

SJIS Weekly Update

6th September 2024

Important Dates:

9 Sept - CCA Term 1 starts
16 & 17 Sept - public holiday
(Malaysia Day & Prophet
Muhammad's birthday)

Upcoming Events:

HS University and Careers
Coffee Morning with Ms.
Quennie:

11 Sept - Y11

19 Sept - Y12

25 Sept - Y10

10 Sept - ES RSE & PSHE

12 Sept - HS Parents
Coffee Morning
(Assessment & Reporting)

13 Sept - WS Parents
Virtues Session L4 8:15 -10 am

Enquires:

T | +603 8605 3605

E | enquiries@sjj-international.edu.my

W | sjj-international.edu.my



ST JOSEPH'S INSTITUTION
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

"Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve"

This Week's Highlight at SJIS

And The Journey Begins - *Br Butch and Br Mico*

Our first three weeks have been an exhilarating whirlwind of induction, introductions, classroom setups, and the joy of getting to know our fellow staff and students across both schools and meeting parents. Being new to SJIS, we felt the vibrant welcome into the Lasallian community. As of this writing, we are gaining much insight into the distinctive Lasallian approach to teaching and learning at SJIS and how it is woven into the school's centerpiece: Character Education.

Our peers and students' genuine warmth and receptiveness in every interaction deeply impressed us. This reflects the school's commitment to fostering a nurturing and inclusive learning environment. Each day has been exceptional, thanks to everyone's inspiring enthusiasm for learning and engagement. All in just three weeks. While adjusting to new classrooms and curricula has presented challenges, the support has been priceless.

The school's emphasis on integrating technology has been particularly transformative, empowering us to introduce innovative teaching methods and captivate students in new and meaningful ways. We are excited about amplifying the Lasallian education experience through creative methods. By infusing reflective activities, looking into real-world examples, and, perhaps, personalised learning experiences, we aim to encourage a passion for lifelong learning and responsibility as Lasallians. The Declaration on the Lasallian Educational Mission, a collaborative document crafted beautifully by various Lasallian leaders worldwide in 2020 in Rome, says:

"Lasallian education has an inalienable social dimension because it has its roots in the gospel and 'the promotion of human dignity, solidarity with human beings and integral and sustainable development.' When opting for humanisation and social justice as inspiration, the educational result is essential. Neutrality is not possible (DLEM, 3.5.2a)."

As we progress, we are excited about the opportunity to make Lasallian education even more engaging and anchored on the Lasallian core values of faith, service, and community.

We Are Lasallian Video Project Completion

We are excited to share that the new "We Are Lasallian" video has been completed, with production finalised over the summer break. The project, initiated to update our previous lyric and action videos, involved filming small groups of students from each year level singing lines of the school song in various locations around campus. This new video captures the heart of our school community and reflects the vibrant spirit of our students.

Singing "We Are Lasallian" is an important tradition that unites us, expressing the history of our founder, St. John Baptiste de La Salle, as well as our school's values, identity, and community. We have already begun using the video in assemblies this term, reinforcing the song's significance within our school. You can watch the video [here](#)





FACILITATOR BULLETIN

SJIS has been proudly featured in the Virtues Project Bulletin. A special recognition goes to Sahana Fried for earning the prestigious Master Facilitator certification. We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated families, whose commitment to fostering positive character development in their children is truly commendable.

My 25 Year Journey

Contributor: Sahana Fried (Master Facilitator, St Joseph's Institution International School, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia sahanafried@yahoo.com)



My Virtues Project™ journey began in 2017 at a Character Education conference, hosted by St Joseph's International School, Singapore. Mojgan Tosif, founder of World of Virtues, Master Facilitator, and my mentor, was presenting a workshop to introduce the Virtues to a group of parents. She began with the virtue card of courage. This instantly sparked a conversation with a fellow attendee about our two fathers. I felt an unexpected connection, fueled by shared values, revealing the power of the virtues to bridge divides. This was the defining moment, solidifying my desire to be part of something that fosters genuine connection and celebrates the beauty in humanity.

