IPC

The IPC curriculum is an integrated, thematic, inquiry based program. Students are taken on a rich learning journey, beginning with an "Entry Point" aimed at getting them excited about the theme, and ending with an "Exit Point" where students reflect on, and share their learning with others. It is divided into three main areas called milestones, each spanning a two-year period.

Milepost One = Y 1 & 2
Milepost Two = Y 3 & 4
Milepost Three = Y 5 & 6

Key skills are developed over a two-year period, and most students are expected to reach mastering by the end of the milepost.

The IPC has three main areas of focus: academics, personal goals, and international mindedness (API). These three areas receive equal focus throughout the program.
Within an IPC theme, academic subjects (art, geography, history, ICT, International, music, science, and technology) are integrated, and yet separate, encouraging holistic learning. Each unit has one or two major foci, with other lesser varying time allotments for the rest of the subjects.

Students learn to differentiate between three kinds of learning: knowledge, skills, and understanding.
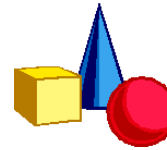
See http://www.greatlearning.com/ipc/the-ipc/what-is-ipc for more information

Literacy

We follow the UK National Curriculum standards for reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students receive benchmark assessments in spelling, writing, and reading at least once per term. Year Four students are given a norm-referenced test in October in reading and writing.

Reading A to Z
Students are given a leveled RAZ Kids account and encouraged to read for a minimum of 60 minutes per week. They read, listen, and take quizzes to move through the levels. The program provides data to the teacher, who in turn can use it to inform teaching.

Maths

We use an Australian maths curriculum called Origo. The Year four and five students are assessed on a quarterly basis and put into groups based on similar areas of need. Units covered are: place value, addition, subtraction, comparing and ordering numbers, multiplication division, probability, data, money, time, fractions, decimals, and geometry. We focus on understanding as well as computational skills.

Mathletics

Students are provided with a Mathletics account and encouraged to do a minimum of 60 minutes per week. Teachers can set tasks to reinforce the concepts that are being taught in the classroom. In addition to maths homework, students are able to play live math games against other classmates and students around the world. This is a motivating way for them to improve in their maths skills. The Mathletics program also provides teachers with key information regarding

students' strengths and weaknesses. Year 4 students will be given a norm-referenced test in October in addition to quarterly tests to determine maths class groupings.

Biblical Foundations

We use a Bible curriculum called Connect. Year 4's will be studying stories from the Old Testament this year.

Our personal goals (taken from the IPC) fit in nicely with our school motto: Love, Learn, Live. Each term will have a different focus, although we will be integrating the personal goals whenever possible.

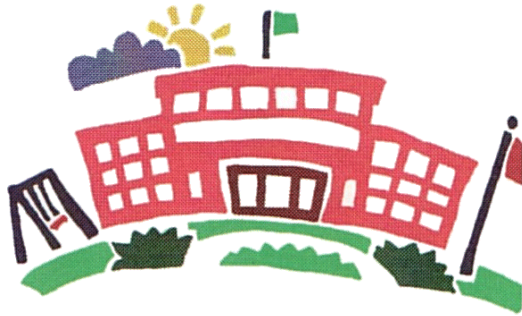| Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Love	Learn	Live
Cooperation Respect Thoughtfulness	Inquiry Adaptability Communication	Morality Resilience

ICT

ICT is largely integrated throughout the curriculum as a tool to help organize and support other subjects. We focus on four areas: text, images, tables, and research. In addition students will receive digital citizenship training throughout the year.

This year the Year 4 students will be creating their own ePortfolio, which will showcase their work over the year.

A Quick Guide to 4A

Island Christian Academy

Mr Rowse

Email: vincent.rowse@islandca.edu.hk

Class Website:
www.islandca4a.weebly.com

Class Procedures

Homework
Each week, the children are expected to complete entries in their Reading Record Book in addition to their Spelling Wordlist worksheet.

On top of this, students are expected to be using Mathletics and RAZ Kids which provide reading and maths work. Students should aim for at least 60 minutes a week for each. The IPC homework usually involves some kind of research. There will also be several projects over the year which will have due dates to help students develop organisational skills. While we encourage you to help with the homework, please allow your child to do the work him/herself to develop the skills they need.

Discipline:
The whole school will follow a standardised practice of behaviour management. Please see the separate sheet for more details.

Our Class rules:
Love God, love your neighbour. Do unto others as you would want them to do to you. Everything else flows out of these verses.

Birthdays
If you wish to celebrate your child's birthday in school, please make arrangements with me in advance (at least three days). They will always receive the customary 'Happy Birthday' with me on guitar!

Class website:
The class website is a multipurpose site for students and parents. I hope you will visit it often to see what is happening in the classroom. I will endeavour to find time to add new blog entries when the opportunity arises.

School Start Time:
We start school right at 8:00 a.m. Please aim to have your child at school by 7:50 so they can learn to be punctual. Students miss out on valuable circle time when they arrive late.

Absences:
If your child is absent, please email or phone as soon as possible to let me know. If there is a need for an unexpected extended absence, please talk with the principal, Mrs. Middleton.

Going Home Routine:
Please inform me if there is a change in bus/walking (including pickup by others) by 10:00 (earlier if possible).