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THE OFFICIAL ILOILO INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

# **IICMS, GOES TO KOREA!!!!!**



IICMS Delegates: Transforming from Greatness to Excellence

W ith the upcoming school year also follows the newest edition of the Hilltop Newsletter! This publication aims to connect, inform, and inspire our vibrant IICMS school community through quality writing, and honest communication.

Whether you're a student, parent, teacher, or staff member, this newsletter is designed to keep you up-to-date with the latest happenings, achievements, and stories from our school. Within these pages, you'll discover a treasure trove of articles, event highlights, student spotlights, and valuable resources.

We believe in the power of communication to foster a strong sense of community, and this newsletter will serve as a bridge to connect us all, even when we're physically apart.

Through The Hilltop, we aim to celebrate the achievements of our talented students, recognize the dedication of our passionate showcase educators. and the exciting initiatives taking place within our school. Moreover, we want to create a space where everyone feels informed, engaged, and inspired by the remarkable stories that unfold within our educational community.



THE HILLTOP

# IIICMS, TOWARDS EXCELLENCE

Life is full of new events, of surprises and of challenges, and for IICMS, School Year 2024-2025 was no exception.

While we had the usual gamut of our rewarding and exhilarating school activities, 2024 stood out for the revival of our school's official induction into the Philippine Boy & Girl Scout program, among other notable activities. Our annual UN Day celebration was followed by our first combined BSP and GSP (Boy Scout of the Philippines and Girl Scout of the Philippines, respectively). Camping session within school property! We've had lots of laughs, cooking, games, and even some times slinking in the mud.

There isn't a day where we don't feel blessed with the way God has given so much to us, the students, and their parents who have chosen to have their children learn and be nurtured under our tutelage. We learn as much from the children as they learn from us, and it is a responsibility we have been dutifully handling ever since this school was founded over 25 years ago, and we shall do so for as long as God is willing to keep this school operating.

**IICMS** is more than just a place of learning; it's a lifestyle that is steeped in Godly virtues, love, and care. Here's to another great school year!

Yosep Jeon, Editor-in-chief, The Hilltop





"To provide education of excellence, to nurture and promote life-long values and virtues in children's lives by instilling Godly attributes and genuine love for God, country, and fellowmen according to the plans and purpose of God".



"To mold children to be good God-fearing citizens when they grow up. It is the school's sincere dedication and commitment to promote the child's growth in an atmosphere of love and character formation under Biblical training regardless of religious affiliation and to develop the child to be responsible, productive individual and to create and help build self-confidence while acquiring quality education".

### MIEIEIT THEE THEAM

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." — John Quincy Adams



# WHY CHOOSE IICMS?

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.- Proverbs 22:6

## THE WISE CHOICE?

Education is not the only service we provide to those willing to study under us. Guided by Godly principles, we at IICMS try our best to instill fundamental Christian beliefs and standards unto students to help gently guide you into growing up into progressive, free-spirited, and responsible individuals with discipline and instilled virtues that will help guide your personality.

Matthew 19:14 but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."







Chapel Time held every Friday aims to bring the Word of the Lord to our learners, spearheaded by our school director, Rev. Jeon, Myeong Keun. This serves as a time for worship and learning to live in a godly manner.

While studying and getting good grades is a high priority for any student trying to succeed in life, IICMS offers more.

"We at IICMS also understand the importance of developing social skills, and to that, we offer plenty of opportunities to let them flourish to a diverse range of extracurricular activities."





Go ahead and let them try their hand at art, or maybe play some tunes with music? David, one of the greatest kings of the Old Testament, was a talented musician in addition to being a king and warrior. We have the guitar, drums, piano, and recorder, after all. IICMS offers a variety of chances to enhance the learners' artistic and musical talents.



Swimming has been an evergreen aspect of our Friday activities since the earliest days of our school, and not to mention taekwondo for those who wants to really move their body with sick kicks!





Encouraging the young minds to offer their talents to the Lord as a part of the Worship Team .

Here's to the parents and guardians.

We at IICMS strive to make sure you feel like you made the right choice sending your children to learn with us. It's your love and care for them that will turn out to be a rich blessing for both them and you as the years go by.

