

A good teacher is a master of simplification
and an enemy of simplism. - **Louis Berman**

- the 37th issue -
www.isa.edu.ph

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

A Glimpse of History

The Scholars *Kicks off a New Journey*

Venturing on something different without sometimes finding oneself almost heading for the rocks is as easy as juggling with soot. ISA might seem standing tall after leaving behind a long blazing trail that depicts its ardent struggles throughout the past three years, yet only true blue ISAers would know the taste of setbacks and despair, or perhaps the joy of overcoming obstacles that ordinary souls do not dare to face. ISA survives the three fateful or, some people would say, ominous years.

Throughout the past thousand days, interwoven events that make today's ISA have all been faithfully engraved in *The Scholars*. Each issue of the newsletter does not only encode the happenings, academic or otherwise, that elevate ISA from its formative stage, more so, the newsletter provides a valuable historical reference from where we draw inspiration and strength to further pursue our noble cause.

Three years have elapsed and three volumes of *The Scholars* were successfully published and circulated. The experiences gained give the Newsletter Editorial Board more confidence to faithfully provide our parents and readers with another round of solid and reliable reportage.

ISAers took Standard-based 3rd APSA Evaluation Test

The third Standards-Based Asian Psychological Services and Assessment (APSA) evaluation tests involving English, Math and Science were administered at ISA last February 21-22, 2007.

The result of the assessment showed 50 out of 52 (96%) of the total Kinder 2 learners are highly proficient and the remaining two are found to be proficient. None in K2 was found 'moving toward standard' or 'not met standard'.

In elementary, out of 167 learners, it was found out that 90% of the learners are either highly proficient or proficient in Mathematics, 84% are either highly proficient or proficient in English and in Science, 67%.

In high school, out of 64 learners from first year to third year who took the test, 96% are either highly proficient or proficient in English, 54% are either highly proficient or proficient in Mathematics, and 43% in Science.

The school requires all learners to take the said assessment at the end of school year. This is to evaluate their level of proficiency in the said subject areas. The results also helped administrators and facilitators in identifying the strengths and weaknesses of our learning system, and in designing alternative learning schemes that will address the needs of the learners, to help develop their potentials *vis a vis* their present performance. (JH)

ISAweb Bulletin

is a recently added component to ISA Website. It serves to update learners, parents and the community of the forthcoming or ongoing ISA campus activities. Information posted this month includes reservation for new school year, summer workshop, and the list of the honor students. School calendar will also be available soon. *RMJ*



Last 3 April, 13 High School ISAers, together with more than 300 students from Visayas and Mindanao, flew to Xiamen City, China to start their Chinese Language Study Tour in the said city. Their itinerary includes visit such places like Quanzhou, Fuzhou, Hangzhou and Huangshan Mountain. Students from Manila and Luzon joined the group the next day. The 800-member study group will stay in Xiamen City until 24 May. Parents of these ISAers attended an orientation held at the Philippine Cultural High School on 1 April. The ISAers are staying at the Jimei School Village, Xiamen. This photo sent through friendster.com shows ISAers and their friends posing in front of the Jimei Liberation Monument at the Chen Jiageng Memorial Park.

ISA Joins United Track and Field ISAthletes Chart unknown Waters

30 March 2007 was a big day for the ISA Athletic team. Seven selected athletes flew to Manila to compete in the 32nd United Cup Track and Field Meet on 31 March to 1 April at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

The annual event is sponsored by the Filipino Chinese Amateur Athletic Federation. Thanks to the effort of ISA Board member Mr. Oscar Co who did the registering and raising of funds; and the generosity of the other Board members who responded enthusiastically with their financial contribution, ISA was able to send athletes to compete with Chinese-Filipino schools in the Capital Region for the first time since its establishment.

Green as they are, these ISAthletes impressed the organizers by their sports prowess during the games. Steven Que, in-coming 1st year learner, won first place both in shot put and softball throw; and won second place in discus throw. In the elementary girls 100x4 relay, Mary Elizabeth Chua, Jean Claire Agudo, Lara Hudak and Emma Guanco missed the title of 2nd runner up by a mere 0.02 seconds. Mary Elizabeth Chua and Roselette Daguro were 4th placers, respectively, in the Elementary girls softball throw and High School girls shot put. The icebreaking debut had turned out into a show of determination and courage. These athletes' experience in the national meet encouraged them to work even harder in their own athletic fields. (BG)



Steven Que at the awarding ceremony

DepEd Jude Thaddeus Iledan Speaks at 3rd ISA Commencement and Recognition Day

The Grade VI- Galileo learners, under their adviser Ms. Gay Belvis, marched proudly with "a feather in their caps" during ISA's 3rd Commencement Exercises last 25 March 2007. The parents of course, are in high spirits, as they walked up and down the stage to award their children with medals and certificates.



DepEd Regional English Supervisor Mr. Jude Thaddeus Iledan speaks before the Graduates and their parents during the 3rd ISA Commencement Exercises and Recognition Day on 25 March 2007

The guest speaker, Mr. Jude Thaddeus I. Iledan, the youngest division English supervisor and the youngest regional English supervisor was the commencement speaker. His message was so heartily received by the audience that he was interrupted several times by rounds of applause. He rightly emphasized the importance of the role of parents in their children's education, "You could never arrive at this point of your life as elementary graduating students without the labor and the sacrifices of your parents." He then made sure that the graduating learners have this chance to embrace their moms and dads, to say their gratitude and love for them.

Moreover, the recognition days of preschool, elementary and high school were filled with spirit of jubilation considering that more learners were accorded honors and awards this year compared to the previous years. More learners, indeed, managed to cope with the academic standards set by ISA. Thank to the incessant encouragement from the parents, most ISAers learn not to "rest on their laurels". Congratulations ISAers and parents.

Anyone who stops learning is old whether at 20 or 80.
Anyone who keeps learning stays young. - Henry Ford

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Editorial: Face the Challenges

Days are counted for learners to bid goodbye to their 2007 summer break as another academic year is about to commence. While kids were enjoying their vacation, ISA administration and faculty had been busy laying down the groundwork to meet the increasing demands of the ISA educational system. Facilitators, being the pillars in the learning process, have been equipped with sufficient knowledge by sending them to trainings and seminars. Learning tools such as guide questions, power point presentations and classroom interaction paraphernalia were all set. It is expected that learning process this year will be more organized and effective as subject head facilitators have been designated to help oversee the learning process of the five major learning areas. MCI⁺ is now fully implemented in high school. Each high school classroom is equipped with multimedia projector, DVD, and sound system that would make learning interactive and more interesting. Given all of the above, SY 2007-2008 will surely be another fruitful year for the ISA community.

Little Einstein Circle DemoExhibit

ISA's Little Einstein Circle held a demo-exhibit at SM City on 19 May 2007. There were four demonstrations performed by members of the said circle. They explained to the observers how their experiments were done and showed how they worked. The experiments they showed were *Foamy*, which determined the effect of yeast on sugar; *Got Milk*, which they made to examine the effect of the loss of calcium on bone strength and how to prevent it. Another interesting experiment was *Falling Leaves*, wherein the learners made a low cost electroscope in front of the viewers and demonstrated how it worked. The fourth was *Where's the Magnet*, wherein the learners made an electromagnet and showed the effect of current electricity to the nail coiled with an insulated wire which then is connected to the battery. These experiences not only helped broaden the horizon of the learners to be more inclined to exploring and experimenting things around them but also helped develop their self-confidence in finding answers in the process of their investigation.



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A Musical Solstice

ISA's summer workshop gave another venue for ISAers to show their talents. After undergoing a month-long training, ISAers produced a musical-dance-literary presentation held in SM City Iloilo last May 19. The one and a half hour show started at 3 p.m. The musical was participated by learners from pre-school, grade school and high school. It integrated different talents like singing, dancing, playing instruments and acting. Indeed, the show exuded a unique blend of joy and amazement to the audience as most of the musical accompaniments were played live by members of ISA orchestra and other kids who enrolled in our summer music workshop. Integration of various talents was the centerpiece of the whole endeavor. Preschoolers and graders presented songs and dances accompanied by piano, violins and recorder played by ISA elementary learners. High school learners showed skills in oration, ballet, singing and acting. They also presented excerpts from "Grease Musical". With financial help from our sponsors and support from the parents, the "Grease Musical" performers were able to raise enough funds to finance their costumes and props. Participants felt that a summer spent in pursuing learning in various fields of interest is a summer well spent. ISA has just ended the summer workshops, but it is up for more as it prepares for another learning-and-experience-rich school year.

ISAers Increased by 15%

408 learners enrolled at ISA as of end of this month. This figure is 15% more than the previous school year's. ISA adds another section (Laozi) to the second grade this school year. Since ISA strictly limits the number of learners of each class to 30 in the elementary and high school levels, and 12-17 in the preschool, many potential transferees, particularly in grades 3 to 5 and 1st year, were not admitted. They constitute about 3% of the total enrollees.

ISA Conducted Parents' Orientation

ISA administration, together with the facilitators concerned, has conducted orientation for all ISA parents from May 21 to 28. The orientation aimed to help parents understand the systems and policies of the school, to know their rights, responsibilities concerning the study of their children. It is designed to help parents become genuine partners of the school. It is also a convenient venue for facilitators and administration to address important issues raised by the parents, specially the new ones. The series of orientation was chaired by ISA Executive Director, Mr. Peter Chan and the respective advisers.

MSA Conducts College Entrance Test Review @ ISA

Trainers from Manila-based MSA Academic Advancement Institute, one of the leading review centers in the country, were in ISA to help fourth year learners prepare for the major college entrance tests, such as the U.P. College Admission Test (UPCAT) and Ateneo College Entrance Test. The review was scheduled from May 21 to June 2, Monday – Saturday, 8:00 – 12:00 a.m.; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. MSA trainers Ms. Theresa Gales (English), Mr. Cyril Subingsubing (Math) and Mr. Harold Iturrade (Science) spent a total of 70 review hours (lecture and evaluation) with the 17 ISAers and 18 graduating students from other schools in Iloilo and Bacolod cities. This 2-week intensive training in English, Math and Science was aimed to adequately prepare the learners to face the tough exams administered by the country's premiere universities and consequently increase the passing rate. ISA school policy requires all high school graduating ISAers to take the college entrance tests administered by the University of the Philippines and Ateneo de Manila University. MHT



35 reviewees took diagnostic test on the first day of the review, MSA trainer Mr. Cyril Subingsubing facilitated the whole process. Of the 35 reviewees, 6 came from St. Scholastica Academy (Bacolod), 6 from Westbridge, 2 from Ateneo de Iloilo, 4 from Assumption Iloilo and 17 from ISA.

