



## Newsletter 20 2020-21

Friday 29th January 2021

Dear Parents and JIS community

### Re – New schedule for all students, starting on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February

The schedule has been allowed to change following permission from our local EDB representatives granting approval for our request to bring in two classes per day as soon as possible. The schedule, we hope is easy to understand and has a regular pattern to it, to allow families to plan for child care or for transport to school. All students come to school on the same day each week apart from Fridays. The only variation to the daily cycle involves our use of Friday as a way of bringing in two classes on this day as well.

All aspects of our online / home learning programme will continue as normal for when the children are not in school.

The HK Education Bureau has asked us to follow all guidelines on health and procedure that are still in place so all students will continue to have their temperature monitored, wear masks, regularly use sanitizer, maintain social distancing wherever possible, and have the use of Perspex screening in all classrooms. The HK EDB have stated that students should not be doing activities online at home on the days that they have attended in school classes.

The schedule caused some confusion in my previous newsletter so I include it here again. The year groups shown in each box are the ones who WILL be coming in to school. Everyone else is online at home:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Week of cycle
Feb 1st RECEPTION / P6	2nd P1 / P5	3rd P2 / P4	4th P3 / RECEPTION	5th P1 / P2	1
8th RECEPTION / P6	9th P1 / P5	10th CNY day - assembly and activities online	CNY holidays		
CNY holidays					
Feb 22nd RECEPTION / P6	23rd P1 / P5	24th P2 / P4	25th P3 / RECEPTION	26th P3 / P4	2
March 1st RECEPTION / P6	2nd P1 / P5	3rd P2 / P4	4th P3 / RECEPTION	5th P5 / P6	3

The cycle of week 1, week 2 and week 3 for Fridays will continue as long as we are required to follow the guidelines for only two classes at school. We hope the HK EDB will review this and wait for any news. We look forward to welcoming more voices and smiles into school on a more regular basis from now on.

Attached with this newsletter is a PDF file for printing off and putting on the kitchen fridge or family noticeboard.

## School reports

School reports have been sent home with all students who have attended school over the last two weeks. Please use these as a way of discussing aspects of your child's learning with them. Making students aware of their successes and development areas is key to maintaining their focus and awareness during the difficult times of online screen based learning.

I thank the JIS staff for the hours that have gone into making difficult but considered judgements on aspects of each child's progress over the last 6 months. Spending extra hours in front of a computer screen after daily sessions of online learning has not been easy and the patience and resilience needed is much appreciated.

## Friday Assembly and Challenge – Friday 29th January 2021

Last week the snake activities proved to be our most popular yet! Snakes obviously fascinate and scare in equal measure. There were some excellent paintings and drawing as well as some very creative models made. This week in we have continued with the theme of raising awareness of the Hong Kong environment and creatures that live within it.



Lachlan P5



Rachel P2 and Jeremy P5



Katie P6



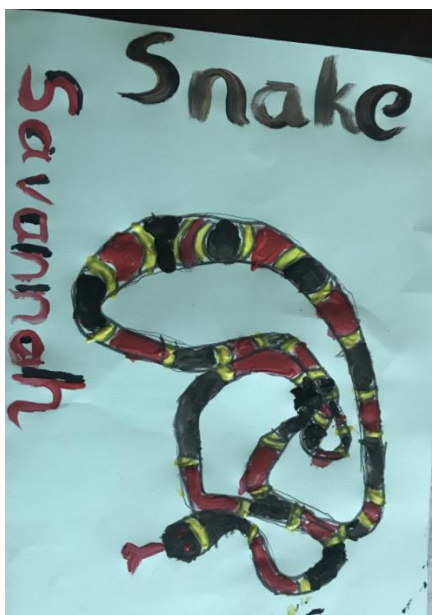
We have asked all classes to complete the activities set up by Fiona Merrill, our school outdoor education lead teacher. The students can use their copy of: **‘Wild Creatures in Hong Kong (vol 1) – by Robert Ferguson** as we explore the wonders of Hong Kong insects and bugs, in particular dragonflies.

