

Education is a progressive discovery  
of our own ignorance. - **Will Durant**

- the 97<sup>th</sup> issue -  
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The Monthly Newsletter of ISA  
菲律賓怡朗新華學院通訊月刊

## Onward to a Greater Height

Facts and figures show that the path traversed by ISA throughout the past eight years has always been consistent with the roadmap set out by its founders. That explains why ISA's various accomplishments have always received recognition from the school board. The hard-earned status and prestige ISA is able to command in the community is the greatest reward the school could ever claim. By all indications, the kind of quality education that ISA has conscientiously been espousing has gained pervasive acceptance covering a wide spectrum of sectors, be it the government and the academe, or the civic organizations and individuals in the community. What is most significant of all, however, is that ISA has prevailed in demonstrating that high-level learning standard can be within the reach of every child. The notion that high-standard learning tasks are reserved for the so-called gifted children has time and again been dismissed by ISA's instructional and learning experiences as unfounded, and therefore farcical.

In addition to the existing practices, ISA this year will put forward several new programs to further enrich the learning experiences of the children. Among the more significant ones are the computer-based reading program, the full implementation of the Chinese reading scheme (from grade 5 to 4<sup>th</sup> year), the integration of taekwondo, soccer, swimming, and basketball in the P.E. subject, and making drawing the focus of the art lesson.

The inclusion of basically non-academic programs in the curriculum bespeaks of the administration's confidence on its ability to manage its academic agenda, which remains the core of ISA education. But all these can easily be dwarfed by a far grander project: the construction of a three-storey Preschool Activity Center Complex (PACC).

The advent of K-12 significantly alters the country's academic landscape. Keen to perceive the demand of the changing time, ISA President Mr. Vicente Tiu initiated the idea of putting up a PACC. Yet all these seem not grand enough, the creation of a track and soccer field and building of a swimming pool are also in the offing.

The successive completion of these learning facilities is undoubtedly crucial to achieving of the goals ISA has set forth to further upgrade its learning quality and its future expansion. Even if ISA is evidently at the threshold of rapid progress, the guiding principles of the administration stay the same: economy, efficiency and excellence.

## 8 Chinese Volunteer Facilitators Return to Xiamen on 27 March

Mr. Lin Shiyuan and Mr. Chen Daquan, who taught Chinese language at ISA for 3 years (the maximum duration allowed by *Hanban* 汉办), left Iloilo City for Xiamen on 27 March. With them were six other volunteers, Li Hongshan, Wang Xiujun, Li Yuan, Jiang Qiuyan, Qiu Jianfeng and Chen Lou. Ms. Li and Ms. Wang, who taught for 2 years, signified their intention to return.

ISA has notified the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the sponsoring organization, of its intention to hire 6 volunteers for school year 2012-2013.



"Today we are learners imbued with ideals, tomorrow we will be pillars of the nation". ISA high school batch 2012 at the graduation ceremony held on 25 March.



High School English and Chinese Classes valedictorian: Elijah Erl Ong, Emma Rose Guanco; and Elementary English and Chinese classes valedictorian: Pauline Sharry Tiu, Jason Ryan Chankingwai, deliver their valedictory messages in English and Mandarin, respectively.

## Elijah Erl Ong, Emma Rose Guanco Secondary English, Chinese Valedictorian

Both having consistently at the top of the 4<sup>th</sup> Year English and Chinese classes, respectively, Elijah Erl Ong and Emma Rose Guanco were officially declared valedictorian of high school batch 2011-12. They were given due recognition during the commencement exercises held on 25 March 2012. As with tradition, Emma delivered her valedictory address in Mandarin and Elijah delivered his in English. The two topnotchers were common in expressing their sincere gratitude for the unique education they received under the care of their Alma Mater, mentors and parents. Both Elijah and Emma have decided to pursue their tertiary courses at Ateneo de Manila University (AdMU). Aside from them, there are another eight in their batch who were also accepted to AdMU and U.P., constituting half of the total number of this year's high school graduates.

## Pauline Sharry Tiu, Jason Ryan Chankingwai Elementary English, Chinese Valedictorian

Consistent honor learners in English and Chinese classes, respectively, Pauline Sharry Tiu and Jason Ryan Chankingwai were declared valedictorians in the elementary level of school year 2011-2012.

## ISA Alumna Liza, Justine to Graduate at Jinan, Huaqiao Universities in July

ISA high school graduates of batch 2008, Liza Chew and Justine Betsy Aguirre, pursued their college courses at Jinan University in Guangzhou City, and Huaqiao University in Xiamen City, respectively, major in Chinese Language Education. Both will earn their bachelor of art degree when they graduate in July 2012.

Liza and Justine will join the ISA faculty and will handle Chinese language subjects when they return to the country in the middle of July.

Even as they spent their winter vacation last January, both came to ISA and discussed the subject matters they are going to handle with ISA executive director, Mr. Peter M. Chan. Since Liza made ISA as the subject of her thesis, she stayed at ISA for two weeks observing classes, and for two days, she underwent first-hand experience by personally holding high school classes. They maintain regular communication thru email with Mr. Chan after going back to China.



Department of Education Region 6 Assistant Director Dr. Corazon Brown was ISA Commencement Speaker. This picture shows ISA Board Vice-Chairman Mr. Venido Peña presents the certificate of appreciation to Dr. Brown after she delivers her commencement message.

## DepED Asst. Dir. Corazon Brown was ISA 5<sup>th</sup> HS Commencement Speaker

ISA held its 5<sup>th</sup> high school and 8<sup>th</sup> elementary commencement exercises at 3 in the afternoon on 25 March at the ISA gym. Department of Education Region 6 Assistant Director Dr. Corazon Brown graced the occasion on her capacity as the commencement speaker. She was also requested to handover the diploma to both high school and elementary English class graduates of batch 2012.

Aside from encouraging the young high school graduates to maintain their drive for excellence throughout their college years, in her message Dr. Brown emphasized to the graduates the importance of discerning what is urgent and what is not, specially with matters affecting their studies and those involving passionate feelings. Avoid impulsive decision making, instead they have to learn to consider different angles of the issues before taking concrete action. Doubtless, her motherly advice has run deep into the consciousness of these soon-to-be college learners.

ISA directors Venido Peña, Vina Jalipa, Earlwayne Tan, Enrique Te, Arlene Juantong, and Elizabeth Do graced the affair.

## ISA All Set With Summer Workshops Science, Photography are Hot Stuffs

With their objective to liven up the summer vacation of the children while learning new knowledge and skills, various summer workshops opened on 16 April. Most of the workshops will end on 18 May. Aside from the remedial classes intended for learners who need academic reinforcement, and some advance lessons such as the ISAMath, ISA offers wide variety of lessons mostly non-academic in nature, such as kindergarten place, key board, drum, photography, science 'Seeing is Believing', and journalism. The two new add-ons are taekwondo and football. The 12-day MSA college entrance test review will also open on 21 May. A culmination presentation will be staged on 19 May at the activity center of SM City Iloilo.

With its more than 50 enrollees, the 'Seeing is Believing' easily topped the demand list in terms of number of participants. The 2-session science hands-on lessons are handled by ISA science facilitators, Ms. Ronella Lapore and Mrs. Luwela Padernal. Through the making of twenty-five kinds of articles of everyday use, like candle, soap, children learn to connect scientific concepts and real life with ease and fun, the hands-on lessons did draw science and technology closer to the children, they made the children feel that science and technology are not unreachable abstracts but in fact can be found in every aspect of their life.

I am not a teacher,  
but an awakener. - **Robert Frost**

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**Editorial**      **GEAR UP**

Less than three weeks to go and learners will again be busy looking for new bags, new shoes and other school supplies, the school as well is now preoccupied with the preparation for the opening of SY 2012-2013. The Department of Education has introduced some reforms in the Philippine education, most notably is the K to 12. To be more adaptable to those changes and to correctly put the program into practice, the school never missed sending its facilitators to seminars for updates and to upgrade their teaching skills. The renovation-expansion of the library does not only mean additional space but more books and better environment to cater to the needs of our voracious readers. We have the Scholastic International, a world renowned children book publisher, to partner us in this endeavor. English facilitators were trained by the Scholastic reading experts to become effective implementers of the SRC and AEP program. As the school days are getting nearer, facilitators are also doubling their time to prepare the needed materials such as the concept map which is a replacement of the traditional course outline, the checklist which encourages learners as well as parents to actively participate in the assessment of the mastery of the lessons. These are just some of the preparations that the school and the facilitators are doing in pursuit of better quality education that every ISAer deserves. Of course, the school is counting on the parents to work closely with us in the upcoming school year.

**Seeing is Believing: A Science Demo**

ISA conducted a 25-day of "Fun-tastic Science Experiments" from 16 April to 19 May. Fifty learners from different grade levels were able to perform different hands-on activities that opened their minds to the applications of Science. This program led the learners to appreciate Science more and gave them ideas on how and why different things happen in a direct and concrete way. The learners have come across with different experiments such as: candle making; soap making; ice cream making; rocket making; frog dissection; elephant toothpaste; rapid color changing and a lot more. The said summer program ended with a culminating activity at SM City Iloilo on 19 May, where learners were grouped into six and did experiments such as: rapid color changing; elephant toothpaste; electric circuit; slime making; invisible ink; and rising balloon inside a bottle. The learners were able to learn a lot from the summer program, and surely will be able to apply such to their day-to-day life.



Aims to provide ISA with a reading enrichment program to support its reading curriculum, and to set up a system of assessing learners' reading level and matching learners with appropriate books, ISA will introduce the AER, and SRC programs in the new school year. Photo shows ISA facilitators attending seminar conducted by resource speakers, Ms. Cecile Jacinto and Ms. Tina Calderon.

**ISA adopts Scholastic Reading Counts Assessment and Enrichment Program**

Scholastic International, through its distributor, launches its Assessment and Enrichment Program (AEP) in ISA. On 23 May, under the observation of the Scholastic reading program facilitators, ISA mentors in a series of demo sessions set in motion the Scholastic Phonics Readers which will be put into operation on the grade levels 1-2 in the elementary, and the Explicit Skills Instruction for grades 3 to high school.

The implementers, with the help of the Scholastic team, are trained to apply the various reading strategies, managing discipline of differentiated learning, working and guiding the learners to make sure that no one is left behind in the learning process.

ISA language mentors underwent technical training with the Scholastic Achievement Manager and the Scholastic Reading Counts, which assess learners' reading proficiencies.

The program aims to provide a favorable setting for learners to select reading materials, taking into account the comprehension levels and interests of each child. We have reason to believe that we can be closer to ISA's noble objective of producing more avid readers.