ISA Integrates Mental Math to its Math Curriculum

Iloilo Scholastic Academy sponsored a seminar-workshop on Mental Math Techniques for math facilitators conducted by MSA last May 20 at ISA campus.

The MSA Mental Math Program presents an alternative approach to computations. It is expected to effectively enhance the learners' mathematical skills, develop their analytic mind for speed computation and even for competitions. It is also helpful in enhancing the interests of the learners in Math, particularly in doing the four basic operations and squaring of numbers in the easier and faster ways.

The MSA team was headed by the founder of MSA herself, Professor Merle S. Alferez. Mr. Manuel Cuison Jr., one of the authors of the MSA Mental Math book, conducted the workshop for ISA math facilitators. The Mental Math Program covers from pre-school up to the secondary level. ISA will adapt the program and will incorporate it to its math curriculum starting school year 2007-08.

Through the Mental Math Program, ALL ISAers will learn unique skills making them more competitive in the field of mathematics. DNS

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. - Mahatma Gandhi

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ISA new learners actively participate in the games prepared by the Guidance Office during the orientation

Learners' back-to-school Orientation

4 June 2007 marks the first day of classes for school year 2007-08. But before the official classes begin, the Guidance Office, under Ms. Ellen Rojo, spearheaded a game-filled welcome program, dubbed "Learners' Back-to-school Orientation". The event aims to refresh the minds of the learners regarding the school rules and regulations and to acquaint the new learners about ISA's educational principles through learner-centered interactive activities.

In the elementary levels, the task of re-orienting graders of important school policies and classroom rules is given to the advisers that same day. Regular classes start on 5 June.

Facilitators, Learners Toured Turtle Island & SEAFDEC

The trip to Guimaras is not complete without experiencing the thrill of island hopping. Excited, a group of facilitators and ISAers ventured into four *katig* motorboats heading to some exotic islets. Their first destination was a rocky islet where SEAFDEC's fishery research facility is located. The ISA visitors were awed by the 20-year old *bangus* and *lapu-lapu* as big as a middle-aged shark. Some thought that the mammoth *lapu-lapu* is prehistoric. Quite a few of them betrayed their childlike instinct when allowed to feed the sea turtles and taking photos with the aquatic species. After SEAFDEC, off the group to an island-cave. The Last stop, Turtle Island, named as such because turtles used to lay their eggs on the beaches of the island. The facilitators were contented though and even let the sea turtles loose in their natural habitat for a few minutes in exchange for a five-peso entrance fee.



The enchanting cave and the clear blue water flowing inside it prompting an ISAer to say: "What an amazing scenery! With this natural beauty, who can't love this country?"

Editorial:

The tension is really here and now especially that another school year begins. ISA learners have been doing their best to "toe-the-line" and meet the demands of the school. Of course, another school year would mean facing another round of challenges, a whole year to burn the midnight oil and indeed, another year of fruitful learning. The parents, certainly, are also keeping their fingers crossed as they try to motivate their children to cope with the standards set by ISA.

Furthermore, ISA facilitators have been looking forward to meet the demands of another academic year with great anticipation of being able to draw out the potentials of the learners.

This year is really going to be an entirely new phase for ISA. The school has been thriving for excellence since the very beginning. Without a doubt, she will even flourish more this year.

A Unique Way to Celebrate Independence Day

ISAers Participate in Journalism Writeshop



DepEd Region 6 English Supervisor, Jude Thaddeus Iledan, along with three trainers on journalism, Engr. Herman Lagon of the Daily Informer, Mr. Mario Manica and Ms. Jessica Gela, were invited by the ISA administration to conduct a two-day seminar writeshop for Grade 4 to 4th year learners on 11 & 12 June.

On the first day, learners listened to the lectures on the fundamentals of journalism such as the principles and mechanics in news and feature writing, editorial and editorial cartooning, copy reading and headlining, and photojournalism. On the following day, ISAers were made to write articles and many came out to be of, according to the lecturers, Golden Pen- and Press Conference- worthy. A contest on each area of journalistic writing was held afterwards in the high school levels.

Facilitator's Reflection

Last 29 May ISA Faculty and Staff went out for a back-to-school fellowship and self-evaluation at Raymen's Beach Resort, Guimaras. A reflection activity was next in line after all the bone-twisting and mind-boggling sports competition. There was a reflective sharing about what had transpired during the games. It was a time for self-awareness particularly on one's role at ISA, thus strengthening the sense of team work among the facilitators and staff. This activity ended up in a humble acknowledgment of the divine intervention of the Sovereign God knowing that without the release of His abundant blessing, ISA will never be what she is right now. A closing prayer led by Ms. Beulah Gerada successfully ended the first part of this event.

No Work, Please...

Enjoy the SUN, Water and SAND

Bright sun, white sand, cool water and fun atmosphere wrap around the consciousness of ISA facilitators and staff on their Guimaras outing last 29 May. Hangover from making of course outline, guide questions and power point presentations though still lingered, ISA facilitators and staff were just eager to go for a break. Time was running out; 4 June, the day classes starts, was fast approaching, all the more they need to schedule a day for a get-together excursion. Away from the hustles and bustles, nobody was supposed to talk about guide questions; rather everyone was expected to immerse their energy in the warmth of the sun and sand.



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Mr. Manny Cuison Jr. of MSA came to ISA last 22-23 June to finalize the plan for establishing **MSA Mental Math Satellite Center** in Iloilo City. Having in mind the benefits it could bring to children of our city, ISA agreed to provide the venue for the said program. The Satellite Center will start its full operation in August this year.

MCI+ GOES FULL BLAST!

Multimedia Classroom Instruction + goes full swing in all high school year levels of ISA starting school year 2007-08.

Every ISAer knows the implementation of MCI⁺ had started last year with the 2nd and 3rd year classrooms designated as its pilot classes. But nobody at that time would dare bet that the program would move further on to its second phase. Yet after a test run for a year and encouraged by the successful launching of the program, MCI⁺ seems destined to become a way of life for all high school ISAers starting this school year. And according to the program's time table, it would only take another year for the higher graders to be in to a multimedia learning environment. Judging from the eagerness consistently displayed by the ISA administration, it is not far-out to expect that every classroom at ISA will be turned into multimedia in three years' time. MCI⁺ has indeed made learning process more interesting for most of the ISA learners.

What we want is to see the child in pursuit of knowledge and not knowledge in pursuit of a child. - *George Bernard Shaw*

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EDITORIAL

“Excellent Diet, Excellence in Mind and Spirit”, so goes the theme of the nutrition month this year. Indeed, what we eat is what we are, this is the message ISA wants to instill in the consciousness of her learners.

The celebration of the Nutrition Day is a success. It is evident that ISA gives importance to the learners' physical wellbeing not only for them to withstand the pressures they encounter throughout the learning process, but more so to treasure this invaluable gift from God ---- Good Health.

Unfortunately, some learners are still fond of eating unhealthy foods. Having been misinformed by the mass media ads, some are unaware that foods they enjoy eating very much are actually hazardous to their health.

Indeed, convincing kids to eat healthy foods is an uphill struggle. But before anything else, parents and school should first share common views and then form a united front to combat the negative effects of commercialism. The school helps learners determine what constitute healthy foods. Parents, on the other hand, should focus more on what is good for the health of their child, instead, of buying them their favorites, which, more often than not, are bringing more harm than good.

Having a right diet and excellent health is a key for us to do things we want to experience in life. By that, we can enjoy life.

To be 'choosy' is not bad, but we need to choose the right ones.

7-7-7 - A LUCKY DAY FOR ISA

Twelve aspiring newscasters from ISA joined the 5th ABS-CBN Newscasting Competition (elimination) held in SM City last 7 July 2007. In every category, more than 100 participants from different schools in the Province and City of Iloilo vied for the top 20 places. Four ISAers made it to the semi-finals. They are Emma Rose Guanco (Elementary - Filipino), Jia Fem Bolinas (Elementary - English), Margot Beatrice Erencio (High School - Filipino) and Trixie Kristine Shane Ledesma (High School - English). It was indeed a lucky day for the ISAers.

They will represent ISA in the semi-final rounds at SM City on 28 July. MS

JOURNALISM IN LANGUAGE LESSONS

Journalism is the in-thing in Iloilo Scholastic Academy this June. After the learners celebrated Independence Day in a Journalism Seminar, their English and Filipino facilitators had their own crash course on June 23, in the 4th year classroom.

With the principle of learning by doing in mind, the afternoon was spent in critiquing English and Filipino news and editorial writings of the language facilitators, as Mr. Herman Lagon, the resource speaker, gave comments and salient points on journalistic outputs.

The facilitators-turned-learners are building up on their writing skills in order to better facilitate and implement the integration of journalism in their language lessons. BG

ISA CELEBRATES NUTRITION MONTH

In celebration of the Nutrition Month 2007, exciting activities were held in ISA on 14 July with the theme, “Excellent Diet: Excellence in Mind and Spirit”. The main goal of this program was to propagate the message of proper nutrition and provide an educational experience for everyone involved.

Different committees were formed to ensure a smooth flow of the event. It started with a poster making contest which was held a week before. The winning entries were then displayed at the school's entrance. In the morning of 14 July, learners moved through a series of stations. The medical examination was conducted by Dr. Ong and Dr. Pestano while Dr. Andaya and Dr. Gallos took charge of the dental examination. The 4th year high school learners taught their younger counterparts lessons on nutrition through LCD presentation and games. While 3rd year learners staged a puppet show. There was also a film showing which took viewers on a journey through human body. On the taste-testing booth, facilitators challenged selected learners to try vegetables that they don't usually eat. It was accompanied with a lecture about foods from different places and a game of food bingo. The games committee provided the learners with a nutrition quiz, apple-eating contest and other opportunities to win more prizes. The arrival of the Yakult mascot further heightened the children's excitement. Samples of Rich-O and Yakult were also handed out to the learners.

