



7 July 2010

Dear Parents

This academic year has flashed by. We seem to be busier than ever. Here are the reports on activities and events at the school since I last wrote to you in April.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOLS

Junior School: It has been a very productive year. We have been involved in many exciting activities. The children have organised two successful fund raising events this year, one for children in the Philippines and the other for children at the Special Needs Unit here in Brunei. We thank you for your support and generous donations. The primary team flew to Kuala Lumpur to take part in the FOBISSEA games in June. They came home with many medals for both individual and team events. We held successful events at school too. There are many sporting ASAs on offer for the younger children. Ballet and Hip Hop continue to grow in popularity.

The International Primary Curriculum has been successfully introduced and children have enjoyed themselves enormously. Their 'Learning Journals' are full of interesting work which they will share with you. Year 5 enjoyed two nights at the Borneo Rainforest Lodge and took part in many outdoor activities including a night walk with torches and a tough obstacle course. There have been many other trips across the year too. As numbers grow, we look forward to opening new classes next year and welcoming many more new children to the school.

Karen Lewis

Middle School: The Middle School Outdoor Education programme or PACE (Personal Achievement Challenge & Experience) met on Thursdays this term. Forty pupils from the Middle School and four teachers worked their way through the challenging sessions, culminating in a long six hour hike and a night under canvas on the beach.

Throughout Term 3, pupils have thrown themselves into activities. The academic focus for the term was the end of year examinations. With guidance from tutors and teachers, the students prepared thoroughly and conducted themselves in an exemplary manner. Many of our students would have been taking exams for the first time and they really rose to the challenge. It is important to appreciate that exams at this age are not just about success; learning from mistakes allows every student to improve in some way and this should help improve performance later when exams become more important.

We balanced the exams with a range of activities, including House Cross Country and Softball and the first performance of the Middle School Orchestra. Year 6 pupils have been to the Empire Hotel and to Tungku Beach as part of their Humanities unit on tourism. A large group went to the Niah Caves. Year 7 pupils studied cave formations and Year 8 pupils stretched their creative writing talents. Middle School Activity Week ran for the third time.

Recently we hosted pupils from Awang Semuan Secondary School in Kampong Ayer. This school showed our Year 6 students around their campus when we visited them in Term 2 and students exchanged stories. We hope that our relationship will grow and we can support each other over the coming years.

Years 6 and 7 had a film night as their end of year social while Year 8 had a more traditional party with food and dancing. Both occasions were well attended and the students seemed to have a wonderful time. On 24 June we held one of our biggest events of the year. All of the current pupils in Years 5 to 7 and all new pupils who will join JIS in August participated in a Transition Day. This was very successful and we hope that it will allow all of them to settle in quickly in August.

Ian Mehta

Upper School: Year 11 pupils are looking forward to their Graduation Ceremony which will take place in the sumptuous Dewan Utama Ballroom. They have coped admirably with the challenge of examinations and have made good use of the revision opportunities available. Results will be released in August. Pupils are reminded to keep their logons in a safe place so they can access the school's website. They must come into school on Monday 30 August to discuss their A Level choices with a member of the Sixth Form Leadership team. Pupils in Year 9 and 10 coped very well with their Science modular examinations and also behaved impeccably during the internal

examinations week. Teachers have reviewed their performance carefully and all parents will receive a detailed report at the end of term. We recently held a Celebration of Achievement assembly in which student received academic, sporting and citizenship awards.

Providing opportunities for pupils to develop leadership skills is a priority in the Upper School and we have recently added new positions of responsibility. We have created new House Councils for each House; each Council has its own photographers, reporters, ICT technicians, and Captains who work with their Head of House to achieve the objectives of the House programme. Pupils learn important teamwork and communication skills; they learn responsibility and how to solve problems. The House Council includes pupils from Year 9 and Year 10. The Upper School Council has more roles. Additionally, each tutor group in the Upper School has two Tutor Representatives. A third of the Year Ten group put their names forward for positions on the Upper School Council this year and all made speeches to the student body. Our student leaders are active in the Upper School and we can expect much from them next term. Pupils are looking forward to Activity Week which runs from Friday 2 July to Wednesday 7 July.

