

SJIIM Weekly Update

10th September 2021

Important Dates:

16th September Malaysia
Day (Public Holiday)

Upcoming Events:

14th Sept: ES Music Parent Info
Session

1st - 15th Sept:
HS Y7-13 Parent Information
Sessions

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ST JOSEPH'S INSTITUTION
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MALAYSIA
(TROPICANA PJ CAMPUS)

"Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve"



Dear SJIIM Families,

We hope you and your children are feeling happily settled back into the school routine! It has been challenging to start virtually. However, after having spent the last few weeks in classes across the Elementary School (and viewing High School classes from my vantage point as a parent), I can wholeheartedly say that we have much to be proud of in our school community!

Having been part of SJIIM since we opened in 2016, this is an exciting year for me! My very first class of St. Joseph's Year 6 students are currently completing their IGCSEs in Year 11. As I enjoyed last year's IGCSE graduation, I was already looking forward to this year's celebration. I have seen the school grow and evolve in such wonderful ways over the past 5 years and that is down to the people that make up this very special community. From a personal perspective, my children have grown up here - in Malaysia and at St. Joseph's. When we arrived, my youngest was in Year 2 and this year, for the first time, I no longer have any of my own children in the ES.

As a parent, I understand the challenges that these transitions bring, as well as how difficult it can be for all of us to work from home, whilst supporting our students. The school leadership team has been meeting with the PSG, our parent representatives, and individuals to garner feedback and constantly evolve and improve. We are always happy to hear from you!

I am so proud of how far our students have come in their technological savvy, as well as their willingness to take risks, try new things, and remain enthusiastic and optimistic through the challenges. Parents, you should congratulate yourselves - this is a tough time to be a parent, but we hope it has at least given you a greater window into your child's education and style as a learner.

At school, we started the year with our teacher training days, where staff received further training on Kagan Cooperative Learning Structures (from the UK), as well as from experts within our school, to help the continual improvement process for virtual learning. A Year 2 parent said to me yesterday, 'The virtual school lessons have just continued to get better over the last year! The teachers are doing a great job.' I would like to echo that, with my thanks, for all of the hard work that staff have dedicated so far this year.



My (virtual) door is always open, and I look forward to hearing from many of you in the coming months. Take care and stay safe!

Kind regards,
Stephanie Fedorowicz, Acting Deputy Principal (ES Leader)

Catholic Corner

This week we celebrate two very special dates in the Catholic calendar namely the feast day of Mother Teresa on September 5th and the birthday of Mother Mary on September 8th. We celebrate only three birthdays during the Church year, the birth of Jesus, the birth of Mary and the birth of John the Baptist. Mother Mary 's love is unconditional. Let us pray for her protection and intervention with the Lord.

Happy Birthday Mother Mary. We love you. Please pray for us.

We can honour Mother Teresa's life by continuing her legacy of helping the poor! With your family, do some research and see what you could do for your own community such as helping anyone you know who might be sick, collecting clothes for a local orphanage or charity etc. Mother Teresa was dedicated to helping the poorest of the poor, and encouraged all of us to do the same!

Below is a prayer that Mother Teresa prayed on a daily basis; it was one of her favourite prayers and is attributed to Blessed John Henry Newman.

Dear Jesus, help me to spread Thy fragrance everywhere I go.

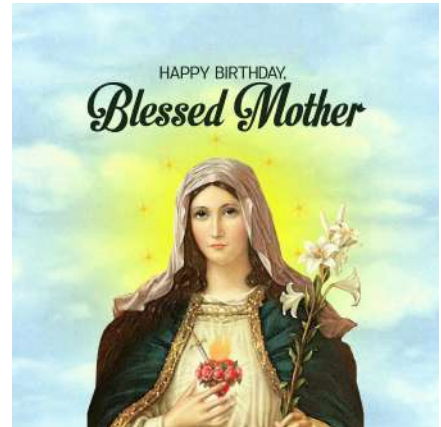
Flood my soul with Thy spirit and love.

Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly that all my life may only be a radiance of Thine.

