



## Newsletter 11 2020-21

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and JIS community

### Whole day schooling for everyone at JIS!

We are all set for whole day schooling on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020. There is a kind of getting back to 'normal' feeling but of course for our new families and students there is no normal!

Here is a list of the key things that everyone will need to be aware of – *please read it carefully*. We will make sure information is shared as clearly as possible in order to make things as smooth as we can. It may take us a few days to get everything perfect, but we will get there.



We shall be running a normal school day and full timetable from 8:15 a.m. until 2:45 p.m.

### Arrival and pick up from school:

- **All buses** will drop off collect from the rear car park – next to the playground. No cars will be allowed in this area. The buses will need access to this area, so please do not block it with a car.
- **All students who are dropped off** by car or arrive with helpers or parents on public transport will enter and leave the school from the **FRONT** door. This will need to be done carefully as in the mornings there will be Japanese Section buses as well as cars in the front carpark – please just drop off without getting out of your car to keep the flow of traffic as smooth as possible. At pick up time we shall need to be as quick and smooth as possible as Japanese Section buses will need to access the car park by 3:10pm. (We have 20 minutes to clear the car park!)

### Eating at school:

Students are not allowed to remove their masks for an extended time in a classroom so all lunches will be eaten in other spaces.

- Reception and P4 will use the Art room – with full cleaning and plastic screens to split eating areas, P1, 2 and P5 and P6 will use the Multipurpose Room on the first floor for eating, P3 will use the picnic tables in the playground eating area created by using our 7 large picnic tables
- Lunchbreak will be at the normal times but will be split in half. P4, 5, 6 will go out for recess before they eat (12:00 – 12:25pm) and the Reception class to P3 will eat at this time. Then the P4, 5, 6 classes will come inside to eat their lunch (12:30 – 12:50p.m.) and the Reception, P1, P2 and P3 classes will go out for recess
- Please help us by providing an 'easy to eat' lunch for your child – something that they like to eat and that does not involve too many containers. Noodles/fried rice are fine in a small thermos flask, so are sandwiches, rice balls, fruit etc. The students will be assisted but they will need to be as independent as possible
- All eating areas will have to be carefully cleaned before and after eating to comply with EDB regulations
- All students will be required to sit in the same seat each day for lunch (track and trace requirements). Seats will be numbered to help students remember where to go

### General school life:

The school day will become a full day and full timetable will be resumed. Language, Music, P.E. lessons will be back to a usual schedule. The whole class will finally get to meet and socialize with each other!

All classrooms will have Perspex screens to separate work spaces whilst children are seated at their desks – this will take some getting used to but is a requirement of Hong Kong EDB.

If there is more news we will send it next week. If anyone has any questions, please contact Mr Walton in the school office – [s-walton@jis.edu.hk](mailto:s-walton@jis.edu.hk)

## **Around school:**

### **Outdoor classroom day and week – this week at JIS**

Fiona Merrill did a fantastic job of setting up a range of opportunities for students in ‘Outdoor Education week’. There were activities for every recess enabling the students to interact with their environment in a variety of ways. The class teachers also planned a wide range of activities to showcase that we can learn outdoors and gain a different experience by taking activities out of the regular classroom environment.

A word or two from Fiona:

#### Reflections on Outdoor Classroom Week

*We already knew it, but the challenges we have experienced over the past eight months have made us realise even more deeply that time outdoors is good for our health, our wellbeing, and our connection to this beautiful planet that we live on. It is vital that the next generation learn to love and cherish the natural environment as they will be ones who will create and shape the future.*

*With this in mind this week JIS have wholeheartedly joined in with the world wide initiative of Outdoor Classroom Week. This week students have partaken in a variety of experiences outdoors. Here is a snapshot of what different classes have been up to....*

*In music class the students listened to classical pieces of music and drew their emotional response.*

*In Mandarin class some groups of children worked with recognising numbers and colours outside.*

*In Japanese classes children used leaves and other natural loose parts to create collages which they then described and shared.*

*Reception also worked with loose parts and chalk to draw shapes.*

*P1 used the playground tiles to explore the concept of ten frames when counting*

