

The real object of education is to have a man in the condition of continually asking questions. - **Bishop Creighton**

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Ms. Alice Jao is showing the basic and special features of the textbook "Living Mandarin". The series is designed to meet the needs of learning Chinese as second language.

### 2 Taiwanese Sino-Language Instructors Visit ISA Taiwan Chinese Commission Donates Textbooks

In the morning of 25 August, two Chinese language Instructors from the 'Living Mandarin' Textbook Publishing Committee in Taiwan, Ms. Alice Jao and Ms. Linda Chen, visited ISA. With them was the head of the preschool department of Sun Yat Sen High School, Ms. Eunice Ga-an. They were received by ISA Executive Director, Mr. Peter M. Chan. In their more than an hour stay at the campus, they exchanged views on some crucial issues that affect the current and future states of the Chinese language education in the Philippines.

Mr. Chan thanks the Overseas Chinese Commission of the Chinese Taiwan authority for donating to ISA 15 boxes of 'Living Mandarin' textbooks last July. Mr. Chan highly commended the attractive presentation of the topics in the said textbook series. He noted that the series not only high lights the importance of developing the listening and speaking skills of the learners, guiding learners to gradually grasp the essence of the Chinese character system was also given adequate attention.

Mr. Chan and the Chinese facilitators attended a demo-forum on 'Living Mandarin' hosted by Ms. Jao and Ms. Chen at SYS High School that afternoon.

### Science Quiz Bee 2010 Staged

The Science Quiz Bee, an important venue to discover and recognize the scientific potentials and skills of the learners, was held last 19 August 2010.

This year, there are four categories in the quiz bee which include level 1 (grade and 2), level 2 (grade 3 and 4), level 3 (grade 5 and 6), and level 4 (all levels in high school). Three learners participated in each section of every grade or year level.

The learners who represented their section during the contest were identified through a science quiz bee elimination exam given by the science facilitators who are teaching in the different grade and year levels. Those who got the highest score, in parallel to their performance in the science class, were qualified to join the school level quiz bee.

The first placers are: Level 1: Jason Santino Advincula; Level 2: Xyanne Alex Bocol; Level 3: Camille Billones; Level 4: Megan Bretagne Uy.

This activity is also an effort of the school Science Department to enhance the competitiveness of the learners in Science and Technology.

### Celebrate Buwan ng Wika with flair

"Pangangalaga ng Wika at Kalikasan, Wagas na Pagmamahal Talagang Kailangan", ISA celebrated the Buwan ng Wika last August 23-27 with flair, at the same time preserving the spirit and significance of the event.

Before the culmination activity on 27 August, a series of activities were held in relation to the celebration.

The poster making contest and the *talumpati* were held last 23 August, the vocal solo on 24 August, and the Filipino declamation on 25 August.

On August 27, the grand celebration was held at the school ground. Prof. Lorey F. Tanaleon from West Visayas State University was guest speaker. She talked on the importance of the usage of Filipino especially in preserving and upholding the tradition and culture of the nation.

The first part of the program was the presentation of the *Lakan at Lakambini*, the participants of the different grade and year levels wore *Filipiniana at Barong Tagalog* costumes. It was followed by the *sabayang pagbigkas* of the Grades 1 to 3 learners. A colorful array of Filipino costumes and graceful movements took center stage during the folk dance competition of the Grades 4 to 6 learners. From graceful steps of the folk dances, upbeat music complemented with powerful motions were witnessed during the creative dance contest of the high school learners.

Winners in the different contest areas were announced during the school assembly on 3 September.

*Bahay kubo* of different concepts and designs graced the corridors in front of each classroom. The spirit of *Fiesta sa Nayon* was concertized during the whole course of the celebration as each grade and year level also prepared varieties of Filipino foods which were shared by all after the program.



This yearly celebration of the Buwan ng Wika is an act of keeping every ISAer in touch with the Filipino culture and tradition despite the fact that they are living in a modernized world where values and culture are constantly becoming global.

### "They are never different..." A Day with the Chameleon

With excitement and care in their heart, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Curie learners visited the Chameleon girls in Passi city, and brought with them fun and games last 21 August 2010 as part of ISA's monthly community outreach program. The ISAers prepared special numbers, games and activities that helped them build friendships with the residents of Chameleon.

Chameleon stands as an organization to help girls in adverse circumstances for them to be able to overcome their traumas and eventually merged themselves in the mainstream society. Outreach programs such as this aims at exposing the ISAers to people of different background and help them understand the meaning of life.

One ISAer writes: They (Chameleon girls) were never different from us. They are like us... They shouldn't be treated differently and teased just because of their past. We should respect them.



ISA's Outreach Program has a two-fold goal. First, is to give care and attention to young people who have suffered adverse circumstances, and second, to inculcate in the ISAers the virtues of charity, respect and generosity.

### Balance Amidst Challenges in Life

To help them respond meaningfully to the challenges of adolescence, the 2<sup>nd</sup> year learners had their recollection last July 28 at the Holy Rosary Retreat Center.

The recollection was a whole day activity wherein the learners listened to the talk of the resource speaker, Sis. Fidelis Estrada. The talk revolved on the theme "responding to different challenges: finding the real essence of things and events by trying to look beyond what is superficial, and at the same time, trying to find one's own voice and inner strength amidst the so much confusions in the world".

The learners were given the occasion to share their ideas, and were provided with relevant activities to draw out more ideas from them and at the same time, enhance their capacity to interact with others.

Parents joined their children in the afternoon, and were able to listen to the thoughts of their children as all learners shared their ideas through 'sentence completion'. The sentences provided to the learners were relevant to their life as to reflect their fears, hopes, and dreams.

In return, the learners were also able to listen to their parents as they also completed the same sentences.

At the concluding part, learners gave the letters to their parents to express their appreciation of the unconditional love and guidance that parents have been providing them amidst the different changes and struggles that they have gone through.