

# Growing Spiritually

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16, NKJV



#### 2 |GREETINGS|

#### Dear: Parents,

Thank God we have entered the New Year 2018 with a new spirit. Congratulations to the students of Y10 and Y11 who will start new school year in January 2018 as students of Y11 and Y12. Hopefully the New Year and new school year ignites a new spirit of learning to start an educational process in preparing the present life and eternal life in Jesus Christ.

Speaking about children education in the Christian perspective, the main goal is to prepare them in the present time and eternal life in Jesus Christ. Children education equips the children with knowledge for their future preparation, and introduces them to Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

Such education is conducted in IPEKA INTEGRATED Christian School. We apply an integral education of faith and knowledge, we want every student of IICS excels in knowledge and obtains good characters and grows in faith and spirituality.

We conduct some activities to foster their faith from retreat, chapel, or leadership camp.

Togetherness in God is the focus of IICS in growing the students' spirituality. We cultivate the Christianity faith values for them to grow into a mature person mentally and physically, so in the end they can understand the God's calling for them.

— Setyawati, M.Pd. Location Coordinator

#### Dear: Parents,

It was a particular blessing this year to participate in "Commencement" for our graduating seniors. Graduation is always a time of looking forward towards "new beginnings." It is also a time of reflecting on how well our graduates have internalized their Expected Student Learning Results.

As a school the entire community of teachers, administrators, leaders and board

Members collectively wrote and approved our "allschool" goals growing out of our "mission," "vision" and "values." These measurable objectives, or ESLR's are reflected on with each graduating class and with surveys conducted with alumni after, 5, 10, 20 and 25 years.

Each year every faculty member, in every subject, maintains their ESLR objectives notebook and keeps a record of learning activities designed to meet these designated outcomes. All IICS stakeholders want to develop faithful followers of Christ, independent critical thinkers, effective English communicators, prepared members of the global community and academic lifelong learners.

Effective schools work in tandem with parents to reinforce joint values and objectives. IICS has always welcomed this relationship with our parents. During 2018 we look forward to partnering together as we jointly prepare your children for their dynamic future!

Happy New Year,

— Dr. Janet Lowrie Nason CEO Advisor





## Growing Up Whilst Growing in Christ

I enrolled my child in IICS back in 2003, and have watched her develop, grow, and finally graduate as a 17 year old just a few weeks ago. Over the course of my child's 14 year journey in IICS, the opportunity that I've had to witness her grow more and more in Christ every year has been a blessing. It's truly a humbling experience for me to be given the opportunity by the Lord to witness my child grow from a little girl who sat cross-legged in her classroom listening to Bible stories on flashcards, to a teenager who now views Christ as an incredibly powerful and mighty source of guidance and solace.

Being a parent definitely isn't an easy task, and neither is being a teenager. However, my child's enrollment in this school, one that has very strongly integrated the concept of Christ and having Him as your foundation, has in many ways helped both me and my child emotionally survive everything that's been thrown at us. His presence never fades. Especially now that my child is about to head off to college or university, having a constant Shoulder to lean on in the midst of all these difficult decisions we've had to make has been a true source of comfort. Knowing that we have a God that is more powerful than any problem we can ever be faced with is a blessing that I can never be thankful enough for.

> **Christina Wety** Mother of Amanda Ajiezena Class of 2017 Graduates

#### 4 |FOCUS|

## Growing Spiritually

Talking about children education and development, parents and educators must solemnly prepare a strong foundation, where the education and character building refers to the character of Christ.

Education equips children with knowledge for their future preparation, and introduces them to Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

By having Christ characters, the students will recognize themselves better as the creations of God, understand their life calling, know and appreciate His creations, so that they understand their responsibilities as children of God in this world.

Character education and coaching conducted at IICS are integrated in the coaching of discipline, spirituality, and faith of Christians so that students can develop knowledge and skills, and grow spiritually and have a God-fearing personality.