**Fun-Learning Time for PRESCHOOLers**

A fun-filled summer workshop for 3 to 5 years old children was held from 16 April to 19 May. Little children were taught the basics of reading, writing, reciting, singing, dancing and doing arts and crafts, all of which have made their summer quite exciting and productive. Though, quite a few were new to ISA, facilitators were very glad to notice that they too enjoyed and had much fun all throughout the workshop. A culminating program was staged at SM City Iloilo on 19 May. Nursery, Kinder I, Kinder II, and Prep learners showed their talents in singing, dancing, and speaking in English and Chinese. Equipped with hi-tech videos and cameras, proud parents and guardians ran to and fro documenting the shining moments of their children on stage. Indeed, the workshop was not only fun but an experience worth treasuring.



The highlight of the summer photography workshop is a photo exhibit held at SM City Iloilo entitled "FOCUS... the language of our eyes". The week-long exhibit opened on 19 May. It mainly features the outputs of the learners who participated in the program. Their subject presented varies from still life, nature, human interests, ancient architecture and many others. Parents who enrolled last year in the program were also invited and were able to showcase beautiful images taken not only in the Philippines but also in other countries. It was indeed a fruitful summer for learners who decided to be part of ISA Photography.

**ISA SPECTRUM Debut**

This summer 32 learners from different levels enrolled in ISA Photography Program. Among them 24 neophytes were introduced to the fundamentals of photography: learning the technical aspect of their DSLR, blend with the formula on how to compose a photograph. While 8 learners continued to hone their craft by enrolling in the newest program: Photography Expedition, where they learned the more advanced lessons. While weekdays were spent on mastering the theoretical aspect of photography and doing set up shots, frequent field trips were arranged during weekends.

They did not only learn how to take good pictures but also learn to be responsible and independent. They also met new friends. Photography becomes a new part of themselves and they will continue to improve on it as what Jed Patrick Go, a soon to be freshman student in Ateneo de Manila mentioned 'Photography is my new alphabet and I plan to write a novel.'

**Summer is here! Hello to the Musical**

ISA has made it a point to turn summertime into an experience worth remembering. It has been a school tradition to offer various musical workshops during summer vacation. Lessons in vocals, piano, guitar, and drums are most welcome not only by the ISAers, but also children from other schools. After more than a month of training, 15 learners showcased their talents as they joined the 2012 Summer Workshop Culminating Activity last 19 May at SM City Iloilo. Various selections of well loved classics and latest hits serenaded the audience and mall goers as they witness the awe-inspiring song numbers of the band and singers. The show concluded with a tutti performance of the song "The Climb". Indeed, it was a fun way of celebrating summer.





A man who can make hard things easy is the educator. - **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

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Editorial

### ISA and the CALL for Global Literacy



In the world where everything seems to revolve around digital technology, the ability to read is necessary not only to succeed but to survive — for the ability to understand information and the power of stories is the key to a life of purpose and meaning. Beginning this school year, Iloilo Scholastic Academy will work closely with Scholastic International in the furtherance of Global Literacy Call to Action campaign: “Read Every Day, Lead a Better Life”.

The campaign believes that ‘literacy is the birthright of every child in the world as well as the pathway to succeed in school to complete life’, thus it is vital for young people to know how to analyze, interpret, and understand information. Through reading children can figure out facts and experience the great stories of emotion and understand themselves and the world. Reading widely and fluently also gives children the edge when they deal with the challenging texts they meet in college, at work, and in everyday life.

As key players when it comes to reading in general and Assessment and Enrichment Program (AEP) in particular, ISA mentors underwent training to equip them with the vital knowhow since they provide intentional and focused instruction to give the learners the skills to read and understand great stories they will encounter throughout their life.

With AEP, learners will learn based on their Lexile level. A Lexile measure is defined as "the numeric representation of an individual's reading ability or a text's readability (or difficulty), followed by an “L” (Lexile)", example 350L.

Learners receive a Lexile reader measure after taking the Scholastic Reading Instruction (SRI) which will describe their reading ability. Books also have Lexiles describing the book's reading demand. With these measures, a reader can find a reading material appropriate for her level. The Lexile reader measure can also be used to monitor a reader's growth in reading ability over time.

Integral to its implementation are the Appreciation of Children's Literature, Read Aloud, Art and Science of Questioning, Phonics Instruction, Explicit Skills Instruction and Differentiated Instruction.

One necessary premise is making reading fun. By having stories read to them children learn to love stories and reading. Read Aloud, one of the key elements of the AEP, is supposed to make children be motivated and enjoy learning without feeling pressured.

For this purpose, ISA program implementors, the librarian, as well as the executive director attended a technical training about how Scholastic Reading Instruction (SRI), Scholastic Reading Counts! (SRC), and Scholastic Achievement Manager (SAM) work.



### Latest Addition to Sports Programs

Basketball, football, taekwondo, and swimming are the four sports program introduced by the school administration in school year 2012-13. The dribbling, running, kicking, swimming and diving have rendered the physical education classes more exciting. These new programs do not only provide ISAers more varied knowledge and skills in the field of sports, moreover they open up possibilities for the ISAers to balance their school works with wholesome recreation, helping the learners cope up with pressure that goes with school works through physical activities, afford occasions to build strong body, and even simply enjoy the games. Being physically fit transcends bodily attributes, it helps alter personality in a positive way. We believe by widening the scope of ISA's sports program, this will bring about further development in the learners' personality, enhance their social skills through team work.

### Home-School Team Building

With the aim to further strengthen the bond between parents and school through home-school team building, which is the most potent mechanism to attain quality education, a 3-day parent orientation was held on June 1, 4, and 5, a week before school year opened. Major academic and extra-curricular policies and pertinent rules were either introduced or reiterated. The orientation has always been regarded by many parents as an avenue to be informed of the new school year's innovations and expectations. This year's meeting with parents was particularly significant due to the integration of many new things in academics, like the K-12, and in sports and arts as well. Through the meeting with parents, general goals set out for the new school year were made more transparent.



### Escapade: Bonding with Fun

June 2, ISA faculty and staff team building activity was held at Villa Teresita, Maasin. Group dynamics and icebreakers started the long day of excitement and fun. Yes, it was simple but meaningful; not strenuous but worth playing for. Thrilled and excited, the faculty and staff together with Mr. Peter M. Chan had a chance to cross the 50 meter-long hanging bridge above the rushing river.

Everyone was rejuvenated after the sumptuous lunch and ready to face the next part of the activity, the road trip. First stop was the bamboo factory, the sole supplier of Mang Inasal's BBQ-sticks. Amazed and surprised, the facilitators just realised how complicated it is to make an inasal stick. The next stop was the Maasin Watershed reserve forest where one can do hiking and tree planting. And lastly, the Sacred Heart Shrine and Gines Hill, climbing the one hundred fifty steps to the statue of the Sacred Heart overlooking the panoramic view of Maasin was invigorating, to say the least.



With the camaraderie and rapport established, a united faculty and staff of ISA are ready to achieve the goals and ideals set out by the administration for school year 2012-13.

### Welcoming the New Learners

Who says newcomers are fish out of water? That's definitely not true here at ISA.

ISA welcomes 128 new learners to its fold. They make up 25% of the total present learners population of 530. The facilitators, staff, and the old learners thought of a way to welcome them with a big bang during the opening day assembly. In random, some of the new learners were asked to speak about what they know about ISA, as well as what they expect to achieve in ISA after a year.

Overall, the short yet meaningful program turned out to be a get-together of the new and old ISAers — a true indication that in ISA there's always esprit de corps.



The welcome program was graced by the presence of the ISA President, Mr. Vicente Tiu, and ISA Board members, Mr. Elpidio Barcarlos, Mr. Venido Pena, Mrs. Vina Jalipa, Mrs. Juliet Go, Mr. Earlwayne Tan, Mr. Eduardo Ong, and Mr. Enrique Te.

What a teacher is, is more important than what he teaches. - **Karl Menninger**

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**Editorial** *Freedom is... to be Better*

The adage from Albert Cadmus, one of the most famous quotes taken from the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, says "Freedom is nothing else but a chance to be better."

July is undoubtedly the most challenging month of the school year in ISA. Apart from still getting in tuned with the ISA standards, each and every learner has to also be ready for series of classroom eliminations ranging from public speaking to battles of the wits, from academic concourses in Math, Science, Spelling, and General information to the establishing and proving one's prowess in leadership. All of these were organized and made possible in order for each ISAer to undergo for a fair and equal chance to show off his/her varied competencies and later becomes the school's *crème de la crème* representative in a range of inter-school competitions.

Sure as can be, anyone who goes to sequels of challenges and emerges to be better and even the best, is truthfully the one who is able to gain freedom--freedom from the restrictions of stage fright, and constraints of mediocrity.

**ICAS-SCIENCE HELD AT ISA**

Last 23 June, ISA served as a testing venue for this year's International Competitions and Assessments for Schools - Science (ICAS-Sci) for the province and city of Iloilo. Sponsored by the University of New South Wales and the Philippine Board of Studies Foundation Inc., ICAS-Sci (formerly Australasian Schools Science Competition) is an assessment developed for primary learners to diagnose their skills and abilities in Science. It determines the examinees' areas of strength and weaknesses. The competition was first introduced in Australia in 1981. Due to its national success, it was established internationally in 1994.



One hundred ten learners from different schools in Iloilo participated in the ICAS-Science this year. Fifteen ISAers of different levels joined the said competition.

**ISA Directors and Admin Congratulate Grace Rebollos Magna Cum Laude Accountancy @ Central Phil. Univ.**



Grace L. Rebollos, salutatorian of the batch 2008 (ISA's pioneer high school graduates), finished the course of B.S. Accountancy *Magna Cum Laude* at Central Philippine University in March this year.

The ISA Board of Directors and Administration, thru The Scholars, wish to convey their warmest congratulations to Grace, a former consistent outstanding ISAer, and now an outstanding ISA alumna.

**ISAers Bag 35 Golden Pen Awards**



*Maxine Joshua Bena*



Maxine Chan and Joshua David Terania both bagged Most Promising Writer Awards in the 2012 Interschool Journalism Writeshop and Golden Pen Awards held at Sun Yat Sen High School Gym last July 14-15. Bena Lagunda, a 4<sup>th</sup> year ISAer conquered the most prestigious award, The Golden Pen Award 2012, by placing first in Essay Writing. While Alyssa Faith Rivero and Pauline Sharry Tiu won the Most Promising Writer title (high school level).

Other awards received are News Writing, 2<sup>nd</sup> place: G5 Maxine Chan, Y2 Alyssa Faith Rivero; Runners-up: G5 Mary Danielle Dy, G6 Sheirese Sy, and Y1 Hannah Pagaduan.

Sports Writing, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: G6 Joshua David Terania; Runners-up: G6 Delaris Romero, G6 Aaron Babayon-on, G5 Mary Danielle Ricaforte, G6 Alvin Lyndon Sy, and Y2 Zeth Rodario Bebit.

Copy Reading, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: G6 Alvin Lyndon Sy; Runners-up: G6 Dorothy Kirsten Tiu, Y3 Jay Nolan Alonsabe.