Peter Flynn

Sixth Form: Our focus in the Sixth Form this term has been on the AS Level and A2 Level external examinations. The pupils and their teachers have spent many weeks preparing for these examinations and we wish the all success when they receive their examination results in August.

We said farewell to our Y13 pupils as they left the school at half-term. A Leavers' Assembly with marvellous performances by our Leavers' Band was the highlight of the term. Many of our Sixth Form pupils are now holding offers from prestigious universities throughout the world.

The Sixth Form Student Council has raised thousands of dollars over the course of the year for Pusat Ehsan and has continued to develop strong links with the children. Our Head Girl and Head Boy, Catherine Lawrey and Chung Tee Lim, together with the Sixth Form Captains, Nabilah Hamid and Sebastiaan Felius, and the rest of the Sixth Form Student Council are to be congratulated on their tremendous efforts throughout the year.

We have had a number of informative university talks given by guest speakers for UK and Australian universities this term. The Gold International Award pupils have had practice expeditions to prepare themselves for their major expedition to Kenya at the end of this term. We recently held a very successful two day Year 12 information programme for our Year 11 pupils to give them a flavour of life in the Sixth Form. A number of our pupils will be visiting an orphanage in Cambodia as part of Activities Week, while others will attend Global Young Leaders Conferences in the USA and an Asian youth exchange programme in Japan during the long holiday.

Finally, I should like to thank all our Sixth Form teachers and tutors for their hard work over the last year. I would like to add a personal thank you to Mrs. Thompson, the Head of Year13, together with our tutors Mr. Gillam, Mr. Jozefek and Mr. Yates, who leave us for new ventures at the end of term.

David Hobday

BOARDING HOUSE

Additional bedrooms built to accommodate the increasing demand for boarding places at the end of last year have already been filled. A new boarding house, "Osprey House" is planned for August 2011.

We have already said goodbye to the Year 11 and 13 boarders. We are also saying goodbye to a few boarding house staff who are moving on to pastures new. Ms. Julia Connolly is moving to take up a teaching position in Italy. Ms Michelle Cuestas is moving back to the Philippines to continue with her post graduate studies and Ms Lizzie Pollitt is moving to England to take up a trainee teacher position. We wish our departing staff all the best as they take on their next adventure.

John White, Head of Boarding

GIFTED AND TALENTED AT JIS

Twenty three JIS students will attend Warwick University's prestigious IGGY (International Gateway for Gifted Youth) Summer U programmes in the UK and Botswana during the holidays. The challenging courses on offer are: Global Leaders; Shakespeare; Performance and Myth; Mathematics in the Information Age; Philosophical Problems in Law; Medical Sciences and Chemistry; Physics & Saving the World.

In total, fifty-four of our students over the last two years have experienced the challenge of these two-week residential courses in the UK, Singapore and now Botswana. The curiosity these courses foster will be of

enormous benefit. We do not rely solely on expensive trips overseas, however, to introduce additional challenge into the curriculum. In Middle School in particular, subject-based enrichment days are organised every year. This year a Poetry camp was held for talented writers and, following on from the highly successful Mathematics Enrichment Day last year, a Physics Enrichment Day was held in June, as Mr Chalmers, Head of Physics, describes below.

The school is firmly committed to challenging all its students to realise their full potential, including those to whom academic work comes most easily.

Wendy Isaac

MIDDLE SCHOOL PHYSICS ENRICHMENT DAY

On 21 June, JIS held an enrichment session for pupils in Middle School at JIS. A select group of scientifically gifted pupils from years 6 to 8 were set two challenging tasks. One was to build a device which could raise a 500g mass from the bottom of the swimming pool to the top in as short a time as possible. The other was to make a 1kg mass float in the water without rising to the surface or sinking to the bottom.

This year saw record numbers of pupils choosing to take Physics A Level. In order to provide challenge for the stronger pupils, as well as have some fun, Mr Zaheer Ahmed, a Physics Teacher at JIS created the A Level Physics Enrichment Week. The pupils had to complete six very challenging tasks, created by six of the Physics Teaching Team at JIS. The pupils were required to work in small groups in order to measure the temperature of the surface of the Sun, make a cantilever crane out of newspaper and spaghetti, measure values taken from a hidden circuit, weigh a paperclip without using weighing scales, make an accurate clock using their knowledge of Physics and everyday materials and make as efficient a windmill as possible out of everyday materials.