THE HILLTOP

### NEW PERSPECTIVES, NEW HORIZONS: REFLECTIONS OF OUR NEW TEACHERS

### "Para sa Bayan", "Para sa mga Kabataan".

BUWAN NG WIKANG

These are the words that we yelled and pledged during our oath-taking ceremony way back the 30th of June, 2024. It's the day before my first official duty as an elementary teacher in Iloilo International Christian Mission School, Inc. At the beginning, I experienced mixed emotions from my oath-taking ceremony up to my first official duty in school the following morning. It was a life changing and an answered prayer for me and to my family.

Iloilo International Christian Mission School, Inc. is the first private school that I applied and got hired immediately. From the moment that I sent my application, having my class demonstration followed by the interview was such a great experience and equanimity for me to have high hopes and optimism within me. I believe in the saying, "what is meant for you, will always find its way." As Isaiah 60:20 says, "When the time is right, I, the Lord, will make it happen."

One of the biggest challenges that I have faced throughout the school year is managing student's behavior inside the classroom. It can be incredibly difficult to teach when dealing with diversity. Over the months, I have learned that it is essential to deal with these kinds of things with empathy and understanding. I believe that "Acknowledging student's feelings



Moises Mendoza, Grade 5 Adviser



photo taken during Foundation Day

For the whole school year 2024-2025, my overall reflection was full of overwhelming, excitement and slight trepidation of starting my new chapter as a teacher. I myself, is eager to connect with students, learn the local context and to contribute meaningfully while also acknowledging the challenges and continuous learning acquired in this profession. Having an opportunity to shape young minds and contribute to their growth is a privilege I am deeply forever grateful for. Romans 12:11 says "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord". That shows enthusiasm and being passionate with dedication to our faith and service to the Lord.

I am forever grateful to my first job in Iloilo International Christian Mission School, Inc. and especially to God for bringing me here to learn and grow especially for all the beautiful graces that He has bestowed upon me from being a student up to a becoming a professional teacher. "Even life is difficult sometimes, we should stand tall and having perseverance and love in everything that we do" because I believe, that God has something better plans that awaits for us.



our ever dynamic Sir Moises

#### **"LEARNING IS A NEVER-ENDING PROCESS."**

Teaching is one of the most precious jobs in the world. Becoming a good teacher is not easy because you should possess a lot of positive qualities. You need to have some skills, talents, and most especially good character. As a preschool teacher here at IICMS, I am very grateful and happy to gain more experience when it comes to teaching. One of the skills that I acquire for being a preschool teacher is to have good communication with the learners. I always love talking to them; they make me happy. Sometimes I laugh when they talk to me like an adult, and I am happy to hear that they are excited to share every moment they've experienced. This also helped me test the limit of my patience as we deal with students of a very young age.



Ma. Queen Belmis, Nursery Adviser



My kindergarten experiences this year were not only a joyful and sweet experience but also a great opportunity to deepen my understanding of what to teach and how to teach very young children. I believe that learning is a never-ending process so reflecting upon one's own practice should not be overlooked and should be an essential part of my teacher's routines.

This school year 2024-2025 has been amazing for me. Although I experience challenges at work, but I am happy and blessed at the same time because God answered my prayer to someday be able to use my profession as a teacher to mold young children to become good persons. I learned a lot here at IICMS not only as a teacher but also as a Christian. The school teaches me how to become a responsible and productive teacher. I am happy that I have experienced the things that I don't know before and the lessons coupled with it. When I teach my students every day, I also learned to love them and be sensitive for them. In return if they need something they will not hesitate to ask. This proves that they feel comfortable and loved.







THE HILLTOP



Jennifer Montaño, Grade 1 Adviser



One of the most significant obstacles has been managing diverse learning needs within the classroom. Each student brings their own strength, weaknesses and learning preferences, in which requires me to constantly adapt my teaching methods. Balancing the needs of students who require extra support with those who are ready for more advanced challenges has been a delicate balancing act.

Another one of the most fulfilling moments this years, was when a group of students, who had initially struggled with a subject, came together to help each other through a particularly challenging unit. It was a reminder of the importance of building a classroom community where students feel supported by both their peers and their teachers.

## "From challenges to rewards."

This school year has been a journey of growth, discovery and collaboration. From the moment I set foot in this institution I could feel the sense of belongingness.

There's a lot of "first" things I've encountered in which it hones me to become a better educator. While the year has been largely positive, there have been several challenges along the way.







Teaching is a journey, one filled with ups and downs, but it is a journey I am honored to be on. I am excited to take the lessons from this year and apply them for the future classroom, always striving to improve and be the best teacher I can be for my students.



