

SJIIM Weekly Update

20th November 2020



Important Announcement

According to the recent FAQs issued by MOE, international schools will be allowed to open once the CMCO is lifted. We will therefore await an official announcement with regard to the lifting of the CMCO in our district (as of 20 November, CMCO ends on 6 December). We will confirm to the school community once we receive further information.

Student Leadership at SJIIM

To me, student leadership, more specifically, a Lasallian Leader, is so much more than just delegating tasks and coordinating school events. Instead, student leadership subsumes some of the most integral human values, kindred with the Lasallian core values SJIIM: namely, faith, community and service. To be able to implement these principles into the decisions we make as student leaders is fundamental to being a successful Lasallian leader. The benefits of student leadership are reciprocal. For student leaders, self-awareness, personal development and civic responsibility are just some of the lifelong skills that he/she will hone. For the school community, they will have a representative who acts as a voice for our diverse SJIIM student body.

Bryan Tan, SRC President

Within SJIIM, student leadership is an important mechanism for our students to develop their character whilst also improving the school experience of others. Across the Elementary School and High School there is an exciting range of meaningful ways for students to get involved. Working alongside their peers and their teachers, students have the opportunity to learn that being a leader is not about being the person who talks the loudest or is necessarily the most confident - it is about leading with virtue - amongst other things, being motivated, being collaborative, being compassionate, having integrity and acting with courage.

In the **Elementary School**, as students move up the school, they are given increased opportunities to show their leadership and responsibility. We have a well-established play leaders programme, where children in different year groups are trained by Mrs Fried and support their peers and younger children at playtime. The aim of this programme is to encourage creative play and ensure that all children are happily engaged on the playground. We hope to see a return to a 'new normal' soon, so our students can get back out onto the playground together.

Other opportunities in the ES abound, in particular on our Student Representative Council (SRC) and our House Captains.

The SRC representatives are elected by their classmates from Year 3 - 6. They are the voice for their class and have the responsibility of communicating with the school leadership team and their classmates. They also speak in assembly about important issues that affect the school community such as littering, recycling and school lunches. Ideas and suggestions for how to improve the school community go through the SRC via a suggestion box. The SRC meets weekly to discuss and implement these ideas. The representatives are integral in creating a caring community both in school and in the wider world. This year the SRC is focusing on building a friendship bench with the High School and helping SJIIM become more environmentally aware.

The House Captains are Year 6 students, who are elected by their peers from Y1-6. Throughout the year, the house captains are given the task of helping to organise whole-school house events, such as the Spelling Bee, STEAM competition and Sports day. In addition to this, they work together as a team to create their own competitions such as art and writing competitions. The house captains are involved in speaking in assembly and fostering a sense of community and house spirit within their house.

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A new role of responsibility has been created this year at St. Joseph's: Digital Leaders. Eleven students across Year 5 and 6 were selected to be Digital Leaders for the 2020/2021 academic year. To be selected they had to showcase their digital skills and enthusiasm by creating a presentation. In their role, they will be supporting staff and students with digital technology and helping to promote digital citizenship across the school. This will be done through a variety of tasks, such as going in Elementary classrooms to support during computing lessons, learning new apps and programmes to introduce to their peers and helping present during Computing assemblies. We are excited to see how this role will evolve over the year.

Like the Elementary School, in the **High School**, important leadership opportunities are provided through membership on the Student Representative Council (SRC) and the role of House Captain. Both the SRC and the House Captains are elected by their peers.

Our SRC in the HS, which was established by our founding students in 2017, has contributed a great deal for the community over the years. From Halloween Haunted Houses to spectacular Teacher Appreciation Days and the Hidden Heroes, the SRC provides our students with those opportunities to develop their own organisational skills whilst also lifting the spirits of our students. Last academic year, during the EMCO, our SRC also organised a range of online activities for our students in lockdown. We are currently taking applications for our new SRC members and we hope to see lots of applications.

When it comes to House Spirit, our House Captains are always there rallying the students and providing endless encouragement and energy. Although last year's Sport's Day was cancelled, there were still lots of opportunities for students to show their House Spirit including the annual Dodgeball Competition and the Christmas Carol Competition. This week, our PE department have launched a new House Competition so whether Jaime, Miguel, Mutien or Benilde, even in Virtual School there are still ways to represent your House and earn vital points.

We look forward to 2021 when, hopefully, we can start to come together again as a community and will see a return of the events that we know and love.

