

SJIIM Weekly Update

18th February 2022

Important Dates:

Cancelled : 24th Feb - HS
SLC/ PTM Y7-10&12 in school
10th March - School Make Up
Photos

Upcoming Events:

22nd Feb - HS Sixth Form
virtual launch
24th Feb, 9am - EY and ES
Open morning
23rd Feb - HS SLC/PTM Zoom
Info session for Y7-10&12
24th Feb - HS Y11/13 PTM
online

Enquiries:

T | +603 8605 3605

E | enquiries@sj-international.edu.my

W | sj-international.edu.my



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

"Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve"

Message from Ms. Sarah Sousa, Humanities Teacher and Head of Year 7

Teaching adds value to my life, it is a passion which allows me to continuously grow and develop as an individual, acting as a vocation which allows me to continuously reflect, discover and flourish.

I am lucky enough to have been pursuing this passion for 9 years; 1,440 days and counting. Every life event, every experience I have gone through, every hiccup and happy tear shed, has helped me to better develop myself as an individual and therefore emulate those teachings, understandings and practices back into my classroom - always me to always improve upon and grow within my abilities as an educator.

From a young age, I knew I wanted to become a teacher. I always look back on this fact and consider myself quite lucky to have not only followed through with this dream, but to more importantly, genuinely enjoyed the outcome!

To help my youthful aspirations take form, I attended McMaster University, in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada (my hometown). I studied here for 4 years and gained my Honors Bachelor of Arts, majoring in History and minoring in Geography and Religious Studies. After garnering my B of A, I went to the University of Toronto (located in Toronto, Ontario) to complete my Bachelors of Education - majoring in Intermediate/Senior Studies with qualifications to teach History and Religious Studies. Education is of the utmost importance to me, as I have a thirst to constantly learn and upgrade my skill sets. Since graduating from U of T, I have worked towards earning three more Additional Teaching Qualifications, one for Senior Social Studies, one for Geography and one for EAL education.

Sadly, my aspirations to become an educator came to a screeching halt after finishing my degree at U of T. During this time, Ontario, Canada had a huge surplus of educators. Too many new teachers were graduating from University and not enough employed teachers were retiring. After a year of trying to find a job at home, I decided to try my luck abroad and applied for a few random international teaching job posts I found online. Little did I know how much this one action would forever change not only my career path, but my life in general.



At the age of 23 I accepted a job offer in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, where I would spend the next 6 years teaching and living abroad. I loved my time in the UAE. Here I had the opportunity to meet some amazing people and most importantly teach many exceptional students, who to this day have deeply impacted my career and my motivations behind teaching! After completing my sixth year in the UAE, I wanted to take on a new adventure and see what the rest of the world had to offer. I applied to various schools in Asia and was lucky enough to receive a job offer at St Joseph's International School in Malaysia, where I have been working as a KS3 Humanities and High School History teacher for the last 3 years.

Throughout my teaching career, I have also been fortunate enough to gain experience and grow within the fields of Student Well-being, Student Services and Pastoral Care. I have worked under many different titles, and have learned many different approaches. Regardless of the title, working within the field of Student Well-being has added greater purpose to my journey as an educator. I love supporting students academically within the classroom, but I know it is working with students pastorally, helping them navigate their emotions, bettering their personal understandings and guiding them to stand up for their own needs and wants, which has added the ultimate layer of satisfaction to my journey. Currently I am applying to complete a Masters in Educational Psychology, which I hope will only help to further my quest for knowledge and solidify myself within the world of Student Well-being.



Catholic Corner

We are super excited to have had our first Catholic CCA for this school year. Children from Year 1 to Year 5 joined for today's session. Our theme of the lesson was Guardian Angels. During our time together, the children shared their understanding of guardian angels and we discussed how the angels protect us and keep us safe. We then dedicated some prayer time to our guardian angels and finally we finished by making our very own angel crafts. It was lovely to be back together and we look forward to building on these sessions for the remainder of the term.



Congratulations to our wonderful Miss Eunice and her husband, Nicholas on their wedding day which took place on Saturday the 12th February. Wishing you both the very best of luck today and everyday!



Yearbook 2022 Announcement

Yearbook preparations are already underway! This year we thought it would be lovely to invite any budding writers to join us in building our Community Reflections segment. If you would like to volunteer, you will be required to write a short paragraph about your family's experience as part of our community. The word limit is 150 words and you will need to share a family photo too. Please send in your write-ups to: yearbook@sji-international.edu.my

Kindly title your document with your family name and leave it in editable format, not in a PDF format.

Deadline 20th March 4pm



School Make Up Photos-Thursday 10th March

Our photographers will be back in school on Thursday 10th March to ensure that everyone has had their school photo taken.

If you prefer to visit the studio to have your child's photo taken, you can make an appointment using this [link](#).

The deadline for completion of all class photos is 13th March. After this date we cannot guarantee that your child's photo will be included in their class photo. If you have any queries please contact Jordan at jordantan@fotorex.com



Empathy Week Years 6-13

A reminder that this is taking place next week and the parent session will be taking place on Wednesday 23rd February at 9am. If you still wish to attend, please RSVP to abayfield@sji-international.edu.my



Open Morning

Our Early Years and Elementary School Open Morning will be held at 9 am, Thursday, 24th February 2022. Please help us share the event details with any of your friends who are looking for a top international school for their child. Prospective parents will have the opportunity to meet and speak to the leadership team, tour the campus and learn more about the distinct advantages that stand at the heart of our Lasallian education.

