

SJIIM Weekly Update

10th December 2020



Discovering Science at SJIIM

All truths are easy to understand once they are discovered; the point is to discover them. Galileo

Galilei

Science in ES

Our approach to Science is not only to teach **knowledge** and **skills** but to integrate real life experiences into students' learning journeys. This helps embed a strong **understanding** of scientific concepts.

The ES Science curriculum is woven into each IPC unit of study and is carefully aligned with learning objectives from the National Curriculum of England. As the IPC provides seamless cross-curricular links, children might find themselves learning about how planets are formed while simultaneously learning about famous planetary scientists throughout history.

Many IPC units chosen by the ES are Science based and are further enriched by STEM Week (Term 2). STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths) provides children with a focus on these subjects through an integrated approach; one that offers hands-on and relevant learning experiences, thus helping children gain skills in problem-solving, exploratory learning, and critical thinking, not to mention a house competition at the end!

All of these learning opportunities tie in with the IPC Personal Learning Goals. Specifically: inquiry, resilience, communication, thoughtfulness, cooperation and adaptability. In turn, this feeds into the IB Learner Profiles which permeates throughout the HS. All of these promote character development and enable our learners to become well rounded individuals.

Science in HS

To ensure the consistency and alignment of the Science curriculum across the whole school, this year we are working to further the collaboration between the ES and HS Science departments. The HS Science team will be modelling lessons, sharing resources and sharing curriculum goals with the ES class teachers; this further helps Year 5 and 6 students in preparing them for their transition to the high school. This collaboration sees ES students experiencing practical lessons in the fully equipped HS science labs and even having taster lessons with a high school teacher!



From left to right: Year 5 students testing exothermic and endothermic reactions. Year 3 students investigating magnetic forces. Year 2 students tackling the 'paper boat challenge' during STEM week. Year 4 students simulating the digestive system with orange juice and crackers. (All photos were taken during STEM Week in February 2020).



Jynez Tan and Allison Yee, Yr11 Biology, exploring the structure of a kidney in their kidney dissection practical.

Science in Virtual School

Once again, learning has been disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic with the transition to virtual school. In Science, this can have quite an impact upon skill development and practical investigations, but we would like to reassure both students and parents that our experienced team of Science teachers have accepted this challenge with enthusiasm and have amended the curriculum to encourage and support practical work at home. This may result in some strange requests for resources (and potentially messy bedrooms to clean), but we ask that all parents engage and get involved. Just because we are in virtual school does not mean that practical work has to stop! In this [video](#) you can see Caitlin Lim investigating the factors that affect the rate of evaporation in Yr10 Physics.

Hampers of Light - Sponsor a Hamper of Light Today!

Payment Details

For easy verification, we would appreciate if you can include the type of hamper you would wish to sponsor on the back of the cheque or when paying by bank transfer. All hampers will include a greeting card. If you would like to personalise a message for a card, then please [click here](#) after you have made payment.

Payments can be made via:

1. Cash at the Finance Office
2. Cheque made payable to 'Tropicana SJII Education Management Sdn. Bhd.
3. Online remittance to account 'Tropicana SJII Management Sdn. Bhd. with OCBC BANK (MALAYSIA) BERHAD Damansara Uptown Branch, PJ Account No. 7071281859 Swift Code: OCBCMYKL

We thank all our families and staff for their support. Your kindness and generosity will make a huge difference to many families. We have raised RM 13,990. The PSG and staff can now begin to create approx. 113 Hampers of Hope and 99 Hampers of Joy! Donation deadline: 15/12/2020.

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There is Music in the Mathematics by Mr Anton Bush



“When am I ever going to use this stuff, sir?.....”, I’ve lost count of how many times I’ve heard that question over the years of teaching – and the truthful answer is more times than you might imagine.

A couple of years ago I decided that it was time to lay to rest the ghost of Design Technology lessons from my youth (we called it woodwork back then) and develop my manual skills. I was partly inspired by my Concrete Crops CCA where we built some raised beds from wooden pallets. I decided that I really should build a guitar.... how hard could it be?