Feature Writing, 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Pauline Sharry Tiu and Hannah Daita-HS; 3<sup>rd</sup> place: G5 Shayla Iyesa Sy, Y2 Zeth Rodario Bebit; Runners-up: G5 Jennifer Erica Chankingwai, G6 Alvin Lyndon Sy, Y1 Steffi Marie Lao.

Cartooning, Runners-up: G6 Francis Noel Chua, G6 Joshua David Terania, G5 Jon Christi Andrea Perez, and G6 Xyanne Bocol.

Editorial Writing, 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Y2 Hannah Pagaduan; Runners-up: G6 Dorothy Kirsten Tiu, G6 Sheirese Sy; Y1 Pauline Sharry Tiu and Y2 Camille Billones. Over all, ISA High School placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the workshop out of more than twenty schools participating.

The yearly workshop is conducted as part of DepEd Region 6 Institutionalized Program to comply with the mandate of RA 7079 (Campus Journalism Act of 1971) to provide training for campus writers.



**ISAers @ PRISSAAP Youth Congress**

Weekend is supposed to be hanging out with friends or bonding with family but our ten senior ISAers chose to be in Bacolod to participate in the 10<sup>th</sup> National Youth Congress (Visayas Cluster). This year's theme was "A Decade of Empowering the Filipino Youth". Competent speakers were invited and their talks focused on empowerment, responsibility of the youth and leadership. Aside from the series of activities that every participant can join to showcase their talents and skills, workshops were also organized not only for the learners but also for facilitators. The 3-day event was organized by the Private Schools and School Administrators Association of the Philippines and co-sponsored by the Department of Education, Region 6. It was another venue for our youth to get exposed to another learning experience out of the four walls of classroom and can help bring out their leadership skills in them.

**Mentoring Program**

Marva Collins, an American educator, said "Once children learn how to learn, nothing is going to narrow their mind. The essence of teaching is to make learning contagious, to have one idea spark another".

ISA has started the mentoring system this school year in order to provide the learners the support they very much need in their journey towards becoming a better person, the ISA way. Each mentor is assigned with several learners (mentees) in the mentoring program. The mentees are assured that they have someone to guide them emotionally, socially, and personally.

**Nearly 200 Parents Attend Reading Count Orientation**

On 16 June, ISA administration sponsored a half-day orientation on Scholastic Reading Count (SRC) for ISA parents to introduce them to the computer-based reading program which is being implemented in the elementary and high school starting this school year. Invited speakers from Scholastic, Ms. Marie Roselle Masirag and Ms. Tina Calderon, with the aid of a power-point presentation, explain in detail the principles, objectives, and the procedure of the reading system, which aims to help improve in a gradual and systematic way the reading comprehension level of the children.

Some parents raised concerns during the open forum. Many expressed their appreciation of the integration of SRC in the English curriculum, adding that it was a regret there was no such a program available during their student years.

ISA Parents Association provided snacks for the occasion.

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is more important than what he teaches. - **Karl Menninger**

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(above) The newly refurbished ISA library is fully carpeted, fully air-conditioned, and equipped with ten units touch screen computers. 2500 lexiled (graded) story books published by Scholastic were recently added to its collections. Needless to say, the library has been full packed with readers during recess, lunch break, and even dismissal. (below) A read aloud session was held after the formal ribbon-cutting ceremony on 16 August.

(above) ISA President, Mr. Vicente Tiu, and ISA directors graced the formal launching of the Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) at the ISA gym. Scholastic reading consultant Ms. Cecile Jacinto hosted the informative and fun-filled program. (below) the gym was teeming with high spirit and vivacious cheers specially when a learner from each level was able to give the correct answer during the Q&A portion and received a book as reward.

Editorial

## A Breakthrough in ISA's P.E. Program

It may sound odd to many if I say it took ISA a great deal of courage, let alone wisdom, to finally decide to form a basketball varsity team. And later on another is added in the elementary. But yes, it was truly a difficult decision. If the team is made for competition, its aim is to win. To say otherwise is sheer hypocrisy. But a home-grown team to win in a jungle of well-established teams, many are in fact congregation of fine players 'drawn' from other schools, is an uphill struggle, to say the least. Since ISA administration is determined to adhere to its academic orthodoxy, 'attracting' trained basketball players from other schools, by itself, is impossible. The intrinsic contradiction is obvious. This poses a real problem, and evidently explains the contention I earlier raised. Against all odds, ISA basketball varsity teams were nevertheless born. The initial showdowns a month after conception at the games organized by the Iloilo Schools Sports Association validate this dire concern. The high school team finished with a record of zero-win of the matches played so far, while its elementary counterpart performed slightly better with one-win out of 3 games. What is good, though, is that the ISAlethes were not a bit discouraged by the outcome for they are excitingly looking forward to the PRISAA meet. Well, with proper nurturing, everything progresses anyway.

## ISA Basketball Teams Formed

ISA elementary and high school Basketball teams were organized under the supervision of ISA Board Vice-chairman Mr. Venido Peña. It was in July that the ISA administration finally decided to start the basketball training program to develop potential players for competition. Mr. Roberto "Jack" Janeo was hired to train the ISAers and tasked to come up with teams in the elementary and high school. Barely a week after the decision was made, ISA received an invitation from Iloilo Schools Sports Association (ISSA) to compete in the sports meet scheduled to open on August 18.

Coach Janeo lost no time conducting try out sessions and eventually formed two basketball teams.

In an interview with Sir Sag, ISA P.E. coordinator, on the prospect of ISA basketball teams, he said: "This year is a good start. As of now winning or losing is not our basketball teams' main concern. What is important is for our players to consider every game seriously, and treat it as an opportunity to learn from others."

## Newly Renovated Library Launched

Learners were finally able to explore the wonders of knowledge in a cozy reading center when the newly renovated library was officially opened on 16 August. A launching program was held at the ISA gymnasium. It was attended by ISA president, Mr. Vicente Tiu, ISA Directors, Scholastic reading consultants, Ms. Cecile Jacinto and Ms. Tina Calderon, learners, facilitators, and some parents.

After which, grade 4 learners with Mr. Vicente Tiu, ISA Directors, Ms. Cecile Jacinto, and Ms. Tina Calderon proceeded with the ribbon cutting ceremony of the library where a read aloud was done after. Learners listened to a story after which interaction and realizations were shared.

Sure a library must be a quiet sanctuary for people who love to take solace with books, but ISA's library has been a buzz ever since it was re-opened. The place was bustling with life and energy. Excited learners never seem to make quite the most of it since a lot of books of their interest are there for free reading. Since its reopening, the library has never been empty and will likely remain that way as the years go by.

## Learners Council Election Held

Leaders learn by leading, and they learn best by leading in the face of obstacles. As weather shapes mountains, problems shape leaders. - **Warren Bennis**

The election of the officers of the Learners' Council (LC) for this school year was held last 27 July. Since only one party, the ISAers United, responded to the call for service and leadership, in order for the candidates to be considered elected to the position they are running for, the constitution requires a candidate to garner 60% of the votes of the voting population. However, the election return finally showed that the votes garnered by all candidates exceeded the minimum of 60% of the votes of the voting population.

Here are the candidates voted to the LC by the learners from grade 4 to 4<sup>th</sup> year in this school year: President: Kevinn Friedrich Chan; Vice President: Karll Denzel Lao; Secretary: Jessica Marie Valderrama; Asst. Secretary: Selina Belle Trimañez; Treasurer: Joseph Joshua Te; Asst. Treasurer: Pauline Sharry Tiu; Auditor: Dionysius Valeen Chiu; Asst. Auditor: Bea Marie Chang; P.I.O.: Kent Jan Cabañgal; Sports Coordinator: Christian Angelo Cabangbang. Class Representatives: 1<sup>st</sup> Yr.: Toni Harriette Chavez; 2<sup>nd</sup> Yr.: Therese Faith Brasileño; 3<sup>rd</sup> Yr.: Alyssa Faith Rivero; and, 4<sup>th</sup> Yr.: Jean Ceza Betalac.

## ISA Institutionalizes Fire Drill

Experiencing the successful earthquake drill last school year, ISA administration finds it necessary to regularly set forth both earthquake and fire drills at the start, middle and end of every school year. In relation to this, ISA has requested the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) of Iloilo City to conduct fire drill on 10 July at the ISA campus.

Assisted by the fire officers, ISAers, facilitators, and guardians joined the drill on 10 July. The said event gives the learners idea on what to do in case of fire.



Before the actual fire drill, BFP officer Mr. Escubido gave a lecture to the facilitators on basic fire prevention and what-to-do during fire. Facilitators asked questions after the lecture. Actual and proper use of fire extinguisher was also conducted during the fire drill.

Behold, I do not give lectures or a little charity,  
when I give I give myself. - **Walt Whitman**

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菲律賓怡朗新華學院通訊月刊

## Editorial Involvement is Winning

We want to be winners so we try our best to be better than anyone else. But is beating our opponents the only way to prove that we are winners?

Winners employ strategies and flexibly fight their way because challenges have a way of throwing different spanners into the works along the way. Winners are adaptive; even when faced with formidable challenges, they don't get bogged down. Instead, they skip around and move on, oblivion of the end results.

Through the years, no one can overlook the wholehearted dedication of ISA in its drive to stand out academically, as well as in other aspects of human development, such as sports, music, and art. Joining Iloilo School Sports Association (ISSA) this year underscores the will of the ISAers to be equally capable in the field of sports. Table tennis, track and field, and badminton are some of the events ISAers have managed to leave indelible impressions. Now they try to widen their playing field by buffing up skills in the basketball court, soccer field, and the arena of taekwondo.

After two successive years of relative austerity, ISA celebrated Buwan ng Wika with much extravaganza capped with a full-fledged parade. The annual Literary Voices of the Youth where learners showcase their wits and guts was given its deserved attention. The revival of the Chinese singing contests was a welcome development.

Getting involved in these activities makes learners stronger, more confident, and emotionally well balanced, which in essence are the core value of education. In this sense, being involved is being a winner.

## Exotic Pets Thrill ISAers

Last 16 September, ISA joined the nationwide Science Month celebration by hosting a one-of-a-kind encounter with exotic pets in cooperation with the Exotic Pet Owners Society of Iloilo (EXPOS), of which an ISA alumnus, Earvin Salcedo, is a member. The said society aimed to show variety of exotic species which are usually perceived by children as harmful, and are mostly not found in our country. Mainly, the EXPOS wants to show to everyone that animals are friends and not foes, they have life and therefore should be respected.

Facilitators and parents, joining the ISAers in the thrill, have likewise undergone re-orientation in treating these 'dreadful' animals, such as snakes, iguanas, etc. as 'pets'. "It was an opportunity for all to see in real those animals. They hold these 'pets' which before they dared not even to go near." says Sir Gomer, ISA Biology Facilitator.



