



Newsletter 19

Friday 23rd March 2017

Dear Parents and JIS community

Around school updates:

World Book Day and JIS Bookathon 2017 – WOW what a great success!



Many thanks to everyone who supported our sponsored reading event – we have raised, so far, an amazing \$30,433 – 50% will go to support the work of 'Room to Read' charity and 50% for the JIS library. The money for the JIS library is used for buying new books and also supporting our visiting authors programme during the school year.

A few special thanks and mentions to make:

Congratulations to P1 class who had the most students participate in the Bookathon this year.

Congratulations to P2 who read the most books as a class this year

A big thank you to Sean Lee in P2 who read a huge amount of books, made a video to promote the cause on youtube and personally raised \$5, 150 on his own!! A fabulous achievement!



A big mention and thank you to Cong Contreras and Cath Wan who manage our school library to make sure there is a superb book collection and also that we develop an excellent range of 'library related' activities for the students throughout the year.

3 Way conferences, next week at JIS Tuesday 7 and Thursday 9th March

All parents should have received their appointment time and the "Curriculum in the Classroom" newsletter which outlines the aims and process of our three-way conferences.

For parents who wish to visit the **Mandarin or Japanese class** during the three-way conference, please sign up for an appointment on the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1DGnu8rzLIG18S3TfWeYb-QUguQYL0WKjiLzxnN2Nxkl/edit?usp=sharing>

Please note there are two sheets: one for Mandarin and one for Japanese.

First Aid for domestic helpers- training course opportunity at JIS

Please note the information flyer that has been sent out from school last week. Cong Contreras from the school library has kindly liaised with the first aid tutors that worked with all the JIS staff to set up an opportunity for some first aid training for domestic helpers. We have been asked to run this type of course in the past, so if you would like your helper to have some first aid training, please enrol and send them along – on Saturday 22nd April.

JIS Facebook page and optional communication channel

We have recently set up an official JIS Facebook page which will allow us to enhance our communication with the school community. We are fully aware that social media feeds are a fast and efficient method of communication and information sharing. It will not replace our usual email and website communications but can allow us to post updates and reminders on the feed, which if you follow the page, will automatically be sent through to you. The page will be for sharing information only, not interactive.

Find us at Japanese International School HK on Facebook (not the unofficial pages, set up by alumni or other agencies).

Out and about in the HK community

Some really great school trips and creative experiences this week for some of our classes.

P4 off to CLP Tuen Mun power station –



As well as visiting the power station and seeing the size of the turbines, the group was very lucky to see a coal barge unload its massive cargo during the visit. This prompted some big discussions about energy types, resources and planet sustainability in P4, as part of their unit of inquiry.

Reception Class into Tai Po Kau nature reserve:

The more we read and hear about concerns regarding child development and interacting with real environments as opposed to screen or digital ones we know we are doing the right thing by taking our learning out of the classrooms in to the real world. Reception class had the first of many days planned for them in Tai Po Kau nature reserve.



We have also made a commitment to ensure that other year groups go out into the natural environment as much as possible. Our location next to a large country park and very close to a range of beach / mountain / stream environments allows us to be a school very much in-touch with our environment. It is an advantage we will continue to exploit as much as possible to develop awareness, health and fitness as well as a fabulous learning environment.



P1 Dr Seuss' birthday celebrations in P1 – he would have been 113 years old yesterday
P1 class had a day of rhyming, creativity and wig making to celebrate the anniversary of the Dr Seuss, on Thursday. They didn't quite eat green eggs and ham for lunch but 'oh the places they did go...' a really enjoyable day for everyone

Message from Mrs. Appleton – Cross stitching club

Please can parents remind students who were part of the cross stitching club to return their equipment to the P2 classroom. Club will start again, after the Wonka production has finished but we need the equipment back!

Wonka – scenery and props making: JIS Art Room

We have a group of dedicated and creative parents helping to get the stage and scenery ready for our big show on Friday 24th March. Anyone interested in joining them, come along to the art room or contact Ada Cheung – P4 class E.A. for details.



Dates for the diary – next week – Week 10- March 6th – 10th 2017

Monday 6th –

Tuesday 7th– 3 – way conference day at JIS – normal school day for students

Wednesday 8th – Japanese Section P6 Graduation

-HKEDU students visiting JIS – a.m.

-Salina Yoon – author – presenting to Rec, P1, 2 and later P6

Thursday 9th – 3 way conferences day 2, at JIS – normal day for students

Friday 10th –

ICHK Newsletter: A few parents have thanked me for linking in the ICHK newsletter to view what is happening at our partner secondary school. Their link is not always available at the time of our publication but last week's is here: [ICHK news bulletin](#) to catch up on news.

Parents of P5 have also been invited to a presentation and Q&A session with Mr Toby Newton – Head of School at ICHK on Wednesday 15th March at JIS, in the JIS conference room from 8:30a.m. Any JIS parent is welcome to attend if they would be interested to come along and learn more about the innovative work going on and the application process for ICHK.

Wishing everyone a very enjoyable weekend. Don't forget the 3 way conferences next Tuesday and Thursday.

Simon Walton