I researched the choices – it seemed to come down to 3 choices: starting from scratch with a lump of wood and some fret wire, buying a kit locally or sourcing parts from around the world. I chose the last option – I always like a challenge. So armed with the appropriate pieces, and nothing more than some hand tools I set to work...

I hadn’t realised that there would be so much mathematics involved, and problems to solve:

- How to accurately place and drill the holes to attach the neck to the guitar (to *mm* precision to ensure the instrument could be tuned)
- How to align the holes that you have to drill to place the metal bridge on the body when there are no square edges to measure from
- How to drill vertical holes using only a hand drill
- How to adjust the height of the frets so that they are perfectly level
- How to work out the radius of the bridge saddles to match the neck
- How to design the circuit for the electronics

All of these elements could fill an article on their own – but I suspect that you don’t want to know how drilling vertical holes involved the shiny side of a DVD, or how I made templates from copies of the Star newspaper. The point is that that problem required accurate measurement, calculations, and yes - Pythagoras theorem and Trigonometry were involved.

Was it all perfect? Well, no – I won’t be troubling Leo Fender (It is for you to find out who he is) anytime soon. Did I learn an awful lot and improve my skills - most definitely. Were my subsequent attempts better (well, I certainly got more ambitious!)? – Yes. But the most important part was that I had fun, learned so much and I got myself a new hobby. One that I can work on for many years to come.

Once the CMCO is lifted I hope to sign up for a course in KL to build an acoustic guitar from scratch – now that will be a test of my skills!

My old woodwork teacher from year 9 would be proud of me (and probably quite surprised!)

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Catholic Corner



Joy

We hope that in your busy lives, you will be able to find a quiet space to enjoy some time to reflect during this special time. You may wish to reflect on the scripture and prayer below after watching the video.

Third Sunday of Advent Video:
[The Pink Candle of Joy](#)

Please follow the link to this Sunday's Readings:
[Third Sunday of Advent Readings](#)

Christian Christmas Service

Next week, the final purple candle will be lit during a pre-recorded Christmas service. We will post the link here and you will be able to watch the service at your convenience. The service will include readings, prayers and a performance from the High School choir. We hope that this will support your family as you continue the journey of Advent through home worship and seasonal activities.

The Advent Prayer of Joy

Lords Jesus,

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete **joy** of your kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy seek the **joy** of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"

Amen

[Family Advent Activities - Thank you for sharing your Advent activities!](#)



A reminder to get involved with this year's family Advent activities. We look forward to sharing the special moments that you create as a family with the rest of the community. [Please click the padlet link to upload a photo.](#)

[SJIIM celebrates Advent Padlet](#)

[Advent Prayer calendar](#)

[Advent Christmas calendar](#)



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Public holiday 11th Dec - Sultan Selangor Birthday

Please be reminded that tomorrow is a public holiday and, therefore, there will not be any lessons for students. Enjoy your long weekend.

Last day of Term 1 - 18th Dec 2020

Term 1 2020 will end on 18th Dec 2020. We start Term 2 on 5th Jan 2021 except for some Y11 students who need to come in for the Y11 mock exam on the 4th Jan 2021. We end the term with our very first Virtual Christmas Concert on the last day of school.

**ST. JOSEPH'S INSTITUTION
INTERNATIONAL, MALAYSIA**

Be the Light

Christmas Virtual Concert

Friday 18th December 2020

- Whole-school Orchestra
- Opening speech by the School Student President
- Elementary Year Group Choirs
- High School Drama students
- High School Choir
- Winners of the Lasallian Education and English Poetry Writing Competition

Where to watch virtually:

- Elementary School- During class time at 1.30 pm
- High School - During extended form at 1.50 pm
- Parents - Shared in Weekly Update

