



Newsletter 15 2017-18

Thursday 14th December 2017

Dear Parents and JIS community

Wishing all the members of the JIS school community:

‘A very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2018’



Around JIS:

Sports Day – 8th December – thank you for the support and to SIS staff for a great afternoon.

We were blessed with a fabulous afternoon of weather for our annual sports day event at the HKEDU stadium. Well done to Red house who managed to win by the smallest of margins from a chasing Yellow house. Blue team seemed to win most of the relays but lost points on some of the other events – always next year everyone!





A very enjoyable afternoon for all. Well done to the SIS team for the superb organization again, to the JIs staff for their support and to the parents who came along to support and also join in the parent relays. Finally, thanks to ESSPA for selling the frozen pineapple treats afterwards too.

Inspirational talk for P5 and P6 – David R. Livingstone – Ugandan child soldier – activist

The P5 and P6 students some staff and a few parents were privileged last Monday to meet David Livingstone, through our links to the Crossroads charity organisation. As a young child David tried to escape the violent civil war in his native Uganda only to be captured by the rebels, then imprisoned by the government troops, to escape police brutality through the luck of his long lost uncle. Once a forced child soldier, David is now working hard for the people of his native North Uganda and has started a foundation to help build schools, water facilities, medical clinics and more. A truly inspirational individual

Christmas party lunches – Wednesday 13th December

Everyone seemed to have plenty of food, cakes and smiles yesterday at Christmas celebration lunch. Many thanks to everyone who came along to join us and everyone who sent in some fabulous food and drinks.



Italian lessons at JIS – January 2018

Italian lessons will be starting at JIS on Tuesday 16th January. An application form and information is attached to this email. We need to have a starting group of around 5-6 students but interest seems to show that this should be easily possible. Term 2 will have a set of 10 lessons @ \$250 per lessons - \$2, 500 for the term. The teachers aim to match their programme with the ability and interest levels of the group.

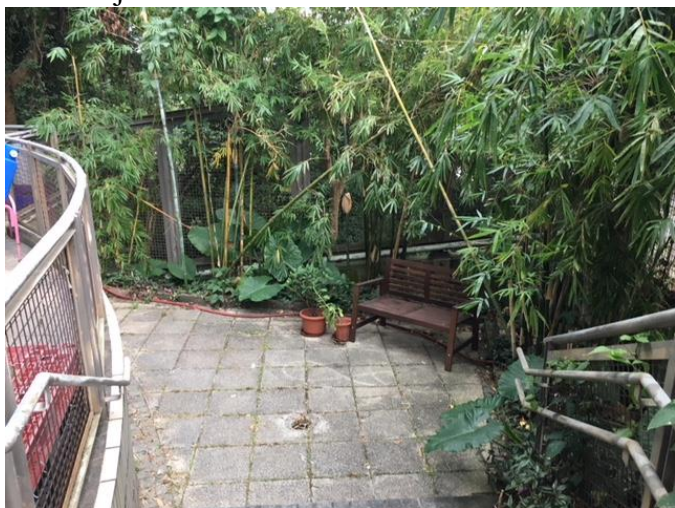
Parents interested in joining please complete the form, send in a cheque made payable to ‘Comitato della Dante Alighieri di Hong Kong Ltd’ (- not JIS!), to the school office by Monday 8th January. Full terms and conditions are on the application form.

Community involvement projects for 2018:

Calling any frustrated gardeners.....

Are you a frustrated gardener – trapped in a flat with a small balcony only where you struggle to utilize your green fingered talents and floral dreams?? If so – contact the school. (s-walton@jis.edu.hk)

We too have had a dream and vision for a while now to create a really special area of garden, flowers, etc. around the school. With the busy demands of schedules of staff within school, it just never happens but with a couple of volunteers, happy to help out for an hour or two each week, perhaps it could! We also have vegetable beds in the 3rd floor roof garden that the students would love to have more consistent access to. Want to join us? Let me know.....



School is very happy to fund the purchase of flowers, seed, soil etc. We have tools to allow some parents and students to work together. This could be a really excellent community project – similar to the art initiative that has recently got started, to rave reviews.

JIS Parent strategic planning discussion group

Many of you may be aware that a couple of years ago we started a parent discussion group ('think tank') that meets together to discuss the school, its future and development challenges or options. As a school JIS has a Board of appointed directors who monitor aspects of the school. We also have ESSPA who fulfill an important role for the school community. This group is different and involves parents and Mr Walton meeting together around once per term. It is not designed to discuss individual students or staff but whole school things that we can improve, letting the community have a voice and working ever more closely with the school staff and management. We have lost a few members in the last year or so and we would be happy for interested parents to perhaps join us. Our meetings are usually from 7pm for around 2 hours in the school staffroom.

Please contact Mr Walton if you would be interested to join the group; s-walton@jis.edu.hk

Unicef appeal for Rohingya refugees – thank you.

I received a thank you email for the family that organized the Hong Kong collection for UNICEF Bangladesh, on behalf of the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. From several international schools and organisations in Hong Kong they received over 27, 000 items of clothing to send. Well done to the JIS community who helped contribute so quickly to this appeal.

Dates for the week ahead: January 2018

Monday 1st: Public holiday – JIS holiday

Tuesday 2nd: JIS holiday

Wednesday 3rd: JIS holiday

Thursday 4th: Return to school for term 2

Friday 5th:

ICHK newsletter link:

This week's newsletter from ICHK: was not available at time of printing – visit www.ichk.edu.hk for the bulletin when available.

Wishing everyone a really fabulous holiday and looking forward to some great times ahead for us all in 2018. To our students and families who are leaving JIS we wish you all the very best of luck in your new schools and countries. Keep in touch with us and let us know how you are doing.

Simon Walton
Principal