

SJIIM Weekly Update

5th March 2021



Staff Community Building with Brother Michael Broughton

Monday the 22nd February saw the second in our three planned LaSallian formation sessions, with this event building on our first meeting which focused on Faith. Engaging the whole school and focusing this time on Community, we were blessed enough to have the input once again of Brother Michael Broughton, who worked with our LaSallian teachers Mrs Willoughby and Mrs Swale, as well as Mr Bayfield and Mrs Fedorowicz, to create a session which involved all of our teachers and highlighted to them now, more than ever, the importance of Community.

The session began with Brother Michael introducing the word Community, and defining it in relation to us as colleagues but also as people, and how the word manifested itself in our day to day choices and decisions; that community building involves tolerance, empathy and time. We then split off into our separate schools, with the High School discussion continuing with Mrs Swale and the Elementary school working with Mrs Willoughby. Involving and engaging all of our teachers as well as members of our administration, the breakout sessions saw teachers split into groups and work on how the national lockdown had impacted them, and how a sense of community had been so important to all of us in order to maintain a sense of connectedness. We also looked at how Aristotle's still relevant thoughts around what humans need to 'flourish' were even more challenging to actualise during a lockdown, but also how it 'is okay to not be okay', as well as ways we have continued to forge a community despite the restrictions imposed upon us all...

Image below: a screenshot from the formation, introducing the broader message.

Lasallian Community Building Session

"The Lasallian school is a united community where diversity is respected, where no one is left out, and where everyone finds a place. Individuals within the school community recognise and accept another's strengths and limitations. This core principle is expressed through the Lasallian ideal: "The Lasallian Family."

Christian Brothers University, a Lasallian Institution.

"Do not let anticipation of tomorrow be a burden on the day that is passing. What you lack in the evening, the morrow will bring you..."

St. John Baptist de La Salle

Image below: a screenshot from the HS breakout room

Human Flourishing - A lifelong Project

In Greek philosophy, Eudaimonia means achieving the best conditions possible for a human being, in every sense—not only happiness, but also virtue, morality, and a meaningful life.

Productive Work, Rewarding Relationships, Creative Self-Expression, Civic & Political Engagement, Health

Capacities, Character, Beliefs

THE JUBILEE CENTRE FOR CHARACTER & VIRTUES

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Our separate sessions were concluded by Brother Michael and our Head of School, Madam Mak. The aims of the session were to continue to emphasise the importance of our LaSallian heritage, as well as give our teachers an opportunity to see and explore how community matters to them as individuals and our school as a whole; that community does not automatically happen when people work together, but is instead built through conscious and consistent decisions and choices that are grounded in tolerance, respect, empathy and understanding.

We thank Brother Michael again for his charismatic presence and flexibility, as well as his deep understanding of the topic, and look forward to our third gathering in May. We also thank Mrs Swale and Mrs Willoughby who showed courage and confidence to help lead such a large and important event, particularly through the confines of Zoom.

Below are some staff members' reflections after the event:

"The need to build a strong sense of community amidst our current challenges has never been more important. The session focused on a sense of togetherness and common good, encouraging reflection on the true meaning of the Lasallian mission. We know that together we will come through these times, all the better prepared for the challenges ahead. Together, we are keeping our community whole. It is wonderful to be a member of this community and I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to grow as a Lasallian." -Victoria Stacey-Swale

'It's ok not to like everyone, the Gospel challenges us not to like people but to love them. We know as professionals that it is possible to successfully work with people we don't really like. We can never really know fully why people are the way they are, what we can do is accept them as they are and learn to work with them, putting aside differences. We can go further by helping them when given the opportunity and even praying for their well-being and happiness if we feel called to do it.' - Dennis Tang

"It was refreshing to listen to others and know that we were not alone in how this incredibly challenging time had been affecting our mental health. In the age of social media and scrolling through seemingly picture perfect lives it was comforting to communicate just how tough some days have seemed and hear of similar experiences from within the community. It's ok to not be ok. These are tough and testing times we are living through but it's reassuring to know that there are people you can talk to and that the simple act of getting things off your chest can feel like a tangible weight has been lifted." - Shaun Wilson

'I felt a great life-giving optimism among the school community. Everyone acknowledged the challenges of the current time but all found creative ways to adapt their teaching and outreach to their students, their contact with their colleagues and in the many ways they practiced self care by the reorganization of their lives, learning new skills and revising old ones. The school is in good hands!' -Brother Michael Broughton