Gary Chalmers

HIGHER EDUCATION & CAREERS

A record number of Year 13 students from Jerudong International School are bound for top ranked universities in the United Kingdom and around the world. Out of 100 JIS students who applied to study in the United Kingdom, 29 have secured offers at Top 10 UK universities. Others will be attending Ivy League universities and elite academies in the United States, as well as leading institutions in Canada, Germany, France, Australia, New Zealand and India.

Successful applications to leading Southern Hemisphere institutions in Australia and New Zealand, such as Melbourne, Monash, UNSW, Sydney University, the University of Queensland, the University of Adelaide and UWA, in addition to several medical schools in India and Malaysia, will be made later in the year.

The 2009-10 academic year saw a steady flow of university visits to JIS, mainly from UK and Australian universities. Lectures were delivered by visiting academics from Bath and Southampton universities in the UK. Loughborough University ran a workshop for all Year 12s on Personal Statement writing, Warwick University made a presentation with a special focus on Engineering, Southampton ran a workshop for students interested in pursuing Fine Art, and presentations were made by Melbourne and Monash universities, two of Australia's prestigious Group of Eight institutions.

The tyranny of distance prevents students at JIS from attending university Open Days or (in most cases, with the notable exceptions of UBD and ITB) visiting the campuses before choosing a university. So attending university presentations held at school is an excellent opportunity to gain insights into life at a variety of campuses and ask specific questions. We are encouraged by the robust attendance at the various talks and lectures held over the past year. This year, as part of their end of year Higher Education Seminar, students planning to attend UBD attended an orientation session conducted by a UBD Dean of Faculty.

The past year heralded the introduction of an HE ASA (i.e. Higher Education After School Activity) for all Year 12 students. This has proven highly effective and will be continued next year for incoming Year 12s. Lunchtime, after school and study lesson sessions have provided the HE staff with an appropriate forum to deliver guidance and disseminate a plethora of information.

As the Careers Education programme develops, students are appreciating the importance of having a "reality check" for their chosen career pathway and realizing that possessing good grades is not enough. They must now demonstrate commitment to their chosen career and start to acquire essential work skills. By taking part in a short internship, administered by the HE Careers Faculty, they are taking the first steps on the road to a successful career of their choice. The student response to this initiative has been very positive, with over 160 students

opting to undertake placements, a major increase on previous years. This year, the Careers Adviser broadened the opportunities for work attachments by offering work experience during Activities Week, beginning in the penultimate week of the school year, in addition to regular placements in the July-August holiday period.

Current Year 12 students applying to study in the United Kingdom have already registered with UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, used by all UK institutions to handle their undergraduate applications) as part of the Higher Education Seminar run in the final weeks of term, and will complete and submit their university applications early in Term 1 of Year 13. Those applying to Cambridge and Oxford universities and those wishing to study medicine, dentistry or veterinary science have an early closing date of mid-October, while all UK applications are expected to be submitted from JIS students by 15th November. Those applying outside the UK (to countries such as the United States and Canada) need to be aware of individual institutions' deadlines and make requests for requisite documentation from the Higher Education Faculty in good time to ensure timely submission of their applications.

The Higher Education and Careers Faculty would like to thank all parents and caregivers for their ongoing support, in particular in providing guidance and assistance with the critical decisions students are required to make about their future educational and career pathways.

Russell Mann, Dean of Higher Education

MUSIC

This term we welcomed two visiting BMS groups: a violin duo from Poland, Rafal and Agnieska, who stunned the pupils with their fine playing and also gave workshops; and the "Con Fuoco Trio" from France who impressed the audience with their exuberant and exciting playing.

The annual celebration evening took place at the ICC on May 10 and the Senior Orchestra performed a selection of their favorite pieces including *Don't Rain on My Parade* (vocal soloist Maria Koh), *I Gotta Feelin'* and *Viva La Vida*.

The newly-formed Middle School Orchestra made their debut during the last assembly before the half-term break. The group impressed their peers with their performance of *the Muppet Medley*. Our Middle School Grade 8 violinist, Emily Schaumann, was well received.