### "THE PROS AND CONS OF TEACHING"

Starting my journey as a new teacher has been an incredibly rewarding yet humbling experience. In the beginning, I had expectations and a sense of excitement, but nothing truly prepares you for the reality of managing a classroom and meeting the diverse needs of your students.

" I have come to realize that teaching is not just about delivering content, but also about fostering connections, building trust, and creating an environment where students feel valued and supported. "

There have been moments of self-doubt especially on days when lessons do not go as planned, or when I struggle to reach every student in the way I hope.

However, I have learned that these challenges are part of the process, and they provide valuable opportunities for growth.

Reflecting on these moments, I realized that they push me to adapt, be more creative, and refine my teaching strategies. What excites me the most is the constant learning involved. I am learning from my students, from my colleagues, and from my own experiences.

"Each day brings a new opportunity to experiment with different approaches, to discover what works and what doesn't, and to continue evolving as a teacher. "

I have learned to be patient with myself and to embrace the mistakes, as they often lead to the most significant growth.





Laurence "Rhence" Paisan, Grade 3 Adviser



Moreover, I have also begun to understand the importance of self-care and finding balance, because being a teacher means giving a lot of you. Ensuring that I take the time to reflect, recharge, and seek support when needed helps me to be more present and effective for my students. Ultimately, teaching is a journey that I am excited to continue. I know there will be difficult days ahead, but I am committed to persevering, learning, and growing. Each day brings new challenges, but also new rewards in seeing the progress and development of my students. I am looking forward to becoming more confident in my role and continuing to contribute to the positive learning environment that I aim to create.



### LOOKING BACK ON THE JOURNEY ...

As the school year draws to a close, I find myself looking back on the journey with a mix of pride, exhaustion, and gratitude. This year, like every year, was filled with challenges, growth, and countless moments of connection with my students.



Christine Faith A. Calubia, Grade 4 Adviser

One of the most rewarding parts of teaching is witnessing student progress—not just academically, but socially and emotionally as well.

Seeing hesitant learners gain confidence, watching friendships blossom, and being part of those "lightbulb" moments has reminded me why I chose this profession.

Of course, there were difficult days—lessons that didn't go as planned, behavior challenges, or moments when I questioned whether I was reaching every student. But even those moments brought learning, pushing me to adapt, to seek new strategies, and to continue growing as an educator. Collaboration with colleagues has been another highlight. Whether through sharing resources, supporting one another during tough times, or celebrating small wins together, the sense of community within our staff has been invaluable. As I look ahead, I carry the lessons of this year with me. I want to refine my classroom management strategies, integrate more student voice into my lessons, and continue fostering a classroom environment where every child feels seen and valued. To my students: thank you for letting me be a part of your journey. You've taught me as much as I hope I've taught you. Here's to rest, reflection, and the excitement of a new school year to come.

## FOCAL POINT

## **THE STORY SO FAR: S.Y 2024–2025**

**S.Y 2024-2025** proved to be as successful a school year as any in IICMS, as we have managed to successfully push out all of the major events this school has promised to provide in addition to education.

PC Officers SY 2024-2025

EIL EVANGELICAL HOLINESS CHURCH



teachers having their intermission number

On July 2024, we had our acquaintance party and an official election of the Parents' Council, which was followed by a historic achievement in IICMS' lifetime, the first ever implementation of solar power, mitigating both long term energy costs and environmental preservation. On August 2024, we had a successful Student Council election, making sure our learners also have not just the opportunities, but also the faculties to cultivate leadership and logistical roles from an early age.

On **September 2024**, our teachers had the opportunity to build up their faith and global experiences by traveling to Bangkok, Thailand, for a church seminar. Emotions, happiness, and a renewed sense of purpose were reignited during World Teachers' Day on **October 2024**.



Compared to our past **Foundation Days**, we took it a step above, even renting the convention space in the second floor of VistaMall within Oton Circumferential Road. Though the location itself was admittedly sparse, in a way, we saw it as a perspective into potential, which is what IICMS' fine learners exemplify. It was a lively, exhilarating time for everyone involved from parents to teachers to students. Parents got to dance and celebrate, teachers managed and also enjoyed themselves with the students and teachers, and the students had the golden opportunity to dress up in splendid suits and dresses, looking like absolute kings and queens on the stage.

