

Shine

IICS Newsletter

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Believing is Living



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

Matthew 5:16, NKJV



Joshie Katherine Tan B.Com, M.Ed.
Location Coordinator

Dear Parents and Students,

I pray that this Newsletter finds you well.

Would you believe that we are on our 2nd month in this 2018-2019 Academic Year? They say time flies by fast when we are enjoying our moments, and in this case, I pray that is true as you are reading this.

First of all, allow me to greet you by introducing this year's Leadership Team members:

1. Gabie Alvina as Kindergarten and Elementary Principal
2. Silviana Wijono as Kindergarten Vice Principal
3. Lidya Octaviyanti as Elementary Vice Principal
4. Tjhin Lince as Junior High Principal
5. Erni Yunita as Junior High Vice Principal
6. Lim Farida Hadikusuma as Senior High Principal
7. Engelina Sutantio as Senior High Vice Principal
8. Koh Riana Haryanto as Head of General Affair

As the Head of school, it is such a privilege to start my work and ministry along with these passionate educators. Our involvement in IPEKA ranges from 9 to 15 years. Thus, please rest assured that **educating the young generation in God's way is our utmost calling, and we are committed in giving our best for all the students at IICS.**

Along with the above introduction, I pray that we will bring positive changes to our beloved school, IICS. Teamwork, Curriculum, Facilities and Safety are our priorities. As we embark onto IICS 20th years Anniversary, may the partnership between IICS and parents are strengthened. And may the vast amount of experiences that the Lord has provided for us, be blessings for you as we work wholeheartedly.



Believing is Living

My husband and I have been married for more than seven years, and we enjoy our married life as we grow deeper together in the Lord. God has also given us two adorable children, Phoenix (5) and Qianna (2). They have also helped me grow in the Lord.

"Mommy, why don't you believe me?" Phoenix asked one evening before he went to bed. I had asked him if he had tidied up his toys, and he said that he had, but then I still checked to see if he had done his job. He was telling the truth. His playroom was not messy.

Maybe some of you have had a similar experience when dealing with your children. That night, my son's question got me thinking about why I did not believe him when he said he was done tidying up his toys. I chose to check his playroom myself instead of trusting him. I realized that I am the kind of person that likes to see to believe.

When I pondered upon our yearly theme, "Believing is Living", I was reminded of John 20:29. It says, *"Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; **blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**'"* In my spiritual journey with the Lord, He has been teaching me to have faith in Him and to trust Him. Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see (Hebrews 11:1). God is still teaching me to trust Him even when difficulties hit. I am trying to learn to surrender everything to Him and simply trust that He is working for my own good.

It sounds simple, yet it takes a lot of hard work to grow from faith to faith. How can I stand strong? God is the one who strengthens me. In order to keep growing every day, I feed myself with God's Word, believe His Word, and act upon it. I find myself continuously growing in my faith like never before. I believe that, when I put my trust in Him, He will never disappoint me. He works in my life in a way that nothing else can and like nothing I ever imagined. Amen!

Lidya Octaviyanti



***God is too wise to be mistaken.
God is too good to be unkind.
So when you don't understand,
When don't see His plan,
When you can't trace His hand,
Trust His Heart.***

Trust His Heart by Babbie Mason

Believing is Living

"Believing is Living" is IICS's yearly theme for this academic year. The theme was taken from John 20:31 *"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."*

In addition to teaching knowledge and science, we

wish that our student of all levels to learn God's words so they can also grow and live in faith and this theme helped them to understand by believing they may have life in His name.

Therefore, we try to hold activities which will support our purposes. The following are:

Spiritual Emphasis and Enrichment Days (SEED)

SEED - Kindergarten

On the 24-25th July 2018, IICS Kindergarten had our annual program, Spiritual Emphasis and Enrichment Days (SEED). We hoped this first program would welcome our students to the new academic year and introduce them to our yearly theme. This year's theme is "Believing is Living," which is taken from John 20:31, "... Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life..."

