for the learners to exercise their learning prowess and for the facilitators' teaching aids - the Facilitators' Resource Center is accessible.

We enhance our learning materials and facilities; we also prepare our facilitators. This month, facilitators were busy attending various seminars and trainings in different areas.

How about our curriculum? With the advent of modern teaching, ISA cannot just throw away traditional teaching but we get the best in each world and combine them to prepare our learners to the big world that awaits them.

ISA moves ahead and takes a leap. *RCD*

THE ROLE OF FOUR B'S IN PRESCHOOL TEACHING

Ms. Floralie Lacuesta, ISA Nursery facilitator, attended an Early Childhood Seminar Workshop on 'Four B's and Preschool Teaching'. The said seminar was jointly sponsored by Saint Mary's Publishing Corp. and West Visayas State University last May 2-4 at Iloilo Grand Hotel. The presenters helped enlightened preschool facilitators (teachers) on how to make a big difference in the child's learning experience by advocating the integration of the 4 B's, which are the BIBLE, the BOOK, the BROOM and the BALL, in the preschool teaching.

In general, the seminar aims to make the participants aware of the importance of holistic education at that very early age in our learners growth. *FAL*

Learner's Lounge

In spite of limited space, ISA opens a Learners' Lounge starting SY 2006-2007. It will be located adjacent to the Computer Lab. It will temporarily house the staff of the new school organ, The Junior Scholars. Ms. Beulah Gerada and Mr. Zhang were appointed consultants of the said publication. There will also be tables and chairs with chess boards available for the chess enthusiasts. *MAG*

ISA Directors & Facilitators Welcome Visitors from China



Our Guests (from left): Prof. Zhang Zijing, Dir. Gao Lulu, Ms. Marivic Parcon of ICCHS, Ms. Zhu Shishi, Ms. Debbie Chan, ISA facilitator and Ms. Elizabeth Do, ISA-BOT officer



Last May 5 and 12, ISA Directors and facilitators welcomed three visitors from China, Ms. Zhu Shishi, Prof. Zhang Zijing and Director Gao Lulu. They came from Huaqiao University, Xiamen University and Center of Fujian Overseas Chinese Language And Culture Education, respectively.

The Chinese visitors had an in-depth discussion of the present state of Chinese language instruction in our country with the Executive Director and the Chinese facilitators. While visiting the faculty room, they had the occasion to witness first-hand how ISA facilitators were preparing for the upcoming Multimedia presentation under the MCI+ program.

While touring the ISA Campus, they paid particular attention to the Scholastic Literacy Place textbooks, the McGraw-Hill Science textbooks and various Chinese reading materials in the library. They also inquired about the school policies on Chinese Language and issues involving Chinese language teaching method which put emphasis on reading Chinese books. While viewing the output for MCI+ presentation one of the visitors can't help but commented that, "ISA is becoming an elite school." *NCG*



PRESCHOOL SUMMER WORKSHOP CULMINATING ACTIVITY

ISA Preschool held its Summer Workshop Culminating Activity on May 19. Each class prepared a presentation. They also enjoyed the games and food. The activity started with the food preparation by the children themselves. Nursery kids prepared egg sandwich; Kinder I had hotdog on stick; Kinder 2 prepared fruit punch. Everybody had a share of the foods after the program. *JMP*



FACILITATORS' RESOURCE CENTER

This school year ISA officially opens the Facilitators' Resource Center. It is located beside the school clinic. It has many practical reference materials to aid the facilitators in preparing their lessons. Facilitators won't have to go to the library for the most of the reference materials and resource books they need. The FRC has been built and opened mainly for this purpose. *VKLM*

TEC ON TIP

Four facilitators of ISA attended the seminar of the Teacher Induction Program (TIP) on May 12 at West Visayas State University. The said seminar was a project of the Teacher Education Council (TEC) which aims to bridge the gap between the pre-service education and the in-service training of private school teachers who are 3 years and below in the teaching field. The speakers of the seminar were Dr. Beatriz G. Torno, TEC Executive Director; Dr. Grace Mateo and Dr. Purita Bilbao, TEC Members. *MTP*



I.N.S.E.T.

Last May 2-4, 2006 five ISA facilitators attended the In-Service Training (INSET) for teachers conducted by DepEd (Department of Education) and FAPE (Funds for Assistance of Private Education) held in Punta Villa Resort Inc. The facilitators were distributed to different subject areas namely: English, Filipino, Social Studies, Science, and Math.

During the 3-day seminar the speakers in different subject areas tackled the LP (Learning Package) which is part of the BEC (Basic Education Curriculum) which aims to produce graduates who are globally competitive and who are not only good at doing a particular job but those who can easily adapt and be flexible with their skills.

The participants' foremost question toward the end of the seminar was: "Should we do away with the traditional method?" In which one of the speakers in the English area - Dr. Mardy D. Verano replied, "Eclecticism. We get the best in the traditional and the best in the modern." *RCD*



As part of ISA's Summer Workshop, preschoolers are taught to prepare foods and drinks. This is taken before the the culminating program starts.

EDITORIAL WELCOME HOME!!!

Last June 5, ISA welcomes back the ISAers to their second home. The newly painted classrooms and the designed bulletin boards await the learners for another year of eventful schooldays. The second and third year learners are in for a special treat as their improved classrooms are equipped with multimedia devices. The facilitators who have also been preparing for the past two months are eager to begin with the lessons that are to help guide the ISA learners.

The school year 2006-2007 promises to be another exciting and growth-filled year for everyone. BG

ISA Welcomes 2 Facilitators from China



Ms. Lin Meifang and Huang Jiabao present an art work from China. This beautiful Chinese Traditional handicraft is a gift from Quanzhou Normal University to Iloilo Acholastic Academy.

Last May 26, two Chinese facilitators from China, Ellin Lin MeifFang and Jessica Huang Jiabao, arrived at ISA. They are the new facilitators, engaged through the effort of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, who will help augment the Chinese teaching staff of Iloilo Scholastic Academy.

Miss Ellin and Miss Jessica are graduates of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science respectively in Quanzhou Normal University in China. Miss Ellin is the adviser of First Year. She also handles Mandarin subject in Grade 5 and Nursery. Miss Jessica, on the other hand, is teaching Mandarin in Nursery and the adviser of Grade 6.

Their presence will surely boast the learning efficiency of the ISAers. MS

A Day's Break

It was such a wonderful Sunday morning. ISA Facilitators embarked to Guimaras for an outing last May 28. They spent a day in Villa Igang, Guimaras snorkeling, swimming, and bonding. The beauty of nature relaxed, renewed, and prepared their spirit for the incoming school year. RCD

ISAers Increased by 20% this S.Y.

For two succeeding years, ISA's enrollees had increased by 20% annually. Upon the start of School Year 2006-2007, there are 109 learners in pre-school, 182 learners in elementary and 71 in high school, with a total of 362 learners in all levels. It is 62 learners more compared to last year's enrolment.

Had ISA re-accepted the 18 learners retained last school year and the other 31 aspirants who were declined entry due to the policy of limiting the number of learners per class, ISA learners could have easily exceeded 400. MP

Math Summer Camp '06

"If you don't know your math, you won't succeed in life." These were the words uttered by the speakers of Math Summer Camp 2006 held in Colegio de Sagrado Corazon de Jesus, Iloilo City last May 25 – 26 sponsored by the Phoenix Publishing House, Inc.

Ms. Mayren H. Tuno and Ms. Michelle Peñafior, both ISA math facilitators, attended the said seminar.

The two-day seminar workshop inspired participants to strive harder to become competent math teachers; well-equipped with knowledge and skills to guide learners in solving math problems and creating activities that entail Hands-on Math. MHT

It's School Time

As new school year starts on June 5, ISA is faced again with new challenges. It's another year of struggle and excitement for every ISAer. It is quite reassuring to see ISA facilitators ready and eager to take up the cudgel in the name of education. They spent the whole summer preparing their instruction materials. To make learning more effective, two multimedia classrooms were put to use. This makes efficient delivery of the lessons possible. Parents' response was quite positive. Their support is invaluable to the learning process of their children and to withstand the pressure that comes their way.



A fun way to beat the summer heat and work pressure: ISA Facilitators spend a relaxing moment at Puerto del Mar Resort a week before the start of the new school year.



The Third Year – Curie is one of the two classrooms equipped with LCD projector, DVD player and built-in speakers. These classrooms can anytime be converted into mini audio-visual rooms. Aside from the regular classroom presentations, this setup proves especially effective for music lessons and film showing.