Once again Trinity examinations were held at JIS in May 2010. Twenty-two JIS pupils were examined on piano, violin, viola, cello and voice. The 100% pass rate reflected the hard work of both the teachers and pupils to achieve these results. The grades ranged from Initial to Grade 8 and special mention should go to Sabrina Liew with the highest score of 96% in her initial piano examination and to successful Grade 8 violinists Azri Hasnan, Emily Schaumann and Hayati Wahab.

The Junior and Middle Schools both held auditions for their musical productions "Rats and Snap" to be held in Term 1 next year and rehearsals are already underway.

Paul Edgeler

DRAMA

April started with the Year 13 GCE Drama group devised play 'Little Boxes'. This complex group devised piece showcased the writing and performance talent of the Year 13 Drama class.

The Year 12 GCE Drama pupils at JIS presented their examination performance of J.B. Priestley's 'An Inspector Calls'. Written in 1945, 'An Inspector Calls' was first performed in Moscow and is a mystery play with political undertones. This difficult piece was performed with expertise by the year 12 Drama class.

'Arabian Nights' was performed in the Drama Studio by the Year 11 GCSE Drama classes, in May. The story revolves around Scheherazade telling the king Shayryar stories to dissuade him from killing her. The whole performance was an excellent mix of humour and storytelling by the 25 GCSE Drama pupils.

Mark Eckersley

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY AND ART AND DESIGN EXHIBITION

The Tenth annual Art and Design Technology exhibition was opened on June 16 for a week at the Empire Hotel and Country Club. Guest of Honour, Mr Yves Grosjean, General Manager of Total E&P Deep Offshore Borneo B.V. opened the event. The exhibits represented the work of pupils from across the school. As usual, the quality

and standard of work produced by pupils was fantastic and the exhibition was once again well supported by the JIS community. There were many very positive comments from hotel guests from all over the world.

Justin Harris and Jenni Stroud

SPORT

We were delighted to be involved in organising the Brunei Junior Sports League this term, a competition that sees Under 15 and 19 teams compete in a league programme in basketball, football and netball. The games provide a chance for our players to show their ability and demonstrate the progress they have made during the year. It is particularly pleasing that we are able to put out multiple teams in each sport and that a girls' basketball competition has run for the first time. I am convinced that our pupils are playing to a higher standard. The highlight of the competition for JIS was the success of our Under 15 basketball and Netball teams who both won their respective competitions.

Sailing is a sport that has exploded this year at JIS. ASAs have run all year and built on the skills learned in Activities Week in 2009. These culminated in the inaugural JIS regatta on 19 June. It was with great pride that we watched a large fleet of 28 boats navigate an Olympic course in tricky tidal conditions. They competed in Optimist, Pico and Laser 1 classes. The standard of sailing has improved significantly this year and pupils from year 3 to 10 were involved in a series of four races. Particular mention should go to our top sailors at JIS: Vito Franklin, Graydon Mollison and Janine Jaenke who have not only headed their fleets but have always had time to help coach our less experienced sailors.

School sports colours have been awarded to: Izzati Azmansham – Athletics; Haseen Rizvanudeen - Cricket; Jake Rogers –Football; Amir Lani – football; Waqas Khan – football; George Britten – Football; Graydon Mollison – Sailing; Julian Goering - Golf; Nav Dhindsa – Rugby; Muhammad Abu Bakar – Rugby; Ollie Goy – Tennis; Ella Griffiths – Netball; Amanda Liew – Netball; Katherine Crane - Netball.

Mike Carter

THE INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Bronze: The final qualifying expedition for pupils involved in the Bronze level of the International Award took place during Activities Week on either Friday 2 and Saturday 3 July or Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 July. The pupils have been involved in their Skill, Service and Physical activities throughout the year, but can still consult the teachers in the Bronze Team if they still need assistance with these. They completed a successful training expedition in the jungles of Bukit Udal during Term 2.

Next year we are looking to expand the Bronze level participation again, hoping to make it available to as many Year 10 pupils as possible. One of the most challenging aspects of the Award is finding a good service project that the student can participate in for an hour a week over the course of a three month period. If you are involved in any community projects which could use some additional help, or know of anywhere student assistance would be appreciated, please could you let us know so that we can direct pupils accordingly? You can contact us through robert.airdrie@jis.edu.bn.

