



Newsletter 3 2019-20

Friday 6th September 2019

Dear Parents and JIS community

Updates on the week just gone and things coming up.

ESSPA – Welcome Back Party!

Friday 20th September 2019, 6-8pm

Order forms have now been received and ESSPA look forward to welcoming everyone back to school to meet new families/students at their annual term 1 'Welcome Back party', 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. There will be some entertainment and activities for everyone – see you there!



All visitors to the event **MUST** have a ticket. For those families not ordered yet, tickets will be sold on the night (\$200 per adult, \$100 per child, 3-11 yrs).

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

Many thanks to the parents who came along to meet with their child's class teacher on Wednesday evening. We hope you found the sessions useful. Parents who were not able to attend will be able to access the information shared – check your child's backpack or emails from your child's class teacher.

Thanks also to Toby Newton, ICHK Head of School, who gave a very passionate presentation about what the beliefs and practices of ICHK are and how they work with their students. It is very encouraging to know that the values and beliefs of our partner secondary are so well aligned with those of our school!

CUHK student internships at JIS – term 1

This week we welcomed 3 CUHK students to join us for a 3 month internship at JIS. We have developed a long standing relationship with the CUHK Psychology Department and welcome a group of students to JIS every year. This year the students will be in P1, PE and in the Music classes. They always enjoy their time with us at school and soon become an integral part of our staff team. At the end of their placement they review aspects about young students and their learning that they have observed and learned more about and challenge the students to a session of interesting research games / activities, which are always a lot of fun.

Hong Kong Student Health Service – applications in school backpacks today

All parents are asked to complete the Student Health Service application forms that have been sent out today in backpack mail.

Everyone needs to complete the form if you are interested or not. If you are using personal or family doctor medical services please decline the offer on the form as we are required to account for ALL JIS students and their responses.

Many thanks for your understanding and support.

HK Music Festival – seeking interest – Ms Jill, music class

The **72nd HK Schools Music Festival will be held in late February - March 2020**. We are delighted to offer a range of children the chance to enjoy a music competition again this year. Ms Jill usually introduces the festival during music lessons but if you are interested for your child to take part in this competition,

please contact on: jtse@es.jis.edu.hk . Ms. Jill will provide training to students from Term 2 during snack recess / lunch recess for the following items:

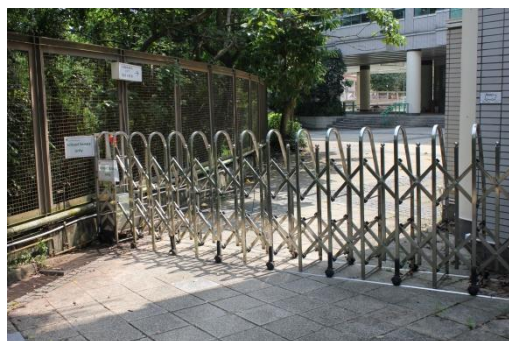
Recorder Duet Junior
Children Vocal Solo (English)
Children Vocal Solo (Cantonese)
Vocal Solo
Vocal Solo

Class Dojo; smartphone / device application



The school is fully connected to the community through Class Dojo – look out for message updates, photos and occasional videos about what is going on in school and your child’s classroom. Some students are now using their own personal dojo accounts to create news feeds and portfolios of what they have been in doing in class.

Security and school – important update – please read this carefully



Before school - Now that our Japanese Section is in full session, we need to remind all parents who drive by car to JIS to make sure that they drop off in the front car park carefully avoiding school buses and general traffic in the school driveway. Keep your speed down and eyes open for children crossing to get into the school.

After school - please remember to park your car appropriately and leave the main car park area by 3:00 p.m. to allow the Japanese Section buses to enter the school car park.

The gates to the rear carpark are closed after the school buses have left to make sure all visitors to the school use the main entrance and can be identified and checked by Mr Tsang, our new security guard.

All visitors to the school must identify themselves before they enter the school. Please wear your JIS school i.d. and sign in with security or at the office. Please make sure all family members and domestic helpers are aware of this and support us in keeping everyone safe and identified.

After school hours please support us by leaving the playground area by 3:30 p.m. This gives all students 45 minutes after school hours to play with friends. Students and parents waiting for siblings to finish after school activities are asked to wait in the playground area. We have recently spent a lot of time discussing with the children ‘shared responsibility and respect for the school equipment’ – please be sure to tidy up the playground area before we leave – ask your child to help – it is their school and their responsibility.

