SJIIM Weekly Update

25th August 2023

Important Dates:

31st August: Malaysia's National Day (a public holiday)

Upcoming Events: HS Welcome Evening Y9 - 30 Aug Y10 - 29 Aug Y11 - 1 Sept

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ST JOSEPH'S INSTITUTION International School Malaysia (Tropicana PJ Campus)

"Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve"

Welcome back!

As I am sure you know, each academic year begins with an induction period for staff. This year, our new staff began their induction period on Wednesday 9th August. In our induction we cover everything from character education and virtues to daily routines and organising school trips. It is quite an intensive programme for teachers but absolutely essential for an effective start. Whilst knowing how to take a register and where to find stationary are important pieces of information, you also want to ensure that everyone understands our school culture and how all of those elements align with our identity as a Lasallian school.

When checking in with staff through that induction period, I asked numerous staff how they were finding things and their response was often, 'it is great but now I just can't wait to meet the students.' To me, that's what you want to hear from staff - that enthusiasm to get started in the classroom and doing the job we love - teaching.

This week, we welcomed back all of our students and they have done a remarkable job with settling in. There's been quite a lot of changes - new classes, new teachers, new canteen, new play areas and that change, for some, can be overwhelming. However, along with support from their teachers they've supported each other.

I shared with staff that, in the High School, our new student induction is entirely student led. I'm always very proud to say that. Annually, our Student Representative Council plan a whole morning of activities to integrate new students into the High School. This year, our Student Representative Council was joined by our Lasallian Youth Movement to ensure that all of our new students felt welcomed. Our SRC President, Janice, along with a team of volunteers went out of their way to help others. I received an email on Tuesday evening from a new Year 7 student who wrote to me to tell me that, 'so far, I love the school and the experiences.'

I heard a lovely story from the first day too when a new student in Year 3, at the end of the day, thanked his class for the way that they have welcomed him to SJIIM. I was very impressed with that expression of gratitude and the confidence to say that to people that you have just met, but also to our returning students in that year group who had clearly made an effort to show virtues of kindness and empathy.

To hear all of this, directly from the students, is the best feedback we can receive.

Mr Cairns

Whole School Update

Deli School lunches are a big HIT!

It has been very exciting to see our students enjoying the many new options available at lunchtime and break time, served by our brand new catering company, Delischools. Here is just a snapshot of the happy faces that have filled the dining room this week! Each day there is an option of Western, Asian and Vegetarian lunches, as well as the option for noodle bowls or snacks. We have been working on the queues and have managed to get all of the students through for their lunch in around 10 minutes.



Pick up time - travelling safely

With the start of the new school year, an increase in student numbers and CCAs yet to start, please be reminded to **NOT** stop cars outside on the main road and to follow the direction flow at pickup time. While our security team are there to help to guide the flow, co-operation of the parents and drivers will help to ensure a smoother traffic flow. Ensuring that you show your 'pick up card' for ES students will help speed the flow of traffic and ensure safety.

Parents and drivers should not compromise the safety of their children and other road users by stopping at the side of the road rather than coming into school for pickup. We would also ask that parents are mindful of others when using the pavement and support students to be alert and aware of other road users, especially when crossing the road.

PE Kit & Drama Attire

There has been some confusion this week regarding the requirements for PE kit. Our bookshop has informed us that new stock will be arriving next week and we will communicate this with you when it arrives. For clarity regarding the expectations for PE lessons:

- Students can wear either the House PE Shirt or the Green PE Shirt for their PE lessons.
- Students will be required to wear the Green PE Shirt for representing the school in sports fixtures.

During drama lessons it is advised that girls should wear either shorts under their skirts or the school skort or trousers.



Uniform Expectations Reminders

Footwear

We require all children from Yr 1-13 to wear black enclosed polishable school shoes. **Hair**

Hair should be neat and tidy and be tied up at all times. The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. **Make Up**

No makeup, coloured nail varnish on fingers or toes or temporary tattoos should be worn.

Whole School Update

Sport Spotlight Board

We are very excited to announce our new Whole School Sport Spotlight Board. The board is to display pictures of our students to showcase their sporting activities and achievements within sport which they have done outside of school. If you have any pictures you would like to share with the school community please send them with a short description explaining the picture. The board can be found outside of the MPH.