Creativity

## FOCAL POINT

#### continued story.....

On **November 2024**, a C.I.T.E (Community tour) was held spearheaded by the Girl Scout of the Philippines and on **December 2024**, we had a wonderful Christmas Party, complete with a meaningful celebration and the parents occupying the entire campus to hold a delicious potluck dinner for everyone.



...a peaceful yet otherwise uneventful start of 2025 with January paved the way for the exciting **Science** and Math Fair of February 2025, allowing us the opportunity to observe the scientific minds of our learners and also gain a better appreciation of life around us...



These, and so much more, are what sustains IICMS and keeps us hopeful for the future while thankful for our origins.

Praise be to God, who makes all of this possible. Our gratefulness to Him cannot be understated as much as we extend that gratitude to everyone choosing to support IICMS.





**IICMS Delegates with their Senior GSP Cadets** 



...March 2025 had us make a name for ourselves with our Grade 5 students, Nathan L. Huervana and Mary Fame Fiara Plotea earning gold and bronze in the World Mathematics Invitational Tournament.

The year is about to close, yet the fire in IICMS hearts never faded.

**April 2025** marks the end of the school year and before the closing ceremony IICMS ventured onto its first ever flight as Grade 6 graduating students had their graduation trip in Busan and Seoul., South Korea last April 10-17, 2025. A yearly tradition signifying the end of elementary years and a start of a new adventure.



We will always try our best to provide you and your children the highest quality, God-centered education and values we can.

HERE'S TO A PROSPEROUS AND BLESSED REST OF 2025!

### THE STAKEFOLDERS

"The best education is achieved when parents and teachers work together."

## PARENTS' CLUB OFFICERS 2024-2025

President: Vice President: Secretary: Asst. Secretary: Emily Golez **Treasurer:** Asst. Treasurer: Mary Grace Gil Auditor: Asst. Auditor: **Bus. Manager:** 

Zorayda Tanciano Monna Liza Velez Ana Mae Tamayo Aizel Joy Arisola Ritchelle Jara Chariz Raizza Badajos Ajie Tudeja Asst. Bus. Mngr.: Meryll Ann Tactay

#### **Class Representatives:** Nursery: Elizabeth Hudtuhan Kinder 1: Rena Mae Diaz Kinder 2: Maribeth Javier Grade 1: Charmaine Fluer Laguardia Grade 2: Ellaine Saul Grade 3: Easter Faith Sanchez Grade 4: Catherine Castante Grade 5: Ma. Nikka Lorraine Plotea Grade 6: Florence Kay Caparroso

## STUDENTS' CLUB OFFICERS 2024-2025

Leaders aren't born they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal. - Vince Lombardi

President:	Aethane Zeph Arisola
Vice President:	Mary Fiara Fame Plotea
Secretary:	Heaven Tyrese Zulueta
Treasurer:	Sukhman Kaur
Auditor:	Mark Gabriel Velez
Bus. Mngr.:	Yosef Mateo Espregante
	YEL EVANGED ON MOLARISE CHIPPON

#### **Class Representatives**

Grade 1: Kierra Nicolle Laguardia Grade 2: Sofia Margaret Gil Grade 3: Alexander Golez Grade 4: Caleb Anthony Velez Grade 5: Jenica Rei Viel Babera Janina Grade 6: Paula Manlegro

### THE STORY SO FAR: S.Y 2024–2025: IICMS GOES SOLAR IN PARENTS' COUNCIL 2024

Back in **July of 2024**, IICMS held a proper meeting to arraign and create an official council consisting of volunteering school parents, all of whom are willing to go the extra mile in contributing to the betterment of IICMS however they can, financially or otherwise. This proved to be a bountiful opportunity to allow the parents to have more agency and involvement in helping the school make better and more critically tested decisions that would improve the quality of life and education of the students they raise and care for.

Since then, the IICMS Parents' Council has proven to be a loyal and reliable aspect of the school that continues to provide helpful contributions to the school, most notably the ambitious yet hugely beneficial solar panels. Despite being expensive, the Golez family supplied just enough to be a viable alternative power source for the school for it to keep running even during times where city power may be insufficient.

The IICMS Parents' Council is a highly valued part of the school's system, and the outlook future prospects is generally positive.