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.

ICCHK Open Evening presentation – Wednesday 11th September – 6 pm – 8:50pm



International College Hong Kong

ICCHK will be hosting a Parent Information Evening on Wednesday 12th September from 6-8:50 pm. Parents of P4 – P6 students are invited to the school for an evening of presentations and information sharing. Other parents who are interested are welcome to join if they

would like to.

Note if there is enough interest: There will be a bus from JIS carpark at 5:30pm – which will return from ICHK to JIS around 8:30pm – please contact Mr Walton – s-walton@jis.edu.hk if you would like some seats on the bus. We do not yet have enough numbers to run a bus. Last call Monday 3pm

Environment update from Ms Merrill and JIS Student Council

This year we will continue with our environmental work at JIS, as a school we are continually working to reduce our impact on the environment and raise awareness of the current environmental issues we are facing. The Student Council initiated a Plastic Free Friday last year where they encouraged students to bring only home-made foods on a Friday for snack and to avoid all single use plastic on this day. P1, Reception and P2 trialed a waste disposal system called Bokashi which was a success. This involved children collecting their lunch leftovers and composting them to make a plant fertilizer, which we have used on the school gardens.

These are some of the things you can do to support:

- Support your child to bring in home-made snacks, fruit and lunches. Try to avoid sending in packaged food in single use plastic. We aim to be a single use, plastic free school for snacks by the end of the year.
- Make sure you give your child the correct portion size for lunch to minimize food waste, anything they don't eat can go in the Bokashi bucket for composting if you give consent for this.
- Send in recycling to school, we accept all forms of plastic, cans, glass, any old computers and small electronic items. They will go to the recycling centre in Tai Po. Please ensure all the recycling is clean.
- Encourage your child to clear out toys for our November Toy Swap event, let's re-use what we have already.

Many thanks for your support with all these initiatives!



[Learning at JIS – from Cath Wan, Deputy Principal/ PYP Coordinator](#)

It was lovely to see you at Meet the Teacher Night on Wednesday and I'm looking forward to the year ahead, as our vibrant JIS learning community continues to grow. As mentioned on Wednesday, this year will be our IB Self-Study and Evaluation year. As part of an ongoing 5 year cycle, we will conduct a thorough study of our school, using the IB "Standards and Practices" as our guide. Our report, along with our school documentation (plans, policies, samples of student work etc.) will be sent to the IB in March, where the evaluation team will examine them before visiting the school in May. Our self-study and the IB evaluation team's observations will guide our continued development as an IB school. The learning and well-being of our students at JIS will continue to be at the heart this process and we critically reflect on how we can make JIS and even better place to come to school!



I often refer to JIS as a learning community, because we ‘practice what we preach’ and consider ourselves to be life-long learners. We would love to have parents be part of our learning journey. The whole school uses Class Dojo to share learning at the school and we hope you will enjoy interacting with our learning using this platform. Usually, I write an article in the school newsletter every 2 weeks about an aspect of learning at JIS. However, we would also like to provide other options for you to join in.

If you could fill in the following questionnaire, it will help us to plan our community education for this year. Please access the questionnaire here:

<https://forms.gle/jdXSbipKeNibgEvc8>

As always, if you have any questions about the learning at JIS, feel free to contact me at:

cwan@es.jis.edu.hk

Around school:

Students in the early years classes have been outside enjoying some of our new resources. We have invested in some ‘balance bikes’ to help with coordination and balance training. They are a great way to develop many aspects of bodily fitness and coordination and they are very popular so far!



Events
ahead



for the week
at JIS – week 4, September 9-13th



Monday 9th –

Tuesday 10th – P6 students to ICHK for ‘Taster day’

Wednesday 11th – Eye tests at JIS – by appointment, applications have been sent to Ms Kim

-Ms Merrill on Forest School course training (3 days)

-Mr Ebihara from Japanese Consulate is speaking at JIS 2pm (Japanese language presentation)

-ICHK Open/Information Evening for JIS parents 6-8:50 pm – bus leaves JIS at 5:30pm* (* - if needed)

Thursday 12th –

Friday 13th – Day before mid – autumn festival – moon gazing and beach picnics!

ICHK Weekly Bulletin: This week.

Click here for this week’s bulletin from ICHK: [here](#)

I look forward to seeing everyone around school and at the Welcome Back Party on 20th September. Enjoy your weekend – it could be a good one.

Simon Walton

Principal

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