



Newsletter 6 2021-22

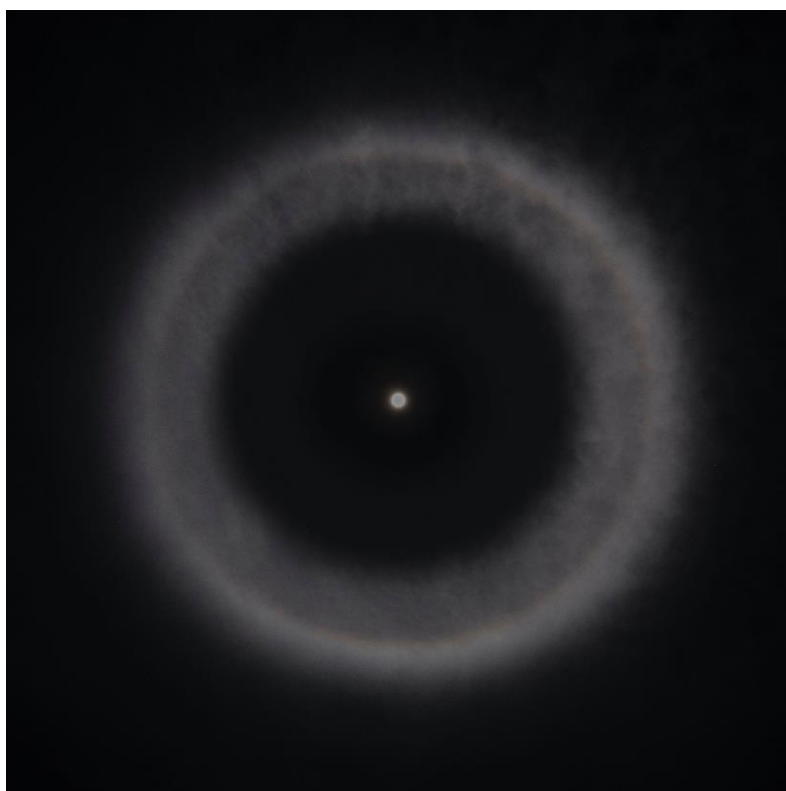
Friday 24th September 2021

Dear Parents and JIS community

Week 6 around school - Out and about around school this week

Mid Autumn festival – moon watching

I hope everyone had an enjoyable evening and day with the family to celebrate the mid-autumn festival. I share this photo taken on the roof of my building in North Point of the amazing moon halo that we had above us for around 1 hour. We all took it as a positive sign that good things may be happening soon!



The moon is clear in the centre surrounded by a haze of cloud making a perfect circle in the skies above Braemar Hill. It was beautiful to see. Hopefully good times ahead for all of us!

Around school with P4:

Unit of inquiry research about body systems – seeing the real thing!



The P4 class had a great time discussing and applying their knowledge (they know a lot!!) about body systems and connections by looking closely at a heart and pair of lungs from a local wet market butcher. Fascinating for them to see in real life so much of what they have read about or seen only in video clips. Well done, P4.

Recycling at JIS – community bins up and running!

There are now some bins in the car park area for community members to drop off their recycling, as well as our students based recycling station in the first floor corridor. The bins will be collected every week on a Thursday and allow us to recycle paper, varied plastics, metals, glass and tetra paks. (see poster below and attached to the newsletter and perhaps print off for the family noticeboard)

The range of items to be recycled is extensive and Kenny from Love Recycling Plus manages all his recyclables into correct locations – no landfill at all (unless it is not clean and affects the recycling process) and will provide the students with a record of their achievements in weight or volume with a simple calculation for carbon offsetting.



We look forward to some community updates about how we are all doing and what impact we have been able to achieve.

The Mini and Junior Duke awards 2021-22 – life skills for young children, final call.

Following on from last years' pilot scheme for the P2 and P4 classes we are offering the Junior Duke Awards this year for all students in P1 – P6. The awards are a set of challenges for young children based on the model of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards famous for young adults and beyond. Fiona Merrill has agreed to coordinate the scheme again this year for the students.

