

Shine

IICS Newsletter

Vol. 29 • NL/18



EFFECTIVE ENGLISH COMMUNICATOR

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

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Dear: Parents

In this era of globalization English skills play an important role in international communication in various aspects. IPEKA INTEGRATED Christian School has prepared students to achieve these skills, one of them through IICS Expected School wide Learning Results (ESLRs): Effective English Communicators, where students are prepared to be effective, trustworthy communicators self, and fluent in English both academically and socially.

Various activities such as reading week, reading day, English week, up to English competition that can be read on this edition of Shine were conducted in order to sharpen the target for IICS students so that the goal of becoming effective English communicator can be achieved. Finally, every effort that we take to develop the students learning process to achieve better learning is conducted for the glory of God.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you, all IICS students, teachers, staff and parents, for your trust and support all through these years. As Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens," and so it applies to my ministry at IICS. This academic year is my last year at IICS and I will continue to serve at IPEKA PURI as Location Coordinator. And my service at IICS will be continued by Mrs. Joshie Katherine.

I would like to take this chance to apologize if there are things that are not in accordance to your expectations. May all your support and cooperation continue on to be strong, as Mrs. Joshie assumes her position as the new leader. Thank you once again and may all the glory be the Lord's. God bless you.

—Setyawati, M.Pd.

Location Coordinator



Dear: Parents,

Becoming an Effective English Communicator is an important and essential skill for all students to master. Changes in technology and the workplace make it a competitive challenge for students entering college and/or career fields of the 21st century. PK-12 schools must do everything possible to prepare students to be effective English communicators in the following four areas: Reading, Speaking, Listening, and Writing.

Reading provides opportunity to see words familiar and unfamiliar in different contexts. Students should learn sentences. Many students memorize the word's meaning and spelling without ever knowing how to use the word in a sentence. Learning phrases that are used a lot in the English language will be helpful in expressing oneself in speaking and writing. Examples would be, "In the meantime..." and, "Because of that...".

Speaking a different language takes practice. It's okay to slow down and practice speaking clearly and take the time to pronounce the words correctly. Students should be given every opportunity to speak English.

Allowing students to listen to English being spoken appropriately and fluently will allow their brains to process the words correctly.

Writing is an expression of thoughts. Students should be given every opportunity to practice their English and express themselves. Learning to express themselves in written form is essential in mastering any language.

Here at IICS students are given a variety of opportunities to develop, improve and master the skill of being an effective English communicator. We offer "Reading Days" and "Reading Clubs" as well as English competitions that include writing and speaking opportunities. We provide students with the effective skills they need to be successful in their careers ahead in the 21st century.



Blessings,

— Phyllis Houghton
Head Of Curriculum

Teaching for Christ

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will."

Romans 12:2

After reading Romans 12:2 near the end of my high school days, I started to read the Bible more. What I read led me to trust in Jesus as my Lord and Savior. From that time, there has been in me a desire to work with students so that they may also come to know God personally.

I worked with students in middle and high school in the United States, where I and my wife, Briana, are from. After having two sons, we decided to move to Korea, where I taught English to adults. We stayed there for four years, and we had one more son while we were there.

In Korea, I was not working at a Christian school, though I was able to have conversations about Jesus with students from time to time. However, I desired the opportunity to work at a Christian school so that I would have more chances to guide students toward Christ.

When IPEKA offered both my wife and I jobs last year, we jumped at the opportunity. It has been a big change for me, as I am now working with second graders. It has been fun though. It is my hope that I continue to be transformed and that I can play a part in helping those at IPEKA become more and more like our good God.

Dallas Tucker





ENGLISH

EFFECTIVE ENGLISH COMMUNICATOR

In this globalization era English skills hold an important role in international communication of various aspects. English become the media for cross culture communication form many people in different situations. English skills must be obtained so that we can communicate in international world in various activities.

IPEKA INTEGRATED Christian School has prepared students to have those English skills through IICS Expected School Wide Learning (ESLRs) result, namely: Effective English Communicators, where students are prepared confidently demonstrate accuracy and fluency in English in academic and social environments, demonstrate the ability to listen and understand in English. And express ideas clearly to a specific audience in English.

