

SJIIM Weekly Update

24th September 2021

Important Dates:

30th Sept 3.30pm Wellbeing workshop: Supporting student wellbeing when they return to school (ES & HS)

2nd Oct - Virtual Open Day
9th/11th Oct - Parent Teacher Conferences

Upcoming Events:

HS CAT4 :

10K - 27 Sept

10L - 28 Sept

10M - 30 Sept

10Y - 1 Oct

Enquiries:

T | +603 8605 3605

E | enquiries@sjj-international.edu.my

W | sjj-international.edu.my



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

"Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve"

Message from Mrs. Nicole Pantry (Elementary School Asst. Principal - Academic Profile)



Last year was a challenging time to decide to move across the world, but this adventure was something my family was ready to take on together. We were optimistic! Although the challenges of forging friendships during a time of limited social interaction has been a hurdle, it has brought my family closer together. The recent positive progress and the ongoing support of our Lasallian community keeps us ever hopeful.

Lifted restriction has allowed us to get out hiking and to enjoy nature. I love the outdoors! I have hiked and skied in North America, South America and Europe. Now it is time to explore Asia. The ocean is very close to my heart and I am boat's woman! One of my goals has been to cross the Atlantic Ocean. Being an educator has made that goal difficult to achieve because crossings take place in October (autumn) and May (spring), to avoid hurricane season in the summer months, however that is my time off. I'll get there eventually, but it has been exciting to investigate options for sailing some islands in the South China Sea. I hope it will turn into a summer adventure.

For now I am so happy to be back in school with the children, albeit virtually. Although school leadership slowly draws you out of the classroom, it is so important to stay connected to the students and teachers. The Leadership Team has been visiting classrooms regularly and I am delivering daily phonics lessons in EY and STEM in Y3 and Y5. A subject that particularly interests me is science: the scientific process of questioning, researching, testing, evaluating and questioning again. The learning process is always around us if we are inquisitive. This is one of the reasons, among many others, that I am an educator.

It has been a pleasure to speak with some parents during orientation presentations, coffee mornings and other virtual meeting forums. As we are slowly allowed to return to physical school, I look forward to being able to say hello at drop off and pick up. I hope this sharing allows you to learn a little more about me and I hope to continue to make connections and grow in our school community.

Catholic Children's Corner

This week we have dedicated Catholic corner to our younger children with activities that they can easily do at home. We hope our little Lasallians enjoy.



This week, I will follow Jesus by...

Write your commitment above then color in the footprint each day you take that step to walk with Jesus!



Unscramble the words to solve the puzzle!

- FERVE ₆
- MOSNI ₅
- DESMON ₆
- UERDC ₅
- SASSEIDIE ₉
- NASHD ₅
- MELA ₄





Message from the Parent Support Group (PSG)

Hello to all SJIIM parents and a warm welcome to new parents who have joined the SJIIM family recently.

For this year, it has been mutually agreed upon by the Senior Leadership Team and the PSG 2021 committee members that the PSG will work together as a team, sharing responsibility, till we settle down to near normal days at school.

We are currently a group of 8 parents and would love to have many more onboard this committee. If you'd like to join us, please write to us at psg@sjj-international.edu.my

Student Wellbeing: Supporting students when they return to school

According to UNESCO, Since May 2020, students in Malaysia have experienced over 48 weeks of full or partial school closures. How has this prolonged period affected our students at such an important stage in their lives and how will they cope with the readjustment back to school?

Whilst the students will no doubt be looking forward to seeing their teachers and friends, we understand the disruption this experience has brought to the lives of our children and, when they return to school, we need to be able to support them effectively.

On **Thursday 30th September at 3:30pm**, we invite parents to attend a session on student wellbeing entitled, 'Supporting students when they return to school'. The session, aimed at parents of students from Year 4 upwards, will be delivered by Gary Cairns and Andy Bayfield from the High School and Steph Fedorowicz and Sahana Fried from the Elementary School.

In the session, our panel will look at the impact of Covid-19 and prolonged time away from school, the context within Malaysia and how staff are trained to spot possible indicators of anxiety, separation anxiety and traumatic stress amongst other things.

There will also be opportunities for discussion in breakout rooms with our staff and each other. To attend the session please complete this [form](#) and we will send you the Zoom link.

We hope to see you at the workshop.

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"Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve"

SEPTEMBER 30 Thursday
3.30pm

For SJIIM Parents only

Student Wellbeing:
Supporting students when they return to school

The session will involve looking at the impact of Covid-19 and prolonged time away from school on young people, the context within Malaysia and indicators of anxiety, separation anxiety and traumatic stress.

The panel of speakers will also share with parents how the school will support students wellbeing and mental health when they return to school.

Panel of speakers:

- Gary Cairns**
Deputy Head of School
(Beyron Frisco High School)
- Stephanie Fedorowicz**
Acting Deputy Principal
(Elementary School)
- Andy Bayfield**
Assistant Principal
(Character Development
And Well Being (High School))
- Sahana Fried**
Pastoral Leader

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CAT4 Assessment test - Year 10

Next week, Year 10 students will be taking their Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4). This is an assessment of ability and not attainment, so no pre-learning or preparation is necessary. Your child should not feel worried about taking CAT4 as prior knowledge is not required to complete it. The results will be used together with our internal assessment practices, to inform teachers about the strengths and development areas of each student.



IB 5-Year Evaluation Visit - 27 to 29 September

The IB conducts an evaluation of every school that offers one of its programmes once every 5 years via a three day visit. Due to our current circumstances, this visit will take place at SJIIM online. The focus of the visit is to evaluate the school's own self-evaluation against a set of "standards and practices" that are expected to be followed and developed in every IB school.

The school has been busily preparing for this evaluation visit for the past year via a great number of meetings and discussions between teachers and members of the High School senior leadership team, as well as through surveying parents and students. The outcomes of the evaluation will include commendations for the areas in which we are excelling in our implementation of the IB Diploma Programme, as well as suggestions for our continued development of this.



The final evaluation "visit" will take place next week from Monday to Wednesday. There are a number of teachers involved in this visit, who will be meeting with the team from the IB over these three days. Please excuse these teachers if you find that your child has a larger number of cover lessons than would normally take place during these three days. We will ensure, as always, that cover teachers will meet children at the start of each lesson on a video call to ensure that they understand the work that they need to complete and will be available to them for assistance throughout the lesson following that call.



Returning to school - change in lunchtime

From Monday October 4th, there will be a slight shift in the timings of the school day, with lunchtime beginning at 12:30pm and ending at 1:20pm, and tutor time beginning at 1:20pm and finishing at 1:50pm. This is to allow more time for ES and HS students who are related to spend time together whilst working from home, as well as to break the chain of screen time for students and teachers. This will be communicated to students shortly. When we eventually have the whole school back physically, we will review this again in light of SOPS and matters of space. I hope you support and understand this change.



[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 \(For ES\)](#)



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