

# SJIIM Weekly Update

## 26th February 2021



### The teachers and staff are looking forward to welcoming our students back to school on 8 March...

Dear parents/guardians,

The EY children have been enjoying school since 19 January. They love the interaction time with their teachers and peers.

The exam year groups, Y11 and Y13, have successfully completed their mock examinations. They are receiving academic and pastoral support from the teachers and preparing for their finals.

We are reviewing and tightening our SOPs to ensure a smooth and safe return to school for our students. Mask wearing is mandatory. The furniture in the various learning venues ensures safe distancing. Teachers and Staff are put on a duty roster to ensure that there is ample supervision during arrival at school, break and lunch times, class transition times and dismissal times. There are designated areas for the different year groups for meal times to reduce cross level interactions. The librarians ensure that the library remains a safe learning hub that supports students' growth and love for reading with clear procedures on book loans/return. Regular cleaning and sanitization will be scheduled.

We will be sending out health declaration forms to our school community and the medical team will follow up, if necessary.

PE lessons will start from 8 March and CCA will start for the following year groups (Y1 - Y6, Y7 - Y10 and Y12) from term 3.

We have a number of new students who joined SJIIM during virtual school and we will be working closely with them to assimilate them into our school community.

We are excited to have our children back in school and we will continue to work together with you to ensure that the children have a safe and rewarding return to physical school.

Warm regards from the **School Leadership Team**

### Health Declaration Notice

As part of our procedures to reopen school safely, we ask that all families complete the following Health Declaration for their children. The information provided ensures that we are all doing our part to protect the health and safety of our school community. We trust that families will complete the form, answering the questions honestly in consideration of one another. Please click the document linked below and the information will be directly recorded by our school medical team. The deadline for the completion of this form is Tuesday 2nd March, 2021.

[Student Health Declaration Form MCO 2.0](#)

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## Our Music curriculum, our Music teachers.....

### QUALITY OPPORTUNITY INCLUSIVITY

During the latest period of CMCO and MCO, primarily from mid-October 2020, we as a community have all had to deal once again with the challenges of virtual schooling. In Music, we always strive to embody our vision of 'Quality, Opportunity and Inclusivity' in all work that we do with the students in Elementary and High school; the quality lessons we deliver, the quality of work we expect from the students, the opportunity for students to be involved in a variety of musical learning experiences, and the chance for all to develop a life-long love of Music. This has become increasingly important during virtual school, with the diverse musical backgrounds, abilities and instrumentation available to each student.

In Elementary school, Mr Leung and Ms Chin have been working hard to develop these opportunities for our younger students. Early Years have been developing literacy through song. They have sung through many famous children's stories, including 'Goldilocks and the three bears' and 'the Gingerbread Man'. The students have dramatised those stories, using music to explore the themes and narrative through play and dance, interpreting the Music in an active and engaging way. Students in Year 1 and 2 have been looking at Musical rounds during lessons, studying practically through song. Through Seesaw tasks, students have been encouraged to involve family in their learning. For every song they learn in the lesson, they've also explored through games and stories to maintain the children's engagement and participation.



Year 3 and 4 students have surprised not just their teachers but themselves in how much they have improved on the Recorder Karate curriculum during this time. Students have developed their knowledge of pitch and rhythm through performing on their recorders, with many students going on to achieve high belt levels and have been encouraged by their outstanding performance. The students have not only learned the recorder through the traditional notation manner but have also 'jazz'-ed things up by learning to improvise on a pentatonic scale. These skills do not only show musical ability but also show the ability to adapt and think creatively, skills and character traits of a much higher level than their years.

Students have been learning to perform and improvise around set songs in Years 5 and 6 and have even composed their own lyrics to the song, developing literacy skills as well as the ability to create melodic lines. They have also developed their understanding of how the solfa system works, in working out pitches and improvising on different scales with a movable starting note of 'do'. The students have also developed theory knowledge through analysis of songs across a number of different cultures and styles.