During the SEED days, students started their day with a children service in the chapel. They praised and worshiped God through songs and movements, and followed by a sermon. This year, our theme song is titled "He is God". The students were introduced to the song and excitedly did the dance movements during their praise and worship. They also listened to the word of God which instilled their faith in Jesus Christ.

Next, the students went to their classes and made an art activity which was also based on our yearly theme. The students painted around a picture of a cross with

their fingers to create a clean look of the cross so that it looked as if the cross was shining. The students' art work was put into a frame along with the student's individual picture on their first day of school. We hoped this simple art work reminded the students of their faith in Christ and how we may have life in believing Him.



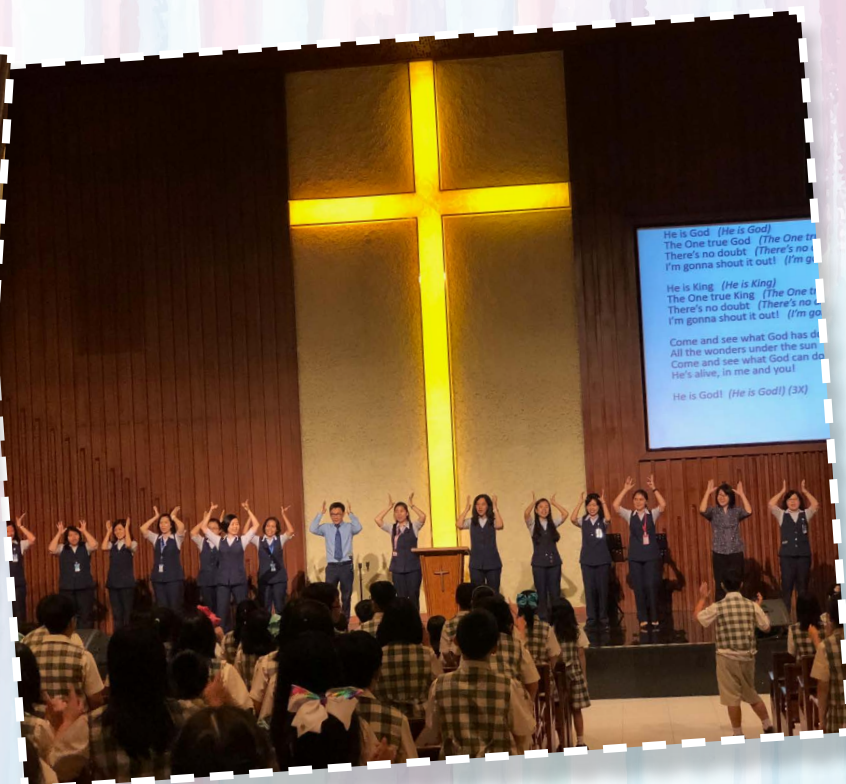
SEED - Elementary

For this year's SEED, the theme "Believing is Living" was chosen. The theme was taken from John 20:31 "... Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life..." This theme helped the students to understand how they can live eternally with God in Heaven through believing in the Bible, God the Father, Jesus God the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In the beginning of this academic year, the students were introduced to God's truth about the gift of eternal life. The students learned that as they believe this truth, they will be able to live eternally in Heaven with God.

During SEED, students listened to the Word of God in the Chapel, delivered by Mrs. Leonny Atmadja (day 1-3). Students learned that the Bible is a special letter God gives to us so we can learn and know more about Him. He created the world and all that were in it. We can see His creation all around us. His love is so great that He sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to the world. Jesus was willing to die on the cross to take the sin of the world. He died in our place. He is our Savior. He also sent His

Holy Spirit to be our Helper. The Holy Spirit helps to comfort us when we are sad, helps us to pray when we don't know what to pray, helps us do right, and many more. By believing in this truth, hopefully the students can put their belief fully and firmly in Jesus as their personal Savior and thus they may enjoy eternal life in Heaven with God.