SY 2006-2007 Orientation

The Iloilo Scholastic Academy is now on its third year and to welcome the year, the school conducted its annual orientation for parents and ISAers.



The Orientation started on the 20th day of May 2006. It started off with the grade one and ended up with the combined orientation of the 2nd year and 3rd year high school on the 3rd day of June 2006.

Facilitators from different subject areas were also present to discuss about their subject matter and policy inside the classroom. It was a success. Concerns of the parents and teachers were brought up. GB

TLE Congress

DepEd sponsored the Regional Congress for Technology and Livelihood Educators last June 1-2 at Punta Villa Training.

Mr. Rodgen Jabor, a facilitator from ISA attended the said seminar. The speakers talked on the following topics: Perspective of a Good Leader, Developing an Action Research, and Values of a Good Leaders. Private school teachers from the 17 divisions of Region VI sent participants. The participants had the chance to have skill shopping during the second day session and the activity was concluded with an induction of the Board of Directors for the Regional Association of Technologists and livelihood Educators –VI. Mr. Jabor was elected as representative of the private school in Iloilo City. RJ

2nd Nutrition Month Celebration

A campus-wide Nutrition Day Celebration was held last July 15. It was a half-day event aimed to create awareness among the learners of the relation of nutrition to a healthy body. Activities like games, film-showing, poster-making contests were arranged to help deepen their understanding. The highlight of the event was the medical and dental check-ups conducted by Dr. Ong, Dr. Labrador, Dr. Gallos, Dr. Andaya and Dr. Olivares. HND



Dr. Gallos was examining the teeth of a Grade 1 Picasso learner. While his other classmates were waiting for their turn, the grade 1 Da Vinci learners were in the other room undergoing medical check-up.



Dr. Labrador gave a talk to the preschool learners before the medical checkup. At the same time, other group of children was at the other corner of the room with Dr. Andaya, who had just finished giving her talk on dental care.

Go! ISAthletes

In recent years, schools scouting for 'mercenary players' instead of developing their own talents has become a fad. Obviously, this is contrary to the spirit of sound campus PE program. At ISA, we subordinate sports competition to the needs of total human development. Recruiting good players from outside sources will not raise overall campus sports level, maintaining a good sports program will.

"Players need to have discipline, dedication and perseverance to win in the competition." said Mr. Serapion Garillos, ISA Sports Coordinator.

As early as the third week of this SY, all ISAers had undergone try-outs to vie for the limited slots in their chosen sport events. Few qualified athletes had started their training with their respective trainers during their PE period and special training sessions.

EDITORIAL

Preparation for Life



Month of Health

Health is Wealth - an overused cliché that people often taken for granted but rings true for all of us.

For the past years, Philippine elementary and secondary schools have been celebrating the nutrition month every July. Festivities and an array of activities such as medical and dental check-ups would usually keep the school administration and students busy. For two consecutive years, ISA had set aside one Saturday to celebrate Nutrition Month, using it as a venue to remind the learners of the importance of health to their school life.

In this busy world of technology where stress is a daily companion, it is good to take a break once in a while, to relax and be reminded of our health's well-being.

www.isa.edu.ph

Under Reconstruction

The publication of ISAWeb early this year was a trailblazer in the history of the 'Chinese Schools' in Iloilo city. The breakthrough was a logical offshoot of ISA's vision of coming out from its regional cocoon to step into the broader arena of national and international settings. Finding the need to better serve the public, ISAWeb Committee is now in the process of ameliorating the school's website. This major reconstruction work is expected to finish by the end of August. By then, we invite you to visit ISAWeb, and hope to hear your critical feedback, so that we could continue to improve our webpage to serve you better.

What is LD?

Last July 8, the Language Learning Center held a Seminar entitled "What is Learning Disability?" at WVSU. Learning Disability (LD) is a disorder that affects the ability to interpret what one sees or hears or to link information from different parts of the brain. Ms. Donna Carmina Castelo, the speaker, mentioned some of the manifestations of a child with LD: when he reverses letters and numbers, can't follow oral directions, has difficulty in rote memorizations, and may be clumsy, awkward and accident-prone. However, the child could be creative and artistic. Some modifications and accommodations for children with LD were also discussed during the seminar. MCP

Here in ISA, we value preparation and planning. As early as June, the 21 3rd year learners are already preparing for the university entrance exam that they will take next school year. All the 4th year high school learners of ISA are required to take the UPCAT and Ateneo Entrance Exams. The Review is scheduled every Wednesday and Friday for Science, English, and Math subjects. It is hoped that the said review will somehow increase the passing rate of the graduating class, and warrant more ISA graduates to pursue their tertiary courses in this two most prestigious universities in our country. Next summer, the graduating class will have their second part of rigid review under learned and experienced reviewers. RCD

ISA Student Council SY 2006 -2007

The newly elected officers are now ready to serve the learners of ISA and the school through the activities they intend to sponsor this year. The following officers were inducted last July 24, 2006: President **Shireen Shahmardani**; Vice President **Angelle Ong**; Secretary **Michiko Francine De la Cruz**; Asst. Secretary **Stephanie Rae Fernandez**; Treasurer **Karl Francis Chan**; Asst. Treasurer **Emma Rose Guanco**; Auditor **Jennifer Kate Chan**; Asst. Auditor **Marie Haydee Que**; P.I.O. **Justine Betsy Aguirre**; Sports Coordinator **Grace Rebollos**

Class Review

One of the unique features of ISA is its Class Review where learners will have the chance to do all their assignments in the different subjects before going home. The advisers and facilitators-in-charge make sure that the learners complete all the assignments written on the HOMELINK. However, for special reasons, learners may be sent home before he is done with assignments. This is duly noted in the HOMELINK to inform the parents of the unfinished work.

With assignments completed in school, it is the parents' turn to check if the learners answered them correctly. This is important due to the fact that the next day, learners will have quizzes based on the previous lessons as well as the assignments on hand.

Class Review is a valuable part of the ISA system. However, it can never replace the love and support parents can give to their children's academic needs. Let us not forget that Class Review will only be effective if parents work hand-in-hand with it. BGG

EDITORIAL

BUWAN NG WIKA

Why do Filipinos celebrate *Buwan ng Wika*?

Philippines is a country rich in cultures. Filipinos' hospitality is known to the world. In times of crises and community works, they practice *bayanihan*. They give importance to special occasions like birthday, Christmas, New Year, baptismal, wedding, and fiesta. These celebrations serve as their way of gathering together to strengthen their family ties and friendships.

These cultures and practices were passed on from one generation to the next through language. Since Philippines is an archipelago, it has many native dialects. Hence, Filipinos gave importance to *wikang Filipino* to unite the nation although they can also communicate using the international language which is English.

Celebrating Buwan ng Wika is a way to remind Filipino students of their responsibility to preserve the national language and culture. This is also to give honor to Filipinos who contributed to enrich the national language. Thus, despite of the drive to be excellent in using the English language in communication, Iloilo Scholastic Academy sees to it that its learners appreciate the beauty of the Filipino language through performances such as *deklamasyon*, *pagkukwento*, and *pag-awit* and the Filipino culture of sharing through the *Pista sa ISA*.

The 3rd Year in Trappist

In line with the thrust of ISA Values Formation Program, the school had arranged for an overnight seminar-retreat for the 21 3rd year learners in Trappist Guesthouse, Guimaras last July 21 to 22. The said seminar-retreat focused on the subject of "Relationships and Bonding". During the two-day seminar-retreat, the learners involved themselves with a lot of activities that helped them open their heart and mind. It was hosted by Sr. Fidelis Estrada and four ISA facilitators. During the last day, the learners' parents were waiting in ISA to welcome them for the closing ceremony of the said retreat. *rcd*



www.isa.edu.ph
reconstructed

ISAWeb is now ready for viewing. The info-filled pages will satisfy your needs to know more about ISA. You can also find all the past issues of *The Scholars* under 'Newsletter'. The newly added Chinese page under 'About' would meet the needs of Chinese language readers.

BOOK FAIR

Scholastic, Inc. had its week-long book fair last July at ISA. The event helped to further develop the learners love for reading. Scholastic provided a wide array of book selection on Children's literature. learners were able to purchase interesting books that would surely help develop their reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. It was a successful event because as the event ended, only few books were visible attesting to the learners' positive attitude towards reading. *Hnd*



Trappian Presentation

Last July 17 and 18 the first year and second year learners presented the plays *Confessions of a Gym Class Drop Out* and *Bearstone*, respectively. These plays are taken from Scholastic Read XL books and are creatively interpreted by the learners through their characterization, props and costumes. ISA sees to it that the learners get the chance to express themselves in varied genres such as these in order to enhance their confidence in facing people as well as develop their acting capability. *bgg*

Dula-dulaan

The 3rd year Filipino class, under Ms. Gay D. Belvis, had their *dula-dulaan*, entitled "*Sa Pula, Sa Puti.*", last Aug. 4.