By the end of the celebration, the activities certainly carried out the mission of creating awareness and helping the learners make healthful food choices. HAD



Graders were very enthusiastic in answering the questions flashed on the screen. The 4th year high school learners taught their younger counterparts lessons on nutrition through multimedia presentation and games.

HIGH SCHOOL CAREER ORIENTATION

With the aim of impressing on our learners the value of career awareness and focusing their minds on the challenges which lie after high school life, ISA Guidance Counselor Ms. Ellen Rojo organized a high school career orientation for our pioneer graduates and the 3rd year learners last 4 July.

Just before this event, a career aptitude test was conducted by APSA to further enlighten the learners on their strengths and limitations for them to be more objective in choosing their courses.

Learners then, were able to acquaint themselves with the college life through the testimonies given by outstanding college students from Central Philippines University, St. Paul University and the University of the Philippines in the Visayas. FL



ISA Orchestra Goes Live!

After 2 years since its organization, ISA orchestra has formed a group of 40 members to undergo regular training.

The new group is composed of proficient players of different musical instruments. As part of their training and exposure, the group plays regularly during the flag ceremony every Monday and Friday. Starting last 2 July, shortly before the flag ceremony they would fill the ISA campus with sweet sound of music with their undying repertoires like folksongs and other well loved Chinese and Western classics. DMC

GOLDEN PEN AWARDS

The Regional English Circle held the 8th Regional Cluster Journalism Training and Golden Pen Awards at Sun Yat Sen High School and Iloilo Central School last 7-8 July. The 2-day activity was participated by learners from public and private schools. It consisted of crash courses in newswriting, headlining and copy reading with Miss Jessica Gela; Editorial and Feature Writing with Mr. Eugene Mallorca and Editorial Cartooning with DepEd English Education Supervisor Jude Thaddeus Iledan.

ISA sent 12 elementary and 9 high school learners. Elijah Erl Ong and Emma Guanco both from Grade 6 earned the runners-up title. Vincent Jalipa and Kathrina Te were declared runners-up for English sports and feature writing, respectively. Trexie Ledesma completed the list of the runners-up in the feature writing. RJ/MSC

FIRST YEAR RECOLLECTION

First Year ISAers experienced a heart warming and self-reflective Recollection last 13 July at the Holy Rosary Retreat and Reflection Center, Arevalo, Iloilo City.

Sister Fidelis, a dynamic speaker, gave a talk to help them uncover the real and critical issues about adolescence. The self-awareness workshops led the learners to realize who they are and what they can be.

Learners experienced the meaningful interaction with God through personal prayer and meditation. As a sequel of this event the learners showed their God-given talents. To show their gratitude, they wrote letters to their parents who joined the group at the last part of the recollection late in the afternoon.

The activities were facilitated by Ms. Gay Belvis, 1st year adviser, Ms. Ellen Rojo, Guidance Counselor and the two subject head facilitators, Mr. Rodgen Jabor and Ms. Julie Herrera. ER



Editorial

Schools all over the country are celebrating Buwan ng Wika this month with the theme: *Iba't Ibang Wika Iisang Kultura Iisang Bansa*.

Ours is a land of diversity. We started as separate islands and people groups with their own leaders. When the Spanish invaders came, it was easy for them to conquer the natives who had no unity to keep the foreigners out of their soil. However, the most evident proof of this diversity is our dialects.

A line from Rizal's *El Filibusterismo* says, "Ang isang bansang walang sariling wika ay hindi malaya." Language with its role as the means of communication had played a great part in the life of people. Rizal is telling us that it is even involved with the cause of freedom.

We were conquered three times. We have survived three times. And even with the on-set of globalization and the wide spread use of the English language, the different dialects are alive and thriving (just eavesdrop on students in supposedly English-speaking-schools when they feel safe from teachers' ears).

Buwan ng Wika Celebration is still a vital part of Filipino school activities today. We must keep alive the pride of our learners in their native language even as we train them to be good in English and Chinese. The former is for them to be grounded in their personhood, the latter to make them competitive in the world.

Indi mo pag kahuya ang imo linguahe! Ipagarbo ang imong kaugalingong sinulitan! Ipagmalaki mo ang iyong wika! (Be proud of your native tongue!)

In a FLASH...

The launching of the MSA Mental Math Satellite Center was held in SM City Iloilo last 29 July 2007. A demo-seminar of the Mental Math Techniques was conducted by Mr. Manuel P. Cuison Jr., co-author of the *MSA Mental Math Technique series*.

The event was highlighted by the 'In a FLASH...Mental Math Quiz Bee', which is part of the MSA Mental Math school-based program in ISA. The competition had 4 levels. Grades 1 and 2 learners competed in level 1. Grades 4, 5 and 6 were the contenders in level 2. Levels 3 and 4, both on Squaring Techniques, had 1st, 2nd year learners and 3rd, 4th year learners as the contestants, respectively.



The following are the first placers: Level 1: Marion Nicole Lim; Level 2: Hojoon Lee; Level 3: Andy Kim; Level 4: Alyssa Yeo.



Swear to Serve. The induction ceremony of ISA Student Council Officers was held on the first Monday after the election. Fritzie Gayle Diez and Helinda Muleta are elected President and Vice-President, respectively.

ISAers Elect S.Y. 2007-08 Student Council Officers

The ISAchievers, under the leadership of Fritzie Gayle Diez, is confirmed as the winning party after their landslide victory in the Student Council Election last 20 July 2007. The following compose the new set of officers of the ISA Student Council in the school year 2007-08: President: Fritzie Gayle Diez, Vice President: Helinda Marie Muleta, Secretary: Michiko Francine de la Cruz, Asst. Secretary: Stephanie Rae Fernandez, Treasurer: Neil Kevin Tan Yau, Asst. Treasurer: Karl Francis Chan, Auditor: Sunshine Elizabeth Do, Asst. Auditor: Emma Rose Guanco, PIO: Norm Vincent Jalipa and Sports Coordinator: Hannah Stephanie Co.

A day prior to the election, the Student Council advisers conducted an open forum. The candidates were given the chance to freely express their views and defend the platform of their parties. The Grand Rally, which took place on 19 July 2007, also featured the young leaders' talents and well-organized speeches.

4th Year Recollection Reload

"You are proud because you are the pioneering batch, but pressured because of all the expectations..." summed up Sister Fidelis, the speaker-facilitator, after the learners' initial sharing during the 4th Year Rizal Recollection at Holy Rosary Prayer and Retreat Center on 1 August 2007, a few days before the UPCAT.

Tension had been high in the class for the past days starting from Student Council campaign week to the elections and then, to the first entrance exam they took this school year. To help them loosen up Sister Fidelis with three ISA facilitators led the learners into reflecting on how they can be a blessing to others, a glimpse in their positive sides. Another session dealt with the issues they have that need healing. The retreat was concluded by an open forum among the learners—a time of honest evaluation of their relationships in the class.

At the end of the event a learner commented, "Some things are fixed. Everything is much better in class. You can really see it." The administration believes that the 4th year learners are now emotionally ready to take the various exams in store for them. BG

Inter-school Competition Awardees First Panay News Writing Competition Jan Jarnel Geyenne Tiu

1st Place, News Writing High School Category
Emma Rose Guanco
3rd Place, News Writing Elementary Category

BE EXCELLENT!

"A school cannot be a 'neg'osyo because it cannot be 'not' leisure," said Dr. Antonio Torralba in his talk on *Cultivating Culture of Excellence in Basic Education* last 12 July at the ISA faculty room.

Dr. Torralba's often humorous discourse began with an etymology of words explaining how "skhole" (school) means a place of leisure and how "neg otium" means not leisure. He stressed the significance of the words we use in defining education. The school is a place of leisure where learners should be able to contemplate reality.

Furthermore, he gave pointers on the hallmarks of excellence which are personal and family integrity, civics responsibility and universal charity, as he encouraged the facilitators during his 2-hour session to strive to develop these in themselves.

Indeed, as teachers laughed and nodded throughout Mr. Torralba's discussion, his final admonition that whatever you do, do things well, is carried through. One facilitator mentioned, "Character is the bottom line of education. That's what I learned. Excellence can only be achieved if the educators have character." BG



ISA celebrates Buwan ng Wika

ISA celebrates Buwan ng Wika, with the theme "Maraming Wika, Matatag na Bansa", last 17 August.

The event started with the opening remarks of Mr. Peter M. Chan and was immediately followed by the contests and presentations of each grade level. The learners showed their talents in dancing, singing and acting. High school learners depicted the past by presenting the Filipino music and dances from the past 4 decades.

This year's theme "Fiestang Pinoy, Iba talaga!" for the "Pista sa Nayon" was another success due mainly to the continued support of the parents.

The celebration also reminds the ISA community, especially the learners, of the Filipino tradition. This is something we should feel proud of as a nation.

The sudden and 'miraculous' halting of the downpour that afternoon made it possible for the celebration to move on without interruption. It is said that, the true meaning of fiesta, like what we are annually celebrating in ISA, is the unity, cooperation and camaraderie among members of a community — something that was very evident that day. GB



A Teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops. - *Henry Adams*

- the 42nd issue -
www.isa.edu.ph

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

Editorial

It is not often ISAers get to unleash their literary voices both orally and in print. Sure, they have their Reading and Literature classes where they get to express their creative feelings through public speaking activities and book reports. But more often, these classroom activities are structured and limited in time. Thus, learners rarely get the chance to show their creative talents in speaking and writing.

This school year, our school paves way to the literary growth of the learners as we will be hearing and seeing the ISAers' literary voices through the launching of the newsletter and the staging of literary contests.

The *Junior Scholars*, official organ of the ISAers, has done a careful screening in editorial, feature, news, sports writing, and cartooning. The *Junior Scholars* is now complete with its brilliant staffers and is set to come out with its maiden issue this school year.

ISAers have shown their public speaking skills and acting prowess through the literary contests elimination which includes declamation, oration, and impromptu speech. The two eliminations that the learners have to go through made it a tough competition for the contestants with the best speakers to compete for the finals.

These two activities have made the learners get in touch with their artistic talents in writing and speaking as they vie for spots in the editorial staff in Junior Scholars and as they perform their oration/declamation pieces during the literary contests elimination. Not only that, it has also proven that ISAers get what it takes to be excellent journalists and public speakers. "We are, we can!" ISAers agree.

