



Elementary School

Program 2018-2019

www.ics.edu.sg



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PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

The elementary program is committed to living out the mission of ICS: "Educating Minds and Transforming Lives to Impact the World for the Glory of God". Our teachers and staff members are committed to living a life where we invest in the students around us. We hope you will join us in this pursuit.

Our elementary will continue to focus on achieving academic excellence while focusing on each of your children individually.

I encourage you to help us strive toward a great future!

In Christ's strength,

Erin Alary
Elementary School Principal



MISSION STATEMENT

Educating Minds and Transforming Lives to Impact the World for the Glory of God.

VISION STATEMENT

Every Student, Every Family, Every Day for Christ

CORE VALUES

Biblical Worldview, Caring Community, Holistic Education, Personal Excellence

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).

EXPECTED STUDENT OUTCOMES (ESO's)

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. Imitating Christ
 - b. Modeling their teachers
 - c. Obeying Biblical authority

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

There are a number of ways to be involved with ICS, but the best way is to be talking to your child daily and asking them questions about their school day. Kids may seem like they are not listening or caring, but they really do want to share with you. So be sure to talk with them every day!

The second best way to be involved is through volunteering. You can volunteer through the Activities Coordinator or the ICS Parent-Teacher Fellowship. There are activities throughout the school year and room parent opportunities galore. So talk to a PTF board member or the Activities Coordinator. Sign up today!

Finally, parents are always invited to come and attend chapels and other special events. Be sure to check out Schoology to stay up to date on what is going on at ICS.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- School attendance is an absolutely necessary component of the educational process.
- Please know that your child's absences do affect his/her academic performance.
- Too many absences throughout the school year could be cause for retention in a grade level.
- If a family has a conflicting activity, the parent should notify the school office as soon as possible detailing the anticipated absence.
- Parents are expected to promote and support the policies and personnel of ICS, to speak positively about the school, and to direct any questions or concerns to the appropriate individuals.
- Any parent who would like a conference with his/her child's teacher outside of the scheduled bi-yearly conference is asked to arrange for a conference time in advance. Since teachers have certain duties and responsibilities before and immediately after school, they are not always free for a conference. You may set up a conference by calling the school office or emailing the teacher. Please do NOT drop by the class during school time to talk with the teacher.

BIBLICAL 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. ICS teachers are there to help students process these questions and point them toward their Creator. ICS takes an active role in helping students develop Biblical character. Chapel and other Bible-based programs are led by teachers and administration to provide opportunity for relationship between staff and students. Through these relationships, the ICS staff has the chance to teach the Truth, plus help mentor student toward developing strong character and making wise choices.

Bible Class

All students attend Bible class 4 days a week. This class focuses on application of Biblical principles. Students read passages from the Bible and collectively and individually reflect on ways these passages can change their lives. Scripture memory is an integral part of the curriculum.

Weekly Chapel

Each week the elementary school students have a 30-40 minute chapel. Students will hear challenging messages from teachers, administrators, and special guest speakers. All parents are welcome to attend.

Spiritual Emphasis Week

During the year one week is set aside for in-depth study of spiritual matters, the school theme, and life decisions. A special speaker is brought onto campus for daily sessions. Many of our students make life changing decisions during Spiritual Emphasis Week.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

International Night: A huge celebration exploring the school community's cultural diversity and celebrating God's creativity.

Surf and Turf Days: Elementary Sports days that encourage team building and cooperation.

Field trips: Throughout the school year classes visit museums, factories, and other places that pertain to the current course of study.

Student Council: Each year, students have an opportunity to be elected into the Elementary Student council. As leaders of the classes, the Student Council hosts different activities like Shoeboxes for India, See You at the Pole, movies and a dance night.

Seasonal Parties - Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter: School-wide parties to celebrate Christian values and truths.

Extra Curricular Activities (ECAs) & Sports Clubs: After school activities and clubs are offered by teachers and parents to enhance the interests of our students in different non-academic areas. Please see the ECA sign-up sheets each season.

Valentine Ice Cream Social: Parents are invited to enjoy sundae creations with their children and get to know others during this season of building relationship.

OTHER EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

- Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
- Read-a-thon
- ESL Program for English Language Learners
- MAP Testing

UNIFORMS

Proper grooming must be taught along with other rules of manner and morals to help our students understand the importance of living a wholesome productive life. ICS, through its dress standards, seeks every means at its disposal to encourage its students to think and act like Christian ladies and gentlemen.

Our uniform serves to give the student a distinctive appearance, encouraging Christian conduct and promoting school pride. It seeks to create an atmosphere conducive to learning. The goal of our dress code is to establish high Christian standards for our school and our students.

Appropriate school uniforms should be worn at all times, except for special designated “free dress” days when students may wear other clothing. Whether a normal school day or a special free dress day, students’ clothing should be modest (cover the top, cover the middle, cover the bottom) and fit properly (not overly tight or overly loose, no low-cut tops, no spaghetti strapped tops, or high-cut shorts/skirts).

Students’ overall appearance should be generally conservative in nature, uniform in good repair, adhering to the following specific guidelines:

PE Uniforms

PE uniforms should be worn on PE days.