The students involved in the Lasallian Youth Movement try to live out the ideals of St John Baptist de La Salle: Faith, Service & Community. To do this, they attempt to identify the needs of the school and local community and find solutions through community service projects. Since the school opened, there have been a number of students who have taken ownership of projects and displayed impressive leadership skills. In December, four students will be appointed as Lasallian Youth Movement Leaders. These leadership roles encompass the lasallian ethos and mission of our school and the students in these roles will be beacons of our school ethos and tradition. Working closely with the SRC, the Lasallian Youth Movement leadership team will drive the student vision forward with a focus on developing opportunities for all students to serve, lifting Lasallian community spirit and empowering High School students to have faith in their ability to be the best version of themselves.

Finally, this academic year saw the launch of PALs - our Performing Arts Leaders. As featured in the Whole School Update back in October, our PALs will work closely with the Performing Arts staff to develop the profile, quality and offer of Music and Drama within the school and beyond.

As you can see, there are many ways to be a leader at SJIIM. **What are you waiting for?**

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Lasallian International Student Conference

On Saturday 14th November, five SJIIM students from Year 10 and 12 (Francine Phang, Janice Cheow, Reyi Lee, Scarlet Kim and Taewon Choi) were brought together on a Zoom meeting alongside 234 other students from 22 schools in Lasallian East Asia District that eagerly gathered to learn more about St John Baptist de La Salle in the very first Lasallian InterNational Experience (LINE). The four week conference aims to empower students, through the words of our founder, to live out the values of faith, community and service.

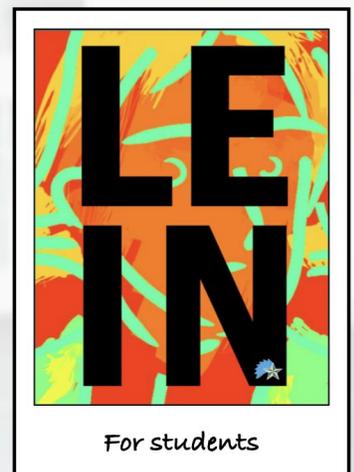
Before the keynote began, we were all placed in breakout rooms with participants from other schools, and had a chance to interact with and introduce ourselves to others. We also played games together, which was a really fun and interactive experience. Although it was difficult to initiate a conversation at first, we soon became more comfortable with one another once we got to know more about each other.

Soon after the breakout room session, we joined the main room to learn about the upbringing of St John Baptist de La Salle, and how he realised the social inequalities and defied the pressures of the social hierarchy in order to help educate the poor, despite the immense amount of other opportunities and privileges presented to him. We had an opportunity to share our own experiences and ideas related to the life and contribution of St John Baptist de La Salle and how our own lives relate to his mission. This discussion encouraged us to ponder once more about society, and how we, just like him, could devote ourselves to support the last, the lost and the least.

Overall, the experience so far has been a very meaningful one that has provided us with an opportunity to think about the meanings of our motto "Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve". We hope to learn even more about our founder and take away inspiration from his dedication to society in the next few LINE sessions so that we can live up to his life and values. We are all very excited to plan and deliver a service project that we hope will provide much needed support for those less fortunate and share this achievement with the other schools involved in this movement.

St. John Baptiste de La Salle, pray for us. Live Jesus in our hearts forever!

By Francine Phang (Y10), Kyu-Ri Kim(Scarlet) (Y12)



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Catholic Corner



Lord Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Advent.
We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,
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.

Advent is traditionally an important time for teaching, worship, spending time with family and friends as well as attending church. But this year, social-distancing due to the pandemic will challenge the very traditions so many look forward to *and especially the traditions that many need* after the year we've had. As such we would like to share with you our very own SJIIM Advent activities calendar. The activities are planned to help families to come together to carry out meaningful activities that embody the Lasallian ethos of our school and to help to spread some joy at this time of year. In addition to the SJIIM activities calendar, we also have prepared an Advent Prayer calendar, focused on bringing peace and hope during the Advent season. Click the picture links below to print off copies of your own.



We would love to see photographs of our SJIIM families doing these activities or of prayers that you will use over the Advent season. We will be posting this [SJIIM celebrates Advent Padlet](#) link every week in the lead up to Christmas so please do share your photos with our school community. Finally, a massive thank you to a wonderful parent who created both the [Advent Prayer calendar](#) and the [Advent Christmas calendar](#).

