

'Man does not grow old. He gets old only when he stops growing.' – Ralph W. Emerson

- the 33<sup>rd</sup> issue -  
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The Monthly Newsletter of ISA  
 菲律賓怡朗新華學院通訊月刊

Editorial

## Reaching Out This Season

*'Tis a season to be jolly, falalala...*

so the song goes. Indeed, December seems to be the jolliest of all the months throughout the year. In our country, almost all people celebrate Christmas by decorating their homes, schools and offices with adornments. It is also the time when people shop in hordes, join in the holiday rush. When white and blue collars alike await their yearend bonuses, when students excitedly go home for a long break, and when radio stations play nostalgic tunes....

As early as September we could already see *parols* and the nativity of Christ in almost every corner. Western symbols of Christmas such as Santa Claus, Christmas tree (with fake snow) and mistletoes seem to perfectly blend with our tropical surroundings.

But in the midst of this facade, why don't we pause for a moment and think of others who perhaps are waiting for us to give them some little time; people who are victims of natural calamities, of war, of broken homes and of physical illnesses.

What can I do? You may ask, *These people may be too far away...to reached out.* But why not start with the one closest to you? Why not start with the street children you see everyday? Why not start with your parents who need to be appreciated, too; with your siblings and friends and your neighbors. Acts of kindness go around. What you give comes back to you.

So while you prepare your "things-to-do" list for the yuletide season, why not add *give love* on your list? *vk*



**ScholarsOnline** is a sister publication of ISA monthly newsletter, **The Scholars**. Since its launching in October, three issues had been successively released. More than two hundred email addressees the world over had received the December issue either through free subscription or referrals. Online recipients are expected to reach 500 by January 2007. Be the first one to know of the latest development inside ISA Campus, subscribe to **ScholarsOnline** through ISA website **NOW**.

## A Fun-filled Family Day & Kiddie Fair @ ISA

Last November 24, the ISA Preschool has successfully organized its 2006 Sports Fest, Family Day and Kiddie Fair. It was a 3-in-1 whole day activity participated in by the pre-school learners and parents. The Nursery, Kinder 1 and Kinder 2 learners demonstrated their kinesthetic adroitness during the field demonstration. The field demo was followed by exciting games arranged by the preschool facilitators not only for the children but for parents as well. Games like Musical Chair, Bicycle Race, Maria Went to Market, Japanese Walk, Balloon Bursting and Hitting the Pot were their all-time favorites. The fun did not end there, however. After the games, ISA's first Kiddie Fair was formally opened. There were colorfully decorated booths which offered variety of activities for the children to indulge in, like basketball shooting, dancercella, kickboxing, target shooting and body painting. The fair also serves as a venue to raising fund for the beautification of the preschool playground. Jollibee and Hetty came to entertain the excited kids and the proud parents.

After taking their lunch, preschoolers were in a hurry to slip into their swimming attire. Yes, it's swimming time! The children could not contain their urge to jump into the cool water. How could they? As soon as the go-signal was given, water was splashing anywhere as kids 'dive' into the pool together. This is the very first time that the preschool had made the celebration more amusing by putting up so many inviting pools for all the children to enjoy. Doubtless, the kiddie fair, with all its fringe and thrill, effectively added tremendous fun and joy to this year's Family Day and Kiddie Fair. *jp*



## A Tribute to ISA Mentors

On December 8, ISA mentors were accorded honor they truly deserve for their unwavering efforts and commendable concern shown to the learners, their parents; and to the ISA community in general.

Led by the ISA student council, learners from each class level contributed a presentation as a tribute to their mentors. SC officers organized games for the facilitators to enjoy the break and have fun.

The culmination of the program is the presentation of *Teacher of the Year* award. 2<sup>nd</sup> Year adviser Ms. Beulah Gerada won the 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up. Grade VI adviser Ms. Gay Belvis is the 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up and the Teacher of the Year awardee is Mr. Oscar Barrato, a Math facilitator of Grades 1 and 2. After the program, all facilitators, staff and ISAthletes attended a luncheon hosted by ISA President Mr. Vicente Tiu at the *Breakthrough* restaurant in Villa, Iloilo City. *Ngc*

## ISAers Brought Home 13 Gold

ISAers brought home 12 gold medals in sports meet and another gold medal in literary-musical contest during the 41<sup>st</sup> IloPRISAA Meet in November, 2006.

In the literary-musical competition, Angelie Ong of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year - Curie was champion in English Oration. This is, so far, the only award ISA had won in this category since it joined IloPRISAA last year. Although the high school math team, composed of 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Fritzie Gayle Diez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Jan Jarnel Geyenne Tiu and 1<sup>st</sup> Year James Eduard Chiu, was able to make a breakthrough by ranking 5<sup>th</sup> place. And, high school spelling contestant Julie Rose Luz (freshman) equaled the other best four by gaining perfect score in the easy, average and difficult rounds, only to miss one word in the clincher round, which regrettably lowered her rank to a mere 5<sup>th</sup>. Another sophomore ISAer, Shireen Shahmardani, ranked 5<sup>th</sup> place in high school English declamation contest. And, Michiko Francene de la Cruz, a junior ISAer, ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in English extemporaneous speech.

ISAers fared better in sports arena. Compared to last year's 8 gold, 4 silver, 4 bronze records, ISA garnered 12 gold, 9 silver and 12 bronze this year. Moreover, ISA placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in overall ranking in track and field (elementary girls); and ranked overall 2<sup>nd</sup> place in badminton (elementary girls and boys). Complete list of ISAthletes who won awards in the IloPRISAA 2006 can be viewed at [www.isa.edu.ph](http://www.isa.edu.ph), Sports Page. *Gdb*

## ISA Student Council Spearheads Xmas 'Give Love' Project

ISA Student Council headed by its President, Shireen Shahmardani, and adviser, Ms. May Ann Farillon, called for all ISAers to share their blessings by donating foods, clothing, books and even toys to be given out on the 16<sup>th</sup> of this month to the residents, especially children, in Brgy Rizal, Pala-pala at La Paz district. With the theme 'Give Love on Christmas', this campus wide gift-giving activity received enthusiastic response from the ISAers and parents. Gifts started to pour in at the beginning of December. Aside from the individual donations, the student council organized each class to contribute daily necessities: Nursery and K1, packs of noodles; K2, biscuits; Gr. 1 and 2, sardines; Gr. 3 and 4, powdered milk; Gr. 5 and 6, detergent bar; 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Yr., sugar; and rice from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Yr. learners.

About 70 families at Brgy. Rizal were invited by the council to visit ISA on Dec. 16 for the games and gift-giving activities. *ms*