After students came back from the Chapel, Main Teachers in the classroom would review and emphasize some important points being taught in the Chapel. After the review, students made a jar craft activity. They were to paste the cross and Jesus stickers on the outer surface of the jar, place some cotton and crepe paper at the bottom of the jar, and place the candle that has switch to turn on or off. On the third day of the SEED, students would bring their craft home. This craft symbolizes Jesus that brings light to our lives. It was such an amazing and wonderful experience both for the students and the teachers to begin a new academic year.



Spiritual Emphasis And Encouragement Day - Junior High

Spiritual Emphasis and Encouragement Day (SEED) is a new program that was conducted by the Junior High Department of IICS. The objective of this brand-new program is to help students adapt with the school atmosphere after a long holiday before they go further into regular school activities.

On the first day, students and the Pastoral Care Teachers (PCTs) gathered in their houses for morning devotions and the socialization of school policies. The introduction of house programs was also conducted in this meeting. House Masters and the PCTs imparted the spirit of teamwork and enthusiasm to students.

Another activity on the first day was class introduction for each subject class. Subject teachers took turns introducing themselves and the subjects they teach, and they played some simple games with

students, which was enthusiastic fun for the students.

Students then gathered in the chapel to hear messages from Ms. Lince, as the Principal of Junior High Department. Through her messages, she imparted the values of Believing is Living to students. This was followed by a session on netiquette from a computer teacher. During this session, students learned about the policies of using social media.

On the second day, students played outdoor games in their house teams were conducted by ILDC from the head office. Through these games, they demonstrated the spirit of teamwork and enthusiasm.

Overall, from the two days of the SEED program, students were expected to be ready to enter the new academic year with enthusiasm to grow spiritually and intellectually.





Grade 5 Retreat

On the 21 – 23 March 2018, the fifth grade students had the opportunity of attending the retreat which was held in 3 G Resort at Gadog. Our fifth grade class is a wonderful class that consists of 76 students. The aim of the retreat is to provide an opportunity for the students to reflect on who they are in God's eyes, to understand that they are sinners and that God came into the world to save them and bring transformation in their life. That is why they are expected and encouraged to grow spiritually in Christ and to be able to be a channel of blessing for their surroundings.

Thanks to all who had planned, prayed, and conducted the program. The 3 G Resort is a beautiful place surrounded by greens, fresh air, away from

hustle and bustle of Jakarta. The food was yummy, the early morning exercises were energizing. The sessions were fun; they learnt how to work together to make something from things that were not used anymore into something new that was more useful. Letters from parents were an added highlight of the retreat, touching moments evident through tears of the students. And the best of all was the presence of the Holy Spirit who worked in the lives of the students and teachers.

All in all, it is a good program that refreshes and reminds the students of God's love to them so they should live their lives fully and be a blessing for others.





IPEKA Teachers and Staff Retreat

Spiritual retreats always represent a crossroads, some kind of temporary stop along our adventurous journey of faith into the unknown. Undoubtedly, our personal progress of growth in union with God depends ultimately upon His grace. However, to a certain extent, the transformative effect is reached through a genuine personal response to the generous yet undeserved gift of divine grace. For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead (James 2:26), and the works come naturally through the practice of various spiritual disciplines.

As the key theme of the retreat held throughout 11-13 of July implies, in order to disciple others we are to become true Disciples of the Lord first. As multiple speakers pointed out, self knowledge and self awareness lay a solid foundation for this lifelong transformative process. Consistency, commitment and perseverance are not optional, yet they flow like nutritional substances within the

great vine of the Lord we are the branches of (Jn. 15:1-8), and in his mercy and love Christ produces the fruit of the Spirit in our lives to further transform the fallen world.

Disciple lifestyle is a constant work, eternal engagement we are going for willingly. Being at the retreat, in the atmosphere of acceptance and love among fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, regardless of our backgrounds and cultural diversity, we were praying and worshipping in unity of spirit, feasting on the most delicious spiritual food offered within the artfully crafted sermons, looking for some rather challenging study case solutions through group discussions, spending precious hours in solitude with the Lord in the midst of amazingly quiet hall full of people. Last but not least, we were reminded in a right and timely manner of the great reward in Heaven, as well as of the daily cross obligations as a body of Christ members, as his faithful followers.