Various learning and activities are done so that the goal of becoming an effective English communicator can be achieved. These activities include:

Kindergarten Reading Week

Last October, our kindergarten students were very blessed to have our parent volunteers come in throughout the week to read to IICS' youngest learners. The students were ecstatic to welcome the parents to their rooms and they were even more excited to read and listen to the variety of titles and texts each parent brought. The parents truly brought their A-game, as not only did they read with great joy and loving warmth, many went the extra mile, bringing props and gifts





that assuredly made the event even more memorable for the children.

While each IICS teacher is striving to nurture a love of reading among the next generation, the support and partnership at home contributes significantly. Research have long supported that reading significantly enhances

a child's language and emotional development, as well as critical thinking and creativity. As they develop this curiosity to seek knowledge and wisdom through text, our true goal must be clear and

that is to cultivate a thirst for the Lord's Word among our students as they grow to hunger for more of His Truth to continually transform their lives.



A Week of a Lifetime

We were walking into the elementary building with butterflies in our stomachs. As we walked up the stairs, we couldn't help but freak out knowing what we were going to do in the class. Once we arrived in our first class, we took a deep breath and knocked on the door. When we opened the door to our first class, we didn't see a teacher, instead, we saw a little girl. This little one greeted us by saying, "Hi! Are you guys the junior high students who are going to tell a story to us today?" We were really startled yet at the same time her response helped us relax so that we could tell the story to her class. We stopped being nervous and just enjoyed the storytelling activity in the class.

Throughout the week, we looked forward to our next class where we would tell a story. Every time we entered the class, we would always be greeted. Truly, it



was something that we have never experienced before. Usually, in elementary, students greet their teachers, and it had always been the same way. But this time, we were the ones greeted by them. Greeting wasn't the only thing that made this experience really fun, but actually storytelling and interacting with the kids was a really unforgettable experience. Some of the kids were very interactive with the story that we were telling and being able to read to 24 children in a classroom was one truly extraordinary experience.

by Catalina, 8.1, Java Rhinos and Samantha, 8.1, Papua Eagles



English Week 2018

February 5-9 was English Week at IICS! Our motto for the week was "English is fun!" There were a lot of exciting events that happened in the English classes here.

For grades 1-3, the focus was on storytelling. Parents came and read stories, junior high students read stories, and the students themselves shared stories they had memorized. The kids really got into the stories, asking and answering questions excitedly.

Many of the same things happened in grades 4-6. However, the students shared persuasive speeches with their classmates instead of stories. They had previously spent time preparing their own speeches on a variety of topics, such as social media and the environment.



On Friday, the top student from each class in each grade competed in the chapel in front of their peers, and a best storyteller or best speaker was chosen for each grade. There were a lot of excellent presentations, and the students in the audience listened attentively and reacted to what the speakers said.

In addition to all of that, many classes enjoyed "Pajama Day". They brought comfy clothes, some snacks, and their favorite books and relaxed together in class, sharing things that they love.

Overall, it was a really positive experience. Many students were asking about the next Pajama Day or when other readers could share stories.

Thanks to all of the parents, teachers, and staff who helped make English Week possible, and to the students, who did their best speaking in front of others!





Beside activities such as Reading Week or Reading Day, one of our students, Michael Wiradharma will also share his experience from attending Children's International Summer Villages. Through this event, Michael was able to hone his skill, fluency, and confidence in English in a new social setting. He also learnt about life skills and teamwork. Let's read what Michael would like to share.

Children's International Summer Villages Experience

Last December holiday, my parents enrolled me in Children's International Summer Villages (CISV) to Argentina. CISV has four global themes: Human Rights, Sustainable Development, Conflict & Resolution, and Diversity which is rotated annually.

There aware lots of things that I learnt from this camp, such as the Argentine's close-knitted culture. A funny story was when my host family picked me up at the airport, they instantly hugged us and kissed us on the cheek. Apparently, Argentina is the country with the least personal space in the world, and I didn't know that. On the contrary, the Finnish people would normally stand at least 2 meters away from each other, but at camp, we adopted the Argentine culture



and everyone were really close to each other. I also learned that you ARE capable of doing things yourself. Sometimes you need to get OUT of your comfort zone, to PUSH and PROVE to yourself that you are capable. I felt that planning was going to be a big burden, but I learned that as I pushed myself, things were possible, and I didn't need to be so scared.