"*Sa Pula, Sa Puti*" is a story about a husband who liked to play cockfighting and later realized that gambling is a waste of time and had changed for the better.

The *dula-dulaan* not only serves as one of the requirements for the grade in Filipino but also enhances learners' role-playing skill. It would also develop their love for Filipino literature and teach them good values through the play.

The class was divided into three groups and the one that was declared winner will perform on August 31's Variety Show at Robinsons' Place. *gdb*

PISTA SA ISA

ISA celebrated BUWAN NG WIKA with the theme "Pista sa Nayon sa ISA: Isang Karaniwang Senaryo sa Tuwing Pista sa Nayon" held in the ISA School Ground last August 18 afternoon.



All ISAers attended the morning classes in their beautiful traditional Filipino costumes.

Just like the usual scenario during fiestas, parents, facilitators, learners and guests ate together. Food was also abundant during the event. Parents and facilitators worked hand and hand to beautify their own kiosk and prepare their native foods.



This gathering does not only strengthen the nationalism of the ISAers but also bind the parents, learners, and facilitators as one family.

As part of the event, ISA community enjoyed watching cultural contests: *Pagkukwento* which was participated in by the Grade 1 to Grade 3 learners; *Deklamasyon* of the Grade 4 to 6 learners; *Vocal Solo OPM* of the First to Third Year learners. The *Kiosk Arrangement Contest* and the *Search for Lakandiwa and Lakambini 2006* was given as a surprise. *mcs*

ISAers join PRISAAP 2nd Youth Congress

The Private Secondary Schools Administrators' Association of the Philippines held its 2nd Visayas Regional Youth Congress last July 26-28 at Punta Villa Resort.

The 3-day affair has a theme of "Leadership for Sustainable Development". Their objective was to bring together the student leaders of the region for a healthy exchanging of ideas on what a "leader" truly is.

There were more than 1700 delegates who joined the forum. Iloilo Scholastic Academy sent 16 delegates to the said Youth Congress.

Speakers from Manila talked about some current events and other issues related to the theme. *fgdd*

Editorial

September is the busiest month for the ISAers this year.

Amidst the academic pressures they have to face daily, they learn to take time preparing for various cultural show like the one shown at Robinsons Place, 'We Are, We, Can'; the school-wide field trips, and the Chinese variety show 'One, Nation, One Dream' presented at SM City. Somehow, this is seen as one of ISA's dreams come true in its bid to balance academic load with extracurricular activities.

We believe for learning to be effective, it should constantly be supplemented with application. Field trip is one practical way to make ISAers aware of what is going on outside the four walls of their comfortable classrooms.

On the other hand, the activities in different venues are opportune for the ISAers to develop their talents in literature and music both in English and Chinese.

Indeed, we can truly say that, "We are, We Can and we can have one dream as a Nation"

ISA kids made their first Pizza & Pancake

The learning tour of the Nursery and Kinder-1 ISAers was indeed a worthwhile experience. Last September 1, 2006, they took a trip to Pancake House and Shakey's at SM City Iloilo. The learners were taught the importance of cleanliness and sanitation, especially in food making and preparation. They also viewed a short film about safety food preparation and were able to see how "Mr. Bacteria" can contaminate food and bring illness. The most interesting part of the excursion was the demonstration of the basic pancake and pizza cooking wherein the kids were able to participate in the adding and mixing of the ingredients. Games and lively interaction followed which young ones enjoyed very much. The activity ended with snacks and giving out of lootbags and appreciation by Capt. Shakey's. Thanks to the Pancake House and Shakey's management for providing the ISA kids this unique learning experience. PSO



High School ISAers' Field Trip

Seventy one First to Third Year ISAers had their field trip last September 1. With them were 8 facilitators and the Executive Director. Arriving at Sta. Barbara, they had a glimpse of the Centennial Flag measuring 30 feet by 60 feet waving atop a 120-foot flagpole fronting the Municipal Hall.

The learners spent longer time inside the Sta. Barbara Centennial Museum. Artifacts and pictures, mostly reflecting the life of Gen. Martin Delgado, caught their attention. The General was the Filipino revolutionary commander assigned in Visayas and Mindanao to fight the Spanish and the American forces at the turn of the 20th century. The ISAers were met by the grandson of Gen. Delgado, Rodulfo Delgado, who



related his personal experience during the Japanese occupation. To show their respect to our native hero, the ISAers laid a wreath at the foot of General Delgado's statue. The facilitators and learners then went in the 200-year old Barbara church to take a glance of its elaborate structure seldom found in the relatively new Catholic churches in the city.

13 cars were in full speed to bring the learners to the Maasin Watershed. After a brief courtesy call on the town Mayor, the group proceeded to the watershed. Fresh air coming from the Mahogany Park and drizzles welcomed them. They witness the flowing water from the mountaintop -- the source of drinkable liquid for the people of Iloilo.



They continued to the sedimentation basin, half kilometer away from the watershed, where sediments are stored and chlorination takes place before water is distributed to the locality. The pouring rain did not stop the learners from climbing up the 160-step Gines Hill in Maasin.



After lunch, learners took pictures of some historical sites in Cabatuan and in the Agro-Agricultural Exhibit.

To complete the information about water purification, the group visited the Reservoir at Sta. Barbara, where they listened to a short talk about water treatment.

Before the activity ended, learners visited the house of Maria Magdalena Jalandoni at Jaro. They were amazed to see the vast art collections of this lover of history and prolific Ilonggo woman writer.

The last stop was the Iloilo Museum. The field trip was organized to enrich the knowledge of the learners about history and to appreciate the importance of environmental preservation.



Preschoolers Celebrate Buwan ng Wika

Last August 25, the ISA Preschool celebrated Buwan ng Wika at the CAP Auditorium. The program started with an opening prayer and followed by the singing of the National Anthem led by a Kinder 2 learner. ISA Executive Director Mr. Peter Chan delivered his very inspiring message emphasizing the importance of our language.

This year's celebration has a big difference from last year's. Each level presented a unique number: poem, song and folk dance. Yes, folk dance! Who said that only the big ones could dance well? Well, Preschool learners proved them wrong. As young as they are, yet they yet they showed their best enough to make their parents proud and happy. The Nursery presented a beautiful poem that tells about being a Filipino. They also presented a song number and an Ifugao dance. See? These cute preschool children can dance well and everybody was surprised to see them performed. Of course the Kinder 1 learners will not allow themselves to be outshined by the Nursery. They were shaking their body while they danced to the tune of Mamang Sorbetero. Aside from this, they also presented a folk dance number, Surtido. The Kinder 2 on the other hand, gave their best in reciting a poem about our brave heroes. They also presented a song number that tells us how to handle our problems. It says, "Kung ika'y mayroong problema, 'wag nang dibdibin pa. 'Wag kang magsimangot o maging masungit pagka't mukha mo ay pumapangit." Aside from this inspiring song number, they also danced with dexterity the Kuratsa, a folk dance from Leyte.

After the program, everybody gathered around a long table flooded with Filipino dishes and delicacies to feel the spirit of Pista sa Nayan. This celebration reminds us of our values and culture. PSO



ISAers Busy Preparing for Renewable Fuel* Science Fair

In celebration of the 3rd founding anniversary of ISA, the elementary and high school learners have started preparing for a science fair, with the theme 'Renewable Fuel is Everywhere @ ISA', early this month. Invitation letters were sent out to the City Mayor's Office, DepEd, DOST, Philippine Information Agency, private and public schools. The Science Fair Festival is scheduled on September 28 to 30.

Below are pictures taken during the actual making of exhibit materials.



Grade 1 learners were able to power an lcd clock with their 'fruit batteries'. Even their parents were watching in disbelief.

Grade 6 learners recycle soft drink cans to make mini ethanol stoves. They can cook eggs and hotdogs with their little stoves.



2nd Year ISAers maybe green hands in soldering, but their perseverance brought them wireless microphones & laser communicator

1st year ISAers were bothering their heads about making the 'line following robot' follow their command.



2006 Shell National Youth Active Chess Championship

ISA is one of the Western Visayas schools that participated in the 2006 Shell National Youth Active Chess Championship held in SM City Iloilo last September 2. The 250 participants were divided into two categories: The Junior division for students between 14 to 20 years old; and the Kiddies division for those below 14 years old.