- The Junior Duke program consists of 14 activities of which the children choose to complete 10.
- The Junior Duke program will be open to P1, P2, P3, P4, P5 and P6 children.
- The total cost for each child will be HK\$200



- Each child will receive a booklet to complete, teachers are available as advisors to support if need be
- Once a challenge has been completed, a parent will sign the booklet. Next the JIS Duke assessor will discuss the challenge with the child
- When 10 challenges have been completed a certificate and a badge will be awarded at an assembly.
- For the early year classes (P1) parents can support reflection on a task by scribing for their child (writing down what the child says.)

Click this presentation for full details of the awards and also for the application form – the form for each class P1 – P6 is on the final slide of the presentation:

Click here: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1aynSuhTh520tGVrBWtRhSUZEt_yV-ZE1fRFhTtHqoX4/edit?usp=sharing

These awards are for interested volunteers, it is not a compulsory school activity.

Update from our Student Support Department – Jenny Procter

Presentation by Cheryl Liu and Abi Chan on Occupational Therapy & Speech and Language Therapy – today - Friday 24th September 2021 at 1.00pm

Cheryl and Abi from Spot Children's Therapy who both support JIS students on a weekly basis presented to interested parents via Google Meet this afternoon. The focus was on what SPOT can offer, early intervention and the benefits of it through O.T. (Occupational Therapy) and Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) as well as Cheryl and Abi's roles at JIS. For any further information please contact Jenny Procter on jprocter@es.jis.edu.hk. Many thanks to those parents who joined the presentation this afternoon.



Counselling area update:

Check out our wonderful new counselling space! Ms. Ashima and the students got to use it for the first time today and they all commented on how it helped to create a comfortable and relaxing environment. Soon we'll have an art competition so the students' work can add to the positivity of the new space.

New playground equipment – looking good at JIS!



We have added some new circular benches, some more large storage boxes and also some planters to our main playground area this week. The benches are a big hit with students for both climbing on and sitting on and we hope to involve a range of staff and students in the planting of some new plants to add to our overall school environment.

A big thanks to Fiona Merrill for her tireless efforts in connecting with the Forest Adventures team to further extend our options for the students and their creative play and physical development.


We hope to improve our school gardens in the coming months with the help of some school community members. If you are interested in getting involved, please let us know. (s-walton@jis.edu.hk)





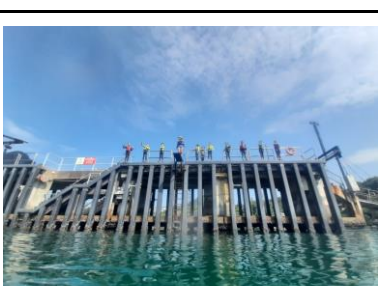
Learning at JIS – from Cath Wan, Deputy Principal/ PYP Coordinator

Developing the Learner Profile through Outdoor Experiences and Camp.

The Learner Profile is at the heart of the International Baccalaureate curriculum - from Reception, all the way through to IB diploma. These ‘habits of mind’, developed continuously at age appropriate levels form the basis of developing well-rounded lifelong learners and support our JIS values of kindness, commitment and respect. Outdoor learning experiences, including school camps for the upper years give students a fantastic opportunity to develop these habits of mind. Using P6 camp as an example, here are a few snippets of the Learner Profile in action at camp!



Learner Profile	Example of how it was developed on P6 camp	
Communicators	<p>As a team, children had to get themselves over a high beam. This was a lot trickier than it seemed. Students had many ideas. There were debates on the best idea, respectful disagreements and encouraging advice. Children who were nervous communicated their feelings and more confident children, used their communication skills to reassure and encourage others.</p>	

Inquirers	There was a beautiful moment that is an example of children naturally feeding their inquirer habit. Students were playing at a waterfall, when one child noticed a dragonfly and became curious. Over the next hour or so, his curiosity had spread to most of the class. They started to observe the dragonflies carefully, ask questions about them, and show delight in being curious. Curiosity is a foundation of being an inquirer. Moments outside to stop, observe and wonder really support the development of this attribute	
Reflective	After every activity, children reflected: what worked, what didn't, how they could improve next time, what skills they can develop further.	
Caring	Every student had different 'comfort zones' on camp activities. It was wonderful to see children offering to help each other and offering encouraging phrases such as 'you can do it!'	
Thinkers	Every activity, from washing the dishes to climbing had a group planning session. Some of the plans didn't work the first time, so children looked at different perspectives. One of the tasks involved getting every team member out of the water, onto the pontoon without touching the sides. The intricate planning of this operation, based on size, predicted strength, and safety techniques was a joy to behold!	
Risk-takers	The jetty jump was a true example of this one! Trying something that they were nervous about was challenging for many, but practising the 'jump strategy' from a lower height helped students to build up confidence. Supporting each other with encouraging talk really supported the children to participate too. It was wonderful to see how exuberant the students were after stretching their comfort zones!	