Furthermore, this trip was really fun. It was somehow a better way to spend my holiday other than to spend the whole day sitting in front of my computer. Before the trip itself, I was really, really, really nervous about joining it. It was pretty much just my parents who wanted me to join. But I am glad they enrolled me in. I learned lots of new perspectives and ideas, and democracy is one of them. It was a very different realm to go through as well, especially because I went there without my parents and without my gadgets, for about 25 days.

Last but not least, thank you to school that has helped me with some of the preparation for this program. They supported me morally and by encouraging me to join the program.

by Michael Wiradharma, 9.1, Papua Eagles





IICS TEACHERS & STAFF GATHERING



A TRIP TO TAMAN SAFARI INDONESIA & CIMORY

On the 8th of January 2018, all Teachers and Staff made a teachers & staff gathering trip to Taman Safari Indonesia and Cimory, Bogor. The trip's goal are for teachers' and staff' refreshing time, and being able to know each other more, communicate, and socializing in a relaxing atmosphere.

Three big buses departed from IICS at approx 07:00 am, and arrived at Taman Safari Indonesia at approx 09:00 am. Jesus have blessed us with great weather throughout the gathering (from the time with departed from IICS, until we arrived back in IICS).

Upon arrival, all of us went for a tour in our buses, to see the wild animals in Taman Safari Indonesia. After the tour, all of us gather for praise, worship, and prayer time. Continued with some fun games to refresh and energized our body. Following the games, all of us teachers and staffs are grouped into 16 groups consists of 9 or 10 people, for vlog, instagram, and photo competition.

After lunch all of us leave Taman Safari Indonesia heading to Cimory, and finally arrived safely at IICS by 16:30.

by Budisantoso Kurniadi





ENGLISH

The Importance of being an Effective English Communicator

Currently, there are over 6,000 languages in the world (The International Bible Society, 2011-2018). Unfortunately, the complete Bible is only translated in less than a thousand of these languages (Wycliffe, 2017). It's a tragic reality to realize that many in the world still do not yet have access to God's Word of hope and salvation in their own native tongue. Countless still do not know that *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do"* (Ephesians 2: 8-10, NIV). Many others have not yet heard or understood the life-changing words of John 3 and Romans 12. However, despite this current challenge, the English language can be used as tool to reach those who do not yet know Jesus.

While it is not the "most spoken language" in the world, English is influential enough to be considered the most studied 'foreign' language in the world (Washington Post, 2015). Its title is only appropriate because it is the language that dominates international media, foreign business, and other prominent global industries. For our children to be effective English communicators, both parents and teachers must collaborate to prepare our students' for their future. As humans, it is natural for us to think of how learning a foreign language can benefit us socially, professionally, and financially. It is understandable that we motivate

ourselves to study a language to advance our intellect and lifestyles. As parents and teachers, we want our students to be proficient and effective communicators so that they can one day compete in the global market. However, as Christians, we must never forget the core of our life's purpose is to *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."* *This is the first and greatest commandment... Love your neighbor as yourself"* (Matthew 22: 37-39, NIV).

For the purpose of this article, we'll focus on Jesus' second greatest commandment, 'loving our neighbors'. Acts of kindness and words of encouragement will go a long way for the advancement of the Kingdom of God, but without the Holy Spirit and the power of His Holy Word, our words and our actions are meaningless. Therefore, as we share God's love, we must first and foremost share His Word. Because there is still a limitation to reach many in their common tongue, the English language then is a powerful tool for the advancement of His Kingdom.

Being an effective English language communicator is an endowment that can not only further our skills and intellect, but our lifestyle as well. However, we mustn't forget that we are given this gift, not for our purpose and glory, but to honor God so that the Creator may be known and glorified all throughout creation.

by Grace Morelos

DOMINATE 2018

March 12, 2018 I was bustling around my school grounds documenting IICS' biannual championship event as it comes back for its eighth tournament this year under the name 'DOMINATE'. DOMINATE upholds both sports and art competitions, and the name itself encourages domination not over the opponent but over one's personal talents, ambitions, and aspirations, which I believe encompasses the aim of this event.

