

SJIIM Weekly Update

8th October 2021

Important Dates:

9th/11th Oct - Parent Teacher Conferences

Upcoming Events:

14th Oct: Y1-3 Parent session: Supporting your Child's Return to School

26th Oct : Parent Coffee Session

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 Mr Chris Woodhams (The Dean: ES Assessment, Learning Technology & Specialist Subjects)

I have always been motivated in my career by the idea of public service. Before teaching, I worked in a government agency in London. It was there that my interest in education began. I became involved in a new government initiative called 'Every Child Matters'. I was on the pathway towards a public sector consultancy career, but this child centred initiative inspired me to change my direction. More and more, I found that I wanted to get to the 'front line', and have a positive daily impact in children's lives; teaching was the answer.

I have since enjoyed a wonderful career in education and I find real satisfaction in knowing that everything I do at work is about achieving the best outcomes for children; academically, socially and spiritually.

Teaching internationally was also something that I aspired to early on, and the decision to move to an international school in Shanghai, led to meeting my wife, who was also starting at the school. After Shanghai, we moved to a school in Penang, and spent three very happy years there. I am always proud to say our son Finley was born in Penang (and he is too!).

Our time in Penang gave us a strong connection to Malaysia; it's people and food probably being the things we like most! After a few years reconnecting with family, friends and the education system back in the UK, we welcomed the chance to return to Malaysia and join St Joseph's.

What set St Joseph's apart from other international schools was the genuine values based culture and emphasis on character development. This was clear when we met the Founding Elementary School Principal, Mrs Quigley in London. She understood the high standards (and high stakes) of schools in the UK but was creating a school where child wellbeing and character development were prioritised and underpinned everything the school was about. This echoed with my hopes and aspirations for my next school, as a teacher and as a parent.

Away from work, sport and outdoor activities are a big part of my life. I've played rugby, since I was a teenager and I'm really happy to be part of a playing community here in KL. The camaraderie and friendships I've enjoyed through this sport are things I really value, and now, playing veterans rugby, I have the added bonus of being one of the youngest on the team!



Catholic Corner

A big thank you to Mr. Dennis Tang who led our SJIIM Catholic community in a [Rosary prayer meditation](#) on Thursday October 7th. It was lovely to be joined by parents, students and staff members. During the session, we prayed for the continued safety of our school community as well as for our own personal intentions.



Being part of this Rosary meditation really helped many of us to feel connected as a community and to God. With the many restrictions and rules that stops us from attending weekly Mass, please read below some other ways that we can feel connected to God.

7 Simple Ways To Connect With God Without Going To Church

1. Slow down. ...
2. Meditate or pray. ...
3. Enjoy the outdoors. ...
4. Stay open to finding God within yourself. ...
5. Look for God in each person you meet. ...
6. Stay open to experiencing the Spirit in unexpected places. ...
7. Find music that touches your soul.

We are pleased to announce that after the half term break, we will be starting a Catholic club (CC) every Friday from 12:30-1pm for students in Year 3 - Year 6.

We would love to see as many students as possible join. These sessions will generally involve some prayer, hymns, an art or craft activity and a short closing reflection task. Class teachers will share the Zoom details in their weekly timetables closer to the time.





BREATH NEW LIFE INTO YOUR PRE-LOVED ITEMS

Saint John Baptiste de La Salle revolutionised education for the poor and needy around the world. This year, SJIIM is collaborating with the St Vincent de Paul Society in Malaysia to donate much-needed pre-loved educational items to B40 and migrant families from Myanmar.

We're looking for

Educational books, reading books, stationery, copybooks, colours, learning aids, as well as preloved functioning ipads, tablets, or laptops (all in good condition)

Drive Dates

11-15 October 2021; and
25-29 October 2021

Drop Off

At the Main Foyer of School or the ES Office

Thank you for your generosity. Your kindness will help bring education opportunities to those in need.



ST JOSEPH'S INSTITUTION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MALAYSIA

MANAGING DIFFICULT CONVERSATION AT HOME

PARENT COFFEE SESSION

26 OCT 12PM

Join Sahana for this practical workshop all about Spiritual Companioning

Parent Coffee Session - Managing Difficult Conversations at home

Tuesday 26th October at 12 pm

[Click for zoom link](#)

We invite you to [sign up](#) and join our coffee morning to share your experiences and to connect as parents.

Mrs Fried, our Virtues Leader will share how we can use the Companioning Strategy to facilitate discussions with our children in a respectful manner and find solutions together.



