

# SJIIM Weekly Update

4th March 2022

## Important Dates:

9th Mar, 4pm - IGCSE Virtual parent briefing

9th Mar - Y3&4 PTC

10th Mar - School Make Up

Photos

## Upcoming Events:

13th Mar - Open Day

## Enquiries:

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

*"Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve"*

### **Message from Mr. Majid Hussain, PE teacher and Head of Year 9**

Getting into teaching was the best accident that ever happened! I left Leeds Metropolitan University at the age of 21, having completed my Bachelors in Sports and Exercise Science. I was a little bit lost with what I wanted to do as a career. However, one thing I was sure of was that I wanted to take a year out traveling before I did start any career. I had to save before I could do that, so I had three jobs (teaching assistant, personal trainer and a referee) and saved hard for a year. I traveled for a whole year, backpacking through parts of Central Asia and South East Asia. I even visited Malaysia, back in 2010.

I came back to my home city, Sheffield, UK, where I have lived for the first 25 years of my life and it was clear to me then, after being a teaching assistant for the Special Educational Needs department, that teaching was for me. I had great enjoyment and purpose from teaching, but also from traveling, and from my experiences, I knew it was possible to do both. As soon as I finished my PGCE at Sheffield Hallam University, an opportunity arose where I could work at Fairview International School, Kuala Lumpur, as a PYP and MYP PE teacher, whilst completing my Masters in Education with Sheffield Hallam University and I have never looked back since.

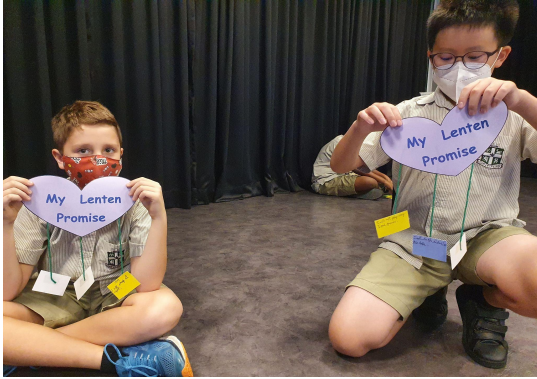
I moved to Cairo, Egypt, in 2016, where I worked at Cairo English School for 3 years, as the Director of Sports. Egypt was wonderful. As you can imagine, the historical sights all over Egypt are something else, but also the culture and the people, really made you feel part of something special. In 2019, I returned to Malaysia and that is where I started my journey at SJIIM. A school that I am proud to be a part of. I feel my role as a PE teacher and the Head of Year 9, allows me to support these students with skills and experiences that will hopefully be lifelong and meaningful.

Malaysia will always have a special place in my heart. I got married to my wife here and both my daughters were born here. My main love for Malaysia is the diversity. The diversity of culture, religion, people, food etc. but the fact that I can be in my shorts and t-shirt every day is a major plus for me. In my spare time, sports and exercise are still a huge part of my life (football, tennis, Thai boxing, cycling, weight training, hiking) and I am a big fan of listening to a variety of audiobooks and podcasts.



## Catholic Corner

This week we celebrated both our elementary and high school lenten services. It was wonderful that Brother Felipe was able to join for both sessions. During each service our students were given time to think about the many sacrifices that Jesus made and about how they will prepare themselves for the Lenten season.



## 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](mailto:jordantan@fotorex.com)



## Work Packs & Attendance

As you will be aware, class teachers do prepare work packs for students that are at home due to Covid-quarantine requirements. We want to remind parents that this work is not set for students who are ill. If students are unwell, we would like them to rest at home, so that they are ready to get back to school as soon as possible. Teachers will work hard to get the students caught up once they return. Also, we would like to encourage parents to use the [attendance form](#) if they know their child will be absent or is ill.