Believing is Living

Our school's yearly theme this academic year is "Believing is Living". What does that mean? This yearly theme is taken from John 20:30-31 which says, "Now Jesus did many other miracles (or signs) in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ (Christ means Savior), the son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." (from ESV)

Thus, "Believing is Living" means (based on the verses above): As we read and/or observe all the miracles that are written in the Bible, we may believe that Jesus is the Savior of the souls and He also the Son of God, and by believing (in Him) we may have life in Jesus' name.

At a glance the meaning of these verses are appealing and easy to understand: Reading leads to Believing and Believing leads to Living. That's it! But as we look deeper we (at least me!) may feel uneasy and confused.

Why? Because these verses use the word "may" instead of "will". Thus, reading all the miracles written in the Bible doesn't guarantee that I WILL believe in Jesus as my Savior, and when it doesn't guarantee that I WILL believe in Jesus as my Savior then it also doesn't guarantee that I WILL have life in Jesus' name. So, what do we need to do then so that we may experience the Life that is in Him by Believing in Him as we are Reading His holy book?

First, we need to understand that "to believe" in Jesus is not based on our attempt or effort. We are able to believe in Jesus because He planted a faith in us long before we realize it. Therefore, without God planting

this faith in us we will not (not may not!) going to believe in any word in the Bible.

Second, we need to understand that the faith that God planted in us is not a "dead seed". It is alive and active and it works alongside with our characters as we grow and evolve in our understanding concerning life, self, and God. And during that process of growing and evolving, we may still have doubt - it is normal and healthy! As a father myself, I would rather have my son expresses his doubts to me and stay with me than walk away from me and pretends that he trusts in me, while actually he does not. So, it is OK to doubt as long as our doubts lead us to get closer to God. Doubt until you doubt your doubts .

So as we understand correctly the two concepts above, do go and read the Bible. And as you read, do ask many questions to our Lord and stick with Him until He answers your questions. And as you wait for His answer, enjoy the ups and downs of your spiritual journey. My prayer is that you may see for yourself that you will never truly alive until you truly believe. Believing is living, indeed!

1. Further information about the meaning of Christ see: <https://carm.org/what-does-christ-mean>

2. Further information regarding this Bible version of translation see: <https://www.esv.org/>

3. Further understanding about where does faith come from please see: <https://www.gotquestions.org/where-does-faith-come-from.html>

4. Read this great article regarding how to doubt your doubts by Timothy Keller: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/5-ways-to-doubt-your-doubts/>

by Daniel Adhi Surya

World Mathematics Invitational (WMI) 2018

Competition is a good way for students to learn and to gain experience. Some of IICS students answered the challenge by joining the World Mathematics Invitational (WMI). The preliminary round of the WMI was held on February 2018.

After the preliminary results were revealed, the students received an invitation for the WMI final round in South Korea in July 2018. The result was: 1 Silver medal achieved by Michelle Erine Tan and 2 Bronze medals achieved by Nathan Keith Poernama and Ryan Y. Batubara!

According to Nathan K Poernama, *"The WMI completely supports our drive to compete and prove ourselves through the short amount of time given to complete a fairly complex set of mathematical problems. Not only that, I find this competition as a chance to meet and socialize with people of higher intelligence and reasoning that happen to not only exceed in math, but also in other prominent sectors of life. All in all, I find this competition valuable and enjoyable, not just for the accomplishment I made, but for the priceless experience and new friends I made that I will treasure."*

Congratulations for our young mathematicians! Continue to expand and sharpen your God-given talents!