Many thanks for the continued support that JIS parents extend towards the International Award at all levels.

Robert Airdrie

Silver: The final qualifying expedition for the Silver level of the International Award, took place from 29 to 31 January 2010. Students travelled to Gunung Mulu World Heritage Area in Sarawak, Malaysia. Mulu is a place of outstanding natural beauty and is also the location of the Head Hunters Trail. Students spent time exploring the spectacular scenery and caves and learning about the diverse range of plant and animal species. We walked 25 kilometres through dense primary rainforest. The Head Hunters Trail was slippery and underwater in places and made for some interesting walking.

Thank you to both the students and staff (Mr Major, Mr Lowther and Mr Airdrie) for making it such a successful expedition. A special mention goes to Ms Rayner who organized the itinerary and is sadly leaving the school this year.

Students need to ensure they get their Service, Skill and Physical sections signed off by the relevant supervisor, and to pass their completed Handbook to Mr Major. Finally, many thanks to the parents and staff who support us by providing Service, Skill and Physical activity opportunities.

Rachel Edwards

Gold: We wish our Gold Award pupils well for their Kenya trip.

Roland Lopez

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

Our recycling programme grows by leaps and bounds. The amount of material brought in for recycling has continued to increase, as has the understanding of how to prepare and sort the various items. The Junior School has participated to a greater extent this year and I have had the pleasure of visiting several classrooms and assemblies to talk about different environmental topics; the youngest pupils have told me many stories of how they recycle at home, how they want to help save wild tigers (our Earth Day fundraising focus), and how they want to reuse paper so that they can save the trees. This is the Year of Biodiversity, and to support it we now have an educational Eco Garden in the Upper School, planted with local plants with medicinal properties. We will be adding to the garden next year, and will be able to use it to support a variety of lessons and field studies. New shade trees were planted alongside the new pitch by the Sports Pavilion as our part of the Brunei Green Wave programme.

Reducing the amount of waste generated by the canteen has been a priority and we have made a number of reforms this year, including reducing the amount of polystyrene used and eliminating plastic bags from food items and from the check-out. In response to the problem of air pollution generated by idling car engines in front of the school, we implemented a “No Idling” policy in April - we ask parents, drivers, bus drivers, and teachers to switch off their car engines if they are stopped. Thank you for improving the air quality and helping young lungs to breathe more easily at school.

Across the school different age groups have been investigating and taking action on a range of environmental issues: from the Year Three rainforest activists and the Kindy and Reception recyclers to the Middle School reusable bag artists and the secondary school EcoJIS website developers and writers. We have reached the tipping point and our collective efforts are beginning to snowball. JIS has recently received the Eco Schools organization’s Bronze Award for environmental action and reform this year; many thanks to the JIS community for making it happen.

Laury McPherson

GEOGRAPHY

The geographers organised an epic journey for year seven to the Niah caves. After a night in the rainforest the intrepid young explorers hiked through the jungle to reach the beautiful limestone caves. During their walk they tried to remember the difference between stalactites and stalagmites. Year eight spent half a day at Tasik Lama. This was the first time that most of the pupils had done Geography fieldwork and it was a fantastic sight to see everyone ankle deep in the water measuring the width, depth and velocity of the river. Further up the school Year 12 pupils visited the BSB masterplan public meeting as part of their World Cities A2 level module. This was an opportunity for them to see how the plans to transform Bandar are progressing.

MATHEMATICS

This term we have continued to enter students for Mathematics competitions with a high degree of success. The Intermediate UK Mathematics challenge was taken by 56 Upper School students and of these 9 achieved Gold, 16 Silver and 15 Bronze. The following 5 students made it through to the first round of the International Mathematics Olympiad:

Year 10	Hann Son Yee (also achieved best in school)
Year 9	Azam Rahman
	Nipun Mundhar
	Jonathan Neam
	Samuel Kong

The Junior UK Mathematics challenge was taken by 27 Middle School students and of these 7 achieved Gold, 9 Silver and 6 Bronze. Jordan Tasker-Fernandes in Year 8 achieved the best score in school and made it through to the first round of the International Mathematics Olympiad.

