

Term 2 has started with the usual flourish. From the Year 2 excursion to Berakas Foresty Reserve in the first week to Enrichment Day in the Middle School and Athletics afternoon in the Upper School, our pupils are busy learning about themselves and their place in the world.

Last week I attended the Year 12 Higher Education Evening. Year 12 pupils and parents have now begun to explore an education beyond JIS. As the Senior Dean, Mr Russell Mann, said in his presentation, where they land will depend on their discipline, diligence and daring. Many pupils are keen to continue their studies in the UK; others want to qualify as engineers from a German university or read medicine at Harvard in the United States. Nothing pleases us more than when a pupil returns after several years of absence to tell us of their education and achievements. I was very proud to meet my former pupil Brandon Ng last night. Since he graduated from JIS he has completed an engineering degree at Imperial College in the UK and now works in the banking industry. You are rewarding a teacher poorly if you always remain a pupil.

Last week we hosted the award winning author Alan Gibbons. He presented workshops to pupils from Year 1 through to Year 11. In the Book Week assembly for Junior School, Mr Gibbons regaled us with a story about billy goats and trolls. With his focus on Superheroes in the Junior School and Fantasy and Horror in the Middle School, he was an inspiration to our pupils. Please take some time to have a look at his website (www.alangibbons.com) and share his books with your children.

Which reminds me: how many books from the list sent home at the end of Term 1 by our Senior librarian, Mrs Mulvaney, and our Head of English, Mrs Cooke, have your children borrowed?

Please do not hesitate to discuss any concerns relating to the education of your child with the Head of School or with myself.

ANDREW TAYLOR, Acting Principal

From the Head of Junior School

Welcome back to all our existing families and a very warm welcome and Happy New Year to all our new families. We have a record number of new children starting school this term and I hope they are already settled, enjoying making new friends and finding out about all that JIS has to offer.

As usual we have a busy term ahead of us. We held our House Assemblies in Week 2 where the children elected their new Deputy House Captains for the term. Congratulations to Yusra Salam, Sophie Dixon, Sidharth Mangalam and Jessica Homer. Being part of the school council is exciting and rewarding for the children and this term they will be playing a key role in organising the ever popular Junior Disco. The ASA programme also began in Week 2.

Last week we celebrated Book Week with Alan Gibbons as our visiting author. The theme for the week was 'Super Heroes' and many interesting activities took place. All the children enjoyed sharing ideas and stories with Alan. We closed the week with a special assembly where the children dressed up as a super hero; either an old favourite or a brand new one of their own making.

Children in Year Five will be spreading their wings and heading off to the Borneo Rainforest Lodge near Miri later this month. I had the pleasure of accompanying them last year and it was an action packed adventure. There are

many exciting activities for the children to enjoy and the food is great too!

We have two sporting events this term, the House Football competition on Friday 18 February and the House T-Ball on Thursday 3 March. Parents are welcome to come along and support their children. More details will be sent out.

We are all looking forward to the Annual Showcase Concert and as usual there will be many Junior School children and staff involved in this. They are to be applauded for their dedication and talent. The quality of this performance is always truly impressive.

You will be able to meet with the teachers later in the term to discuss your child's progress. We encourage all parents to attend these important meetings.

Finally can I remind you to make sure your child has a named hat in school at all times. The Junior School children are excellent role models for the older students in sun safety and it is very encouraging to see so many of the older children now wearing hats too.

KAREN MEHTA

External Examinations 2011

CIE Resit Results from the November 2010 exam session will be available for collection on Wednesday 26 January at the end of the school day.

GCE AS/A2 resit exams began on Monday 10 January and last until Thursday 27 January.

GCE O Level Bahasa Melayu registration begins now.

Deadline for entry is Tuesday 15 February. If you wish to enter your child for the Bahasa Melayu exam, please pick up a registration form from our Examinations Office.

For further information, please see us in the Examinations Office or call 2411000 (ext 1108).

