

# SJIIM Weekly Update

## 29 November 2019



### Lasallian Life:

A massive 'Thank You' to our CAC parents who with the help of Khairul and his team gave up their time to decorate our school chapel in preparation for Advent which starts on December 1st. The chapel looks truly beautiful. If you have a few moments of quiet time, do visit the chapel for some prayer or quiet reflection.



### A Christmas Wish/Prayer

For the season of Advent, we will be offering our students, staff and parents an opportunity to make a Christmas wish or prayer for another person, animal(s) or for our planet. These wishes will be displayed throughout the school and a selection of the wishes will also be shared as part of our offertory procession in our Christmas Mass. If you would like to make a wish, there will be templates available at the ES and HS offices as well as at the front desk in the foyer area.

### Chapel opening hours

Our school chapel is open every **Tuesday and Thursday** before school (07:30- 07:50 am) Children from the ES must be accompanied by an adult.

**For our Catholic and Christian students and families, please note the following dates for our Advent liturgy services:**

- **Friday, December 6th- Elementary** Advent service -08:15-09:00-**Black box (venue)** for parents and students.
- **Friday, December 6th- High School** Advent service-**12:30-1:30- Black box (venue)** for parents and students.
- **Tuesday, December 10th-** Christmas Mass- 12:30- 1:15 pm in the chapel for staff, parents and students. A **fellowship gathering** will take place afterwards in **our Lasallian centre**, located on the ground floor. This is for adults only.

Please use the [link](#) to find out more about these upcoming services and also for the details of our planned activities to support our school's chosen charities.

**“May God break my heart so completely that the whole world falls in.”**

**— Mother Teresa**

# Safe School Update:

## This week: Violent Behaviour



At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Since the dawn of video games there have been questions asked about their potential link to violent or disruptive behaviour in people, and in particular, young people. These questions certainly haven't been without merit; violent content and graphics seemingly get more and more common as technology progresses. But what's the truth when it comes to the science? Thankfully, in today's age we actually have a much more solid idea of what the link between the two looks like, and whether or not we should be concerned. In this guide, we'll look at the arguments both for and against the idea that video games cause violent behaviour.

### Do Video Games Actually Cause

# VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR?

FOR

AGAINST

#### VIOLENT AND MATURE THEMES

There's no getting around the fact that yes, some video games do carry violent or more mature themes and to the casual observer, they can be quite startling. Use of weapons, bad language, mature content or scary images are worrying things to introduce to a young mind at the best of times, and even more so when they can be interacted with.

Realistically this comes down to the judgement of carers as to whether they think it's appropriate for their young ones, but a great place to start is the ESRB (Entertainment Software Rating Board) rating of a game. Not only do these ratings carry a recommended age, but also give an idea of what kinds of things will be in the game.

#### ANGER EXHIBITED DURING OR AFTER PLAYING GAMES

Many parents notice an increase in their young one's anger or agitation after playing a video game. This is very common. However, it shouldn't be forgotten that video games are an interactive medium and, unlike a film or TV show, you have direct control over what is happening on the screen, making it much more personal.

In 2011, a study into The General Aggression Model (GAM) suggested that video games can stimulate and encourage feelings of violence and aggression in players, and gives players an opportunity to learn and practice aggressive tendencies, which translate over into the real world. While this study was debunked due to its flawed process, parents should still be vigilant if they see a child exhibiting signs of aggression while playing, and encourage frequent breaks from screen time.

#### RELATIVELY UNKNOWN LONG-TERM EFFECTS

Because gaming is such a new form of media, not many studies can confidently predict what the long-term effects of gaming on young minds will be. While it's widely assumed by scientists and researchers that there will be very few negative side-effects, it's still one of the great unknowns. Despite this, gaming should be treated the same as any other new media, and enjoyed in regulated amounts.

#### HISTORICAL HYSTERIA

Modern video games are a cultural phenomena, and we're still getting to grips with gaming as an entertainment medium. If we look back through history however, there's an emergent pattern of media blaming new technologies for a whole host of things.

For instance, when radio first became popular, people would blame it for earthquakes and droughts. It's good to keep an open mind when something new and popular appears on the scene like gaming. Just because it isn't understood, it doesn't necessarily mean it's dangerous.

#### ALMOST EVERY MODERN SCIENTIFIC STUDY

As studies into whether video games make people violent become more common, we've come to understand a great many things about how the processes and measuring the outcomes should be carried out. As such, almost every modern study on the subject has turned up an inconclusive outcome finding a link.

In a thorough joint 2019 study between the Universities of Oxford and Cardiff in Royal Society Open Science, scientists concluded that "there was no evidence for a critical tipping point relating violent game engagement to aggressive behaviour." The study asked both teenagers and their parents to monitor and feed back on their aggressive thoughts after playing video games in an attempt to give a well-rounded result.

#### MISUNDERSTOOD OUTSIDE FACTORS

It's easy to see why people link violent video games with real world aggressive behaviour, and there is certainly some truth in the fact they can make young people upset in the short-term. After all, nobody likes the feeling of losing whether it's in the real world or a virtual one. But we shouldn't mistake causation for correlation when assessing what this means.

Sometimes outside factors can contribute to shifts in behaviour that could be exacerbated by gaming, but not caused by it. If you're concerned over recent mood swings or aggressive tendencies in loved ones, there's no substitute for talking it out and trying to get to the route of the problem. A lot of people use video games as an escape from everyday life, and taking this away without proper thought could make things worse.

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

### SHOULD WE STOP BLAMING VIDEO GAMES FOR VIOLENT AND AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOUR?

Weighing up the pros and cons before letting our young ones play a video game should always be at the forefront of our minds, but the evidence of the negative impressions they leave has been debunked time and again in recent years.

