



Mrs. Bethany Meekins-Coloma
Elementary Principal



Mr. Christopher Wimer
Elem. Assistant Principal



Mrs. Christine Passmore
Academic Dean



Ms. Carmen Cahuana
DECE Administrator

From the ELEMENTARY OFFICE



Dear Elementary Parents,

We are off to a great start this year and many thanks are due to parents, teachers, and our resilient students!

We hear the phrase, "in these unprecedented times" lately. While it is certainly true that we have not experienced the likes of a global pandemic, the elementary team at the Alliance Academy International has incredible experience being creative, responsive in instructional planning, and dynamic in student engagement. We are also incredibly blessed by the opportunity to partner with such committed families! I am confident that this experience before us will be valuable as we work together to make your child's school experience successful.

Parents, thank you for all you do to support your children in partnership with Alliance Academy International. I am truly privileged to have the opportunity to serve you as your principal and I am honored to work with our qualified and dedicated staff, capable students, and supportive parents.

Sincerely
Bethany Meekins-Coloma
Elementary Principal

MEET THE TEAM

Elementary Principal: Bethany Meekins-Coloma has had the blessing of serving at the Alliance Academy International since 2008. Before stepping into her role as principal, she has supported students and families as a kindergarten teacher, English as a Foreign Language (EFL) teacher, and an Early Childhood Administrator. In addition to a Bachelors of Social Work and a Masters of Science in Multidisciplinary Studies, Mrs. Meekins also has a Masters of Education in Ed. Leadership. As the Elementary Principal, Mrs. Meekins looks forward to partnering with our dedicated staff and committed families to strengthen the hearts and minds of our students.

Elementary Assistant Principal: Christopher Wimer has been serving as the Elementary PE Teacher and Assistant Athletic Director here at Alliance Academy International. Prior to coming to AAI, he worked in a variety of roles at the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind. He has a BS in Human Development and a BA in Spanish from Virginia Tech. Though a constant theme of Chris' life has been human development, he has found a variety of venues to implement this passion. This has included working in special education, experiential education, classroom teaching, PE teaching, and through coaching and mentorship. Chris is looking forward to helping equip, encourage, and empower others to better utilize their God-given gifts.

Academic Dean: Mrs. Christine Passmore is starting her seventh year at Alliance Academy. As the Academic Dean, Mrs. Passmore is responsible for overseeing PS-12th grade academic programming,



Mrs. Maggy Delgado
Elementary Office
Secretary

Fruit of 2019-2020 with Pastor G



curriculum, and professional development. She works closely with both divisions to train and equip teachers to provide an excellent academic program and also coordinates the process of evaluating standards, aligning curriculum, and implementing best practices in the classroom. Mrs. Passmore has a Bachelor's Degree and Teaching Credential in Secondary English from San Diego State University, and a Master's Degree in Education from Point Loma Nazarene University. This is her 16th year in Education.

Counseling Department (DECE) Coordinator: Ms. Carmen Cahuana is the Special Education Administrator and head of the Student Counseling Department (DECE). Through these roles, Ms. Cahuana oversees student support of both the academic and emotional development of our students through the various programs available. Ms. Cahuana has a Bachelor's of Arts in Psychology from College of Saint Elizabeth, a Master's degree in Psychology from Columbia University and Master's in Educational Psychology from Universidad Internacional de la Rioja. She is committed to supporting Elementary teachers in their efforts to provide a safe and effective learning environment for all of our students.

Elementary Secretary: Mrs. Maggy Delgado has just started her 13th year serving in AAI. She is a professional interpreter-translator and holds a Masters of Science in Educational Studies. She is passionate about her vocation of serving the Lord. She has served in her church since her teen years and strongly believes in discipleship. She has taken great joy over the years in being able to use these skills and abilities to love, serve, and care for little hearts.

HIGHLIGHTS

Fruit of 2019-2020: During the 2019-2020 school year, the kindergarten students learned about seeds producing fruit as they explored Genesis with Pastor G and the Kindergarten teachers. Students made comparisons between seeds and hearts, remembering what is planted is what will come out - if we put good things in such as scripture, worship, time with Jesus...then...our hearts will produce fruit such as love towards others, encouraging words, helping hands. Though students have not been back to campus yet, we have been encouraged to see the plants of last year producing fruit.

Preschool 4 enjoyed their first day of class together by dressing up in their favorite costumes. This made the beginning of the new school year a day of celebration and fun as the teacher and students get to know each other and dive into learning! In math class, students are learning about symmetry this week and in English Language Arts students are learning about the parts of our face. God made our faces perfectly and wonderfully. God made our faces to show our emotions. Sometimes we are sad, mad, happy, or even silly. These are our silly faces.



Kindergarten created their own crowns to wear during the beginning of the year because we are the Kings and Queens of Kindergarten. During Smart Start, students played the game "The King/Queen of Kindergarten says..." in which students found items in their home based on what they were commanded by the King/Queen. We had so much fun finding different objects and sharing them with our new friends during this game!



Preschool Three-Year-Olds



UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Open House: Our Elementary Open House is just around the corner! This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to get to know your child's teachers, as well as get a feel for the classroom programming. The classroom teachers will also be facilitating the voting for the Parent Committees. Parent attendance will be taken so please help us by signing on to the call on time from a device with a functioning camera/audio. Links will be sent out from the Elementary Office the week of the event. Sept 23 (4th-6th Grade); Sept 24 (1-3rd Grade); Sept 25 (PS4-Kindergarten)

Elementary Robotics Program (Grades 3-6): As more schools adopt VEX Robotics to enhance their STEM learning environment, AAI is offering an online curriculum to keep STEM education exciting and inspiring during the virtual learning format. The purpose of this program is to provide an introduction to robotics and encourage young people to explore the technology that robotics provides. Students in Grades 3-6 may apply for this extension of the AAI general curriculum. We look forward to cultivating a deeper interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) subjects. Mrs. Christina Chiriboga can be contacted for more detailed information cchiriboga@alliance.k12.ec