Personally, DOMINATE as a whole was relatively enjoyable. The food and drinks in the bazaar were quite good, and especially refreshing for me as head of the event's documentation team. Across the span of eight physically and mentally trying days, my job allowed me to be able to witness up close the determination on the faces of most of the participants. Sometimes my team and I were able to capture in photos this resolution to win in the firm set of the participants' eyebrows. Other instances we were able to catch it in videos of teammates vigorously high-fiving one another or



slapping each other's backs after winning a point when scores are tight.

However, I feel like a person who wasn't present at DOMINATE and simply looked at all the photos and videos as someone who missed out on the entire atmosphere, no matter how hard my team strived to document everything that went on. They wouldn't know how it felt to walk through the hushed silence of our canteen air that Saturday as mural participants channeled all their concentration on their art pieces. Nor were they there in our school field with us to notice the way each volleyball team would howl their team name without fail every time they scored, even when the point gap looks grim. Most importantly, they weren't there to watch how the players' friends and other supporters from their school howled right with them behind the scenes.

Ultimately, I guess what I can take away from DOMINATE other than a rediscovery of my love and passion for Thai tea is that school spirit unleashes itself most when you scream yourself hoarse as you watch someone you walk by in the hallways every day score that winning point.

by Natasha Emanuelle Utama

Chinese New Year 2018



For Chinese New Year celebration, we were learning about more Chinese culture, especially during the New Year. The students were required to wear Chinese costume. For K4 and K5 students, they learnt about Chinese calligraphy and learnt to write them. Through the writing, they could experience the difference between holding pencil and Chinese brush, they also experienced how to dip the brush to ink and how to control the hand power to the brush in order to hold the brush straight to write. The students also made their own Chun Lian with a Chinese character of "Fu" which means blessing. For nursery students, they painted Mei Hua flower with their finger. Through the painting, the students learned the spirit of Mei Hua that no matter how hard our circumstances are, if we have faith in God, our lives will bloom beautifully just like the Mei Hua flower that bloom through all the

seasons. Through the activities, the students learned and experienced Chinese culture. By this event, the enthusiasm to learn Mandarin has also been stirred up. In the chapel, each classes also got a chance to do performance either sing a song or read poems or memorizing children's poem in Mandarin. The students enjoyed performing in front of their friends.

As the Chinese New Year celebration is finished, the enthusiasm for learning Mandarin is just started. May the seed of learning different language keep growing, to prepare the students to be lifelong learner until one day God can use their God-given gifts through this foreign Language to bless many people who speaks.



Senior High Intercultural Day

The Y10 report card distribution this year was very different compared to previous years. This year, it was held on Saturday, 20 January 2018. Parents were invited to attend the Information session in the chapel by Mr. Kristhianto as the Senior High Principal at 08:45. The session ended at 09:45 where parents were led to the Canteen to join the IICS Senior High Intercultural Day.

This event featured each PCG displaying a culture they had chosen. They displayed the costume, dance, music, weapons, ornaments, practices, curios, traditions, and most importantly, its foods. Guests were entertained by 12 booths of PCGs that had started their preparation from as early as 6 that Saturday. After a short tour of the exhibitions, parents collected their



report cards and enjoyed the savory snacks that had been prepared by the students.

Guests were entertained by the students' enthusiasms in winning their votes. Each guest could participate by posting their likes in the form a sticker to the PCG's canvas. The winner of this event was PCG 11.2A for displaying Kalimantan, PCG 11.2B for displaying Sulawesi and PCG 12.2B for displaying China.

The success of this event was beyond expectations. As the saying goes, we get to kill two birds with one stone. We saw everyone going home with a big smile that day. The Senior High team will definitely schedule for such an event again next year!



Annual Senior High Parent Teacher Meeting

The Senior High school held its annual Parent Teacher Meeting on 20 January 2018. It started by Mr Kristhianto Kainama, the Senior High Principal introducing the new Senior High team, presentation of student's awards, explanation about PSAT from the College Board, presentation of HSC 2017 results, highlights of disciplinary issues and finally, the USA and Australia Study Trip, delivered by Mariana Paulus, as the new University Counsellor.

Upon finishing at 9:45, parents were invited to take part in the Intercultural Day exhibition in the canteen, by casting their votes on their favorite booth. At 10, parents collected their child's report card in the canteen.