*P2 took base ten manipulatives down to the playground to make large scale place value monsters*

*P3 worked at sketching the school as inspiration for a writing project*

*P4 looked for and created arrays around the playground*

*P5 explored how energy can transform and transfer, trying out the stack ball drop experiment*

*P6 found out the best ways to calculate how many tiles there are in the playground!*

*During recess time children were offered a variety of experiences to develop their knowledge of Hong Kong flora and fauna, this included bug and scavenger hunts.*

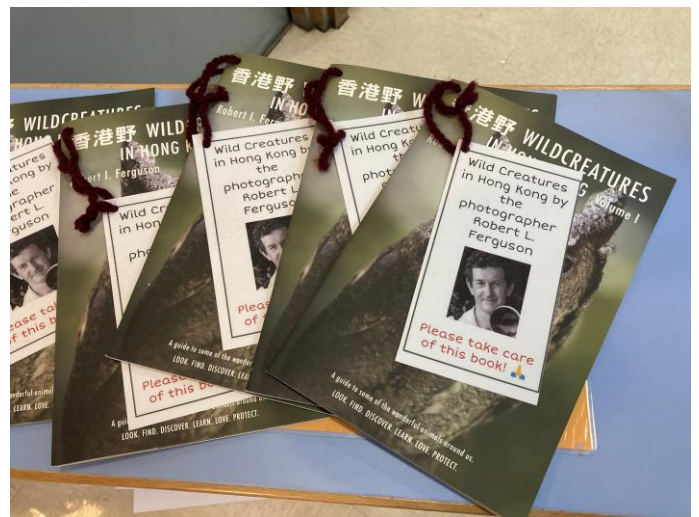
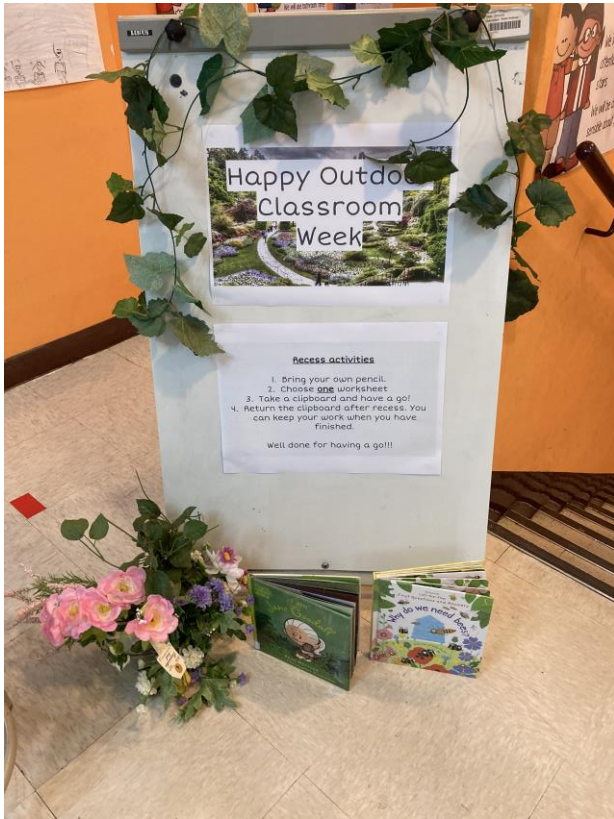
*As a school we will continue to further explore and grow outdoor learning both within the school grounds and out in the natural environment further afield.*

