



Newsletter 29 2020-21

Monday 26th April 2021

Dear Parents and JIS community

P4 Day Camp at Hoi Ha Wan with hike in Tai Po Kau

As overnight camps are not currently allowed for the students last week, we were able to arrange for our P4 to have a series of active day camp experiences very similar to their normal camp experience.

Day 1 was in Hoi Ha Wan – part of Sai Kung Country Park

Day 2 was a hike in Tai Po Kau – our local Country Park

Day 3 was back at Hoi Ha Wan for some more water based fun and experiences



The weather was amazing for the Hoi Ha days, with the students enjoying kayaking, mangrove exploration, raft building and snorkeling out in the crystal clear waters of Hoi Ha.



The activities also included some shelter building in the mangroves using only natural items found around the area. Dragonfly Ltd. provided the staff for us to learn techniques and safety procedures as well as all the logistics of rental of equipment.

The students had two great days in Hoi Ha.



Tai Po Kau Hike Day P4

On Thursday last week the P4 class also headed off from school with a group of JIS staff and some P4 parents for a morning in the local forest:



The P4 class were busy with their knotting techniques to create a natural materials game and did lots of plant identification activities with the SEEK app to learn more about our local environment and habitats.

HK Young Readers Festival 2021:

Last week the HKYRF gave our students some really great interaction with authors through some online workshops. The authors were very engaging and shared with the students their inspirations for writing as well as the frustrations of publishing and writing itself.

Rachel Ip (<https://www.rachelip.com/>) was working with P5 and P6 on Tuesday with a workshop of Conflict and Migration, and Reception, P1, P2 on Thursday with her book The Forgettery.

This week Dan Gemeinhart (<https://dangemeinhart.com/index.html>) will work with P5 and P6 on Monday 26th April and Dove Tales will be working with P3 and P4 on Wednesday 28th April.

These workshops have so far proved to be very worthwhile.

School fees for 2021 – 22 – advanced notice for August 2021

The school fees for next year have been discussed and agreed by the JIS School Board to be slightly adjusted but our Annual Capital Levy will remain the same, no increase. The fees will be adjusted by 3.5% which represent a change of HK\$ 390 per month. The monthly fees will be adjusted from \$11, 162 per month, to \$11, 552 per month payable for ten months.

Annual school fees will become \$ 115, 520 with the annual capital levy at \$15, 200 = total \$130, 720

We managed to have a fees freeze last year but need to make an adjustment this year. We hope to keep our students numbers stable for the next academic year but we are aware of some families relocating out of Hong Kong, which may an effect on our overall numbers. This will mean that in the next few weeks we shall look to doing some interviews of students currently on our waiting lists and also meet some new families contacting the school.

We are currently having to invest heavily in the school building to maintain the positive environment we have always been able to create. Some of you may have noticed various buckets of water and damp circles around the building caused by our a/c system over the last few years, which we have now been advised is in need of replacement not repair. We have patched it up for several years but now we need to act more positively. The system is being replaced with class based individual a/c units in phases at a significant cost of HK \$8 million. In the long run we hope this will be more efficient and certainly more cost effective.

We continue to invest in all curriculum areas and will maintain our high levels of resourcing for the students and their learning.

As a not for profit business all financial gains for the school are re-invested in the school and its learning community.

We shall also shortly be sharing with you our updated fee payment structure to allow for a more smooth and transparent collection of fees by direct debit and not constant bank transfers or cheque deposit. Japanese sections of our partner schools have this year transitioned to a direct debit system and it is time that we did the same to support efficiency in the school accounting department. Full details will be shared with you soon.

School places for next year:

Further to some interviews last week for our 2021-22 Reception class we have increased our numbers of students but do still have a few places for the class if there are families interested in joining us.

Interviews for some other classes will take place in the next few weeks, so we do ask that families interested in joining JIS for next school year, do contact Ms. Miyajima on 2834 3531 for more details as soon as possible in order to be considered.

Employment Opportunities at JIS:

Full time Education Assistant (E.A.) role for August 2021 – last call

We are now recruiting for a full time Education Assistant to support the students learning alongside a class teacher and students. This role will be full time starting in August 2021 and would suit someone interested in making a commitment to working in a school environment to support a range of student learning activities alongside a class teacher.

The E.A. in a JIS classroom is an integral part of the life and curriculum of the room. They support the learning of the students through working in groups or with individuals to broaden the options available to the teacher in implementing their curriculum. There are also organizational and admin duties that are needed to support the smooth running of the class community.

The position available will be full time, with hours from 8 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. each school day. There is a commitment to support aspects of the school through meetings and workshops. Applicants would ideally have experience of working with young children in a school based setting, but this is not essential. Salary for this position is on a scale linked to qualifications and experience from \$19K – 23.5K.

Persons interested in this position should contact Simon Walton – Principal with a full CV and letter of application, including contactable references. Interviews will be held in the week of May 3rd 2021 and applications will close on 28th April.

Thank you to those applicants who have expressed interest in this position already – there is no need to contact the school again, information has been kept on file.

ICHK Newsletter

Friday 23rd April – click [here](#) for the latest news bulletin from our partner secondary school.

Events for the week ahead:

Monday 26th: -HKYRF – P5 and P6 with Dan Gemeinhart – 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday 27th:

Wednesday 28th: -HKYRF - P3 and P4 with ‘Dove Tales’ – Creating Characters 8:30 – 10 (P3), 10:30 – 12 (P4) – 2 sessions in the morning session

Thursday 29th: Reception class in Tai Po Kau Country Park a.m.

Friday 30th:

Wishing everyone a really enjoyable week ahead.

Simon Walton
Principal