

THE
COMMUNICATOR



SHOEBOX SHOEBOX, INDIA INDIA

For the past eight years the ICS community has been assembling and mailing Christmas Shoeboxes to the Shalom Foundation in Tamil Nadu, India for distribution to underprivileged children. The first couple of years

shoeboxes were collected, the shipping boxes were easily loaded into the school van and taken to the local post office. As the number of donations has increased in recent years, we have needed Singpost to come pick up the boxes. This year I was absent during the collection, finalizing our family adoption process. When I returned to ICS, I was very surprised! The

first surprise came with the huge number of shoeboxes - 388, over a hundred boxes more than had ever been collected! The second surprise came when I found the shoeboxes already packed in shipping cartons and ready for mailing. The last surprise came with the Singpost driver. He arrived to collect the boxes in a little van and I could not help thinking, "He doesn't have

a big enough van." Indeed, he had to come back later with a much larger lorry! A huge thanks goes out to the students, parents, ICS staff and faculty, and the Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF), for all of the effort put into preparing the shoeboxes. All of your efforts will help to spread the love of Jesus to many children this Christmas. Matt Eiler, HS Principal

One Expanding Family

A dream began six years ago...a dream to try and make a well-known ICS family a little bigger! Long-time ICS families and friends may remember the beginning of this dream, as Matt and Valerie Eiler began to pursue the adoption of a child.

In 2006, the Eilers started the paperwork for adopting a child from Mongolia. Throughout this journey they experienced twists and turns, and after many delays they received news of a mother who was willing to give her newborn daughter up for adoption. Thus, in 2007 Ana became part of Matt and Valerie's new family.



A year after adopting Ana, an opportunity was presented to consider adopting children from Ethiopia, and Matt and Valerie began looking to add to their family. As all of the previously submitted paperwork was outdated, more adoption paperwork followed. From the beginning of this process, Valerie stopped and re-started teaching on three different occasions due to impending opportunities for adoption, all of which fell through.

In 2009, Matt and Valerie received two different referrals for the adoption of two young boys. One of the possibilities fell through, however, there continued to be a strong chance in adopting the second boy. As they continued to pursue this option, a young girl also became available – the “race was on” ...again! In May 2011, Matt and Valerie received a court date and quickly arranged to fly to Ethiopia to seek final approval through the court and the U.S Embassy.

Conditional approval was granted in both cases, but the waiting was not over. There was yet another delay as Matt, Valerie, and Ana waited for final paperwork to be completed. However, the next three months passed quickly as Matt and Valerie continued to wait and prepare for their dream - times two. In September they finally received the word to return to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to pick up their newest family members!

From Ethiopia, Matt and Valerie departed with their two new children, a girl named Mitike, and a boy named China, to Matt's parents' home and farm in Indiana, USA. After additional processing of needed legal documents in the States, all of the Eilers: Matt, Valerie, Ana, Mitike, and China flew to Singapore to rejoin their ICS family. What amazing journeys yet await the newly expanded Eiler family!



China and Mitike have joined the second grade at ICS, and their smiles are hard to resist! The Eilers appreciate your continued prayers on their behalf as they persevere in growing together as an expanded family with all of the added responsibilities, needs, and stresses.

It is evident that another EPIC family adventure is unfolding at ICS in the lives of the Eilers! Praise the Lord for His provision and for His faithfulness.

Christopher Herring, Director

FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS

Teachers share faithful stories of what brings them and keeps them at ICS



Judith Shang, ICS's new second grade teacher, attained her bachelor's from Grove City College this past May with thoughts of graduate school or the US Navy. What a surprise it was when ICS Singapore became her first full-time job! Ms. Shang feels this is where God has called her to be – and she absolutely adores the students here. She grew up as a military pastor's kid in a Chinese-American home. The eldest of four, Ms. Shang is from the East Coast of the United States and cannot get enough of running, autumn, and Victor Borge.



Amanda Lamoreaux grew up in a military family, attending 11 schools before graduation! She earned her bachelor's of science from Presbyterian College in the US, certain that she would go into research. In college, she became convinced that God had something different in mind. Feeling called to a more abundant life, she spent a year in China working with elementary students. She then moved back to the States where she fell in love with teaching high school and spending time with students. As a new season in life began, Ms. Lamoreaux started looking at opportunities to teach abroad. She found ICS early in her search, and was excited at the opportunity to teach and minister to a new nation. She joins the ICS staff as a HS science teacher, feeling this is what God created her for, and this is what He has called her to do.

Mighty and Dreadful: One Teacher's Journey With a Holy Sonnet

Nathan Adams, MS English Teacher

Will this push them too far academically? Are they even capable of understanding all of this? These are just a couple of the questions that ran through my mind as I embarked on a quest to teach John Donne's classic poem, "Holy Sonnet X" to my 8th grade class. After all, "Death Be Not Proud" as it is commonly known, is full of archaic words like "stroke" and "deliverie". Could a group of 14 year-old students really understand the meaning of the existential questions that the poem raises? Believing that the job of a teacher is to take a student from the unknown to the known, from ignorance to mastery of a concept, I decided to find out.



At first, my students were quite puzzled by Donne's use of Early Modern English when they started reading the sonnet. However, working with outdated spelling and grammatical syntax posed an excellent opportunity to illustrate to my students the many changes that the English language has gone through. Soon my students began to see that while this poem was nearly 400 years old, it was still very relevant to them today. Donne's allusion to biblical passages became quite evident to the class as we examined the poem from a Formalist perspective. It filled my heart with joy to see these young people take a vested interest in this masterpiece.