Slumber Party Junior High



Can you imagine spending a night at school with your friends? Staying in your class overnight, surrounded by your best friends, all in your PJs and sleeping bags. Sleeping is indeed a great activity but so is treasure hunting, putting on makeup in the dark, creating chants, singing karaoke, watching movies, sharing stories, and ending with praise and worship. The best part is doing all this with your friends. This was the complete package of the second slumber party held by the Junior High of IICS.

It was a fun activity because we spent quality time with our friends and got to know them better. I was surprised to know that some were great at yoga and could probably be instructors! The math class no longer seem the same after spending the night in a sleeping bag there. Taking shower in the swimming pool showers and brushing your teeth in the toilet were also interesting experiences. It's a once in a lifetime experience that you could only ever experience as a teenager and it helps develop both your independence as well as social connections. Only after spending time together in a familiar environment but under different circumstances are we able to deepen our friendship and strengthen our bond with classmates.

Field Trip Day



On Friday, February 23, Junior High Division's floors were empty. Why? Because that was our Field Trips Day. Yeay! Year 7 students went to Botanical Garden in

Bogor where they enjoyed being close with nature and learnt how to make Kokedama: a ball of soil, covered with moss, on which an ornamental plant grows. The idea has its origins in Japan. The Year 8 students went to Kampung Betawi where they were entertained with original Betawi dances, made several crafts as well as cooked Betawi snacks and eating them fresh from the making.

Many students said the highlight of their trip was when they made all kinds of ceramics from scratch and were allowed to keep them as keepsakes. The Year 9 students usually would visit the Jakarta Stock Exchange and several Museums in the Old Town. Due to the very unfortunate incident at BEJ, we could not pay a visit. This year, the Year 9 students took a breather after



several assignments, and opted for Cimory Farm. They got to experience milking cow, exposed to the intricate Business Side of Cimory and enjoyed the cool breeze of mountain air. Overall, it was a more relaxed set of studies and we enjoyed each other's company.



Parent seminar “A to Z Teenagers Problems in High School”

The high school team conducted a seminar aimed at anyone with children under their care, or particularly those who need help in raising their teenagers. For parents whose children are young, or are still a long way from being a high schooler, they can learn to equip their children, as well as themselves in facing the upcoming challenges. This seminar was held twice, on February 23 and March 3. The participants came from various circles of IICS parents, as well as some from other schools.

Mr Kristhianto Kainama, the Senior High Principal shared about Johari Window, a tool that can be used to map the things parents know about their child. He also shared the types of dilemma teenagers are struggling at home and school and some research based data.



Ms Mariana Paulus, the new University Counsellor shared about the types of teenager's personalities versus parent's personalities and how to cope with the child's situation depending on the parent's personality.

Parents got a lot of takeaways within the short two-hour-session. The Senior High team hopes to be able to educate and help parents better equipped as their partner of education.



IICS Australia Study Trip 2018

The Australia study trip was an insightful experience. We visited numerous famous universities, such as Melbourne University, Monash, University of Queensland, University of Sydney, University of New South Wales, University of Technology Sydney, and Macquarie. In these universities, we were able to explore and expand our knowledge of the majors that we are interested to take in the future. Each of these universities has also provided us information regarding the facilities and services that they provide. Thus, we can be more knowledgeable about the university that suits us the most.

Furthermore, we also visited a sister school, Covenant Christian School. The experience itself was like no other since we were able to make new friends

who came from different cultural backgrounds. However, compared to our school, Covenant Christian School focuses on art lessons than academic based lessons. They provide facilities that present students with tools that will be utilized in the creation of artistic products.

During our trip, we also had memorable bonding moments in Movie World and Dream World. Some of us went on thrilling rides that caused our heart rate to skyrocket, while others walked around the park and enjoyed the moment. In the end, we were able to buy a lot of souvenirs for our friends and family back in Indonesia. All in all, it was a wonderful trip and I would go there again!

by **Aldafaustin Antonia Layadi**

Growing Spiritually - IICS Kindergarten Graduation Day 2018

What are the three things needed for a plant to grow? Soil, sunlight, and water. Last year, we talked about Christ as the foundation of our lives; our "soil", our foundation. This year we inspired the students to grow spiritually. The Bible is our sunlight and plants grow towards the light. They long for the warmth and strength that only sunlight can give. As the children of God, we should also lean towards the light; His word; for guidance and strength. We also learn to love one another and support each other as we grow. These can be refreshing to a soul, just like water to a plant.