ISA Joins Newscasting Tilt

Iloilo Scholastic Academy made its way to the finals and bagged a trophy in the 5th ABS-CBN newscasting competition held at SM City Activity Center on 25 August.

Emma Rose Guanco, a Grade 6 learner, won third place in Elementary Filipino category, competing against the other nine finalists from different schools in Iloilo.

Sixty contestants from More than 30 schools vied for the first to third places in English, Filipino and Hiligaynon categories in both Elementary and Secondary levels.

Prior to the finals, Guanco also shone in the semi-finals together with Margot Beatrice Erencio, a 4th year Rizal, who also made it to the top 10. Erencio joined in the Filipino competition secondary level.

This is the first time ISA joined the said competition. *SKA*

ISA-Tawili Jointly Held Values Formation Fora

Holistic development of every learner is at the core of ISA's education philosophy. While the school puts enough emphasis on achieving academic excellence, values formation of each child is always at the center of its educational tenet.

A series of one-hour talks have been given to every grade and year level in the entire month of August. Speakers were volunteers from Tawili University. They imparted sound insights and moral lessons to the learners. The talks focused mainly on topics such as honesty, respect of others and fortitude. *ER*

Freshmen's Jaunt

On 7 September, high school freshmen with two of their facilitators had their tour of three inland towns in Iloilo province. Their first stop was the town of Sta. Barbara. They learned historical facts related to the Sta. Barbara Church and town history as the tour guide, Ms. Sonia Masangkay, gave a lecture while showing them relics displayed in the museum. The freshmen then laid a wreath at the foot of the bronze statue of an Ilongo hero, General Martin Delgado.

They then visited the Sedimentation Basin, Watershed and Mahogany Park in Maasin. Before leaving, they had their side trip to the famous 160-step Gines Hill located at the center of the town. At the hill top is a huge statue of Jesus Christ.



The third town they visited was Cabatuan. There they had a glimpse of how fiesta is celebrated in the rural areas. They witnessed the colorful foot parade and exhibits that showcase the culture of Cabatuananon.

To make the learners aware of how drinking water is processed, the itinerary included a visit to Sta. Barbara reservoir. The person in charge explained to them how water from Maasin dam is being processed into safe drinking water to satisfy the needs of the nearby town folks.

The trip was concluded by a short visit to the newly constructed Iloilo Airport. The activity is part of the requirements in Social Studies subject. It aims to develop the socio-economic-cultural awareness of the ISAers. *RJ*

Professional Advices for University-bound ISAers

ISA Guidance Office conducted a Career Guidance to 3rd and 4th year class last 24 August. Invited guest speakers: Dr. Louie Tirador, a physician, Mrs. Sarah Arena, a CPA, and Jocelyn Cham, an architect, discussed with the learners the important career issues of their respective fields of expertise. Other related occupations had also been tackled. Representatives from UP in the Visayas, Central Philippine University, WVCST, and St. Paul University also presented their school programs. *ER*



Preschoolers celebrate Buwan ng Wika '07

The Preschool Department had its annual Buwan ng Wika celebration last 24 August at CAP Auditorium. Parents and guests expressed their appreciation of the lively and colorful performances of the little kids.

These preschool learners gracefully executed the standard steps of the folk dances from different regions in our country. Nursery learners danced the Itik-Itik, a dance from the Visayas region. Though they are merely 3-4 years old yet they danced unexpectedly well. A Muslim dance called Kappa Malong Malong, was presented by the Kinder I learners. Aside from that, they also rendered an interpretative song number, Ugoy ng Duyan. Of course the eldest among the preschoolers, the Kinder II, did not allow themselves to be outshone. Theirs was a dance from Leyte, the Pandanggo Oasiwas. They also danced the Cariñosa, a courting dance of Spanish origin.

Selected Kinder I and II learners also played in the rhythm band.

The program was followed by a sumptuous fiesta celebration. *JP*

ISAers' Junior Scholars Editorial Board Organized

ISA now has a new watchdog apart from the monthly newsletter, *Scholars*. *Junior Scholars*, a bi-annual publication, was conceived this school year. The maiden issue of which will be released in October,

From the written examination given last 6 July, and after much consideration by the facilitators, a total of 23 learners become members of the Junior Scholars' pioneering staff.

Senior learner Michiko Francine de la Cruz came out as Editor-in-Chief for English and Senior (Chinese Class) Liza Chew is Editor-in-Chief for Chinese.

There are three Associate Editors: Jan Jarnel Geyenne Tiu (3rd Year) for English, Grace Rebollos (4th Year) for Chinese, and Justine Betsy Aguirre (4th Year) for Filipino.

Managing Editor is Eunice Damaso; Feature Editor is Eunice Marie Serilo; News Editor, Trixie Christine Shayne Ledesma; Literary Editor, Clarissa Joyce Tiu; and Sports Editor, Norm Vincent Jalipa.

High School Editorial Assistants are James Eduard Chiu, Lara Hudak, Vyel Marie Brodit, Megan Bretagne Uy and Diadem Faith Monana.

Elementary Editorial Assistants are Emma Rose Guanco, Abigail Jeanne Juantong, Camille Faith Jungco, Michelle Louise Ann Naces and Alessandra Sophia Sarria.

Sunshine Elizabeth Do and Julie Rose Luz were chosen as the artists/cartoonists; while Gian Francis Trimañez and Jayzen Ojastro were the chosen photojournalists.

Advisers of *Junior Scholars* are Ms. Mae Shelou Conserva for English and Filipino; Mr. Sherwin Lao and Mr. Zheng Changqiao for Chinese. *MC*

Rather than wishing for change, you must first be prepared for change. - Catherine Pulsifer

- the 43rd issue has 4 pages -
www.isa.edu.ph

The Monthly Newsletter of ISA
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ISA-LS on Its 4th Year

School is an institution where children start to experience life. It is a venue that sees individuals gradually develop into productive members of the society. Whereas imparting knowledge is the basic function of the school, personal discipline is one virtue that school needs to instill in the consciousness of every learner, we believe.

Education does not enjoy the luxury of time. In the information age, children mature in an incredibly faster rate, particularly in intellect. Education had to be reinvented for it to stay relevant.

ISA celebrates its fourth founding anniversary this month. Though we feel ISA is steadily moving towards the goals set by its founders, we know ISA still needs to invest tremendous time and effort if it is really serious to see itself at par with the achievements attained by a few excellent schools in the national capital, let alone those in the world.

Educational institutions play a significant role in the development of an individual. They are supposed to drive learners to pursue their dreams; augmenting learners' mental prowess; language proficiency, physical fitness and emotional intelligence.

While closing rank with the mainstream Philippine academe, ISA has publicly been recognized by its unique identity, characterized by the learning system it has consistently put forth. Blend compatibly with the general educational framework is a distinct learning process, known within the community as the ISA-Learning System. Though far from being sublime, its functionality and comprehensiveness had withstood the test of time. The grandeur may still be obscured by its present imperfection, past experiences however has revealed its inherent adaptability. This mechanism endows ISA-LS with dynamism and flexibility — capable of continual self-correcting and self-enriching.

ISA-LS integrates ISA educational theory and the everyday practical classroom instructions. It is a guiding principle and a learning procedure. While theory sheds light on practice, classroom practices provide empirical data that constantly enrich ISA educational theory. Thus goes the cycle.

ISA Junior tops Phil Life Insurance Poster Making Contest

Maria Fairie Tay, a third year learner, bested the rest of the budding artists who participated in the on-the-spot poster making contest with the focal theme: "Life is Good -How Do You Make It Colorful?" The said contest was held last 27 September 2007 in De Paul College, Iloilo City.

The contest was sponsored by the Philippine Life Insurance Association, Inc. with the Life Underwriters Association of the Philippines-Iloilo Chapter as part of the activities of the 2007 Life Insurance Consciousness Week.

Representing the City of Iloilo, Fairie's work was sent to Manila to participate in the national level competition. Her work was chosen one of the ten finalists. **VKM**

ISA Turns Four

ISAers have developed a predilection for the tenth month of the year. ISA's foundation day which falls on the 1st day of October may have caused this special attachment. But aside from that, it is true that quite a few major campus events indeed unfolded in this month or a week preceding it. To call October a month of festivity is appropriate. Celebrations like International Literacy Day, Mid-Autumn Festival, Confucius Day, the trademark DemoExhibit, the annual Campus Sports Festival and the release of the maiden issue of learners' newspaper the 'Junior Scholars' this year; plus various intramurals and inter-school academic-literary-sports contests that took place around this time... all these could have kindled that feeling of closeness. No wonder every corner of the ISA Campus was literally brimming with excitement around this time of the year since ISA was founded.

'ISA Turns Four' spread boldly on the front page of the 'Junior Scholars'. What better gift indeed can we possibly give to ISA on her fourth birthday than the publication? To many of us, this is another dream come true. The editorial board intends to release two issues this school year. This is rather a very conservative plan. How we hope the 'Junior Scholars' progresses into a quarterly organ in the next school year. Yes, we must always be prepared for change.

For a learning institution that would yield outputs in term of decade, four years is, by any measure, short. But in a nation who values children's education no less than life itself, flimsy excuses are unacceptable. ISA, therefore, is expected to face every challenge, solve every problem, and provide all services no differently from, and definitely not inferior to, any other 'established' school that has been in existence for 15 years, 30 years, or even more than 90 years. Since society does not differentiate, ISA is left with no other choice but to act like, or even better than, an 'established' school... of nearly a hundred years of experiences.

ISA has just turned four. But who ever cared for the number?



ISAthletes Bag 3 Gold, 1 Silver in Chi-Fil School Badminton Tilt

ISAthletes made their way to reap three of the seven gold medals at stake in the 'Iloilo Chinese-Filipino Inter-school Badminton Tournament 2007' held on 22 September. ISA rank first in the gold medal tally; followed by Sun Yat Sen High School with two gold.



The two 'veteran' ISAthletes, Mary Elizabeth Chua and Johanna Tan, have been winning medals since ISA joined IloPRISAA Sports Meet two years ago.

Krishna Wee and Linnie Faith Basilio, both ISA freshmen, confidently outmatched their much older opponents from Sun Yat Sen High School in the high school girl doubles final, bringing home the third gold medal. Earlier, Mary Elizabeth Chua and Johanna Tan, 6th and 5th graders, defeated the contingents from Iloilo Central Commercial High School; and, Emma Guanco, 6th grader, outplayed her rival from Ateneo de Iloilo (formerly Santa Maria Catholic School), winning two gold medals in the elementary girl doubles and singles. Roy Jordan Ahhi, Grade 4, also won second place in the elementary boy singles category.



