



Newsletter 14 2020-21

Friday 27th November 2020

Dear Parents and JIS community

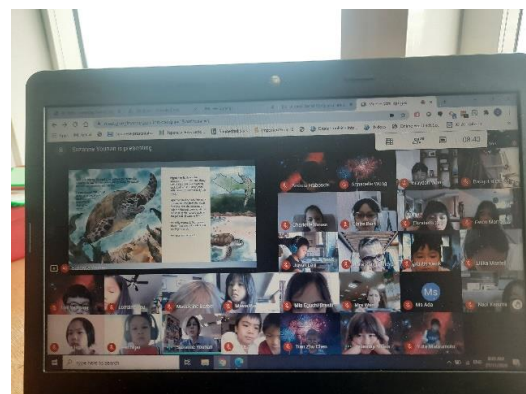
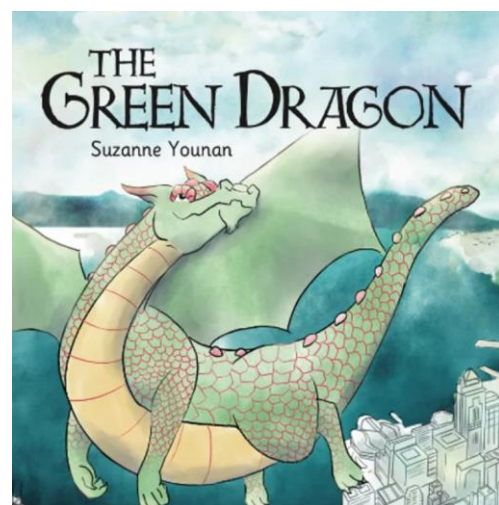
A rather strange week of school as we only have 3 year groups actually on campus. They have enjoyed the space and the great weather to be outdoors when they can. A big thank you to all the staff, parents, helpers and students of Reception class, P1, P2 and P3 who have done a great job of getting back into the routines of being online for lessons and activities. As this newsletter is being prepared there is no news of any changes to the current routine so we plan ahead for next week to be the same as this week. If there is any news, we will let the school community know as soon as possible.

Around school:

Author visit: - Welcome to Suzanne Younan

Author and passionate environmentalist Suzanne Younan visited JIS today to conduct a reading of her book "The Green Dragon" and a discussion on what we can do to help the environment. The students were very responsive to her discussions and Suzanne was very impressed by how environmentally aware and empowered to take action our JIS students are. Suzanne will come to school again on Monday to ensure that she has time with every class.

Her website is full of ideas of small actions that can make a big impact on our world. Her website is: www.dracoviridi.com



Capoeira 'roda' on the pitch at recess today



Due to the gorgeous weather today, Fiona Merrill took her capoeira club outdoors onto the pitch. It was great to watch the moves and listen to the Brazilian rhythms of the instruments played by the students and Ms Merrill. The students have progressed well over the years and have continued their involvement in the club. New members are always welcome, just ask Ms Merrill for details.



P1 growing vegetables

Annette De Their and Miss Jo have done a great job keeping the P1 vegetable garden going over the last few weeks. They are harvesting lots of lettuce at the moment.



JIS Deliveries of resources to Rec, P1, P2 and P3 students at home

We shall once again begin our ‘happy bus’ delivery service of resources to our students at home to help with their online learning programme.

A big thanks to the JIS staff who have collated these resources and got packages ready for the students. Obviously some students with siblings in P4 – 6 will have them delivered by brothers and sisters but others can meet the ‘happy bus’ at the places and times mentioned in the application survey. The link was sent out by email but is added below.

A polite reminder to all parents to fill out delivery form by 5pm today.

Link: <https://forms.gle/nc3LF8SoVEtNFUa97>



School lunches – provided by ‘School Luncher’ – for those who will be attending school

Some of our long term families have been asking about lunch deliveries and orders through a company we have used before called ‘New Luncher’. These orders and deliveries will be able to start on December 1st 2020, for those students who are in school.

For details about the New Luncher deliveries contact www.thenewluncher.hk



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

The Importance of Interactions

One of our commendations from our recent IB evaluation visit was:

“The school ensures that all teachers have an understanding of their responsibility in supporting all students’ personal and social education.”

This is something that we hold precious at JIS; in our planning and teaching, we always look for opportunities to support and develop students’ well-being and social development. To support us, we use the *IB Personal, Social and Physical Education Scope and Sequence*, which scaffolds our teaching with developmental targets in three areas: *active living*, *identity* and *interactions*.

