



Newsletter 2 2019-20

Friday 30th August 2019

Dear Parents and JIS community

A quick update for the school community for week 2.

Around school this week!

Life has really settled into the rhythm of a new school year very well this week. Things are already getting busy as classes begin their units of inquiry and set up their routines and essential agreements for the year ahead. We hope our new students are making friends and beginning to feel that they belong.



Well done to Reception class on settling into school so smoothly so far this term.



ESSPA – social ‘coffee morning’– this morning, Friday 30th August.



A big ‘thank you’ to all the members of our ESSPA committee for hosting the annual coffee morning today.

It was great to see range of JIS parents at the event and we hope everyone found it useful in meeting fellow community members and asking any support questions about the school.



ESSPA – Welcome Back Party BBQ!

Friday 20th September 2019, 6-8pm

ESSPA look forward to welcoming everyone back to school and to meet new families/students at their annual term 1 BBQ, scheduled for the evening of Friday 20th September, starting at 6pm.

The event is held in the school covered playground and will be an evening of good food, nice company, with some games and activities. It is a great opportunity to meet some new parents and fellow students. The evening is an event for the whole family, all children are invited and it makes a great start to the school year.



Order forms for food have been sent out and need to be returned to school as soon as possible for catering to be ordered (**Please return by 2nd September**). We will ensure a great evening and plenty of food will be available, so no-one goes hungry... we hope!

Please make an effort to come along and start the school year off with the whole school community

ESSPA – getting involved.....

ESSPA – (English Section Staff and Parents Association) do a really great job in bringing all parts of our school community together for social events, fundraising and student food and fun days. The association needs volunteers to make it work. Please consider to offer your support as a volunteer – for the committee to help plan events and also for support on the days of these events. The Association has to be registered in Hong Kong and needs to have a committee – this is not a big commitment and is an interesting way of meeting new people, finding out about how things work in the JIS community and also offering creative ideas and energy. Why not get involved and help!

Current committee:

President: Katherine Chong

Vice President: Jumi Hardcastle

Treasurer: Nachiko Honda

Secretary: position available

Directors: positions available –

COMING SOON:

Meet the Teacher Night – Wednesday 4th September, 6:00pm

You will get a chance to meet your child's class teacher on 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Wednesday 4th September at 6:00pm. They will be able to talk more about the schedule and routines for their class and how learning is integrated across the spectrum of our PYP (Primary Years Programme) curriculum. The class teachers will also share with parents copies of some of our curriculum documentation and planning. At the beginning of the 'Meet the Teacher' evening there will be a short presentation, (6 pm) in the 1st floor multi-purpose room (MPR) for all parents.

Mr Toby Newton ICHK Head of School will also be presenting at 7:15 pm (see below)

Note: Crèche: - We will be able to show a short movie in the MPR for those families, without childminding services, who need to bring their school-age children along to this type of evening meeting.

Toby Newton – ICHK presentation at JIS – Wednesday 4th September – 7:00pm – MPR 1st floor



International College Hong Kong

Mr Toby Newton – Head of school at ICHK - has kindly agreed to come along to JIS on Wednesday evening around 7 p.m., after class teacher presentations. He will give a presentation and host a Q&A session for the JIS community about his school. Any member of the JIS

school community who may be interested is very welcome to come along, in particular the parents in our upper school classes who may be considering secondary school decisions in the next few years.

Class Dojo; smartphone / device application



The JIS community is fully connected to the school through Class Dojo – look out for message updates, photos and occasional videos about what is going on in your child’s classroom. Some students will also be using their own personal dojo accounts to create news feeds and portfolios of what they have been doing in class. The use of the app is continually developing, so please take a look when you have chance.

Term 1 school fees; now due

A quick reminder that term 1 school fees are now due for payment. Please pay by cheque (send in to the school office) or by on-line payment (email to school a copy of the payment slip to Kim Murch kmurch@es.jis.edu.hk) as soon as possible. Bank details are on the school website in ‘Admission’ - Fees section. Many thanks.

Security and school – important update – please read this carefully



JIS is a very safe environment for children to learn in but we have to make sure we have appropriate security measures to maintain this. Demands on schools to review safety and access increase all the time so we have to be up to date and careful in all our practices.

Things to remember:

All visitors to the school must identify themselves at the school office before they enter the school. Please wear your JIS school i.d. at all times when in the school building. (Or receive a visitors badge from security staff.) Please make sure all family members are aware of this and support us. In the main school lobby we now

have Mr Tsang who will check your i.d. and help sign you in to the building. Mr Lun, our long term security staff member will remain in the car park area and monitor the use and safety of the school car parks and entrances. If the car park areas are busy – please show your car i.d. in the windscreen of your vehicle and follow the advice of Mr Lun as to where to park.

After school hours when all our school buses have left (3:00pm) the rear car park will be closed – the sliding silver gate will be pulled across to prevent people using this exit or entrance. Access in and out of the building will be through the main doors on the ground floor, where Mr Tsang, (security staff) will have a desk in the entrance area and will sign people in and out of the building. If you have your school I.D. it will be much quicker and safer. All students and visitors to the school after 3:00pm are asked to use the main entrance.

Anyone needing an extra i.d. card for use in the school can ask the office to supply an extra one, likewise with car park i.d. cards. We are keen to keep the school and students safe, be aware of who is in the building and to promote responsible safeguarding practices within our community. Thank you for your support.

Security around Hong Kong – JIS update - next week

As mentioned in our previous information at the start of the school term I wish to reassure all members of the JIS community that we will continue to monitor the safety of all our students in the coming days and weeks. As we are all aware, there are constant rumours and speculation about actions and protests swirling around social media and the internet. Some posts and messages are important for us to be aware of and some are sadly ‘false’ news.

There is a lot of speculation about potential disruptions to the HK transport system on Monday and Tuesday of next week. Should it happen, this will coincide with the start of the new school year for local schools which is a very busy time and may cause difficulties for students, parents and staff in getting to school. Our school buses and parent drop off will not be affected but please be aware of potential delays and challenges of getting to school if you are using public transport. Please check for any potential actions and do not bring students to school on public transport if you are concerned in any way about their safety and welfare. Should there be any news from the HK Education Bureau or other government departments I will share it with you all on Class Dojo, school website and through email using our school management system. Please be safe.

Finally.....

I look forward to seeing everyone around school, next week on Wednesday evening at the 'Meet the Teacher' event. Please do not forget to send in your order form for the Welcome Back BBQ – send in on Monday 2nd September. ESSPA volunteers are working hard to create a very enjoyable evening for us all.

In the meantime, should you need any support I can be reached on:

s-walton@jis.edu.hk or by phone in the JIS office: 2834 3531.

Have a great weekend – hopefully not a really wet one!

Simon Walton
Principal

ICHK Newsletter: This week's news update from ICHK is [here](#)