To nurture their personality to grow spiritually and faith through various activities including:



#### **Our Class of 2017**

The tenth of November was the day that IPEKA INTEGRATED Christian School officially graduated the Class of 2017. This is the seventeenth batch of students that have been graduated from IICS since the start of the school in 1999. All 70 Year Twelve students have worked hard to finish the last hurdle of the Higher School Certificate course from the New South Wales Board of Studies, Australia; i.e. The External Examination. Having completed the final challenge, the students are relieved and ready to prepare for their next steps in life. The graduation ceremony became the perfect occasion to end their high school journey, helping them to focus on what is important, remember the events of the past two-and-a-half years, and rekindle their thankfulness for every part of their journey, and everyone who helped them on their way (God, parents, the school, the teachers, each other). It also acted as an acknowledgement of all their effort and perseverance. The inspirational message by Mr. Joshua Frear, following the graduation theme of "Continue to Grow Spiritually", used 1 John 4:7-11 to inspire the students to take the values of love, trustworthiness, and curiosity into the world as they embark on new journeys at universities around the world. This graduation was made unique by the students' request to sing the song "Just Wanna Be With You" from High School Musical 3 as a gift to their parents. All in all, it was a beautiful and memorable event.

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#### **Senior High Retreat**

This year's Grade 10 retreat was held on 25 – 27 October 2017 at the beautiful and peaceful Pelangi Resort in Sentul.

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Based on 1 Peter 2:1-3, the theme of the retreat was "Growing Spiritually", the overall 2017 spiritual growth theme of IPEKA. Through this event, the school aimed to provide the 10th grade students an opportunity to build a personal relationship with God, experience a renewal of faith, and to understand how to grow spiritually.

The students went through 4 sessions that covered topics about experiencing a personal encounter with God, and 2 workshops that helped students understand and analyze God's Word through inductive methods. All these experiences allowed them to read the Bible in a more thorough and comprehensive manner.

"You may have experienced several leadership camps before, but this one was the real endeavour."

This year's late October leadership camp marked the beginning of a strenuous year for the new Year 12 students. It was exciting but intensive, the school retreat equivalent of a boot camp. Like any other camp, there was outbound, games and

training sessions. But here are a few things that made it stand out.

First, we were told one simple and strange rule: don't be serious, but always give your best effort. Second, we were given sets of odd missions, from guessing our trainers' names, to remembering every move our friends make during meal time. And of course, every time we failed to accomplish them, there would be a consequence, such as destroying a 1000 Students listened to sermons, and participated in group discussions and reflections. All these activities were geared towards getting the students to find reallife connections relevant to their life as students.

In addition to spiritual activities, students also participated in morning exercises, character building games, as well as outdoor activities such as trekking along the river near the resort to provide them an opportunity to appreciate the beauty of God's creation.

In the post-activity survey, almost all students felt that they had encountered God personally, and experienced a renewal of faith. They also felt that they benefitted in many ways from this retreat. We thank God that many students committed to be faithful followers of Christ after this wonderful experience.



#### **Leadership Camp**

piece puzzle in progress. These penalties, however, were blessings in disguise, fruits of agility, responsibility and resilience, which are crucial to the development of leadership character.

The camp wasn't a breeze for most of us. Some said they'd rather be sitting in a painstaking Physics class. We spent the first few days of the camp learning to endure

it. However, the results were unexpectedly significant and worth all the pain. In merely three days, we were molded into responsible and rigorous students.

An important lesson that we learned is to become a leader whom others follow not because they have to, but because they want to. This represents an essential nature of a God-fearing leader that this school aims to cultivate.

by Jovita Suryawinata



The retreat was organized into 6 main sessions. Each session included an ice breaker game, a time of worship led by a student chapel band, and God's special message for the students, delivered by GI. Albert Kurniawan,

Ibu Leonny Atmadja, Mr. Christopher Hermawan, and also Ms. Louisa Pangestu. The messages about sins and repentance were boldly declared, as well as the practical steps on how to grow spiritually in Christ. In one of the sessions, students were also given a chance to identify their Love Languages.

The highlight of this retreat was on the second session, when some students received Jesus as their personal Savior for the first time, and some others renew their commitment to God. It was such a blessed moment to see these young souls responding to God's words.



the lives of my friends, everyone was in tears. Our evening came to a close with a bonfire. We had so much fun bonding with each other around the fire while enjoying roasted corn and s'mores. This was the most memorable day for me.

