

SJIIM Weekly Update

2nd October 2020



Co-Curricular Activities: Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

Much has been said and written about what was missing from our lives during the MCO. As we have reintegrated back into school, you note the importance of the relationships between students and their peers, the importance of the relationship between teachers and students and the importance of the relationship between teachers and their colleagues.

Whilst students and teachers are enjoying being back in the classroom, our CCA programme is something that we have missed.

We're delighted though that we're now able to reintroduce the CCAs, albeit in an adjusted form.

Since opening, SJIIM has offered a wide range of co-curricular activities. Walking around after school during the week, the commitment of students and teachers to their programmes is evident. It's the quality and the thought that goes into these provisions that mean that, rather than being extra-curricular - an add on - they are co-curricular - an important complementary curriculum that runs alongside our subjects. Through these co-curricular sessions, students develop a wide range of virtues. From persevering with a sport you are trying for the first time to having the courage to stand up and debate in front of your peers. From showing compassion to others through the Lasallian Youth Movement to having the focus to learn a different opening in chess.

In *Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance*, Angela Duckworth writes of her strong intuition that 'grit' can be developed by being involved in co-curricular activities. She writes that being involved in an activity for a minimum of two years can allow a person to see improvement in their performance and experience mastery. Duckworth also highlights that, for young people, co-curricular activities are a means to develop true passion for something.

Perhaps then, through participating in our co-curricular programme and reflecting on what we have learned, we can transfer these virtues such as perseverance, courage, compassion and focus to other areas of life and flourish - whether that be in the classroom, the home or as Lasallians in the wider community.



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With regards to CCAs, we will continue to plan for resuming on November 2nd. We will, however, respond accordingly to any update from the MoH in light of concerns over the growing Covid-19 cases.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME

ES will be running a **trial** of CCAs to meet the current SOPs set by the Ministry of Education.

Although we would love to offer our after school programme to all students, we must consider safety first. To carefully consider government regulations, such as distancing, movement, contact tracing and space, we have decided to run a trial with our oldest and most mature students. Trialing will ensure that the safety of the children can be managed with smaller numbers on site initially. We are offering a period of 6 weeks CCAs for our **Year 5 and 6** students after half term.

CCAs will look very different due to current circumstances are are all facing:

- Students will remain with students from the same floor for their CCAs.
- CCAs will be provided by teachers and will not be administered by any external agencies at this time.
- All students **must** be collected at the CCA completion time of **3:50pm**.
- Siblings of students in CCAs **must** be collected at their normal time. Siblings **can not** wait at school therefore multiple pickups **must** be arranged to collect all children at the exact time expected - this includes both ES and HS siblings.
- All CCAs will be provided on our school site.
- Parents of **Year 5 and 6** will sign up for their chosen CCA **via Schools Buddy**.
- Students will be allowed to participate in **1 CCA a week**.
- Students will choose **3 options** as all CCAs will have a maximum number of participants to align with the MOE guidelines and SOP.
- CCAs will run on a **Thursday for Year 5 and 6**.
- Specific invited groups, such as Digital Leaders and SRC, will run at different times and will not count as a CCA.
- Religious CCAs will be an optional extra and would not prevent a child from joining a CCA on a Thursday.
- CCAs will begin on **2 November and run until 10 December 2020**.

We are trialing activities across the curriculum including: sport, performing arts, music, academia and technology. This trial will allow us to implement the richest and safest co-curricular coverage possible.

We remain hopeful that our programme will be expanded in January to more students and provide them with the opportunities to take part in a range of activities. We appreciate your continued patience and support throughout these unprecedented times.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. My email is:

nkilbourn@sj-i-international.edu.my

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HIGH SCHOOL CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (CCA) PROGRAMME

"CCAs are back!"

Yes, I am really happy to announce that after the October half term we will be providing CCAs for *all* high school students. Due to the current global pandemic, we have not been able to offer CCAs up until this point. However, we feel confident that with extra planning, care and support we can bring back a modified, but highly inclusive, CCA programme.

[High School CCA Google Site](#) - here you can find all the information you need about the CCAs.

At SJIIM, the holistic education we provide is enriched by our Co-Curricular Activities programme. We believe it is vital our students have the opportunity to experience new interests and activities or to develop skills and talent they already have beyond the classroom. Our Co-curricular activities will cover a wide range of activities including; sport, performing arts, music, academic and technology.

