



Newsletter 26 2020-21

Friday 19th March 2021

Dear Parents and JIS community

Update on student days in school for next few weeks:

Re – Schedule – next week will be week 1 of the cycle, March 22nd to 26th:

(This week is also 3 Way conference week for all families to meet with JIS staff)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Week of cycle
22nd Rec /P2, P4, P6 Inc. 3 Way interviews	23rd P1, P3, P5 Inc. 3 Way interviews	24th Rec /P2, P4, P6 Inc. 3 Way interviews	25th P1, P3, P5 Inc. 3 Way interviews	26th Rec /P2, P4, P6	1 3 way conference week
Easter holidays – we will monitor changes from HK EDB					
April 12th Rec /P2, P4, P6	13th P1, P3, P5	14th Rec /P2, P4, P6	15th P1, P3, P5	16th P1, P3, P5	2 Until 1 pm each day
April 19th Rec /P2, P4, P6	20th P1, P3, P5	21st Rec /P2, P4, P6	22nd P1, P3, P5	23rd Rec /P2, P4, P6	1
April 26th Rec /P2, P4, P6	27th P1, P3, P5	28th Rec /P2, P4, P6	29th P1, P3, P5	30th P1, P3, P5	2
We hope for positive news from HK EDB before planning more.....					

3 Way conferences Students, Parents, Teachers - March 2021 – (22nd – 26th March)

Next week is 3Way conference week – al families have been offered an appointment and students and JIS staff will log on to meet with them during the school day starting on Monday 22nd March

Each day will be a normal school session for the year groups involved – students will come to school and then sit with class teachers to log on to meet with their parents. The class teacher will be released from class to allow time to spend time with parents and students together. The meetings will be for 10 minutes each and by using the school time we can fit in around 13 appointments on each morning, therefore over 2 days each whole class can be managed.

School day time changes: April 12th onwards

After the Easter holidays we shall be extending our school day until 1pm to allow for more class based teaching time each day. All students will be able to eat snack (we are currently eating snack outside to make this as safe as possible – due to mask removal and creating greater social distancing) mid-morning but we feel they should be fine to last until lunch at home around 1:30pm.

Note: JIS bus companies have agreed to be able to do this.

We have also contacted HK EDB regarding the numbers of our students allowed on campus each day to try to offer all students 3 days per week as face to face in school. This could be a positive development if approved. Details to follow next week as no reply as yet.

Environmental update and parental support request:

Recycling update from Fiona Merrill:

Our Friday assemblies for the next few weeks will focus on Sustainable Development Goals, linking the JIS students to a world beyond their own and the thoughts of key leaders of our planet on how we manage it the best ways we can.

This week's Sustainable Development Goals is - Number 12: Responsible production and consumption.



Reduce, reuse and recycle is a model many of us are familiar with (also refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle and rot.) Here at JIS we hope to reduce our global footprint and as a school community collect waste to be recycled whenever possible.

At school we now also collect tetra paks for recycling with MilMil, the first recycled pulp mill and education center for paper-packed beverage boxes in Hong Kong. Please send in your washed/cut open tetra paks (juice boxes, milk cartons, lemon tea boxes etc.) to school and ensure the plastic spouts have been cut off. We also accept all kinds of clean plastic, cans and glass. It is vital that this waste is clean, with the lids removed (and no products with a mix of plastic/paper.) If you are looking to recycle closer to home there are other recycling facilities available in villages and apartment blocks.

In assembly this morning it was recycling, a super important topic! Mr. Rixon also pointed out that yesterday was [Global Recycling Day!](#) Working with P6 this morning they talked quite a bit about recycling and waste in Hong Kong. He got quite a bit of his info from the [HK Recycles website](#). It seems that they also do recycling collections from residential buildings. Parents if you are keen to get involved, maybe check out the website link from Mr. Rixon



Outdoor learning- heading into the forest:

Here at JIS we are passionate about outdoor learning, the advantages are well researched and we believe in their impact! Now more than ever it is important that we give students as much opportunity to get out in nature and reap the benefits.

Outdoor learning facilitates enhanced personal and social communication skills, increased physical health, develops reflective and inquisitive thinking along with problem-solving approaches in ‘real’ life situations. It also grows resilience and adaptability, something we need in todays’ world more than ever!