## PTCs and CCA Reminder

Just a reminder that Parent Teacher Conferences begin next week on 9th March. If you haven't already signed up for an appointment, please visit [Meet the Teacher](#). Also, CCAs on Wednesday will NOT be running, as teachers will be meeting parents. The second session for meeting Class Teachers will be on Monday 14th March. Language Teacher Consultations (Bahasa & Mandarin) will be on Friday, 18th March.



## Book Week

What a wonderful week it has been! The culmination of our World Book Day festivities was a costume parade held on the field this morning with the whole of the Early Years and the Elementary School. Ms Pardo and Mr Wilson MC'd our parade and it was such a joy seeing the children celebrate their favourite book characters. We had visitors from the magical world of Hogwarts, the Land of Stories, fairy tales, outer space and even the world of Manga!

All week students were absorbed in book-related activities - from mystery storytelling to character focussed art activities. Each class had a special visit from the 'book fairy' as well. Ask your child to tell you about their favourite event.

A big thank you to our English curriculum leaders, Ms Abbie O'Neil and Mrs Hannah Woodhams for organising this special week and leading a special book week assembly.



## IGCSE parent update and revision tips session



With the IGCSE exams just under 2 months away, it is clear that Year 11 are working hard on their revision. Now is a good time to update you all how we can all work together to support the students in their preparation, give you a few more logistical exam details, and share some tips for successful revision.

To do this we will be holding a briefing on **Wednesday 9th March at 4pm**. The session will include:

- Study leave arrangements (including revision sessions during study leave)
- Full centre supervision
- Revision strategies and tips
- Advice on managing stress in the upcoming weeks



## Hunger Knows No Barriers Week

Year 11 are launching their annual service project on Monday, 7th March. They will be handing out boxes to every HS tutor group to be filled with a list of essential items. If you would like to support their project then please remind your child to bring in their food box item. Year 11 students are also collecting sponsorships in preparation for the 6 hour run that they have organised, 'Steps 2 End Hunger' on Friday 11th March. This project is in collaboration with Kechara Soup Kitchen. The year 11 students aim to provide much needed funds, essential food bank items and are also giving their time over the next few weekends.



## Regional Southeast Asia Winner of the HCGEC

A big CONGRATULATIONS to our very own Evelyn Teng (9L), who made it all the way through to win the regional round of The Harvard Global Essay Competition (HCGEC), representing Southeast Asia. She was up against some difficult competition and was one of the youngest regional winners. What an achievement!



## World Book Week

This week saw our annual celebrations of reading and literature during World Book Week! Activities took place throughout the Elementary and High School, with teachers working collaboratively to create some exciting activities to inspire our students to feel excited about reading.

This year's theme was COURAGE, allowing students to explore the theme of resilience and bravery in literature after demonstrating their own (so very impressively!) during the past two difficult years of the pandemic.



As well as some fantastic English and tutor time activities throughout the week, classes also took part in the Extreme Reader Challenge, where students and staff submitted photos of themselves reading a book in a weird and wonderful place or position. The 'Drop Everything And Read' initiative also proved popular, with staff reading their favourite extracts to their classes when they heard the daily alarm. Students also submitted 'Masked Reader' videos in disguise, to see if their classmates could guess who was reading what.

High School Drama students took the opportunity to perform dramatic and 'courageous' readings to Elementary classes, and Elementary students even took part in a special World Book Week treasure hunt.



The week culminated in a fabulous celebration of literature, allowing students to wear book-themed fancy dress costumes in an impressive (but socially distanced) parade. The 'Book Swap Bonanza' also took place throughout the day, allowing students to trade and swap books with each other.

Finally, the week came to a close with Year 6,7 and 8 hearing from popular local author Malcolm Mejin, who talked about his own journey to become a writer. Students had a chance to meet him, buy his books and get his autograph.



"A child who reads will be an adult who thinks" (Proverb). We certainly hope this week's events have given our students lots to think about!





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



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[ES Parent calendar 21/22](#)



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



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



[Catholic Corner 21/22](#)



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