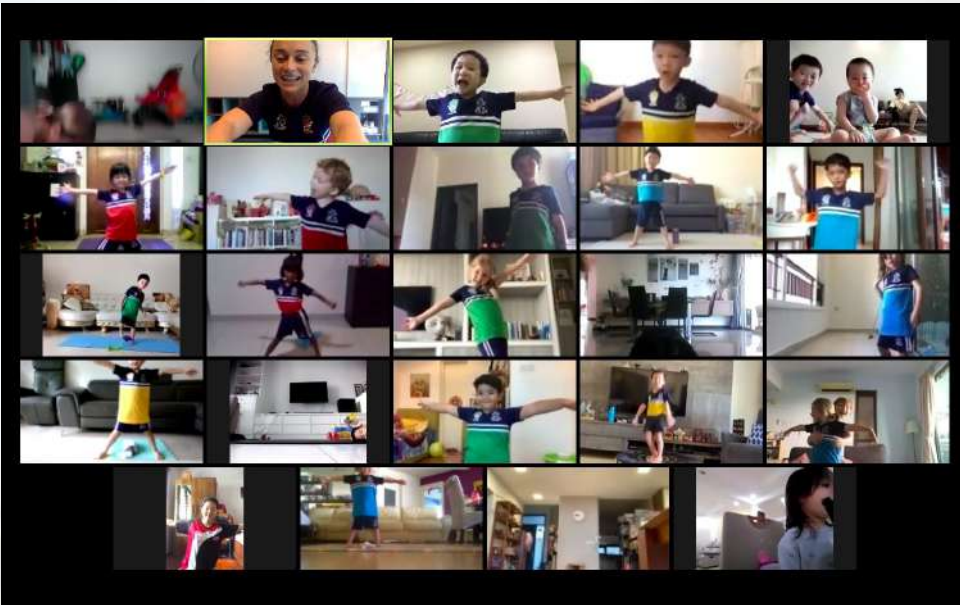
**ST. JOSEPH'S INSTITUTION
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MALAYSIA
(TROPICANA PJ CAMPUS)**

Elementary Weekly Update



Virtual Sports week

Virtual sports week has been a big success with hundreds of elementary students taking part in daily activities. Children have been joining zooms and competing in their house t-shirt to win points. It has been amazing to see children getting involved and continuing to be active at home. Siblings have been joining together and we've also seen parents getting involved which has shown the amazing community spirit! Miss Chadwick and Mr Harron are calculating the points and will announce the results on Monday. Well done all!



Christmas Choir

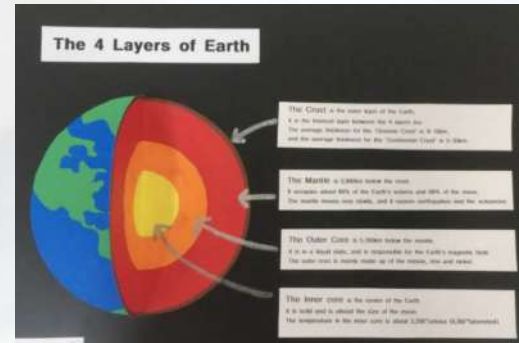
A reminder to submit recordings of the your group song to Seesaw in EY- Y3 and Dojo in Y4-Y6 by Friday 11th December. We look forward to sharing the recording of the Christmas Choir compilation on the last day of term, Friday 18th December.

Elementary Weekly Update



Spotlight on Year 6

In our unit 'What a Wonderful World', the pupils showed great creativity in how they presented the different layers of the earth using graphs and charts, building models and making explanation videos.



Reflections on Peacefulness

Peacefulness is our virtues focus over this week and next week. While students have been discussing the meaning of peacefulness and reflecting on how to find peacefulness in times of conflict or worry, many members of staff have been pausing to reflect as well. It seems fitting that the culmination of our "Search Inside Yourself" Leadership course last evening ended with a prayer of peace. Thank you to the course facilitator and a parent at SJIIM, Komal Chopra Jodah, and all the staff that participated in this meaningful professional development. Thank you to the students and parents in our SJIIM community for showing perseverance through challenging times. May we all find time for reflection to be present in and share our peacefulness virtue during what can be a busy holiday season.

Peacefulness Peacefulness

when you...

- Create inner peace with daily reflection or prayer
- Use peaceful language even when you are angry
- Speak gently and respectfully
- Avoid harming anyone
- Appreciate differences
- Find peaceful solutions to every problem

Affirmation

I am peaceful. I use peaceful words and find fair solutions when differences arise. I find my inner peace and let it carry me gently through the day.