"Monday's session was just what our community needed to be reminded of the support we can offer each other during the challenges of this pandemic. It was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the strength and positivity generated by our Lasallian ethos." -- Catherine Benbow

"It was wonderful to be reminded what a supportive and caring community we are all a part of here at St Joseph's" - Ed Hill

"It was lovely to see the natural conversations that took place amongst colleagues which showed a real sense of unity and connection despite being out of physical school since last October. Everyone was excited about returning to school and re-establishing links with our whole school community" -Karen Willoughby

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Health Declaration Notice

Thank you to all families that have completed the students health declaration form. If you have not yet completed this information we request your prompt response to the form below in an effort to continue to protect the health and safety of our school community.

[Student Health Declaration Form MCO 2.0](#)

Virtues Sharing

There will be a series of 'Virtues Sharing' on a monthly basis conducted by Gladys Tan, who is a trained Virtues Project Facilitator. These sessions will support our wonderful Virtues program which already takes place in school. We encourage parents of all faith to join with Gladys Tan for moments of reflection on the virtues of 'Hope and Faith'. The first session will take place on March 11th from 10am- 11am via Zoom and hopefully future sessions will take place on the second Thursday of every month. If you are interested to join or would like to know more details kindly email Ms. Leanne Goh using the email address below.

p-g1014@sj-international.edu.my



Gladys Tan. The Virtues Project™ Facilitator.

A mother of three and used to worked with two regional airlines where she developed the care to serve those around her.

She learned of The Five Strategies of The Virtues Project™ in 2007 to help her become a good mother but only to find out that these strategies can be applied in all areas of one's life and they have helped her through a few life changing events that motivated her to become a facilitator in 2018 and is HRDF certified.

Since becoming a facilitator, she's been conducting workshops for parents and educators in Malaysia and Singapore, conducting webinars and coaching calls for participants from around the region on Spendless Academy, in collaboration with Intellect Global Learning to bring virtues into the corporate environment and continues to collaborate with organizations to bring virtues to live in various professional trainings and environments.

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Catholic Corner

Lent: A Season for Almsgiving

A wonderful Lasallian prayer reflection:

[Lasallians in Prayer](#)

"God inspires us to walk in the footsteps of his Son."

De La Salle, Med 13.1



Act of Love

O Lord God, I love you above all things
and I love my neighbor for your sake
because you are the highest, infinite and
perfect
good, worthy of all my love.
In this love I intend to live and die.
Amen.

Amen.

St. Therese of Lisieux - God's Little Flower

St. Therese is most known for her "Little Way." She spoke not of doing great things, but of small things with great love. She saw herself as a child who lived in complete dependence on God. She saw the greatness in small acts, she calls us to:

"Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love."

This Lent, may we find opportunities to bring joy, hope and love to those around us by completing daily acts of kindness. No act is too small!



Lenten Student Mission - Almsgiving Pledges

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless." Mother Teresa . Students have been challenged to lift others up through kind words during Lent.

"This Lent I pledge to send a kind message to one of my friends and one of my family members every day, hopefully this will make their day! I will do this via Email, Whatsapp, or in person. I hope that I can make them smile and brighten up their day!" *Isabella Stacey - Swale Year 7*

"This Lent I plan to compliment one of my family members friends or a strangers everyday so that they can start the day feeling just a little bit more positive. I will do this face-to-face." *Maya Fedorowicz Year 8*

This lent, I pledge to give people feel-good messages every morning, so that they can hopefully have a positive start to their day. I will do this in person, as we will be able to go back to school next week. *Amira Catherine Marcellus Year 9*



Elementary Weekly Update



Art Month

Throughout the month of March, Elementary School students will be celebrating art month. This week students were introduced to the theme of art month during year group assemblies. We will be paint murals at each level of the ES, by phase, and use this art from as an expression of our core Lasallian values of faith, service and community. We have two High School artist that are working with us to use our students' final pieces to inspire the mural drawing and we will paint the murals as a community.