#### Eco- friendly snack initiative

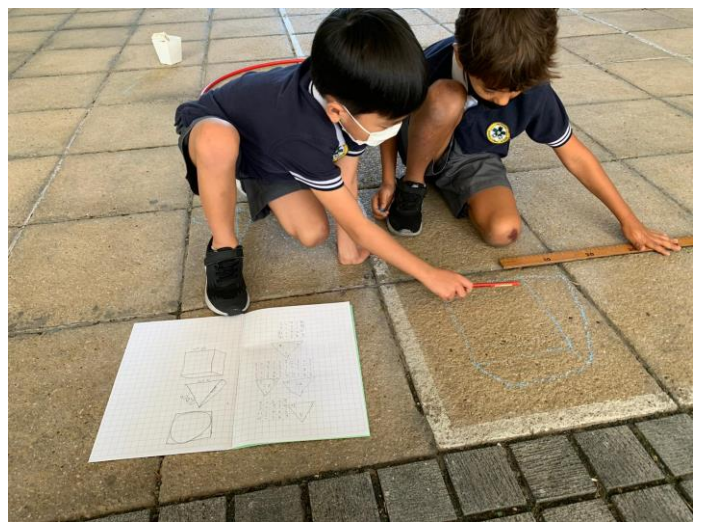
*Thank you for supporting our move to go single use plastic free at snack times. Throughout the school we can see that students are bringing in healthy, whole food snacks and that single use plastic use has really reduced. It is great that students can all eat healthy fruits, vegetables, nuts and other nutritious food, having a strong immune system and staying away from processed food and sugar has never been more important!*

**The Student Council** would like to invite families to send in snack recipes for sharing, this could be sushi, ways to cook eggs, simple sandwiches, healthy cakes, cereal bars and muffins. Please hand in a hard copy to your class teacher so we can share within the community. Simple recipes are great!









It has also been really great to see the students back to exploring and developing different ideas with their play. The loose parts play equipment is very popular and allows our older students to work alongside some of our younger students in devising new routines and experiences each recess time.



It is also great to witness the first time a young Reception or P1 child makes it from one end of the monkey bars to the other – or manages to hang upside down for the first time!





### Parent Teacher interviews – November 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

Links for the conferences next week have been shared with parents. Class teachers will be using an open link for all appointments so please try to stick to the scheduled times, to avoid overlap. Appointments requested with teachers or staff other than class teachers will also be sent out to those parents who have booked. If you have any questions please contact the school office – 2834 3531

### School lunches – provided by ‘School Luncher’ – on site delivery each day

Some of our long term families have been asking about lunch deliveries and orders through a company we have used before called ‘New Luncher’. These orders and deliveries will be able to start in December 2020.



For details about the New Luncher deliveries contact [www.thenewluncher.hk](http://www.thenewluncher.hk)

### School uniform shop: Opening hours –

In order to get ready for the cooler autumn weather the shop will continue to be open on Wednesdays

- Wednesday – 8:30 – 3:30pm
- You can visit the company shop in Jordan at any time and arrange orders through online shopping and home delivery - <https://www.jis.ufsonline.com.hk/> to contact the uniform supplier

### Parents / community members in the school building

Can I please remind all parents that the school is still under COVID-19 procedures and as such we are limiting access to essential visits only by parents or community members. If you are waiting for a child attending an after school activity, please wait outside by the main entrance. Anyone who needs to enter the school should do so through the main entrance only, wear a face mask, sign in and get temperature checked and leave as quickly as possible. ***If parents are attending a meeting in school they will be asked to complete a health declaration form at the entrance, for track and trace purposes.*** Thank you for your understanding.

### ICHK Weekly Bulletin:

For this week's news from our partner secondary school please click: [here](#)

### Attached notification from Hong Kong Japanese Schools Management committee – re employee dismissal in 2019

Attached to this newsletter you will find a message from our outgoing Chairman of the School Board of directors. This letter is a final statement from the School Board to conclude the process regarding the dismissal of an employee of HKJS Ltd. The letter is a formal closure of this series of events which began in 2019, and outlines the steps taken in response and under the guidance of legal advice. The employee was not directly affiliated to the International Section of JIS and the situation had little effect upon the operations of our school.

### Typhoon Astani – this weekend – check details for Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November

We are hoping that there will be no disruption to school on Monday morning caused by the passing of Typhoon Astani late on Saturday and Sunday, this weekend. If the typhoon changes direction or speed towards Hong Kong, please check for messages from school on Monday morning about whether school will be open or not.

Wishing everyone a very enjoyable weekend ahead.

Simon Walton  
Principal

Note: We attach a new copy of the temperature recording sheet which may be needed as we are now in a new month.