



2 December 2008

Dear Parents

This term has been very busy in so many different respects. I am very grateful to everyone, inside and outside the school, for making the last few months so stimulating. Of course our primary focus must still always be to provide a broad, liberal education for our pupils. It is what happens in the classroom that matters most, but extra-curricular activities have an enormous part to play in their intellectual, cultural and social development.

I have watched many lessons this term during which teachers were doing their best to provide real intellectual challenge. As an independent school, we are not bound by the national curriculum of any country. Within reason, we can adapt the content of our teaching to the needs of the pupils in our care. Public examinations are very important since they provide a structure to the curriculum and motivation for our pupils, but it is the quality, depth and variety of teaching and learning in the school that influences our young people in the long term.

One of our main objectives is to foster enthusiasm for all the disciplines we teach here. We must turn out young people who are genuinely passionate about history, literature, science and technology. They must develop their talents in music, sport and the arts. We want them to take the initiative, to see the possibilities for personal development and to learn how to enjoy life in all its dimensions.

Below you will read about all the activities that have taken place outside the classroom this term. They are integral to the education JIS provides and to the concept of an international education. Our young people have been learning about each other and about the diverse, complex world they are entering. By the time they leave us, we hope they will feel confident to meet its challenges and explore its possibilities to the full.

FOBISSEA Conferences

This November JIS hosted the FOBISSEA Heads and Senior Managers Conferences and I have written about these events in the forthcoming edition of *Suara*. We welcomed Mandy Johnson, the Director of the British Council in Malaysia, who also has responsibility for Brunei. Major Fraser Rae of the Second Battalion of the Royal Gurkha Rifles spoke movingly on leadership in the British Army. Dr Grahaeme Henderson, Managing Director of BSP, also spoke about leadership, but in an industrial context. The main educational speakers were Professor Brian Caldwell of Melbourne University, who gave us his views on the attributes of the global citizen and the vital role international schools can play in building a peaceful world, and Dr Mary Hayden of the University of Bath, who gave us an overview of international education worldwide. We are most grateful to Manfred Kieler and all his team at the Empire for the conference arrangements.

International Day

JIS celebrated International Day on November 7th. Pehin Yahya, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, spoke on the outlook for the Bruneian economy. Mr Tareq Muhmood, CEO of HSBC, talked to the Sixth Form about international banking. Major Fraser Rae gave an account of peace keeping operations in Afghanistan and Iraq to the Upper School. Dr Grahaeme Henderson spoke on Future Energy to the Middle School and 'Jungle Dave' spoke on expeditions. Students from the Model United Nations Club staged a debate in front of Year 9 on the use of torture by governments. The Junior and Middle Schools held the usual Parade of Nations and the day ended with a marvellous concert in the gym. Many local companies participated in the Food Fair at lunchtime.

News from the Schools

Junior

For Peace Day, children in the Junior School held a special assembly in the Junior School garden. They wrote messages of peace on white pebbles which they placed at the foot of our Peace Pole during the assembly. The children also made a peace flag.

The Junior School held elections in Week 2 for the new Junior School council. The Council has been involved in fundraising activities to support animal adoptions. They also worked with Middle School students to organise a 'Movie Night', which was very successful. The Council members went to Temburong on an exhausting

leadership weekend that involved white water rafting, canopy walking and many other activities designed to develop their organisational and leadership skills. There were a number of House Events this term, including a Hat Parade – we are trying to encourage the wearing of hats in line with our sun policy. Children made some amazing hats and enjoyed showing them off in assembly. Younger children enjoyed the Teddy Bears Picnic and took their teddies on a tour around school in search of treasure.

Next term Juniors will have their Swimming Gala and will take part in a production of ‘Jack and the Beanstalk’ to take place at the end of term in conjunction with our planned Arts Week. More information about this exciting new initiative will follow at the beginning of next term.