The International Junior Math Olympiad (IJMO) 2018

The International Junior Math Olympiad (IJMO) is an international mathematics competition, which is a continuation of Singapore and Asian Schools Mathematics Olympiad (SASMO). To be eligible for participation in IJMO, only SASMO Gold and Silver awardees from each country are selected to represent their country. This year, there were 19 countries that participated in IJMO 2018, in Bangkok, Thailand, from 27-31 July 2018. Two of IICS eighth graders: Johaness Dharmawan Wihardjo (8.3) and Kylie Shane Haryono (8.2) joined this competition and won bronze medals.

IJMO is organized by Singapore International Math Contests Centre in collaboration with the National Math Societies in Asian countries, to identify and encourage potential young math talents. It aims to provide an Asian platform for students to interact and compete against their worthy opponents.

Kylie Shane wrote, *"I must say I was very doubtful at first, because this was my first time going abroad for a competition. The ceremony night was surely memorable, because we got the chance to exchange gifts with people from all around Asia. The competition itself was hard, but the learning experience was meaningful. Overall, this whole journey was interesting."*





Eustacia Sukarto, in Provincial Science Olympiad, in Computer

I originally participated in the Junior High Mathematics OSN but did not make it to the nationals so I decided to try something new that was still related to logic and problem solving. Many of my sister's OSN friends switched

from mathematics to computer so she encouraged me to try it. The first programming language I learned was Pascal back when I was still in my old school. I found it to be interesting and decided to follow my sister's suggestion. As a new student, I was bold enough to approach Ms. Farida, my Computer Concept teacher, and told her my wish to participate in the 2017 Computer OSN.

Once again, I did not pass to the nationals, but I did not give up. I tried again the following year and was

lucky enough to pass. Although I unfortunately missed getting a medal by two places, I was happy to have been able to get to know many new people, especially the eight friends and six teachers I trained with for over two months. I learned many new algorithms and competitive programming skills, and this increased my passion in programming. Prior to my participation in the OSN, I did not have enough time to prepare much due to school assignments. I did a few past OSN selection papers, trained myself in answering combinatorics and logic questions, and reflected on what my mistakes were in the previous years. I only started practicing competitive programming after I passed to the nationals. I know that what I have learned during the OSN is just a tiny portion of the existing programming skills in the world. I hope to continue learning and improving my programming skills, not only in the competitive programming field, but in other computer related fields as well.

Junior High Orientation Days

The purpose of orientation days for students in IICS Junior High is to equip them to embrace the new changes, both major and minor. The orientation days discuss the rules and culture regarding: location of classes, teachers, friends, class and break times, lockers, routines, length of study, and the shift from non-moving classes to moving classes.

In addition, this year's Grade 7 students are the first seventh grade class to have Chromebooks to support their learning activities at school. Chromebooks need to be brought to school every day, fully charged. As you can imagine, there are many new responsibilities in Junior School!



All of these changes were introduced and discussed on July 23 and 24, as a way of reintroducing the students back to school mode from their long holiday. During these SODs (Student Orientation Days), the students began the morning with a get-to-know-you ice breaker; took a guided tour of the school and lockers; played engaging teamwork; enjoyed prizes gained from several pop quizzes about school rules; and earned house points for correct answers and good behavior.

So now, on behalf of the SOD committee of JH teachers, we hope we have equipped all students to have a smooth transition, and we wish you all three enjoyable years in JH.



Level Up! Senior High Orientation Days

A big congratulations to all the Year 9 students who made it to Year 10!

Welcome to Senior High School. Your life will feel as if you are riding a roller coaster--filled with ups and downs, as well as some smiles and frowns. As an introduction to the new Senior High students, there was a special three-day event (24-26 July 2018), entitled Student Orientation Days which dedicated to our beloved Year 10 students.

On the first day, the Year 10 students had their aptitude test in the morning. After that, they all gathered in a room where the introductions and ice-breaking activities were held. Teachers who would teach them were briefly introduced and the rules were once again emphasized.