Our last day we had trekking, which was very challenging, but also fun and exciting. Camping has taught me a lot of things and has given me a lot of experience. I am thankful that the joy and peace that I experienced during the camp still resides in my heart. All in all, our year 9 camping was a great learning experience. I didn't only develop leadership skills and build relationships, but this camp has also helped me to grow more spiritually.

by Gwen Calista Tjemerlang, 9.2

IICS Retreat has always been an awaited program, both for students and teachers. It is not just one of the annual programs in our school, but it is also a time for the students to get away from the bustling city of Jakarta, to focus more on God, as well as building friendship and memories together.

This year's retreat was held in Via Renata, Puncak, on Oct 25-27, 2017. About 95 year 7 students and teachers were challenged to grow spiritually at this three days event. Through the sermon, small group discussion, and games, the students were introduced to our yearly theme, **Growing Spiritually**, which was taken from **1 Peter 2:1-3**.

#### **Y9 Camping**

From Wednesday September 27th until Friday September 29th, the year nine students at IICS went camping at Jeep Station Indonesia Resort in Bogor. It was a very fun experience in which we as students were able to bond with each other. Three days out of our comfort zone, experiencing new things, was awesome.

Our first adventurous experience was riding the "angkot" to our final destination on our first day in Bogor. We got to feel the natural cold breeze and the bumpy and steep roads, which felt like we were on a rollercoaster. This was just the beginning of an awesome three days.

The second day there were more outdoor activities such as group games, paintball, off road activities, and archery. It was extremely fun especially the off road activities. Even though we were all tired and exhausted at the end of the day, the spirit of God was able to work in our hearts during our evening service. Many of us were touched by His Spirit which in return brought about reconciliation. I saw God's love manifesting in

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The message given by Ms. Charlotte can be summed up with one simple word; vision. In order for the parents and the school to have synergy in raising children, which God have appointed to them, the parents and the school must have the same vision. As the book of Proverbs declared, "Where there is no vision the

#### *people perish."* (Proverbs 29:18, KJV). In other words, in order for the parents and the school to achieve synergy, it is vitally important for both parties to have the same vision. The relationship between the parents and the school should not be transactional based, but it should be seen as an important partnership to raise up the next generation of leaders and faithful followers of Christ.

#### **Junior High Special Chapel**

On 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017, there was something different in Junior High Chapel. This time IICS Junior High invited some special speakers such as: Alex Neo from Breakhrough Ministry and Robert Whitfield from Kindness.org.

**Parents and School Synergy** 

The Junior High department was blessed to

conduct the semestral parents seminar led by Dra. Charlotte K. Priatna, M. Pd. In this seminar, the Junior

High department took an opportunity to discuss the importance of synergy between the parents and

the school to educate and care for the children. Ms. Charlotte was conversational, relatable, and she used

many personal illustrations to point out the necessity of

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synergy between them both.

Alex Neo spoke from his heart about Breakthrough Ministry and his passion to spread the good news for drugs addicts. He said that *"Breakthrough presents to serve drugs and narcotics addicts not only for their recovery but also for their understanding of their calling as Jesus's disciples".* 





The students then had the opportunity to listen to Robert Whitfield sharing and his Kindness Journey. A few years ago he went a solo backpack to introduce his mission to spread kindness to other people. He then asked other people he met to do it to. He also testified the goodness that God has planted in every one of us.

May the students be blessed by this special chapel sharing, and they can also be blessings for others.

#### 8 |DEVELOPMENT|

### **Expat Christmas Gathering**

Christmas is a joyous time to be with your family and be at home. For some of us, we are blessed to get to celebrate Christmas with our family here at our home country. But for our expat teachers, they have different conditions that they face each year when Christmas comes. One of them is being away from their families when Christmas comes. Which is why each year IPEKA celebrates Christmas with our expat teachers at IICS. This year's Expat Christmas Celebration was held on December 4, 2017. All expat teachers, including those whom teach at BSD were also invited to celebrate Christmas at IICS. The Christmas celebration consists of games, Christmas carols, and of course a sermon which was delivered by Mr. Daniel Adhie Surya. And at the beginning and the end, leaders of IPEKA foundation delivered a speech to our expat teachers.