Of the four schools that joined this year's tournament, Sun Yat Sen High School badminton team stood out to be the over all strongest team based on the total medal tally; followed by ISA, ICCHS and Adel, in that order. **VMS**

Emma Rose Guanco, the versatile 'wonder girl', has been bringing honors to our school, not only in the field of sports, but more so in academic and literary competition. Last month, Emma won 3rd place in Panay News Writing contest, and 3rd place in the 5th ABS-CBN News-casting competition.

Michiko de la Cruz sits as City Planning Officer

Senior ISAer Michiko Francine de la Cruz assumed the position of City Planning Officer of Iloilo City during the Rotary Club's 'Boys and Girls Week' last 21-24 September.

Michiko, together with students from many schools in the city held various government positions for a week. Hundreds of students underwent written examination to qualify for the 'government' positions. The 'Boys and Girls Week' gave Michiko a chance to observe, work and 'administer' the city of Iloilo. The said annual project of the Rotary Club - Metro Iloilo District, in coordination with the city government, provides a training ground for young students to become future leaders of the country. **VC**

Rather than wishing for change, you must first be prepared for change. - Catherine Pulsifer

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HUDAKS romp away with Silver in Philippine Olympic Fest

Lara Hudak, a 1st year Lu Xun learner, bagged silver and bronze medals in the Kata (showmanship) category and Komite (sparring) category, respectively, during the Philippine Olympic Festival Karatedo competition held at Gaisano City Iloilo on 14-15 September.

Grade 5 Shakespeare learner Robert Hudak, Lara's younger brother, also won silver medal in the Kata (showmanship) competition.

Athletes from different regions of the country participated in the tournament.

This once again proves that many ISA learners do not only excel academically (Lara earned the highest academic honors in the graduating class last year), they are sports enthusiasts as well.

Grace Rebollos Won Bronze

On the 13th of September, Grace Rebollos, a 4th Yr. Rizal learner, contemplates on how to counter her opponent's next move.



This file photo shows Grace Rebollos, a 4th Yr. Rizal learner, contemplates on how to counter her opponent's next move.

For having represented Iloilo in the region 6 table tennis meet last school year, Grace was qualified to join the Philippine Olympic Festival -- table tennis match held at Iloilo Sports Complex last 13-14 September. After several rounds of exciting games against experienced players from different regions, she finally brought home a bronze medal.

GRADE 6 Learners' Recollection



Attending recollection is no longer an exclusive prerogative of high school learners this year. Our school administration finds it equally appropriate for elementary learners, at least the graduating class, to be exposed to personality development program in the form of recollection; and make it an integral part of the overall values formation and behavioral development of every learner. Through the Guidance Office, the grade 6-Galileo learners had their recollection last 2 October at the Holy Rosary Retreat and Reflection Center, Arenal, Iloilo City.

The talk centered on the idea that 'in life, there should be a time to laugh despite difficulties and problems'. The learners also discovered a meaningful communication with God through prayers.

The activity was facilitated by Sister Fidelis Estrada, and assisted by ISA mentors.
 DNS

ISA holds 2nd Sci-Fair



As a tribute to the 4th founding anniversary of ISA, the elementary and high school learners held their second Science Demo Exhibit at SM City Food Court Area on 21-23 September 2007. On the basis of the experiences they gained last year, each level prepared at least two science projects. A total of 22 on-the-spot experiments, complete with verbal explanation, were shown to the public.

Upon the suggestion of the Executive Director, the project was conceived as early as June this year. In coordination with the Science Department head, respective class advisers and science facilitators closely supervised the gathering of materials and the experiments on the projects. It was not uncommon to see learners trooping to the laboratory after the class-review sessions weeks before the scheduled demo-exhibits. For safety reason certain procedure could be done only inside the laboratory; high school learners were obliged to take video clips of their lab work and design power point presentation to aid them in their demo. The four LCD's allotted in each high school classroom had to be brought to SM.

'Science in Action' is the theme of this year's science demo-exhibits. It encompasses physics, biology and chemistry. Like the 'making of carbon' of the Third Year, 'the reaction of acid and base' of the Grade 2, 'fruit battery' of the Grade 1, all these involve basic principles in chemistry. Projects with physics components are 'relations of magnetism and motion' and the 'pressure-powered rockets' of the Fourth Year, 'conversion of heat energy to steam' of the Grade 6, 'paper-making using recycled materials' of the Grade 5, among others. The Second Year learners' 'procedure of making bio-diesel', for its practical and economic values, attracted many adult shoppers.

Every learner from Grade 1 to Fourth Year has a role in the 3-day demo-exhibit. Since this year's science fair was held in a public venue, more people were benefited from the presentations, aside from the teachers and students of the invited schools.

Parents' involvement has been crucial to the success of major school affairs. Science fair is no exception. ISA parents had extended their indispensable support.

ISA 4th Anniversary Cultural Spectacle 350 ISAers Performed

More than 600 parents and guests attended ISA's 4th foundation day grand cultural presentation at CAP last 29 September to witness 350 ISAers (constituting 88% of the total number of learners) present some of the best Filipino and Chinese dances, modern dances, speech choirs, story telling and musical ensembles. The spectacle was the culmination of a two-week marathon of events the school had sponsored.

Even before the start of the program at 7 p.m., the auditorium was already full packed with learners, faculty and staff, board members, parents and guests. This year has been the first time for the school to gather in the formal setting of an auditorium. "We are already sure of having a successful show. But this time we want to educate our learners how to be a good audience. That's what we need to develop." says Peter Chan, Executive Director, in relation to the choice of venue for the event. However, parents hope that next year the school could provide a bigger place to accommodate everyone. The school is looking forward to another year of growth and enhancement. BG

The Junior Scholars Maiden Issue Released on October 1

On the first day of October, ISAers released the maiden issue of their official publication, the *Junior Scholars*.

All the 16 pages of the first issue are colored. Campus News Section dominates the front page and the next two pages. Two pages are allotted to the Editorial and Opinion. Another four pages contain feature writings of the contributors. Book reviews of the learners fill most of the Literary Section. The Sports page gives comprehensive reports on major inter-school sports contests ISA had joined in the first half of the current school year.

The four-page Chinese Section features learners' expository writings on significant world events, like the US-Iran dispute over the nuke issue, the Iraqi internal strife, terrorism, Sino-Japanese relationship, to name a few. Articles reflecting school life occupy a big portion of this section.

Like any significant endeavor, the first attempt is often characterized by excitement, uncertainty, and yes, shortcomings. What is important, though, is that ISAers have taken the first bold step. We sincerely hope that the publication would continue to uphold ISA's tradition, that it would truly reflect the sentiments of the learners. To quote a passage from an article written by the Executive Director: 'I want to challenge the 'Junior Scholars' staffers to pursue the difficult path of Truth, regardless of the circumstances.' Godspeed, *Junior Scholars*!

Editor's note: Limited collector's copies of the *Junior Scholars* are still available at the Executive Director's Office. You may call 329-6633 or send email to info@isa.edu.ph for a free copy.

Education is a painful, continual, difficult work to be done in kindness, by warning, by praise, but above all — by example - *John Ruskin*

- the 44th Issue -
www.isa.edu.ph

The Monthly Newsletter of ISA
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EDUCATION

Time to Leave the Cocoon

ISAers' lives do not revolve only on books. At ISA, it is not only the mental prowess is being enhanced; children are exposed to various activities that help develop their person holistically. How? Partly, it is by providing with, and exposing them to, wholesome social gatherings and active sports events.

Balance, key to the success of almost all endeavors, is how a person manages to get involved in varied activities without losing his composure. November is a month of sports in our city. We will once again grab the opportunities this annual IloPRISAA meet is bringing with it. The ISAthletes are starting intensifying their training. ISA Administration has ever since been encouraging the learners to take full advantage of the liberal school sports program. Because we at ISA believe these extracurricular activities will help children become a stronger person -- be able to push further their limits and surmount challenges they may encounter.

Letting ISAers join in healthy competition is quite an experience that will surely linger in their heart and mind, forever.

8th World Chinese Descents Writing Contest 2 ISAers among 49 Winners in Philippines

The 8th World Chinese Writing Contest, an annual event sponsored by the State Council of China, is open to all elementary and high school students of Chinese descent outside China. Early this year, ISA submitted four articles for the first time.

The school was informed through the 'Edukasyong Tsino' (June 15), a Chinese-language monthly publication of the Philippine Education Research Center, that the writings of 2 ISAers, Karl Francis Chan and Liza Chew, won 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. In the Philippine this year, the high school category has 4 articles won 1st place; 11 2nd place, and 20 3rd place.

The full text of Karl's and Liza's articles can be found in www.isa.edu.ph '校園心聲' (Campus Aspiration) ◦ PMC

Career Awareness Starts Early

22 October, the Guidance Office had arranged a forum for the Grade VI learners with the aim to make them aware of the existing careers that they can choose so the learners may start thinking of what course they will pursue after they graduate from high school. It is always worthwhile to start preparing ahead. The event had four invited speakers who discussed with the elementary graduating class about career issues and development. Ms. Geraldine Lumactod, a medical student, together with Ms. Eunice Scarlet Joy Panado, a law student, spoke about "Secondary Education as Foundation for College". Atty. Lizalyn Lamason and Dr. Gema Trasporto, on the other hand, led the learner in an intellectual journey into different related issues involving their fields.

The activity ended with a dedicational prayer for the learners. ER



Sports for a Cause

The ISA Student Council's Marathon for a Cause kicked off ISA's Sportsfest 2007 last 25 October 2007. The learners raced from the ISA campus to the Iloilo Sports Complex early that morning as part of the opening ceremony of the sports competitions. Ms. Joy Silda, a representative from ABS-CBN Bantay Bata Foundation accepted a cash donation of P12, 080.00, the proceeds from the marathon. "This year's sportsfest is more meaningful...because you (the learners) had a contribution to the community..." said Mr. Peter Chan during his opening remarks of the said event.

The Green Team was declared over-all champion after bagging first places in cheering, parlor games, volleyball, and track and field. The Blue Team came in as 1st runner up after securing the first places in basketball and chess. The 2nd runner up was awarded to Yellow Team with a first place in Badminton. The Red Team settled for 3rd runner up in the over-all ranking.