Peacefulness is being calm inside. Take time for daily reflection and gratitude. Solve conflicts so everyone wins. Be a peacemaker. Peace is giving up the love of power for the power of love. Peace in the world begins with peace in your heart.

Leadership Commitment

- Who am I as a leader?
- How do I want to show up for others?
- What do I feel deeply committed to and what can I let go of?
- What practices will I commit to in support of this vision?

High School Weekly Update

HOUSE POINTS UPDATE #2

Jaime - 368

Miguel - 481

Benilde - 286

Mutien - 437

"LET'S GET ACTIVE"

- ★ Strava Running
- ★ Participation for both fitness challenges and strava members
- ★ Combined points from Week 1
- ★ Points for fitness challenge 2

Current points after WEEK 2:

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Week 3 FITNESS CHALLENGE

[CLICK HERE](#)

SPECIAL MENTIONS:

- ★ Over 19 parents involved, clocking miles and counting...
- ★ Asif Hisham for completing the most rounds in Week 2 Fitness Challenge
- ★ The Choi Family - over 45km this week
- ★ Top 7 Miguel runners all completed over 10km this week
- ★ Jaime top parent runner - Yoke Chin Yap
- ★ Mutien parents completing over 60km this week

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK EVERYONE!

High School Weekly Update



Student Representative Council: Vote for your SRC President!

Since our founding students created the Student Representative Council in 2016-17, the role of the SRC President has been one of the most important and coveted student leadership positions in the school. Elected by their peers, over the years, we have had some outstanding young people take on the position - **Ying Xuan**, **Nicol**, **Marcus** and, most recently, **Bryan**. Their names are proudly displayed on our Honours Board and each served the school incredibly displaying their work-ethic and character. Of course, each of those students would also acknowledge that they were also supported by outstanding teams made up of students from Year 7 up to Year 12.

This year, in place of our usual speeches, delivered in a packed auditorium to the rest of our High School, students will vote online. Our candidates have pre-recorded their speeches and these have been shared with our students to help them decide on who to vote for. Voting will take place up until the 14th December and we will announce our new President before the end of term.

Many thanks to our candidates for putting themselves forward and our current SRC for the fantastic job they've done in adapting the election process. Our nominees are:

”



Clement: *“A Lasallian Leader to me is a role model who displays the core Lasallian values: faith, service and community. Throughout my years in SJIIM, the term 'Lasallian' has always made me feel like I am a part of a family. To me, running for SRC President is an honour and duty that I am willing to commit to contributing towards the SJIIM family.*”

Darrell: *“A Lasallian Leader is someone who adheres to the five Lasallian principles. Having faith in God allows us to find a purpose in life. Lasallian leaders should have respect for everyone, be all inclusive and respectful. Lasallian leaders should help create an inclusive community. Lasallian Leaders are people who care for their communities and strive for a better future for all.”*



Challyse: *“A Lasallian leader is someone who's able to listen and build a community with the vision of service and inclusivity. Someone who is able to unite and bring everyone together towards a common goal for a good cause. Being able to ignite spirit and character in everyone. Someone who sees everyone as an equal and sees all opinions and perceptions as equally valid, being able to integrate all of the ideas into one.”*

High School Weekly Update



Evan: *“To me, a Lasallian Leader is an inspirational figure that displays traits of courage, discipline, kindness, responsibility, determination, intelligence, and friendliness. This list is not exhaustive as there are many other traits as well that people generally strive to achieve for, myself included. A good leader must be able to treat their team as equals and value the opinions of his teammates as well. Communication is a key component for leaders to be able to guide their team well.”*

Scarlet: *“As a Lasallian Leader, I would try to create diverse opportunities for a broad range of students so that all students get a chance to represent themselves in the school community. I want to create an accessible environment in which students can experiment with their abilities and take on new challenges. “I wish to become an SRC president as I believe that it would be the best way for me to bring tangible changes to the school alongside passionate teammates.”*



Best of luck to our nominees and, to our students, get voting for your President!