## THE STORY SO FAR: S.Y 2024–2025: OUR FIRST SCOUT INVESTITURE CEREMONY

On **August of 2024**, IICMS made landmark history by officially joining the roster of schools recognized by the Iloilo chapter of the Philippine Boy and Girl Scouts, with local Scout Executive Mr. Eric Dumdumaya and Tita Helen Deguma personally overseeing and making our students practice and solemnly vow to uphold the disciplinary honor of the Scout through the BSP GSP Investiture Ceremony.





Clad in iconic Scout beige and brown, green and white IICMS' students took to the prospect of this partnership like fishes into water, and the Investiture Ceremony's adherence to pledging loyalty to the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan would be the beginning to a bountiful experience that would help the students willing to be the change they wish to be with the potential for growing leadership and creative thinking that the rigors of Boy/Girl Scout training will offer in the years to come.

## THE STORY SO FAR: S.Y 2024–2025: WORLD TEACHERS' DAY, A TRIBUTE TO ALL EDUCATORS

Back in **October of 2024**, a pleasant surprise befell the teachers and staff of IICMS when World Teachers' Day had the school organize a special event dedicated to the professionals who tirelessly work throughout the year to provide quality education and discipline to their students.







our hardworking IICMS teachers

Happiness was radiant and even tears were shed when the students came over and delivered an outpouring of adulation and support for the teachers who worked through thick and thin, enjoying their company when they're obedient and tolerating them when they're being rambunctious. Regardless, their support was overwhelming proof to the teachers that their work paid off and mattered. It reignited motivations, and a renewed purpose as to why they became teachers.

# "It is no secret that teachers are among the most underrated professions in the world."

It is a difficult and demanding career with grossly misrepresented fiscal benefits in most parts of the world,

but World Teachers' Day serves as a beacon of hope for them in order to shed light into what was always one of the world's oldest yet most important foundations of a person's developmental years.

## THE STORY SO FAR: S.Y 2024-2025: FOUNDATION DAY, DRESSED FOR ELATION



Later in **October of 2024**, IICMS engaged in what would be its largest and most ambitious Foundation Day celebration yet. It rented out the convention floor of VistaMall in the Conferential Road area and hosted a parade motorcade all the way there, allowing representative students to wear lavish, luxurious dresses and suits to great style.

The event started with a parade of muses and escorts of the different grade level together with the different teams composed of students, teachers and parents competing for the sought after "Overall Champion Award." Each then witnessed the majestic moments of the Royal Court.



His Royal Highness Ma. Cathalia Alexandria H. Pelaez



## THE STORY SO FAR: S.Y 2024-2025: FOUNDATION DAY, DRESSED FOR ELATION



Later, in the afternoon, each team competed for the Field Demonstration which showcased the creativity, talent of each teacher, parent and student. The place was filled with color and festivity.



**Day 2** of the Foundation Day highlighted the individual talents of IICMSian learners. Captures the award with their speaking powers, theatrical arts and melodious voices.





Fast forward over 20 years later, we are here celebrating in the flashiest way we have in a long time in the name of **God's great blessings in His continued endorsement and support of IICMS** through His quiet influence in our loyal and diligent teachers, staff, and parents willing to go the extra length to support IICMS and its future endeavors.





Despite an initially sluggish start, the event itself proved to be a huge success, with exciting dance numbers, stirring tributes, and a fashion showcase all for the sake of celebrating the foundation of the establishment that had humble beginnings in trying to mold children to be good, God-fearing citizens when they grow up.

#### PRE-SCHOOL DEPARTMENT: English Poem 1st- Eros Euan Abello 2nd- Nina Angelique Alarcon

3rd- Matt Sebastian Gil Filipino Poem Ist- Alex Briana Ysabel Tactay 2nd- Sarrah Ghassan Mohamed Alnashawati Munther 3rd- Austin Marcelo Garingalao Storytelling Ist- Michael York Javier 2nd- Mary Elizabeth Golez 3rd- Arina Frances Joy Clavel Pop Song Ist- Aiden Louis Arsenio

Playground Demonstration 1st- Team Floral Fantasy 2nd- Team Winter Wonderland 3rd- Team Pantropiko

#### OVERALL RESULT

1st- Team Winter Wonderland 2nd- Team Floral Fantasy 3rd- Team Pantropiko

Yes, education is the catalyst that will hone and sharpen our talents, skills, and abilities and cause them to blossom.

