

## Newsletter- 22/04/20



Kowloon Junior School's latest newsletter is available to read now.

### **Dates for Your Diary]**

Monday 20 April	First day of Term 3 - via Distance Learning
Thursday 30 April	Buddha's Birthday - <b>No school</b>
Friday 1 May	Labour Day - <b>No school</b>
Friday 15 May	PTA Bingo Night
Friday 22 May	KJS Music Concert
Friday 29 May	ESF Transition Day for whole school
Wednesday 3 June	Y5 girls & Y6 immunisation
Friday 5 June	PTA Disco Night
Tuesday 23 June	Y6 Leavers Assembly
Wednesday 24 June	Final Assembly at 2pm & Last day of the year - <b>Full day class</b>
Thursday 25 June	Summer holiday begins!
Tuesday 11 August	First day of 2020/2021 school year

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 3 at KJS. As we continue with distance learning, we remain optimistic that we will have the children back at KJS very soon! There is a lot of detail in this newsletter, so please take the time to read it right through.

### Wellbeing:

Our focus to start the term is wellbeing. Never before has it been so important to have in place strategies that develop physical and emotional wellbeing as now. Your child's teacher will be reinforcing strategies and activities to support the wellbeing of your child. Below, we have additional information to support wellbeing.

### Support for Families:

Mindhk is a mental health charity. They are committed to improving awareness and understanding of mental health in Hong Kong. They provide online support and interventions, based on global best practice, to empower anyone facing a mental health issue.

They are hosting a free webinar on Wednesday, 22nd April. This is specifically designed for parents and with content specific to the challenges faced during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please go to this link for further information

### Parents Voice and Feedback:

In Term 2, we conducted multiple surveys to gather feedback and enhance the distance learning provision. This term, we commence the process by face-to-face (via Zoom) meetings so that we can stay in touch with how things are for families. Later in the week, I am looking forward to meeting with PTA class representatives to hear about their experiences with distance learning via our first 'Virtual Cafe'. I look forward to updating you on feedback from this meeting and sharing future Virtual Cafe dates and opportunities to connect.

### Reporting:

This term, teachers will continue to gather information and data to inform end of year reports. This year's report will be a celebration of learning for the whole academic year. In relation to distance learning, teachers will report based on learning submissions and participation in Zoom sessions. This will apply to year level learning and Chinese language learning. We believe this honours and respects the decisions families have made about the quantity of learning their child has accessed. We know that for a range of reasons, families have had to make judgements about their child's participation in distance learning since January. This approach will ensure we celebrate and acknowledge the learning that children have been able to access rather than highlighting what some have missed through no fault of their own. The result will be a comprehensive, accurate and positive reflection of learning for your child in 2019/20.

### Photos and 2019/20 Yearbook:

We are in the final stages of completing the Yearbook for 2019/20. School and class photos have also recently arrived at KJS. As such, given the challenge of suspended school, photos from this year will be distributed along with the Yearbook in June. Please contact the office if you have an urgent need for the photos before this date.

### Upcoming Events and End of Year Celebrations:

Please note that our calendar of events above remains very fluid, as we continue to follow the advice of ESF and the EDB. Rest assured, we will find ways to make sure that we can celebrate the end of year in a suitable way even if school remains suspended. We are working behind the scenes with contingency plans for special events and will communicate these plans once we have clarity about recommencement of school or otherwise.

### Camps and Buses:

We have a School Council meeting next Monday and following this, we will be able to communicate the process regarding camp

fees. We have been collecting parents' feedback regarding buses and the responses with various providers with requests for refunds/discounts. We will update you when we have additional information.

KJS Music Tutors - Online Music Lessons:

During this time of distance learning, students can greatly benefit from engaging in a variety of learning experiences. Our KJS music tutors will be offering music lessons online in Term 3. Should you be interested, please contact the music tutors directly. KJS Music Tutors contact information can be found here: <https://www.kjs.edu.hk/useful-information/> (click on 'Registered Music Tutors 2019-2020' tab).

If your child was enrolled in the music clubs at KJS for Term 2, we highly encourage you to continue with the music lessons online. Our music tutors will offer flexible learning arrangements and music experiences that will enable students to progress through distance learning. Please contact the music tutors directly for more information.

Chromebooks and a iPad borrowing scheme:

Chromebooks and ipads are still available, however we need you to complete this form and then email the office so we can arrange for collection.

Thank you for your ongoing support! We received a number of incredibly positive and affirming emails over the holiday from parents who noted the incredible dedication and hard work of KJS staff. I shared the kind words with staff and this has certainly given them a boost as we head into Term 3. Please stay in touch and remember that you can contact me directly if you have any questions or require clarification about any matters.

Kind regards

?????

?????????