Roy Michael Trinidad, a Grade One member of ISA's newly organized chess team surprised many for having defeated opponents from other schools much older than him. He earned a total of 31/2 points out of seven games. Following Michael in the lead are Terzon Walter Capalaran, Roisse Tubar and Janna Grace Uy, each earned two points. All of them came from Grade One - Picasso. Other representatives were Elijah Earl Ong of Grade V-Shakespeare; the only ISA player who qualified for the final round earning 5 points out of 7 games. He was followed by Eunice Serillo (4 pts.), Marie Fairie Tay (3.5 pts.), Anne Danielle Tay (2 pts.), Nesan Muleta (2 pts.), Alistar John Moniquez (2 pts.), Patrick Jed Go (2 pt.) and Rainier Cordova (2 pt.s). Angelie Ong, the only team member from ISA in the Junior division, earned 2 points out of seven games. All participants were awarded certificate of participation. SAG

ISA Elementary Learners on Tour

ISA Elementary learners had their field trip last September 1. They were divided into three groups: Grades 1 and 2, Grades 3 and 4, and Grades 5 and 6.

The grades one and two group went to the Science Centrum. There, they were able to observe and manipulate some of the devices that are being used in science subject. Their second stop was the Museo de Iloilo, where they toured around the museum and had short discussion about the exhibits. After which, the group parted. The grade one went to Racsos to see different animals and enjoy swimming in the pool while the grade 2 went to Garin Farm to see the organic vegetations inside the farm. They went to Racsos afterwards.

Grades three and four learners had Fort San Pedro as their first stop. The second stop was the Museo de Iloilo. Then they proceeded to Garin Farm and had their lunch together. After which the two groups separated. The grade 3 learners together with their adviser went to Nes and Tats where they swam in the swimming pool; while the Grade four class visited Miag-ao Church as their last stop.

The Grade 5 and Grade 6 group, on the other hand, went to Racsos where the learners enjoyed watching and taking pictures of preserved and live animals, the second stop was the Garin Farm where they enjoyed touring around the farm riding in a four-wheeled cart pulled by a carabao. They climbed up a tower to have a aerial view of the entire farm. Some had their first experience of horse back riding. The learners also enjoyed and learned a lot about weaving when the group went to Hablon weaving site in Miag-ao as their third stop, they also had a chance to actually see how telephone communication is being processed when they went to Sitelco, the local telecommunication office of Miag-ao. From there, the group visited Miag-ao Church, a site so significant that it is included in the UNESCO list of world's heritage. The last stop was the Lorenz Ville, where they enjoyed the beauty of nature while eating the native foods prepared for them by the owner. Truly, the field trip was fun and educational. They were able to meet and interact with different people and learn a lot from them as well. GDB

ISA Literary Variety Show at Robinsons Place

ISA held a literary variety show with the theme: "We Are! We Can! A Celebration of Literary Genres" at Robinsons Place Iloilo last August 31. Learners from Grade One to Third Year High School displayed an array of dances, plays, songs, verse choirs, story telling and declamation. The presentation was part of ISA's celebration of the International Literacy Month.

ISA administration gives priority and importance to the molding of learners' creativity, talent and confidence through constant public exposures such as the variety show alongside their academic skills. The high school presentations included an excerpt from the hit Disney Channel movie High School Musical's Stick to the Status Quo and We Are All in This Together, as well as A Parade of Literary Characters as a tribute to the classic literary pieces and their authors. The elementary learners charmed the audience with performances such as the Grade 1's verse choirs, *The Flowers and Fairies Song*, Grade 3's reader's theatre, *How Frog Went to Heaven*, Grade 5's action song, *Glowing Inside*, the interpretative dance of Grade 4 to the tune of Shakira's *Hips Don't Lie*, and the Grade 2's and 6's performances of the folkdances *Lapay Bantique* and *Pandanggo sa Ilaw* to mention a few.

The Executive Director, Peter Chan, commented, "The ISAers have a lot of talents. It's an unpardonable mistake not to develop and enhance them! We're sure to do more of this in the future." With the conclusion of another successful event ISAers are preparing for another round of challenges. BGG



ISA Celebrates

3rd Founding Anniversary

This year's October 1 was the 3rd Foundation Day of ISA. Members of ISA community gathered at the Iloilo Grand Hotel that evening. ISA Board members, faculty, staff, parents, and ISAers from Grade 5 to Third Year were present during the anniversary banquet. Nearly a hundred invited guests from Chinese-Filipino schools, civic and family associations also attended the celebration.

Before the start of the program, the guests were greeted by delectable classic melodies: Beethoven's Ode to Joy, Auld Lang Syne, Edelweiss, Leron-leron Sinta, to mention a few, played by the ISA Orchestra. With the encouragement from the school authority, ISA Orchestra has now become an indispensable force in the campus.

The sumptuous banquet was made more delightful by the dazzling dance and song numbers performed by the ISAers. Parents and guests were treated with a variety show of Chinese and English dances and songs. These presentations were an amalgamation of the activities ISA has undertaken this school year.

In his message, the ISA President, Mr. Vicente Tiu, used the occasion to reiterate his gratitude to the ISA parents and the Chinese-Filipino community for their continued support. Mr. Tiu said 'I have heard many friends telling me that if not for the effort of a dozen of my colleagues three years ago, ISA could not have been established. Well, I admit they are simply telling the truth. But, without your generous and unending support and concern, ISA could never possibly surmount the trials it had gone through in the past three years. ISA exists because of you, and for you.'

ISA Executive Director, Mr. Peter Chan, in his welcome message thanks the Ilonggo community for their support; he pledged to turn ISA into one of the best learning institutions in the country. He warned that 'the world is progressing, and progressing continuously in a faster rate. ISA has no other option but to catch up with its pace. If not, ISA would be condemned to the dust bin of history.'

The celebration was highlighted by the reminiscence of ISA's past through a ten-minute movie-maker slide show; and the launching of the ISA Website.



ISA mentors took a break and enjoyed the founding anniversary celebration



'I bet the works of these grade 1 kids will surprise the visitors.' Indeed, who would expect the lemon this boy is holding could power a digital clock? The 'fruit battery' is only one of the 11 science projects that would amaze the viewers. The laser communicator of the 2nd year, the 'line-following' robot of the 1st year and the hydrogen fuel cell of the grade 4 are some of the exhibits that caught the attention of students from other schools. 'I learned a lot from the presentation!' One visiting school administrator commented.

ISA SCIENCE FAIR '06

In celebration of the 3rd founding anniversary of ISA, the school held its first science fair last Sept. 28-30. The science fair mainly focuses on the introduction of the uses and manufacturing of alternative fuels, specifically the bio-diesel for the high school and the fruit batteries, air batteries for the elementary. The theme of the fair was 'Renewable Fuel is Everywhere'.

Each grade and year level was given one specific project. Aside from requiring learners to make their own projects, they should be able to explain the manufacturing process and the practical uses of their projects to the viewers. The following are the projects they had to prepare, display and explain during the Science Fair:

Grade 1 - Fruit Batteries; Grade 2 - The Erupting Volcano; Grade 3 - Air Batteries; Grade 4 - Hydrogen Fuel Cell; Grade 5 - Biogas Generator; Grade 6 - Ethanol Stove; 1st Year - Robotics (Line Following Robot); 2nd Year - Wireless FM Microphone and Laser Communicator; 3rd Year - Bio-diesel.

There were approximately 1500 students and teachers, parents from different schools, invited guests came to ISA during the three-day open house exhibit. They observed the on-the-spot demo of the ISAers and listened attentively to the explanation of the manufacturing procedures. Distinguished guests from the Department of Education, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Carbon, researchers from the University of the Philippines, ISA President, Mr. Vicente Tiu, ISA Board Members and the Chairman and Director of ICCHS Board of Trustees, Mr. Charles Ho and Tomas Tan, school and department heads from various public and private schools in the city also graced the affair.

Everybody learned. ISA administrators learned new experiences from the Science Fair. They discovered the crucial factor that would link theoretical knowledge and practical application in the field of science.

ISA Kinder Day

The Pre-School Department of ISA celebrated the school's 3rd Founding Anniversary at CAP Auditorium last September 29 with the theme: "One Heart, One Dream."

It was indeed a momentous event since learners were able to present poems, songs, dances, and role-plays both in English and Mandarin. With such display of talents, truly the spirit of oneness and unity prevailed considering that parents, teachers, and learners were all there to make sure that the presentations would be in "apple-pie-order."