**Happy Birthday, Mr. President!** (left) ISA directors, facilitators, learners and invited guests lined up along ISA Avenue to greet ISA President Mr. Vicente C. Tiu happy birthday on the occasion of his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday on 12 September. (right) The birthday celebrator with his wife Mrs. Maria Tiu, second son Mr. Mark Vincent Tiu, and the ISA directors at the surprised birthday party. Seated 1st from left: Mr. Elpidio Barcarlos, 5<sup>th</sup> from left, Mr. Earlwayne Tan. Standing from left: Mr. Sonny Do, Mr. Peter M. Chan, Mr. Venido Peña, Mr. Eduard Ong, and Mr. Enrique Te.

## Plaudits to Our President, Mr. Vicente C. Tiu!

It is ISA family's first time to celebrate the birthday of its president, Mr. Vicente Tiu, and a surprise one on the occasion of his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. "Will Mr. Tiu come?", since the feeble alibi was that there was supposed to be an emergency finance caucus where his presence is needed. Still, ISAers and facilitators lined up along ISA Avenue in the afternoon of 12 September anxiously waiting for the arrival of the celebrator.

We know Mr. Tiu is so modest that his fondness is not for throwing big parties in his honor. But who can stop the ISA family from showing its genuine gratitude to the man whom ISA owes so much? When the ISA founders were looking for a lot to build a school, Mr. Tiu was there to offer them for free a prime lot in Lapaz district where ISA started to thrive, and eventually be known, as a reputable educational institution within a short span of time.

Not only the learners, facilitators and staff were present to welcome and surprise him with a special party, all ISA directors and parents were around determined to make his day meaningful and memorable.

The celebration was made more momentous when tributes were given and cultural numbers shown while the birthday party prepared by the directors was going on. Indeed, a man with a magnanimous heart deserves a bountiful appreciation and thanks. Happy Birthday to our President, Mr. Vicente Tiu!



**The Sanggunian Talks** (above) Vice Mayor Jose Espinosa III stressing a point during the open forum while Mr. Vicente Tiu, and city councilors David Raymond Jamora and R. Leone Giroche listen; City Councilor Neilex Tupas clarifies an issue on cyber bullying; City Councilor David Raymond Jamora talks about environment protection. (below) Charles Aposaga, Eller Son, and Pauline Tiu engage the speakers to elaborate on certain issues during the open forum.

## The Sanggunian Talks: A Close Encounter with Iloilo City Political Leaders

In the afternoon of 16 August, Vice-Mayor Jose Espinosa III, City Councilors Neilex Tupas, David Raymond Jamora, and Leone Giroche came to ISA for the scheduled Sanggunian Talks, a symposium for discussion of pertinent city ordinances. High School ISAers were all present.

Exec. Dir. Mr. Peter M. Chan pointed out the Talk's significance in his opening remarks.

Councilor Neilex Tupas, Chairman of the Committee on Information Technology and Computerization, discussed proper ways to use social networking sites to avoid cyber bullying. Councilor David Raymond Jamora, Chairman of the Committee on Public Services, Environmental Protection and Ecology, then talked about proper waste disposal to promote cleanliness in the city. Finally, Councilor R. Leone Girochi, Chairman of the Committee on Transportation, Energy and Public Utilities, oriented the learners on pertinent traffic rules.

Vice Mayor Jose Espinosa III thank ISA administration for allowing them to conduct the said symposium.

Learners Council President Kevinn Friedrich Chan encouraged fellow ISAers to consciously abide by the laws, he added, "To my fellow youth, soon it will be our turn to lead City of Iloilo for further development, it is essential that we start as early as now."

An open forum followed after the speeches of the City Councilors. ISA learners and facilitators posed some questions calling for further elaboration by the speakers.



Behold, I do not give lectures or a little charity,  
when I give I give myself. - **Walt Whitman**

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## Kapistahan sa Nayon

ISA highlights *Buwan ng Wika* for all to reflect on the beauty of Filipino language. ISA's month long celebration with the theme "*Tatag ng Wikang Filipino, Lakas ng Pagka-Pilipino*" featured Filipino language through vocal solo, declamation, and oration. The whole exercise culminated in a grand show of various festivals "*Kapistahan sa Nayon*" held on 31 August.

In the morning of 31 August, ISAers march down ISA Avenue up to Pison Road with their festive dances, multi-coloured costumes and live music. Rush time followed with the learners preparing for the afternoon's highlight, the final presentation of each level featuring the following festivals: Kahlilwayan of Santa Barbara; Dinagyang of Iloilo City; Kadayawan of Davao City; Tawo-Tawo of Dumaguete City; Tugtugan of Maasin; Pintados de Passi; Panagbenga of Baguio City; Paraw Regata of Iloilo City; Maskara of Bacolod City; and, Kasag of Banate.

Parents, friends, and guests came along to witness the unique display of various Filipino festivals. Glowing excitement and joy were in the learners' faces while performing with their multi-coloured costumes and grand aesthetic props that depict each festival.

Grade 3 learners with their Panagbenga Festival won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the first category (G1-G3). For the second category (G4-G6), the Grade 6 learners made it to the top with their Tawo-Tawo Festival and for the third category (G7-Y4), the seniors bring home the crown, declared as the champion with their Kahlilwayan Festival.

Barrio fiesta, where everyone took part in sharing of the native delicacies while watching the playing of traditional Filipino games, followed the cultural show. ISA Field was transformed into a town-like place during fiestas with kiosks of different foods surrounding the field. Everyone enjoyed the delicacies in the tables and the learners had a great time with games like, *habulan ng manok*, *pukpok palayok* and *palo sebo*. It had been a great experience for everyone, reminding us of the true spirit that still thriving in the most part of the rural villages. Oops! There's more! ISA Field was transformed again into a battle of the bands concert with the ISAers bands featuring Filipino love songs and OPM. It's all fun, fun, fun! The activity taught the learners to appreciate the festive tradition of our country even though we are in a modern world. And all these speak of ... IT'S MORE FUN HERE IN ISA.



## 2012 PreSCHOOL'S Nutrition Day

Nutrition is one of the significant factors in ensuring the health and wellness of our children. Every July the nation observes the Nutrition Month purposely to disseminate messages of good nutrition to all Filipinos. In line with this, the Preschool Department celebrated the NUTRITION DAY last 7 July with the theme "*Pagkain ng Gulay Ugaliin, Araw-Araw Itong Ihain*".

The school has prepared some activities for the learners. We started with an Exercise: Music & Movement Activity for the preschoolers. After that, they had games related to nutrition. Games suited for every level were prepared to make sure that all the learners can participate. The invited physicians and dentists are: Dr. Morato, Dr. Glorines Ambos, Dr. Divinagracia, Dr. Advincula, Dr. Jeanie Ann Obefa and Dr. Edna M. Sedonio.

We also had film showing the learners "*How to Take Care of Oneself*". Yakult mascots came to entertain the children.



The Seniors at one of the sharing sessions during the retreat in August. Recollections and retreat are organized yearly for grade 6 to fourth year ISAers.

## Bonding thru Retreat, Recollection

Every year, ISA organizes retreats and recollections for G6 to Y4 learners. These are important avenues for young adults to grow emotionally. Teaching and mentoring learners can be fun, but it can also be difficult. For instance, an overnight retreat can pose a challenge to some participants. Though in the end would still prove educational, effective, and fun way to engage learners, as the activities involve wide spectrum of emotions. Sister Fidelis, the speaker, used to say that learners from ISA are lucky and should be grateful of the school organizing this kind of activity. She prepared series of activities that will nurture and enhance not only the emotional but also the spiritual growth of the learners. The series of activities bring out the other persona of the learners and they were able to know their classmates better and took time to reflect with each other's sentiments.

The retreats and recollections ended with the parent seated with their child reflecting on family relation. Parents were given a chance to express his or her thoughts and emotions during the session. The learners also present some numbers like skit to the parents. It had been a great and meaningful experience for everyone who attended.

## Dengue Alert Colloquy

Rainy season is here and it means one thing: Dengue will strike back. Indeed, dengue is the single most serious health problem our community is facing right now.



A seminar for parents "*Dengue Outbreak*" given by Dr. Julie Ann de la Cruz, a resident physician in Pediatrics Center at St. Paul's Hospital, was held on 21 July.

Dr. de la Cruz highlighted the increase in number of dengue victims this year. City Health Office reports reveal there are 7 deaths and 529 cases of dengue from January to May this year as compared to 8 deaths and 425 cases in the whole 2011. She noted the reasons dengue reaches endemic levels in Iloilo, among which are due to poor sanitation and lack of vigilance.

Since dengue is spread through the bite of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, anyone could be a victim. Dr. dela Cruz, presented ways to prevent dengue infection which can be summarized into the following: cover water container at all times to prevent mosquitoes from breeding and dispose of and drain anything that can collect and hold water; protect oneself from mosquito bites by wearing long sleeved clothing, apply mosquito repellents on skin; and most of all, maintain cleanliness of the surroundings.



A child mis-educated is  
a child lost. - **John F. Kennedy**

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Editorial

## ISA'S GLORIOUS 9 YEARS

The advent of ISA's 9<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary sees the ISA-Board of Directors (ISA-BOD) drawing up a plan to construct a 3-story Preschool Complex situated next to the existing school building. For a private school to successively build three edifices with a size of not less than 3000m<sup>2</sup> each in two different campuses within a span of less than a decade, though not a miracle, is a great feat by any standard. The vigor that propels ISA to its present height may have contributed to this major development, but the deciding force is invariably the foresight of the ISA-BOD headed by its President, Mr. Vicente Tiu, who accurately interpreted the mood of the time that yearns eminently for quality education. The ladies and gentlemen in the ISA-BOD keenly perceive the pulse of the people, they clearly discern the social responsibility that comes with spearheading the Samaritan mission of education.

ISA's 9 years confirm that the Iloilo Chinese-Filipino community, traditionally known as the hub of erudition and refined culture, remains a society permeate with charitable individuals. Beside contributing financial resources and efforts, they go out of their way investing their time and experiences to further the cause of education. They are the mainstay of ISA. With their presence, ISA will never cease to move forward.

ISA's 9 years demonstrate that its leadership possesses a sharp vision, a clear purpose and a firm conviction. A united collective imbued with pride. It professes no interest other than that of the Chinese-Filipino community and the Filipino society, in general. Wholeheartedly dedicated to the healthy growth of the next generation, their act resolute, and the effect significant.

ISA's 9 years proved that the path it has traversed and the goals it has set out meet the needs of the Filipino nation. The '4 highs', high quality, high standard, high demand and highly efficient, are not only feasible, but has been widely affirmed by the community. Many of ISA's graduates perform outstandingly in the universities.

ISA's 9 years bring together the wisdom and strength of the community, optimizing the use of existing human, financial and material resources, priority is given to the upgrading of instructional equipment by increasing the high-tech content, improving the efficiency of classroom interaction.