Karen Lewis

Middle School

Many Middle School events and activities are covered elsewhere in this letter or in Suara. The vast majority of the students have worked hard in their academic studies and committed time to the extra-curricular life of the school. They have respected others and tried to look after those in need of help. There has been a healthy enthusiasm around the place. None of this can be achieved without an extremely dedicated and talented group of teachers who support our students. Subject teachers, tutors, Heads of House and Deputy Heads have all contributed so much to ensure that we provide a broad, balanced, liberal and challenging education for our students.

The Middle School really embraced International Day. Some of the parade costumes were simply amazing. During the week pupils produced a banner with a map of the world and put their hand-prints on one of the continents for a dollar. In this way Middle School raised money for the Cambodian charities the school supports.

At the start of International Day itself, each tutor group produced a poster on a particular country chosen by the class. These displays were exhibited in P Block. I hope some of you saw them during the recent parent-teacher meetings. After morning break there was the International Day Challenge for students in Year 6 and 7. Each tutor group produced a colourful chalk design of flags of the world on the tarmac outside the gym.

Ian Mehta

Upper School

Year 11s need to revise thoroughly for internal examinations which will take place in Week 3 of next term, from Monday 19 to Friday 23 January. Parents can discuss the results with teachers at the parent-teacher evening on Monday, 2 February 2009. Year 11s should also be considering their AS Level subject choices for next year and the Sixth Form Leadership Team will be giving a presentation on Tuesday, 10 February to help students and parents make sensible decisions.

Year 10 students recently completed their Module 1b Science examination and are eagerly awaiting the results that come out in January. Students are coping well with a rigorous academic programme and are still managing to take part in a variety of extra-curricular activities. The International Award Bronze Expeditions recently took a group of sixty-three Year 10s on a practice expedition. As ever, we were profoundly impressed by the positive attitude of the group.

Reports suggest that Year 9 students have adjusted to the curriculum well, while other students are receiving help in the Homework Clubs. They have taken part in many activities in the Upper School, including our recent socials.

Next year promises to be exciting and we have already written to parents to inform them of our Activities Week which will run in the final term.

The Upper School Council worked very hard to organise an exciting Halloween social this year. Students came dressed in scary costumes. The lights and balloon drop transformed the school gym and the student DJs provided excellent music.

The Upper School has committed itself to learning more about the Penan, a nomadic indigenous group from Borneo. The Penan’s traditional land is the jungle; vast tracts of deforestation have disrupted their way of life and profound poverty and displacement have resulted. After a presentation by Jacky McLaren, the Upper School Council and the Tutor Representatives worked together to collect good quality used stationery, toys, and clothing. Each tutor group assembled one or more gift boxes, which will be delivered to the Penan village in Long Napir in December.

The Upper School Council newsletter has gone to print under the able editorship of Natasha Vartak. There will be articles on Peace Day and other exciting events that happened during Term 1.

We held our House Debating competition in September and heard many first-time debaters participate. Red House (Ashleigh Thompson, Laura Van Langen and Shanna Cowe) and Yellow House (Andrew Wong, Thomas Pluck, and Abdullah Kamit) made it to the finals, with Yellow House winning the title for the third straight year. Our thanks go to our two JIS community guest judges, Mr Roy Prabhakaran and Mr Andrew Scholar.

Our second year of 'house recycling' has started off well - Mr Bartlett and his student volunteers, Joseph Cuevas, Ben Elgar, and Johnny Colburn, continue to operate the recycling station at the canteen every Monday morning. They weigh and record the aluminium cans and plastic water bottles that are brought in by students across the whole school, and accept all paper, plastic, and aluminium recycling. Congratulations to the classes of Mr Paul Williamson (3PAW), Ms Gisela Drewes (7DS), Ms Narissa Osman (9ON), and Mr Stewart Hird (SFHR) for bringing in the most recycling for their respective schools in Term 1.