Neill O'Reilly

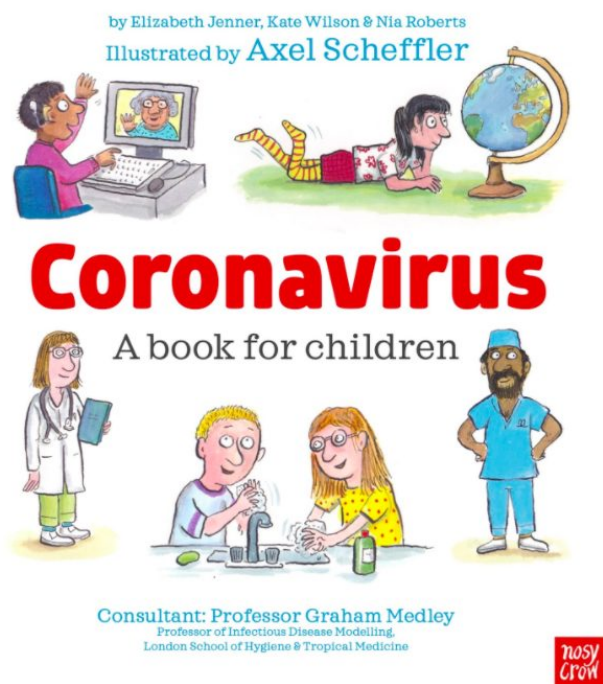
Principal

**Library News]**



The KJS Virtual Library and Library Splat page have been updated with new and exciting resources to keep students busy at home. We will highlight two this week.

### Kid Friendly Information on Coronavirus (Covid-19)



A new section has been added in the KJS Virtual Library 'Fun and Helpful Website' page called 'Kid Friendly Information on Coronavirus (Covid-19)'. There are picture books and graphic novels that have been written to help children cope with the changes brought about by the pandemic. Some have been translated to different home languages so that children can access the information more easily. We suggest that Parents and Caregivers read these stories with their child.

Several videos have also been included such as Brainpop and interviews of world leaders by children. We hope this section can help Parents can use these resources to engage their children in discussions and we hope this section can alleviate some of their worries.

### Audible

Amazon is offering their audiobooks online for free during school closures. The link to connect is here:

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen> and a link has been placed in our KJS Virtual Library 'Fun and Helpful Website' page. There is a great selection of books including favourites such as the Harry Potter series and The Terrible Two (Battle of the Books 2019/2020). Audible also offer books in other home languages such as Japanese, Italian, French, German and Portugese.

We hope you enjoy these new resources. We'll introduce you to more next week. If you have any questions, please email Ms. Lau at [macy.lau@kjs.edu.hk](mailto:macy.lau@kjs.edu.hk).

**PTA Update]**

WELCOME TO TERM 3 !



As our children settle into this new term, we would like to remind parents to hold onto to their sold and unsold raffle tickets if these have not yet been returned to the PTA. We need to account for every raffle ticket that was issued, and it is important that all tickets and stubs are returned to us as soon as possible for auditing purposes. In light of the fact that some of you may not be in Hong Kong, please return these tickets to us as soon as you are back.



Refunds for the School Disco tickets will be issued once school reopens. We will also honour refunds for current Year 6 children who have tickets and may not be back at school this term. These refunds can be processed at the start of the next school year.

**Sponsors for the School Fair and Raffle**

Even though we could not host as many events as we would have liked this year, we did manage to have our school raffle which helped us raise \$80,000 for the school to invest in Marker Resources for the children. Our raffle went ahead as planned and was only possible because of all our generous and committed sponsors. The PTA would like to thank each and every one of you.

To show our appreciation for your donations, we will be featuring you in our school fair booklets for next year. There will also be a special mention in our school Yearbook this year.

Thank you.

I wish you a wonderful week.

Kind regards,

Saloni Melwani

Chair, PTA

**Student Success]**

The celebration of student success will channel to our Facebook page. You can find the school's Facebook here. Please keep the photos and stories coming of our children shooting the AAROW's of Success!

**Disclaimer:**

Kowloon Junior School, English Schools Foundation and its affiliates shall take no responsibility for any activities, events, and services, that are organised by other organisations or individuals and are mentioned in our newsletters.

If you do not wish to receive our newsletters by email, you may contact the school office at [office@kjs.edu.hk](mailto:office@kjs.edu.hk) to opt out. Our newsletters will still be accessible on our website <https://www.kjs.edu.hk/kjs-news/>.

In accordance with our Personal Data Handling Policy, Kowloon Junior School and English Schools Foundation may place your child's photos, name, school work, activities and accomplishments in our newsletters or other publications (including but not limited to our websites and social media sites). If you would like to opt out, please email the school office at [office@kjs.edu.hk](mailto:office@kjs.edu.hk).