There are a range of creative activities for the students to have a go at which can be found in either a Class Dojo link (Rec – P1) or through Google Classroom in the Friday Challenges of Friday Fun sections (P2 – P6). These can be done today or over the weekend / next few days when students have time.

**Last week’s gallery:** a big thank you to all the students who sent something in or uploaded their work. This is just a few.



There was a really good mix of responses to the snake activity - well done everyone who got involved.



Savannah – P2



Teo – P2



Leah P2



Leela P6

### Reception Class interviews – this week, Monday 18th – Wednesday 20th at JIS

Reception class interviews went well this week and we hosted a range of students in small groups at school. We have offered some students a place in the school to join us in August and have some spaces to review over the coming months. If there are new applications for students born in 2017 we can consider them too.

We shall be hosting some more interviews for Reception Class in term 3, so applications are welcome at any time.

### JIS Chinese New Year Appeal – February 2021 (and early March if needed)

Many thanks to all those families who have got involved in our CNY charity appeal so far this year. It is something that we feel proud of hosting each year as it matches the values and beliefs we wish to share with the students.





Christine Lau has been following up on our appeal with two local NGO's that really do great work in the Hong Kong community. She has listed here the main items that are of use in offering support to less fortunate Hong Kong families or individuals who need some help:-

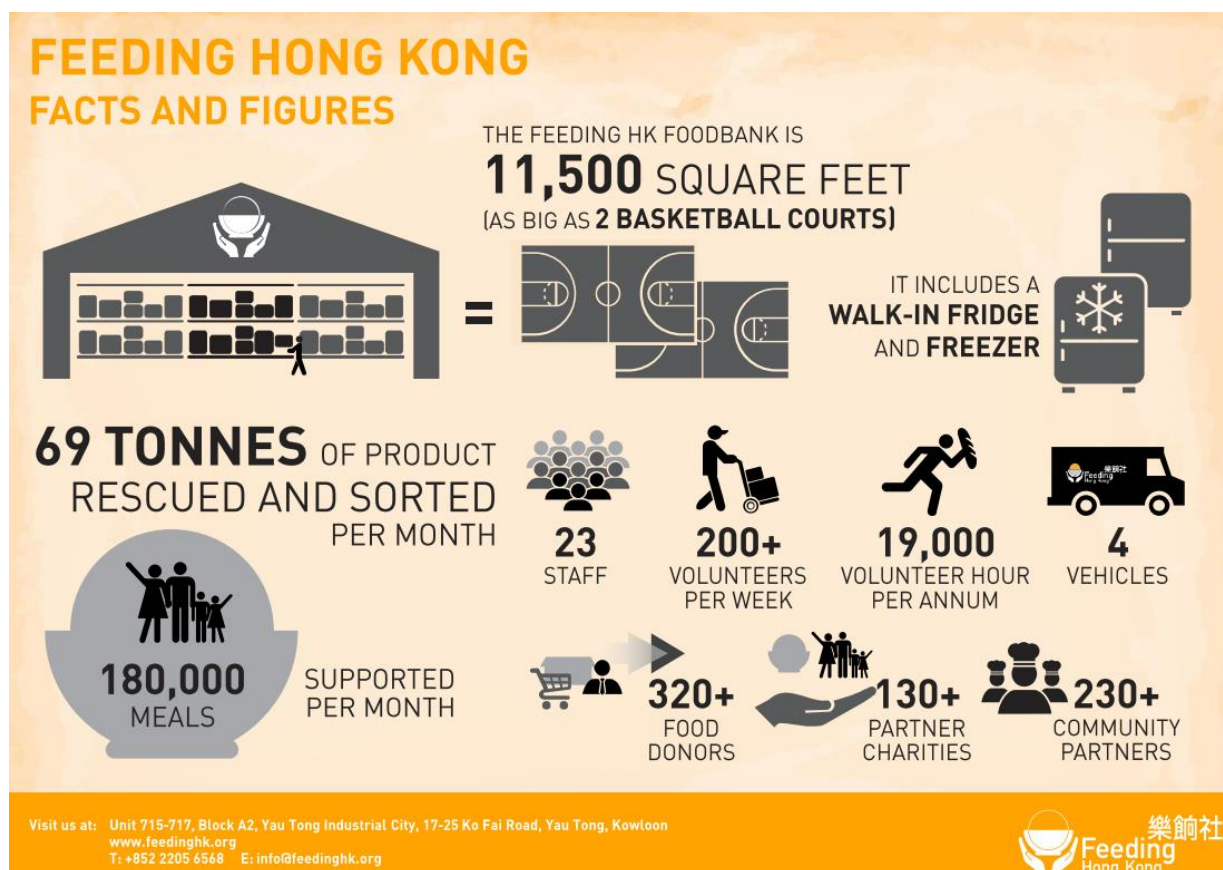
### Feeding Hong Kong – Food. Wanted, not wasted