ISA's 9 years is an epitome of unity. With one heart, the whole ISA community moves the school towards one defined direction. The time-tested management configuration of learner-centered, facilitator-led, administration-directed, BOD-backed ensures ISA's smooth operation and harmonious relation among stakeholders.

ISA's 9 years witness its steady graduation from the start-up phase to the maturing stage. ISA, having successfully broke away from the painful period of 'crossing the river by feeling the stones', continues to move, now in a more vigorous pace, towards the apex of education.



(left) Iloilo City Mayor Jed Patrick Mabilog and Chinese Consul General Zhang Weiguo exchange notes few moments before the start of the Inauguration of the ISA school building and the ground breaking ceremony of the Preschool Complex on 6 October; (right) ISA President Vicente Tiu (4<sup>th</sup> from left) and ISA directors Enrique Te, Earlwayne Tan and Peter M. Chan (6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> from left) pose with some of the invited leaders of the Iloilo Chinese-Filipino civic organizations.



Officers of the ISA Board of Directors lifting the ceremonial shovel during the Preschool Complex ground breaking ceremony. The proposed edifice, situated on the 1-hectare vacant lot of the ISA campus, is the second major structure which will house the ISA preschool department, administrative offices, a 200-seat auditorium, and sports facilities.

## School Building Inauguration and Preschool Complex Ground Breaking Ceremonies Held

At 10 am on October 6, over the City was a vast blue sky peppered with thin cotton of white clouds, no more overcast and torrential rain as was the case in the past 3 days. Seems a perfect time for today's inauguration of the school building and the ground breaking of the Preschool Complex, only to hear the roaring sound of the drum matched with the rumbling firecrackers, and two Chinese lions dancing to the beat of the drum to kickoff the ceremonies.

Dignitaries who graced the occasion were the Chinese Consul General Zhang Weiguo, Mayor Jed Patrick Mabilog, Vice Mayor Jose Espinosa III and 6 City Councilors. The director of the Philippine Chinese Education Research Center Ms Yang Meimei, DepED Division of Iloilo Superintendent Dr. Nery Valerio, leaders of the Chinese-Filipino community and heads of Chinese-Filipino schools were also present. The groundbreaking was held after the inauguration of the school building.

ISA Board executive secretary, Mrs. Vina Jalipa, welcomed the guests and succinctly recalled the pathway ISA has traversed in the past nine years. This was followed by a speech of Congressman Jerry Treñas, represented by his nephew Mr. Jay Treñas. The Chinese Consul General Zhang Weiguo, Mayor Jed Patrick Mabilog, ISA President Vicente Tiu, Chinese Education Research Center director Mrs. Yang Meimei and Mr. Jay Treñas cut the ribbon during the inauguration of the school building.

Thereafter, the guests visited the newly renovated library. Mayor Mabilog, specially, highly commended the importance given to the reading center as manifested in the well-selected collection of books, and the favorable atmosphere anchored on the feel and interest of the young learners.



Exactly at eleven, the ground-breaking ceremony of the Preschool Complex started with the opening remarks of the ISA President, Mr. Vicente Tiu. His message gave particular emphasis on what ISA would be in the next five years. Besides highly praising the achievements attained by ISA in a short-span of nine years, Mayor Jed Patrick Mabilog, on his part, pointed out ISA's strategic location to be an additional selling point for its future development. In his congratulatory message, Chinese Consul General Zhang Weiguo laid out the laurels ISA managed to obtain in the past, and wishes the school to attain more achievements in the future.

## Assn of Chemical Engineers Sci-Math Match Kevinn, Joseph Joshua, Deonysius 2nd Place

The integrated math and science team competition organized by the Philippine Institute of Chemical Engineers Iloilo-Chapter was held on 14 September. Representing ISA were seniors Kevinn Friedrich Chan, Joseph Joshua Te, and junior Deonysius Chiu. ISA and Iloilo National High School-Special Science Class both started strong and leading all through the way to the end to finally place second and first, respectively. Iloilo Central Commercial High School, another Filipino-Chinese school traditionally strong in math, won third place. Aside from medals and certificates, the three ISAers each received an award of one thousand pesos cash prize.

A child mis-educated is  
a child lost. - **John F. Kennedy**

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**Welcome the Chinese Guest.** ISA President Mr. Vicente Tiu and ISA-Board Vice-Chairman Mr. Elpidio Barcarlos led a group of ISA facilitators and learners in welcoming Chinese Consul General Hon. Zhang Weiguo at the Iloilo International Airport. The Consul General is one of the guests of honor during the inauguration ceremony of ISA school building and the ground breaking ceremony of the Preschool Complex held on 6 October 2012. (below photo) Before the ceremony, Consul General Zhang Weiguo Ms. Yang Meimei of the Philippine Chinese Education Research Center exchanged views on the current state of the Chinese education in the Philippines with Mr. Elpidio Barcarlos and Mr. Peter M. Chan at the library. Mr. Chan briefly introduced the concept of 'Reading as the core of Chinese language instruction' and its implementation.



**Iloilo Rotary Club hosting Boys and Girls Week  
Kevinn Chan & Karl Denzel Lao Named City Officials**

In mid-September, Rotary International started selecting those who will be city 'officials' during in this year's Boys and Girls Week through written exam and interview. Two representatives from ISA, Kevinn Friedrich Chan and Karl Denzel Lao were both chosen as city councilor and city auditor, respectively. They assume their 'duty' on September 24 to 28. Left photo shows Kevinn 'working' in the office of Councilor Perla Zulueta. The other photo was taken at the last day of the event. First from left is Karl.



**ISA Basketball Teams Debut.** The recently organized ISA elementary and high school basketball teams have their first match during the Iloilo Schools Sports Association (ISSA) meet in August. This photo was taken during the opening ceremony of the ISSA meet on 18 August outside the Ateneo de Iloilo gym.

**FUSION OF THE EAST AND THE WEST  
ISA 9<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary Production**

ISA's 9<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary cultural production 'Fusion of East and West' was held at West Visayas State University auditorium in the evening of 6 October. At 7 pm, ISA president Mr. Vicente Tiu, ISA Directors, the school administration, parents and guests filled out all the available 1400 seats. As what have been observed, the audience watched the whole show with great interest and pride.

As early as 5 p.m., hundreds of spectators were already outside of the auditorium waiting for the door to open at 6 pm.

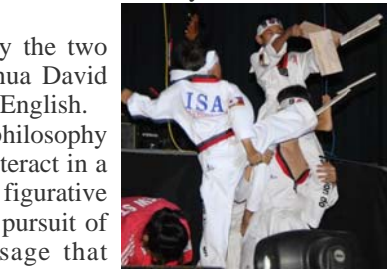
The two-hour performances were hosted by the two 6th grade learners, Shana Tiffany Tan and Joshua David Terania. They alternately spoke in Mandarin and English.

The show aptly reflects ISA's educational philosophy and the call of the 21th century where nations interact in a Global Village is more literally true than a mere figurative rhetoric. The element of embracing diversity in pursuit of cultural harmony was the overarching message that

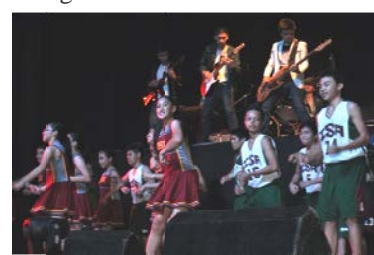


pervades the 25 segments of the entire show. The multi-ethnic cultural elements of authentic Filipino dances, Chinese pop music and martial arts, Korean Taekwondo, a large scale elementary field demo, to name a few. Western and Oriental cultural elements intertwined and merged into a colorful multi-culture pageant. With their multiracial orientation, the audience greatly valued the visual and auditory feast unfolding. It is the school policy that each learner should join in at least one number, there were then a total of 385 performers from grade 1 to fourth year. Particularly, the five numbers having more than forty performers each has left with the audience the impression of a large scale spectacular staging. The production, having maintained its momentum from the start to the end, gained the admiration of the appreciative audience as shown by their generously applause after each number was performed.

The whole show was divided into eight parts: the blending of East-West cultural elements in the 'East Meets West', depicting the Philippine traditional and modern ethnic dances in the 'Fragrance of the Thousand Islands', 'Korean Allure', 'Body and Spirit', the 'Tradition and Contemporary Merged', 'The Splendor China', 'Charm of the Youth', and the 'dance melody'. The wide variety of genre and style captivated specially the parents of these children. What makes the show even more exciting is that 90% of the music was played live by the six groups of elementary and high school bands, taking turns playing the soundtrack; veritable musical instruments, rendering the show a truly three-dimensional concert.



Noteworthy are the five numbers performed in a grand scale. The 17-minute 'Fragrance of the Thousand Islands' featuring the aesthetic talents of 110 ISAers, was made up of 6 closely knitted sub-show choreographed in such a way that no in-between 'ebbing' occurred. The break-away from tradition 'Coolest Ethnic' song and dance, a modern rhythm and dance interpretation of traditional Chinese visual arts done by up to 40 ISAers, including the 5-member band, and 5 singers. Third, the nearly 100 primary school learners performing Taekwondo exudes the vibrant temperament of the children won the loudest applause that evening. The 'Charm of the Youth', an interpretative dance of nearly 50 high school effervescent boys and girls, overflowing with fast-paced, dynamic, and gorgeous elements of youthful vigor. The 'dance melody' is where the three groups of singers and band executed their melodic chic first separately then simultaneously, which brought the show to its culmination.



Audience appeared not to mind the announcement of the show's conclusion even after the 20-minutes curtain call for they found themselves indisposed to leave their seats. The general impression was that the deliriously sweet excitement seemed continue to reverberate around the hall. The 'Fusion' has effectively enthralled the senses of the spectators, and was indeed a distinctive theatrical success.

A child educated only at school  
is an uneducated child. - **George Santayana**

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## ISA Games 2013

*Mens sana in corpore sano, a sound mind in a healthy body.*

ISA Games was held on 9 November. Learners from G1 to Y4 were divided into 4 teams. Advisers, team leaders together with the members enthusiastically worked together to come up with impressive cheers and yells, and cheer dances.

The PE division headed by Mr. Serapion Garillos prepared games for G4 to Y4 such as basketball, football, volleyball, and badminton, and for G1 to G3 parlor games like sack race, tug of war, relay, and the native game kadang kadang.

The activity will never be complete without the awarding ceremony. Green team won first place through the leadership of Kevinn Friedrich Chan, followed by the Blue team led by Karl Lao. Red team with Christian Angelo Cabangbang as the team leader placed third and the fourth was the Yellow team led by Charles Aposaga.