By celebrating Christmas with our expat teachers, we want our expat teachers to get to know with one another as during teaching hours they might rarely mingle. One of the goals for Christmas celebration is for expat teachers to continue Christmas tradition, and for our expat teachers to feel the joy of wonderful Christmas. More importantly we want them to find the true meaning of Christmas and to rejuvenate their spirits in Christ who was born to redeem us, and to be able to feel God's grace that are there for us for all this time.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2018! by Daniel Ganda Mulia

## **Spiritual Growth is Not Optional**

What kind of words that popped into your head when you hear the word "growth? Maybe some of you would say change, process, mature, and many other words. Physical growth is inevitable for human beings, unless you have a rare condition, but spiritual, mental and emotional growth needs to be cultivated.

As I am reflecting back with the IICS graduating class of 2017, I am reminded of how they have come a long way as a student and as a person. I remembered when they were just a new students entering as grade 10. Some have definitely grown and mature more than the others but through hardships and challenges all of them have grown according to their capacity. Growth doesn't happen inside the comfort zone, and as I evaluate, students who grow most are the ones who are not afraid to take risks, to overcome challenges and are resilient throughout the process.

Christ desire for all of us to grow in every aspect of our lives. And in order for Christ second coming, He needs his bride (the church) to be mature, pure and ready therefore, spiritual growth is not an option.

Ephesians 4: 11-15 says "So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ."

So how can we grow? Growth is a matter of personal decision. Growth builds on foundations already in place. Jesus taught once of the need for a strong foundation for a lasting house. And that is true. Growth can only grow on what already is there. A difference between an average high school student entering college and a college student entering graduate school is this: The high school student often assumes learning is limited to what the teacher gives in the classroom. The more mature college student hopefully has learned that understanding is far more than what is expressed in the classroom. It includes library study, research and growth. Wisdom, our college student has learned, is what one masters after the lecture is over.

The teaching help. The preaching helps. The classroom or sanctuary helps. But maturity-meat-is what happens to us after class is over.

by Natasha Christiani

Some references are taken from: https://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/milk-and-meat-moving-toward-christian-maturity-david-haun-sermon-on-growth-in-christ-68848?page=3



#### Grade 1-6 Field Trip

Students went to the City Hall in the morning. They were greeted by the tour guides at the main building. The history of the City Hall was being explained while they were waiting for their turn to get inside the building. Displays of former governors decorated the hallway inside. They also observed and went inside the meeting rooms. After taking class pictures, students had lunch and got ready for the City Tour by Transjakarta. Riding the double-decker bus, the students had the tour around M.H. Thamrin and Sudirman areas.

For sixth graders, there was an additional activity at the City Hall. They visited Jakarta Smart City, an office where the officers managed the public complaints and the traffic. Grade 6 students also got a chance to visit MRT head office at Wisma Nusantara before they went back to school. Presentation was given to explain about the progress of the project. They got really excited when they took the pedestrian bridge in front of the office and looked at the MRT site. They got the knowledge and at the same time they had great time with their teachers and friends.





Time flies and without we realize it the first semester holiday was behind us. Every year IICS Elementary marks the start of the first semester holiday with Christmas Service and immediately followed by Christmas Musical Drama. This Christmas Service program is a chance to gather parents, students, and teachers alike in remembering God's love to us by sending His only Son to earth.

It is this very message that we need to be reminded time and time again. Thus, the theme for this academic year's Christmas Service was entitled as "Wrapped in the Father's Love" taken from the Bible verse of John 3: 16. The Christmas Service for Grade 1-3 parents was held on Wednesday, 6 December 2017 with sermon delivered by Ibu Leonny Atmadja. While Grade 4-6 parents held their Christmas service on the next day, 7 December 2017 and Mr. Endi Dermawan delivered the sermon.

The title for this year's Christmas Musical Drama was "Special Delivery". Many talented as well as interested students came forward and went through audition. Next, the selected drama casts practiced their lines for many days before learning their blocking on the stage. The rest of the students had also taken part on this joyous occasion by performing on stage as choir of angels. It was indeed a perfect event to end the year and to be reminded again on how big our Father's love for us.



## IICS University Fair 2017

and parents access to the information they need about programs offered in universities and their admission requirements.

On top of the two hour exhibition at the gymnasium, we also let some universities deliver a presentation in the chapel and classrooms. Around 250 High School students and their parents enthusiastically moved

from one room to another to catch the three back-toback presentation sessions of their choice. For some students, it was their first time getting information about programs such as hospitality study in Switzerland, earning a UK degree through a Singapore university, or English-speaking programs in Japan. It was indeed an eye-opening and fruitful day for all the participants.