The House Music Festival will take place on the last day of term. Each House will perform their chosen House Song and it will be an opportunity for all students across the school to come together in their House groups. The JIS Idol finalist and winner will perform and we will look forward to the comments of our MCs, Mr Steve Denby and Mr David Griffiths.

Peter Flynn with Laury McPherson

Sixth Form

At the start of term sixth formers elected a new Sixth Form Student Council, led by Matthew Ng and Nabila Halimuddin. Council members attended a Leadership Training Camp at Temburong in October in order to develop their leadership and teamworking skills. They have been busy organising various events, including Peace Day, Casual Clothes Day, Football Fun Day, Fast for a Day, the Y9 to Y13 Social, and International Day. They have raised large sums for Pusat Ehsan, our Sixth Form charity. Children and staff from the Centre have been invited to attend the House Music Festival on the last day of term and the money we have raised this term will be presented to them.

In line with our objective of increasing the global awareness of our Sixth Form students, we instituted Global Solutions Week this term. Each tutor group worked on a project that would raise awareness of a specific world issue e.g. global warming, energy conservation, development economics, poverty, recycling and food crises. We also heard a presentation by Major Will Kefford, on 'Global Solutions: A Military Solution?' The new Sixth Form magazine 'Incite' had an exciting first edition and the next special Global Solutions edition will be released early next term.

The students have been involved in a wide variety of house events, PSHE sessions and also trips overseas, such as the Thimun conference, music festival and rugby trip all in Singapore, together with the football trip to Phuket. The students are fully involved in the school's After School Activities (ASA) programme and also provide community service in school through the Make a Difference (MAD) programme, offering classroom support, administrative support and sports coaching.

David Hobday

Sport

I am very grateful to the staff, pupils and parents who have assisted us in running the sports programme this term. You will read about individual and team successes, of which we are very proud, but most importantly we have seen real commitment to practice and training.

Rugby

JIS rugby players travelled to Singapore to take part in the Singapore International Youth Rugby Tournament on the weekend of 29 and 30 November. Playing against teams from Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Indonesia the Under 16s and Under 14s won the Plate Competitions for group runners up, while the Under 18s lost in the final of their Plate Competition. The squads were: Under 18s Bas Felius and Zac Macchesney; Under 16s Karim Ibrahim, Fauzan Yahya, Nick Pudupully, Callum Macdonald, Mike Killen, Muaz Rahman, Mickey Alli, Harry Pyrgos, Oliver Goy, Muiz Saman and Isaac Yee; Under 14s Aaron Williams, Ted Pyrgos and Tom Turton.

U13 FOBISSEA Games

The U13 FOBISSEA Squad travelled to Penang to compete in the U13 Games from 12 to 16 November. They competed in athletics, swimming, football and basketball.

There were many individual achievements within each sport but we should perhaps focus on the team performance. The school won a medal in 97 of 102 events. (It is only possible for one medal to be won in each event!) In other words, we were placed in one of the top three positions in 95% of the events. The squad achieved the following:

Overall Athletics Champions
Overall Swimming Champions
Gold in Boys Football
Bronze in Girls Basketball
Bronze in Boys Basketball
29 Gold Medals, 33 Silver Medals and 35 Bronze Medals

Mike Carter

KK Football Trip

JIS students participated in the inaugural Figos Borneo Football Cup. There were six teams in the U12 Competition. The matches took place at the 25,000 capacity Likas Stadium under floodlights - this was a marvellous experience for the boys. It took a little while for the team to get going, but the players should be very proud of the results. They certainly out-played their opponents in five out of their six matches. Unfortunately, only three of the games resulted in victory.

Match 1 v KK Schools Select	L	0—2
Match 2 v TABS	L	1—2
Match 3 v 1st XI Academy	L	0—1
Match 4 v Tauran	W	3—1
Match 5 v Densit FC	W	5—0
Match 6 v KK Schools Select	W	2—1

Scott Moore/Ian Mehta

Competitive House Football/Netball (for Years 10-13)

In addition to our normal house football and netball events, we have introduced 1st XI/1st VII fixtures this year in an attempt to extend the competitive experience of our school teams. Blue and Green Houses are currently joint top of both the football and netball competitions, with the final round of fixtures scheduled to take place in the New Year.