My 25-year journey as an educator has spanned continents from the UK and China to Los Angeles and now Malaysia. One of my proudest achievements at St. Joseph's, Kuala Lumpur, was launching the Virtues Project™ across the elementary school. Its impact has been profound: from our youngest students (3yrs) recognising and acknowledging kindness in their classmates, to parents actively seeking training to develop their own understanding of the Virtues beyond the classroom. Seven years on, The Virtues Project™ seamlessly integrates with our school's identity.

Since the pandemic, my school community has been enriched by the arrival of many families from China, Korea and Japan. This presented us with a wonderful opportunity to connect with our new St Joseph's families. My goal was to deliver The Virtues sessions in three languages: Japanese, Korean and Mandarin by collaborating with our dedicated parent volunteers. While the sessions were an undeniable success, what became even more apparent was the commitment and belief that our St Joseph's parents held for the Virtues Project™. This was a testament and celebration of the years we invested in building a school of true character.

Today, as pastoral assistant principal, it is clear to me that the Virtues Project's five strategies have been invaluable. Spiritual Companionship, in particular, has equipped me with the compassion and detachment to guide children, staff and parents through emotional challenges. This strategy has helped me to empower others to navigate conflicts in finding the strength within to discover and adopt resolution. Moreover, witnessing the peace in a student's eyes after resolving a complex conflict is a gift beyond measure.

Earning Master Facilitator status allows me to share my mission with my Lasallian community and beyond. We, as parents and educators, all want our children to build a brighter future, one where they can be proud of who they are. With deep gratitude to The Virtues Project™, and to the person who inspired my journey, Mojgan Tosif, I will continue to strive forward for what St. Joseph's embodies; **teaching minds, touching hearts, and transforming lives.**

An Introduction to our new RSE and PSHE curriculum

[An introduction Session - 10th Sept](#)

We are very excited to share about our new RSE (Relationships and sex education) and PSHE (personal, social, health and economic education) curriculum in the elementary school.

Save the date:

Tuesday Sept 10th

08:15 am- 09:00 am in the Art room, Level 4.

[Parent Virtues Session - 13th Sept](#)

Looking forward to our upcoming parent session! We'll explore The Virtues Project and its five powerful strategies for handling difficult conversations and fostering a virtuous home environment.

[SIGN UP FORM FOR THIS SESSION](#)



School Holidays 16th and 17th September:

Please note that, as stated in the school calendar, both the 16th and 17th September are school holidays.

In the school calendar, the additional day was taken into consideration and an additional day was added later in the school year to compensate for the 17th September.



[Delischool Parent Meeting](#)

We are delighted to extend an invitation to all SJIIS families from our school catering team, Delischools. This will be an opportunity for you to discuss meals packages and even have the chance to try the food. We know how important a nourishing meal is for our students and we are committed to offering you the very best service.

Please come along to the canteen on Friday 27th September at 8 am - 9 am.



Welcome to our Learning - Curriculum Overview sessions



This week, Year 2-6 ran their curriculum overview sessions - "Welcome to our Learning." In response to parent feedback, these sessions were held on Zoom at 9am and saw a very good turnout at each year level. Each Head of Year led these sessions, presenting the key objectives across all subject areas and highlighting unique approaches of our school, such as the Singapore Maths approach and the International Primary Curriculum. If you were unable to attend, the Head of Year recorded the sessions and will share them on Seesaw. The final "Welcome to our Learning" session will be for Year 5 on Monday 9th September at 9am.

ES EAL Parent Information Session

We had a full house at the EAL Parent Information Session on Monday where we talked about the EAL provision the Elementary school provides, the importance of home language support as well as the EAL assessment we use to track learners' progress. It was great to see some familiar faces and welcome the new parents. We look forward to working together to support each learner.

Assembly-House Captain Launch

In this week's assembly Mr Bently invited our year 6 students the chance to represent their House as a House Captain! This is can be an extremely rewarding experience. House Captains gain valuable leadership skills, develop relationships across the school, and gain recognition for their efforts. We wish all applying the best of luck!

FOBISIA 'WRITE YOUR STORY' COMPETITION

We are very excited to share with you another opportunity for our students to enter a FOBISIA competition! Last year, we were blown away by the wonderful poetry entries and this year, it is story time! Your class teachers will give you more information about the theme and ways to enter very soon. We look forward to reading your wonderful entries! Good luck!