The above is just a snapshot of how the learner profile can be developed. Throughout their school years, each child will 'collect a huge bank of experiences' that explicitly link to these attributes. In this way, the Learner Profile is not a 'word list' but becomes truly lived, internalised and will hopefully support our students as lifelong learners.

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

Hong Kong Government Student Grants 2021-22

Many of you may have read in the media that the HK Government are again providing Student Grants to all school age students in Hong Kong of \$2,500 each. We shall be receiving the forms for these applications next week and will send them to all families. The applications have been streamlined and should come with pre-printed data for existing students (who applied before) and as blank forms to be completed by parents for all new students. Please check and complete the forms very carefully as we had many that were returned to us last time, for admin checking or refused by HK Govt. staff for inaccurate completion. We should be able to send out the forms early next week, as soon as they are received by us.

Influenza vaccinations – November 22nd 2021

The school office has sent out a blue form for completion if you would like your child to have a flu vaccination at school in November. The forms need to be **returned to school by Tuesday 5th October**, latest – in order to be checked by HK Govt. health services staff. If your child does not have a HKID then a copy of another identity document / passport will be needed.

Temperature checks at home – each morning please

Can we please remind everyone that it is still currently a HK EDB and CHPO requirement that all school students complete a temperature check and form each day before they come to school. We do have an increasing number of students who are not doing this and who have to queue at the school office each morning. Many thanks for your help in doing this each day.

ICHK Newsletter for this week

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](#)



International College Hong Kong

Coming soon: World Animal Day – Monday 4th October



On Monday 4th October we shall celebrate 'World Animal Day' when the students get to dress up in an animal theme costume for the day at school (no superheroes or sports kit, please). It can be animal print, a t-shirt with design or anything that shows a celebration of animals. For the privilege of wearing special clothes for the day students make a donation of \$20 and we shall send it the fabulous staff of Hong Kong Dolphin Watch who are battling hard to save and protect the Chinese white (pink) dolphins of Hong Kong. Get creative with your favourite animal costume and help raise some money for a great cause.

Recruitment position for I.T. Manager at JIS starting late October / November 2021

Towards the end of October we shall say farewell to our I.T. Manager Mr. Wa Man Lee, who has been with the school over 10 years. Wa has a part time job with JIS and also a job as a tree management expert. He will be doing some extended study in tree management for a Masters' Degree, upon leaving JIS.

Currently this position has been 3 days per week and would suit someone with the technical expertise and knowledge who seeks only part time employment or who may be doing further study or vocational work. Working hours are negotiable. There is some technical work on management of our devices and system but also opportunities to have fun, engaging with students and broadening their computing skills:

I.T. manager, technical support (3 days per week, part time)

Applicants must be creative, confident and flexible to work in an international primary school environment. Duties will include system admin, network infrastructure, system and user support and resources management. JIS is a Google products school, with some Microsoft applications. Applicants should send their C.V. expressing their experience and professional qualifications; with names of two referees to the Principal: s-walton@jis.edu.hk . For further information or enquiries, please contact the Principal.

Please note the closing date for the applications for this position is 25th September 2021

Mr. Walton's retirement in June 2022 – thank you.

Thank you very much for the many messages of shock, support and thanks that have been sent in, following my email to the school community yesterday. I particularly liked the 'you don't look old enough' one!

As I mentioned, I look forward to nine great months ahead and to enjoy completing some exciting projects with the school community. The school has a very strong identity and is in very solid shape. We have some passionate, excellent staff who drive the experiences for our students and will continue to do so for many years to come. You don't get voted 'Primary school of the year' without a team effort.

My hope is that if some of the current pandemic restrictions get changed we can have a big party to celebrate the 25th birthday of the school (2022) and my departure, together as school community. Let's all hope this can happen, perhaps in the summer term.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Simon Walton
Principal

A few more people got ready for Mid-Autumn Festival this week – we had some visitors to the school office..... Reception Class.