David Hatchett

House Athletics (Years 6-10)

House Athletics takes place on Wed 5th December. It will involve every single student in years 6-10 (approximately 600) taking part in seven athletic disciplines, earning points for themselves and for their Houses. Individuals with the highest scores in each year group will receive prizes as will the House with the highest points score overall. It promises to be an excellent day of sporting competition.

Mike Carter

International Football Competition

In November, twenty boys and girls from Years 9 to 13 participated in the annual International Football competition at the British International School, in Phuket. The girls finished fifth out of eight teams in the tournament – an excellent achievement considering the high standard of the opposition. The boys also played extremely well and remained unbeaten until a close final which they lost 1 – 0, to leave them in second place.

Steve Whiteley

Next term we are delighted to be involved in an initiative with the Ministry of Youth and Sport, which will give schools the opportunity to be involved in a league programme in football, basketball and netball at Under 18 and Under 15 levels. Our rugby players will also start their league programme and some of the National Knockout competitions run by KoKurricular may start towards the end of term 2.

Finally, we are delighted to be hosting the Under 15 FOBISSEA games in March and welcome seven visiting schools from Brunei, Taipei, Thailand, Malaysia and Vietnam.

Mike Carter

Music

250 students performed in the International Day concert. All of the major Music ensembles and choirs from across the school performed in the school gym. In addition, there were performances by the Scottish and cultural dancers and guest performances by the Wushu Chinese martial arts and the Army Pipe Band. The previous week the orchestra performed for HRH Prince Charles and Duchess of Cornwall at The Empire Hotel and Country Club.

Our singing students were involved in several performances outside of school including the Serunai Singers's 30th Anniversary Concert, Christmas Carols at the Yacht Club and a performance at the Pantai Restaurant at The Empire Hotel & Country Club.

There were several music trips including a weekend to Kuala Lumpur to watch the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra and this year's FOBISSEA Music Festival was hosted by Tanglin Trust School in Singapore. Our group of fourteen students and two staff thoroughly enjoyed their involvement with the other participating FOBISSEA schools.

Other musical events included the Middle School production of "Little Stars". The two-night performances were entertaining and received positive comments from parents. The JIS Idol competition was won by Azim Mahayudin from Blue House.

The Trinity Guildhall Music Examinations took place in the last week of November with 32 participants on a wide range of instruments comprising drums, violin, double bass, cello, violin, piano, trumpet, clarinet, flute & saxophone. All the students obtained excellent results with an average of 77% and several distinctions.

The term will end with special performances by the Japanese Drumline Group and by the four houses singing at the House Music Festival.

Important Dates for Next Year:

Concert Band & Jazz Band Canteen Concert (February 2009)

Senior Music Recital (February 2009)

The Empire Showcase Concert (4th March 2009)

Junior School Music Production (Y4/5): Jack and the Beanstalk (March 2009)

Trinity Guildhall practical examinations (May 2009)

Paul Edgeler

Science Competition Results 2008

JIS has entered students for the Australian Science Competition, organised worldwide by the University of New South Wales, since the school first opened. There has been a long history of success in all age groups and this year was no exception. The students who participated in April 2008 showed their commitment by staying after school to take the test. We look forward to further achievement in 2009!