Change of schedule: 18th December

On December 18th, there will be a slight change to the structure of the school day. The day will be collapsed so that we can have an extended tutor time in the afternoon. In the extended tutor time, students will watch the Christmas Concert with their peers and celebrate the end of term. The schedule is as follows:

Periods 1 & 2	8:00am - 9:00am
Break	9:00am - 9:20am
Periods 3 & 4	9:20am - 10:20am
Break	10:20am - 10:40am
Periods 5 & 6	10:40am - 11:40am
Break	11:40am - 12:00pm
Periods 7 & 8	12:00pm - 1:00pm
Lunch	1:00pm - 1:50pm
Extended Tutor time	1:50pm - 3pm

10% flow-through discount for Year 11 going into 12

Good news! We would like to inform our parents that **all of our current Year 11 students are entitled to a 10% discount in their tuition fees for both Year 12 and Year 13**, should they continue with our IB Diploma Programme for the 2021/22 academic year. **This offer is also applicable to students who are currently recipients of our existing welcome packages.** We hope that this will support parents to enable their children to continue their studies with us into IBDP. We would love to have all of our Year 11 students with us next year!

For further information, you may contact:

- 1) Mrs Maureen Fitzgerald for any information with regards to the IBDP at mfitzgerald@sj-international.edu.my
- 2) Ms Kwa Jin Nee for any information with regards to the flow-through discount at jinneekwa@sj-international.edu.my

High School Weekly Update



IB Scholarship Launch

SJIIM offers two opportunities each year for students in Year 11 to apply for an IB scholarship, which pays for the tuition fees in Years 12 and 13. Scholarship awards can range from 25% to 100%. The information and applications about the January round of applications have been updated on the school's website at <https://www.sji-international.edu.my/ibdp-scholarship-programme/>. We warmly welcome applications from our current students in Year 11, and look forward to receiving and considering these. If parents or students have any questions about the application process or the scholarships, please contact Mrs. Fitzgerald at mfitzgerald@sji-international.edu.my.

Year 11 Mock Exam Arrangements - Meeting 15th December

The Y11 mock exam is scheduled from 4th to 15th Jan 2021. There will be a virtual meeting to update you about the specific logistical measures that we are putting in place to keep your children safe during the mock exam period. The meeting will be at 4pm on Tuesday 15th December and the zoom code will be shared closer to the time.

Mrs Fitzgerald and Mr Hollis will also be speaking at this meeting about university applications and the IB.

Year 13 Mock Exam Arrangements - Meeting 16th December

The Year 13 mock exams are scheduled from 5th Jan 2021 until 22nd January, but most students will complete these exams by the 13th January. Only students who study Psychology will have mock exams on the 21st and 22nd January. There will be a virtual meeting to update parents about the arrangements for the mock exams in Year 13 on Wednesday, 16th December at 4pm. Parents can access that session with the following details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82809508023?pwd=WVNvek9EQkxLVVZjV0tkRm91Wm1UUT09>

Meeting ID: 828 0950 8023

Passcode: 780238

Student Led Conferences - 2nd November to 11th December

All of the SLC discussions with form tutors will have been completed this week during tutor time. Overall, this process in school has been really illuminating for teachers, form tutors and students about the students' learning process and has enabled them to set goals and targets for the next term.

From tomorrow, parents will be holding their own SLC discussions with students at home. For further guidance about this, please see slide 18 on [this presentation](#).

We would be grateful if parents could support your children to write their final reflection on the last page of the SLC booklet (examples of the booklets found below), and if parents could write their own name on that document as a digital signature. Your children will be able to give you access to the Google doc. where they have been writing their reflections, so that you can do this. There is also a space there for parents to write an optional reflection. You will need to be logged into your SJIIM parent email account in order to access their Google doc. Please contact Mrs. Fitzgerald in case you have any questions about this at mfitzgerald@sji-international.edu.my.

[Ys 7-9 SLC booklet](#)

[Ys 10-11 SLC booklet](#)

[Ys 12-13 SLC booklet](#)

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](#)



[Term 1 2020 meal charges](#)



[Catholic Corner](#)



[PSG Update](#)



[Music Website](#)



[Sports Website](#)



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



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