-Joseph B. Wirthlin

#### ELEMENTARY DEPARTMENT:

Oration 1st- Nathan Huervana 2nd- Liam Rigel Caparroso 3rd- Janina Paula Manlegro Binalaybay 1st- John Zedrick Detarro 2nd Kristoff Morry Indeia

- 2nd- Kristoff Marru Tudeja 3rd- Aethane Zeph Arisola **Pop Song** 1st- Heaven Tyrese Zulueta
- 2nd- Michael Criss Amor 3rd- Kiefer Lendio
- Character Impersonation 1st- Mary Fiara Fame Plotea 2nd- Alexander Golez 3rd- Angel Charmaine Alarcon
- Srd- Angel Charmaine Alarcon English Declamation 1st- Ysabela Zacharee Badajo 2nd- Chase Nathan Galindo
- Filipino Declamation 1st- Yosef Mateo Espregante

2nd- Sofia Margaret Gil 3rd- Rayleigh Caleb Saul Storytelling 1st- Caleb Anthony Velez 2nd- Ma. Cathalia Alexandria Pelaez

3rd- Kierra Nicolle Laguardia



#### .....continued story

#### AN ENCOMIUM SPEECH by Mr. Moises F. Medoza







Ang iya yuhom nga makapukaw sang naga katulog nga balatyagon, ang iya tingog nga daw yelo sa kalamig daw isa ka lalantuhon nga ga paabot sang isa ka dako nga pagla-om.

"Flawless" kag daw labanos nga kutis nimo. Daw nag agi sa kamot ni Dr. Vicky Belo. Ang imo guya daw kaangay sang naga blush nga dalaga kon iya masugata kag ma "eye to eye" ang crush niya.

Kaangay sang mga gakipat-kipat nga puni sang kalangitan, kanami sa imo tulukon kag himutaran nga mahambal ko nga daw si Kathryn Bernardo ang "beauty" nimo. Kag sa konsorte mo man nga gwapo nga daw si Alden Richards sa tuman ka macho.

You do not just exemplify beauty but beauty at its best. You give breathe and life to the word "masterpiece!" Sang gin tuga sang Diyos ang katawhan sa imo gin buhos ang tanan nga katahuman. Obra maestra ka gikan sa kahitaasan kag labing pinili ka nga hiyas sang aton buluthuan.

Kag kabay nga sa imo pagpauli sa inyo balay, imo madumduman ang imo maestro nga nag dihon sa ining binalaybay agud mangin handumanan asta sa imo pag dako ang ining tini-on nga puno sang kalipay.

And with sadness, I bid goodbye to you, your highness and let me end this piece by giving to you this gift.

Mabuhay ka Ma. Cathalia Alexandria Pelaez Nahauna! kag Mabuhay Iloilo International Christian Mission School.

Madamo nga Salamat!



Sa ginsuguran gintuga sang Diyos ang kalibutan, ang langit kag kahawaan. ang kalalawran kag kabukiran, ang mga tanom kag kasapatan. Gintuga niya nga matahom ang tanan, kag sa tawo gin bilin nga ini iya tipigan.

Ang mga bituon sa kalangitan,

ang mga mahamut nga kabulakan,

ang lawiswis sang kawayan kag huni sang kapispisan. Tanan, nagapakita sang katahum sining kalibutan, kag nagdulot sang kalipayan sa taguipusuon nga nalisdan.

Kag may isa ka babayi nga gin tuga ni-ya, ara siya isa ka matahum, kag daw gin pautihan ka hulma. Kanami guid sang tyempo subong daw kaangay sang kaanyag sang aton mahal nga Reyna.

Yes, beauty is God's gift to mankind.

A gift so precious and sublime:

Beauty transcends what we see with our own eyes. For it evokes emotions and it inspires.

Ang katahum nga bugay sang Diyos sa tanan. Kaangay gid sang aton mahal nga Reyna sa sining kaadlawan. Siya isa ka buhi nga laragway sang bunayag nga kaalwan sang mahal nga Diyos sa aton buluthuan.

Ma. Cathalia Alexandria Pelaez<sup>\*</sup>, iya kamahalan, sang pinakamataas nga pagtahod ikaw gina halaran. Simbolo ka sang katahum sining kalibutan. Larawan ka sang paglaum kag katin– aran.

Kung ikumpara ko ang aton mahal nga Reyna sa isa ka prutas daw kaangay guid sa isa ka bayabas nga kanami guid kadton kon barabagnas. Apang, daw ka delikado guid kay basi ining akon ngipon magkarapingas.