The next day was the big day for both Student Council members and the new Year 10 students. In the game Murder Mystery, Year 10 students had to work together in their groups in order to solve a mystery. Their physical capabilities, teamwork, creativity, grit, and discipline were all being put to the test. The students were given clues to help them solve the mystery given to them. The clues were then put together to find the answer to the mystery: who the murderer was. After the games, a mini chapel was held and some of the Student Council members gave some advice regarding the electives and good study habits that must be developed. At the end of the day, the three fastest winners of the Murder Mystery were given their prizes. We (Student Council) also selected three students for the prize Most Valuable Person (MVP). The criteria for this award was enthusiasm, discipline, and a cheerful heart.

As the saying goes, "All good things must come to an end". On the last day, the Year 10 students went to Dusun Rinjani. They were tested even more on their teamwork capabilities and communication skills. After a long day of challenging (but engaging) activities, the students went back to school and that concluded the last programme for the Student Orientation Days.

It was a very meaningful experience for both the Year 10 students and also the members of the Student Council. This event helped us to grow closer to one another and gave us the opportunity to learn more about our friends and classmates. This was an excellent start to 2018/2019 academic year.

by SH Student Council



Independence Day 2018 Kindergarten Celebration

On August the 15th, IICS Kindergarten celebrated Indonesia's 73rd Independence Day with the theme of "God Loves Indonesia". Early in the morning, children from Nursery to K5 lined-up and saluted to our national flag while singing our national anthem song, Indonesia Raya. All students began the day with a service which was followed by a brief informative presentation on Indonesia's Independence Day history. We continued our celebration by having a variety of competition for each kindergarten level.

Nursery students had a chance to participate in the Watermelon Eating Competition or the Flag Race Competition. Meanwhile, K4 and K5 students had an additional puzzle competition to participate in. The students enjoyed the games that have been set for them. Although the puzzle was a bit challenging for them to solve, they were able to take their time in putting the whole puzzle together. The atmosphere during the competition was also positive. The students cheered for their friends; winning or losing. In the end, each student was given a small traditional windmill and a flag as a souvenir to remind them of their fun day in celebrating God's love for Indonesia.



Stronger Together!

It is always exciting to have Fun Independence Day as one of the IICS Elementary programs. The Fun ID that was held on Thursday, 23rd of August 2018, involved more than 500 elementary students.

As we are having ASIAN Games in our city, we bring this excitement to our program. The students played four kinds of sport activities that integrated with some traditional games. The activities were Futsal shooting, Bakiak and Ping pong relay, Basketball shooting and Marble walk.

Based on the selected theme this year, "Stronger Together," we want the students to build the spirit of nationalism and the importance of teamwork. Through this event, we would see that the students are not only excellent academically, but also in their skills.

On the following Monday, the Fun ID committee announced the achievement that each class received. Some of the achievements were the most enthusiastic team, the most respectful team, the most persistent team and the most courageous team.

At the end, this event is an effective tool in increasing not only the students' awareness about the struggle of our national heroes that fought for our independence, but also how the students can accomplish things better together as one nation.

Merdeka!



Live-in Experience: Year 12 Students – Desa Cuntel, Salatiga

On May 28, 2018, year 12 students started their day before the sun even rose to start our four days and four nights live-in trip. The eight-hour train trip to Semarang from Jakarta was filled with chatters and endless walking around, looking for our friends in their assigned seats. Our journey did not end there as we boarded a bus and a small car to finally arrive at Desa Cuntel. The highlight of the trip comes when we finally experience the lives of the villagers.

From waking up early to go to the fields to walking along the streets at night to admire the stars or visiting

each other's houses that are only, the farthest, five-minute walks. The few hours spent helping the villagers clean and paint their walls as well as hiking up Mount Merbabu were enjoyable workouts for the otherwise non-athletic students.

A visit to the local children's group at their church as well as multiple visits to Bukit Harapan Cuntel allowed us to truly appreciate the things that we are not able to experience in big cities. The trip allowed us to not only renew our perceptions but also to refresh our minds to prepare for the challenges ahead.