Just to show that it is not all about sums, watch out for the Mathematics Faculty in their final performance of the year in the end-of-year assembly. We will be back bigger and even more full of energy next year.

Ed Kyle

MALAY TRIPS

Foreign Language Malay pupils had opportunities to converse in Malay with native speakers. Year 9 went to Kampong Ayer and Year 10 visited a local restaurant. The Faculty is geared up to deliver the SPN 21 curriculum. Year 8 visited RTB. Two of our year 12 pupils, Farah Safri and Nurul Amirah Yunos, have a place in the All Brunei Pre-University Malay Speech Competition final on 7 July at Maktab Duli. There will be eight schools participating in the finals including JIS.

Saba Venugopal

PTCG

The PTCG welcomed a new committee recently, and things are looking bright for the new academic year. We recently held our first second-hand text book sale, and despite a quiet start, we hope this will become a successful annual event. We have recently donated \$2500 to the library to purchase more of the very successful Play-away series of Audio books. Students from across the school really enjoy listening to these stories on tape.

Dates for the New Year:

Monday 20th September, PTCG Welcome Barbecue. 3.00-5.00pm at pool

Sunday 10th October PTCG Football Funday

We look forward to your support.

Paul Williamson, PTCG CHAIR

OTHER MATTERS

Books: Please get your book orders in to Early Childhood publications as soon as possible – they have a stall at the front of the school most mornings now. We cannot guarantee delivery of your books unless you have placed your order with them this term. The books will be available for collection at the beginning of the school year. The suppliers will be in school whenever the school shop is open before school starts next term.

Car Pass for the academic year 2010/11: Parents can collect the car pass from the Junior School office or the Student Centre from 31 August 2010. Drivers can collect the car pass on parents' behalf, if they are supplied with an authorization letter, giving the car registration number. It is important that cars have the new 2010/11 car pass clearly visible in order to enter the school premises.

All drivers (including those of rental car companies) and amahs must leave the school after dropping off pupils every morning. The school security officers will do a check to ensure that this happens. Drivers may return to the school to pick up the children one hour before the end of the school day.

Government Education Allowance: We should like to remind parents who are eligible for the government allowance scheme that it is time to re-apply for the academic year 2010/11. This is a standard requirement set by the Treasury Office (Ministry of Finance). If you have not submitted the form and certificate of enrolment to the Ministry/ Treasury Office, please do so as soon as possible. You can request a Certificate of Enrolment from Esther Tang (Junior and Middle School) or Chong Hyen Seem (Upper School and Sixth Form).

Invoices for the new academic year 2010/11: Invoices for the first semester of the academic year 2010/11 were distributed to pupils last week. Fees paid by companies have been sent out by post to the respective companies. If you have not received your invoice, we should be grateful if you would contact the school's accounts department (telephone 2411000 extension 1311 or 1314) or request by email at accounts@jis.edu.bn. For parents who pay fees on monthly basis, please arrange payment for the annual facility fee and the first monthly fee instalment at the latest by 05 August 2010.

Stationery Pack for the new academic year 2010/11: The stationery pack form for 2010/11 has been distributed to pupils. We encourage parents to submit the form and arrange payment to the school shop by Thursday 08 July 2010. If you have not received it, we should be grateful if you would contact the School Shop (tel: 2411000 ext 1114).

The school shop opening hours are as follows:

12 July until 23 July 2010	: Monday to Friday	from 8.00 am to 3.30 pm (close on 15 July, public holiday)
16 August until 10 August 2010	: Monday to Friday	from 8.00 am to 3.30 pm
11 August until 27 August 2010	: Monday to Friday	from 8.00 am to 3.00 pm

Payment is by cash or cheque only.

Induction Days:

Year 12 Registration Day	Monday 30 August	from 9.00am to 12.00pm
Boarding House	Monday 30 August 2010	from 1.00pm to 5.00pm (gate opens at 12pm)
New pupils and new boarders	Monday 30 August 2010	from 9.30am to 12.00pm

The administration and accounts office will be open during the school summer holidays from 12 July until 31 August 2010 Monday to Friday from 8.00am until 2.00pm.

Have an excellent holiday.

Yours sincerely

John Price
Principal and Chief Executive