There are some significant changes to our CCA programme, which will help to slowly regain some control over what is the "new normal". These changes are as follows:

- Our CCA programme will be led and run by our extremely talented teachers. We will *not* be offering any externally led CCAs and students will not be leaving the school site.
- Students will only be allowed to choose **only 1 CCA** a week. This will not include Friday's religious CCAs. Students who are leading a CCA will also still get to choose another CCA to participate in.
- There is **no waiting permitted** before or after the CCAs. Students will need to be picked up as soon as their CCA finishes.
- *All* CCAs will **finish at 4:30pm** (unless stated otherwise)
- Students will sign up for their chosen CCA **via Schools Buddy**. Activation emails have been sent to new students. If you have any concerns with login details, please contact joconnor@sj-international.edu.my
- Students will choose **3 options** as all CCAs will have a maximum number of participants to align with the MOE SOP.
- CCAs will run from **Tuesday - Friday each week**.
- CCAs will begin on **2 November and run until 10 December 2020**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. My email is:

joconnor@sj-international.edu.my

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Catholic Corner

On Tuesday 29th September we celebrated our first Mass in the auditorium. It was wonderful to see the Mass so well attended by our students in both the elementary and the high school. Father Alvin explained in detail about the Feast of the Archangels and our students participated with enthusiasm and respect.

Future dates to note:

Our next Mass will take place on Thursday 5th November at 12:30.

Catholic CCA

To sign up for Catholic CCA which will start after half term, please click the [link](#).

Prayer/Thought for the week

In general, our students are great! They are so happy to be back in school and have been cooperative and kind to their teachers, staff, and each other. One great benefit of 2020 is that our children have had to take a pause in their lives and they now show appreciation for the things that they may have taken for granted. We pray that this attitude continues for them as time moves on.



Bookshop Partner - Annual stock take will be from 22nd - 25th October. During this period, the website will not be accessible. For more information, please click [here](#)

Elementary School Update



Parent Information Sessions (Zoom)

We hope you enjoyed meeting the new ES leadership team this morning and we appreciated the chance to get to know more parents and interact. Our next sessions are (Zoom code to follow on Dojo):

International Primary Curriculum (IPC) Wednesday 7th October @ 9:00am.

Phonics Instruction for Reception - Y2 Thursday 8th October @ 9:30 am

Student Safety

Please note, the morning drop off time for the Elementary School is 7:25-7:45 am for siblings and 7:45-8:00 am for all other students. Teachers will only be available for supervision of students from 7:25 onward. Additionally, with the safety of our students in mind, we would like to remind parents that visitors and drop offs to the school site are not allowed at this time. Please also be mindful that unwell children should be kept at home.

Spelling Bee 2020

The first ES School House Event of the new academic year is fast approaching. To end the term with a bang, we will be holding a Spelling Bee for years 1 - 6 in the final week before half term! This year, the spelling bee will be held in year groups, to manage social distancing and student safety.

The Spelling Bee is a yearly event, which **every child** will take part in to earn points for their house in a fun and interactive way. In addition to this, in every year group, two children from each house will show the virtues of courage and determination by competing against their peers to individually spell given words. This year words will **not** be sent home to learn.

Meet The Teacher

We are pleased to let you know that our first **ES Parent Teacher Consultations** are scheduled as follows:

Class Teacher Consultation, Saturday 10th October (8:00am - 12:00pm)

Mandarin Teacher Consultation (Nursery - Y6), Saturday 10th October (8:00 am - 12:30pm)

Monday, 12th October (1.30pm - 4.30pm)

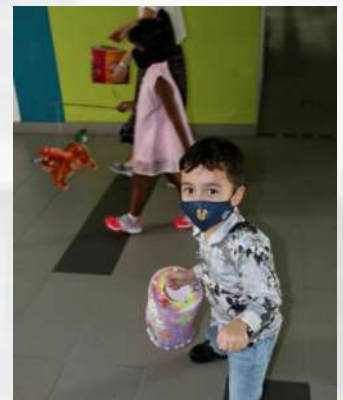
Due to our current SOPs, Class teacher and Mandarin teacher appointments will take place virtually, using Meet the Teacher's video call function. You have been sent details to your family gmail today of how to use Meet the Teacher to book appointments and how to use the video function. Please refer to this email before attempting to book appointments as it contains important signing in details. Appointments can be made from Monday, 5th October at 8 am and will close on Friday, 9th October at 10 am.

If you need assistance do contact the SJIIM Helpdesk helpdesk@sj-international.edu.my

The helpdesk is open from Monday to Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm.

Spotlight on Early Years

Mid Autumn Festival Parade



Elementary School Update



Anti-bullying Week

We would like to express our gratitude to Komal Chopra Jodha, one of our amazing SJIIM mums for her contribution to this weeks Anti-bullying week. Normally we would invite Komal to run her wonderful sessions on campus but since this was not possible this year, Komal very kindly offered to record her class and share it with our students. Komal, the mother of Vinayan and Vedan in Year 3 is also a certified meditation instructor as well as a teacher with the Search Inside Yourself Leadership Institute (SIYLI). We hope that you and your families will enjoy this insightful presentation, which looks at how emotional resilience can better equip our children to understand and manage their reactions to bullies and other challenging situations that they may face.