"Ang imo mga mata ang pinakananamian ko nga sobra ka limpyo pwede guid ikaw ka pang ispeho. Oh! Hara nga nahauna imo nga ilong nga maturoong ipares sa imo bibig nga mapungpong. Ay abaw! kompletus recadus daw timpla guid ka native nga ibos.

# THE STORY SO FAR: S.Y 2024–2025: S A A

In the **last month of 2024**, on a pleasant middle of December, IICMS chose to cap off a successful year with a Christmas party to remember, ranging from an exciting whole-day activity, laugh-inducing gift exchange and gift giving activities, culminating in an eventful potluck, where stands were pitched and many tables were set for delicious food to be had and enjoyed to one's heart's content...and of their bellies, as Christmas tradition dictates.



The Nativity Story by grades 4-6 pupils



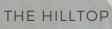


There was also a small magic show that was hosted as part of a conjunction with a student's birthday party, where particularly bold students and teachers given the opportunity to handle the magician's trained ball python.



Slithering surprises and delicious dishes were among the few of many highlights that honored the birth of Jesus and signaled the end of a great year with a pleasant taste in more ways than one.





## THE STORY SO FAR: S.Y 2024–2025: A "BAZAAR" "SCIENCE" OF THE TIMES

The most notable event we held this February following a fairly quiet beginning of 2025 was the Science & Math Fair, where our students had the opportunity to demonstrate their passion for the study of physical life and in turn, test their young minds in the gauntlet of unique science-based games we have prepared for them. Our more creatively minded students regaled us with their impressive builds of model volcanoes and Solar System dioramas.





dioramas made by our creative students



Though this was a bright opportunity for our students to get a better hands-on approach to science, there was an unfortunate mishap that prevented us from following through with our proposed evening stargazing program, to be delayed for a better and opportune time. This educationally enlightening program coincided with the opening of our official Fundraising Bazaar, full of secondhand clothes provided by Korean donors with the intent to forward all proceeds generated from it as support for IICMS' continued infrastructural development.

Our students get to have a more intimate relationship with science, and parents gained the opportunity to further upgrade and beautify the very school their children enjoy and learn from, a win-win, all things considered.



THE HILLTOP

## THE STORY SO FAR: S.Y 2024–2025: FIRST FLIGHT



waiting for take off at Iloilo International Airport

Despite the notorious difficulty of gaining visa approval to enter South Korea, there were those among us who, with God's blessing, made it, and gain the special chance to enjoy all the sights, sounds, and experiences that they would never be able to get if they stayed within the Philippines,



at United Nations Memorial Park South Korea

Transitioning from Greatness to Excellence. Phil 1:6 This very month of March 2024, a handful of IICMSians gained an opportunity most fortunate to fly to South Korea in order to enjoy a graduation IICMS historic trip involving travel to an area beyond the jurisdiction of the Philippines, made largely possible thanks to this school's primary sponsors, the Ye-Il church ministry in the coastal city of Busan, South Korea.



just landed Bohol Airport

from the spring cherry blossoms to course after course of delicious Korean food, S.Y 2024-2025's graduation trip would serve as a wholesome testament and a precedent for IICMS that is clear proof of our continued growth and development as not just a school, but a familial support system that looks out for each other in love, service, and devotion to God.



at Nurimaru APEC House

## **THE STORY SO FAR: S.Y 2024-2025:** FIRST FLIGHT: IN PICTURES AS A HISTORIC IICMS FIRST



enjoying their time in South Korea



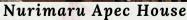
Han River Diamond Bridge

Songdo Bay Yacht Ride



The Aquarium

Songdo Bay





Senate Office at South Korea



Yedong Evangelical Holiness Church

# **IFROM THE SOURCE**

## **REFLECTIONS OF A WINNER: THE 2025 ELEMENTARY MATH OLYMPICS**

Ever eager and opportunistic to improve in mathematics, Grade 5 students Nathan L. Huervana and Mary Fame Fiara Plotea, alongside Yosef Mateo Espregante, took a chance to partake in a math training course in Iloilo National High School in order to partake in the 2025 elementary Math Olympics.

### "I need more knowledge. More. Knowledge.", said Nathan

with regards to his motivation for joining the Math Olympics.

...I was so nervous...the questions were so tough...[I focused and answered the test regardless.] I did not expect [to get Gold]."

While Mary, preferring to be called Fiara, said, "[Math] improves one's critical thinking, and because [it is] fun.", when asked about her motivations and expectations.