Drop off Reminders

In order to avoid congestion and maintain physical distancing in the foyer during drop off and pick-up, we will ask parents to follow the staggered drop-off and pick-up timings:

- 7:25-7:45 - Drop off for all ES and HS students with siblings in school
- 7:45 - 8:00 - Drop off for all ES and HS students without siblings and for students with ES/EY siblings
- 8:10-8:30 - Drop off for EY children

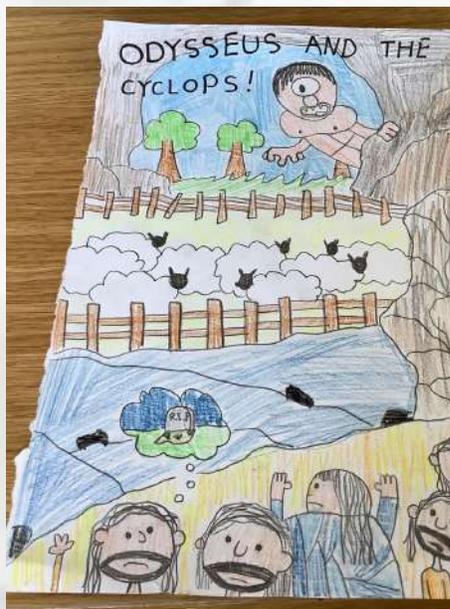
Reminders about pick-up points will come from each year group, but please be reminded that HS siblings collect their ES siblings from a designated classroom in the year group. Within the ES, the older sibling will go to the younger sibling's pick up point.

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.

Expressions of Literature through Art

Y5 students made links to their reading text through art activities this week. In one activity the students recreated a scene from the story and included inspirational quotes from the text. In another activity the students retold the main event of a story through drawing. These are great cross curricular examples for reinforcing literacy through other creative subjects.



High School Weekly Update



School Reopening

Please refer to this [letter](#) from the SJIM leadership team on school reopening and Pick up arrangements for High School.

IGCSE Languages Speaking Exam

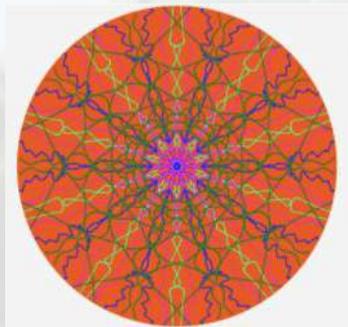
The IGCSE speaking exams will run from 9th-12th March next week. These mark the official start of the IGCSE examination season, and we wish all of the students well in the exams. The exams will run during the school day, with the exams themselves taking around 15 minutes. Good luck to all of the candidates!

HS Art - Sheena Kelly

Please join me in welcoming Ms Karen Windley to the team. Karen Windley is an ES teacher with a Bachelor of Fine Arts and she will be taking over Year 9Y for the rest of the year. Ms Windley has previously taught art for a number of years throughout elementary school up until Year 10. During virtual school Year 9Y and 9K have been together in class but as we return to physical school this will no longer be feasible.

Year 7 has begun a new unit based on Mandalas and I have seen some beautiful work. The first task was for the students to design a piece digitally using a variety of apps. The second task was to design and create a Mandala by hand. The students have now moved on to creating cardboard relief representations of their designs and I look forward to seeing their final results coming in over the next few days.

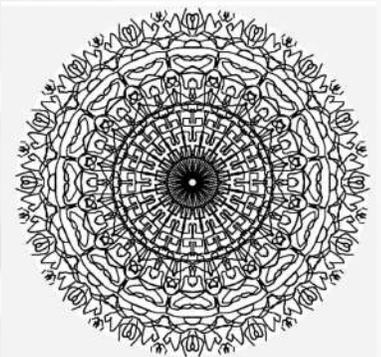
Digital Mandalas



Issac, Xe Zhe Liew 7Y



Emma Zhang 7Y



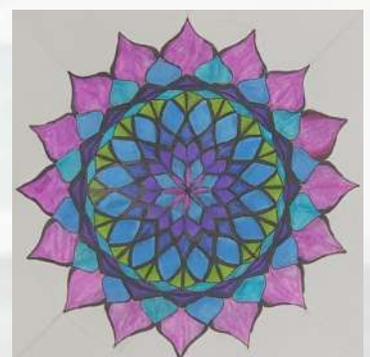
Hyeonseung Oh 7K



Kayden Ka- leong Chow 7M



Michelle, Hui Ming Pek 7M



Yoona Jeong 7k

High School Weekly Update



House Performing Arts Competition 2021 - Music

The final for the House Music Competition was held today during form tutor time in HS. The competition was judged by Mr Eugene Pook. Currently Music Director & Conductor of the Selangor Symphony Orchestra, Eugene Pook has made guest conducting appearances with professional orchestras such as the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, Henan Symphony Orchestra, Xiamen Philharmonic Orchestra, Hong Kong Chamber Orchestra, Lithuanian State Symphony Orchestra, Pleven Philharmonic, and others. In 2012, he was awarded the 10 Outstanding Young Malaysians Award for his cultural contributions and achievements in Malaysia. In addition to conducting, Eugene Pook is also a professional clarinet performer and instructor. His clarinet recitals have been much sought after and performed at prestigious venues such as the Carnegie Hall in New York City, the Malaysia Embassy (Washington DC, USA), and the European Union Embassy (Washington DC, USA).