Virtual Open Day - 5 Dec 2020

SJIIM will be hosting a Virtual Open Day on 5 December 2020, 10.30 am. Prospective parents who are looking for a quality international school are encouraged to e-attend this event. There will be a chance to speak to our Head of School and Teachers besides the opportunity to view our campus and facilities – virtually! Kindly help us to spread the word should you have any friends who would be keen to e-attend and discover how we are truly special as a Lasallian international school. RSVP, please contact Ms. Yani at enquiries@sjj-international.edu.my or call 03 - 86053605. Don't miss this opportunity!

ST JOSEPH'S INSTITUTION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MALAYSIA (TROPICANA PJ CAMPUS)
"Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve"

Virtual Open Day!
5 December 2020 | 10.30 AM

Our Head of School and Teachers welcome you to learn more about our Lasallian school – virtually!

Come discover how we are truly different from the rest from the safety and comfort of your home. Places are still available for our 2020/21 academic year for selected year groups.

3-18 Years Old International Primary Curriculum
Daily Mandarin & Singapore Math
IGCSE and IBDP
Welcome Package available for Nursery admissions!
50% application fee discount for on-the-spot registrations!

This event will be conducted virtually via Zoom.
To RSVP, kindly write to enquiries@sjj-international.edu.my or call us directly at +603 86053605.

St Joseph's Institution International School Malaysia (Tropicana PJ Campus)
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Elementary Weekly Update



Organisation and Preparation

Being organised and prepared has positive impacts on students' learning both inside and outside of the classroom. Our Y3 students are excited to share their organised work spaces and their ability to arrive to the lesson with the correct materials. These students are ready for learning, well done!



International Fortnight

We have had an exciting week celebrating countries of our home, host and heritage. What country do we all have in common? Malaysia! Taking time to learn about and celebrate Malaysia as a country of importance for all of us is also a goal of International Fortnight. In addition to celebrating home, host, and heritage, students are expanding their knowledge with the study of a focus country. Our focus countries are; EY Spain, Y1 Italy, Y2 Brazil, Y3 Greece, Y4 Iceland, Y5 Mexico and Y6 South Korea. This gives students a chance to learn about places around the world and make meaningful connections.

There is so much to learn about ourselves and others that we need two weeks. We look forward to continuing our studies and exciting activities through next week. The pictures shared today of students in their unique and colourful international dress will be used to create a collage to be presented in the culmination assembly next Friday. Please enjoy this sneak peek from Y5!



Elementary Weekly Update



Media Balance

We have been working together to support our students in recognising choices and implementing strategies that will help them find media balance. This was the goal of both year group assemblies and parent presentations this week. These important messages are also being incorporated into PSHE lessons. We are all working on awareness of our attention and understanding how devices can become a distraction and awareness of how much time we are on devices and creating healthy habits. What are some of the boundaries you have set or the healthy habits you are practising to find media balance?

Thank you parents for your continued support and engagement while we work to foster the home school relationship and support our students in their learning, personal growth and emotional well being.

REMOTE EDUCATION 10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

Remote education ensures continuous learning outside the classroom. For parents and carers, remote education isn't always straightforward and there can be a number of factors they need to consider, especially around ensuring their children feel comfortable and are familiar with the whole concept. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers support their child in getting the most out of their remote education experience.

1. TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

As a parent or carer, your school may have explained how remote education works already, but children may still need help. Take an active interest in their learning and help support them whenever they need a helping hand.



2. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S COMMUNICATION AND ONLINE ACTIVITY

It's important to remind your child that despite being at home, the same level of behaviour and conduct exists as if they were at school. Encourage them to remain polite, remember their manners and not to post or send any negative comments just because they are behind a computer.



3. ESTABLISH A DAILY SCHEDULE AND ROUTINE

Working from home and trying to learn in a more casual setting that children might associate more with play and a degree of freedom might take a bit of getting used to. Try to stick to a daily routine and use the timetable/schedule that schools have sent home to help children keep on top of their daily learning.



4. ENCOURAGE SCREEN BREAKS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AWAY FROM DEVICES

Remote learning will inevitably require more interaction with computers, laptops and tablets. Teachers will invariably advise on screen breaks: however, it doesn't hurt to keep a check on their time online or encourage them to get some fresh air/exercise.