High School - Mr Hussain: <u>mhussain@sji-international.edu.my</u> Elementary School - Mr Collins <u>mattcollins@sji-international.edu.my</u>









Parent Involvement - upcoming outreach

Many of our parents have expressed their interest in supporting SJIIM students in a variety of ways - through internship opportunities, helping with CCAs, coming to speak to students about careers, helping with the Productions, etc. Over the coming weeks, various school leaders will host meetings where you can find out more about these opportunities. We hope to see you there!

Mid Autumn Festival at Tropicana Gardens Mall

To celebrate the Mid Autumn festival, Tropicana Gardens is hosting various events including colouring competitions and a lantern making competition. Parents may register for this event by scanning the QR code.

CCA Term 1 AY 2023-24

CCA Website

Important dates:

Schoolsbuddy Sign-up Open : 25th August, Friday @ 5pm Schoolsbuddy Sign-up Close : 28th August, Monday @ 5pm CCA Allocation email to parents/students : 30th August, Wednesday

All sign-up must be completed via <u>Schoolsbuddy</u>. If you are not able to access it through the schoolsbuddy app, please reinstall the app or contact our SJI Helpdesk <u>helpdesk@sji-international.edu.my</u>. Thank you.

CCA Fair

This afternoon we had all of our external CCA providers on site for our CCA fair. The students had great fun trying out the various activities that will be on offer this term!



Elementary School Update

Welcome Back!

It has been wonderful to welcome our new and returning children back to school. This week's virtue was unity and we saw this throughout the community. Here are a few examples of unity at school. We encourage you to ask your children how they are showing unity at school, home and in the wider community.







Back to School for Mums and Dads it is!

Thank you to all of our EY - year 2 families that joined our Back to School sessions this week. We hope that it gave you an opportunity to get to know your child's class teachers and experience for yourself the warm and exciting classrooms that our teachers have carefully set up. Should you have any questions about your child, please fee free to send a Seesaw message to the teacher. We look forward to welcoming our year 3-6 parents to their Back To School sessions next week.



Welcome Ollie Ruxton!

Mr and Mrs Ruxton welcomed their beautiful baby boy just before the summer holidays! Ollie is just gorgeous and both Mrs Ruxton and Ollie are doing well. Hopefully, we will see him at school soon!

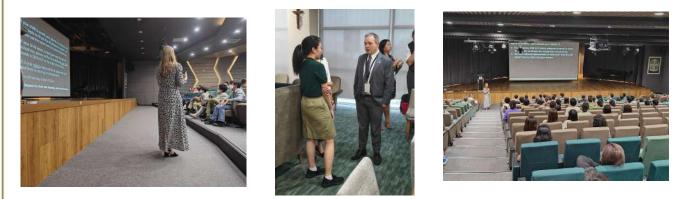


HS Parent Info Update

Further information on Google Classrooms for parent information, as well as curriculum overviews for all academic subjects will be communicated next week.

Items unclaimed from HS lockers

We have cleared the lockers last academic year and there are many items left behind. Please come to the HS office to enquire if you would like to check on the items.



Welcome Evenings

A massive thank you to all of the parents who have attended the welcome evenings events this week. It was lovely to see so many of you chatting to our staff about your children. We have more coming up next week. All are 3:30pm until 4:30pm with a short presentation in the auditorium and then a chance to meet the teachers of that year group in the canteen with some light refreshments. Next week's sessions are:

Y9 - Wednesday, 30th Aug Y10 - Tuesday, 29th Aug Y11 - Friday, 1st September



HS School Production - Into The Woods Audition Wednesday 3:10pm - 5pm

Students have until Monday 5pm to register their interest to be involved in our Term 1 production. We look forward to continuing and building on our wonderful production tradition. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

Parent Helpers for HS Production

We are excited to announce the High School will be producing Into The Woods this term with performances on 7-9 December. We are looking for parent volunteers to lead teams for Set, Props and Costume/Makeup. If you are interested in leading a team please contact Heather Smith indicating which area and your experience: heathersmith@sji-international.edu.my

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

Useful Links