Year 3:	1 High distinction (Michael Koh), 2 Distinctions, 7 Credits.
Year 4:	4 participation.
Year 5:	1 Distinction, 4 Credits, 2 participation.
Year 6:	2 High distinctions (Joshua Elgar and Timothy Koh), 4 distinctions, 1 Credit, 1 participation.
Year 7:	5 High Distinctions (Samuel Kong, Eunice Lee, Elman Mazlan, Boon Pek, Zhong Yao Sia), 7 Distinctions, 5 Credits, 1 participation.
Year 8&9:	7 High Distinctions (Manoj Ashok, Elysia Cowley, Joseph Kong, Chung Giam Lim, Meei Peng, Thomas Pluck, Hyun Jin Song), 13 Distinctions, 9 Credits, 4 Participation.
Year 10:	2 High Distinctions (Syazwani Kamarulzaman, Lenard Ong), 9 Distinctions, 5 Credits, 3 participation.
Year 11:	3 High Distinctions (Wan Yun Chang, Chung Tee Lim, Adeeb Rahman), 3 Distinctions, 3 Credits.
Year 12:	1 Distinction, 4 Credits, 7 participation.
Year 13:	3 Distinction, 5 Credits, 4 participation.

The following students have received medals: Eunice Lee; Hyun Jin Song; Michael Koh and Timothy Koh.

Chris Kruger

Art and Design

JIS Art students met HRH The Prince of Wales and HRH The Duchess of York at UBD. Visiting artists from The Prince's School of Traditional Arts, London, conducted a number of practical art workshops at JIS exploring Islamic Art using traditional techniques. Two students from Year Ten, Ameer Masle and Hasanah Putra, were invited to attend another workshop at UBD with other students who represented a variety of schools across Brunei. The royal guests visited the workshop and painted an Islamic design alongside the students.

Jenni Stroud

The Design and Technology Faculty were invited by the Ministry of Education to exhibit a range of excellent project work produced by GCSE and A Level Design and Technology at the Hari Guru celebrations at the ICC this year. On visiting the stand, His Majesty the Sultan expressed great interest in the work of the students and the use of advanced technology in the curriculum.

Justin Harris

Drama

In February and March, the Drama Department will be hosting its unofficial annual Brunei Theatre Festival. This year the secondary school play has been split in two, with the all-male version of Reginald Rose's classic drama *12 Angry Men* as well as an all-female adaptation of Gogol's *The Government Inspector*. The week after, the A Level Drama and Theatre Studies students will be presenting their devised pieces, *Mother Earth* and *S.I.C.K.*, alongside the AS Level scripted piece *Find Me* by Olwen Wymark.

Ian McShane

This year's Middle School production of *Little Stars* really met our criteria for a successful production. For the third year running the cast was over 80. Every student who auditioned had a speaking part. The house really rocked and most importantly the students had fun. The comments from parents after the performance showed that the students weren't the only ones who enjoyed it. For me, the most rewarding moments were watching students from Learning Support and English as an Additional Language up on stage, giving it their all. I remember one of them entering Middle School a year ago finding it difficult to string a sentence together. Now, that student has performed with confidence in front of a large audience.

Andrew French

IGGY (International Gateway for Gifted Youth, Warwick University)

Warwick University held its first IGGY Summer University on the Warwick University campus in the UK in July – August 2008 for 100 students worldwide. Three JIS students attended as participants and one as a student mentor. Their reports on the experience will appear in the next edition of Suara.

A second "IGGY University", called a "Winter U" will be held each year in December in Singapore at the National University of Singapore High School. All JIS students who applied were offered places; sixteen will take up the opportunity to attend this prestigious event and two Sixth Formers will attend as student mentors. The courses available are: Chemistry, Physics & Saving the World; Creative Writing & Comparative Culture; Global Young Entrepreneurs; Medical Sciences; Solving Global Issues through Mathematics.

All students who attend an IGGY Summer or Winter U automatically become members of Warwick's IGGY programme. The programme is aimed at extending the top 5% of students worldwide aged 11 to 19 through a challenging and stimulating online environment. More information is available at ww2.warwick.ac.uk/study/iggy.

Wendy Isaac

International Award

Bronze

The Bronze Award students (63 from Year 10 this year) completed a practice expedition on one of two weekends during November. They walked from Berakas Camp to Muara along the coast, camping overnight north of Pantai Meragang. All students did extremely well and are now preparing for their main expeditions in January and working towards their Skill, Service and Physical requirements.