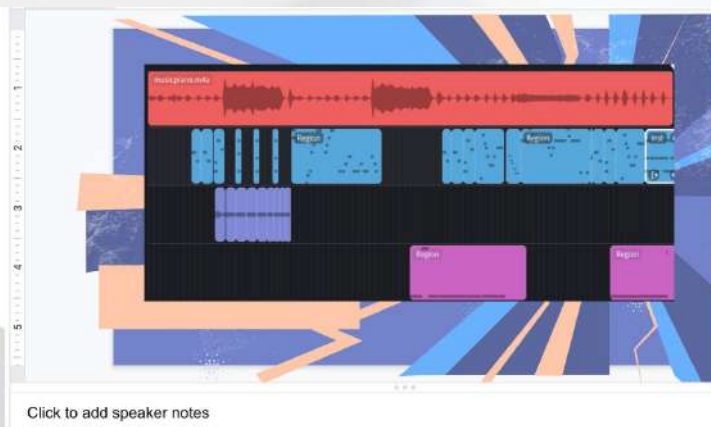
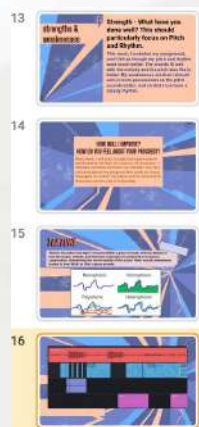
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In the High School, myself and Mr Hague have strived to keep curriculum momentum to encourage progression and incremental learning opportunities for the students throughout Key Stage 3. Year 7 students have been developing their work with the Instrumental Band Programme. Students start a new instrument from the Wind and Brass families, developing their skills and ability on these instruments through guided tuition with their teachers and working on small pieces each week. Students show their learning through a portfolio, offering the student the space to upload recordings of their work and reflect on their successes and challenges. Aurelia Lee (Year 7) explains that "During virtual school, Music lessons have been challenging sometimes, along with problems like internet connection. But it has been equally enjoyable and engaging as well. I have enjoyed playing music pieces on my flute, reflecting on them and filming them!"

In Year 8 and 9, students have utilised many online platforms to develop their knowledge and ability to compose in Music. Year 8 used the MusicEDU online platform to be able to develop their skills and knowledge of various styles and genres, including those of the Classical eras. The students have also looked at the importance of dance and movement in Music, by looking at styles such as Samba, the Waltz and modern electronic music. This offers the scope for students to see the interrelated links between musical styles and genres across hundreds of



years, and the importance of other Art forms in connection to Music. In Year 9, students have been studying Popular Music, involving all of the three core elements of music: performance, composition and analysis. Students have been using the online platform BandLab to develop their skills in songwriting, developing an understanding of keys, cadences, chord choices and progression, and structures. This has been a challenge for some yet enabling for others, with there being no 'correct answer'. Projects such as this allow for honing skills in creativity and problem-solving required at higher levels of learning, such as IB and the future world of work. Victoria Wong (Year 9) said that "I found this as an extremely fun experience since I got to develop my skills in a fascinating way. I've never composed or written a song before but this opportunity gave me a chance to experience songwriting and was a challenge that I began to enjoy and grow on."

As well as our curriculum lessons, we have strived to continue the extra-curricular work of the department. In these restricted times, the ability to have an area for students to develop their skills in music, whilst being able to express themselves and perform, feeling a sense of community has been a welcome activity for many students. Our Performing Arts Leaders, or PALs, have also been meeting on a regular basis to aid in the development of the Arts within the school, this term being key in the development of the High School House Performing Arts Competition. Alysa Marcellus (Year 10) commented on how, "Being part of the HS Performing Arts Team has given me the opportunity to still contribute to SJIIM's High School in terms of performing arts, and it has taught me the importance of the work behind the scenes. Working with the other Performing Arts Leaders has allowed me to progress in Music and leadership, despite all the uncertainties present, and it has given me a platform for me to focus my time and effort on." We will be using Friday form tutor times in the High School over this half term to share the many talents of SJIIM, with the finals of the talent competition and ending with the Spring Music Concert.

As we look to the future, we are excited to welcome back our students to the Music department. We will strive to continue to offer engaging, practical and informative lessons, to offer more opportunities for students to learn outside the classroom through extra-curricular clubs and the chance to perform, and the opportunity to grow not only as musicians but also as academics, inquirers and leaders across the school community.