This school year the Parent's Association was also involved in the preparations for the activity in providing food for the learners and in supervising for the certificates and prizes. Mrs. Angelita Naces, Parent's Association Vice President, awarded the prizes to the winners during the awarding ceremony late that afternoon. BGG

A Day to Enjoy and Learn

Last 22 October, Grade 2 learners had their field trip as part of the requirement in their Social Studies class. It was an enjoyable trip. First, learners roamed around Plaza Libertad. They then had a glance of some native Ilonggo products in the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). After which they visited the Department of Agrarian Reform.



The trip didn't end there. The little learners dropped by Leganes Church which local folks believed to be a sacred and 'miraculous' place.

Their last destination was Katamnan, Dumangas. The learners witnessed the scenic view of Katamnan and its hidden beauty. They had fun with swimming and site seeing. This trip was remarkably educational and enjoyable. VMS

In a Flash 2

MSA-ISA Mental Math Satellite Center held its 'In a Flash 2' last 11 November at the SM City Activity Center. This time the participants were not only from ISA but students from different schools who enrolled in the satellite based program. The author of the Mental Math series Mr. Manuel Cuison Jr. was present and served as the judge in the said competition.

The Mental Math Competition was divided into 2 parts. The first was the competition of the students under the satellite based program. The winners in each level in the satellite based are the following: Level 1A - Champion: Alvin Lyndon Sy (ISA), 2nd place: Keane Marcel Oreta (SPED), 3rd place: Anne Melissa Co (ISA); Level 1B - Champion: Nicole Casey Lao (ISA), 2nd place: Trinidad Roy Michael (ISA), 3rd place: Jason Ryan Chankingwai (ISA); Level 2 A - Champion: Shayne Angelie Trinidad (ISA), 2nd place: Sean Anthony Peña (ISA), 3rd place: Jemimah Anne Juantong (ISA); Level 2B - Champion: Kevinn Friedrich Chan (ISA), 2nd place: Megan Bretagne Uy (ISA), 3rd place: Spenser Jones Go (ISA); Level 2C - Champion: Kevin Allison Gurrea (INHS), 2nd place: Norm Vincent Jalipa (ISA), 3rd place: Karl Francis Chan (ISA).

The school based competition was divided into three levels. Addition techniques for Level 1 which is participated by the grades 2-3 learners, multiplication techniques for Level 2 by the grades 4-6 learners and squaring techniques for Level 3 by the first to fourth year learners. The champions of the school based competition were as follows: Level 1 - Lisa Nam; Level 2 - Alex Kim; Level 3 - Krisha Wee.

The activity ended with a message from Mr. Manuel Cuison Jr. In a Flash 2 turned out to be a successful activity. DNS

5th Graders Played Tourists



Pavia. Oton. Tigbauan, Iloilo's tourist spots, were fifth-graders' destinations last 22 October 2007.

Purposely planned as a Social Studies requirement, the field trip turned out to be not only educational but fun as the learners visit Pavia's church and its gardens and Augustinian Friars' Archive in the University of San Agustin.

The second leg of the trip's first stop was in Oton where the learners were welcomed by the town mayor, Hon. Vicente B. Flores Jr., himself. Famished but still on the go, Nes and Tat's proved to be an oasis for the young travelers.

Tigbauan's SEAFDEC Fishworld seemed like a marine playground for the 5th graders as they played with the tortoise, viewed different tropical aquarium species, and finally bought some souvenirs. Prior to SEAFDEC, learners also watched how milk ice cream was made in a factory. VKM





Education is not the filling of a pail
but the lighting of a fire. - *William Butler Yeats*

- the 45th issue has 4 pages -
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With Grace, Style, and Dignity

The benefits of involvement in sports go beyond victory. Participants acquire learning experiences that promote lifetime values which cannot always be learned in the classroom.

The recently concluded IloPRISAA 2007 was committed to develop leadership and global competitiveness to strengthen the morale and inspire the youth. During the previous weeks ISAers had seen the value of fair play, sportsmanship, and character. The ISAthletes got plenty of training and trials. They learned the importance of teamwork and hard work. But above all else, they learned how to handle victory and defeat..... with grace, style and dignity.

One of the major benefits derived from a child's participation in competitive athletics is the development of sportsmanlike attitudes and values. Playing a game has become a test of character. Competitive sport is a relevant setting for social learning. Sports competition promotes and develops the physical and moral qualities of the players. It enhances camaraderie among the athletes.

But one thing is for sure, win or lose, ISAers acquired personal satisfaction and enjoyment from participation in events like PRISAA.

9 ISA Chinese Language Facilitators Attend Bacolod Congress

26-27 October 2007 nine Chinese Language Facilitators attended this year's Association of Chinese-Filipino Schools in the Visayas Congress held at St. John's Institute, Bacolod City. Asides from taking part in series of seminars conducted by professors from China, the Visayan delegates who came from Provinces in Panay, Leyte, Samar and Negros observed classroom instructions in preschool, elementary and secondary levels held in Tay Tung High School and St. John's Institute. A general assembly of school representatives was held in the evening of 26 October, important issues affecting the Chinese Language curriculum and classroom instruction were discussed. The assembly agreed to hold the school congress once every two years. The next congress will be held in Cebu City in 2009.



ISA Executive Director, Mr. Peter M. Chan, was tasked to deliver a summary report of the Congress in the afternoon of 27 October. The Chinese version of its contents is published on the official ISA Website www.isa.edu.ph [校園心聲 (Campus Aspiration)].

ISAthletes Bagged 7 Gold.....

The 42nd Iloilo Private Schools Athletics Association (IloPRISAA) meet had its opening ceremony in Western Institute of Technology last 20 November. This year's theme was "Healing and Reconciliation for a Unified Nation."

For three successive years, ISAers proved to be competent individuals in the field of sports. The 8 gold medals tallied by ISA were produced by its learners in sports (7) and one in literary-musical contest.

Again, ISA remains unbeatable in the English oration as Fritzie Gayle Diez of 4th year Rizal won first place. Last year, Angelie Ong was champion in this event. In English Declamation, 6th grader Jia Fem Bolinas won a bronze medal.

In sports, the elementary boys' team in table tennis showed supremacy as the girls' team managed to rank second. The high school girls' team got the silver medal while the high school boys' team settled for bronze.



In the 4 x 400 relay, the elementary girls' team finished second. Meanwhile, Grade 4 learner Stacey Ravago and 5th grader Mary Elizabeth Chua grabbed the bronze medals in the 1500m run and 100m dash, respectively.

In another field of sport, Mary Elizabeth Chua with her partner Emma Rose Guanco won gold medal for the girls double in badminton while the high school girls double managed to bag the silver medal. The additional 3 bronze medals were won in badminton for elementary and high school mixed double and high school girls single.

Other gold medals were won in shot put, javelin throw, long jump and triple jump. The school tallied 10 silver medals from different sports events namely discus throw, javelin throw, high jump, 4 x 100 relay, 4 x 400 relay, badminton and table tennis. It also acquired 12 bronze medals from javelin throw, shot put, long jump, 1500m dash, 100m dash, swimming, badminton, chess and table tennis.

The result of this year's meet didn't quite match the performance the athletes had last year (ISA won 12 gold, 9 silver and 12 bronze last year); though in academic-literary-musical contests the school is steadily heading forward. HAD

Jan Jarnel Tiu Receives A.M.C. Award

Jan Jarnel Geyenne Tiu, a third year high school learner, received a Credit Certificate Award from the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) for the Westpac Awards after he took the test last 25 July 2007 in Iloilo City.

The Australian Mathematics Competition started in 1978. It eventually became an international event with countries throughout the Pacific and South East Asia participating in the competition.

AMC is for students of all standards. The first 20 questions are intended to evaluate students' classroom learning experiences. The remaining problems are wider in scope and considerably more difficult. Furthermore, these problems are designed to ensure the skills commensurate to the academic standard in Australian and New Zealand.

The result of the said competition helps our school evaluate the areas that we need to improve on. It also inspires the learners to discover their talents in numbers. JH

Pre-school Learners Visit Museum, Coca Cola Bottlers

Learning is much more fun outside the classroom. ISA Preschool learners had their field trip last 25 October to Santa Barbara Centennial Museum, Coca Cola Bottlers and CPU Butterfly Garden. Each place brought different learning experiences to the learners.

The learners were arranged into groups as the tour guide, Ms. Romela Toledo, introduced to them the history of Santa Barbara. Inside the museum, learners had a glimpse of things used by our ancestors. Things used in wartime, like old helmets, water jugs and weapons were also on display.

At Coca Cola Bottlers plant, learners had a chance to see how machine pours soda into the bottles. The learners took pictures in front of the two giant sprite and coke cans.

The last place the learners visited was the Butterfly Garden inside the Central Philippine University Campus. Before the tour started, learners watched a documentary film about butterflies. They asked many questions when they saw a caterpillar coming out from the cocoon and later turned into a beautiful butterfly. Some of them got hooked to the mini water falls and the others had mixed emotions when they crossed the mini bridge. The butterfly garden was like a paradise not only to the butterflies but to the little children as well. PA





Education is not the filling of a pail
but the lighting of a fire. - William Butler Yeats

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Preschool ramped its way Sportsfest '07

The ISA Preschool Department had its 4th annual sports festival at CAP Auditorium on 29 November. The little learners sported beautifully designed costumes and props for their field demonstration. Nursery kids wore "Mr. Frosty the Snowman" attire with cane while the kinder I learners had maracas and pompoms for their "Mambo" and "Jingle Bells Rock" dances. PO



The field demo was followed by the "Search for the Little Mr. and Ms. Sports Fest 2007", showcasing learners' talents in modeling and dancing. Winners of the titles were Nichol Vince Jalipa and Kyla Velez, both Kinder II pupils. First Runners-up were Kaethe Jaranilla and Jeremiah Juantong. Cherisse Hope Gomez and Mikem Gerobin Morato won Second Runner-up. Tae-Hee Um and Paul Christian Que were proclaimed the Third runners-up. Meanwhile, Tae-Hee Um and Nichol Vince Jalipa charmed the audience and won the 'Darlings of the Crowd' award. The Best in Sportswear were 'equestrian' Kyla Velez and 'boxer' Paul Christian Que. The winning pairs for the Best in Production Number were Kyla Velez and Jeremiah Juantong. Preschool facilitators extend their appreciation to the supportive parents and sponsors. The event was a success as excitement and joy filled the hearts of the children and their parents. PO

Values Formation: **Bioethics**

Values formation is always at the core of ISA's educational philosophy. Building a desirable character in every learner is one of the three facets of our school's mission, the other two being intellectual aptitude and physical fitness. On 14 November, the 3rd and 4th year learners attended a talk on "Bioethical Issues" organized by the Guidance Office. Invited speaker, Dr. Bubbles Ramos, informatively delivered a lecture regarding the subject and other related issues. Meanwhile on 15 November, another dynamic and interactive talk on justice was held for Grade VI and 1st year learners. The speaker, Atty. Lina Layson, effectively caught the attention of the learners during the talk. In fact, learners were asking if another schedule could be set for further discussion on this subject. ER

3rd year Cultural tour

Rain didn't stop the 3rd year learners from having their field trip last 19 November in Miag-ao, a historic town 23 kilometers away from Iloilo City.