Gold

Thanks to generous funding by Brunei Shell Petroleum, our Gold Award students - over half of whom are Brunei nationals - will take part in the annual African expedition and complete a week long community project helping Masai Bush schools in remote areas of Kenya and Tanzania. We have twenty-six students training for Kenya in July 2009. The students have managed to complete the first of two training weekends. This first one was held around Tungku and Shabandhar in early November. All of the Gold International Award candidates had to negotiate hot and humid conditions, going up and down hill over twenty-five kilometers. All students had to carry their own kit and food, weighing over 10 kilos, for an overnight camp before another round of hill walking the following day. Despite blisters, aching joints, losing a litre or two of sweat, suffering sore shoulders and muscle cramps, all of the candidates managed a smile... a week later.

The Presentation Evening, held in October, gave last year's group the chance to talk about their experiences. They presented a superb photo and video account of the ascent of Kilimanjaro and a Masai building project deep in the Great Rift Valley. The proud parents were joined by Mr. David Purvis of Brunei Shell, Captain Susie Abdullah of Royal Brunei Armed Forces, Mr. Ian Mehta, Head of Middle School, Mr. Rob Airdrie and Mr. Philip Lowther, each in charge of the Bronze and Silver Awards here at JIS and Mr. Andrew Taylor representing Mr. Price. The students were then presented with their DVDs of the trip and their Mt. Kilimanjaro certificates, stating they had climbed Africa's highest peak. The evening ended with David Purvis presenting Larissa Ong with her Gold Award, after she had successfully completed all the sections over the last eighteen months. She joins Sarah Eliassen, Jvaneel Parekh, Sarathy Anbuselvam, Emma Foulkes, Ayesha Moran, Lauren Coad, Mauricio Serrano, Yvonne Koay and Andrew Read as JIS Gold Award holders.

JIS has also featured in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Annual Review and Award News magazine, both distributed in 175 countries worldwide

Roland Lopez

Higher Education

Term One of the 2008-2009 academic year marked a major change in staffing in the Higher Education & Careers Faculty at JIS. After six years of dedicated service as Dean of Higher Education, Mrs. Wendy Isaac took up a new position in the school as an Academic Director. This paved the way for a reorganisation of the faculty with the appointment of two new Deans of Higher Education & Careers, namely Mr. Russell Mann and Dr. Richard Clarkson, supported by Assistant Dean Ms Fiona Bain, Careers Adviser Ms Ann Lord and the indispensable HE/Careers & Sixth Form Team Secretary, Amy Lai.

Parents are advised to keep an eye out for the monthly HE/Careers Matters newsletter in which you will receive updates of important events and upcoming deadlines. Please encourage your sons and daughters to read it carefully as the information is likely to be of great importance to their future higher education pathway and career. The HE/Careers staff offices and the Higher Education & Careers library and information area are located in the left hand wing of R Block. We encourage you to consult with us whenever you need information or advice about higher education and careers choices.

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A new initiative this term has been the establishment of individual electronic Higher Education Student Folders on the school network. The purpose of these 'secure' folders is to provide a two way channel of communication and to enhance the exchange of documents between the Higher Education staff and students in the Sixth Form. The new system has been rolled out to Year 13 students to date, and has proven highly effective as a medium for submission of personal statements for revision by the HE staff prior to students making their UCAS applications.

Year 12 students will be allocated 'secure' folders early next term and these will be used as a primary source of disseminating a plethora of essential information relating to higher education choices, in particular application procedures across a wide variety of destinations.

Study in Australia Update

On October 16th the Australian governmental organisation AUSTRADE, in conjunction with The Australian High Commission, Brunei Darussalam, hosted a higher education exhibition under the title STUDY IN AUSTRALIA 2008 – Brunei, at the Sheraton Utama Hotel. Ten leading Australian Universities were represented. The bus load of JIS students who attended the exhibition reported that it was very valuable to meet and speak with university representatives. The Australian High Commissioner, Dr. Ruth Adler, commented recently that due to the excellent attendance the exhibition will be expanded next year to include more universities, which is a very positive development for our students.

