

SJIIM Weekly Update

11th September 2020



Our Youngest Students are Settling in!

The youngest children at SJIIM have had a great start to school! Everyone has been very keen to interact after such a long time without socialisation, which has been lovely to see! The children who were in Nursery last year were extremely excited to start Reception and catch up with their school friends, whilst the new Nursery and Reception children have been eager to explore their new learning environment.

The children are getting reacquainted with school routines and learning new habits based around the 'new norm'. Following our typical practice, the students followed a 'staggered start', meaning they come to school in small groups to begin the year.

This was especially beneficial this year to teach them how to keep themselves safe with our new routines, eg. frequent washing hands and sitting on marked areas. Exposure to these new routines, environments and expectations in smaller groups enabled the children to adjust quicker and more comfortably. It is also a chance for the teachers to get to know each individual child and help them settle happily into school. The 'staggered start' was particularly helpful to the new Nursery children as it gave them a chance to develop confidence and become used to longer hours at school.

All the children have been getting to know each other and have enjoyed showing their Marvellous Me boxes with others, sharing their favourite toys and photographs from home. They have already had a taste of specialist lessons - joining in with Mr. Clement's singing, Ms. Grace and Mr. Tom's dancing, Ms. Pardo's drama and the Mandarin team's sessions. The children have also loved listening to stories at the end of each day and visiting the Library to choose their first book to take home.

We are extremely impressed with how grown up the children have been, walking themselves into school and waving goodbye to their parents at the Rainbow Gates. The staff are thoroughly enjoying getting to know the children better and are eager to continue to watch them grow and develop throughout the academic year.



Elementary School Update



Assembly programme in Action

Our school assembly programme forms an important part of our character educations, as well as PSHCE (Personal, health, spiritual and citizenship education) programmes. We are delighted that we have been able to redesign the programme so this important part of our whole school education can continue. Pupils now have year group assemblies in the Auditorium weekly, in socially-distanced seating arrangements. For our Friday phase assemblies, we are now coming together on Zoom. The theme for this year is all about creativity and flexibility! This week, we have been exploring our Virtues and we have helped to develop children's understanding of our upcoming holiday, Malaysia Day!



Parent Information Sessions (Zoom)

We would like to thank our Heads of Year for hosting parent information sessions via zoom this week. They provided a range of important information for parents and answered some great questions! Thank you parents for your attendance as well. Please see upcoming parent information sessions below.

Seesaw Parent Information Session (EY - Year 3) Monday 14th Sept @ 9:15am.

Bahasa Tuesday 15th Sept @ 1:00pm

Mandarin Friday 18th Sept @ 9:00am

EY Parent Information Session Tuesday 22nd Sept @1:15pm

Please check your child's Dojo page for the Zoom codes.

Digital Leaders Year 5 and 6

This year we are going to have Student Digital Leaders to support computing at SJI, and give students a chance to show leadership and excellence. This will only be available to students in Year 5 and 6, who have been informed about this during their assembly this week. If this is something your child is interested in applying for, they can send an application to Ms White (swhite@sj-international.edu.my) by Monday 14th September. Thank you to those students who have already sent in an application.

For more information, please have a look at the PDF document posted on your child's Dojo page.

Elementary School Update



Bahasa Homework

Every school year, we seek to review our curriculum and continue to develop and improve what we offer SJIM students. To help further support students progress and learning in Bahasa, we will begin setting all children Bahasa home learning tasks weekly. These tasks will focus on the speaking and listening aspects of their learning and help the children gain confidence, so they can show off what they know!

Dropping off items in the day - Reminder

Movement around school is more highly regulated at the moment, and staff are extremely busy with all of the extra supervision required to ensure your children are safe and as active as possible, within the government's SOPs. As you know, parents are not allowed on site, as per the MOE guidelines. For these reasons, we are unable to accept items dropped off from home during the school day (lunches, books, etc).

