



Newsletter 22 2018-19

Friday 1st March 2019

Dear Parents and JIS community

ESSPA Book Sale 2019 – 1st March – World Book Day – today!!

Many thanks to all the ESSPA volunteers who have helped get the Book Sale sorted for today. The donations were excellent and allowed a lot of JIS students to go home with some new books, happily recycled, and saved from landfill or a shredder!



The money raised from our book sale will go towards some JIS school projects sponsored by ESSPA.

ESSPA fundraising updates:

During this school year ESSPA has been raising a variety of events for school and fundraising for local charities through their special lunches arranged with the classes. Each class has a discussion about which type of charity they would like to donate 50% of their lunch profits to. As you can see animal charities are currently popular with the students! Cheques have been sent out to the following groups:

P6 WWF \$1820
P5 Hong Kong Dog Rescue \$1040
P4 UNICEF \$990
P3 Animals Asia \$1230

Book Day celebrations – coming later in the term.

At JIS we shall be celebrating our own Book Day with some events for the whole school and in the school library – after we have finished the school show on Friday 3rd May. The school sponsored 'Bookathon' will be started with the students on 22nd March in their library sessions.

The 'Bookathon' is a sponsored reading month or so to raise money for our school library and reading charities. U.N. World Book Day is in the school holidays (April 23rd), which is during the JIS 'Bookathon' and leads up to our own book celebration day. In the past we have had book character dressing up days and some quiz competitions in the Friday library sessions.

More information will be shared by Ms Cong from library soon.

Sports update:



P3 and P4 football at ASHK in Tai Po

On Wednesday afternoon a group of our P3 and P4 students went down the road to the American School in Tai Po for a friendly football match.

The team was Lucas P., Zac, Kojo and KK from P3 and Sean, Kai, Oscar and Matthew from P4.

Mr Jason reports:

'We played some gorgeous football yesterday, although we were defeated 6:8. We were able to score 6 goals, Sean x2/Oscar x2/Zac x1/ Lucas x1, including a free kick from Oscar. Kai was unlucky as he hit the post 3 times. The boys have improved in different ways during the 4 short games, knowing how to cover the space when defending, knowing how to be a better goal keeper, etc. It is also important to know what we have to work on after it.'

Well done and thanks to all the team and Mr Jason for the team spirit and participation. Thanks also to the parents who came along to support the team.

P6 on WW2 heritage trail at Wong Nai Chung Gap – HK Island

Yesterday the P6 class had a really fascinating 3 hours with a Hong Kong historical enthusiast guide who showed us many of the actual sites of the WW2 conflict and also told many interesting stories of bravery, resilience, intrigue and much, much, more. To be standing on the sites of events and listening to a passionate enthusiast of local history was really empowering. The P6 class were exemplary listeners and clearly found a lot of the information fascinating.





The guided walks are offered by a local HK interest group and are a really good idea!

P6 class will discuss further the role of conflict and war and the impact this has on society today and in the future. By grounding this in real historical events was a great start to their inquiries.

Reception class enjoyed another of their expeditions into Tai Po Kau country park on Wednesday morning.

Japanese violinist performance – Wednesday afternoon

The students in P4, 5 and 6 were lucky to join a performance and questions / answers session with a world famous musician on Wednesday afternoon. Chisako Takashima came to visit both the campuses of Japanese Schools in Hong Kong and gave a short performance in our school gym.

Some students from Japanese section were very lucky to be able to accompany / play with her, as well as 2 staff members from J.S. – one on flute, one on piano. The students did an amazing job to play alongside Ms Takashima! Thanks to Japanese Section for inviting us to join in.



3 Way Conferences – 5th and 7th March

3 Way Conferences sessions next week are a NORMAL school day for all students. All students will have workshop activities from 1:30pm to 2:45pm (home time) with non-class based staff at JIS. Conference meetings will be scheduled to start from 1:30pm to allow more time for each session and students booked in with their parents between 1:30pm and 2:45 pm will be sent from their workshops to attend their meeting.

Please help us in arranging supervision of your child if they are staying behind after school to wait for a conference. Please note: the school office cannot be expected to do child minding services for large numbers of children, after school.



Learning at JIS – from Cath Wan PYP Coordinator

3 – Way Conferences: March 5th and March 7th

In line with our assessment policy, we will be holding 3-way conferences next week. Here are a few reminders about what they are and how you and your child can get the most out of them.

What are 3 – way conferences?