## Brilliant Seminar held at ISA

Brilliant Creations Publishing sponsored a lecture seminar at ISA on 10 November. Together with their cohorts of skilled and ingenuous speakers, they brought with them their dedication and commitment to develop learning solutions for today's youth. Mentors from various public and private schools of Iloilo city and province came and took the challenge of facing greater altitudes of Philippine education. Participants were grouped according to the topic of their interest and needs: Bringing back Care in Teaching and Leading by Miss Janet R. Argana, School Administration and Instructional Leadership for Principals by Mrs. Tricia C. Montinola, Raising the Bar: The Secret of High Performing Schools by Mr. Francis Jasson Villanueva, and Introduction to Brilliant Creations Publishing and K-12: A Practitioner's Perspective by Dr. Enrique F. Coralejo.

Dr. Enrique F. Coralejo, CEO of BC, expressed his grave concern and quoted: "The Philippines is the only remaining country in Asia with a 10-year pre-university program." He then counseled the delegates to gear up for another challenging quest in education which is the K-12 Curriculum.

## Literary Voices of the Youth 2013 Staged

ISA held Literary Voices of the Youth on September 13-14 at the gym with this year's theme: Be seen, be heard: Youth Participation in Development.

This year's Literary Voices was participated in by the selected learners who were qualified during the classroom elimination held two months prior the competition. There were three levels: L1 (G1-G3), L2 (G4-G6), and L3 (High School).

The first placers are the following: L1- Declamation: Althea Lorrain Servano; Story Telling: Arianna Doromal. L2- Declamation: Sheirese Sy; Oration: Francis Chua; Extemporaneous Speech: Nichol Jalipa; Interpretative Reading: Vincent Villanueva. L3 - Declamation: Jemimah Juantong; Oration: Charlene Chang; Extemporaneous Speech: Kevinn Chan; Oral Interpretation: Jemimah Juantong.

## ISAthletes join ISSA Meet 2012

ISAers must not only perform well academically but in sports as well. In the ongoing Iloilo Schools Sports Association (ISSA) meet, ISAers have shown they can perform exceptionally well in sports too.

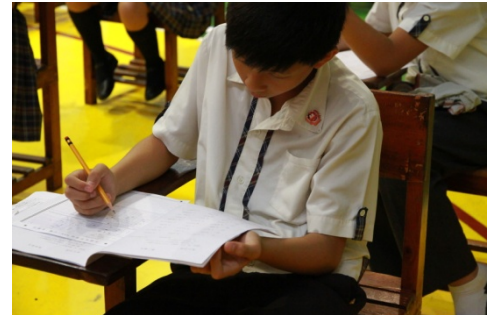
ISA elementary basketball team had its debut where they competed against the prominent teams of Iloilo Central Commercial High School and Westbridge. On its game against Westbridge, ISA team had shown that it has the potential to develop into a force to be reckoned with. Winning 43 against Westbridge 38 was an encouraging start. The adrenaline rush was just as superb as the team made a 38- 42 run in a game against ICCHS, few points behind. Learners were up on their feet chanting, boosting the players' spirit and confidence.

In badminton, elementary learners were able to bag the championship in girls' doubles with Bea Marie Chang and Kathlyn Marie Lim, while Kamila Gaye Lao placed third in the individual contest last 22-23 September. In the high school events, Nesan Muleta won second place in the boy single.

Kyle Anderson Co, Nichol Vince Jalipa, Chelsea Coleen Cayabyab, and Pearl Zerrha Chiu mercilessly defeated their opponents in the table tennis game held in Ateneo de Iloilo on 27 September 2012. The players won straight in their games individually and in the team category.



In a close-fight game against ICCHS, ISA elementary basketball team lost by 4 points.



Grade 6 learner John Caleb Barlin was one of the 109 ISAers who took the HSK Level 3, he attained a score of 246/300. The passing mark for this level is 180. (above) The test venue -- ISA gym. (below)

## 2 Succeeding Years of HSK Tests Show ISA H.S. Chinese Proficiency 3-5 Level

The results of the Chinese Proficiency Test (HSK) in two consecutive years show high school ISAers' proficiency ranges between Levels 3 (L3) and 5 (L5) based on the HSK standard scale of L1 to L6. Among the 58 high school examinees, 10 Y1 learners failed to reach L3, representing 17% of the total high school HSK takers. Taken by year, out of 12 Y4 takers, 1 reaches L5, 1 approaching L5, 5 L4, 5 approaching L4. In Y3, 1 rated L5, 4 L4, 3 approaching L4, 7 L3. In Y2, all 10 examinees passed L3. Among the 21 Y1 ISAers, 11 passed L3, 2 approaching L3, 8 remain in L2.

In the elementary, out of 36 G6 examinees, 18 managed to passed L3, 5 approaching L3, 13 remain in L2. Among the 19 G5 who passed L2 with relatively high scores last year, 14 passed L3; 18 of the 26 G5 who retook L2 increased in scores, 4 maintain their last year's scores. In G4, 17 out of 24 passed L2. 40 out of 64 G3 learners passed L2, 5 approaching L2. In G2 6 failed to reach L1, 3 approaching L1, and 40 passed L1. (Please see the Chinese version of this issue for a detailed comparison of 2011 and 2012 results.)



**Mid-Autumn Dice Games.** ISAers and the facilitators celebrated the traditional Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival in the form of dice games at the ISA gym on 28 September. It has been the yearly practice for the advisers and learners of each class to prepare prizes for the occasion. ISA Board and some parents would also donate prizes for the dice games of the facilitators.

A child educated only at school  
is an uneducated child. - **George Santayana**

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

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



Representing the Philippine Chinese education model schools and organizations, ISA Executive Director, Mr. Peter M. Chan, with the Vice-President of the Philippine Chinese Education Research Center, Mr. James Wang, and the Principal of the Chiang Kai Shek College, Dr. Bee Ching Ongkinkoc, were in the southern Chinese city of Nanning attending a forum organized by the Office of the Overseas Chinese Affairs.

### Model Chinese Educ Schools Forum Held in the Chinese City of Nanning

The Office of the Overseas Chinese Affairs of the State Council of China hosted the first "Overseas Chinese Education Model Schools Forum" in Nanning City, the capital of Guangxi Autonomous Region, from November 27 to 30.

Officials from the central and provincial government, members of the Chinese academe were invited to be keynote speakers. Almost half of the more than 300 participants were composed of school administrators and leaders of Chinese education organizations from other countries. ISA Executive Director, Mr. Peter M. Chan, attended the forum and contributed his ideas during the group discussion.

During the closing ceremony on 28 November, a representative from each discussion group made a summary report putting in a nutshell the pertinent issues discussed in the past two days. It was unanimously pointed out that Chinese education has been thriving in most of the countries in the recent years due to the global cultural diversification. But it was also noted that the difficulty of finding qualified teaching and managing personnel to further improve the quality and standard of overseas Chinese education poses a real challenge. Some suggestions put forward, such as to enhance the quality instruction of overseas Chinese education model schools, to ensure the preservation of ethnic Chinese culture, social harmony and stability, and create conditions to intrinsically motivate more competent youth to serve in the academe, were generally given serious attention. The officials of the Office of the Overseas Chinese Affairs encourage the Chinese education base institutions to give full play to their respective advantages, expand channels of cooperation, and to carry out various forms of Chinese education exchanges and cooperation with foreign government.

On 29 November, the participants were treated with a 1-day tour of the historical city of Congzuo, several kilometers south of Nanning. There they visited the famous Friendship Pass along the Sino-Vietnamese border; cruising the Youjiang River, they were delighted to see the fine scenery on both sides of the charming river, and finally to personally witness the ancient 'writings' on the crag which until now remained undecoded. The participants left Nanning on 30 November.

### AMC Awarding Ceremony Held Seventeen ISAers Received 18 Awards

The awarding ceremony of the Australian Math Competition (AMC), which was administered last 2 September, was held at the Iloilo Grand Hotel on 2 December.

Seventeen ISAers from different academic levels received eighteen awards in this year's AMC. Two ISAers, Seniors Kevinn Friedrich Chan and Grade 6 Alvin Lyndon Sy, received Distinction Awards. Fifteen ISAers received Credit Awards. Kevinn also received the only Prudence Award given in Iloilo city. ISA ranked second in terms of number of awards received in AMC in Iloilo city this year. SPED-ISEC garnered the most number of awards, a total of 19.

AMC is an international competitions sponsored by the University of New South Wales and the Philippine Board of Studies Foundation Inc. ISA was the test venue in the Province and City of Iloilo this year.



Kevinn Friedrich Chan and Alvin Lyndon Sy receive their certificates of Distinction Award during the awarding ceremony. Kevinn was also the only awardee of the Prudence Award this year. Paul Brian Buñi, a Junior ISAer this year, received the same award in the last school year.

### Disney Fantasia

After nine years, finally, the Preschool Department was able to come up with an independent show entitled "Disney Fantasia". Last 5 October, all of the learners were given the chance to showcase their talents in acting, singing and dancing. It has been a big dream for all the facilitators, parents and learners to witness a spectacular event where all of the Disney characters will be portrayed by little kids aging from two to six years old. Kids really looked so cute with their fancy costumes and were amazed with all the colorful lights and stage effects. ISA parents were also very proud to see their children performing on stage with delight. Indeed, the show ended with a "big smile" on each person's face who witnessed this big show.



who decided to hire one of the most prominent dance groups in the city, the Prima Galaw, to help make this activity a successful one.



### ISA MENTORS' DAY '12

*"A teacher affects eternity: he can never tell where his influence stops."* - Henry Adams

Last 14 December, Iloilo Scholastic Academy with her learners and their parents celebrated M •• -entors' Day 2012. It is a way of remembering the people who have done so much in molding lives. The program was spearheaded by the ISA Learners' Council and the ISA Parents' Association. Learners from Grades One to Fourth Year prepared heart-warming presentations that entertained and delighted their facilitators. To make the occasion more memorable, facilitators wrote their hopes and dreams on balloons and let them fly. Pins with the message *"teaching is a way of the heart"* were also given out to each facilitator. At the concluding part of the program, special recognitions were awarded to selected Pre-school, Elementary, and High school facilitators.



**Christmas Gift-giving.** Christmas season is a season of joy, happiness, and sharing. It is a time when we are all thankful for the blessings that we received, and we also take this opportunity to share our blessings with others. Indeed one can truly be happy if one has done his/her share in making others happy too. Last 15 December the ISAers had their 9<sup>th</sup> Gift Giving program. Learners from Pre-school to high school all gave their share to help prepare for the said activity. The residents of Brgy. San Rafael were the chosen recipients of the gifts the ISAers have prepared. Seventy five families were able to receive gift packs and each child was able to receive a toy. High school learners also prepared games that really made the families enjoyed. The program taught the ISAers that there truly is happiness that comes from the abundance of generous hearts.

I am always doing that which I cannot do,  
in order that I may learn how to do it. - Pablo Picasso

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

## A Glimpse of the Wonders of Ilocos

October 28 - 31, 2012 the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year ISAers had their educational tour of the northern Luzon. The ISAers, together with four mentors, experienced an 11-hour north bound travel from Manila to Vigan, a historic place rich with wonders and surprises. The trip was tiring but this was quickly forgotten when learners started strolling Vigan's well-preserved streets, a national heritage at its finest.