The first stop of the cultural tour was Barangay Cagbang where from afar one can see the hanging bridge over the pristine stream. Not many people knew it but it is home to the town's pottery-making industry. Taking the opportunity, the learners and the facilitators tried to make their own pots.

The next destination was the UNESCO -accredited World Cultural Heritage, the 210-year-old Miag-ao Church, which is also known as Santo Tomas De Villanova Parish Church. Learners were able to take a peek of the church's tunnel. The tunnel was used as an escape route towards the sea during the Spanish era.

Just a few minutes from the church is Barangay Indag-an where the learners witnessed how cloth was weaved in the most traditional way using a simple loom.

Finally, the ISAers entered the campus of the country's premiere learning institution, the University of the Philippines which was too wide for them to explore.

Climbing the 133 steps of the College of Fisheries left them literally breathless. The learners also enjoyed posing with the iconic Oblation of the university.

It was quite dark when they all reached ISA, but it was a very fulfilling and educational day for everyone. VC



ISAers Warmly Welcome St. John's Institute Sophomores

Last 6 December, about 90 Second Year teachers and students of St. John Institute (描戈律華明中學) in Bacolod City visited ISA. The visit was part of the itinerary of their 2-day field trip in Iloilo City.



Teachers and students of St. John's Institute were warmly received by the ISA facilitators and learners. At 2:30 p.m., ISA Orchestra played two Chinese songs 'United We Stand' and 'My Motherland' at the school entrance to welcome the visitors. When the visitors reached the school ground, ISAers treated them with a modern and two traditional Chinese dances. In return, the visiting students showed their talents in dancing and singing. After a brief cultural exchange, the friendly ISAers toured their visitors around the campus. Students of the two schools exchanged Friendster addresses, promised to write each other and let their new found friendship blossom.

A Perfect Treat

It was after the 2nd quarter exam when the sophomores had their tour of some exciting spots in Mandurriao, Sta. Barbara, Cabatuan on 22 October. They first went to the northern district of Mandurriao, where they visited a workshop engaged in pottery making. After that they had a brief stroll at the Eco Park in Sta. Barbara. They took their lunch in Iloilo Golf and Country Club, the country's oldest golf course.

After the nature tripping, they packed up and journeyed to Cabatuan to have a glimpse of the new Iloilo Airport. The trip was concluded by the thrilling hiking of the muddy Balic Hill in the same town.

The activity aims to provide the learners with a unique learning experience and it is also part of their requirements in Social Studies. RMJ



One never notices what has been done;

one can only see what remains to be done. - Marie Curie

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Children from Barangay Rizal in La Paz District were delighted to see that Scholastic books were among the gift items this year.

ISAers' Yuletide Offerings

The Student Council 'Christmas Gift-Giving Year 4' took place last 20 December in the ISA campus. The student leaders believe that before setting off to help others, they need to go back to their very own community and render services which will benefit the neighborhood where ISA belongs.

Weeks before that, ISAers, in response to the call of the student council, started to bring in gifts to be given to the beneficiaries, this year the residents of Barangay Rizal. On that day, a program was set with fun and prizes awaited the participants. Each invited kid was given a chance to participate in the games. Their parents, of course, were also given gifts, wrapped up in plastic bags, and in each were grocery supplies donated by ISA learner from pre-school to high school.

Carolers' First Attempt

December was a joyful but busy month for ISAers who volunteered to join the school Christmas carol group. For the first time, ISA formed a singing group to render classic Christmas melodies live in the residences of ISA board members and parents. The group, trained by our music facilitator Ms. Diane Cartajena, was composed of 35 members ranging from Grade 1 to 4th year: twenty high school singers and fifteen selected graders playing various instruments like violin, recorder, and keyboard.

The caroling lasted for 3 days that started from 20 December and ended on 22. They visited houses in Ledesco Village, Molo and city proper. They also did their caroling at St. Paul Hospital, singing with the medical personnel and their staff. Despite of the delay of their Christmas vacation and the hassles that came with the rehearsals, the enthusiasm and joyous spirit exuded from the carol singers was overwhelming. The effort they made, together with the support from their parents was noteworthy. And the time they shared really brought joy to others. DC



Editorial

Learning goes beyond the confine of the four walls and extend far into the outside world. ISAers are not only exposed to the arena of learning with bundles of books at their side; good values are also inculcated in their minds and hearts. They learn to sympathize and empathize especially with our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

This was once again manifested during the Christmas gift giving program sponsored by the Student Council. Sharing was indeed the true essence of Christmas just like what our Heavenly Father did when He sent His Son.

ISAers heartily gave out goods, books and clothes to the residents of Barangay Rizal in La Paz District. For this project, ISAers have shown their full support and generosity.

The wonderful smiles of the people from the said barangay brought mixed feelings to the facilitators and learners. Both ISAers and the beneficiaries truly had their meaningful Christmas this year.

Gift-giving is only one of the charity works spearheaded by the student council to help our learners reach out to the community.

"The purpose of human life is to serve and to show compassion and the will to help others."

ISAtheletes Won More Awards @ Iloilo School Sports Council Meet

10-14 December 2007, ISA sent its table tennis and badminton teams to participate in the Iloilo School Sports Council Meet. The perfect and competent tandem of Grace Rebollos and Justine Betsy Aguirre once again outmatched their contenders and won the championship title for the Table Tennis Girls Team. Grace Rebollos also won third place in the High School Table Tennis Girls Single.

In the badminton match, Emma Rose Guanco and Mary Elizabeth Chua of Grade 6 helped defend the championship title of the Elementary Badminton Girls Team. The tandem won second place in the elementary badminton Girls Double.

ISAers have indeed been excelling both in academics and sports. VMS

Cookies for a Cause

The ABS-CBN Bantay Bata Foundation, with the full support of the ISA Administration, conducted a fund raising project in our campus on 14 December. Bantay Bata sold cookies at P25 each. Along with the cookies, the organizers let the buyers write their names on a Christmas cards which will be hang on a big Christmas tree, dubbed 'Tree of Hope'. Bantay Bata will exhibit the 'Tree of Hope' at SM City, Mandurriao during the weeks prior to Christmas Day. Proceeds will go to the Bantay Bata Missions. ISAers and the faculty actively and joyfully responded to the said project.

PRISAAP Provincial EnglishFest Fritzie Diez 1st in Oration

Fritzie Gayle Diez of 4th Year Rizal was the oration champion in the Provincial English Language Festival sponsored by the Private Secondary School Administrators Association of the Philippines. Another Senior ISAer Stephanie Rae Fernandez won second place in the Character Impersonation contest. The competition was held at Sun Yat Sen High School on 11 December with the theme: "Enhancing the Imagery for School and Schooling to Challenge, Create and Connect". The contests showcased the best performers from the private high schools in the Province and City of Iloilo. Fritzie will represent Iloilo in the regional competition on 11 February 2008 in Bacolod City.

Earlier on 5 December, Fritzie and Stephanie won first place in Oration and Character Impersonation, respectively, in the Iloilo Division level. Another 4th Year learner Michiko De la Cruz won second place in Impromptu Speech, while Second Year learner Trixie Shane Ledesma won third place in Declamation. RMJ

MENTORS DAY 2007

Mrs. Sarah Avena, president of the Parents Association, and Fritzie Gayle Diez, Student Council president, paved the way for the Mentors Day celebration last 7 December. It was indeed an event of all events for not only the learners participated, but also the facilitators,



Sir Rodgen and Ms. Lin Dun Li displayed their artistic prowess. Their number invited a thunderous applause.

who displayed their flair in dancing amidst their hectic schedules.

The learners, too, had been contributing to the blithe celebration, by giving tribute to each one of their facilitators in the form of gifts and flowers, and through their songs and dances, not to mention the stirring speeches, which had truly raised the spirits of the ISA Mentors. FL

CHRISTMAS @ ISA

Christmas season was here once again and ISAers celebrated it with a great deal of fun and spirit. The wait was finally over for the whole ISA community last 19 December. The long awaited Christmas party did not only spread the spirit of Christmas but also signaled the start of the Christmas break.

Classrooms once filled with quiz notebooks were filled with music, food and gifts on the last day of the examination week. Learners were in their party dress with their gifts for their SPs tucked in their arms. They enjoyed the parlor games prepared by their facilitators and even some presentation numbers like singing and dancing. Their eyes glowed with the prizes they had received.

Indeed, that day was filled with excitement; bellies were satisfied with sumptuous feasts from a variety of dishes and hearts were lifted to love and to share with one another. VC

It's no use saying, "We are doing our best." You've got to succeed in doing what is necessary. - *Winston Churchill*

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The Bond that Binds

"Life is meant to be shared."

Family is an integral part of schools. Families are like stars that brighten up every person's life and give meaning to the social existence.

Here in ISA, Parents are accorded with respect and given their due importance. Families and ISA work together for the good of every party concerned. ISA sees to it that parents participate in every activity of the school and support their children in every aspect of their lives, particularly moral, emotion and intellect.

Each parent is likened to a gem in the consciousness of every conscientious school administrator. Because without the parents, ISA is crippled and cannot stand on its own. Last 20 January, our school held its annual Family Day, on that festive day parents and their children took part in the games and enjoyed collecting prizes from the fare.