### **Culture of Indonesia**

IICS Elementary had a cultural event on 1 November 2017, it was called Indonesian Culture. The objective of this event is to introduce Indonesian culture to the students. At this occasion, the school invited *Ondel-Ondel* performance from Sanggar Si Pitung, Rawa Belong to represent Betawi culture. We also had *Angklung* (traditional musical instrument from West Java) performance from Dapur *Angklung* Jakarta to represent West Java culture. The *Ondel-ondel* performance was introduced to grade 1 to 3 students, while the *Angklung* performance was introduced to grade 4-6 students.

IICS, for the second time, held its annual university

fair in October 2017. This fair hosted 45 renowned

organizations: Education USA and Nuffic Neso. Some

National University of Singapore, Tsinghua University

University of Melbourne (Australia), University of New South Wales (Australia), and many more. The main goal of the university fair was to give IICS students

of the top universities participating in the fair were

universities across the globe and two non-profit

(China), The University of Manchester (UK), The

There were 12 performers for the *Ondel-ondel*. They brought two *Ondel-ondels*, female and male. The team was also completed with 10 traditional Betawi musical





instruments. As for *Angklung* performance, there were two performers, one played an *Angklung* set consisted of 30 notes and the other person played a set of *Gambang*.

Moreover, during the *Ondel-ondel* performance, the students were invited to the stage to dance together with the *Ondel-ondel*. Some of the students were also given the opportunity to make *Kembang Kelapa*. As for the *Angklung* performance, not only the performers played Sundanese traditional songs and a pop song, they also gave 100 *Angklung* to the students. Those *Angklung* were used by 100 students as part of an interactive *Angklung* performance playing National song, *Tanah Airku*.



#### Sumpah Pemuda

Sumpah Pemuda is one of the most important event which held on the first November 2017. The purpose of this event is to show the students how to be united as one in diversity. The students who participated in this event were wearing traditional clothes as a symbol that Indonesia has so many different kind of tribes. All the students looked happy as they wore their traditional clothes during this event.

This event started with the photo session from each class which are N1, N2, K4.1, K4.2, K5.1 and K5.2. They were excited as they walked to the stage and each of them were smiling and posing when one of the teacher took a picture.

We had short presentation to introduce the meaning of Sumpah Pemuda and how it's related with the commandment of God. Through the Bible verse from 1 Corinthians 12:12 the students got the concept of unity in diversity. They also learned to respect others and how God has a different purpose for each one of us. Through this event, we hope that all the students will understand that they can complete each other through their differences and they know exactly what is the meaning of unity.



#### Y8 & Y9 Music Recital

The Year 8 and Year 9 Music Recital is an annual program in the Junior High School at IICS. Every year the students prepare their talented musical performances for their parents to enjoy. This year the theme was music from movies and friendship. Music in movies can impress the audience as well as instill a good moral message for us all. The preparation for the recital started in August with many creative ideas from our students. Their ideas included using movie clips to enhance their performances through dance, playing instruments, and singing. Then there were many intensive practices every day practicing our instruments such as violins, guitars, ukuleles, flutes, clarinets, keyboards, pianos, and also choir band.

One month before the recital, all of the students practiced their performances together. This was a big challenge for us as we had to guide and instruct 128 students from our Year 8 and Year 9 classes with different musical skills and levels. We needed extra perseverance, prayer, and patience in order to cultivate the musical talents of each student. In doing so, we encouraged the students to not only play the music but also enjoy the music that they played. Our hard work paid off when we saw the students were able to perform after a limited amount of practices with great perseverance and in the end gave it their best. The students showed great excitement and enjoyment by showcasing their amazing works of music in front of their parents for this recital.

To our pleasant surprise, all of the parents and invited guests who attended this recital in the Grand Chapel at IICS gave an enormous applause for the outstanding achievements of the students in their musical performances. The success of this recital would not have been possible without the grace and mercy from God alone.

SOLI DEO GLORIA



#### |MOMENTS| 13 World Scholar's Cup, An Unforgettable Experience

We have faced people from all around the world. We have brought back many trophies and medals. We have beaten the impossible. **But we couldn't have done it without God.** God has given us that opportunity to compete in this competition, and without Him, we wouldn't have been here in the first place. The support that He had given us, and the encouragement that He gave us through all the teachers and parents truly showed that He is the God that would always be with us.

