



Newsletter 17 2021-22

Friday 7th January 2022

Dear Parents and JIS community

Week 1, term 2 – Here we go!

Welcome back to school to everyone.

We are delighted to welcome everyone back to school for the New Year and term 2 at JIS. We especially welcome some new students and their families to the school. In Reception Class we welcome 3 new students: Lindsay, Blossom and Shun Yin; in P1 we welcome Fiona, in P2 we welcome Avery and Shota and in P3 we welcome Shaun and Jaden.

We hope that everyone will settle into the routines of school very quickly and that we can look forward to some great times ahead. The sun is shining and the plants are ready for Spring!



HK EDB updates for schools safety and testing

Further to my email message on Toddle yesterday I can assure everyone that we are keeping the students aware of all aspects of hygiene and safe practices at school. We aim to keep the school running as long as we possibly can.

Community Testing – please let us know if your building or workplace has been subject to a HK Government testing order. Do not worry about it – this will become a natural part of HK life in the coming months, so may well affect many of us, but do please let us know. Please **DO NOT** send your child to school until a negative confirmed result is given for any tests. With the current HK Govt regulations many of us may be asked to test several times within a week or so. After each test, students cannot return to school until the result is known as negative. This will be disruptive in that students may have to take the odd day off school in the same week or so, **BUT** it is now EDB guidelines that students have to wait at home until their negative result is given. If you have any concerns, please contact me at school: s-walton@jis.edu.hk .

ESSPA Book Sale in January 2022 – recycle your books for other JIS students



For many years the ESSPA committee ran a very successful recycle / renew book sale for JIS students and families. Obviously this has not happened for two years but they are back in business now and are ready to relaunch this event in the next few weeks.

The ESSPA book sale means that you can have a good sort out of your children's books to clear some space for new ones or to clear the shelves.

ESSPA will arrange a book sale (January 24th / 25th) to give these books new life for new readers, and create some money to donate to a literacy charity along the way. Books that your children have grown out of or sets that they have finished and no longer need – other children may love them and they can buy them at the book sale. Books are usually \$10 - \$20 at the sale, to encourage them to be sold on and ensure some very happy young readers.

Clear out your shelves and send in the books to school – ESSPA will do the rest. Thank you for your support.

P6 Bridges strength testing and experimentation

The P6 class have been exploring interesting aspects of science and engineering as they have been creating bridges and then testing their strength, using a variety of resources and materials:



Testing to see which one was the strongest and most stable proved to be a lot of fun!

Birthdays at school – no food / gifting please

We appreciate that celebrating a birthday is special and that it can be done in many different ways. Over the years we have had a range of ideas and requests about celebrating birthdays at school, from staff and parents. We want to be consistent and also be conscious of our links to environmental awareness and positive practices in single use plastics etc. We also have to be reminded of Covid guidelines and appropriate actions.



Please do not send in gifts or food for the class/students to celebrate birthdays. Teachers are happy to share birthday news and sing a song etc. and we feel this is sufficient for the day at school. Please enjoy a party or a family dinner without the need to bring in gifts or food for the class at school. We are not trying to be mean – just realistic and practical to ensure that all children feel equal on their birthday. Thank you.

Daily Temperature sheets – please complete at home.

A polite reminder to all families to make sure that you check your child's temperature BEFORE they set off for school. We have an increasingly bigger line at the school office at 8:20 a.m. each day. Please remember to keep our child at home for the day if they have a temperature above 37.5C.

So far in the last few months, we have managed to have some healthy, happy students – let's keep it that way.

Vaccinations coming up soon:

The HK Government Student Health Service will be returning to school on February 9th for a range of vaccinations: P1 & P6 MMR, P6 Hepatitis B and the P5/P6 girls HPV. Forms will be sent out soon for relevant parents to complete. (We may have to see if clinics in school can take place in the coming weeks)

ICHK Newsletter for this week – from Mr. Newton and ICHK

Each week we share the newsletter from ICHK – (International College Hong Kong) to keep our community informed of the news from our partner secondary school.



To access this week's newsletter click: [here](#)

Extra curricular update.

We shall be continuing to operate our after school activities in the next few weeks and shall await any advice or news from HK Government departments if we need to make any changes.

Swimming pool closed for 2 weeks starting Friday 7th January. There will be no after school swimming clubs for at least 2 weeks. There will also be **NO school based swimming lessons for at least two weeks**, due to the closure of the pool, in line with HK Government guidelines. During the swimming lessons timeslots, students will be able to do some fitness training with the P.E. staff.

Reception class interviews for August 2022 starting date: (we hope to be able to host these interviews, if possible)

We shall be hosting our annual interview sessions for our new Reception class (and some P1 spaces may be later) in January 2022. The Reception class interviews are currently planned for Monday 17th – Wednesday 19th January. Please be sure to make sure that you or your family friends have submitted an application to the school as soon as possible to make sure you can be included and invited for interview.

The interviews for the younger children will be hosted in groups of around 5 students on a 'playdate at school' kind of basis, utilising all safety measures available to us. The students will have the opportunity to explore a variety of different play scenarios and share a story, with a group of JIS staff. The session usually last about one hour and is aimed at being as stress free as possible for the students. Parents will have the opportunity to meet Mr. Walton and answer any questions related to life at the school.

Wishing everyone a great weekend. Stay healthy!

Simon Walton
Principal