In this article, we will focus on interactions. Humans are social beings and the challenges we are facing this year has highlighted our need to connect and interact even more. Our interactions strand of the curriculum explicitly develops skills necessary to develop positive relationships with other humans and our environment.

P6 are currently inquiring into the theme 'How We Organise Ourselves'. The scaffolding ideas are:

Central Idea: Communities are created through roles and responsibilities

Lines of Inquiry:

- How people operate in groups
- Leadership
- Local and global communities

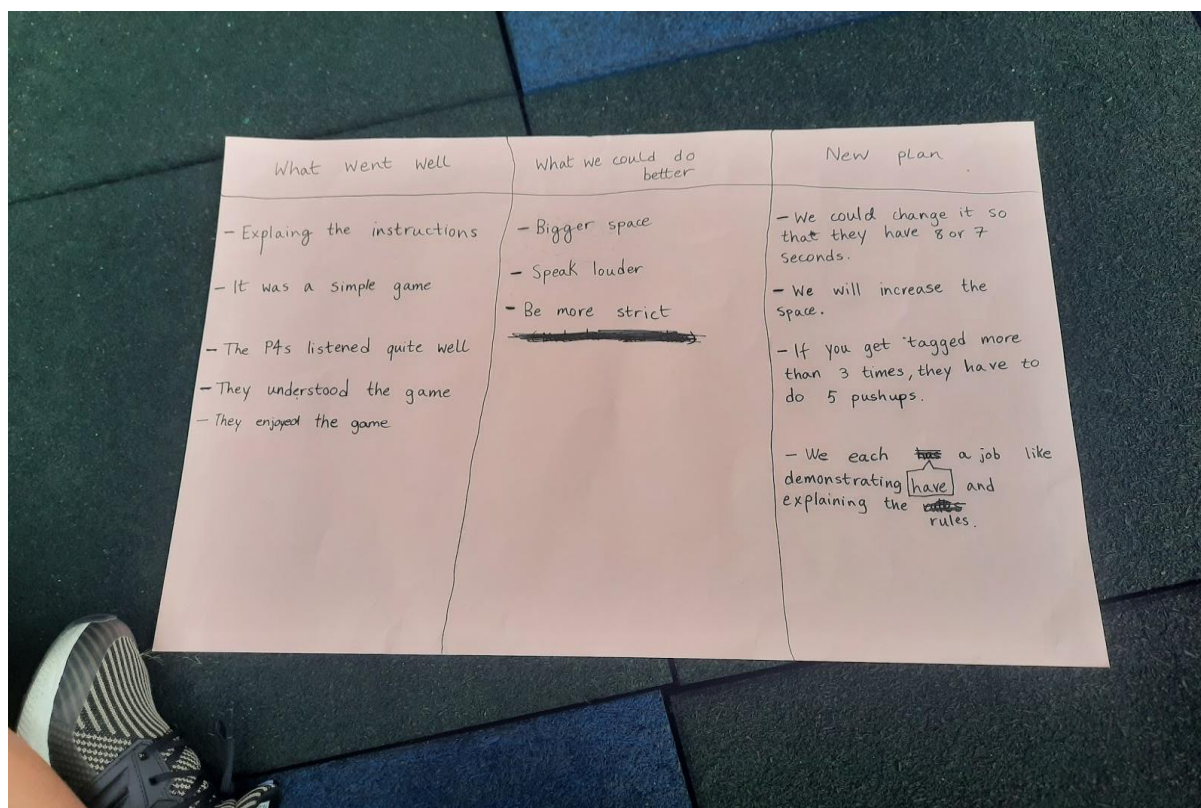
This unit is integrated with PE, and has the following interactions objectives:

Conceptual understanding: Communities and societies have their own norms, rules and regulations

Learning Objectives:

- Adopt a variety of roles for the needs of the group, for example, leader, presenter
- Reflect critically on the effectiveness of the group during and at the end of the process

The most powerful way to develop these concepts and skills is to actively practise them and that is exactly what Mr. Rixon and Mr. Jason planned. P6 students planned and taught a PE lesson for P4 students. After the first lesson, they reflected on the process, improved their plan and taught a new improved lesson. Listening into the conversations, it was evident that students were involved in rich dialogue with their peers. With a common goal, they reflected critically on what worked; decided a plan of action and negotiated roles for each member of the group.