"But my [journey] does not stop here, and this is just the beginning.", said Fiara

when asked about how she felt about winning the Bronze medal.

But they weren't alone. They were unsure at first, concerned about how comfortable they would be in this new environment, but the trio would come together to both learn and compete alongside many other schools that sent representatives as well, such as those from Ateneo Iloilo, among others, according to Nathan. As far as he could remember, he was drilled into learning a variety of entry-level advanced mathematical techniques such as calculating decimals, geometry, basic physics, and learning how to compute the Greatest and Least Common Factors.



Fiara realized that math was involved in far more than just equations, but in daily activities such as gardening and shopping, much to her delight.

IICMS is proud to have not one, but two medal winning students for a high-production multischool competition like the Math Olympics, and it is a clear sign of their potential and natural talent.

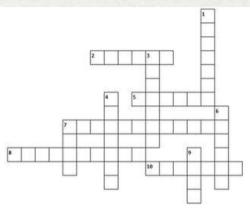
May God richly bless Nathan, Fiara and Yosef as they continue to strive for learning and recognition.

## IFUIN ANID GAMIES

#### **CROSSWORD PUZZLES!**

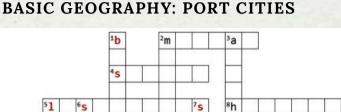
Fill in the boxes and complete the words using the given hints.

#### **BASIC SCIENCE**



Across
2. hard material that attracts metal objects
5. related to ocean life
7. powerhouse of the cell
8. place where scientific experiments take place
10. largest planet in the Solar System

Down
1. "20" in "H2O"
3. central line of the planet Earth
4. the study of rocks and soil
6. a serious, often deadly, disease of the cells
7. the "Red Planet"
9. specialized triangular bottle used to contain liquid chemicals



<sup>9</sup>n



#### Across

x1. port city in South Korea

Down

- 2. port city in the Philippines
- 3. port city in the UAE
- 6. port city in China
- 7. port city in Vietnam

# POEMS

#### Tomorrow's Hope Glog-9

In the quietness of the night, I stand on my own, A rose in full bloom, yet with thorns overthrown. Yearning to break free, from the shell once worn, Seeking a place where freedom is reborn, beyond the horizon's dawn.

Through every storm, through every cry I am their diamonds that glimmers in the sky A beacon of hope, their hearts adorn A constant flame that shines through gloom

How blissful the life a child could claim, Free from the burdens, untouched by blame. The deeming light, the fading sight Wandering on the darkness on her own

For I am here, the constant grace, A beacon shining in this place. Tomorrow's hope is in my soul, A treasure that will make them whole.

#### Shadows of the Unspoken Glog-9

I once beheld something radiant and bright,

At first glance, a modern painting in sight. It hung on the wall, steady and still, Yet memories flooded, against my will.

Where is it headed, I wonder, too? Will it follow the path that many pursue? Or will it venture where few have gone? These questions only lead to a simple "Yes" or "No."

Unspoken thoughts, unfulfilled dreams, Words left unsaid, like silent streams What could it be? I failed to explain A thought to deep, a truth in vain

What could it be, this restless plea? These pieces scattered across the sea I tried to speak, but words did fade, Like shadows in the light, afraid.

No one hears me, no one cares to listen, So I'll shout with all my soul's conviction. In the darkness, where shadows dance, I'll roam,

Seeking even the faintest light to call my own.

#### Ciudad sang Paghigugma! Bugs Bunny

Ciudad sang Paghigugma! Pwerte gid kainit sa imo ya Ang kutis ko nga mala poselana Daw masami nga nangin ati na

Ciudad sang Paghigugma! San o ka maulanan? Para makasalod man kami sang amon sulodlan Kag may magamit sa adlaw adlaw nga magtaliwan

Ciudad sang Paghigugma! Nauhaw ka man? Palamangkutanon sang mga katawhan Agod mabunyagan ang mga kabulakan Kag maglamig ang pamatyag sang tanan.

Ciudad sang Paghigugma! Kabay nga imo makaya Ining kainiton nga ginabuga Gani dalia na Pagpanaog na!

THE HILLTOP



to our school and avail of the \$500-incentive! IICms is where you belong.....

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you dear parents for entrusting your children in our care. We are truly grateful for the unwavering you have given to our school. May God richly bless us all!

## ILOILO INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOOL, INC.

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