



Newsletter 15 2021-22

Friday 10th December 2021

Dear Parents and JIS community

Week 17 around school –

P5 out and about in Tai Po Kau Country Park:

The P5 class set off with a group of parents and JIS staff led by Ms. Fisher from P3 on a day out to the forest on Monday 6th December. The students had to explore and apply their knotting and square lashing skills to a problem solving situation by inventing and making a game out of natural, found materials. Well done to everyone and for HK weather, for providing a perfect day to be out in the forest!



We have managed to make sure that all classes have been out to Tai Po Kau or Brides Pool area this term as well as do some outdoor education skills sessions in the playground at school. Thanks to Fiona Merrill and Laura Fisher who are both Level 3 Forest School instructors who help to plan and support these sessions for all the students. We believe very strongly in the huge benefits of being outdoors and also the opportunities for learning such a wide range of social and practical skills in the local environment. Our unique location so close to a country park also gives us ease of access to keep our programme going.

It is also reaffirming that you the school community clearly appreciate this part of our curriculum by turning up to support the trips and also allowing your children to join. Thank you.

Japanese Class exchange activities with Japanese section students in P1 and P2

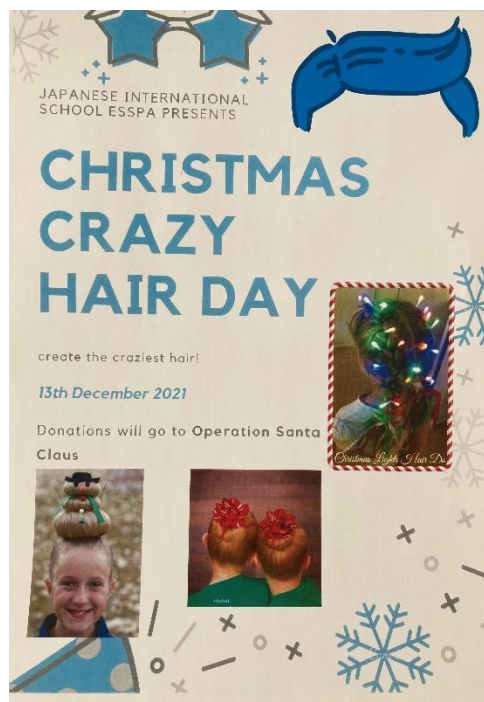
Sora sensei in our Japanese class has been busy planning some exchange activities with classes in our Japanese section. This week P1 and P2 have had an exchange time with some activities in our roof playground. Obviously in I.S. we have students who are studying Japanese and speak confident English and in J.S. they have students confident in Japanese and who are studying English – so these exchange activities make complete sense! They also allow some initial friendships to develop – so that students can play together when recess times are aligned.



Thanks to Sora sensei and Kyomi sensei for the planning and development of these sessions.

JIS Student Council, Green Team and ESSPA– Christmas events next week !

The JIS Student Council, JIS Green Team and ESSPA have been busy over the last few weeks, planning some events for our final week of term.



ESSPA – Crazy Hair Day – Monday 13th December.

ESSPA are inviting everyone to get creative and get festive on Monday 13th December with a Christmas crazy hair day! You can add things to your hair, colour your hair, wear a special Christmas hat or anything you like, for a crazy hair day! No one is swimming on a Monday, so we are all systems go for some fun.

Donations for this day will be for the (RTHK/SCMP) Operation Santa Claus appeal 2021 to help different families around Hong Kong at this time of year. Operation Santa has been doing a fabulous job over many years of supporting a range of Hong Kong based charities

The Student Council are organizing a 'Dress Christmas / Christmas jumper Day' on **Wednesday 15th December** in order to raise some money for 'Save the Children Fund – Hong Kong'. Students can wear their special Christmas jumpers if they have one or dress in red or in Christmas costumes if they prefer.



To make it easier we suggest that your child brings in a donation to the local charity appeals on Monday that we can share with both of our chosen charities eg. \$100 dollars means that \$50 can go to each charity. Thank you for your support.



In the afternoon on Wednesday 15th, instead of school assembly the Student Council will be hosting a disco! Each class will be able to request some songs to dance to in their classroom – using the classroom interactive T.V.'s the Student Council will be able to beam in some songs to all students.

ESSPA Pizza lunch: Thursday 16th December

ESSPA have sorted the catering for a special lunch next week – their first in almost 2 years! All orders are now in and have been placed.

Thanks to the new ESSPA committee for arranging this for everyone. Volunteers will be needed on this day. Please contact ESSPA committee members for details and be sure to complete a full health declaration form at the school entrance before entering school. Visitors need to be double vaccinated or have proof of a negative testing result in order to enter the school. Thank you for your understanding.

The JIS Green Team are doing a great job– working alongside the Student Council they will continue to monitor the use of single use plastic in school. It really is a work in progress and has started many conversations in classrooms and around the playground at snack time.

By having the plastic so visually presented it really helps to remind the children to bring in snack and lunch in a washable, reusable box. A big thanks to all the help we are receiving on this initiative from JIS homes!

Thanks to Vikki Rixon for her support and coordination of the JIS Student Council and also the Green team.



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,so read on.

The ESSPA book sale means that over the Christmas /New Year holidays you can have a good sort out of your children's books to clear some space for new ones or to clear the shelves. Send in your good quality, used books and 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.

Athletics update from Mr. Jason in P.E. – Tai Po District Championship.



Congratulations to Andy, Taka and Heather in P5 for their efforts in the Tai Po District Athletics championship. Andy and Taka took part on Thursday morning. Andy competed in the 100m and came 4th out of 25 competitors, Taka competed in the 60m and came 11th out of 22. Heather competed this morning (Friday) and came 2nd in the girls 60m!



We look forward to the return of competitive sports, once regulations for schools are relaxed or changed. The school has regularly competed in a range of swimming, rugby, soccer, skipping and gymnastic events in the past.

Recycling at JIS – community bins doing well – but the monkeys have found them!

Please keep up with the efforts – the bins in the car park area are open to our school community members. We have ordered another plastics bin for the car park as this bin is getting full and the monkeys have now discovered that there may be something interesting in there. Please wash all your plastics carefully to give little or no food smells and make sure to rinse the glass bottles. We may have to put a lock on the bin but we can share the number with all of you, in case you wish to leave your recycling.



Note: At school we regularly remind the students about the monkeys and how to react if they see one. The monkeys are sometimes seen at the back of the school or on the school perimeter fence at this time of year, when the forests are running out of food. The students are aware of moving away and giving the monkeys space to move on. They are usually intimidated by the noise of recess or lunchbreak and stay away in the trees.

ICHK Newsletter for this week – winter special 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 the winter bulletin and this week's newsletter click: [here](#) and [here](#)

Extra excurricular update: information attached to this email.

Information for ballet and music classes is attached to the email sending this newsletter. Please check through this if you are interested. SIS Ltd. sports information is also attached for you to plan ahead for.

Reception class interviews for August 2022 starting date:

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 are hosted in groups of around 5 students on a 'playdate at school' kind of basis. The students have the opportunity to explore a variety of different play scenarios and listen to 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.

Logo competition for outdoor education – congratulations!

Well done to Lizzie in P4 who has been voted as our logo design winner for the Outdoor Education news and information materials.

Thanks to everyone who got involved and had a go.



Have a great weekend everyone – please remember Christmas Crazy Hair Day on Monday 13th December and Dress Christmas (jumper or costume) on Wednesday 15th – donations for local HK charities will be collected and shared between Operation Santa Claus and Save the Children fund.

See you all on Monday for a great final week of term.

Simon Walton
Principal