5. ENSURE YOUR LEARNING DEVICE IS IN PUBLIC SPACE IN THE HOME

It's important to consider where your PC or laptop is placed if live video is being used. Try to keep the background neutral, with no personal information visible and move learning devices out of the bedroom as this could be deemed inappropriate.



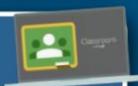
6. IMPLEMENT SAFETY CONTROLS AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS ON APPS AND SOFTWARE

Dependant on how your school implements remote education, your child may be required to download certain software or apps. Whilst these are likely to be relatively safe to use, like any other new app or platform, parents should still implement safety controls as a precaution.



7. ENSURE YOUR CHILD ONLY USES OFFICIAL SCHOOL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

It's important that all communication with teachers and school staff is directed through approved school channels, whether that be through the school's online portal or the relevant secure messaging site.



8. FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH RELEVANT SCHOOL POLICIES

Schools should have a policy on remote education that they can share with parents. Familiarise yourself with this and ensure you know what is expected of teachers and your child during lessons, both online and offline.



9. MAINTAIN FEEDBACK WITH TEACHERS

Engage in communication with teachers where possible, and try to feed back progress and development as well as any helpful suggestions around the learning process. Be transparent but remain professional and only use official channels to communicate.



10. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Remote education will likely mean that your child won't get the same level of social interaction and might not see their friends for a while. Keep a check on their wellbeing and try to encourage them to get out as much as they can. Whilst learning from home might seem fun and exciting to start to with, missing out on seeing their friends every day might take its toll.



High School Update



House Competition!

"LET'S GET ACTIVE" HOUSE EVENT



House Benilde

House Jaime

House Miguel

House Mutien

This event will be one of our first House events this year. We are encouraging as many students, staff and family members to get involved in this activity. We want you to get as involved as possible to win points for your house and also to get/keep your family fit and healthy.

- Fitness Challenge 1: is all about getting out and running! Download the STRAVA app, and join your house running club, names "SJIIM 'YOUR HOUSE' RUNNING CHALLENGE". You will earn points for your house by signing up, and 1 point for every km you do doing the time of the challenge.
- Fitness Challenge 2: this will be a weekly fitness (HITT/CrossFit) style workout challenge. The PE staff will demonstrate the activity, post it on the google classroom, and then you need to complete it and submit your times/scores.

All this information has been shared in the high school house google classrooms. High school students are the only members allowed in this group. If your son/daughter has not been invited to their house google classroom then please email Mr Joseph O'Connor at joconnor@sji-international.edu.my. Please do your best to support this virtual house event at home and with your family, encourage students to be honest and show high levels of integrity when submitting scores. Results will be tallied, totalled and the winners announced in the final week of term.

Student Representative Council 2020/2021

The HS are now receiving applications for positions on the Student Representative Council. We're hopeful that 2021 will be the year that our students can start initiating projects again in school and are looking for some driven, hard-working, caring students to make that happen for our community. Students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 can apply for positions. We will also be looking to elect our new SRC President from our Year 12 applicants. To apply, students need to complete the application that was emailed to them and submit a 1-2 minute video explaining why they would like to join the SRC. The videos will be shown in tutor time and then their classmates will be able to vote. The deadline for applications is **Friday 26th November**.

Many thanks to Bryan, our SRC President, and the rest of the SRC for organising these elections in challenging circumstances.

High School Update



Music in Virtual School

During the CMCO, Music has tried to encourage students to continue active learning through digital and off-screen platforms. We believe that having the opportunity to be creative and continue musical practice is not only essential to help our students progress, but also stimulating for the students.

Year 7 have been continuing their instrumental practice, focussing on the 'Essential Elements' music programme using both physical notation and the equivalent digital online platform. Using these resources, students can develop their instrumental skills in Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone and Percussion, learning new notes, skills and pieces of Music as part of whole class practice and performance, as well as part of their home learning. [Here](#) is an example of the teaching taking place with Mr Hague.

Year 9 have been working on a digital sequencing program called 'BandLab'. The program allows students to be able to perform and compose online, with assignments being posted and developed in a similar style to Google Classroom. They have been using this over the last few weeks to arrange a version of the '4 Chord song', allowing students to see how a common four chord sequence can be found in many of the biggest Pop songs since the 1950's and demonstrating their knowledge practically. Here are two examples of work in progress presented by Year 9 students:

[4 Chord Song with Voice](#)

[4 Chord Song with Piano](#)

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

Weekly Maths Competition

The Maths department would like to continue to encourage students, parents and teachers to take part in the weekly mathematics competition, representing the school and competing against schools from all over the world. The competition page can be found at puzzleoftheweek.com, where there is a new puzzle each week. Please email Mr Lawrence at jlawrence@sj-international.edu.my if you have any questions regarding signing up and entering.

