



## Newsletter 11 2018-19

Friday 16th November 2018

Dear Parents and JIS community

### P6 visit to Xian, China

Last week the P6 students did an amazing job on their trip to Xi'an. Ms. P., Laoshi (Judith Tseng) and Mr Walton accompanied the students, with the support of 2 travel guides in China – Cathy and Maggie. The weather was chilly and a bit wet at the start of the week but by moving the schedules around the students were able to really make the most of their opportunities and enjoy the sunshine on Thursday and Friday. The days were full, with action from 8a.m. breakfast to cultural dance shows finishing at 9pm on one day lots of museums, temples, kung fu demos, taichi, shadow puppetry and of course warriors to see on all the other days.



All great fun and lots to learn and enjoy!!



## Around school:

Some really enjoyable activities and learning experiences this week going on.

**The P2 class** was out and about in Tai Po Kau forest on Tuesday morning. A really fabulous experience of being outdoors, in the natural environment and exploring some really deep learning opportunities. The more we take the students out of school and into the diverse natural environments we feel empowered to continue. Ms Wan was totally buzzing about the science conversations she had had with some of the P2 students as they explored floating and sinking in the stream, whilst other groups were exploring scientific friction and angles in maths on the climbing apparatus. Follow that with some open ended creative activities and it's an excellent trip!

**The P6 class** went out on a big connection and transdisciplinary visit to the HK Museum of History on Wednesday. Taking all their observations, memories and learning from Xi'an Ms P. tasked the class with exploring the history of HK and its region. What are the historical connections and parallels? The students did a great job and were inspired even further in their inquiries.

**The P1 class** has further explored their unit of inquiry related to plants, growth and how they help sustain life with a visit to Green Produce Foundation in Fanling. Here the P1 harvested vegetables, made healthy pizza, picked rosella berries from their bushes and then made some berry jam with their harvest. The students followed the cycle of harvesting into food production on a first hand level. The best way to learn anything!



Thanks to all the JIS staff for their efforts and planning in providing such diverse learning opportunities for the students. Thanks also to the parents who take time out of their busy lives to support the school and the students.

## **ESSPA social event and workshop – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 1:15 – 2:15pm**

*Have you ever wondered what an occupational therapist does in a primary school setting?*

*Why do teachers sometimes recommend them to parents?*

*How do they help children learn better?*

Rebecca Teague our JIS associate O.T. (Occupational Therapist) came along on Thursday afternoon to present a workshop for JIS parents and community. Around 25 parents came along to learn more and pose some interesting questions to Rebecca. Many thanks for the support from ESSPA for this event and to all the parents who came along to join in. We hope to provide more of these types of sessions in the future and would be delighted to hear from the JIS community as to what areas of interest there may be.

## **JIS staff Professional Development days – 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> November**

This weekend we have planned a variety of professional development opportunities for all the teaching and learning staff. Building on targets and goals the staff have set themselves we are having a range of workshops and professional work sharing activities; linked to differentiation, essential agreements on how we use Class Dojo, Environmental and outdoor education, study time on our Harvard Graduate school – Making Thinking Visible course, Occupational Therapy and learning in 2018, and curriculum meetings to evaluate our curriculum and specialist integration programmes.

It is a real pleasure to work with such a committed group of professional educators and after day 1 I look forward to what tomorrow will bring for the school planning and development

## **Extension activities with the Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education – update from Ms Bailie in Student Support**

The Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education are inviting nominations for their on-line learning programmes 2018-2019. The courses cover domains in Earth Science, Palaeontology, Astronomy, mathematics and the Changing Hong Kong Economy for all gifted/more able students from Primary 4 upwards.

The programmes are challenging but provide an amazing opportunity for students who have interest in any of these areas to extend their learning. Although students work on their programmes independently we encourage students who are studying similar programmes to support each other. In addition we provide a weekly coaching session with a teacher to assist students to manage their time well and answer any questions they may have. Several of our JIS students have joined in and have really shown excellent achievement and passion for their challenges.

If you would like your child to have an opportunity to join a programme. Please contact Glenda Bailie on [gbailie@es.jis.edu.hk](mailto:gbailie@es.jis.edu.hk) to arrange a possible nomination through school

## **Diary updates:**

**Don't forget: JIS Sports day coming soon on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

## **Events for the week ahead at JIS –**

### **Week 15– 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup>** – P5 visit Green Hub in Tai Po – a.m.

-ICHK HLY Mandarin staff visit JIS Mandarin dept for teacher exchange

-CUHK students at JIS arrange workshop for P3 and P4 students

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>** – P1 visit Kadoorie Farm – a.m.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>** – P3 visit Tai Po Waterfront Park -a.m.

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>** – ICHK BoD meeting – Mr Walton to attend

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Ms Premchand (P6) in Japan presenting I.B. teacher workshop for international conference

ICHK newsletter from our partner secondary school this week: click [here](#)

Wishing everyone a very enjoyable weekend.

Simon Walton  
Principal