It's likely that the argument around violence and video games will continue for some years, and there's certainly work to be done on both sides when it comes to researching the actual repercussions. While modern scientific studies have started to lean heavily towards there being zero or minimal connections, it's still vitally important to listen and do your own research with an open mind. If there's concern about growing behavioural issues in your kids, talk to them and encourage breaks, or play with them and try to experience the games yourself. You might just find something you like in the process!

# Whole School Update



## Message from PSG

Calling all Parents, Teachers, Staff and Students!  
Come celebrate Yule with us at the SJIM Christmas Market on the 13th of December 2019,  
12noon - 4.30pm at the School Foyer.

There will be lots of delicious food and drinks, gifts and crafts on sale plus an exciting lineup of performances by students and teachers.

Funds raised from the pre-loved stall will also go to Zomi Education Center and Rumah Kita. Please refer to the link on the last page on Fundraising for Christmas.

Save the date!



*Santa Claus is coming to town!*

**SJIM CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
**FRI 13 DEC 2019**  
**12 NOON - 4:30PM**  
**SCHOOL FOYER**

It may not be snowing outside but Christmas is definitely coming to SJIM! Shop for **delicious treats**, stock up on **Christmas gifts** and be entertained by an exciting lineup of **performances** by students and teachers! A pre-loved stall will be set up for the benefit of the **Zomi Education Centre** for refugee children and **Rumah Kita**, a transit home for young girls and babies. **And don't forget to visit Santa at his Christmas Corner!**

For more information, contact:  
The Parents Support Group, SJIM  
psg@sji-international.edu.my



## SHREK JR THE MUSICAL!

Tickets are on sale NOW for our first ever High School Production;  
Shrek Jr! Show dates 12th-14th December.

Click on the [link](#) to book your seats for this fun family show!



**SHREK**  
**THE MUSICAL JR**

**St Joseph's First Ever**  
**High School Production!**

Thursday 12th December @ 6PM  
Friday 13th December @ 6PM  
Saturday 14th December @ 1PM

Scan the QR Code to buy  
your tickets NOW!  
Rm30



# Elementary School Update



## Parent Information Session

### **FINAL REMINDER: Social Media Safety Parent Information Session**

**Date:** Tues, 3rd December

**Time:** Please choose one of the following times  
8.00a.m, 2.00p.m or 6.00p.m.

**Venue:** Auditorium



We would like to request that every family is represented at **one** of the workshops. Each workshop is identical but we wanted to provide different times to meet the schedules of our parent community given the importance of the issue.

## PSHE- Health & Personal Safety

Next week we will have a focus on drug awareness across the Elementary School as part of our PSHE programme. We will be teaching children how important drugs are in our world, but how important it is that we always use them appropriately. Do chat with your child at home about what they have been learning about.

## Penang Sports Weekend

Good luck to all the children who will be attending the Penang Sports Weekend next week. Thank you to the staff and parents who will be attending, we wish you a safe journey to Penang on Thursday. We look forward to hearing all about it on your return!

## Christmas Concerts

Children are now busy preparing their Christmas performances for you. Please be reminded of the dates of your child's performance below. Teacher's have already communicated with you on class dojo regarding costumes for these performances and when they should be brought to school. Do check with your child's class teacher if you are unsure of any of these details.

Tues 17 Dec, 9.00am - Year 1 & 2, String Ensemble

Tues 17 Dec, 4.00pm - Year 3 & 4, Concert Band

Wed 18 Dec, 9.00am - Nursery & Reception, Piccolo Singers

Wed 18 Dec, 5.30pm - Year 5 & 6, Cantabile Singers



# High School Update



## LIT Conference 2019

The much anticipated LIT Conference with the theme “Shaping Decisions” finally took place on 22 November 2019. With this, we aimed to bring speakers across different fields together to share the challenges they had faced in their career with the students, and their actions that have helped them to overcome these obstacles. The students also enjoyed their interactions with our four speakers: Mr Ming Han Ho, Mr Heidi, Ms Manisah Sarujee, and Mr Prashant Kumar. The event came to an end at 9:00p.m, with all students, teachers, and speakers all having a wonderful night. This event was initiated and organised by a group of Year 13 students: Chuah Yi Yang, Chua Li-Ann and Larry Loh, and a number of other IB students volunteered to help to make the night a smooth and enjoyable event. It is hoped that this will become an annual event.



## High School Reports Information Session Tuesday 3rd December at 8.15am

You are invited to an introduction to HS reports information session aimed at new parents and Year 7 parents. The meeting will take place in the Drama room (first Floor) and will provide an overview of the HS reports, what they look like, how to access them and what to expect at the end of Term 1. Please rsvp to [pmccormick@sj-international.edu.my](mailto:pmccormick@sj-international.edu.my)

## Feedback in the High School - Mr Andy Bayfield

Our different departments have been working on helping explain the numerous ways they provide feedback in the High School. The documents attached give an overview of just some of the ways students are supported across the subjects, with each department able to support students in a way which is individualised to their subject though based around these principles: 1. Tell the student where they are going. 2. Tell them how they are going. 3. Tell them where to next. Please click into the following link :-

[Maths Department](#)

[English Department](#)

[Languages Department](#)

[Humanities Department](#)

[Music Department](#)

[Art & Design Department](#)

[Science Department](#)

[P.E Department](#)

# Useful Links



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



[HS Parent Calendar 2019/20](#)  
[ES Parent calendar 2019/20](#)



[HS Staff Email 2019/20](#)  
[ES Staff Email 2019/20](#)



[November 2019 Menu](#)  
[December Menu](#)  
[Term 1 meal charges](#)



[Update from University & Career Counselor](#)



[PSG Update](#)



[Music Website](#)



[Sports Website](#)



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