The Sepa Field Trip 2018

It is by God's grace that the Year 11 Biology students of 2018 went to Sepa Island in the Thousand Islands, north of Jakarta, for a two-day trip. The weather was clear, and the sea was relatively calm during the time we were at the location, and throughout the journeys both in and out of the island. The work done in the field trip is a part of an Assessment Task for the Preliminary HSC Biology course. The students were introduced to the marine wildlife and also to the coral reef monitoring exercise.

The work included observing population density of various organisms, establishing the distribution of organisms along a transect line, observing the degree

of corals' health, and measuring various physical parameters of the area.

The data gathered will allow for a comparison between the tourist-designated area and the more pristine area of the island. The students also got the teamwork experience in a rather challenging environment. Such an exercise is vital to prepare them to be stewards of the environment as part of the global community (ESLR #4), and also to become independent critical thinkers who are able to apply what is learned to new situations (ESLR #2). Overall, students really worked hard and enjoyed the natural environment.



Bahasa Indonesia Excursion 2018

On May 21st – 24th 2018, all Year 11 embarked on a journey to discover the authentic Javanese culture through Language excursion in Wukirsari Village, Yogyakarta.

We boarded a train to Yogyakarta, before continuing on a 30-minute bus ride to Wukirsari. Upon arrival, we were sent directly to our respective housings using a pickup truck. Our first activity was batik-ing. The process includes drawing patterns, coloring with canting (small dipper for applying wax). The group spent the night watching Wayang (puppet) show of the famous legend "Gatot Kaca Kalajaya."

On the second day, the students learned to carve and colour Wayang sculptures, Arjuna, Bima, Srikandi, Sintia, and Yudhistira. In the afternoon, we learned to play traditional Javanese music using Gamelan. In the evening, we went for a walk around the village through residents' houses and lavish paddy fields.

On the third day, all participants learned to make a special ginger-based drink, originated from Yogyakarta, Wedang Uwuh, before stopping by at Prambanan Temple, and taking a quick stroll along the world-famous Malioboro district. At 8pm, we headed back to Jakarta on Argo Dwipangga train. It was a fun-filled excursion, away from the hustle-bustle of Jakarta, one that has amazed our students with the richness of Indonesia.



CAREER DAY

This year the annual event IICS Career day on May 19th, which is compulsory for senior high students to attend, offered a highly interesting panel consisting of IICS graduates: three from batch 2008, one of each 2002 (IICS first ever) and 2013 with very diverse professional backgrounds like chef, architect, hotel cluster sales executive, restaurant owner and pilot. Right after the opening prayer by the PIC, Aldjento, the program kicked off with the introduction of the panel by the MC, Ms. Karen.

In a very relaxed atmosphere, the alumni shared their experiences responding to the series of questions asked by Ms. Karen: matters ranging from what major they took at the university, the struggles they experienced pursuing studies overseas: administrative, academic and cultural, in what way high school helped them going through the tough time, to the challenges they encountered in their current professional working life. Concluding the program the MC opened the forum for students to ask the panel questions. A Handful of students posed inquiries which resulted in an interactive dialog. Upon the dismissal of the students to the following program, the panel had the picture with the IICS teachers and principle taken.



ALUMNI GATHERING

Alongside other events like the Career Day, parents' seminar, and the SH report card distribution, the 2018 2nd IICS Alumni gathering welcomed 'home' the graduates of Batch 2008 for their 10-year high school reunion. Pak Kristhianto Kainama, the IICS High School Principal, addressed more than 20 alumni attendees at the school garden beside the JH/SH library.

Looking at their high school pictures displayed on the wall, the graduates and their former teachers recalled their years together in school making the event even more memorable to all those who were present. A light meal of chicken soup, satay, and cheesecakes was provided and was a delightful treat to the already happy occasion.

They went around the school visiting the library, canteen, classrooms, and laboratories. This batch of students moved in the new IICS building back then in July 2007, which made them one of the very first batches of students who enjoyed the facilities currently available.

It seemed that time was not enough that even after the scheduled end time, they even lingered on in one of their former classrooms to continue remembering old times with some of their former teachers. It was clear that they enjoyed the time spent on this event, thankful that the school made this possible.