BOYS

(All shorts and shirts must be purchased from the school-approved uniform provider)

Top: *Navy Blue Dri-Fit Polo Shirt*

Bottom: *Khaki Cargo Bermuda Shorts*

- Undershirts are to be white, tucked in, and have no visible logos/writing.
- Hair should be cut above the eyes.
- No earrings or other facial jewelry is allowed.
- Socks must be worn with all shoes except sandals.
- Appropriate footwear includes dress shoes, athletics shoes or sandals with heel straps. For safety reasons, all shoes with shoes strings must be properly tied.
- Athletic shoes must be worn for PE.
- Head coverings may be worn outside the school building (provided they do not bear inappropriate logos, etc.), but they may not be worn inside.
- ICS hoodies in blue or grey may be worn.

GIRLS

(All shorts and shirts must be purchased from the school-approved uniform provider)

Top: *Navy Blue Dri-Fit Polo Shirt*

Bottom: *Khaki Skort (skirt with shorts hidden underneath) or Khaki Cargo Bermuda Shorts*

(Note: Skorts should be no more than 2 inches above the knees.)

- Hairstyles are to be tidy and pulled away from the eyes.
- No excessive jewelry or heavy make-up.
- No facial jewelry.
- No more than four earrings per ear. Large hooped earrings should be removed for PE and athletic events.
- No navels or midribs should be visible.
- Appropriate footwear includes dress shoes, athletic shoes or sandals with heel straps. For safety reasons, all shoes with shoe strings must be properly tied.
- Athletic shoes must be worn for PE.
- No undergarments should be visible in public on campus at any time.
- All undergarments worn under the uniform shirt must be white or flesh tone.
- Head coverings may be worn outside the school building (provided they do not bear inappropriate logos, etc.), but they may not be worn inside.
- ICS hoodies in blue or grey may be worn.

Dress Code Violations

The first time a student is caught wearing jewelry and/or accessories that are not in conformity with the ICS dress code, the student will be asked to remove the item. If the problem persists, the issue will be referred to the Principal. For continual dress code violations involving issues of modesty, the student will be excluded from class until the problem is remedied. For those students who consistently violate the dress code, other means of discipline such as detention or suspension may be used.

**** The administration reserves the right to modify the elementary dress code policy.***

CURRICULUM & STANDARDS

by Academic Discipline

Bible: The ICS Elementary Bible curriculum is based on the Gospel Project. Each week, a new story or topic is introduced in chapel and studied throughout the week in the classroom. The lessons focus on helping students see the Gospel woven throughout Scripture. Students are also expected to memorize Bible verses each week that correlate with the story or topic of the week.

English Language Arts: ICS uses the Common Core State Standards - English Language Arts. If you would like specifics of what topics and skills are covered at each grade level, you can find that information at <http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy>.

At ICS, elementary school teachers use the *Journeys* program to teach these standards at all elementary grade levels. Each week students focus on a reading skill, vocabulary development, a writing construct, and a grammar skill.

Mathematics: ICS uses the Common Core State Standards - Mathematics. If you would like specifics of what topics and skills are covered at each grade level, please go to <http://www.corestandards.org/Math/Practice/>

At ICS, our math program focuses on helping students think about how numbers work, rather than simply memorizing math facts. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 5 follow the Envision 2.0 Mathematics program. This curriculum introduces topics and then provides students with opportunities to master those topics.

Science: ICS uses the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for science instruction in the elementary school. Students have the opportunity to experience science through asking questions, modeling the world around them, and investigations. More information on the NGSS standards can be found at <https://ngss.nsta.org/AccessStandardsByTopic.aspx>.

Social Studies: ICS has developed its own social studies curriculum based on the American Education Reaches Out (AERO) standards. The social studies program is designed so students study increasingly larger circles of communities and countries, from learning about family structures in Kindergarten to a comparative study of Singapore, the United Kingdom, and the United States in Grade 4. Grade 5 students study ancient civilizations. If you would like specifics of what topics and skills are covered at each grade level, please go to http://www.projectaero.org/aero_standards/socialstudies/socialstudies.pdf.

Related Arts Classes Offered

Art: Throughout the year, students will be working towards achieving benchmarks

from the National Core Arts Standards. These standards focus on creating, presenting, responding, and connecting to art. We will learn art-making techniques and art history, and we will work with different mediums, such as graphite, charcoal, paint, and clay. (Meets twice every six days.)

Library: By exposing them to different types of reading material and information available in the library, students are encouraged to develop a love for reading and a curiosity about the world around them. Library practices are designed to promote student success in literacy. Students are offered and provided instruction in areas such as research and reading interest, and are guided toward independent study skills built through the library's services. (Meets once every six days.)

Mandarin: The standards for our Mandarin curriculum are based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) standards, which focus on communication, connection, comparison, culture, and community. Each year, students in the Mandarin program will participate in our annual Elementary School "Mandarin Day" performance. This performance is a great opportunity for students to showcase what they have learned in class. Parents will receive more information about their child's Mandarin syllabus after he or she is placed into his or her Mandarin class level. (Meets every other day.)

Music: Lessons will be designed to effectively implement music curricula called "Game Plan" and "Making Music" to successfully achieve the National Core Arts Standards (NCAS). Students will learn to corporately play various percussion and melodic instruments as well as sing songs of various genres and cultures. (Meets twice every six days.)

Physical Education (PE): Within the units taught, we will be focused on achieving all the the National PE Standards (NASPE) for each grade level. Each unit comes from an award-winning curriculum called SPARK. The units include many different sports skills and team building exercises, as well as lots of motor skill development. (Meets every other day.)

Technology: Students will be working toward the ISTE (International School Technology in Education) Standards. Through the program, they will learn how to be responsible digital citizens, use technology to create new products, communicate effectively through multiple mediums, and collaborate with different groups of people to meet a goal. (Meets once every six days.)



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