Note about procedures of unwell children

Although we would like all children to attend school daily, the choices parents make when sending children to school, during these unprecedented times, could have impacts on the whole school community. Please make decisions around your child's health and attendance in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Students with any symptoms of Covid-19 at home should not be sent to the school. Parents must inform the school and must produce a medical certificate from a doctor before returning to school.
- Students with any symptoms of Covid-19 sent home from school will be dismissed to parents with a clear explanation. Students can only return to school after 24 hours with no fever (and no fever-reducing medication) and should produce a medical certificate from a doctor before returning to school.
- When returning to school students must come to the Medical Room first to consult with the nurse before entering the classroom.
- Students with siblings: if sibling (1) has a fever and sibling (2) has no symptoms of Covid-19, sibling 2 still can proceed to the classroom.

**Covid 19 symptoms include: Fever (temp above 37.5), Flu, Cough, Sore Throat or Shortness of breath*

Sodexo Snacks for Y5 & Y6

As the most mature members for our Elementary, next week Y5 and Y6 students will be able to buy snacks from Sodexo. Allowing these two year groups will keep numbers low, in line with government SOP's and also provides students in these year group with an opportunity to demonstrate their virtue of responsibility.

Virtues Conversation for parents

There will be a virtues conversation facilitated by St. Joseph's Singapore for parents. This discussion provides a great opportunity to strengthen your understanding of the virtues programme and build relationship with our Lasallian community. Please find the link below for more information:

[Virtues Sharing Circle](#)



High School Update

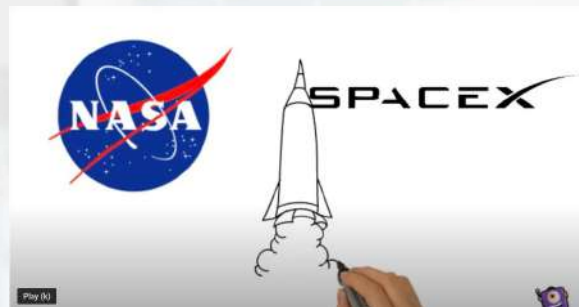


SPARK - CAS Project and YouTube Channel

One of the exciting opportunities afforded by CAS (Creativity, Activity and Service) in the IB Diploma Programme is the expectation for students to complete at least one “CAS project” during their IBDP studies. In most years, the Year 12 students complete their CAS project through collaboratively planning a ‘Challenge Week’ trip in early July to another part of Malaysia or abroad, and taking part in activities related to all three strands of CAS. Due to the MCO, they were not able to complete this trip in July 2020. However, although the MCO brought challenges for students to be able to carry out CAS activities, it also sparked a wealth of creative responses from students, who planned alternative projects, designed to enrich not only their own learning but that of others as well.

With the need for independent learning becoming more prevalent in their current circumstances, a group of Y13 students - Chan Jing Yuan, Tiffany Chin, Anjeli Estrada, Alvin Ooi, Alithea Pentadu, and Chin Xuen Bei - started a student-led initiative to spread knowledge in various fields of knowledge. From this shared vision of kindling an interest in academia, SPARK was created as a month-long project, with their team creating intellectually stimulating videos explaining interesting concepts in medicine, neurobiology & anatomy, chemical & biomedical engineering, physics and maths. They hope that this project demonstrates to viewers that learning is a lifelong process that transcends adversity.

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqyU-gO9Gn-7qo5wYfblKg> to subscribe to the SPARK YouTube channel. A range of videos will be released weekly between now and the 6th of October.



High School Update



Parent Information Sessions

Many thanks to Ms Sousa, Mr Hussain, Ms Pollitt, Ms Cole, Mr King and Mr Hollis for their information sessions over the last two weeks. We were really pleased that so many parents attended and we hope that we covered enough material to give you a sense of the your child's experiences in school. The meetings were recorded and shared following the session.

Our new Head of Year 10, Ms Lordina Diassona, will be out of quarantine and in school from next week. We will update you shortly on the date and time of the information session.

Wearing of Masks

Since returning to school, the students have done a fantastic job with wearing masks both in and out of lessons. The safety of our community is of great importance and it is essential that everyone remembers to wear a mask, wash their hands and maintain a safe physical distance. Please continue to reinforce this at home and our teachers on duty will keep reminding children in school.