- Rice in any sized bags
  - Noodles; non-instant and non-fried
  - Cooking oil; corn or vegetables
  - Canned food ;low sodium
- NO rusty or unlabelled cans/ perishable items/ Open or used items/expired items

### Impact HK – supporting the homeless in Hong Kong

- traditional CNY snacks, candy/chocolate/cookies/dessert
  - Radish cake/ Nian Gao (Glutinous rice cake)
  - tangerine and oranges
  - Deep fried peanuts dumplings (Yau Gok)
- NO rusty or unlabelled cans/ perishable items/ Open or used items/expired items

*“By reaching out through kindness, ImpactHK seeks to transform the lives of the homeless – one life at a time.”*





**JIS Parents / community presentation from our school counsellor Ms, Ashima Sharma, Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February – 7pm – NEXT WEEK.**

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February Ashima Sharma will be presenting to our school community to offer advice and support for families during these times of being at home, working online learning and suggesting some mental health welfare strategies. Ashima's presentation will focus on recognising when our young people need help and what we can do as parents and as a school to support them. It should be an interesting session of around 30 mins with some Q&A at the end. Ashima has been working with us to support all members of our community. She is a qualified Educational Psychologist and counsellor and is working at JIS and ICHK, our partner secondary school. Any questions or concerns regarding specific children can be followed up afterward with our Student Support Coordinator Jenny Procter.

Full details for login in to the meeting will be shared next week. Mark the date and time in your calendar. Any questions or inquiries should be directed to Jenny Procter, Student Support Coordinator



International College Hong Kong

**ICHK Presentation to share:**

**Presentation 2: Head of School Toby Newton** – news from the ICHK staff: 9<sup>th</sup> February.

A second information session about our secondary school will be held for parents next month.

Head of School Toby Newton will run an online presentation entitled '*Growth, Character Development and the Year 7 Programme.*'

Toby will speak about growth and the way that it is nurtured and achieved in students at ICHK.

The presentation will explore how our secondary school promotes both character and academic achievement, and how it helps students produce themselves as confident, self-directed, ambitious, and fearless learners.

Toby will also speak about unique aspects of the Year 7 programme, including the Transitions programme, Human Technologies and Deep Learning. The PIM is open to all parents and will be particularly helpful for those giving consideration to secondary school.

The presentation will be held on **Tuesday (February 9) at 9am, at Zoom room 239- 168-717**. Please be advised to log on to Zoom a couple of minutes early, as it is difficult to admit people after the presentation has started.

ICHK is pleased to share Toby's previous presentation, as an introduction to secondary schooling [here](#), for parents who were unable to attend.

ICHK Newsletter for this week: click [here](#)

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Keep happy, healthy and safe! We look forward to seeing many more of the students again next week.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Simon Walton  
Principal