Next week's Online Curriculum Parent Sessions:

- Mon 9th Sept:** CCA Programme for Term 1 starts
Mon 9th Sept: Year 5 Curriculum Information Session Online 9-10am
Tues 10th Sept: ES PSHE /RSE New Curriculum Parent Information Session
 Onsite 8:15 am - 9:00 am, ES Art Room, Level 4



HS Parent Coffee Morning:

A Parent's Guide to Assessment & Reporting at SJJIS

Thurs 12th September | Brothers' Quarters | 8.30-10am

Ms Catherine Ellis (*HS Assistant Principal: Teaching & Learning*) & Ms Linda Pridgeon (*HS Assistant Principal: Character & Wellbeing*) invite you to attend this event to gain a holistic view of how assessment and reporting takes place at SJJIS, and how best you can support your children through the process at home.

Please sign up before Monday 9th Sept by clicking [this link](#).



University Fair:

Last Tuesday, the 3rd of September, we were delighted to host a Mini-University Fair at the MPH from 1:00 - 1:50PM. A variety of institutions, both local and international, participated. University representatives set up booths to provide information and answer student questions. Topics such as admissions, financial aid, and career paths were discussed. It was wonderful to see a few of our students connecting with university representatives, and we encourage them to further their exploration of the universities they are interested in.

Year 13 Parent Coffee Morning

During our Y13 parent coffee morning, we aimed to equip our parents with valuable information about the university application process, address common concerns and questions parents may have, and fostered a supportive and collaborative environment. Topics covered included timeline and key deadlines, as well as reinforcing the importance of research and choosing the right university. We provided an outline for UCAS (UK), Oxbridge and common application components (e.g., essays, transcripts, test scores). We also explained how the school supports students in navigating the essays and personal statement, standardized tests, letters of recommendation, financial aid and emotional support for our students throughout the application process.

We provided resources for additional information on the Post-Sixth Form Guidebook, which can be accessed in the Y13 Parent Google Classroom. We also highlighted opportunities for open communication within the family and the school, which can help parents feel more confident and prepared to support their children throughout this journey.



Lasallian of the week



Congratulations to our first staff of this year to achieve the HS Staff Lasallian of the week award. This week we congratulate Ms Ying Ying, our new Head of Languages and Mr Tom Hember, one of our Maths Teachers.



Please congratulate our first students to achieve Lasallian of the Week. Each week we celebrate the character of our students for a wide variety of achievements. We hope you enjoy receiving the Character Recognition notifications in your email and celebrate each of them with us.



CAMP PAYMENT - FINAL DEADLINE - PLEASE ENSURE YOU DON'T MISS OUT ON SIGNING UP FOR THIS IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN YOUR CHILD'S LASALLIAN JOURNEY



Virtue of the week

Transforms fear into determination. Embracing life fully, without holding back. Doing what must be done, even when it is difficult or risky.





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



[Term 1 HS Parent Events 24/25](#)
[HS Parent Calendar 2024/2025](#)
[ES Parent Calendar 2024/2025](#)



[WS Teaching Staff Email 24/25](#)



[Epurple \(Meal Selection/Top Up Credit\)](#)

[Eservice Manual](#)
[Term 1 AY24/25](#)

Delischool Email:
cafeteria.sji@shfservices.com



[Safeguarding Poster](#)



SJIM
Parent Volunteers

[SPV Update 2023/2024](#)



[WS CCA Website](#)



[SchoolsBuddy](#)



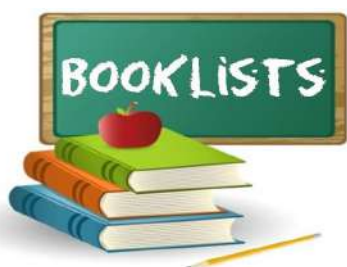
[Parents Portal \(For ES\)](#)



If you need support, please email to customerservice@tekgroup.my or call +60125537202 (Ms Kosmita)



[Music Website](#)



[Order Online Guide](#)
[Tekbookmart App](#)
[ES Booklist 2024/2025](#)
[HS Booklist 2024/2025](#)