Prospective parents can register for the event here: <https://www.sji-international.edu.my/open-morning/>



Book Week Dress Up Day-Friday 4th March

We are so excited to celebrate Book Week this year (28th Feb-4th March). This year the fantastic Friday dress up theme will be **Courageous Characters**. Let your creativity take over and have fun picking a courageous character costume for your child. During Book Week 2022, we will have our usual favourites; DEAR time, Drama fun, Extreme Readers, and of course, Masked Readers!

SRC Announcement

We would like to congratulate **all** of the courageous students who put themselves forward to represent their class as an SRC leader! After votes were tallied, here are this year's SRC representatives.

(Drum roll please...)

Congratulations to:

Yr 1-Jacob and Phoebe

Yr 2-Xinny, Mia, Samaira and Tia

Yr 3-Emily, Shaqiera and Kara

Yr 4-Finley, Ellora, Jing Le Neo and Emma Aman

Yr 5-Isabelle, Hyojae, Riti, Amber, Lily and Jaylea

Yr 6-Kyra, Ayleen, Estelle and Shawn Wong



Celebration Assemblies

This week we have introduced a brand new feature to our assemblies called, Celebration Time!

We kick started our Celebration Assemblies with Class S students. Well done to everyone for displaying excellent skills in projecting your voices, managing your pace and presenting your work to an audience with such confidence and joy. We look forward to watching our friends in Class J next week!



Deputy Principal of Elementary
School:

sfedorowicz@sj-international.edu.my

Nurse Elaine:

elainetan@sj-international.edu.my

Nurse Kasturi:

kasturi@sj-international.edu.my

Covid communications with school

In an effort to ensure the safety of our community, families are advised to email us with any new information or updates related to covid matters promptly, in or out of school working hours. We appreciate everyone's efforts and transparency to keep our whole school community safe.

2's day



Tuesday, 22/2/22, 2's day. On Tuesday next week we will be having a celebration of maths across the school. Students will be representing their houses in maths activities in class and teachers will also be joining in with the competitions in a "countdown" style challenge at lunchtime.

There is also an opportunity for students in all year groups to earn house points by completing our "Wonderful ways of making 2" [challenge](#). Students in High School are encouraged to do this this weekend from home, whilst students in the elementary school will be challenging themselves to be creative with this in class on Tuesday.

As we are competing for our houses on Tuesday, students are invited to wear their house colours.

Puzzle of the week



Puzzle of the week is back. After the first few days of competition, SJIIM sit in the top 10 for schools around the world. It would be great if we could climb a little higher this weekend.

All members of our school community (including parents) are encouraged to get involved by registering and entering on the competition [website](#). The first puzzle is below and is available until Sunday.

A padlock has a 4 digit key code.

All 4 digits in the key code are different.

6	0	3	8
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Has two correct digits, both in the correct position.



3	5	1	9
---	---	---	---

Has no correct digits.

7	3	6	2
---	---	---	---

Has one correct digit but it's in the wrong position.

5	1	2	0
---	---	---	---

Has two correct digits but neither of them are in the correct position.

What is the key code for the padlock?



The SJIM Sixth Form 2023

Parents with children in Years 10 and 9 are invited to join us for a virtual launch of our exciting plans for Year 12 from August/September 2023.

The event will be held via Zoom at 5pm on Tuesday 22nd February. A follow up event will take place to enable parents with children in other year groups to find out more about our plans for our Sixth Form.

We are sure that this new development will provide students and parents with even greater choice about post-16 pathways to university.

Please email Syu in the HS Office for the Zoom link stating the name and class of your child. The email is hsyuadah@sjj-international.edu.my



Parent Teacher Meetings (Years 11 to 13), Thursday, 24th Feb **FURTHER UPDATE**



An email was sent to all parents in Year 11 and Year 13 yesterday with details about the parent teacher meetings next Thursday, 24 February from 1:50pm to 3:10pm. The Meet the Teacher system will be open for parents to make appointments from 4pm today until 1pm on Tuesday. Instructions on how to sign up for these can be found [here](#) and in the email sent out yesterday.

In order for those teachers of Year 11 and Year 13 to be available for the PTMs with parents that afternoon, we have created some special supervised activities for students in school in Years 7 to 10 on that day.



Year 7 and Year 8: Dodgeball tournament
Year 9: Screening of the film adaptation of *The Lord of the Flies* (the novel they are studying in English)
Year 10: An introduction to the novel *The Purple Hibiscus* (their next IGCSE text for English Literature)

Students in Years 11, 12 and 13 will be given an additional study lesson that afternoon during Periods 7 and 8 (from 1.50pm to 3.10pm). They will be allowed to go home at 12.30pm with parent permission via the Google absence form.



[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 Term 2 menu](#)
[ES Feb menu & Mar menu](#)



[Catholic Corner 21/22](#)



[PSG Update 21/22](#)



[Music Website](#)



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[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](#)
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