NICOLE CHONG

From the Head of Middle School

Welcome back and Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that the term is only three weeks old. Students are working hard in their lessons and there have already been a multitude of activities: Athletics Day, Enrichment Day, JIS Swimming Gala and Book Week. I am so pleased to say that these activities have been embraced by many of our students. Events that may interest you later in the term are Maths Week in Week 6, World Maths Day on Tuesday 1 March and our U13 FOBISSEA Squad will depart for Kuala Lumpur on Thursday 17 March to compete against seven other teams at elc International School. A variety of House activities will also run throughout the term and House basketball was an exciting and competitive event last week.

All students will soon receive a Mid-Year Report which will summarise the progress of your child since August. We hope that you find it

From the Head of Upper School

After returning from the December holiday, students are already immersed in the life of the school. Students should have carefully reviewed the reports handed out at the end of the first term, and now is the time to attempt to achieve some of the targets which teachers have set them. The Upper School Leadership Team has analysed all reports carefully and many students have received certificates for achievement or effort. However, some students will have to work harder this term and we intend to do our best to support them. Tutors have a list of students who need to improve their academic work and mentoring of them has already begun.

The Year 11 Internal Examinations went very well and we have been impressed by the maturity and diligence in evidence. This bodes well for the final examinations and shows that our students are very familiar with the kind of conduct expected in the examination room. Parents will have the opportunity to review the grades that their child receives by attending the Parent Teacher Interviews which occur on Tuesday 25 January from 5:00-8:30pm. Attendance at this evening is vital and we are hoping that everyone is able to make it. This will be closely followed by the Sixth Form Options Evening on Wednesday 9 February in which students and parents will receive detailed information concerning both the A-level programme and the International Baccalaureate Diploma, which will be offered in JIS next year. Making the right choices at this level is imperative; parents will have the opportunity to speak to Heads of Faculty in person concerning the best path for your child in the future.

Years 9 and 10 had an Athletics meet on the afternoon of Wednesday

From the Head of Sixth Form

I trust that all our Sixth Form students and their families had a peaceful and relaxing holiday. However, it is also important that our Year 13 students completed some serious revision over the holiday in order to be fully prepared for their re-sit AS Level modular exams currently taking place. Serious revision, together with an improvement of their examination techniques, should lead to improved grades being achieved and we wish all of them every success in these examinations.

This will be a busy term for our Sixth Form students. Naturally, academic studies take precedence, but there will be many opportunities to participate in House events, ASAs, the Make A Difference (MAD) programme and school sports trips abroad. The Year 12 Higher Education evening, the Careers Carousel, International Awards expeditions, the *King Lear* drama production, music recitals and PSHE sessions are just some of the important events taking place this term. The Sixth Form Student Council will be organising a Sixth Form

useful but should you need to discuss the report then do not hesitate to contact us. The report is particularly important for students in Year 8. In a few weeks these students will select their subject choices for Year 9. The report will indicate the academic strengths and weaknesses of individuals and it is important to consider current progress when selecting subjects to be studied in the future.

Please remember to support us by reminding your children to commit to our core values:

Work hard in all subjects.

Commit fully to the co-curricular aspect of school life.

Be respectful, tolerant and understanding of others.

IAN MEHTA

12 January. This is a highly inclusive event and it was very pleasing to be part of an afternoon of healthy fun. In general, the House system is thriving and on many Thursday afternoons we have very high attendance in our different sports competitions. After School Activities are also in full swing and attendance at these continues to grow. Achieving the right balance between enrichment activities and academic work is a key feature of success and we believe that most of our students are working towards this.

The Year 9 Options Evening on Tuesday 12 January was very well attended and both parents and students now clearly possess a better idea of the nature of GCSEs and the subject choices which are available for Year 10. Students should continue to ask questions and will be working closely with their tutors to ensure that they make informed decisions. Parents of Year 9 students will be able to discuss their child's progress at Parent Teacher Evening which is scheduled for Wednesday 16 February from 5:00-8:30pm.