House Performing Arts Competition 2021 - Music

Congratulations to the winners Alysa Marcellus, Sophia Fong and Fiona Ong (Year 10), and the runner-up Conor Callaham (Year 7), who will both receive a trophy for their success. All other entrants, including the above, will receive a certificate of participation and house points. Currently the house points for the House Performing Arts Competition stand at:

Benilde - 29 points
Jaime - 57 points
Miguel - 10 points
Mutien - 20 points

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAMME

Lessons recommencing 8th March.

If your child is enrolled in instrumental music lessons, the lessons will recommence on site from 8th March following strict SOP's established since August 2020. Please ensure that your child brings their instrument on the correct day. Please check the timetables on the website and save this address for future reference..

[Term 2 Instrumental Music Timetables](#)

Instrumental Music Showcase

Many students have successfully continued with lessons online during the last couple of months and our students can be very grateful for effort and preparation both teachers and parents have made to support their learning continuing, so much so that we are preparing an Instrumental Music Showcase concert of recorded student performances which will provide opportunity for students involved in these lessons to demonstrate the developing skills and musicality.

Term 3 Instrumental Lessons - new enrolments close 19th March

We have an enviable group of Instrumental Staff who offer lessons and enrolments are open for lessons beginning in term 3.

[Instrumental Lesson sign up information and enrolment form](#)

Teacher Profile

Over the coming weeks we will profile a number of our teachers, we begin with **Jennifer Lim**, our Cello teacher.

A graduate of the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of the National University of Singapore (NUS), Jennifer is quickly gaining recognition as one of the most sought-after cellists in Malaysia. Jennifer is an adjunct lecturer at Sunway University and University Malaya and currently enjoys a varied freelance career in Kuala Lumpur. Jennifer also has a cello studio with students from the age of seven up till adults.

[Two videos of Jennifer Lim performing](#)

Jennifer was awarded a full scholarship for her four years tutelage in Singapore under renowned cellists Qin Li-Wei and Ng Pei-Sian. Her other mentors include Attila Pasztor, Elizabeth Tan, and Florian Antier.

An active freelance musician in Malaysia, Jennifer has performed with the National Symphony Orchestra, Virama Ensemble, BachFest Malaysia, RTM Orchestra, Selangor Symphony Orchestra, YinQi, and Kamerata Kuala Lumpur among many others. Other international orchestral engagements include performing with the Sichuan Symphony Orchestra of China and the Metropolitan Festival Orchestra of Singapore. Jennifer also enjoys a versatile career outside classical music and has performed for various Astro TV productions and worked with local artists such as Elvira Arul and Santosh Logandran.

STRAVA RUNNING UPDATE (After Week 14)

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

Miguel

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

Mutien

1. Cindy
2. Ven Chellam
3. Brian Reid (English Teacher)

Benilde

1. Joe Taylor (Humanities Teacher)
2. Siew Ying
3. Anna Ngooi

Jaime

1. Darrell Tan (Y12 Student)
2. Michaela Goodson
3. Kevin Boon Lee (Y13 Student)

Mutien

5031

Miguel

4839

Jaime

2921

Benilde

2488

"LET'S GET ACTIVE"

- ★ We're now going into *week 15* 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!

What is your goal for the Month of March?

#Marchmadness

Useful Links



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



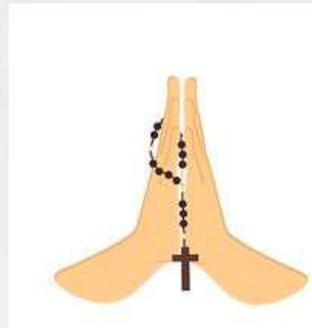
[HS Parent Calendar 2020/21](#)
[ES Parent calendar 2020/21](#)



[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 \(Schoolsbuddy\)](#)



If you need support, please email sjiim@tekgroup.my or call 0125537202

[School Bookshop](#)