



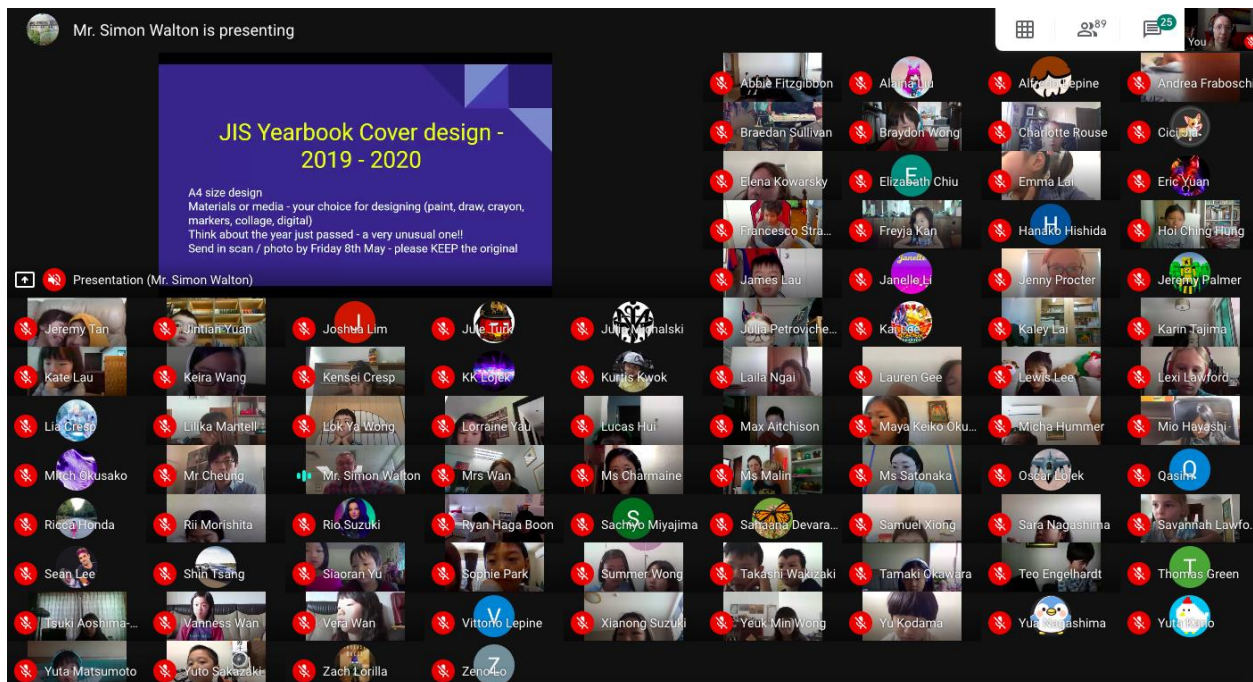
JIS Newsletter 27

Friday 24th April 2020

Dear Students, Parents and JIS community

Well done to everyone that has been involved in getting back into the school groove at the start of the new term. We look forward to developing some great ideas in the coming weeks, whilst of course hoping to get a re-start to school if this proves to be possible. Keep going Hong Kong!

School assembly this morning had a record 89 people joining, so it's great to know that people are up early and ready to continue with their class based activities or get involved in the Fun Friday challenges posted each week. We shall continue to run an assembly every Friday morning as this helps us continue to maintain the whole school community spirit. It is interactive as Mrs. Wan monitors the questions and ideas coming in on the 'chat column' during the presentation and story read by Mr Walton.



In case any of the students ask – I posed the question as to why it was relevant to read one of my favourite stories – ‘Chopsticks’ about a mouse that lives on the Jumbo Floating Restaurant in Aberdeen, at this particular time? Perhaps a discussion about local news items might be useful!

Google Meets: top tips for students!

We have significantly expanded our Google Meets schedules and this week attendance has been very high – but not yet 100%. Please make use of these sessions with your child to help them keep learning and also to involve them in the school community.

We ask your child to please follow these simple guidelines to help the smooth running of the sessions:

- Make sure you are up dressed appropriately and ready for your meeting
- Do not eat during the meeting – it is a school based learning time
- Concentrate well and make sure you are at a table or desk – sofas or beds are not a good place to sit
- Make sure your computer or laptop is in a quiet place where you can listen well
- Ask your younger brothers or sisters not to interrupt your meeting
- Please submit your work on time for your teacher to comment on it – 4pm latest, please, so that it can be looked at ready for the next day

Events coming up soon:

JIS Online conferences – Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th May

Thank you for signing up for the online conference to be held on May 4th and 5th. Appointments will be sent out to you on or before Wednesday 29th. We will try to give families their first choice of timings wherever possible, and will obviously connect siblings closely together on scheduling.

Here are a few reminders to help you get the most out of the conferences:

The purpose of the conference is to have an informative, social ‘check in’ with you and your child, guided by the questions which were sent out in the initial invite or by information shared with you by your child’s class teacher. Please refer to this to help guide the conversation during the video conference.

Because of the nature of home learning and our focus on well-being, it would be inappropriate for teachers to give specific comments on academic progress at this time. However, having the opportunity to share feelings and use successes and current interests as a springboard for discussion will help us to continue to strengthen our collaborative relationship, the foundation of learning and well-being.

Activities to join in with:

JIS Talent Show – by video this year. Get planning or recording a piece for us all to enjoy. Send in by May 15th to s-walton@jis.edu.hk

School Yearbook (we have some in already!) – design competition for the front and back cover in the next few weeks. Cover design competition due in by Friday May 8th.