For more information about any of the activities, extra-curricular groups or events, please email [Mr Stacey](mailto:Mr Stacey) at [dstacey@sjii-international.edu.my](mailto:dstacey@sjii-international.edu.my)

# SJIIM Weekly Update

## 26th February 2021



### Catholic Corner

#### Lent: A Time for Renewing Faith Love & Hope

The Second Week of Lent: A Season for Prayer

*"Prepare a path for God so that he can enter your heart."*

*-St John Baptist De La Salle (Med 2.1)*

This is an excellent prayer resource for the Lenten journey:

[A Prayer a Day for Lent](#)



#### This is my Son, the Beloved

"...A cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus."

Mark 9:2-10



#### Act of Faith

O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins and that he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths because you have revealed them who are eternal truth and wisdom, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. In this faith I intend to live.

**Amen.**

#### High School Lenten Student Mission

During the first session, students impressed with their knowledge and understanding of Lent & Easter during a fun Kahoot quiz. This week, students have been challenged to create Lenten Journey Jars. Here are some examples:



# Elementary Weekly Update



## Class Parent Rep Meetings

This week, the ES leadership team hosted a Zoom meeting with some of our parent reps. The focus of the meeting was community and cooperation. We discussed how we can work together to continue building community in this challenging time, as well as how we can all work together to facilitate smoother communication. A huge thank you to all of the parent reps who attended - and we hope to see more of you in the future! A second meeting is being hosted next week, Friday, 5th March at 12:30 so that we can hopefully meet with parents from each class. The Zoom codes have been emailed to class reps directly. If your class does not have a parent rep, and you are interested, please let your class teacher know.

**Community and Communication** 15 min

- How can we continue to create and develop our community at this time, school and parent reps?
- Are there events that we could host, school and parent reps?
- How can class reps support new families as they become part of our community?
- How can we work together to facilitate communication?
- Are there particular areas of support that parents might benefit from?

Roles: Reporter, Group Organizer, NOTE TAKER, Time Keeper

## ES Lunches

With the return to school upon us, we would like to remind all of our parents that Sodexo lunches and snacks need to be pre-ordered for all students in the ES during this time. Please see the [link](#) to the menu here. Please also see the link on the last page of this update for the pre-order site.

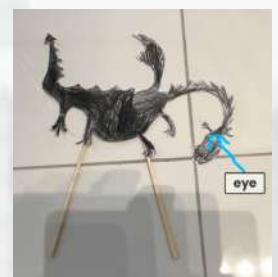
## Y1 Presenting Animal Research

The Y1 children shared the culmination of their research on animals this week. They showed courage and dedication, presenting what they had learnt to their classmates on Zoom.



## Y3 Light and Shadow Science

In Y3 this week children were testing and observing what happens when you move a shadow puppet away from the light source. They made a traditional Chinese shadow puppet to use in a puppet show. Children had to position their puppets at different distances from the light source and make notes on the effects of proximity of light source to the object. The students investigated the optimum size their puppets should be on a wall in order for their audience to see them clearly.



# High School Weekly Update



## HS Art: Graphic Design Year 8

I am pleased to be able to inform you of an exciting opportunity for our Year 8 students. For the remainder of the year, all Year 8 Art classes will be taught by Ms. Evelyn Prado Sanchez. Ms. Pardo Sanchez has a degree in Graphic Design and will be able to bring her expertise in this area to teach our Year 8 students a number of new creative skills and approaches, with an emphasis on digital art. This week the students have explored the Inkscape programme. They have begun a typography task which has been designed to introduce the students to the various tools of the programme, while considering the basics design principles. They have enjoyed the challenge and created some interesting pieces.



## IGCSE and IB Options Information Session

This information session will be held on Zoom on Wednesday, 3rd March to support students and parents in making decisions about subject options for IGCSE and IB. There will be an overall presentation for both IGCSE and for IB, followed by sessions for each subject being offered. A full schedule and further details will be sent to parents of Year 9 and Year 11 by email.

## Applications for House Captains

Despite the disruption to our school year, our House Competitions have continued to run as a means to ensure our school spirit stays strong. For example, today was the deadline for our House Performing Arts Competition and, next week, students will get to watch the entries in tutor time. Over a series of weeks, students will get to see the best entries from Benilde, Jaime, Mutien and Miguel.

Whether in physical school or virtual school, we have plenty more opportunities to take part and represent your house.