The trophies and medals that we have achieved aren't just trophies and medals, but are the results of our practice, dedication, and effort. People say many things about us, but the truth is, all six of us started from zero. When we first entered this competition, we didn't know much. But throughout our journey, we had prospered in knowledge and experience, until we reached the stage we are in. We are not geniuses. We are people who learned over time. This competition not only gives out trophies, medals, or fame, but an unforgettable experience that would always be in our souls. The achievements that we have gotten is nothing compared to the experience of meeting other people from all around the world, as one diverse community. This competition is not just an academic competition, it is a competition where fun is present. This is what makes the competition so valuable and outstanding in the midst of the world of competitions.

However, we only can reach this stage, to our wonderful coach, Mr. Darren Carter, who will forever be an amazing coach to us. He had guided us throughout our journey, teaching us to not only debate and writing, but also to put our trust in the Father. I would also like to give thanks to Mr. Tom and Mr. Marcello, who had helped bring the best of us, to encourage us whenever we felt like we couldn't do it.

We have been going through this competition for quite some time now, but through our fruit, God can be seen through us. IICS can be seen through us. Indonesia can be seen through us. **Together**, we represent God's little Christians who are glorifying Him through the effort we put in and the achievements we had gotten.

During my time in this competition, I often felt like I couldn't do it. But then, I was reminded by God that nothing is impossible through Him. **So remember, if** we can shine, then so can you!

#### by Catalina A. Tan (8.1, Java Rhinos)

**Teams Achievements:** 

1st Rank in Indonesia, 1st Rank in South East Asia, 5th Rank in the World, 3rd Rank in Scholar's Bowl, 34 Gold, and 23 Silver.



#### **Grandparents Day**



IICS Kindergarten had the annual Grandparents Day. This year theme was "Lasting Legacy". During this event, we invited all grandparents

to come to the school to watch their grandchildren's performance at the chapel and followed by classroom activities; doing the art and potluck party. They can bring food (for 6-8 people each) to be shared as potluck in the classroom.

The performance which held at the chapel was from all the classes.

After performance, we had seminar. For this seminar we invited Mrs. Henny Wirawan as the speaker. We also showed the short clip; we had interviewed some of the students about their grandparents (how old are they, what's their grandparents' name, how do they spent time with their grandparents, etc). This short clip was very entertaining because it showed how innocent each student was to respond the questions given.

From the chapel, the grandparents headed to their grandchildren's classroom to do some activities together. It was doing a simple handprint from either grandparents or parents on a canvas. They enjoyed this activity. We then had a potluck party in which the students got to spend their time with their parents and grandparents.



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#### 14 |ICC CORNER|

## Sex Education Myths

Parents and children should be able to talk sex well. But in fact, sex is one of the topics that are rarely talked about. The erroneous view of sex is often an obstacle and makes parents feel uncomfortable, and fearful, and hesitant and feel less useful for talking about sex. Therefore, changing the view of sex will help parents and children to talk about sex in a better way.

Below are some false points of view about sex:

#### 1. Sex is a taboo.

In Genesis 1: 27-31, God sees everything He made was very good, including sex. God does not view sex as taboo but as sacred. So the talk about sex is not a taboo, it should be a holy conversation. We should talk about sex in respect not as mockery, jokes, swearing oaths, or negative things. Sex talk should be a natural discussion as well as reasonable health talk (toothbrush, clean bath, and body hygiene), topics of manners and daily life.

#### 2. Sex education is the responsibility of church and school.

Many parents who have this point of view give the responsibility of sex education to church or school. This is not right because in reality schools or churches often only discuss about sex in seminars, workshops, or a particular subject. Is that enough? Imagine sex is only discussed to children once a year and only a few hours. This is certainly not enough to help them in understanding sex in a healthy way. Finally, many children are looking for an understanding of sex on the internet and friends. It should be realized that parents hold the greatest responsibility and portion in cultivating a healthy understanding of sex in children. Because the understanding of sex should be given in everyday life and they need example, where the person who can do both things are parents. This can be also seen in the results of the survey presented at the 88th Annual Conference of the Canadian Pediatric Society, 45% of teenagers make parents as role models in terms of sexuality (Metro TV News, 2011). Therefore, parents should begin to realize that there is nothing better in teaching children about sex than themselves.