Send in to s-walton@jis.edu.hk

Mrs Wan’s ‘Happy Bus’ – coming to you next Wednesday 29th April

Next week on Wednesday Mrs Wan and Mr Walton will be delivering resources for different members of our school community



and to say 'hello' to as many people as possible out there in the school community. We shall bring along some books to choose from, a sunflower growing kit (mentioned in assembly today), some class based resources and some big smiles!

Please click the link below for some more information and let us know if you will be there.

Happy bus information link click below:

<https://forms.gle/uhSEmEEvHDGitz58>

Families living close to school are welcome to collect their resources and sunflower kits from the school any time after Wednesday next week.

Sunflower competition / growing fun

As part of the Happy Bus event we were thinking of a little project that everyone could be involved in. We shall be delivering seeds, pots and compost soil to give everyone the chance to grow their own sunflower to hopefully bring some sunshine and a



happy smile for all of us. Mr Walton has started some off on the roof garden and they have got going really well, quite quickly– so hopefully we should be able to share some great results and bring some yellow glow to the school community in the coming weeks.



School library books and resources delivery. (This is a separate delivery)

We will continue to use our school bus services for the collection and delivery of library books for students on Mondays. Buses will leave school at 12pm and be with community members at their usual times. Ms Miyajima and Mr Walton will be on bus duty this week.



Access to the school building during the school closure:



We continue to maintain some staff in the school during the closure period. Telephone class and emails will be answered as normal. If you need to visit the building, please wear a mask, use only the main school entrance, where temperatures will be recorded and you will be asked to sign in and out.



Learning at JIS – from Cath Wan, Deputy Principal/ PYP Coordinator

Welcome to another term of learning, whilst we might not be able to meet you in person yet, our commitment to learning, as well as mental and physical well-being continues and we've had a busy start to the term. Here are a few snapshots of what has been going on:

Reception have had a wonderful week, celebrating earth day, and investigating graphs.

P1 have also been celebrating Earth Day with some fantastic writing and investigation into our planet Earth.



P2 created an inspiring Earth Day video and have been exploring growth mindset, making connections to their daily lives.

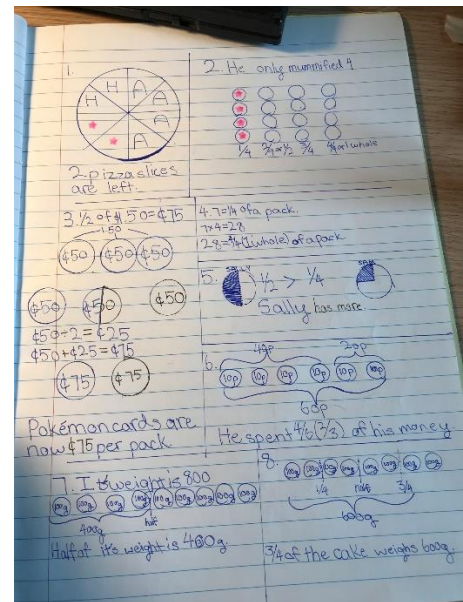
Our budding P3 astronauts have journeyed to the International Space Station this week as well as refining their multiplication and division skills.

P4 have been investigating children's rights as well as fractions, decimals and percentages.

P5 have started a new unit of inquiry, Where We Are in Place and Time. They have been looking at 'push and pull' factors for human migration and have been sharing family migration stories.

As well as working hard on their Exhibition, P6 have continued to practice their maths skills, sharing different strategies to do their working out.

As we are learning more about the challenges, we are currently facing, we are adapting our home learning programme to provide extra support in physical and emotional health. In addition to class based activities, our Friday challenges will continue to support this area and at the beginning of May, there will be a 2 day “Marvelous Monday and Terrific Tuesday”, full of activities designed to support physical and emotional well-being and to stimulate creativity, whilst families get to ‘check in’ with teachers of their choosing.



Last Monday’s assembly where we collected names for Ms. Christine’s Goldfish was very popular. Out of the 141 suggestions, and a full democratic vote, we can now announce the names:

Bubbles and Goldy

And finally...

We may be a small school, but we are part of a huge organisation, the International Baccalaureate. The organisation is supporting us throughout our home learning experiences and have produced 2 documents aimed at supporting parents. Please enjoy!

Inquiry Through Play – Supporting Parents:

<https://www.ibo.org/contentassets/117bf04eac9f45eda7d6b7afaf671ba0/inquiry-through-play-supporting-pyp-parents.pdf>

For middle and upper primary year students, here is some support on personal inquiry projects:

<https://www.ibo.org/contentassets/117bf04eac9f45eda7d6b7afaf671ba0/parent-guide-to-personal-inquiries-in-the-pyp.pdf>

As always, if you have any questions about learning at JIS, feel free to contact me at

cwan@jis.edu.hk

Parent corner – Parents helping parents!

As mentioned earlier in the week we have received some ideas and practical tips that JIS parents have found that work well for activities at home to keep the kids fit and busy.

Obviously every family is different and what works for some may or may not work for others. Send in your own websites, Here are a few of them sent in so far:

'Mr Walton: We want to share with you and JIS parents some useful apps and website, it makes our home learning schedule fun.

- PE with Joe <https://youtu.be/UW7b-hDt2Ok> / lots of other videos or can pay for live sessions every afternoon at 5 pm.

-Cosmic Yoga with Jamie <https://youtu.be/xlg052EKMtk>

-Khan Academy Kids (free and packed with age-appropriate resources) Age 2-7

<https://learn.khanacademy.org/khan-academy-kids/>

If your family has some useful resources to share – please do!

Have a great weekend everybody.

Take care and stay healthy.

Simon Walton and all the JIS staff.

Note: Some Friday Fun challenges – Earth day cooking etc. that came in today so far:



Congratulations to Janelle in P5 who also did the 'Bookworm workout' and sent in a video of her exercises in response to the words in the text!

