



Newsletter 24 2019-20

Friday 27th March 2020

Dear Parents and JIS community

In and around JIS this week:

Some busy, happy faces doing a variety of activities this week. Keep going everyone!



We have also received some great videos of a variety of activities. Thank you to the many parents and helpers for their videoing skills and patience as they support their children. We do watch them all!

Attendance at Google Meets remained quite high this week as we have most of the students back in Hong Kong. We hope to keep everyone busy, healthy and safe in the coming weeks ahead.

Mr Walton 'self isolation' diaries and also several other JIS families.

To the JIS families recently returned to Hong Kong and staying at home for their self isolation – good luck, keep busy and find ways of exercising and being creative around your home. Week 1 is complete for me; my family are still talking to each other, we've done a few big jigsaws, played some board games and had fun doing some experimental cooking in the kitchen based on the 'this is what we have left in the refrigerator, can it feed all of us?' scenario. Week 2, here we come!

School fees for term 3, 2019-20

This week we sent out school fee invoices for term 3. Many thanks to those families who have already paid. We fully appreciate that these invoices fall at a difficult time for many families in Hong Kong but as a not for profit school business our only source of income is the school fees. We will continue to offer a full range of activities and support for the students in the weeks ahead. Please support us by settling your school fees for the coming school term.

As mentioned before, any families who would like some support in managing these payments, please get in touch with us. We are very happy to arrange payments spread over several months if this would ease any family situations. Contact Ms Kim Murch – kmurch@es.jis.edu.hk or myself on s-walton@jis.edu.hk . Many thanks for your understanding.

Coronavirus and family activities:

Many members of our school community keep sending in useful links for activities and on-line libraries etc. Here are a couple of Premier League Football ones sent in by a JIS parent:

<https://plprimarystars.com/news/home-learning-activities-school-closures>

<https://plprimarystars.com/for-families/play-game>

Now that sadly, millions of children all over the world are at home trying to learn there are some fantastic websites for all subject areas and interests, all over the internet – search in Google or through your social media accounts to find some more. Many sites are now offered for free during the school closures. We will continue to share with you some of the ones we are aware of through the main school Class Dojo page.

School closure period update:

Our Google Meets this morning to say 'hello', remind everyone of this week's Friday challenges and sing a song had around 65 students at its peak! It was obviously a great idea to allow the students to see each other and to sing the school song.

Starting next week we shall organize a weekly assembly run from school with smaller groups, just two or three classes at one time to celebrate the end of term and also ensure the children have some group social activity. I will send links and details early next week but we plan this for next Friday morning – April 3rd.

Please continue to monitor your child in creating a balance of on-screen/off-screen, research / creative activities, indoors and outdoors whenever you can. Please check carefully to make sure they are having an appropriate length of time on devices and at an appropriate time of day. Children need sleep – a lot of it.

In summary:

- Class teachers will connect on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
- Mandarin and Japanese P4-6 will run on Tuesday, Wednesday and P1-3 on Monday, Thursday with additional options being explored
- St Sppt and E.A.'s will continue to connect daily with small groups or individuals – this is successful and will expand as we move forwards
- Afternoon clinic – 1:30 – 2:30pm access through: **obp-fcpc-ysa** . Open up Google Meets browser and follow 'use a meeting code' to insert the code above. The link will stay the same all week. Students say 'hello' and staff will know they are there to connect with. Everyone is welcome!

Reminder: Ms Yuki the school counselor is available to work with students and their families who may be feeling stressed, anxious or confused by aspects of our extended school closure. Contact Jenny Procter on jprocter@es.jis.edu.hk if you would like to set up any discussions with Ms Yuki.

Coming soon – get ready! The JIS Home Talent Show!

Starting in term 3 we shall be developing some of our usual school activities into fun on-line activities. The JIS Talent Show has been a firm favourite for many over the years SO we will make sure it can happen again.

Think of an activity – anything is possible – that can showcase one of your talents. Send in a video of you performing your activity and we will set up a Talent Show forum for everyone to share your talent.

Have fun, get creative and send it in next term.



More top tips on managing school closure with your children from Cath Wan: repeated but useful!

Many educational resource companies around the world are kindly realizing the need for some families to have activities to do at home and are now offering their subscriptions or libraries for free.

Scholastic Book company who sometimes support our book sales at JIS is just one:

They have just released 20 days of online lessons for kids from pre-K through sixth grade and up. Kids can dive into topics like the future of zoos and life science. It's all divided by age and grade level.

Click: [Scholastic free resources for families](#)

A big list of authors doing free readaloud books for your children:

Click: https://www.weareteachers.com/virtual-author-activities/?utm_content=1584565321&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwAR3n6w4CP4JWcppYLCXeSKQc4oreNnwybRBWj7DF8yAbEVuOjtyZnv0COg0

School bus delivery service: Library books to your bus stop!



The school bus library service will go again on Monday next week. This week we shall deliver a record 85 books to our students! Our biggest delivery yet!

The school buses will deliver library books to student bus stops to those who have ordered via Ms Wan .

A JIS staff member will travel with the bus to deliver the books and greet the students.

Creative /Fun / Fresh air Fridays. (Week 6 is on Dojo and in Google Classrooms)

Our alternative activities for Fridays continue to be popular so a new set of activities has gone out again today – check out the class Dojo app or your child's Google classroom. We shall continue to give students the option to get involved in other activities, catch up on class work, have time to be creative and free on a Friday. We do get some great ideas! Thank you to everyone who gets involved. If you do go outside please keep a sensible distance from others.

Ama and Kojo created their 'caterpillar eating a leaf' for challenge 5 today! (Animal based food ideas)



Around school updates:

Congratulations to P2 for their donut designing and persuasive letter writing this week.



Ms Merrill set the class the challenge of persuading a donut shop in Tai Po to choose their ideas. They also had to design the flavours! Students had to write a short piece of persuasive text to persuade the shop owner to choose their idea. Well done and thanks from Ms Merrill.

P4 have done some interesting work related to the story and plight of refugees around the world.

Mr Rixon has set up some very thought provoking materials for his class to consider the issues related to being a refugee and how lives are affected when people have to move away from their homes and friends. Many of the students commented that it was very sad and unfair. There were some great ideas and thoughts P4.

More news on different classes as the weeks develop.

HELP ! Goldfish dilemma – please help Ms Christine!

Ms Christine has taken her goldfish home from school – the ones that live in the corridor near to the music and resources rooms - BUT she does not yet have a name(s) for them.....can you help?

There are 2 goldfish that need names. Contact Ms Christine on clau@es.jis.edu.hk to send in your name suggestions. We can publish ideas next week.



Change of dates:

- JIS Swimming gala scheduled for 27th March will now be in June, provisionally on the 4th June 8:30 – 12 in the morning.

We continue to react and plan ahead based on your feedback. Thank you very much for the positive messages of support and praise for the school staff, received this week. It is much appreciated.

Stay safe and healthy – keep your distance and above all try to find positives in these very challenging times. Enjoy your weekend everyone.

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