In this graduation day, the students performed some beautiful songs to express what they have learned throughout the year. Nursery students performed "Say to the Lord I Love You" song, it was such a simple song for the little ones to learn to say and show how they love the Lord. K 4.1 class performed the "Recipe Song". They shared the "recipe" that made out of faith, joy and laughter as the offering to the King of Kings. K4.2 performed "Take All of Me" song. Through this song,

"Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation."

(1 Peter 2:2 NIV)



they wanted to share how they were willing to be used by God in whatever things planned by God for them in their future. K5.1 performed "Every Move I Make" song. This song described how God's love has captured them and it was just so amazing. K5.2 performed "Everything that Has Breath Praise the Lord" song; just as the title said, let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

At the end of the performance, all the students were up on the stage and performed the theme song for this year; "I Want to be Like Jesus" song. This is the prayer that wherever the students go, they will grow spiritually to be more like Jesus; do what Jesus would do, let Jesus' love and grace shine through, so Jesus will be seen in them.



Vacation Bible School

April 16 to 20 was IICS' Vacation Bible School. The theme was taken from the Bible verse, 2 Peter 1:3, "His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." This verse, as the foundation of this year's VBS, gave us the spirit to gear up, get ready, and game on! For students in Grades 1 to 4, it was a week full of exciting events and activities focused on connecting sports with life.

Each day had its own theme. Day one was Jesus cares for me, Day two was Jesus gives me hope, Day three was Jesus helps me believe, Day four was Jesus loves me, and, finally, Day five was Jesus gives me joy. Just like any athletes who prepare for competitions, the students were taught that they need to prepare for life so that they can live according to God's plan and purpose. As the players filled up the offensive line, and sideline, they realized that God has given them His ultimate playbook. They learned that God wants them



to join His team, train hard, celebrate salvation, and encourage each another. They learned all these at the Mission, Snack, Recreation, Music, Art, and Field House Bible stations and at the Worship rally. The students went from one station to another to learn about God's love.

In all of these VBS experiences, they learned about how we are like the lost sheep who wandered away from our Good Shepherd, but that God still rescues us. Moreover, they also learned some songs that celebrate what God has done for us.

The VBS culminated with a parents' night where students shared some great songs with the parents and guests in the chapel.



Ready, Set, Grow

My time in IICS has been one of the best learning experience I've ever had. I'm sure I will carry on memories about this amazing learning institute forever. In my six years in IICS, I have improved academically, mentally, physically, and especially, spiritually. Every Monday in the chapel, sermon brings new thoughts about God and motivates me to read the Bible more and do what It says.

As what Martin Luther said "When school flourishes, all flourishes". This quote means that our school will determine the rest of our lives. Here in IICS, I enjoy the learning processes to the full extent! Studying in IICS created a bond between all students, it makes me feel

inside a second family! This bond still connects us even when we go to other schools.

by Justrene Hartono, Class of 2018

This year's theme is Ready, Set, Grow! I think my phenomenal sixth grade experience covers it all. Ready - this year has prepared me to learn, to embrace, and to experience God's love and mercy. Set - I have been influenced to always trust God's wonderful and exceptional plan. Grow - I am surrounded with many God-loving people and with teachings all based on God's Word, to help me grow more in Christ Jesus. Most other schools don't introduce Christ to children at a young age, making it the duty of parents to teach them about Christ. IICS is different; our school based its teachings and regulations on a Biblical foundation. That's why I'm happy to have the privilege to study here - a place where I can be helped to connect closer to God. I'm surely going to miss elementary school and this is one of the best years of my life!

by Joel Mulyadi, Class of 2018



Dear Y9 students, Congratulations!

As we look back to these past three years, there were beautiful stories shared, mistakes learnt which will help us to grow wiser, togetherness and friction, but mostly there were joyful times spent together. We hope those moments will always be embedded in your minds as positive remembrances of your Junior High lives.

Time flies and we see you growing more mature and independent. We believe in these three years you have learnt many things, however, those things will not be real until you actually discover the meaning of what you have learnt for yourself. You have also received lots of advice, which you may not have grasped when you heard them, but we do pray that they sink into your

subconscious mind to direct your future decisions.