Significant Purpose



On a dining table, a number of tableware was placed, there were spoons, forks and knives on the table. A curious boy asked his mother "Mom, which is the spoon?" His mother replied, "This is the spoon, this one with the rounded end." The boy then continued "Which is the fork?" His mother then replied, "This one with the sharp head that branches into several narrow and slightly curved tines."

A simple conversation at the dining table attracted my interest to get to know more about how we recognize a spoon or a fork. We can easily distinguish them from visible physical attributes. The spoon is designed with the round end as it is used to hold food while the fork has branches with several protruding ends to pick up food.

Like the spoon and fork in the illustration above, God also equips our children with a variety of uniqueness that can be easily seen, such as personalities, interests, abilities and many others. This uniqueness will be used by God to carry out His mission in the world.

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." (Ephesian 2:10, KJV)

The above verse clearly states that nothing happened by chance, because God created us for a clear reason from the beginning. As a parent, how should we help our child find the purpose of their creation? This is not an easy matter as it requires patience and a long process.

Rick Warren in his book "The Purpose Driven Life" mentions several things that can be the concerns of parents to help children find their purpose in life:

- **Spiritual Gift:** Spiritual gifts are an important part in shaping our child's character. Spiritual gifts are given by God to each of our children to be prepared to do God's missionary work. This gift will grow in our children after they believe in God. Various kinds of spiritual gifts are used by God to continue His mission in the world such as the gift of teaching, the gift of saying wisdom, the gift of healing, etc.

- **Heart:** Heart or in other word, interest, is the driving force to do everything. As a parent, you can recognize your child's interest from what he likes, what he speaks enthusiastically and what makes him happy when he does certain tasks. Interest is used by God to clarify what your child's calling is.

- **Abilities:** Abilities are natural talents that God has given since they were in the womb of mothers. Each child has a different talent; this is what distinguishes one child from another. Just like the spoon that has a different characteristic over a fork. Encourage your child to discover what his talent is and persevere.

- **Personality:** According to Allport's definition, personality is "a dynamic organization of the psychophysical system (body soul) in an individual who also determines a unique (typical) way of adapting to his environment." Personality is one of the parts that make up everyone. Personality is a benchmark that influences how and where a person can use spiritual gifts and abilities. For example, an IT personnel requires someone who is detailed and pays attention to small things, unlike a marketing personnel, who requires an easygoing and persuasive person.

- **Experience:** The last thing and no less important, is the experience God has placed in the lives of our children. Unpleasant experiences are usually used to shape a person in an extraordinary way, the one that God allows to happen for a purpose. Experience is used by God to sharpen one's character and calling.

Finally, we really hope that the above can help parents to continue encouraging children to find their goals in life. May our children continue to grow in the way God has prepared for them from the beginning.

by Bunga, S.Psi

IPEKA Care For Lombok

A series of earthquake in Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara (NTB) has been occurring for a month. The National Board for Disaster Management has recorded 1.005 earthquakes since August 5th 2018. As this article is being printed, we have a record of 515 deaths and 7,145 injuries. These numbers have not included the severely damaged infrastructure and various post-earthquake traumatic experiences that needed recovery. They need to be restored, not just from trauma, but the spirit to look forward to the future.

Touched by the victims suffering, the family of IPEKA Christian schools was moved to help them as a form of love and care. Through good cooperation with students and parents, donations that have been collected amounted to Rp 1,030,000,000. The collected amount had been distributed through GKY (Gereja Kristus Yesus) Synod on August 25, 2018, and was delivered directly by the Chairman of IPEKA Foundation, Mr. Hendrik Kianto to Mr. Tan Tiam Tjoan as the Chairman of Social Services Division of GKY Synod.

Donations were given to support building repairs which were damaged by the earthquake and various urgent needs for the community there. Besides donations, we also continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Lombok. May God provide comfort and restoration to them. We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for the participation of students, parents and all of you. Soli Deo Gloria.





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