To sum it up, the program culminated with the finale song "Small Voice," which takes us back to the moments of how ISA has grown up, from a small school, to become firmer through the passing of time. (FL)

Moon Festival @ ISA

In the morning of October 6, from 7:20 to 11:30 A.M., ISA school ground was crowded with tables and teeming with laughter and excitement. Learners casting dice as the school celebrates its 3rd Moon Festival. The activity involved learners from the pre-school to high school. Prizes vary from candies to school supplies given to those who won in the dice-casting game. Each class adviser prepared a grand prize for the luckiest person.

Faculty and staff didn't miss the fun of dice playing. In the afternoon of the same day, they also celebrated the moon festival held at the ISA lobby. Everyone tried his luck to win the grand prizes donated by the ISA Board Members. After several rounds, Mr. Sherwin Lao won the Grand Prize. (RMJ)

5th FCAAC Table Tennis Match

Last September 23 and 24, the Filipino Chinese Amateur Athletic Confederation Iloilo Chapter (FCAAC) held its 5th table tennis tournament at Sun Yat Sen High School. The meet was open to all students of Chinese-Filipino schools in the city. This was the third time ISA sent athletes since its foundation.

ISA table tennis varsity team proved once again that, collectively, they are a formidable force to reckon with. ISA athletes performed particularly well during the final rounds in the afternoon of September 24. ISA high school players, John Christian Dinero and Justin Betsy Aguirre, displayed their powerful skills against the players of two bigger schools, ICCHS and SYSHS, in a close fight during the final rounds. They finally grabbed the champions trophies in high school boys and girls categories, respectively. Earlier that afternoon, ISA elementary players had made it to the top in both boys and girls categories. Other ISA athletes were able to bring home four more trophies. A player from ICCHS won first runner up in the High School boys category; an Atenean was second runner up in High School boys category. SunYat Sen High School players won two first runner up's in High School girls and Elementary boys categories. (KD)

ISAers bare talents on Chinese Variety Show

ISAers bare their talents on a Chinese Variety Show with the theme 'One Nation, One Dream' at SM City last September 8.

Learners from Kinder 2 to 3rd year high school entertained and impressed the audience with song and dance numbers.

The Peacock Dance by Gr.6 and 1st year learners was one of the main attractions of the show. A song *Medley* by 1st and 2nd year learners featured newly discovered male talents. "Guess What I've Got", a dance number performed by Grade 4 learners and a vocal solo by a Grade 3 learner were also greeted with loud applause.

Learners showcased their acting skills in a play and declamation such as "The Lost Ducky" by Kinder 2 learners and "A Dream" by Grade 6 learners. (KM)

EDITORIAL

Sports, Athletes ... An Inspiration...

An inspiration accompanied with courage is important to every athlete. An athlete is somebody who has the necessary abilities to participate in physical exercise, especially in competitive situations such as games, races, and matches. Strength and expertise are not enough for him to achieve triumph. He needs an inspiration to overcome all fears and negative thoughts in him. Due to upcoming PRISAA this month, athletes and trainers are looking forward to the enjoyment, competition and new experience they will gain from the said event. It is expected that this year's games and events are more exciting and holds a lot of surprises for our ISAthletes who wants to follow the footsteps of the famous champions in the world of sports

It is now common to see many Filipino athletes excel in boxing, billiards and bowling. Many are now celebrities and recognized all over the world as the best in their chosen fields. In that way, they inspire young athletes to pursue their dreams. Through the process of training, encouragement and patience, our young athletes strive to perform well in the arena of athletics making their idols and their expertise as the inspiration to reach their goal as future champions in SPORTS....

We should strive hard to achieve our goal...strike down impediments so that our dreams will become a reality. We look up for an inspiration to help us go on with our journey, though difficult, yet one leading to victory! (mabf)

ISA Sportsfest '06

Last October 26, 2006 ISA held its 3rd Annual Sports Fest at the Iloilo Sports Complex. Learners from Grades One to Third Year participated in the cheering competition, parlor games, track and field, volleyball, basketball, badminton, table tennis, and chess. The facilitators also participated in the volleyball games.

The Second Runner Up in this year's sports fest was the Blue Team. The title of Champion is given to the Red and Yellow Teams for a tie in their over-all scores. In the facilitators' volleyball game, Yellow Team was pronounced the champion. (BG)



The cheering squad of the Red Team in its pyramid formation. The Red Team won the overall champion title of this year's Sportsfest.



ISA-BOT hosted a welcome luncheon in honor of the delegates from Manila at Grand Dame Hotel. The guests were among the more than 100 delegates who attended the Visayan Chinese-Filipino schools Convention. Lower photo shows ISA President Mr. Vicente Tiu (R), Vice-Chairman Mr. Venido Peña (L) conversing with Mr. Huang Duanming, Vice-President of the Philippine Chinese Education Research Center. The convention was held last October 27-28 at Amigo Terrace Hotel. Officials from Sun Yat Sen High School and Iloilo Central Commercial High School were also present.



Mastering Chinese characters with fun. ISA Preschool Head, Mrs. Debbie Chan, displays her unquestionable expertise in guiding K2 learners grasp Chinese characters with ease. Is learning Chinese characters really a formidable obstacle? This myth was perfectly defied by the demo lesson showcased by Yap Sian, as she is fondly called, during the Visayan Chinese Filipino Schools Convention held in October this year.

Share Books, Share Knowledge

Iko, Stacey donate books to library

In response to the 'Share Books, Share Knowledge' campaign, on October 23, 2006, two-bighearted learners of Iloilo Scholastic Academy donated books and magazines to the library. Through their noble deeds, Michiko de la Cruz and Stacey Ravago were able to share valuable intellectual sources to their fellow ISAers. Books play a crucial role in broadening the horizon of our learners, gaining wisdom and learn new life experiences in the process. Some of these books are "Speech Communication" which is of great help in developing the communication skill of our learners. Books for research purposes such as Filipino poems, Philippine myths and legends and foreign fiction books which Michiko Dela Cruz, a third year student, herself love to read. Stacey Ravago, a grade 3 learner, presented her precious juvenile books and heartily gave them to the library. Among these are "My First Bible Board Book", "Marsha makes me Sick" and other fairy tale books.

Reading books is a wholesome activity that enhances learners' communication skills and broaden their perspective. It helps them explore the world and sharpen their imagination. (RB)

ISA Executive Director Sums-up 2-Day 3rd Visayas Chi-Fil Schools Convention

The 3rd Visayas Chinese-Filipino Schools Convention was held on October 27-28 at Amigo Terrace Hotel, Iloilo city.

More than one hundred administrators and teachers came all the way from Cebu, Bacolod, Tacloban, Ormoc and Dumaguete to join their Iloilo colleagues in a two-day convention. Officials of Manila-based Philippine Chinese Education Research Center also graced the affair.

ISA Executive Director, Mr. Peter M. Chan delivered his summative speech at the closing ceremony. The complete Chinese text of his speech can be downloaded online at ISA website — 校園心聲.

Michiko de la Cruz Won 2nd Place Rotary's 'Voice of Our Youth'

Rotary International holds a yearly Impromptu Speaking Contest Known as the "Voice of Our Youth". Any Filipino student between the ages of 14-17 can participate. The club level competition was held last October 27, 2006 at the Amigo Terrace Hotel where students from both private and public schools vied for the top three places. Participants were given the same question, "How can the youth lead the way in fighting poverty?" each of the participants did very well in articulating her views. A student from Ateneo de Iloilo emerged victor. The 2nd place, with only a 1-point difference, went to Michiko de la Cruz, a 3rd Year learner of ISA, for her candidity and honesty. A participant from Iloilo Central Commercial High School won 3rd place. The first 3 winners will join the district level competition in Bacolod City on November 26, 2006. Whoever wins will be qualified to the National Level to be held in Manila. This contest is a very good experience for students in making them understand that, though young, they can make a difference and they can lead in their own little way. *MdIC*

ISA-SC Spearheads Junk Drive

Garbage is one of the serious social problems our nation is facing right now. Aside from its adverse effects to the environment, it can also lead to different kinds of health problems to human, animals and plants.

ISA Student Council Officers lead a project, in their own simple way, to help awaken awareness among ISAers of this perennial problem that makes our lives miserable. The council initiated a campaign to collect stuff like old bottles, plastics and cans ... Each class did its part by bringing used materials that seem to have lost their use value at home. After all the junk were collected, these were sold. The one-month long campaign ended by giving Grade IV-Confucius the grand prize for collecting the most number of junks.

