

INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**Middle
School
Program**

*Transforming lives
to impact the world
for the glory of God*



**INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY
SCHOOL**

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Mr. Kelley Ditzenberger
K-8 Principal

Middle school students are full of energy, passion, and a curiosity to learn more. All of these factors make this group capable of significantly impacting the world. Because these students are living through a time of great change in their lives, bodies, and minds, the ICS Middle School employs knowledgeable teachers who are committed to creating a safe environment where each student is valued, supported, and encouraged to ask questions.

Our staff works diligently to provide each student with a challenging academic program. At ICS, we understand that every student learns in a different way, so we use a variety of teaching strategies and lessons to reach every child.

As we model and teach students to pursue excellence for the glory of God, they are challenged to use their strengths and academic knowledge to serve others. At ICS, we provide many opportunities for students to serve their school, community, and other countries.

Our middle school faculty are honored to work alongside parents as they guide their young adolescents through these challenging and fruitful years.

Sincerely,

J. Kelley Ditzenberger

kditzenberger@ics.edu.sg



All our students participate in community service!

Elementary Thanksgiving Party -

In celebration of American Thanksgiving, Middle School students plan and host a Thanksgiving Chapel for the Elementary students. This is a time of learning how to serve others and work as a member of a team. Attending the Chapel with their Middle School buddy is a highlight for the elementary students.

Indonesia Service Trip-

Once during each semester 7th and 8th grade students can apply to be a member on the Indonesia Service Team. This team of 15-18 students travels by boat to an Indonesian island to serve a local school. Over the two day trip, students complete a community development project by painting, digging, or building and teach an English lesson in the school. The goal of this trip is to give Middle School students the opportunity to think beyond themselves.

Environmental Clean-Up -

It is our responsibility as global citizens to take care of this earth. Students learn this lesson in science, social studies, and Bible class. Student experience this lesson as they participate in environmental clean-ups throughout the year.



Social Development and Global Perspective

MS Orientation Day -

The first day of school is a source of anxiety for many students. Because of this, the first two days of school are dedicated to MS Orientation. The first day students will become comfortable with their schedule, teachers, locker, and classmates. The second day we will do team building activities, understand the school handbook, and will help students set goals for the year.



MS Student Council-

MS Student Council elections are held approximately three weeks into school. Student Council trains students in servant leadership and provides the opportunity for students to serve their student body by planning events and programs.

Knight's Reward -

The Knight's Reward is given quarterly to students who have shown excellent citizenship through top academics and no detentions. The Knight's Reward is fun and usually tasty! This is a way to reward students for showing diligence, self-control, and wisdom.

Elementary Buddies -

Being a school with Junior Kindergarten through Seniors on the same campus, provides wonderful opportunities for mentoring and friendship across the grade levels. Once a week during Bible class, Middle School students visit a lower Elementary School classroom to spend time with their Elementary Buddies. During this time each Middle Schooler has lots of fun reading, writing, playing dress up, and completing crafts with his or her Elementary friend.

International Night -

We are an international school with a student body from over 20 different nations. During third quarter, we take a week to celebrate our diversity and learn about other cultures. This week ends with International Night: a night of food, culture, fun, dancing, songs, art, and much more!

ICS Mission Statement

“We are a caring community, committed to provide each student with a quality, holistic education that instills a biblical worldview, a love and respect for all cultures, a zeal for lifelong learning, and a passion for personal excellence.”

Expected Student Outcomes

Interpersonal

ICS students will recognize their personal uniqueness through:

1. *demonstrating cultural sensitivity*
2. *developing a godly self-image*
3. *living productively*

Curricular

ICS students will demonstrate academic excellence by becoming a:

1. *Critical Thinker*
2. *Quality Communicator*
3. *Problem Solver*

Spiritual

ICS students will

1. *Appreciate God and His Word*
2. *Develop Biblical Character by:*
 - A. *growing as a Christian*
 - B. *modeling their teachers*
 - C. *obeying biblical authority*
 - D. *living fruitfully*

Spiritual Character Development

We believe that each student is a unique creation of God. This means each is valuable and special. Teachers at ICS want to help mentor, model, and lead students into a deeper understanding of who God created them to be. As Middle School kids begin to struggle with the question, “Who am I?”, ICS teachers are there to help students process that question and point them towards their Creator. ICS takes an active role in helping students develop Biblical character. The follow programs are led by teachers and administration to provide opportunity for relationship between staff and students. Through these relationships, ICS staff have the chance to help mentor students toward developing strong character and making wise choices.



Morning Devotions

Every morning teachers share a Bible scripture or devotional thought with the students and open the day in prayer. This starts the day off right. Our teachers model a living relationship with Jesus Christ by consistently sharing and being open with the students about their spiritual walk.

Bible Class

All students attend Bible class five days a week. This class focuses on application of Biblical principles. After reading passages from the Bible, students collectively and individually reflect on ways these passages can change their lives.

8th GRADE

Math—In 8th grade ICS has two math divisions: *Pre-algebra* and *Algebra*. *Pre-algebra* is designed to transition students from arithmetic to algebra. Topics covered include integers, multi-step equation solving, rational numbers, exponents, geometry and measurements, ratios, and polygons with transformations. *Algebra* reviews the real number line and operations with real, rational, and irrational numbers. It introduces polynomials, functions, and factoring, as well as the Cartesian coordinate plane.

