



## Newsletter 2 2017-18

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents and JIS community

**Here we go 2017-18 up and running!**



### **Artist in Residence Programme – Wall mural painting 2017 – Plastic Oceans Project**

Its finished and scaffolding is down, ready for us all to enjoy and appreciate. A big thanks to Tiffany and Blue from HKEDU for their hard work and creative – internship. We shall use the mural as part of environmental work on plastics awareness schemes and general conservations discussions. The creatures within the mural were designed by the students.



# ESSPA – Welcome Back + JIS 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party BBQ!

## Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017

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 15<sup>th</sup> September**. This year the event will be a double celebration as we celebrate 20years of JIS in TaiPo. The event is held in the school covered playground and will be an evening of good food, nice company and entertainment with '20' being the theme for some games and activities.

Order forms for food **HAVE** been sent out and will need to be returned to school as soon as possible for catering to be ordered (**Please return by 8th September - latest**). We will ensure a great evening and plenty of food will be available, so no-one goes hungry... honest!



## ESSPA – social 'coffee morning' – Friday 1st September – 8:30 a.m.



Many thanks to those members of the JIS community who were able to come along to school this morning and join the ESSPA coffee morning. It was great to see a mix of existing and new members of our community come along.

A big thanks to the members of the ESSPA board of directors who provided all the food and coffee for everyone. They look forward to welcoming you all to their next event – the Welcome Back 20<sup>th</sup> BBQ.

## Meet the Teacher Night – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 7:00pm

You will get a chance to meet your child's class teacher on 'Meet the Teacher' evening next week on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 7:00pm**. They will be able to talk more about the schedule for their class and how learning is integrated across the spectrum of our PYP (Primary Years Programme) curriculum. More information on this evening will follow shortly.

At the beginning of the 'Meet the Teacher' evening there will be a short presentation in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor multi purpose room (MPR) for all parents. Crèche: - We will be able to show a short movie in the MPR for those families, without childminding services, who need to bring their children along to an evening meeting.

## Security and school – i.d. cards and car park passes

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. Can we please ask that all parents wear the JIS i.d. lanyard when they are visiting school. These have been sent out by the school office. If you would another one for a family member or domestic helper please ask at the school office or send us a message.



### **Car parking and drop off at JIS – updated information for all motorists**

Thank you for assisting us in keeping the flow of traffic smooth in the morning drop off and at afternoon collection time. Now that Japanese Section is in school – be aware of not blocking the main carpark to allow their buses to enter the school. Easy to remember as: – arrive after 8a.m. in the morning, and leave before 3pm in the afternoon.

International Section school buses will continue to use the rear car park in the morning and afternoons. Please keep the rear car park clear until all buses have left this

area. If you are staying after school and need to move your car from front car park to the rear car park (to avoid being blocked by Japanese Section buses) please park here **ONLY** after our 4 buses have left (3pm or after).

### **ICHK – exam success and international accolades for the school innovation projects.**

A message from Mr Toby Newton – Head of School at ICHK, our partner secondary school, to share with the JIS community:

‘I am delighted to announce that ICHK students are celebrating another year of fantastic IGCSE and I.B. results.

As a non-selective school, who offer places to all the students graduating from our three primary partners, we work with students with a wide variety of academic profiles. ICHK takes equal pleasure in all their success stories, whether that is As across the board for the academically adept or a hard-won D for a student who struggles with classwork.

This year, overall, **40%** of the grades awarded to our students were at **A\*** or **A**, results in line with the highest achieving schools in Hong Kong and beyond. 37 of the 43 students (86%) who sat exams received 5 or more A\*-C grades, so qualifying them to continue their studies as IB Diploma candidates, with 27 (63%) receiving 8 or more.

Needless to say, behind the raw figures lie a series of extraordinary individual success stories, with many students significantly exceeding expectations generated by CAT and ICAS assessments earlier in their school careers.

It is this "value added" that we are most proud of as a school – students who, by embracing a growth mindset, routinely go far beyond what might be expected of them.

These results follow last month’s excellent IBDP scores, where 19.2% of our students scored 40 points or above, and 57.6% scored above 35 points. Our pass rate was 100%, and our average score was 35.1%. This places ICHK significantly above the global average of 29.9%. Again our results were in line with the highest achieving schools in Hong Kong and beyond.

Five students scored 40 points, which placed them in the top 6 or 7 per cent of candidates globally over the past two years. More than half of our students attained grades within the top 25% worldwide.

Our students have now taken up places at prestigious universities around the world, including Durham, Manchester, Exeter, the University of California, Berkeley, the University of British Columbia and the University of Hong Kong.

The whole ICHK community congratulates the students on their results, which are a well-deserved reward for their dedication and hard work over the past two years.’

### **Other news from ICHK about international curriculum innovation awards:**

**ICHK has been included in a list of just 100 schools worldwide as part of a Cambridge University project, Innovation 800.**

Innovation 800 is a celebration of 800 years of educational excellence at Cambridge and a review of current "leaders in learning".

Innovation 800 is published in two forms - as a website that can be accessed [here](#) and as a hard copy book - and will be the subject of a year-long Cambridge University campaign to connect students, innovators, educators, recruiters and the wider world of business.

ICHK is the only school in Hong Kong included in Innovation 800. We are proud to be recognised as "best practice pioneers" and encouraged to be part of a developing conversation centered on changing school for the better. You can read more about this achievement here: [Cambridge Innovation 800](#).

Note: On behalf of all the JIS community I send our congratulations and best wishes to the staff and students of ICHK who have done so well and contributed to the development of the school over the last few years.



### Hats and being 'sun smart'

Hats and hot weather are an important issue for us to consider. All JIS students need their own sun hat or cap to be kept at school, for break time and P.E.. The hat should be kept safe in a classroom cubby – we will also try to remind students to take them home occasionally to have them washed!

We sell JIS school hats, but students are welcome to bring their own if they would like to do so.

### After school playing in the school playground areas:

At school we fully appreciate that many of our students live in different areas of Hong Kong and that our building becomes a natural focus for after school play dates or gatherings. Can I please remind everyone and ask for support in sticking to this simple rule? ***'There is 45minutes after the school bell for students to play together but after 3:30pm please take your children home.'*** All students staying after school MUST have a person who is responsible and in charge of them. Please make sure that all family members and domestic helpers are aware of the time to leave school.

We also ask everyone to make sure their children are playing appropriately and that they tidy up balls and equipment before they leave to go home.



### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September – EYE screening at JIS – Optometrist, Susan Salnikow



Please be aware that if you would like your child to have an eye screening test at school on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September you will be able to complete an application form shortly. The tests are voluntary for any families to take up the opportunity launched by Ms Bailie, in previous years. Application forms are available and have been sent home. Please return them to school if you are interested in this service.

### Uniform exchange rack – JIS office area



We offer a uniform 'trade-in' exchange service for parents wishing to recycle good quality school uniforms and allow others to have good use out of unwanted or out-grown clothing. The rack is located near the school office and we ask that if you browse through the rack and wish to take something, that you give back some older or different sized uniform you no longer need.

### Finally..... typhoon – on its way

Please check all weather notices and websites on Sunday as it is predicted that we may have another typhoon heading to Hong Kong. I hope it does not interfere with school on Monday, but if a number 8 signal is raised or red or black rain warnings are in progress I will send information to parents and use the school website.

Simon Walton  
Principal