Junks may not appear pleasant in our sight but we can gain money out of them. Aside from that, these are recycled and reused so that we help our community lessen the garbage problems. More so, it also serves the purpose of letting ISAers aware of the need to maintain a clean and green environment. (mabf)

'Man does not grow old. He gets old only when he stops growing.' – Ralph W. Emerson

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The Monthly Newsletter of ISA
 菲律賓怡朗新華學院通訊月刊

Editorial

Reaching Out This Season

'Tis a season to be jolly, falalala...

so the song goes. Indeed, December seems to be the jolliest of all the months throughout the year. In our country, almost all people celebrate Christmas by decorating their homes, schools and offices with adornments. It is also the time when people shop in hordes, join in the holiday rush. When white and blue collars alike await their yearend bonuses, when students excitedly go home for a long break, and when radio stations play nostalgic tunes....

As early as September we could already see *parols* and the nativity of Christ in almost every corner. Western symbols of Christmas such as Santa Claus, Christmas tree (with fake snow) and mistletoes seem to perfectly blend with our tropical surroundings.

But in the midst of this facade, why don't we pause for a moment and think of others who perhaps are waiting for us to give them some little time; people who are victims of natural calamities, of war, of broken homes and of physical illnesses.

What can I do? You may ask, *These people may be too far away...to reached out.* But why not start with the one closest to you? Why not start with the street children you see everyday? Why not start with your parents who need to be appreciated, too; with your siblings and friends and your neighbors. Acts of kindness go around. What you give comes back to you.

So while you prepare your "things-to-do" list for the yuletide season, why not add *give love* on your list? *vk*

ISA Student Council Spearheads Xmas 'Give Love' Project

ISA Student Council headed by its President, Shireen Shahmardani, and adviser, Ms. May Ann Farillon, called for all ISAers to share their blessings by donating foods, clothing, books and even toys to be given out on the 16th of this month to the residents, especially children, in Brgy Rizal, Pala-pala at La Paz district. With the theme 'Give Love on Christmas', this campus wide gift-giving activity received enthusiastic response from the ISAers and parents. Gifts started to pour in at the beginning of December. Aside from the individual donations, the student council organized each class to contribute daily necessities: Nursery and K1, packs of noodles; K2, biscuits; Gr. 1 and 2, sardines; Gr. 3 and 4, powdered milk; Gr. 5 and 6, detergent bar; 1st and 3rd Yr., sugar; and rice from the 2nd Yr. learners.

About 70 families at Brgy. Rizal were invited by the council to visit ISA on Dec. 16 for the games and gift-giving activities. *ms*



ScholarsOnline is a sister publication of ISA monthly newsletter, **The Scholars**. Since its launching in October, three issues had been successively released. More than two hundred email addressees the world over had received the December issue either through free subscription or referrals. Online recipients are expected to reach 500 by January 2007. Be the first one to know of the latest development inside ISA Campus, subscribe to **ScholarsOnline** through ISA website **NOW**.

A Fun-filled Family Day & Kiddie Fair @ ISA

Last November 24, the ISA Preschool has successfully organized its 2006 Sports Fest, Family Day and Kiddie Fair. It was a 3-in-1 whole day activity participated in by the pre-school learners and parents. The Nursery, Kinder 1 and Kinder 2 learners demonstrated their kinesthetic adroitness during the field demonstration. The field demo was followed by exciting games arranged by the preschool facilitators not only for the children but for parents as well. Games like Musical Chair, Bicycle Race, Maria Went to Market, Japanese Walk, Balloon Bursting and Hitting the Pot were their all-time favorites. The fun did not end there, however. After the games, ISA's first Kiddie Fair was formally opened. There were colorfully decorated booths which offered variety of activities for the children to indulge in, like basketball shooting, dancercella, kickboxing, target shooting and body painting. The fair also serves as a venue to raising fund for the beautification of the preschool playground. Jollibee and Hetty came to entertain the excited kids and the proud parents.

After taking their lunch, preschoolers were in a hurry to slip into their swimming attire. Yes, it's swimming time! The children could not contain their urge to jump into the cool water. How could they? As soon as the go-signal was given, water was splashing anywhere as kids 'dive' into the pool together. This is the very first time that the preschool had made the celebration more amusing by putting up so many inviting pools for all the children to enjoy. Doubtless, the kiddie fair, with all its fringe and thrill, effectively added tremendous fun and joy to this year's Family Day and Kiddie Fair. *jp*



A Tribute to ISA Mentors

On December 8, ISA mentors were accorded honor they truly deserve for their unwavering efforts and commendable concern shown to the learners, their parents; and to the ISA community in general.

Led by the ISA student council, learners from each class level contributed a presentation as a tribute to their mentors. SC officers organized games for the facilitators to enjoy the break and have fun.

The culmination of the program is the presentation of *Teacher of the Year* award. 2nd Year adviser Ms. Beulah Gerada won the 2nd runner up. Grade VI adviser Ms. Gay Belvis is the 1st runner-up and the Teacher of the Year awardee is Mr. Oscar Barrato, a Math facilitator of Grades 1 and 2. After the program, all facilitators, staff and ISAthletes attended a luncheon hosted by ISA President Mr. Vicente Tiu at the *Breakthrough* restaurant in Villa, Iloilo City. *Ngc*

ISAers Brought Home 13 Gold

ISAers brought home 12 gold medals in sports meet and another gold medal in literary-musical contest during the 41st IloPRISAA Meet in November, 2006.

In the literary-musical competition, Angelie Ong of the 3rd year - Curie was champion in English Oration. This is, so far, the only award ISA had won in this category since it joined IloPRISAA last year. Although the high school math team, composed of 3rd Year Fritzie Gayle Diez, 2nd Year Jan Jarnel Geyenne Tiu and 1st Year James Eduard Chiu, was able to make a breakthrough by ranking 5th place. And, high school spelling contestant Julie Rose Luz (freshman) equaled the other best four by gaining perfect score in the easy, average and difficult rounds, only to miss one word in the clincher round, which regrettably lowered her rank to a mere 5th. Another sophomore ISAer, Shireen Shahmardani, ranked 5th place in high school English declamation contest. And, Michiko Francene de la Cruz, a junior ISAer, ranked 7th in English extemporaneous speech.

ISAers fared better in sports arena. Compared to last year's 8 gold, 4 silver, 4 bronze records, ISA garnered 12 gold, 9 silver and 12 bronze this year. Moreover, ISA placed 3rd in overall ranking in track and field (elementary girls); and ranked overall 2nd place in badminton (elementary girls and boys). Complete list of ISAthletes who won awards in the IloPRISAA 2006 can be viewed at www.isa.edu.ph, Sports Page. *Gdb*

I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn.' - A. Einstein

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The Monthly Newsletter of ISA
 菲律賓怡朗新華學院通訊月刊

The most Active-minded Holiday

New Year's Day may be a day of rest but most importantly it is a great time for rebirth and redefinition. People look inward upon themselves and take a complete self-inventory that would lead them to self-improvement. One of the most important tools to achieve this goal is through making resolution.

We make resolutions to give our lives a direction. This is a fresh way to start the year, even though in the end it does not usually completely materialize as planned. One thing to remember is to make our resolution as realistic as possible. When trying to accomplish it, we have to take one small step at a time. Knowing that we have achieved one simple step will make us more confident to accomplish others in our long list of plans.

The success of our New Year's resolution lies in our level of commitment. We have to put pressure in our selves if we want to seriously change our behavior or our life. As one psychology professor once said: 'Making a resolution to change one thing that will make us healthier is a priceless gift that only we can give to ourselves.' ed.

Girls' Team Aces Integrated Meet

High school girls Grace Rebollos and Justine Betsy Aguirre won team championship in table tennis during the Integrated Meet on December 17-22, 2006 (the team members include players from CPU). Moreover, Grace won 3rd place in the singles. Elementary ISAers Mary Elizabeth Chua and Christina Angki were badminton champions in team event, and 3rd in girls doubles. Steven Que, a 6th grade ISAer, won 2nd place in shotput. VKM

ISA-BOT & Facilitators Christmas Gathering 2006

The facilitators, together with the ISA Board of Trustees, celebrated Christmas Party last 18 December 2006. The program was set in motion with lots of games participated by the facilitators who were grouped into three. Certainly, the tension was not over for many backbreaking yet very exciting games followed one after the other. The four corners of the ISA ground were filled with awe and laughter when it's about time to see the facilitators perform on stage. A spectacle of different talents came into view, carrying with it various meanings of the Yuletide Season.