On October 15th Ms Jan Drew, Regional Director (Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei) of The University of Melbourne gave a presentation at JIS for interested students in Years 11, 12 & 13. Ms Drew discussed higher education in Australia in general and introduced the new Melbourne Model of tertiary education. The Melbourne Model introduces six new undergraduate degrees in the Arts, Biomedicine, Commerce, Environments, Music and Science – followed by employment, a professional graduate degree, or a research degree such as a PhD. This new model of tertiary education in Australia, pioneered by The University of Melbourne, is similar to the pathway leading to a professional qualification in the United States and Europe. It is likely to become common across Australian universities in future years and its introduction will have significant implications for those planning to study in Australia. If you require further information, in particular on the timing of the changes that are occurring, please do not hesitate to contact the higher education staff as above.

Study in the UK Update

We have continued to extend relations between UK universities and JIS. This term both the University of Bath and the University of Liverpool visited the school, on separate occasions, giving talks to a packed room of Sixth Form students each time. These universities are popular choices for JIS students and the visits provided a great source of advice and inspiration to both Year 12 and Year 13 students.

The UK university application process is in full swing at the moment, with some students already receiving offers of places. This process will continue through next term, but the sooner the application is submitted the sooner the offers will be made by universities.

Russell Mann

Careers

This has been a very busy term for Careers Education. Years 8, 9 and 10 have started to prepare their "Careers Portfolio and Record of Achievement" by taking the "Fast Tomato" or "Pathfinder" on-line careers questionnaire and researching careers which match their interests. This is a long-term strategy to provide the students with the skills and knowledge which will enable them to make informed decisions about subject options in school, higher education and ultimately, their career.

Year 11 students experienced a "Graduate Recruitment" team exercise, which followed the format that many large recruiters use when recruiting for their graduate training schemes. All the students enjoyed this stimulating session, but it was excellent preparation for their future career progression.

Supporting this strategy, a careers trip was organised to the Supreme Court, for students interested in a career in the Law. Students had a very informative talk by the Court's Chief Registrar, a tour of the facilities and were able to sit in on an actual case in the Court of Appeal. Additionally potential engineers visited the Total Oil facility in Lumut, where they had a very informative talk about the operation of the natural gas plant, health and safety issues and careers in the industry. This was followed by a tour of the plant where theory became reality. Total's dedicated staff were very helpful in answering students' questions.

Twenty-six Year 11 and 12 students took advantage of the opportunity to join the Futurewise Scheme, which offers the excellent Morrisby profiling as one of its benefits. This is one of the best respected psychometric tests, accurately pin-pointing career options based on the strengths and aptitudes of each individual. Morrisby profiling will take place again in early March.

If any parent is able to contribute their expertise to our Careers Education programme, please contact me on ann.lord@jis.edu.bn

Ann Lord

Learning Support

Promoting reading has been a focus for the Learning Support Faculty this term. The Paired Reading initiative has been very successful with more than thirty Middle School students having the opportunity to read with an older student each Friday. Students from Year 10 and the Sixth Form volunteered to be reading buddies and after initial training, they enthusiastically took on their role as reading mentors. The programme will continue in Term 2.

Learning Support Assistants have taken part in a number reading intervention training sessions and following this, parents were invited to school to find out about new reading programmes in school. The meeting was well attended and hopefully we will be able to run similar workshops in Term 2.