Music Dept Update

Performing Arts Leaders:

As part of our student leadership programme (PALs), we are looking for students who have a passion for Performing Arts to be student leaders in Music, Drama and beyond. These students should have an interest in the subject, whilst also being able to lead and think creatively about the future of the Performing Arts in school. This group will help the staff to develop, promote and serve the school community through the Arts. If you or your child is interested, please fill out this google form by 25th September:

<https://forms.gle/r2cZe6rDdzSSCR7U7>

Successful students will be contacted and released at a later date, with students being invited to our introductory meeting.

Tech Crew:

In the past there has been the opportunity to develop skills within the Sound and Lighting fields within SJIIM. This year we look to open this to a wider range of students, both new and old. The SJIIM Tech Crew will be a group of students from HS who will gain training on the use of Lighting and Sound within our performance spaces, whilst also offering the opportunity to learn about stage management, backstage crews, set and prop design and costume. If you or your child is interested, please fill out this google form by 25th September:

<https://forms.gle/faSPBfyRr6ToZcSs8>

Successful students will be contacted and released at a later date, with students being invited to our introductory meeting.

Instrumental Music Programme:

Please review the Instrumental Music website for current timetables for private tuition lessons during Term 1.

Year 7 Concert Band Programme:

A Quick reminder that all Year 7 parents need to have submitted a Google Form to select their students instrument as part of our Year 7 Concert Band Programme. Any who haven't completed the document can find this on the students Google Classroom account or via the following link:

<https://forms.gle/xuWoB2hunqkNpYMy6>

High School Update



Art Dept Update

All students need to have their own supplies as requested each year but ever more important due to SOPs. This list has been sent out each year with the expectation that students provide their basic stationery items.

- *Art essentials : all year 7-9 students - selected students from 10 - 12
- Sketchbook
- HB, 2B, 4B, 6B, 8B pencils, eraser, water-colour pencils, ruler, fine liner pens, round year paint brush set 8-13 and flat paint brush set yr 7-13
- Students from year 10- 13 should have addition art materials at home.
- Regular School stationary list:
- Pens (green, red, blue, black) Ballpoint or gel, pencils, eraser, sharpener, ruler, maths compass set, glue, scissors, folder or binder to hold extra papers/photocopies. Headphones (not required for art)

* Some items are not available at present in the school Book Shop and will need to be purchased elsewhere

Year 9 : Students in year 9 will be making Papier mache sculptures this term.

We are looking for old newspapers and magazines, cardboard, plastic containers with lids and aluminum foil.

Please donate to the HS Office.

Year 10- 12 - After school Art support will run every Tuesday with Mr. Johnston from 3:20 - 4:30 in room E4- 01.

Year 11 are strongly advised to attend.

New Teachers' Arrival

We are pleased to be able to welcome our last four new teachers into the school next week, after the delays in having employment visas approved and the compulsory 14 days of quarantine. The following teachers will be joining us from Monday onwards:

- Mr. Peter Richards (Head of Science)
- Ms. Lordina Diassona (Business Studies/Business Management teacher)
- Mr. Nirushan Thanaraj (Computer Science teacher)

Ms. Selen Egit, our new Economics teacher will also join us on Thursday.

We appreciate the understanding of parents and students in this, and are grateful for the teachers who have been covering classes for their absent colleagues during this period.

Useful Links



[ES Student Absence Form](#)
[HS Student Absence Form](#)



[HS Parent Calendar 2020/21](#)
[ES Parent calendar 2020/21](#)



[Whole School Teaching Staff Email 2020/21](#)



[Sept 2020 Menu](#)
[Term 1 2020 meal charges](#)



[University & Careers Counsellor \(TBA\)](#)



[PSG - Welcome Note](#)



[Music Website](#)



[Sports Website](#)



[Epurple \(Top up credit\)](#)
[Tapestry \(For ES\)](#)
[Parent portal \(For ES\)](#)



[CCA \(Schoolsbuddy\)](#)