The exchange of gifts followed, symbolizing different messages of goodness and thankfulness. Indeed, each one felt the spirit of Christmas, which is not only represented by gifts, bounteous feasts and fun-filled games. The value of friendship, sharing and of loving will always remain—as what Christmas is meant to be. FAL



ISA Board of Trustees, Facilitators and the Newsletter Editorial Board wishing The Scholars readers all over the world peace and prosperity

Elem., H.S. Learners Celebrate Christmas

Christmas is a time of loving, caring and sharing. It is also a time to enjoy together with classmates and friends. This is the essence of Christmas at Iloilo Scholastic Academy. Last 15 December 2006., Elementary and high school ISAers were too eager to finish their 3rd quarter exams in order to celebrate the most awaited occasion this December. They celebrated their Christmas party in their respective classrooms with their class advisers and invited facilitators. They also had fun with the activities and games prepared for them because lots of prizes were at stake. After that, they shared with each other the foods they contributed. They were also excited to open the gifts that they received from their respective SP (secret pal). Besides that, learners also wholeheartedly shared gifts with others especially with their classmates and facilitators as symbol of their love and care for each other. NGC

"Gift Giving" in Pics



(clockwise from upper-right) 14 December 2006, ISA Student Council officers together with some high school ISAers went to Barangay Rizal, La Paz district inviting 70 families to join its 2nd Christmas Gift-giving and Games held on 16 December. The said activity gave ISAers an opportunity to share their blessings by giving goods, toys and clothes to the neighborhood. ISA-SC officers Stephanie Que and Kate Chan facilitate the registration of their little visitors. SC officers have prepared many games for the kids to enjoy. They prepared snacks after the games. SC officers led the ISAers welcome visitors from Brgy. Rizal. After the program, ISAers disguised as Santa Claus gave wrapped gifts to the children. Packages of goods which include rice, sugar, milk, noodles, detergent bars, canned foods and biscuits were given to adults. Everyone went home with smiles on their faces saying 'thank you'. MAF

Preschool Christmas Party

It was a joyful day for Preschool ISAers when they celebrated their Christmas Party last 15 December 2006. That day, a lot of games were prepared for all the little learners to enjoy such as the musical chairs, statue dance, tomato dance, Japanese walk, newspaper dance and a lot more.

After lunch, exchanging of gifts followed. Excitement and happiness were shown in the learners' eyes when they gave and received gifts. But the party did not end there. Jollibee and captain Shakey's joined the celebration and gave special numbers. The ISAers were so happy to see the mascots and they really had fun dancing and playing with them.

Moreover, the Nursery facilitator, Ms. Marjorie Yap, wore the Santa attire and gave out candies and giveaways to all the learners. The learners also had their picture taking with "Ms. Claus". The children were so amazed and happy to see her as Ms. Santa.

Preschool Christmas Party 2006 ended with a big smile on everybody's face. The ISA Family once again had their happy moments together. See pictures on ISA website. PGO

Intellectual Retreat to MV Doulos

On 20 December 2006, nine facilitators went to Bacolod City to visit MV Doulos for a brief 'intellectual retreat'.

Two European lady volunteers welcomed visitors with their newly learned Ilonggo. ISA facilitators could not wait to see all the books displayed on the shelves. Books were sold at affordable prices. Many ISA facilitators bought books to read and as souvenir of this famous vessel. There were also snacks sold and souvenir item such as mugs, posters, ballpens and key ring.

The group had a chance to tour the living quarter through the help of newly acquainted friend from The People's Republic of China, Mr. Jering Lee. He is one of a volunteer on board. They learned more about the history of the ship and its mission from Mr. Lee while moving around. They also had the opportunity to see the different sections of the ship including their canteen that could accommodate more than 300 crew members to dine simultaneously.

Doulos was built in 1914, two years younger than Titanic. Guinness Book of Records listed it as the oldest active ocean-going passenger ship in the world. Her main objective is "Bringing Knowledge, Help and Hope", and is presently managed by Good Books for All Company. There are more than 350 volunteer crew members coming from different countries: Africans, Australians, Chinese, Koreans and even Mongolians. The ship once called on the Iloilo port 16 years ago. Doulos sailed all over the world as God's ambassador of love and peace, carrying the message of hope and reconciliation.

The visit was not complete without touring around Bacolod City. Because they had to catch up with the last trip going back to Iloilo, they did not have much time to go around the 'City of Smile'. Instead they chose to stroll inside its largest mall, the Robinsons, and had a relaxing coffee break while leafing through the books they had just bought.

For the facilitators, this rare encounter with MV Doulos was a fruitful break that helps them gain knowledge not only through books but through observations and interactions with the volunteers. RMJ

editorial

Education the ISA Way

Education is human's greatest treasure. It is through education one gains knowledge. And knowledge is very important, "For Knowledge itself is power," according to Francis Bacon. It is our weapon against life's adversities. But sad to say society is partial in this respect. Only a few fortunate have had the opportunity to receive quality education.

Learning to be effective should not be confined within the four walls. It definitely is not the offspring of teachers' ideas alone. Indeed learners acquire knowledge and form ideas as they engage in participative and concrete undertakings.

ISA educators believe true learning takes place only when most, if not all, senses are involved in the process. It is not rare to see ISAers leaving behind the Campus and embark on exciting educational tour in and out the city. It is in discovering the connection between the abstract knowledge and the concrete reality around them, albeit subconsciously, that makes them enjoy activities, such as fieldtrip. ISA in its bid to further improve its academic standing, does not neglect other aspects of learning. ISAers have been on top when it comes to literary and math contests as well as in sports. Music is another area worth boasting. Last January 24, A group of educators from China visited ISA, One thing particular struck them was the impressive performance of the ISA orchestra: a unique ensemble of musical instruments: harmonica, recorder, guitar lyre, violin and drum.

Education should be well balanced: emotion, spirit, sports, music, art and academics. ISA is in constant state of finding the point of equilibrium. Nothing is static. As what Francis Bacon said, "I would live to study and not to study to live." *An educated person is like a fire that will not stop flaming. ed.*

ISAers not quite yet ON TOP

For the 3rd time, ISA joined the annual Metrobank – DepEd – MTAP Mathematics challenge last 26 January held at the Social Hall of DepEd Division of Iloilo City. This year more than 30 private and public schools in Iloilo City took the challenge.

After the written test, all the Grade 1 to 3rd year participants of ISA qualified to join the Division Team Finals on February 26–27. Quite expectedly, three ISAers made it to the Top: Jian Tiampong (Grade 1), 3rd Honors; Emma Rose Guancho (Grade V), 2nd Honors; and Jan Jarnel Geyenne Tiu (2nd Year), 2nd Place.

Last year, ISA had two grade levels failed to qualify. Though they fared relatively well this year; collectively our math wizards still need to exert a great deal of effort before they could claim to be really on top. *MP*

ISA Blossoming Poets Won First Place Clarissa , Michelle will Represent Iloilo

Clarissa Joyce Tiu (2nd Year) and Michelle Louise Naces (Grade 5) were adjudged First Placers in the On-The-Spot Poem Writing Contest High School and Elementary levels, during the First Speechfest sponsored by the **Private Secondary School Administrators Association of the Philippines (PRISAAP)** held in St. Joseph School, Iloilo City last 10 January.



Michelle and Clarissa then represented Division of Iloilo City in the next level contest that was held in St. Catherine Parochial School in Leon last 29 January. First placers from the three Divisions: Passi City, Iloilo City and Iloilo Province vied for the championship. Michelle and Clarissa won the laurels and will represent the 3 Divisions to the Regional Level on 8 February in Punta Villa, Iloilo City. *RJ*

ISA Exec Dir Attends In-service Training for School Administrators

ISA Executive Director, Mr. Peter M. Chan, together with more than a hundred school administrators from region 6, attended a 4-day training program with a theme 'Reinventing the Principalship for the 21st Century'. The in-set focuses on exploring core competencies of the administrators. It also identifies the challenges that confront the principals in the performance of their duties. Former Education Secretary Dr. Lourdes Quisumbing, former Director of UNESCO Asia-Pacific Region Dr. Victor Ordoñez were among the resource speakers.

An Encounter with SELF

In line with the requirements of ISA's values formation program, a recollection was held for the Second Year learners on 25 January at the Holy Rosary Prayer Center, Calumpang. Sister Fidelis was the speaker of the event that focused on the subject *Discovering Your Best Self*.

Learners were given tasks and discussion topics that helped them learn about the good qualities they have in themselves as well as their classmates'. A special time with parents was also in order for the day. Learners opened up and shared their appreciation and concerns with their parents.