Despite my optimism and belief in my students' abilities, I still needed to find out just how much they had learned in my class. Much to the chagrin of my students, I made them write about the sonnet in their final essay exam. I must admit I was more than a little bit apprehensive about reading their answers. However, what I soon discovered as I turned the pages of essay after essay was an answer to the question, "Why do teachers teach?" What I read was an appreciation of this masterwork that went well beyond what I had expected. Many of my students not only made connections with the poem, but brought their own insight and biblical understanding into their reflections. In the end, I was elated about my decision to bring John Donne – master craftsman and well respected writer in both the secular and Christian worlds – into my classroom and into the hearts and minds of my students.





Carnival for the Community



October 15th was a great day for the ICS community - our annual Family Carnival was a huge success! What is the measure of success at ICS? Some would say the amount of money raised, some would say the number of visitors through the gate, and others would say the amount of "family fun" had by those who attended. Yes! This event raised money for our school; Yes! We had over 1,000 visitors enter our gates; Yes! We saw hundreds of families and children having fun.

While all of these are valid measurements, here at ICS there is something much more tangible, something much more REAL than these measurements of success can attain. True to our name, "community" was evident everywhere you turned. Parents, staff, and students of all ages worked side by side to make this event EPIC! How beautiful it was to see all of us striving together to reach a common goal!

In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

Joy Oldreive, PTF President



ACTIVE IN THE ARTS



Jason Song - Grade 10 - South Korea - "Inception"



Do Kyung Hwang - Grade 10 - South Korea - "The King"



An-Jian Ong-Garcia - Grade 9 - Singapore - "Pawnee"

BETWEEN CONTROL AND THE WILD

This year the 3rd annual ICS Art Calendar is very exciting! As with every year, students from all the ICS High School Art classes participated in creating original pencil drawings portraying animals in incredible detail. This year the creativity that was expressed in these works was extremely technical. They go beyond mere realistic renderings and into the realm of the imagination; they are as precise as any camera could convey, yet hold that human touch of abstraction or creative insight that no machine can conceive.

When God originally created man, He gave him the work of tending a garden. He was to care for and maintain the natural systems that the Creator had put into the plants and animals around him, without letting anything take over and dominate. Our artists were challenged to create fine art pieces displaying exceptionally accurate depictions of these animals.

The assignment was to draw 80% photorealism and 20% wild, creative invention or appropriation. As in all great human works, and certainly all great art pieces, the combination of control and freedom, order and wildness, system and spontaneity is found in these inspiring works.

The pieces were selected by a vote of the entire ICS student body, faculty, staff and PTF. The top prize winner (Jason Song, with his work "Inception") is given the cover and his first choice of month. In his work, Jason played with the concepts of abstraction and realism, truth and its representation. Second place went to Do Kyung Hwang and third to An-Jian Ong-Garcia.

This year may this work inspire you to new heights in the beauty of both control and of creative freedom in your life!

Thank you for supporting the Arts and your ICS Artists! Peace to you in Jesus!
Stephen Moore, HS/MS Fine Arts Teacher





On October 22nd, Jonathan Hane and Nathan Chow, junior art students at ICS, took first prize in an all Singapore student photographers competition. Held at the Anglo-Chinese School, the one day event had nearly 600 competitors in attendance! The photos to the left took the top spot.

A GLANCE AT ICS'S GROWING FINE ARTS PROGRAMS



SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE FINAL ADVENTURE

Written by Steven Dietz
Directed by Emily Ackerlund



"The game is afoot, Watson, and it is a dangerous one." The master detective Sherlock Holmes was created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, first appearing in 1887 in print. The adventures are set in Victorian London where Sherlock is a "consulting detective" known for his logical reasoning, clever disguises and forensic solutions of cases chronicled by his good friend, accomplice and messenger Doctor Watson. Looking back on childhood, one of my favorite things was and still is to listen to someone read or tell a story. Doctor Watson, along with the help of the other characters, tells of Sherlock Holmes' final great adventure through the confines of this production. The story is presented with Doctor Watson as both the narrator and a character as the adventure unfolds in a series of flashbacks. Danger, love, intrigue, wit, betrayal and logic await those who join Sherlock Holmes amid the streets of Victorian London on his final adventure. We hope our production delights your intellect and leaves you craving for more!
Emily Ackerlund, ES/MS/HS Fine Arts Teacher





CHRISTMAS FAIR...

...is coming soon to ICS! Our yearly Christmas Fair gives students the opportunity to buy gifts for family, teachers, and friends. The fair takes place on campus and proceeds go to the school and other non-profit Christian organizations present. If you are interested in volunteering this Christmas season please let us know!

We are thrilled to work with you in fulfilling your desire to invest in student's lives at ICS!

Donations are essential to the school's long-term growth and success. Donations help us continue on the path of excellence at ICS - adding programs, improving facilities, keeping pace with technology and providing faculty with professional development opportunities. All contributions are acknowledged with sincere gratitude while maintaining strict confidence in donor information.

How you can help ICS! Give a gift of:

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ICS thanks our anonymous donors for the school's first ever "pumpkin patch"! The pumpkins were enjoyed by all of the ICS community this season.



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