International Week

We are looking forward to celebrating our home, host heritage, as well as other countries around the world next week for our 6th annual International Week. Friday will be international dress up day, with students wearing traditional dress or the dress of their focus country. As a unity activity, during lessons, all year groups will work on a special hat to represent the country they studied throughout the week, culminating in fun class hat photos on Friday. Thank you to all the parents that shared artifact videos. There is lots of fun and learning in store!

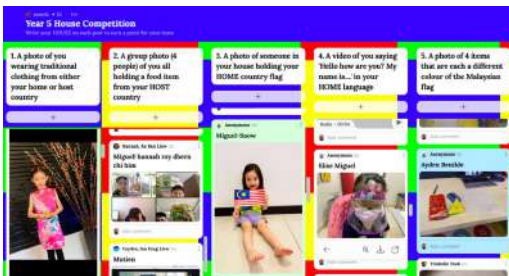


Parent Teacher Conferences- no Mandarin classes on Monday

Our class and Mandarin teachers are looking forward to meeting you on Saturday. Meetings take place on our Meet the Teacher platform. Should you need a reminder of how to use the system, please watch this [video](#). We advise logging in and being ready a few minutes before your allotted time. If you have any technical difficulties when signing in, please email:

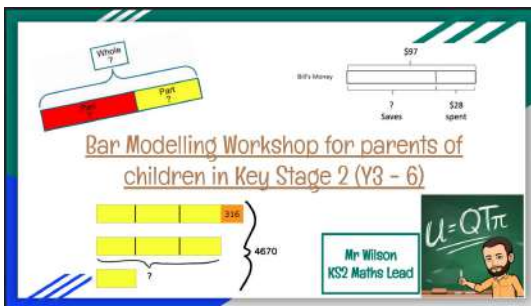
helpdesk@sjj-international.edu.my.

As Mandarin Parent Teacher Conferences are also taking place on **Monday 11th October**, there will be **no Mandarin lessons** that day. Class teachers will replace these with another subject lesson on the timetable.



House Captains and House Scavenger Hunt Results

Elections have taken place in all classes over the last week and it is a pleasure to announce that our new House Captains for this year are: Aayla and Nathaniel for Benilde, Xiao Li and Svend for Jaime, Shawn and Ayleen for Miguel and Avi and Vashinie for Mutien. Congratulations to these children and thank you to all the applicants in the confidence and courage they have shown in their applications. Our House competition also started today with our House Scavenger Hunt - it was a winning start for... Benilde!



Bar Modeling Parent Information Session

The purpose of this session, for Key Stage 2 parents (Y3-Y6), is to showcase the many benefits of our bar modelling approach here at SJIIM. We will share how we use modelling across Key Stage 2, work through example questions and better prepare parents to support students at home with their work. The session will be held at **3pm on Tuesday October 12th**. Please find the meeting information below:

Zoom code - 832 9372 9735

Password - Math

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83293729735?pwd=Z1VIMTB4RENQeTJmMIM4eXREcmIGQT09>



Parent Teacher Meetings - 9 October

The PTMs on 9 October will be an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers and to discuss their children's progress together. Further details and reminders about how to set appointments for these meetings and to log into the 'Meet the Teacher' system were sent out last Friday.

Please note that these appointments will be 5 minutes each, and that the Meet the Teacher platform automatically finishes each call at the end of that time. Although this does not leave an opportunity for a developed conversation, this timing has been arranged to enable sufficient availability for all parents to be able to speak to each of their children's teachers on that day. Parents are always welcome to request a further meeting in the weeks following these meetings, in case they have further questions or concerns.

It is very important to use the same login details for Meet the Teacher on Saturday to access these PTMs that parents have used to set the appointments. This will ensure that parents are able to connect to these calls.