High School Update



Student Led Conferences - 2nd November to 11th December

This week, students have begun to have their SLC discussions with their form tutors. In these discussions, students are reflecting on their approaches to learning from across their subjects this term. These discussions will be completed next week, so that by 5 December, students will be ready to have their SLC discussions with parents at home.

A reminder of the content of the SLC reflection booklets can be found in the links below:

[Ys 7-9 SLC booklet](#)

[Ys 10-11 SLC booklet](#)

[Ys 12-13 SLC booklet](#)

Please see below some examples of the reflections written by students in preparation for their SLCs with their form tutors. These show some really carefully considered reflections on what has led to their successes in their learning so far this term, the areas that they still need to work on, and how they intend to make further progress.

Student Example 1

What are 3 common things that you have done across all of your subjects that have helped you to be successful this term so far?

Across all my subjects, I have realised that some techniques that have helped me to be successful in my work include seeking help and assistance whenever I do not fully understand a given topic or assignment, from either my friends or teachers. I also have a habit of doing a few minutes of revision daily, when I look back on my notes from the lesson and highlight important points, as well as summarise and compile important information from the textbooks. I also ask a lot of questions in class, and I am not afraid to make mistakes, and these have contributed positively towards my learning this term.

What are 2-3 common things that you still need to work on across your subjects?

I think that across all my subjects, I could read ahead in the textbook (if there is one) so that when I come to class I can be more prepared to ask questions to fill in the gaps of my understanding. For subjects that require a lot of key definitions and terms, such as Economics and Biology, I could make flashcards just to make memorising more interesting.

What else have you realised about yourself and your approaches to learning after reflecting with your form tutor?

I have realised, after speaking to my form tutor, that I should continue with all my current learning strategies (doing daily revision, compiling notes from lessons and summarising information from the textbook, asking for guidance and assistance whenever I need it, etc.), since they seem to be quite effective. I also have a balance between academics and other hobbies that I should continue to achieve. One thing that my tutor has suggested for me to begin doing is to ask for any extension tasks and assignments from teachers, so that I am able to challenge and push the boundaries of my learning even further.

High School Update



Student Example 2

What are 3 common things that you have done across all of your subjects that have helped you to be successful this term so far?

- Consistently using the feedback given from teachers to improve my work
- Doing exam questions on each topic before tests to ensure that I understand how to apply my subject knowledge
- For IAs -> reviewing submitted IAs that scored well to understand how to properly write and structure my own IAs, and also exactly what to include to meet each requirement of the rubric
 - > reviewing work done on IAs by my peers to identify any improvements I could make to my own

What are 2-3 common things that you still need to work on across your subjects?

- Going over my notes soon after class to ensure that I am actively engaging with the content I learn and it stays fresh in my mind - refrain from **only** going through my notes when there's a test coming up
- Participate more in class to ensure that I thoroughly understand topics and immediately consult my teacher if I have any problems

What else have you realised about yourself and your approaches to learning after reflecting with your form tutor?

Since I found peer review to be successful for my IAs, this can also be applied to exam preparation. I could ask my peers/friends who are successful at answering specific types of questions in exams that I find difficult, about the strategies that they use, and also read through their work to clearly identify where my weaknesses are, and how to overcome them. This would be especially useful to me for English Paper 1 as I need to work on my analysis of image in texts, and Business Management long answer questions.

Useful Links



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



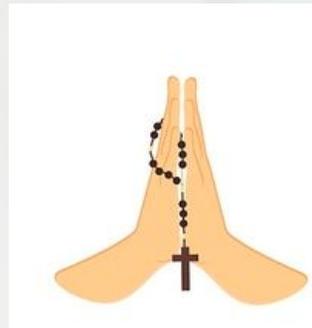
[HS Parent Calendar 2020/21](#)
[ES Parent calendar 2020/21](#)



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



[Term 1 2020 meal charges](#)



[Catholic Corner](#)



[PSG - Welcome Note](#)



[Music Website](#)



[Sports Website](#)



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



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



[CCA \(Schoolsbuddy\)](#)