According to the IB:

‘Three-way conferences involve the student, parents and teacher. Students discuss their learning and understanding with their parents and teacher, who are responsible for supporting the student through this process. Students are responsible for reflecting upon work samples they have chosen to share, that have been previously selected with guidance and support from the teacher and could be from the student’s portfolio. The student, parents and the teacher collaborate to establish and identify the student’s strengths and areas for improvement. This may lead to the setting of new goals, with all determining how they can support the achievement of the goals.’¹

Three – way conferences are intended to involve parents, students and teachers as a team. Depending on the age of the child, the format and level of participation between the parties may differ. For students in Reception and Primary 1, parents will be given the opportunity to interact with their child and the teacher in hands on learning experiences. The play sessions will run for longer and will have a few families in the room at the same. Students higher up the school will take a more active part in directing the conference. Conferences for P2 and up will be scheduled for 20 minutes with only one family in the room for each appointment. The 3 – way conference is not a ‘teacher-parent’ conference with the child as audience, participation of everyone is needed.

Appointments will be available from 1:30pm onwards on both days. The school day timings will be as usual, with home time still being 2:45pm. However, during the afternoon, students will be taught by Mr. Walton, Ms. Wan, Mr. Jason, Ms. Shabnam Ms. Bilbow to allow teachers to hold conferences during the school day. If your conference time is before 2:45pm, your child will be brought to you at your allotted appointment time.

For parents wishing to have a 3-way conference with Mandarin or Japanese teachers, you may sign up for a time on the following document.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mymNqKuEKdcahL2R24dj_vajqrHMQrnSEG9IT9IU8hs/edit?usp=sharing

Please write the name of your child and grade in any open appointment (there are 2 separate tabs at the bottom – one for Mandarin and one for Japanese). We trust you to be principled and only write in vacant time slots! Please note that Mandarin appointments are only available for Tuesday this year. Appointments on other days, can be made directly with Ms. Tseng by emailing her at jtseng@es.jis.edu.hk . Japanese appointments are available on both days (Tuesday and Thursday)

Why are we implementing them?

Our Mission Statement states that JIS ‘provides quality education by empowering students to think, create, discover, solve problems, become responsible citizens and achieve their personal best.’

When students are actively involved in reflecting on their learning and setting goals, intrinsic motivation is nurtured and they are more likely to achieve their personal best.

High on the list of relevant assessment, according to a recent OECD report, is:

‘Place the student at the centre, fostering engagement in learning through using formative assessment strategies.’²

Formative assessment is assessment **for** learning; it feeds forward to the student’s next goals and that’s why we believe in using it so much!

Tips for getting the most out of your child’s 3-way conference

1) Listen actively

¹ IB (2009) *Making the PYP happen: A curriculum framework for international primary education*

² OECD: Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (2013) *Synergies for Better Learning: an international perspective on evaluation and assessment*. Quoted in Harlen and Johnson, (2014) *A review of current thinking practices in relation to the Primary Years Programme*, Assessment Europe

Children tend to be very honest when assessing themselves and setting goals. Listening with an open mind can be very informative for parents and teachers. If your child is nervous, open – ended questions can help them. For example:

“Tell me more about this piece of work.”

“What are your feelings on this piece of work? What makes you say that?”

“How can I support you in...”

2) Celebrate your child’s achievements

Being specific with your praise can reinforce good habits with your child. For example:

“I can see that you really thought about using interesting words in your story.”

“I can tell that you kept trying on that problem, even though it was tricky.”

“That was an interesting question you researched.”

3) Phrase your constructive criticism positively

You can be very honest with your child in a manner that will motivate them to continue trying. Replacing negative phrasing with positive phrasing works very well for this. For example:

Instead of...	Try...
You’re not good at your multiplication tables	We should work on improving your confidence/ accuracy at your multiplication tables
You never listen in class	You need to be a better listener in class
Your writing doesn’t make sense	You need to make sure you write so that we can understand it more easily.

If you have any questions on the above, please feel free to contact me at cwan@es.jis.edu.hk

JIS Diary updates:

Please be sure to be on time for your 3Way Conference meetings next week. If you are going to be late, please call the school office on 2834 3531 and a message can be sent through to the class teacher involved.

Events for the week ahead at JIS –

Week 10: 4th – 8th March 2019

We have some touch rugby tournaments this week with both boys and girls teams involved (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday).

Monday 4th –

Tuesday 5th – 3 Way Conference Meetings 1:30 – 6pm

Wednesday 6th –

Thursday 7th – 3 Way Conference Meetings 1:30 – 6pm

-ICHK AGM at 6:30pm

Friday 8th – Author workshops at JIS with Kate Beasley

-Japanese Section P6 Graduation at 8:30a.m. in the school gym

-Laoshi in Shanghai presenting I.B. workshop on using Mandarin in the PYP (3 days workshop)

ICHK Newsletter

This week’s news letter from ICHK – please click [here](#) for this week’s newsletter

Wishing everyone a very pleasant weekend

Simon Walton
Principal