Kangaroo Maths Competition 2021

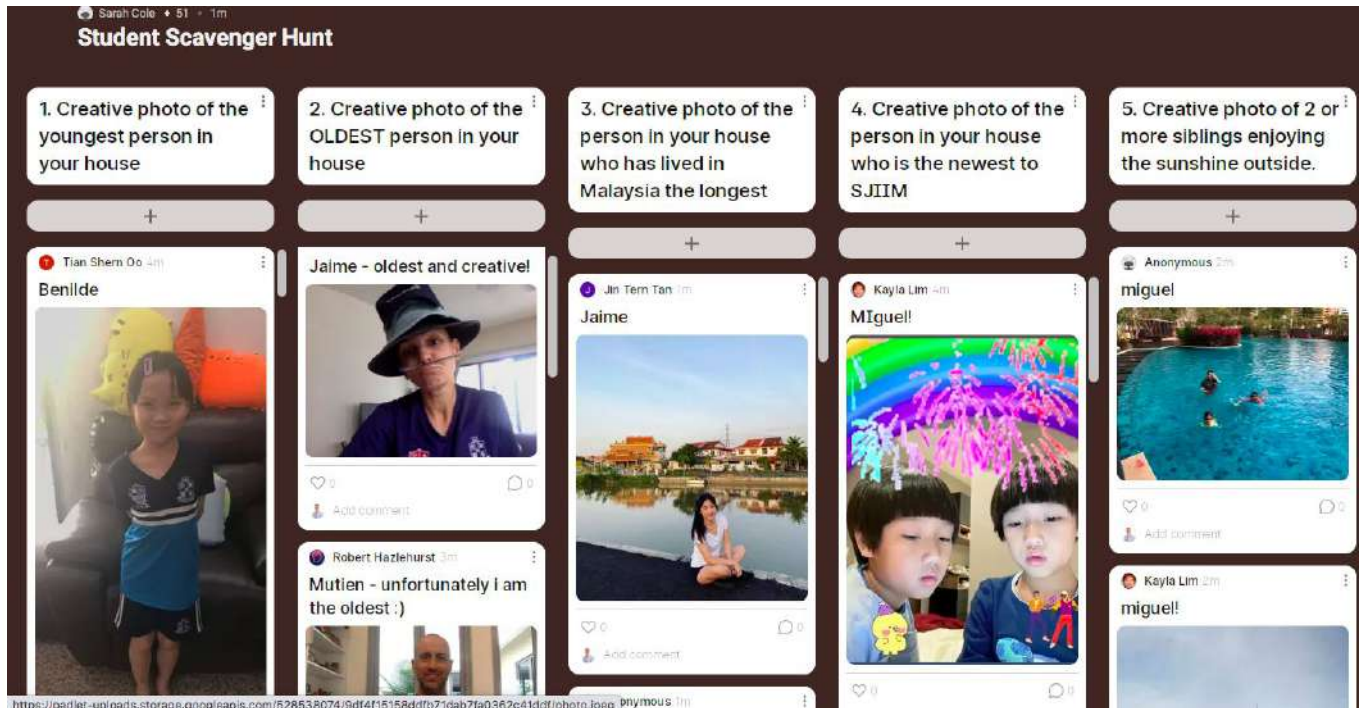
Despite the many challenges of MCO 3.0, many of our students sat the Kangaroo Maths Competition from home at the end of last academic year and we are extremely proud of our students for the determination shown in sitting these challenging maths papers in such challenging times.

At the end of September the results were officially announced and we are excited to share with you how well our students have done. We had 59 students achieve an Honorable mention, placing them in the top 50% of candidates in their age group.

We also have the pleasure of announcing a number of medalists from our school. The top 10% of participants from each category are the MEDALISTS. From here, the top 1.3% will receive a **GOLD MEDAL**, the next 3.3% will receive a **SILVER MEDAL** and the remaining 5.4% will receive a **BRONZE MEDAL**.

The following [table](#) shows which students achieved honorable mentions and medals. We are extremely proud of all of our students and look forward to carrying on this success when we enter the Kangaroo Maths Competition again this academic year.





Scavenger Hunt

Friday afternoon saw the first house event of 2021/22, with nearly 200 students from Years 7-9 being led by their newly elected House Captains and Heads of Houses to take part in an online Scavenger Hunt. Working of one padlet where students posted their responses, The Hunt saw students from across those year groups virtually collaborating and thinking creatively to complete a range of tasks; from taking a photo of the youngest person in their house to collecting food items from their home which would constitute a Malaysian dish, all from the safety of their own bedrooms! It was a great way to build a sense of community amongst our students and teachers and launch our house events for the year. Concurrently, our students in Y10-13 worked within their year teams on activities centred around the transition back to either physical school or on Hybrid. We are hoping to run a Scavenger Hunt for Y10-13 after the half term break.

We would also like to thank all of the students who applied for house positions and last week saw an online application process take place, with students submitting video speeches before their housemates voted for their new Junior Vice Captains, Senior Vice Captain and House Captains. We commend all students who had the courage to apply; we had over 45 applicants from across the school. The winners were:

	Miguel	Benilde	Jamie	Mutien
House Captain	Syafik Khan	Allison Yee	Meagan Motha	Jaslyn Leong
Senior Vice Captain	Abigail Lee	Franco Becker	Tae San	Victoria Choo
Junior Vice Captain	Isaac Liew, Jaden Tan	Isabelle Tan, Tan Shun Yu	Fong Shir-Ree, Alexa Hayley Teo	Daniel Lee, Manaal Atiq



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



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



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



[HS October menu](#)
Term 1 AY 21/22
meal charges



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



[PSG Update 20/21](#)



[Music Website](#)



[Sports Website](#)



[Epulse \(Top up credit\)](#)
[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](#)