KS1: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jS2kBMpGyXMqI4na4DoIAlIXTbWazX7I/view?usp=sharing>

KS2: drive.google.com/file/d/1jS2kBMpGyXMqI4na4DoIAlIXTbWazX7I/view?usp=sharing

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bLp_y2kvdytHxfF5KFW8_C4mUBcrf0u5/view?usp=sharing

We would also like to thank Joanna Chellam, mother of Danya in Year 6. She introduced us to an inspiring speaker called Datin Nora Abu Hasan, who shared a recorded message with the children. Datin Nora was born with a cleft lip and palate and had to undergo years of surgery. Throughout her school life she also endured bullying and has now decided to write a book to share her struggles as well as her victories during these troubling years of her life.

Some videos to watch at home: https://youtu.be/8ZbNXn_lxsk

Anti-bullying Activities in Year 4:

In classes, children built 'webs of compliments' where they said nice things about a buddy in class, building a web of kindness and warmth.

Children were also creating slogans and acting in role to prevent bullying behaviour.



High School Update



Year 10 Information Session

On Thursday 8th October, Ms Lordina Diassona, Head of Year 10, will host an information session for parents. Ms Diassona has emailed the Zoom codes to the parents of students in Year 10. The session will be held from 4pm - 5pm. The presentation will also be recorded and sent out to parents following the event.

HS Wellbeing 'Coffee' Morning

Mr Cairns, Assistant Principal for Character and Wellbeing, would like to invite High School parents to attend a virtual coffee morning on the subject of student wellbeing. In the session, Mr Cairns will discuss wellbeing in schools, how we identify students who may be in need of support and wellbeing intervention strategies in the High School. The session will take place on Wednesday 14th October at 9am. If you would like to attend the session, please email Bee Ling in the HS Office and she will share the Zoom code. Her email address is beelingpeh@sjj-international.edu.my.

IGCSE Maths

With the cancellation of last year's IGCSE examinations due to the Covid-19 pandemic, many of our accelerated maths students were unable to complete their International mathematics course. Today, they began their exams with the first of three exam papers. (the next two are on Wednesday 7 October and Friday 9 October).

The students were a real credit to themselves and the school today. It isn't easy to remain focused and prepare for public exams in the current conditions, but our students remained calm and collected throughout the day. I look forward to celebrating their success with them when the results are released in January.

Medical forms

Tutors have handed out medical forms to students. Please assist us in completing the medical form and returning it to school so we can update our records. If you have already completed the electronic medical form sent out via email earlier in the academic year, you do not need to resubmit.

Parent Teacher Conferences - Saturday, 10 October

We will be holding Parent Teacher Conferences on Saturday, 10 October. In light of the current SOPs in school, these will be held online via the Meet The Teacher website. Appointments will become available to book from Monday, 5 October and will close on Friday, 9 October at 9am. In order to book a PTC appointment with your son's or daughter's teachers, please use this link: <https://sjjim.meettheteacher.com/>. Details on how to book, plus a step by step guide explaining the process to register appointments for this and how to join the appointments on the day have been sent to all parents via their SJIIM family email account. Please let Mrs. Fitzgerald know in case you have any questions about this. We look forward to speaking with parents about the progress that students have made so far this term.

Year 12 Scholarship Awards Ceremony - Thursday, 8 October

We will hold our annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony next Thursday, 8 October, in the school auditorium, to recognise the achievement of this year's scholarship recipients. Although we are unable to invite parents of the Year 12 scholars to attend the ceremony in school this year, due to the SOPs in school at present, we are pleased to be able to involve parents virtually via a Facebook Live event via the school's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SJIIM/>. The event will begin at 12pm, and attendees can join the event online from 11.55am onwards.

High School Update



PALs (Performing Arts Leaders)

We are proud to present the High School PALs (Performing Arts Leaders) of 2020-21! The PALs are a new group which will be student leaders and advocates of the Performing Arts in our community. They will work with the Performing Arts staff to develop the profile, quality and offer of Drama and Music within school and beyond. Well done to the following founding members:

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Fong Shir-Ning | 10M |
| Alysa Marcellus | 10M |
| Aurelia Lee Dhanoa | 7M |
| Shuen Chey | 7M |
| Vayden Wong | 7Y |
| David Motha | 8M |
| Fong Shir-Ree | 8M |
| Nathan Motha | 8Y |
| Victoria Wong | 9M |
| Amira Marcellus | 9Y |



NEGATIVE SPACE

Back to basics with year 8. This week we are Interpreting still life to understand negative space, and in the process students were developing their fundamental observational drawing skills. Although, many of the learners were surprised at how challenging it was to capture the negative space we had lots of great outcomes.



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](#)



[October 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 \(Schoolsbuddy\)](#)