In order to manage social distancing restrictions and safety protocols we are asking for parental support to come along to a morning forest school session, assisting students in walking to the forest/park and facilitating activities. Each class will take a turn to go out to Tai Po Kau or Tai Po Kau Park. With the current schedule in place we plan to try to take one class out per week, this will be on one of their online learning days. Students will come to school but not actually attend lessons on site as they will go off on an activity morning.

If you feel you are able to help, even for only a few sessions please take the time to fill out the simple google form below, training and support will be provided. Please get involved if you can:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1jG2OvfbwNoDkK4wUc4jcwHssU7xDd-kHiJJju73XEH4/edit#responses>

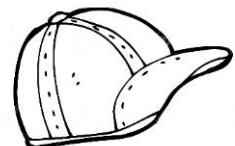
Info session: There will be a volunteer online information session on Thursday 25th March; 2:00-2:30 p.m. for any parents interested. Meeting link will follow shortly.

Junior Duke – Student award scheme – (P2 and P4 to trial)

Many of us may remember the ‘Duke of Edinburgh Award (DOE)’ scheme that many students follow through secondary schooling to achieve a Bronze, Silver or Gold award. The organization has now created a ‘Junior Duke Award’ which encourages the development of a range of basic skills and creative interests. The scheme is obviously aimed at younger children and involves family members too. The P2 and P4 classes are going to offer the scheme to their community as a trial to see who may be interested and if it is something that the wider JIS community could get involved in.

No Hat No Play – Everyday! Put a hat in your bag, please.

As the weather is getting warmer and the sun is getting more intense we shall be asking all students to wear a hat outdoors at all times. We are not trying to be difficult at all but we need to showcase positive sun-smart skills for all the children. Please make sure your child has a hat in their school bag – a school one or one of their own choice (with a name on it!).



Covid procedures – please stay vigilant on temp checking in mornings

Please check your child’s temperature before they leave the house each morning and record the result on the sheet.

Employment Opportunities at JIS: Please contact the school if interested or share with friends who may wish to get involved.

School Library Assistant – approx. 3 days per week, term time only, starting mid-April 2021

JIS is looking to employ a library assistant in our school library from April 2021. Anna Lamont has done a fantastic job for the last year but is moving back to Australia from May 1st 2021. If you are interested in getting involved in school life and have energy to share with the students – this could be for you!

The school library assistant is a creative role in managing the library for borrowing and sorting books, inspiring the next generation in a love of reading and liaising with classes for their units of inquiry and research. The role is closely linked to the work of our school curriculum and PYP coordinator who supports and manages the library for our school community. The role is ideal for a parent who wishes to have part time employment and needs to be available to support their family during the school holidays – this role is a term time only position. Hours are flexible but a Friday full day is needed for students to check in and out books for loans. Our library is a very popular space for our students, with a positive working environment and a great view over Tolo Harbour.

A role description is available here: [library assistant](#)

The role is suited to someone who enjoys working with young children, may / may not have experience of working in a school community and has an interest in children's literature or reading. Anna Lamont will be available in April to offer full onsite training and support. The role is based on a commitment of 17.5 hours per week and is paid at \$180 per hour – with an average salary of around \$12,500 for a 4 week month.

Applicants interested in the position are welcome to contact the school at any time for information and should send in a C.V. and short introductory letter to s-walton@jis.edu.hk by March 26th 2021. We would aim to host some informal interviews in the week of 12th April 2021.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Full time Education Assistant role for August 2021

Next term we shall also be recruiting for a full time Education Assistant to support the students learning. This role will be full time starting in August 2021 and would suit someone interested in making a commitment to working in a school environment to support a range of student learning activities alongside a class teacher. Full details will be shared in term 3 but if any interested persons would like more information they may contact the school principal on s-walton@jis.edu.hk for more details. We aim to do some informal interviews at JIS in April 2021.



Click [here](#) for the latest news bulletin from our partner secondary school.

Have a really great weekend everyone. We hope the weather stays good. There are lots of ideas from the recycling assembly this morning with Rec, P2, P4, P6 - if the students want to have a go this weekend. We can share some ideas with P1, 3, 5 next week too.

Simon Walton
Principal