The bond that holds ISA and Families together was tightened because of this activity. May this bond continue to be strong to carry out life's endeavors.

To quote Vaclac Maly, "A happy family is but an earlier heaven."

A Family Who Plays Together Stays Together

Moms and dads, together with their kids, played games and ate with relish at the food fest kiosks during the ISA 2008 Family Day held on 20 January.

This yearly occasion, featuring various activities people most often see in a town fair, such as luck games, shooting games, arcade games, clowns and magicians, and videoke booths, is a fund-raising activity held to generate income for each level's class fund.

The ISA Student Council officers, with their advisers Ms. Ellen Rojo and Ms. Floralie Lacuesta, carried out the plans that made this occasion possible. - MSC



4 ISAers Passed UPCAT, ACET

After four years of secondary education, ISAers are apt to their future professions. Using the concepts, theories and formulas, vocabularies, and experiences they learned in the portals of ISA, they are now preparing to take entrance exams administered by top universities that offer quality education in the city.

Among these graduating learners were *Fritzie Gayle Diez* and *Michiko Francine de la Cruz* who passed the University of the Philippines College Admission Test, as well as *De La Salle* and *Ateneo College Entrance Tests* while *Angelie Ong* and *Grace Rebollos* passed UP College Admission Test. *SKA*



ISA Montessori Offers Pre-Nursery

ISA's newly institutionalized Montessori learning program will offer Pre-Nursery curriculum (with Chinese language instruction) for children ages between 2.5 to 3 years old starting School Year 2008-09. Only 12 learners will be admitted during its first year of implementation. Reservation is going on and is at first-come-first-serve basis.

Furthermore, the ISA-Montessori learning approach will be fully adapted in all Preschool levels starting School Year 2008-09. Interested parents may inquire at the Director's Office or call 329-6633.

Young Writers on the Go

Nine ISA elementary learners participated in the Regional Schools Press Conference last 7-8 January 2008 at Punta Villa, Iloilo City. Emma Rose Guanco, a Grade 6 learner, bagged the 5th Place in Filipino Editorial Writing and 6th Place English Editorial Writing. Erina Mae Fahy was the Tenth Placer in Photojournalism English Category while Michelle Loiuse Naces was adjudged as runner-up in Copy-reading and Headline Writing English Category.

Emma having won two major awards was given recognition as the over-all Third Placer in the individual category.

The activity was sponsored by the Department of Education Region VI and joined by major private and public schools in the region. -RMJ

JUNIOR-SENIOR'S PROM A Test of Social Intelligence

It was undeniably a star-studded night! ISA held its first ever Junior-Senior's Prom at Sarabia Manor Hotel last 1 February 2008, with the theme: ISA Prom goes Hollywood. The Third year-Curie and Fourth Year-Rizal learners took the walk of stars (minus the paparazzi) on the red carpet with their stunning and gorgeous partners. The ambience then was filled with too much apprehension since everyone was vying for the Oscar-like trophies for the different awards. Hannah Stephanie Co and Jan Jarnel Geyenne Tiu were hailed the Prom Queen and King 2008.



ISA Welcomes Chinese Visitors



ISA Board members, faculty, staff and learners warmly welcomed Mr. Wang Yongli, Deputy Director-General of the Chinese Language Council International,

together with the representatives from Chinese Embassy and Chinese Education Ministry when they visited ISA last 30 January 2008.

The 7-member delegation held a forum with the Chinese Volunteers who are teaching Chinese subjects in three schools in the city the night before. NC

MetroBank-DepEd-MTAP Math Feuds Grade 5 ISAers Blazed Trail

Joseph Joshua Te and Kevinn Friedrich Chan who made up the Grade 5 team had somehow overcome their perennial 'carelessness' to win 1st Place last 8 February, scoring 48 out of 60 points, with only 1 mistake in the difficult round. This is so far the best result ISAers had achieved in the "MetroBank-Department of Education-Math Teachers Association of the Philippines" annual Math competition in Iloilo Division, following the breakthrough made by the 1st and 2nd Year teams, who won 3rd and 2nd Places respectively last year. The fact that only 1 level in the elementary made it to the top shows that our overall Math program still needs further reexamination.

On 9 February, the First, Second and Third Year teams made it to the top 5 in the Iloilo Division. The Second Year team composed of James Eduard Chiu and Karl Francis Chan trailed behind Philippine Science High School to emerge second. ISA First and Third Year teams were 4th and 5th Place respectively. For two successive years, ISA's all grade and year levels qualified to compete in the Division level. Written tests were given last 11-12 January 2008 in the qualifying round.

Outstanding Students Circle of Iloilo (OSCI) Emma Guanco Among 15 Finalists

The Outstanding Student Circle of Iloilo published in its website the finalists in its search for this year's outstanding student on 29 January. Grade 6 ISAer Emma Guanco was among the 15 finalists who were chosen from nearly 50 public and private schools' elementary students who qualified in the elimination round last 8 January 2008.

The finalists will be interviewed on the 13th of this month at the *DepEd Division Office*.

The OSCI was formed in 2004 by professionals who were all former recipients of the Ten Outstanding Secondary and Elementary School Students awards handed out by the former Iloilo Governor, Hon. Conrado J. Norada, during his incumbency.

Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember.
Involve me and I learn. - Benjamin Franklin

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EDITORIAL

We are ISAers... We can!

Each person has potentials waiting to unfold. Once these potentials unwrap, they will help the person take giant strides to further develop himself. A school is one best venue in unleashing the potentials of our young minds. Here, learners give importance to excellence and try to excel in their fields of endeavor. It aims to nurture learners' innate gifts to become competitive and well-equipped individuals. Through various activities they engaged in, ISAers embraced every moment with full confidence because these enable them to bloom to the fullest. Aside from challenging experiences in academics, ISAers are very eager to participate in school activities because these will benefit them physically, mentally and emotionally. Thus, after years of struggles and successes, ISAers would continue to soar higher and raising the banner of excellence with confidence and as what ISA Philosophy says, we are ISAers, we can!

4th ISA Camping

ISA's fourth annual camp was held at Anhawan Beach Resort last 14-16 February 2008. Learners from Grades 4 to high school and their facilitators spent three days and two nights by the beach sleeping in tents and eating together in pavilions. Each day was packed with activities for the teams to participate and compete in — activities ranging from physical games to intellectual pursuits to wit and skills tasks. The champion of ISA Camp 2008 was the Blue Sharks with team leaders Angelie Ong and Krishnae Princess Tan.

The highlights of the camp were the Mr. and Ms. Iloilo Scholastic Academy, with Andy Kim and Fritzie Gayle Diez winning the titles. *Baile L'Amor* (a dance sport competition) with Ronhel Madrial and Justine Betsy Aguirre as champions in *Swing* and Karl Francis Chan and Angelie Ong in *Chachacha*. And, *Palaban Ka Ba? Extra Challenge*, a race to the finish line involving the entire team, with the Blue Sharks as the victor.

Workshops were also organized for the learners to participate in. The elementary campers had an Acting Workshop while the high school campers took part in the *True Love Waits* seminar-workshop.

"Camping has taught me cooperation, and after joining the competition I gained more self-confidence." said Julie Rose Luz, 1st runner up Mr. and Ms. ISA. *BG*



Outstanding Students Circle of Iloilo confers on Emma Guanco Outstanding Pupil of Iloilo

Sixth grader **Emma Rose Guanco** is chosen as one of the **Ten Outstanding Elementary Pupils of Iloilo** for the School Year 2007-08 after undergoing rigid written exam and interview. The academic status and participation in co-curricular activities of each candidate were considered in the search.

Emma's impressive academic records and her active involvement and successes in inter-school competitions made her the only learner from a private school to be in the top five in this year's search for outstanding elementary pupils conducted by the OSCI in partnership with the Department of Education. Emma was 5th place in the final round of the search. The other two private school students who made it to the top ten were from Children's Integrated School of Alta Tierra (ranked 7th) and Ateneo de Iloilo - Sta. Maria Catholic School (ranked 10th). *MAF*

ISA supports Blood-Letting



ISA co-sponsored a half-day "Blood Letting Program" organized by the Rotary Club - Midtown last 23 February 2008 held at ISA Campus. It was a successful activity due to the active involvement of ISA parents and other professionals who willingly helped through donating their blood. Donors received a transferable "Red Cross Priority Card" which they may use to procure blood in case of emergency from the Red Cross Blood bank. *GDB*

High School Learners Values Formation

ISA High School learners attended the Values Formation Talk last 22 February. Dr. Rachael Ramos was invited to talk about Bio-ethical issues to Third and Fourth Year learners. On the other hand, Atty. Elena Opinyon gave a talk about the Pros and Cons on Dating to the First and Second Year Learners. These talks would help the high school learners ready to face some possible experiences that they will be encountering as they go through their teen-age life. *ER*

Summer Workshop Offered

ISA Summer Workshop starts on 7 April 2008. It offers keyboard lessons, Kindergarten Place, Jazz for Kids and Teens with Mr. Sol Fernandez. It will also offer Scholastic Reading Comprehension, Mathematics reinforcement, Chinese Language and ISA Math.

MSA Review Center (Iloilo) will offer College Entrance Test Review and Tutorials for Math and English starting May 19 to May 31. For inquiries, please call (033) 3296633. *LTB*

ISAers' Chinese Cultural Presentation

As part of the Chinese New Year Celebration sponsored by the City Government in coordination with the Chinese-Filipino Cultural Association of Iloilo, ISAers showcased Chinese Culture through a cultural presentation held at Robinson's Place Iloilo last 10 February 2008. The presentations featured various dances and songs which depict Chinese culture and tradition. Learners from all levels performed enthusiastically with their colorful costumes and laudable dance steps. ISA Springale Ensembles also took part in the program. Indeed, it was one of the profound activities of ISA that reflects their understanding of the Chinese culture and art.



Last 5 February, upon the invitation of SM Management, ISA Springale Ensembles caught the attention of curious shoppers in a solo parade at SM City Iloilo in celebration of the Chinese New Year. Selected members of ISA Springale Ensemble performed two Chinese songs. The group is composed of learners from Grades 3 to 2nd year high school. Various musical instruments were used such as the recorder, harmonica, lyre and drums. The parade covered the three floors of the mall in about 45 minutes. That was indeed a wholesome and unique experience for the learners. *-DC*

