



Newsletter 34 2021-22

Friday 20th May 2022

Dear Parents and JIS community

Around school this week:

ICHK – student visit – catching up on old times;



International College Hong Kong

It was a real pleasure yesterday afternoon when Jessie Cheuk, a year 13 student at ICHK came in for a visit. Jessie has just finished her I.B. Diploma exams yesterday and was keen to end her education in Hong Kong with a big thank you to everyone at JIS for ‘the most amazing start to (her) education’. She remembered so much of her 7 years at JIS and was so happy at the school. Jessie will be going on to Oxford University in U.K. to study Law at Magdalen College, having achieved amazing results in her IGCSE exams as well as now being predicted great things for her I.B. diploma. We wish all the very best.

It is always great to hear from our ex-students, wherever they end up and even in different countries around the world. It also fabulous to know that ICHK is doing such a great job with their students, to help them achieve such excellent results. I have assured Toby Newton that I will be up to the school to say ‘farewell’ to some of our ex JIS students before I leave in June.

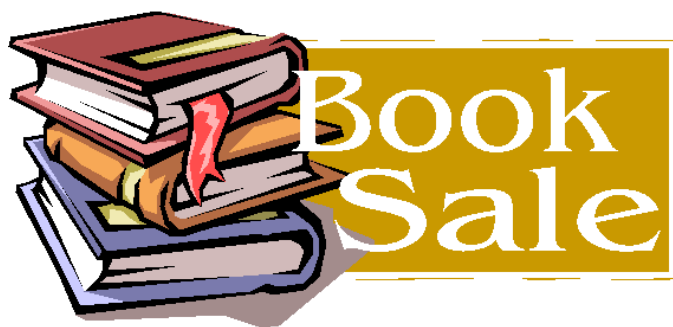
It was also a really positive development for ICHK and JIS that Mat Gollop (JIS Parent) agreed at this week’s ICHK Board meeting to be the new Chairperson of the ICHK Board of Directors. Thank you to Mat for stepping up to do this volunteer role. It will further enhance the bond between JIS and ICHK.

Battle of the Books Team – did so well on May 17th! CONGRATULATIONS!

The JIS BoB team made us all proud on Tuesday this week when they came a very close 2nd in the Battle of the Books final. They dropped only one question in both of their events (semi-final and final) – and managed to get some bonus points along the way. They were obviously very disappointed not to win but we all hope they are feeling proud of their efforts and commitment over the last few months. Thanks also to Cath Wan for coaching the team both online and during the face to face opportunities.



ESSPA Book Sale: Sale is now on Wednesday June 1st, 2022



Please have a sort out and send in your unwanted, good quality books next week.

ESSPA will arrange a book sale on June 1st 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 during the next few weeks in May – ESSPA will do the rest. Thank you for your support.

JIS Talent Show videos 2022 – during May 2022

We are slowly getting some videos sent in for the Talent Show compilation video 2022. The idea is that students can send in a short video to share their talents or performance and we will edit them together as a celebration of what our students can do. The video can be individual or in pairs / groups and can obviously be anything! (sport, dance, singing, magic, poetry, designing, art, - we have had a big variety in the past.



This is purely voluntary, students need to send in their videos to: s-walton@jis.edu.hk either the video file or a link for the file to be downloaded by school. Videos should be sent in to school by end of May 2022, please.

It's a bug's life at JIS

There is never a moment outside when our students are not observing, interacting or giving names (!) to the nature that they are surrounded by at JIS. It really is one of our best achievements. They just love it.



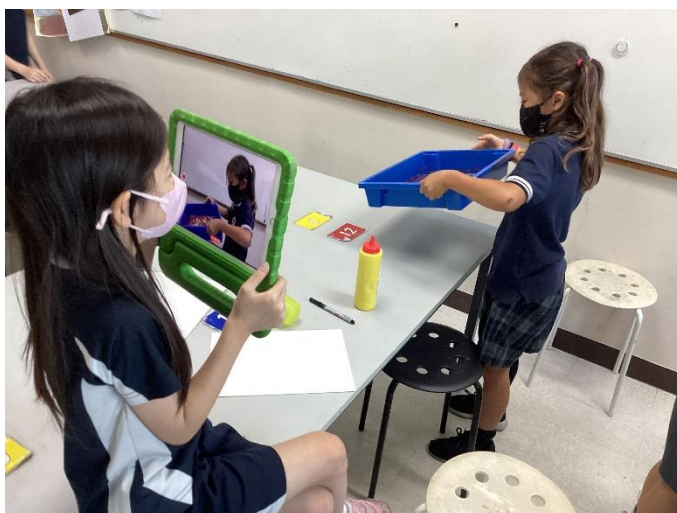
To see and hear previously scared kids tell you a spider is beautiful and a praying mantis doesn't hurt or is amazing to watch, is why we do this job!