#### 3. Talking about sex too early is not safe. The more the children know the more dangerous.

Many parents are afraid that if they discuss about sex too early, the children will mature too quickly and they will be inspired to try the sexual activities. We have to realize that all children have high curiosity about sex, what make it difference is whether their parents or their environment fulfill their curiosity. Parents surely



do the right and the healthy explanation about sex while the environment does not. Unhealthy sources from environment are, for example, movies, comics, and games which contain sensuality from the way they dress, romance and also sexual activity.

Whether it is too early or not is not the problem, but how we give our children the right understanding about sex. If the parents feel that they do not have enough knowledge about sex then it is recommended for them to read books or consult with children counselor or psychologist.

#### 4. Children will know sex by themselves.

The survey of Kaiser Family Foundation in 1998, for the children of 10-12 years, 43 % of them were curious about the right time for sex and 50% of parents never talked about it to their children. This survey showed that children need special discussion with their parents. Don't be surprised if they discuss it with less trusted people like, maids, drivers, friends or even strangers.

#### 5. It is better not talk about sex because I and my children are not comfortable.

Solving the discomfort between parent and children in talking about the subject of sex is not by avoiding it. However, parents should be proactive in creating a comfortable atmosphere. This convenience can be started when parents learns to feel comfortable in discussing the subject of sex with his or her partner.

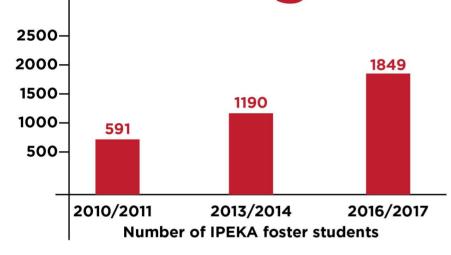
#### 6. Parents are afraid to make mistakes when talking about sex, so it is better not talking about it.

Afraid of making mistake is common for parents in discussing sex with their children. But it does not mean that the topic cannot be discussed. Parents need to increase their knowledge and understanding about sex education. They should develop a better and healthy way to discuss the topic with their children day by day.

The development of a children sex life is influenced by the views and understandings of their parents of sex itself. Changes and increased parental understanding about better sex day by day will have an immediate effect on the child's sex life. Therefore, nothing is more beautiful and efficacious in building a child's sex life than parental changes first.

#### by Budiman Hadi Pranoto, M.Psi, Psychology

## IPEKA Foster Program





|I-CARE| **15** 





A LASTING LEGACY Making your mark through Faith, Hope and Love

#### Congratulations to all IICS Top Performing students Class of 2017 for your superb HSC results!

All Rounders and First Place in Indonesian & Literature Course Patrick Bryan Nugraha

**Top Achievers in Indonesian & Literature Course** Patrick Bryan Nugraha (#1), Timothy Tjan (#2), Fiona Aberima (#3)

**Biology** Amanda Ajiezena Phoebe Ang Patrick Bryan Nugraha Christabella Nicole Surono Timothy Tjan Christopher Brian Tjondro Nicole Widjaja

Business Studies Nicole Gabriella Setiawan

**Chemistry** Patrick Bryan Nugraha

#### **Distinguished Achievers**

Physics Patrick Bryan Nugraha

Chinese Continuers Cindy Angela Aileen Don Caroline Hidajat Hillary Josephine Christabella Khosasih Vicky Tjendera Stefany Wijaya Tania Winata

Indonesian and Literature Fiona Aberima Patrick Bryan Nugraha Timothy Tjan Mathematics General 2 Celine Alyssa Kurniawan

Mathematics Fiona Aberima Thomas Ian Budiman Aileen Don Jessica Elvina Justin Videry Kok Jayson Komajaya Deborah Vanessa Manandi Amelia Rosalind Christabella Nicole Surono Kezia Tamara Suryaputra Russell Emmanuel Tika Timothy Tjan Christopher Brian Tjondro Nicole Widjaja Mathematics Extension 1 Brian Agustino Jason Ho Hillary Josephine Patrick Bryan Nugraha David Shawpindo Samuel Ryan Tika Jovanni Gracia Tjuandi

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