The Year 10 Parent Teacher Meeting will occur on Tuesday 1 March from 5:00-8:30 and we urge you to attend this event if you have a child in this year group. Most students in Year 10 are in the midst of coursework or controlled assessments and it is essential that parents remain properly informed about their progress.

We hope that this is a successful term for all our students and, as ever, urge you to contact us if you have any queries.

PETER FLYNN

Social and continues to work hard on fund-raising charity events for our local charity, Pusat Ehsan.

Looking towards next term, please remember that the holiday at the end of this term should be used for serious revision purposes as the Year 12 and Year 13 students will have internal exams in Week 1 and Week 2 of Term 3 respectively. There will be a Parent-Teacher meeting in Week 3 on Wednesday 20 April to discuss the results of these examinations.

Please do not hesitate to contact your son or daughter's tutor, or a member of the Sixth Form Leadership Team, should you have any questions regarding their Sixth Form studies.

DAVID HOBDDAY

Student Pass 2011

Thank you to the many families who have processed the Student Pass for 2011. We still have at least 180 families yet to process this pass and ask that this is done urgently and that the school copy (green) is returned to us so that we may enter the details onto our database.

The Student Pass is a requirement for all expatriate students who are school age (2-17). Once a child turns 18 they are regarded as an adult and are no longer attached to their parent's Employment Pass. The process for students aged 18 and above is quite different.

Please contact the Admissions Office if you require any assistance with the Student Pass on 241 1000 (ext 1206).

We ask that each student has a valid Student Pass by the end of February, at the latest. Students may be suspended from attending school if the pass is not completed promptly.

Thank you for your assistance.

Term Dates 2011-2012

Term 1 and the start of Term 2 are confirmed but the dates for the Term 2 and Term 3 holidays are provisional.

TERM 1

Monday 5 September – Friday 21 October 2011
Monday 31 October – Friday 14 December

MID TERM BREAK

Saturday 22 October – Sunday 30 October

TERM 1 BREAK

Thursday 15 December 2011 – Tuesday 3 January 2012

TERM 2

Wednesday 4 January – Friday 16 March

TERM 2 BREAK

Saturday 17 March – Sunday 1 April

TERM 3

Monday 2 April – Friday 25 May
Monday 4 June – Friday 6 July

MID TERM BREAK

Saturday 26 May – Sunday 3 June.

French Trip

Students will be leaving on Friday 28 January. We will meet at the airport at 3.30pm. Final meetings will be taking place with students in the next few weeks and if you would like to meet up with me personally do not hesitate to get in touch. I trust that the packing process has started.....Merci!

PHILIPPE POULAIN

Notice of Withdrawal

At least eight (working) weeks' written notice is required for any student who is leaving the school, the Boarding House and the Boarding House bus service. For those under the non-corporate billing rates, a financial penalty is levied if inadequate notice is given.

The final date of notification for Term 2 was Wednesday 19 January. For those leaving JIS at the end of the academic year, notice is required by Friday 6 May.

Parents need to collect a Notice of Withdrawal form from the Admissions Office or download this from the Admissions section of the school's website. The day that the form is returned to our office is recorded as the official notification date. Leaving documentation is kept in the Admissions Office and can be collected on the student's last day of school.

For further information, contact the Admissions Office on 241 1000 (ext 1206).

Middle School House Events

Please note the timings of after school Middle School House events.

Thursday 10 February 2:30 – 4:00 pm
Thursday 24 February 2:30 – 4:00 pm

Softball
Quick Cricket

Students participating should wear their school House shirt, have a hat, sunscreen and water to drink.

Students who have a paid ASA must attend the ASA or make arrangements with the activity leader if they wish to attend the House event.

ANDREW FRENCH

Recycling

Please remember to separate paper, plastic, and metal; to flatten all paper; to crush all cans and plastic bottles; and to place your recycling in the appropriate bins yourself. Bins are located at the canteen and next to R Block.

Eco Garden plants

Our new Eco Garden in the Upper School is continuing to grow, and if you would like to donate any plants with traditional medicinal properties, please contact Ms Yvonne Follows-Smith on ext 8005.