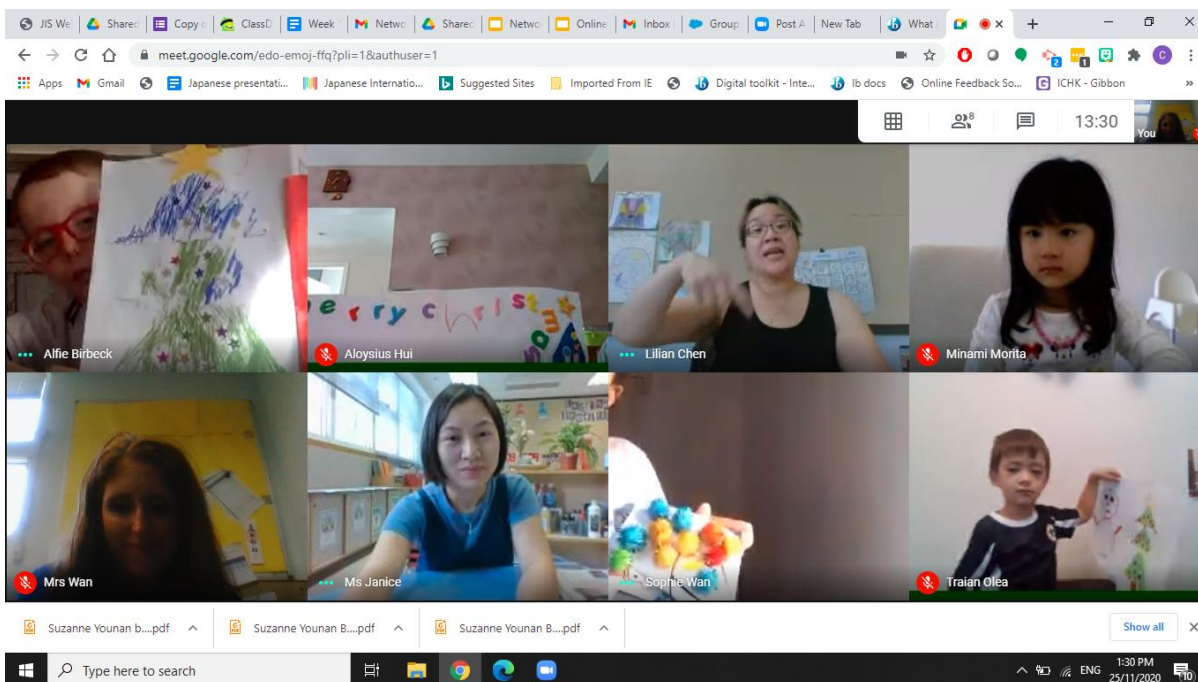


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The next day, a most wonderful thing happened. On the playground, students found some hoops, left out from a PE lesson. Without any adult prompting, they organised a game involving students across a range of age groups: taking on roles and responsibilities; managing the group behaviour and trying our new versions of the game. True collaboration: no adults needed!



When online learning has to happen, our teaching of interactions does not stop. This week, P3 has been using photographs to examine how we can detect the perspectives of others. They also had an online ‘social lunch’ arranged to encourage continued social interactions. P2’s have been using *Padlet* to share their reflections with each other; P1’s have been encouraged, on their choice activity board, to use their writing skills to help plan the home grocery shopping list.; Reception has online ‘group games’ and sharing sessions scheduled so that students can continue to communicate with each other.



Way back in August, I asked you “what you value most’ right now, for your child” (Newsletters of August 21st and September 4th). Many of your replies focused on well-being, meaningful connections; social interaction, resilience and happiness. Whether we are in school, online or a mixture of both, these will remain at the heart of our teaching and learning.

As always, if you have any questions about learning at JIS, feel free to contact me at cwan@es.jis.edu.hk

Students born in 2014 – places at JIS

We are aware that we have some relocations out of Hong Kong over the Christmas holidays and we have done a few interviews to fill places in some of our classes for students to have the opportunity to have the experience of a JIS education, from January 2021. We do have possible places in P2 class if there are members of the school community or friends who may be interested in trying out for interview. Please contact Ms Miyajima in the school office for further information 2834 3531

ICHK Newsletter update:

The newsletter from our partner secondary school for this week will be sent later.



A beautifully blue sky today at school.....

Wishing everyone a very enjoyable weekend ahead – the weather looks like it might be great for camping and hiking. Enjoy the fresh air and keep healthy and safe.

Simon Walton
Principal