Leading your house is an incredible honour and a great way to develop a host of skills including leadership, self management, public spirit and communicating a vision. We are currently accepting applications from students in the HS for the positions of House Captain (Year 12), Senior Vice Captain (Year 11 and Year 10) and Junior Vice Captain (Years 7 - 9). Students have been sent a Google Form to submit their applications.

Have courage, stp forward and lead your House!



# High School Weekly Update



## PSG - Care packs for Y11/13 students taking exam



"In anticipation of IGCSE exams, PSG has kindly created care packs for students at SJIM who will be participating in these exams. We wish all students well as they embark on this next journey."

From - the PSG

## Y11 Study Skills - Supported by the PE Department

Since the Year 11 students have been back in physical school since our return in January from the December holiday, organised sport has not been permitted. Although the PE department was frustrated with these restrictions, we wanted to focus instead on how we could adapt our provision to best help our students. We wanted to use this time productively, whilst not giving the students more work and driving them to be online in front of the screen for any more time than necessary. This is where the decision to deliver some Study Skills sessions came from.



Research shows that students should break up revision sessions with short breaks, ideally, breaking it up with some exercise, a light meal or, as we decided, a creative task. For example, students had a task to use the playdough seen in these images to mould whatever image was shown on the board. They had a short time to do it and then the top three were highlighted.

Another task we did was mindful colouring. This is not only a creative task but a meditative task and a chance to relax the brain and put complete concentration into colouring between the lines and choosing the best colour to suit your drawing.

As a department, we were thoroughly impressed with the students' efforts during these lessons. All Year 11 classes are held during the last periods of the day, but, despite this, the students stayed focused and completed their revision work independently. The breaks allowed them to switch off for a short time and then attack their work again with renewed energy.

Despite the successes of these lessons, we look forward to getting the Year 11 students active again in P.E lessons; the studies supporting physical activity as a way to improve mental functioning and performance are even stronger than the research into the benefits of study skills!



# High School Weekly Update



## Year 11 and Year 13 Additional Lessons

These additional lessons will continue for next week from 3.30pm to 4.30pm each day according to the schedule below. However, they will not run on Wednesday, 3 March due to our teachers involvement in the IGCSE and IB Options Information Session. In order to help teachers prepare the sessions, each student will be asked to complete a Google form informing us whether they plan to attend a session.

## Year 11 Additional Lessons

	Mon, 1 March	Tues, 2 March	Wed, 3 March	Thurs, 4 March	Friday, 5 March
<b>Week 2</b>	History (24, 2 blocks)	Econ (32, 2 blocks)	n/a	Art / Music / Computer Science / PE	Chemistry

## Year 13 Additional Lessons

	Mon, 1 March	Tues, 2 March	Wed, 3 March	Thurs, 4 March	Friday, 5 March
<b>Week 2</b>	none	Languages	n/a	Maths	none



# STRAVA RUNNING UPDATE

**Mutien**

**4647**

**Miguel**

**4435**

**Jaime**

**2690**

**Benilde**

**2344**

**This week's top 3 runners (some new leaders - great to see!)**

**Miguel**

1. Rahim Yahya
2. Eriny Greiss
3. Luke Hague (Teacher)

**Mutien**

1. Teik Hin Ng
2. Cindy
3. Jenshen Ng (Student)

**Benilde**

1. Joe Taylor (Teacher)
2. Kiun Cho
3. Kwangho Choi

**Jaime**

1. Darrell Tan (Student)
2. Charm Limoanco
3. Jeff Hashim

**"LET'S GET ACTIVE"**

- ★ We're now into *week 13* of our Strava Running Challenge.
- ★ Each Sunday the kilometers ran from the previous week are added to the running total
- ★ I'll be showcasing over the next few weeks, the "Biggest Climbers" - those who ran with the most hills.
- ★ Also, "Longest Time" - who ran for the longest time, not distance, just time spend on the roads!

**As a group we've run the distance from KL to Toronto!!**

# 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 2 AY 20/21 meal charges](#)  
[ES Menu March 2021](#)  
[HS March 2021 Menu](#)



[Catholic Corner](#)



[PSG Update](#)



[Music Website](#)



[Sports Website](#)



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



University & Careers  
Counsellor (TBA)



[CCA \(Schoolsbuddy\)](#)



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