English—8th graders have two English classes. One class focuses on grammar, spelling, vocabulary, and implementing good mechanics into writing. The other class focuses on literature and composition.

Science—An integrated study of selected topics from physical science, life science, and earth science. Examines the human body, cell structure, space, hydro-sphere, the celestial sphere, physics, and basic chemistry. Tools such as SI, measuring, observation and scientific method are continually explored and developed.

Social Studies—Students study United States History from a global perspective. Students will study how global exploration, colonization, revolution, and government all played a part in US history. The course focuses on a chronology of major political and cultural events and an introduction to the US government system.

Bible—This course is a study of character traits from a Biblical perspective and how to personally apply them. Students study the importance of each character trait, the cautions regarding its negative counterpart, and practical applications to everyday living.

Physical Education—Because ICS sees the necessity for raising healthy children with active lifestyles, we required PE for all students. PE is a class that students will take every other day.



7th GRADE

Math—In 7th grade ICS has two math divisions: *Math 7* and *Pre-algebra*. *Math 7* is designed to review arithmetic concepts and facts. The purpose of Math 7 is to ensure students have a strong math foundation before moving on to Algebra. *Pre-algebra* is designed to transition students from arithmetic to algebra. Topics covered include integers, multi-step equation solving, rational numbers, exponents, geometry and measurements, ratios, and polygons with transformations.

English—7th graders have two English classes. One class focuses on grammar, spelling, vocabulary and implementing good mechanics into writing. The other class focuses on literature and composition.

Science—An integrated study of topics like the nature of science, life's building blocks and processes, reproduction and heredity, ecology, earth and the solar system, building blocks of matter, waves, and sound and light.

Social Studies—This course is a study of ancient civilizations (Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Greece, and Rome). Within the study of each civilization special emphasis is placed on geography, culture and the reasons civilizations succeed or decline. Special attention is paid to the formation and development of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, and Christianity.

Bible—Students study different Biblical Characters from the Old and New Testaments that survived and thrived in difficulties. Students learn how to face both the challenges of everyday living and the challenges of overwhelming experiences. Students then take time to reflect on personal application.

Physical Education—Because ICS sees the necessity for raising healthy children with active lifestyles, we required PE for all students. PE is a class that students will take every other day.



Weekly Home Base

Every Tuesday we have a 35 minute extra class period for Home Base time. This is a time where students connect with their homeroom class and teacher. Students are led through different topics to help them process who they are (identity), what they will stand for (values) and making/keeping friendships.

Weekly Chapel

Every Thursday, Middle School students have a 35 minute chapel time. Each week students will hear a challenging message from teachers, administrators, adults, high school students, or their peers. This is a time where students are challenged, reflect on Biblical truths, and hear life lessons.

Spiritual Life Week

During the school year we set aside a week to focus on spiritual matters and life decisions. A special speaker is brought on to campus for daily sessions. After each session, students go to a small group time where they can discuss the ideas in a safe environment. Many of our students have made life changing decisions during Spiritual Life Week.



**Pursuing Excellence for the
Glory of God!**

1 Corinthians 10:31

Academic Excellence

ICS Philosophy of Education

ICS is a Christian school founded upon the belief that God is the source of all truth, and true education is based on His revealed word, the Bible (John 14:6; John 17:17).

We are dedicated to establishing a godly environment where the Bible is actively integrated into all aspects of school life (I Corinthians 10:31).

We believe the purpose of education is to cooperate with parents to develop the knowledge and character that will enable students to fulfill their role within God's plan. (Deuteronomy 6:6,7).

We believe that education is characterized by a strong, traditional curriculum coupled with a high expectation for student achievement (II Timothy 2:15).

We believe that respect for authority is an essential ingredient to quality education and character development; therefore our classrooms are controlled with firm, loving discipline by qualified and dedicated Christian teachers (Hebrews 12:6-11).

Our international atmosphere is an open door for students of all cultures, races, and nationalities (Revelation 7:9,10).

Academic Programs

- Back to School Night (for Parents) and Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Study Tables (4 days a week after school)
- Spelling Bee
- Science Fair
- Read-a-thon
- Research Paper Training
- ESL Program for English Language Learners
- MAP Testing to monitor academic growth
- Electives
 - Drama
 - Dance
 - Art
 - Music
 - Computer
 - Mandarin

ICS strives to ensure each student is challenged by a Biblical and American-based education from an international perspective. The following explains the content studied in each grade level.

6th GRADE

Math— This is a comprehensive program including: number sense, decimals, data, fractions, integers, algebra, proportions, percents, geometry and measurements, counting and probability.

English— Sixth graders have two English classes. One class focuses on grammar, spelling, vocabulary and implementing good mechanics into writing. The other class focuses on literature and composition.

Science— Life's structure, function, diversity and the environment, earth's air and water, earth and space, matter, forces and energy, electricity and magnetism are studied within this course.

Social Studies— This class is a study of physical and human geography. While studying specific regions within Asia, students will be introduced to and gain an appreciation for different countries, their cultures, religions, languages, and governments.

Bible—The focus is on basic Biblical Truths and personal application. Each section focuses on the basic truths of the Bible in relation to God, His Word, mankind, sin, salvation, and Jesus Christ. After gleaning the truths presented, students are challenged to think through application to their daily lives.

Physical Education—Because ICS sees the necessity for raising healthy children with active lifestyles, we required PE for all students. PE is a class that students will take every other day.