The event was a time for reflection and growth. The serenity of the place and the activities were aids for the learners to get in touch with their inner selves, and put in order a tumultuous heart and mind. *BG*



In Memory of the Outstanding Chi-Fil Educator

Mr. Ty Englong

ISA Web Publishes Exec-DIR Commemorative Article

勝過春蠶，慈過蠟燭

This year's February 4 is the 6th death anniversary of an outstanding Chinese-Filipino Educator, Mr. Ty Englong. As our eternal tribute to this colossal mentor, ISAWeb publishes an article of our Executive Director, Mr. Peter M. Chan. The article can be found in the '校園心聲' Campus Aspiration, www.isa.edu.ph.

China's University Prexies, Embassy Officials visit ISA

Headed by the President of Yunnan Normal University, Dr. Luo Xiaosuo, a delegation of the Office of Chinese Language Council International (OCLCI) toured ISA Campus in the morning of 24 January. They were warmly welcome by the ISA Board and faculty. ISA Orchestra greeted them with Chinese and Filipino songs.



The delegates were escorted by officials of the Chinese Embassy and the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry. OCLCI and the Federation are sending Chinese volunteer-teachers to teach Chinese language in the Philippines. *pmc*

Off-Campus Learning Experience

Grades 1 – 4 Learners explored the world through an Educational Tour last 19 January from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. as part of the requirements of Civics subject.

Grade 1 learners went to Jalandoni Museum. There they saw historical pictures and statues of heroes, and masterpieces of Magdalena Jalandoni. Next, they went to the Airport Fire Station. They witnessed in close range firemen in their suit and how devises were used to put out fire. They then went to Camp Delgado, the city police headquarter.

Grade 2 learners on the other hand, went to Tipongs, Leganes. They spent several hours fishing. Then they visited PAG-ASA weather station and were introduced to some forecasting instruments. Their last stop was Jalandoni Museum.

Not to be outdone, the Grade 3 learners went to Pavia Garden. On their way home, they passed by Maasin Bamboo Cooperative. Their last stop was JD Bakeshop where Mrs. Gina Diez, the owner, helped them familiarize with the things needed in baking.

Aside from visiting Jalandoni Museum, Grade 4 learners went to Santa Barbara Plaza and toured the Sta Barbara Centennial Museum and Sta Barbara Church where they saw antique structures of the church and the artifacts related to the history of the town and the contribution of General Martin Delgado.

It was indeed a great learning experience for these ISAers. It helped them understand better the knowledge learned in the classroom through direct contact with concrete reality. *NGC*

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. - Nelson Mandela

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The Monthly Newsletter of ISA
 菲律賓怡朗新華學院通訊月刊

ISA Kids Toured M/V Malaysia

On 8 February, Kinder I and II learners joyfully trooped to Fort San Pedro, Iloilo City to explore the passenger ship *Malaysia* of Trans Asia Shipping.

The children experienced many *first* in this unique encounter with a gigantic vessel. They were so overwhelmed by everything they have seen that they could not stop asking questions. With the ship personnel patiently guiding them, they saw different quarters of the ship, such as the deck, and the “Bridge” or control room. The captain himself conducted a brief lecture. He introduced the apparatuses like the compass, wind detector, steering wheel.



The children were very happy to pose inside the Tourist Class bedroom for pictures. Snack was specially arranged for them at the canteen.

But the most important thing is that they were able to relate their lessons on transportation and parts of a ship to the reality. This helps make them realize that knowledge they learn inside the classroom is but a reflection of what is happening in the real world. More so, they were taught to be more disciplined and learn to respect other people they meet.

Metrobank-MTAP-DepEd Math Challenge 1st and 2nd Year ISAers Won Awards

ISA First year and Second year high school teams brought home the bacon after they participated in the “2007 Metrobank–Math Teachers Association of the Philippines-Department of Education Math Challenge” Team Competition, Division of Iloilo City level held last 27 February at Iloilo Central Elementary school, Iloilo City.

Jan Jarnel Geyenne Tiu, Hester Joyce Coo of second year team won second place while James Eduard Chiu, Karl Francis Chan of first year team got third place.

The team competition was by year level. Only top 10 schools that were qualified during the elimination round last 26 January joined the Division match. *JTH*

A View of Outer Space

Last 5 February, Marrick International Incorporated’s Starlab visited ISA. Learners enjoyed the “portable planetarium” show brought by Starlab to the school. They gave 30-40 minutes educational presentation about the planets, stars and different constellations. The dome was assembled inside the grade 1 classroom and batches of learners from elementary to high school took turns in watching the presentation. It was an interactive presentation facilitated by Mr. A (as what he wants to be called by the learners). The portable planetarium instruction was an alternative classroom experience that learners wouldn’t forget. *AG*

Heart’s Day Soirée

Last 23 February at Emillion Function Center, the Juniors, their invited partners and guests celebrated the junior’s prom through a fine dining event entitled *Hearts Day Soiree*. The learners were able to apply what they learned from a lecture on fine dining etiquette held 2 days before the said event.

Overnight it appeared that these teens had transformed into young ladies and gentlemen in their cocktail attires. Fritzie Gayle Diez and her partner Marcelo Cacho were hailed Queen and King of Hearts and the Couple of the Night; while Stephanie Rae Fernandez and Andy Kim were hailed Princess and Prince of Hearts. Angelie Ong was declared the Dancing Queen. The Best Actress Award also went to Fritzie. The Head Turner was conferred upon Stephanie Rae, and the Most Dramatic Transformation was awarded to Jennifer Kate Chan. *BG*

‘The World Celebrates’

Last 17 February more than 200 ISAers and parents joined the Chinese New Year celebration. Students from five participating schools gathered in front of Provincial Capitol at 3 pm to join the parade that ended at Iznart Street, the venue of the evening cultural show. ISA’s 50 dancers and singers featured the traditional dances and songs of 6 different counties, reflecting the theme “The World Celebrates”. ISA orchestra led by Ms. Diane Cartagena stood out in their Chinese inspired costumes and live performance. ISA also produced a very attractive and meaningful float with learners wearing costumes of different nationalities while riding and beaming at the crowd as they welcome the Year of the Boar. *ML*

ISA Camping '07 advocates learning by enjoying

February 8-10, facilitators and grade 4 to 3rd year ISAers converged at Anhawan Leisure Camp for a 2-day camping.

Thursday morning, ISA Executive Director Mr. Peter Chan declared the Camp open. The four competing teams: Red Yankees, Blue Titans, Yellow Tigers and Green Raptors, raised their banners and kicked off the activities with their cheering competition.

Having played and won in the initial parlor games and obstacle race, the campers had just started their longest, most exciting day ever. After lunch some of the learners gamely volunteered to be the dummies when a Red Cross volunteer talked about First Aid pointers such as how to apply a splint and how to treat an open wound. Games like Clash of the Warriors, a modified game of *sikyū* followed the lecture. At about 4 pm there was the ISAers’ version of water movement synchronized swimming. The spectators oohed and aahed as each team executed their gracefully choreographed moves.

The coming of dusk saw the campers gaining more vigor as they battled in their Talent Showdown. Members of each team sang, danced, chirped soap opera dialogues and acted out action hero moves to the amusement of their fellow campers, facilitators and visiting parents. The night ended with Bingo and indoor games such as Monopoly, Snakes and Ladders, Uno Stacko, and Scrabble.

On the second day, learners woke up to another sunny day of activities. Starting off with the morning exercises, the day commenced with the volleyball games and soon after, the Cooking Contest. This is a new add-on to the camp activities and by just looking at the learners’ eagerness in chopping the ingredients and building fires as well as the judges’ gusto in tasting the various dishes, one could say that it was definitely successful.

Later on, visitors from the Iloilo Mountaineering Club taught the campers the basics of camping. The mountaineers stressed the motto they live by: “*Take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but footprints, kill nothing but time*”. Then the teams once again went into battle with their artistic skills in Art Attack; their wit and intellect in Ranger’s Game and Survival of the Fittest, a series of mind games and puzzles that players need to solve in order to gain the highest points.

In the evening, the Search for Miss ISA and the Awarding of Prizes to the winning teams served as the finale with the members of the ISA-BOT gracing the event. Parents, guardians and friends also came to witness the pageant, which was also the first since the school had this annual camp. The campers not only witnessed their beautiful schoolmates strut onstage but also learned the importance of nature and the environment from the informative interview portion.

After all, the learners came to Anhawan to learn the values of team building and camaraderie and at the same time learn to appreciate nature—the beach, the sun, the sand—something they can never do in the confines of the classroom. *MSC*