JIS Clean Air- Young Lungs at Work policy

Please remember to turn your car engine off if you are stopped for more than a minute. Please ensure your drivers are also aware of this school policy. We care very much about the health of our students while at school and need your participation to keep the air clean for all of us.

LAURY MCPHERSON

IMPORTANT DATES

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Monday 31 January: Year 1 Trip to Temple
31 January - 2 February: Year 5 Residential Trip

Wednesday 2 February: Colour Day (Red)

Friday 18 February: House Football

Thursday 3 March: House TBall

8-9 March: Parent Consultations

Sunday 13 March: Panaga Football Tournament

Wednesday 16 March: Junior School Disco

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Thursday 27 January: House Basketball

Monday 31 January: Year 8 into Year 9 Options Evening

Wednesday 9 February: Year 6 Geography Trip

Wednesday 9 February: Sprint Maths @ Lunch

Thursday 10 February: Quick Cricket

18-19 February: Outdoor Education Camp

Tuesday 8 March: House Quiz @ Lunch

Sunday 13 March: Panaga Football Tournament

Thursday 17 March: Social

14-18 March: Rock Week (Geography)

UPPER SCHOOL

Tuesday 25 January: Year 11 Parent-Teacher Meeting

Tuesday 25 January: Year 9 Trade Game

Thursday 27 January: Year 11 Business Study Trip

Thursday 27 January: Year 10-13 House Football and Netball

27-30 January: Silver LA Qualifying Expedition 1

28-30 January: Rugby Tour to Miri

28 January - 6 February: French Trip

7-8 February: US & SF Drama Workshops

Tuesday 8 February: Sprint Maths @ Lunch

Tuesday 8 February: Careers Carousel

Wednesday 9 February: Year 11-12 Options Evening

Thursday 10 February: Year 10-13 House Football and Netball

Friday 11 February: Year 10 Malay Trip

10-13 February: Silver LA Qualifying Expedition 2

Wednesday 16 February: Year 9 Parent Evening

Thursday 24 February: Year 10-13 House Football and Netball

Tuesday 1 March: Year 10 Parent Evening

Friday 4 March: Year 9 Options deadline

5-6 March: Bronze LA Practice Expedition 1

Tuesday 8 March: House Quiz @ Lunch

Thursday 10 March: Year 11 into 12 Options Deadline

Friday 11 March: D&T coursework deadline

12-13 March: Bronze LA Practice Expedition 2

SIXTH FORM

Wednesday 26 January: Chemistry UBD Lectures

Thursday 27 January: Year 10-13 House Football and Netball

27-30 January: Silver LA Qualifying Expedition 1

28-30 January: Rugby Tour to Miri

Monday 31 January: Chemistry UBD Lectures

Tuesday 8 February: Careers Carousel

7-8 February: US & SF Drama Production Drama Workshops

Monday 7 February: Sprint Maths @ Lunch

Thursday 10 February: Year 10-13 House Football and Netball

10-13 February: Silver LA Qualifying Expedition 2

12-13 February: Gold LA Training weekend

Monday 14 February: A-level Music Recital

17-20 February: Year 12 Geography Trip

Thursday 24 February: Year 10-13 House Football and Netball

Tuesday 8 March: House Quiz

8-9 March: Drama Examination

Thursday 10 March: House Basketball

Friday 11 March: D&T coursework deadline

15-20 March: Malay Trip

18-27 March: Japan Ski Trip

WHOLE SCHOOL

27-31 January: FOBISSEA Golf, Thailand

7-11 February: Maths Week

12-13 February: Music Trip to KL

14-25 February: School Photographs

Monday 21 February: PTCG Parent Forum and AGM

24-28 February: SEAMC 2011, Orchid Garden

Tuesday 1 March: World Maths Day

Tuesday 8 March: International Women's Day Centenary

11-12 March: Showcase Concert

11-14 March: BGIC Conference@ISB

Friday 18 March: End of Term 2

Monday 4 April: Start of Term 3