Everyone was so excited of the 29 October agenda. After having their sumptuous breakfast the group left Hotel Salcedo de Vigan. Their first destination was the traditional hand weaving shop, where some learners have the chance to get hold of and actually use the weaving looms. The next destination was the hidden garden that showcases the exotic and native plants with new twist. Learners also visited the Baluarte Zoo where some brave learners have the chance to hold tiny rodents and a large snake. After lunch, the learners have their Callesa tour to museums and historical houses around the city of Vigan.

On 30 October, the group visited Ilocos Norte. There the learners have a stop in Marcos Museum where the late President Marcos lay in his Mausoleum. They also visited the Paoay Church, considered as one of the major attraction sites in Ilocos Norte. The learners were also amazed of the scenic view when they had a stop at the beachside windmills of Ilocos. Before going to Pagudpod Resort they explored the Malacanang of the North.

The three days educational tour that the learners enjoyed very much was indeed worth remembering. Despite the fact that the learners experienced a very long travel before they reached those wonders and historic places, the pleasant experiences will never wither from their memories.



## Prelim Search of 2012-13 OSCI Awardees Kevinn Chan Among Top 15 HS Contenders

The Outstanding Student Circle of Iloilo (OSCI) announces on its webpage on 6 December the start of the search for 10 outstanding elementary and 10 high school students of Iloilo for the SY 2012-2013. The written exam was scheduled on 23 January. ISAers Kathleen Tilos and Kevinn Chan represented the school in the elementary and high school categories, respectively. Kevinn was among the 15 high school finalists who will undergo final interview on 13 February.

## 33<sup>rd</sup> National Math Quiz Bee ISA 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Division Level

Again, ISA blazes a new trail in the field of Mathematics. On 30 January, DepED Iloilo City Division administered the 33<sup>rd</sup> National Quiz Bee (Division Level) held at Division of Iloilo City Social Hall. Contestants from twenty-five private and public high schools vied for the prestigious championship title in the mathematics category of the said quiz bee. However, as soon as the contest proper had begun the three contenders, two from the Philippine Science High School and one from Iloilo Scholastic Academy, managed to distinguish themselves from the rest by pulling their scores way ahead of the others. It was indeed a very tight competition among the three contenders of the two schools. Finally, ISA Senior Kevinn Friedrich Chan beat the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placers from Philippine Science High School by a tiny margin.

### Grade 6 Learners' Recollection

On 24 September 2012, Grade 6 ISAers were at Holy Rosary Retreat Center to attend a recollection conducted by Sr. Fideliz with a theme "Growing F.U.N. (Finding Your Note)". Sr. Fideliz challenged the children to think how recollection would help them find their note; their purpose in life which were integrated in the 3 activities: Blessings; 5 Most Damaging Words; and Finding My Purpose in Life.

The learners were divided into 3 groups with Ms. Cheryl Ammen, Ms. Grazel Abunto and Ms. Liza Chew as facilitators. In their first activity, learners shared with their group the blessings they received and how they feel about them. After which they visited the graves of the Dominican sisters located behind the Recollection Center and were asked to reflect how the nuns spent their lives serving the Lord.

Sister Fideliz introduced the Five Most Damaging Words in the next activity. This made children realize that life is not just about fun but has complexities which they encounter as they grow. Each learner is asked to choose a word and explain how the word affects his/her personality. They were then guided to a chapel to pray and reflect.

In the afternoon, parents were invited to witness the recollection's culminating activity. The learners delivered lines which started with: "Mom/Dad, help me find my purpose here on earth..."

The recollection allows learners to know themselves better and consciously find out their purpose in life. They understand that growing up may be a bumpy journey but they need to move forward and meet head on the challenges that cross their path.



## YMCA Outstanding Boys and Girls ISA Kevinn Chan Given Recognition

ISA Y4 learner Kevinn Friedrich Chan was cited as one of the ten outstanding boys by the Young Men's Christian Association of Iloilo (YMCA-Iloilo Chapter) in its search for the Outstanding Boys and Girls in the City and the Province of Iloilo this year. Earlier this month nominees from various schools went through written exams and panel interview.

The awarding ceremony was held on 7 December at Iloilo National High School. Congressman Ferjnel 'Ferj' Biron was the inspirational speaker, and together with Judge Severino Aguilar, he presented the certificates of recognition and cash awards to all the twenty winners.

## ICAS-Sci Awarding Ceremony Held Five ISA Learners were Recognized

The awarding ceremonies of the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools – Science (ICAS-Science) and the Australian Math Competition (AMC) were held on 2 December 2012 at the Iloilo Grand Hotel.

The five ISAers who received Credit Awards in ICAS-Science are: Kevinn Friedrich Chan (Y4), Jian Kyle Tiampong (G7), Xyanne Alex Andrienne Bocol (G6), Alvin Lyndon Sy (G6), and Joshua David Terania (G6).

The recipients of the the AMC awards are:

Distinction Awardees: Kevinn Friedrich Chan, and Alvin Lyndon Sy. Kevinn all received the Prudence Award.

Credit Awardees: Joseph Joshua Te (Y4), Nesan John Muleta (Y4), Karl Denzel Lao (Y4), Christian Angelo Cabangbang (Y4), Bena Dorothy Lagunda (Y4), Jean Ceza Betalac (Y4), Dionysius Valeen Chiu (Y3), Jemimah Anne Juantong (Y3), Shayla Sy (G5), Audrey Marie Jamboy (G4), John Wallace Chan (G4), Arwin Red de la Cruz (G3), Francis Edward Arroyo (G3), Timothy Brian Tiu (G3), Mara Theresa Gallego (G3). See article about AMC awarding in *The Scholars December 2012 issue*.

## ISA celebrates Christmas 2012

ISA community if once again filled with the spirit of yuletide season. ISA celebrated Christmas on 12 December 2012. The learners' Christmas Parties were held in the morning. The yearly exchange of gifts still brought so much delight to the children. Games added more excitement and fun.

In the evening, the ISA Faculty and Staff had their celebration with the ISA Board of Directors headed by Mr. Vicente Tiu. The celebration ended with a raffle draw sponsored by the ISA directors and parents after a sumptuous dinner.

## 47<sup>th</sup> Iloilo PRISAA Competitions ISAers Garnered 41 Awards

ISAers won 41 awards at the 47<sup>th</sup> Iloilo Private Schools Athletic Association meet (IloPRISAA). The sport competition opened on 20 November 2012 at Iloilo Sports Complex. Seven ISAers who were champions in events in badminton, swimming, track and field and literary competitions will represent the Iloilo private schools to compete with the public schools at the Integrated Meet in December.

It should be noted that the PRISAA meet does not limit to sports only, academic and literary-musical contests are part of the events. There are 48 private schools in the city participated in various events this year.

ISAers joined for the first time in the elementary Basketball games this year. ISA remains strong in badminton, track and field, table tennis. The following winners were officially recognized at the awarding ceremonies held on 3 December 2012 at Western Institute of Technology:

Track and Field. High School Boys: **1<sup>st</sup> 100m, 1<sup>st</sup> 200m dash** – Christian Angelo Cabangbang. Elementary Girls: **1<sup>st</sup> high jump, 3<sup>rd</sup> long jump, 3<sup>rd</sup> triple jump** – Delaris Romero. **2<sup>nd</sup> shot put, 2<sup>nd</sup> discus throw** – Bea Marie Chang. **2<sup>nd</sup> triple jump** – Chiching Chang. **3<sup>rd</sup> shot put** – Angela Paredes. **2<sup>nd</sup> 4x100m, 2<sup>nd</sup> 4x400m** – Delaris Romero, Angela Paredes, Chiching Chang, Micaella Barlin. Elementary Boys: **1<sup>st</sup> triple jump** – Ylesar Rood Bebit. **2<sup>nd</sup> triple jump, 3<sup>rd</sup> javelin throw** – Vince Pierson Apologista. **2<sup>nd</sup> high jump, 3<sup>rd</sup> triple jump** – Kyle Laurence Balleza. **3<sup>rd</sup> discus throw, 3<sup>rd</sup> high jump** – Ron Josef Magarzo. **3<sup>rd</sup> 4x400m relay** – Ylesar Rood Bebit, Kyle Laurence Balleza, Ron Josef Magarzo, Vince Pierson Apologista.

Table tennis. **High School Boys: 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Kevinn Friedrich Chan, Joseph Joshua Te, Jherod Miquel Tilos, Mark Yu. **High School Girls: 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Pauline Zachie Chiu, Bianca Jade Lacson, Marion Nicole Lim, Jessica Marie Valderrama. **Elementary Boys: 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Nichole Vince Jalipa, Kyle Anderson Coo, Prince Yeoj Aniscol, Mark Alfred Casio. **High School Girls: 1<sup>st</sup>** – Chelsea Coleen Cayabyab, Pearl Zerrha Chiu, Kathleen Therese Tilos, Maria Danica Buenafior.

Badminton. High School: **2nd Girls Doubles** – Nicole Casey Lao, Keziah Pagaduan. Elementary: **1st Girls Doubles** – Bea Marie Chang, Kathlyn Marie Lim. **3rd Boys Singles** – Lance David Tan. **3rd Boys Doubles** – Reish Nathan Calanza, Josh Lim.

Chess. High School: **2<sup>nd</sup> Individual** – Anne Danielle Tay. Elementary: **2<sup>nd</sup> Individual** – Cherisse Hope Gomez. **3rd Team** – Cherisse Hope Gomez, Ma. Geraldine Palomar.

Swimming. Elementary: **1<sup>st</sup> 50m Backstroke, 2<sup>nd</sup> 50m Breaststroke, 3<sup>rd</sup> 400m Freestyle, 3<sup>rd</sup> 200m Breaststroke** – John Caleb Barlin.

Academic. High School: **1<sup>st</sup> Current Events** – Alyssa Rivero. **3<sup>rd</sup> Math** – Kevinn Friedrich Chan, Joseph Joshua Te, Deo Valeen Chiu. Elementary: **3rd Math** – Alvin Lyndon Sy, Kathlyn Therese Tilos, Bernie Joseph Juyanana.

Literary-Musical. High School: **1<sup>st</sup> Filipino Declaration** – Nicole Casey Lao. **2<sup>nd</sup> English Declaration** – Jemimah Juantong. **2<sup>nd</sup> Dance Sports Standard** – Johanna Marielle Tan, Nesan John Muleta. Elementary: **2<sup>nd</sup> Filipino Declaration** – Mark Alfred Casio.



ISA Administrator, Facilitators and ISAers during the 47<sup>th</sup> Iloilo PRISAA Academic, Literary and Musical awarding ceremony held at the Colegio del Sagrado Corazon de Jesus. ISA won 7 awards in the academic, literary-musical categories, including the two first places in high school current events and Filipino declamation.