Angela Piddington

Year 6 Brisbane Trip

Year 6 students went to Brisbane for the first time this year. The cancelling of direct flights to Darwin meant we had to find a new destination. This alternative has been a great success and the students thoroughly enjoyed themselves. There was a visit to the Southbank of Brisbane where we explored the Gallery of Modern Art and the Queensland Museum and a night trip to the Gold Coast to interact with the animals at the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary. While on camp, all the children participated in activities such as climbing a giant blue gum tree, swinging from high ropes suspended from gum trees, climbing a wall and shopping, which is always a popular activity whether in Australia or Brunei. All thirty girls and boys had a wonderful time and some parents have already commented that the trip has had a profound impact upon the confidence, independence and maturity of their child.

Jannine Walker

Paris Trip

14 JIS students went to Paris for a week in September to discover this beautiful city and learn some French too! Those without any French made wonderful efforts to try and communicate with local people in the shops, museums and restaurants. The more advanced learners really had the chance to put into context what they had learned in the classroom. There were visits to famous monuments, such as the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe, Montmartre, art museums, such as Le Louvre to see the Mona Lisa, but also the science museum in La Villette and some nice French restaurants.

Philippe Poulain

Temburong Trip

Year 13 Biology students have recently returned from the Kuala Belalong Field Studies Centre in Temburong, where they completed much of the fieldwork for the A Level studies. The trip is often the highlight of the students' Biology course and this year seemed to be no exception.

Dominic Briffa

Geography Trips

This term a number of our geographers have been busy investigating coastal processes and landforms. Early in November, sixteen Year 12 students were introduced to techniques they will require for their A Level individual research projects through a study of the geomorphology of Berakas Beach. Later in the month, eighty-five Year 9

students visited the same area, where they gathered information to help them draw conclusions about the environmental impact of coastal defences.

Yvonne Follows-Smith

THIMUN

Nineteen students from Year 11-13 took part in the Fourth Annual Model United Nations Conference in Singapore during the third week of November. More than 1300 students from fifty-five schools across the world took part in this increasingly popular international conference. JIS students represented Cuba, Germany and the World Bank, debating issues ranging from the situation in Tibet to the problems of mass tourism and the illegal trade in small arms.

External Exams

Certificates from the May/June 2008 exam session are now available from the exams office. Results from the November 2008 GCSE Science Modular Exams will be available on 15 January 2009 whereas other GCE/(I)GCSE results will be available on January 21, 2009. January 2009 GCE exams will begin on 8 January until 29 January. All personalised timetable and exam invoices for students who are sitting for the January 2009 GCE Exams have been distributed to students. Deadline for the 10% discount for exam fees is 5 January 2009. If you have any queries with regard to your child's exam(s), please contact the exams office.

Nicole Chong

PTCG

At the beginning of term the PTCG hosted a Poolside Barbeque to welcome everyone at the start of a new school year. John White and the boys from the boarding house did a great job barbequing large numbers of sausages and burgers. The event provided a good opportunity for new and existing parents, students and teachers to meet up.

Towards the end of term, the PTCG along with the Sports Department hosted the largest Football Funday ever held at the school. 130 teams took part representing forty-five schools from all over Brunei. We would like to thank our main sponsor Total E & P Borneo BV for their generous donation to this highly enjoyable and rewarding event and to our other sponsors, especially Delcol who provided all the water for the participating teams.

Football Funday would not have been possible without the hard work on the day of the teachers, staff, PTCG committee members and boys from the rugby section. Finally a big 'thank you' to all parents for their contributions of cakes and books that allowed us to raise \$800 on the book stall and \$490 through the sale of cakes and refreshments.

Car Pass for Year 2009

We should like to remind all parents and drivers that cars must have the new 2009 car pass clearly visible in order to enter the school premises. The 2009 car pass is available through the Student Centre or the Junior School office.

Next Term

Term 2 begins on Monday 5 January at 7.40am. Boarders return on the Sunday evening as usual. Finally, thank you to all parents, students and teachers who contributed to the annual JIS photographic calendar. The talents of our community always impress and this publication, once again, makes a great momento of this wonderful place Brunei, where we live and work.

Have a very happy Christmas or December Holiday. Many thanks for all your support.

Yours sincerely



John Price
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