Shine through me and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel Thy presence in my soul.

Let them look up and see no longer me but only Jesus.

Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine as you shine, so to shine as to be a light to others. Amen



Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing - Mother Teresa.

Teachers' profiles:

[Mr Matt Collins](#)
[Mrs Jenna Hollis](#)
[Ms Lee Wen](#)
[Ms Shalini Kerishnan](#)

Welcome to our new teachers

Now that everyone has gotten to know their own teachers, we would like to introduce our new staff to our wider school community. In the ES, we welcome Mr Matt Collins (PE), Mrs Jenna Hollis (Year 4), Ms Lee Wen (Nursery), and Ms Shalini Kerishnan (Year 2 Learning Assistant).

Book Shop Update

Since our last book shop update, exercise books were printed but the new stock quickly sold out. Exercise books are currently being reprinted. Please refrain from ordering additional copies of exercise books if your children have the books they need. Additionally if the books you need are sold out, please wait for them to be restocked instead of buying from other year groups. This will allow the families that have not had a chance to order their exercise books to have access to the books they need. The stock should arrive by the end of next week and the site will be updated accordingly. Again, thank you for your continued patience.



Parent Information Sessions

Thank you to all those who attended our Seesaw and Mandarin sessions this week. If you missed them, the presentation slides have been shared via Seesaw. Our next session, on **Tuesday 14th September at 12.30pm**, is about our Music programme, led by our Head of Whole School Music, Mr Dale Stacey. It includes information about our ethos, content and our wider Music offers. Meeting codes and details are on Seesaw.

Executive Functioning Skills

Executive function and self-regulation skills are the mental processes that enable us to plan, focus attention, remember instructions, and juggle multiple tasks successfully. Developing these skills with our children can help them become more independent and confident in their learning. Check out this [fun pack](#) of executive functioning skills challenges-what a perfect way to start the weekend!

For more information read this [article](#) published by Harvard Medical School

Tools of the Mind Video

HS Year group Info Sessions dates:

Year 8 with Ms Battle - 14.9.21 (Tue)

Year 9 with Mr Husain - 15.9.21 Wed)

Head of Year Information Sessions

Please check the parent calendar for the dates for these sessions. Heads of Year will send an invitation, along with the codes in advance of the meeting. The session, which looks ahead to the coming academic year, provides parents with important information and guidance on how to support their child.

World Scholar's Cup: Expression of Interest

Mr Cairns is inviting students to express their interest in resuming WSC virtual debate training by completing [this form](#) by Monday 13th September.

Joining Mr Cairns in coaching our team, will be **Shinz Jo** and **Arjun** - two very experienced debaters who joined Year 12 this year. So far, **38 students** have signed up to take part.

Whilst we do not know when the next regional round in Malaysia might be, we want to keep our skills sharp for when the competition eventually returns.

Whether you are a WSC veteran or new to the experience, this is an opportunity for you to be part of our team. Please complete the form to express an interest in commencing debate practice and, depending on demand, we will look to set up weekly or fortnightly WSC virtual debating sessions on a Wednesday after school.

Character and Wellbeing programme resumes next week

During tutor time on Wednesdays, our Character and Wellbeing programme will start again from next week. In these weekly sessions, teachers deliver an engaging curriculum which explores virtues and practical wisdom, wellbeing, healthy relationships, metacognition and study skills, healthy lifestyles and current global events.





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



[HS Parent Calendar 21/22](#)
[ES Parent calendar 21/22](#)



[WS Teaching Staff Email 21/22](#)



Term 1 AY 21/22
meal charges



[Catholic Corner 20/21](#)
[Catholic Corner 21/22](#)



[PSG Update 20/21](#)



[Music Website](#)



[Sports Website](#)



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



University & Careers
Counsellor (TBA)



[Guide CCA \(Schoolsbuddy\)](#)



If you need support, please email sjiim@tekgroup.my or call 0125537202 (Ms Kosmita)

[SJIM Book Order](#)
[HS Booklist 2021/2022](#)
[ES Booklist 2021/22](#)