## G1 Chinchin Cajandig, G4 Iya Perez Topped Math Std-Based Assessment



Chinchin

Iya

Every year, the Asian Psychological Services and Assessment (APSA) recognizes the top-scoring Grade one to fourth year learners who have taken the Standard-Based Assessment (SBA) in Math, English and Science.

The office of the Executive Director received a letter recently from APSA informing the school that in school year 2011-2012, two ISAers, G1 Keesha Franchina Marie Cajandig and G4 Jon Christi Andrea Perez, were top-scorers in the standard-based assessment in Math, and will be given recognition as topnotchers at the end of this month. They are invited by APSA to go to Manila and be with the 55 learners from other schools nationwide to receive the plaque of recognition. The ceremony will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of The Math Circle of the Philippines on February 27-28, 2013 at the CSB Hotel International Conference Center, Malate, Manila.

## ISA Executive Director Gave a Talk On New Chinese Language Teaching Strategy

The Philippine Jinjiang General Association invited ISA Executive Director Mr. Peter M. Chan to talk on the new Chinese language teaching strategy which he dubbed 'enhancing speaking and writing thru reading'. Mr. Chan was in Manila on 12 January giving a talk before an audience of 500 administrators and teachers from Chinese-Filipino schools in Manila and Luzon.

A welcome dinner hosted by the Association's Executive Vice President Wang Liangpei was given on Mr. Chan's honor the evening before his talk.

In the morning of 12 January, Mr. Chan spent two hours discussing in detail the principles behind the Chinese language teaching strategy he is proposing. To support his thesis, he cited facts gathered from the two years of its actual implementation at ISA.

The idea is a novelty if one is to consider how the talk defied many of the prevailing notions thought of as 'normal' by many academicians, both local and abroad. In his talk, notion like 'listening and speaking comes ahead of reading and writing' was candidly but firmly refuted by Mr. Chan.

## 7<sup>th</sup> PRISSAAP Eng Festival Held at ISA

The 7<sup>th</sup> English Language Festival of the Private Schools and School Administrators Association of the Philippines (PRISSAAP) was held at ISA on 8 December 2012 with the theme "English Language Festival: Reaching Out...Unleashing Talents."

This was the first time for the school to host the annual event which showcased the different talents of learners from different schools in a friendly competition.

"We are very fortunate to have ISA as our venue for this year, considering the short notice that we gave," said Mr. Nic Franz de los Santos, the committee chairperson.

The literary and writing contests were joined by different participating private schools all over the division of Iloilo.

Three ISAers were able to bag the first places in the division level and represented the Division of Iloilo City in the Provincial Level held in St. Joseph School (Iloilo) on January 3, 2013 where they won 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Arianna Doromal in Individual Storytelling (Elementary); Zeth Rodario Bebit in Spelling (high school); and Hannah Abigail Daita in Feature Writing (high school).

Other ISAers who won in the said event were the following: Joshua David Terania – 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Feature Writing (elementary) ; Karl Heinrich Serra won 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Oral Interpretation (highschool); Jemimah Anne Juantong, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, English Declamation; Charlene Mae Chang, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Oration; Pauline Sharry Tiu, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, extemporaneous speech; and Alyssa Faith Rivero, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Newswriting (highschool).

## MTAP Math Challenge – Individual 5 ISAers Ranked First and Second

The 2013 Metrobank-MTAP-DepEd Math Challenge (Individual) were held at the DepED Iloilo City Division Social Hall on January 17 and 23 for the elementary and high school, respectively. The contests were participated in by both public and private schools in Iloilo City. Winners of the individual competitions are qualified to compete in the division team finals.

ISA participants from grades 1-7, third and fourth year high school made it to the team finals. Five ISAers received awards as topnotchers in the competitions. They are Althea Servano (G1), Gabrielle Barlin (G2) and Kevinn Friedrich Chan (Y4) who placed second; Alvin Lyndon Sy (G6) got first Honors and Dionysius Valeen Chiu (Y3) got the first place and first Honors as well.



ISA Chinese folk dance, high school musical performers and the band 'Moments of Silence' performed at the 20<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary and 32<sup>nd</sup> National Convention of the Liang Tek Go Family Association on 21 October at Iloilo Grand Hotel upon the invitation of the association's Iloilo Chapter. The children received a resounding applause after their performance.

Passion is the genesis of genius. - **Anthony Robbins****11 Seniors Hurdled UPCAT, ACET  
68% Passed DLSU Entrance Test**

Eleven high school graduating ISAers passed either or both the University of the Philippines College Admission Test (UPCAT) and Ateneo de Manila University Entrance test (ACET), representing 40% of the 2013 batch of graduating learners. While 11 out of 16 who took the De la Salle University (DLSU) college entrance test were accepted by the said university, yielding an admission rate of 68%.

Six ISAers passed the three entrance tests. They are Kevinn Friedrich Chan, Joseph Joshua Te, Karll Denzel Lao, Bianca Lacson, Bena Lagunda, Jessica Valderrama. Irene Tiu, Genevieve Gaw Te and Menard Klint Berja passed ACET, while Samantha Lacson, Charles Aposaga, Irene Tiu were accepted by UP. Passing DLSU entrance test are Eller Son, and Jan Maxine Palomata.

ISAers maintained 100% passing rate in both the University of Santo Tomas (UST) and University of Asia and Pacific (UA&P) entrance tests. Bena Lagunda and Kevinn Chan are offered 100% scholarship by UA&P, with an additional P6000 monthly allowance for Kevinn.

**Two Advisers of Chinese Language Volunteers  
Visit ISA to Study Its Chinese Teaching Program**

Two advisers of the Chinese language volunteers who are tasked to help improve the quality of the Chinese language instruction of Chinese-Filipino schools in Luzon, Ms. Wu Qiuping and Mr. Li Jingtang, were at ISA on 6-7 February to discuss with ISA Executive Director Mr. Peter M. Chan, and learn more about the Chinese language reform program initiated by Mr. Chan and implemented since school year 2010-2011 at ISA. Their visit was prompted by Mr. Chan's talk on 'enhancing speaking and writing thru reading' delivered last 12 January in Manila. (see article 'ISA Executive Director Gave a Talk On New Chinese Language Teaching Strategy' The Scholars, February 2013 issue)

The Chinese visitors took note while Mr. Chan emphasized on the need to take particular attention of the prevailing cultural and social conditions if Chinese language leaning is to be viable and thrive in this country. They were evidently enthralled as Mr. Chan delineated the three stages of ISA's Chinese language reform program. Though novel and mostly untested, they find the whole idea logical, feasible, and worthy of experimentation.

The discussion also touched on quality instruction, how to pursue and ensure stability and attaining quality education.



Ms. Wu Qiuping and Mr. Li Jingtang posed with Mr. Peter M. Chan inside ISA library. Aside from interviewing Mr. Chan on his Chinese language reform program, they also observed Chinese language classes.

**ISA Community Joins  
YEAR OF THE SNAKE FESTIVITY****A Chinese New Year Talent Show at SM City**

The celebration of the Chinese New Year 2013 once again brought us another chance to experience Chinese culture through beautiful dances and songs. With the theme, "The Fusion of East and West", ISA showcased Chinese culture on 12 February at SM City Iloilo.

An array of exposition featuring the talents of the ISAers in singing, dancing, Chinese Martial Arts and playing of musical instruments set the tone of that afternoon performance. ISAers gave the mall goers and the audience a unique taste of variety show by incorporating contemporary and traditional music and styles in their dances and songs. The dancers gracefully executed their steps as they dance to the live music accompaniment of the ISA band. The Wushu and Taekwondo performances were breathtaking as performers showed their stunts and skills. Singers filled the air with their melodious Chinese songs. Pre-school learners enticed the crowd with their charming dance number. Applause and warm smiles was everywhere as they swayed their hips, with their belly dancing moves to the tune of Uygur folk music.

**Chinese Breeze Serenades Fort San Pedro HS**

A display of beautiful colors decorated Fort San Pedro National High School, when Iloilo Scholastic Academy was invited by the city government to showcase a Chinese cultural presentation last 10 February on the said venue. The faculty, staff and learners of Fort San Pedro High School welcome the ISAers with their warm hospitality and with gratitude, ISAers, in return, gave them a heartwarming experience of the Chinese culture through songs and dances.

The Chinese New Year's week long celebration concluded with a cultural show and foot parade around downtown area last 15 February. Distinguished guests and people from all walks of life waited patiently near the stage area to witness the awe-inspiring presentations of the participating Chinese schools from Iloilo city. Street corners were filled with spectators, warm smiles and amusement overflowed on their faces. Chinese songs were heard from one corner to the next as ISAers enthusiastically danced to the rhythm of the song.

**MTAP Secondary Math Challenge  
ISA Won in G7, Y3 and Y4 Levels**

The year 2013 kicked off with ISAers reaping numerous awards in inter-school leadership, academic and sports contests. But so far the most exhilarating and impressive, I believe, is their performance at the MTAP – Metro Bank – DepED Math Challenge (Secondary team finals) held on 8 February at Iloilo Central Elementary School. As if determined to chase off the overcast caused by the elimination of the second year team at the initial round, the team finals ended with ISA's grade 7 landed on third place, third year and fourth year both placing 2<sup>nd</sup>, rendering 2013 another best year for ISA's MTAP participation in the past four years.



Dionysius

Paul

Noteworthy is ISA's third year team. Dionysius Valeen Chiu and Paul Bryan Buñi nearly repeated the feat of the third year team composed of Karl Francis Chan and Andy Kim who defeated Philippine Science High School (PSHS) to win ISA's first MTAP secondary championship title five years ago. Obviously, the luck was not on Dio's and Paul's side that day, Phil-Sci beat ISA 3-2 at the clincher round. Ateneo de Iloilo placed third.



Kevinn

JJ

The equally strong contender is the fourth year team with Kevinn Friedrich Chan and Joseph Joshua Te as members. The duo's team was the closest to trail behind PSHS which won first place. Sun Yat Sen High School team landed third.



Jian

Jasper

ISA Freshmen Jian Kyle Tiampong and Jasper Robert Pigason fought hard to win third place in the grade 7 level. The first and second placers in this level are from UP High School and PSHS, respectively.

G7 team was coached by Mr. Rey Joseph Espiritu, he is also the math facilitator of G7. Both Y3 and Y4 teams were trained by Mr. Angelou Deloguines, the math facilitator of both Y3 and Y4.

**MTAP Elementary Math Challenge  
ISAers Second in G1, Third in G2**

On 7 February the MTAP Math Challenge elementary-team finals was held at Iloilo Central Elementary School. Grades 1 to 6 contestants who qualified in the elimination round held last 17 January vied for the top three places in each level. ISA



Althea

Simon

Grade 1 Altea Lorraine Servano and Jacques Simon Timtiman won second place, while Grade 2 Gabriel Barlin and Ashley Gabrielle Sy won third place. Both teams were trained by Ms. Dannisa Prader.



Ashley

Gabriel