Science and art in P2 this week

P2 explored the idea that 'force changes the way an object moves' - through using paint, marbles and motion to create abstract art pieces.

They worked in teams with one person creating the art, one advising on the process and the other person videoing so they could later reflect on the experience. It was a great hands on opportunity to work with force and motion and observe how force can impact the direction and motion of an object in a real life scenario.

P2 will continue exploring forces through art over the next few weeks through experiments with paint and gravity, friction and magnets.



InCAS standardized tests for P3 – P6 students

Next week on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the students in P3 – P6 will be doing some international standardized testing. This is part of the many different ways that we gain information about the students and allow us to get feedback on their learning. It also allows us to plan for the progression in the future.

The tests are individual and easy to take part in. The students will enjoy it as they get to challenge a software system to give them increasingly interesting questions. The sessions will be around 40 mins long each day. The results will be used as a part of our end of year assessment procedures, similar to previous years.

Voting for the Yearbook cover – today:

All the students got to have a vote for their favourite design of the front and back cover of our 2021-22 Yearbook. We had a lot of entries and some really excellent designs. Obviously not everyone can win but it has been a joy to collect the innovative designs in over the last few weeks.



Reception class have a pet each – a mealworm!

As the Reception class look deeper into their unit of inquiry on living and non living things and the responsibilities of looking after animals they now all have their own pet mealworm!



School fees for 2022-23 – Application to EDB for fee adjustment

Further to a budget review and meeting of the JIS/HKJS Board of Directors we have been asked to request a fee adjustment for next school year of 5% with EDB. This means that the school fees would be adjusted by \$578 per month, from \$11, 552 to \$12,130.

At times of major school financial insecurity regarding numbers of students remaining in Hong Kong and also our need to continue to redevelop and maintain the standard of our building and facilities the Board feel it is necessary for all 3 of our schools to have a consistent fee increase. We are committed in the next school year to spending over \$2 million on updating the JIS aircon system, to include the school gym and other general areas of the school. All student classrooms have been equipped with a new system in the last two years (around \$8 million). We are also very conscious of the increase in our huge energy bills in managing our large building and swimming pool. We are keen to allow the students to swim regularly all year, and not to have to close the pool for several months per year. Our school Annual Capital Levy has been left at the same rate for another year.

We do appreciate the increase of school fees is never easy and we have tried to agree on a fee structure that will allow the school to remain competitive and also offer an excellent deal for students and their families.

JIS Lunchtimes – volunteers – continued thanks for the support

The parent volunteers who are supporting our current lunchtime arrangements are doing a great job, it is proving to be really useful.

EDB updates – continued testing and school logistics, keep going please.

Thank you so much for the support in following the EDB guidelines regarding the daily RAT testing and temperature checks.

Obviously if your child is feeling unwell, please keep them at home and if they test positive for Covid, please inform the school as soon as possible and also report your case to the relevant authorities. (the Department of Health within 24 hours via the [‘Declaration system for individuals tested positive for Covid-19 using rapid antigen test’ website](#)).

Vaccination survey: Thank you for the updates with the second dose.

Thank you very much everyone for completing the JIS vaccination survey. The link is here for you to update at any time if your child’s vaccination status changes.

Here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1jRXb_0Zg4Tn90FTFuJ-5EMw0QcCfNLX10pBVZ2r3tIg/edit

Applications for the Position of Japanese Language Assistant August 2022. Thank you for the interest so far, closing applications this weekend:

Due to the above retirement of Kiyomi sensei we are recruiting for a new Japanese Class Language Assistant for August 2022.

The position of Japanese Language Assistant is a key role in working alongside the teacher and students in Japanese class. The role would interest someone who is keen to work in a school environment to develop the Japanese language and cultural knowledge of our students. The candidate should speak and understand fluent Japanese and have a working knowledge of English as an additional language. They should be confident in working in a busy, social environment and be keen to get creative with staff and students. The role would include working with groups of students, individuals or working alongside a class teacher with the whole class group. Experience of working in a school or child care environment is preferred but not essential.

- The responsibility of the position would be full time 8 a.m. – 3:45 p.m., during school time.
- Salary would be on a starting scale of HK\$19,700 up to HK\$ 25,000 per month depending on experience and qualifications.

Interested persons should send in a letter of application and C.V. to Simon Walton on s-walton@jis.edu.hk by Friday 20th May. Interviews will take place at JIS in the week beginning 30th May 2022

We ask that members of our Japanese community who may have friends or contacts that could be interested in this position, please pass on the details, so that we can arrange to meet candidates in the next few weeks. Thank you for your support.

ICHK – Weekly Bulletin: our partner secondary school



International College Hong Kong

Please click here for the ICHK newsletter for this week: [here](#)

A change in the weather has brought out the smiles – let’s hope it can last for a while.

Enjoy your weekend everyone.

Simon Walton
Principal