



Newsletter 6 2019-20

Friday 27th September 2019

Dear Parents and JIS community

Many thanks to all the ESSPA volunteers and performers last Friday evening who put together an excellent evening for around 400 people as our first social event of the school year. The support from the school community for this event was very much appreciated.

Well done to our small but very efficient ESSPA committee who managed to plan, order and sort logistics for this event. They were supported by a loyal band of volunteers to make the evening run very smoothly.

The performances by our wadaiko and capoeira groups were fabulous, as was the 'Odaiko' performance including Ms Stephanie and Ms Wan.



JIS Student Council

In school assembly this week Ms Merrill gave us an outline of what our new student council members will be doing this year and what our new environmental officers will do around school to continue our awareness and drive to support a range of recycling and planet awareness issues.

LEAP Van at JIS 25th / 26th September

The ever popular LEAP Van (Life Education Activities Programme) and Harold the giraffe rolled into JIS this week and everyone seemed to have a great time in the interactive workshops offered.

Japanese Section students from P3 also joined this year to enhance their English lessons.



Around school:

School photos day – Monday 30th September

Photos for everyone will be taken on Monday 30th September. Payment/order envelopes must be in on Monday latest as Techni photo will take them away with them at the end of the day.

Sibling photos need to be arranged / pre-booked with Ms Miyajima and they will be taken on Monday afternoon.

Please make sure your child is wearing appropriate school uniform for the photos. Some parents have asked about white or navy shirts – as we stock both and both colours are a generally accepted part of JIS uniform, it seems appropriate that either can be worn for the photos.

JIS House Team Challenge event today at school!

Ada Cheung in P3 created a very enjoyable and impressive House Team challenge for the students today. She was supported by a group of JIS teachers and some parents in managing to have all students moving around school to create posters, solve problems and challenge themselves with some physical activities in the playground. Each team had students from all ages within the school, so it was great to see the older students use their social skills in managing their groups and also the younger students step up and be adventurous and trusting of their older peers. It was a ‘full – on’ 2.5 hours which was concluded with some well-earned pizza, courtesy of ESSPA and their P6 special lunch! A great morning at JIS.



The students had to discover a variety of places and objects found on the first floor of the school, then go to the library and design and create a poster linked to one of our chosen U.N. Global Goals, followed by a range of physical challenges on the playground on the ground floor.



World Animal Awareness Day – October 4th – JIS Aniform Day!

Annette De Thier in P1 is arranging for us all to celebrate World Animal Awareness Day on Friday October 4th. The event is co-sponsored by the SPCA a charity which we regularly support at JIS. For a small donation of around \$20 or more, students will be encouraged to wear animal print style clothing, animal image print/design clothing (animal t-shirt, shorts or similar) or animal accessories for the day at school. The donations will be collated and sent off to support the work of the SPCA in Hong Kong. Everyone is welcome to get involved. See the note on class dojo for more details.

Flu vaccination forms

The office has sent home some information regarding a free flu vaccination to be offered to all students by the HK Govt. All interested forms (green A3 size) and a (white A4 size) consent letter need to be returned by October 4th. The consent letter may be coming home on Monday 30th for some classes, our apologies.

Capoeira club – hosted at school by Fiona Merrill

Students involved in capoeira club with Ms Merrill will be receiving a letter home next week to give details of timings and the essential agreements for the club. As a large number of students are now interested, Ms Merrill will be running two clubs on Mon and Thursday lunchtimes.

School production – December 2019 – important update from Ms Wan.



Learning at JIS – from Cath Wan, Deputy Principal/ PYP Coordinator

Promoting ‘agency’ through our school production: *Cinderella Rockerfella*

For the past 8 years, JIS has been proud to present a full scale musical production. This year, we are excited to announce that on Friday, December 13th we will perform the musical ‘*Cinderella Rockerfella*’. However, this year, the process will be a little different. As a result of careful reflection, including asking the students to feed back on the process of last year’s production, *Jungle Book*, we have decided to include more ‘student agency’ in the process.

The IB defines the term ‘agency’ as “voice, choice and ownership”.



Students demonstrate agency when they: “make choices, voice opinions, ask questions, participate in and contribute to the learning community”. Strategies to support agency include “involving students in making decisions about what, why and how they learn – as co-collaborators in the learning community.” (IB, 2019. *PYP Principles into Practice: The Learner*).

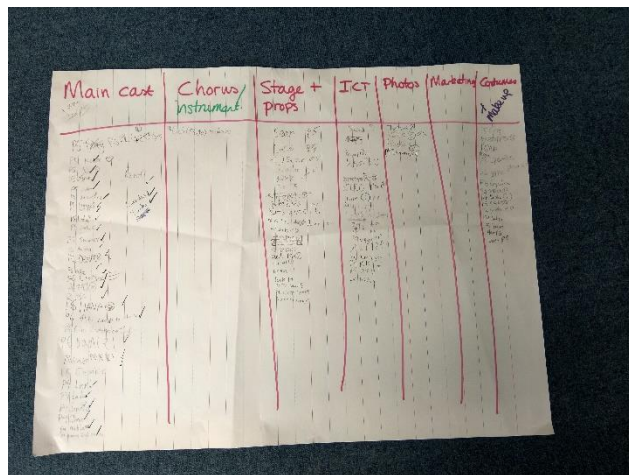
In past productions, students from P4 – P6 had the choice to audition for main parts in the show reflecting some agency. Students who did not wish to audition were ‘given’ a class song and had, depending on their age, some input into its presentation. This year, we are being risk-takers and taking agency further.

This is how it works:

All members of P4 – P6 are expected to have a responsibility in the show. However, these students were given a choice in how they would like to collaborate. We co-constructed a list of responsibilities, all of which have equal importance and opportunities for learning. Our final list of jobs was: main cast; chorus member; ensemble; stage and props/ stage crew; ICT (green screens, sound etc.); photography; costumes and makeup.

Students in each of the groups will receive tuition in their area of interest and then apply their skills to create our performance. The new process was received enthusiastically by students and their sense of ‘ownership’ in the process is already starting to form! Reception to P3 students will be involved in the show chorus and we will investigate ways of developing more agency in this area at a later date.

If any parents have experience in any of the areas above and would like to share your expertise in our collaborative endeavour, please do feel free to contact me at cwan@es.jis.edu.hk



Potential protests and social media rumours – October 1st and around this date

As Hong Kong prepares for the October 1st National Day holiday there are increasing rumours of protests and possible disruptions. We hope the coming days pass safely and smoothly but should there be any requirements on safety grounds to amend or cancel the school day we shall be in touch with all the school community immediately on Class Dojo, through our My Schools information system (email and SMS) and through our school website front page.

As we have a busy day planned for Monday 30th September we hope to have as normal a day as possible.

Events for the week ahead at JIS – Week 7, September 30th -4th October

Monday 30th – P5 camp meeting at 8:30 a.m.

-School photos day – correct uniform please

Tuesday 1st – **Public Holiday – National Day celebrations**

Wednesday 2nd – P4 camp to Sai Kung Country Park – Mr Rixon and Ms Merrill with students

-P6 research trip to Shatin Plaza

Thursday 3rd – P4 camp day 2

Friday 4th – P6 trip to World Cup Rugby fanzone in Central – coaching, rugby tour and more

-Aniform Day– animal uniform day at JIS for SPCA – please donate and dress up

ICHK Weekly Bulletin: This week.

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

I hope that the weekend is a positive one for everyone.

Simon Walton

Principal

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