We believe you were here for a purpose, God has a wonderful future for you. However, it does not mean that wonderful future will come to you automatically. You still need to prepare it from the beginning. If you feel you did not do so well in the past, you can do nothing about it! What you can do is to prepare it from now and remember that time never waits. Again, Congratulations!

Stand FIRM - Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."



Alumni

Christabella is our student profile for this edition. She graduated from IICS and is now entering a new chapter in her life as a medical student in UNSW, Sydney.

She is a modest and beautiful young lady. Being asked about her experience as a student in IICS, she found her way to face challenges such as making new friends, learning the subjects and loving the teachers throughout elementary to high school.

She never gives up and pushes herself to the extent that her parents are able to see how much she has grown in the areas of personal growth and academics. Her parents are proud of her opinionated thinking and self-esteem.

She thinks of her mother as the major contributor of her success. Her mother has been her role model lending her listening ears and has become her life-long friend as well. Both parents have confidence and fully support her.

Knowing that life is not easy and realizing that perfectionism is not her way of achieving things has made her a humble child of God who depends on God for her choice of study in University.

As a final remark, she is fearfully and wonderfully made in God's image. May God's name be glorified in all we do!

by Mariana Paulus (University Counselor of IICS)

**Christabella
Surono**



We are all Precious



"And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary."

1 Cor 12 : 21-22 (KJV)

One day the five fingers argue. Each of them argued that it is the most important member of their family.

The thumb starts its claim, *"I am important to eat, write and catch any object with hands. Besides thumb is a universal symbol of victory."*

The index finger then argues, *"I'm important to point to any object and accuse someone. Speakers use me to express firm ideas and show people with power. I grew up above all to show that things are the first and the best."*

Then the middle finger confirms, *"I must be the longest among us and I become the natural leader of this family. I have maximum dignity and I always have you both to keep me on both sides. You cannot question my status, or my stature."*

Then the ring finger expresses his opinion, *"I am the symbol of love, romance, marriage and family life. I am decorated with gold rings during engagement and marriage, the greatest and most memorable moments in one's life. I shine among you like a king wearing a gold crown."*

The little finger waited for an opportunity to speak. When the opportunity came he said, *"I am the smallest, but I am not the last, as a baby of the family, I deserve special care and judgment, no doubt I am the most beautiful finger with the gentleness and the grace of life. When hands folded in prayer or reverence, I am in front of*

you all as a leader. "Obviously, I am the greatest."

Have we ever imagined if our hands consisted of nothing but thumb? This philosophy is simple but very meaningful. The debate continues, even beginning a physical fight, when the owner's hand invites them to make peace. He assures them that every finger is just as important. He told them, "You each are important to me, each of you is helpless and useless without the help of others."

God created you differently so that when you act together, you can achieve what cannot be done alone. Nothing is weak or unimportant. Each has a unique and important ability. We can achieve victory only by collective efforts, close cooperation, and team work. For example, when we act in harmony, we can operate different tools and equipment, create exquisite artwork, play musical instruments, and help others who need our help.

So, as human beings we should love each other, help each other, and protect each other. Respect and appreciate the shortcomings and strengths of others. Make that difference as our strength to tread the world's challenges.

by Novianti Octora, S. Psi.

Love Completes

As in previous years, IPEKA Foster Program once again performed coaching for foster parents who receive scholarship. This coaching is done on January 15, 2018 at IPEKA Head Office and January 18, 2018 at IPEKA PURI.

Through this coaching, parents of foster siblings that consist of several drivers, office boy, and office girl of IPEKA Christian School are expected to understand that money is not always a solution in every way. Education not only needs money, but also good and righteous teaching.

At this coaching Mr. Ayub Wahyono from spiritual department of IPEKA Christian School led the discussion and shared how to educate children in the digital age. This is a matter of concern to the government today. The rise of false news (hoaxes), how easy people believe and share them, misuse of social media are a common problem. Therefore, parents need to understand the context of their children current life in order to be able to give good direction to their children.

Parents realize that the task of sending children to school is not everything. There are other tasks

that are not less important (other than the cost of schooling), which is accompanying and directing the child to the right path.

Praise God, parents can learn one thing through coaching this time.





Pray for



**Be
a Disciple
to Disciple**

***2 Timothy 2: 2
Matthew 28: 19-20***

**IPEKA Teachers & Staff RETREAT
Bogor, July 11-13, 2018**