

Alumni Newsletter



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COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS







Alumni of the Month



Hello, everyone! My name is N R Selva Sheren, and I am the valedictorian of my batch. I have just graduated from IGCSE, and I am currently studying A-levels in SJIS. I am having a great time learning from my kind and amiable teachers, while creating more valuable memories with both new and familiar batch mates.

Thinking back to my days in SJIS, one of my favourite memories is our school trip to Penang, where I shared many fantastic moments with my friends. We visited one of the most famous amusement parks in Malaysia, which is Escape Penang, and experienced the longest tube water slide in the world. Although we only stayed in Penang for 2–3 days, my friends and I still talked about the tiniest details of this unforgettable trip even to this day.

Other than that, one of my proudest moments in SJIS was when I participated in a district level chess competition (MSSD) and managed to finish in top 3 for both the individual and group category. I had put in so much effort and dedication in my chess training, and that got me the medal I covet for. Finally, I felt like the happiest man alive during my valedictorian speech. The proud nod from my parents at the end of my speech was an acknowledgement to all

the sacrifices I had made to excel in high school. It really was the best feeling ever!

Other than my parents, my teachers also played an important role in my success as a student. I would especially like to thank my ICT teachers for allowing me to use ICT equipment during break time to prepare for my IGCSE ICT exam. ICT was my least favourite subject, and it is all thanks to them for sparking an interest in me.

As a student in SJIS, I was also able to develop many soft skills. For example, I managed to strengthen my organisation skills and time management skills during Year 11, as our workload increased the closer we got to the IGCSE examinations. Therefore, I came up with my own study plan to ensure that I complete all necessary tasks and revisions within a stipulated time.

For me, I also cherish the time spent during extra-curricular activities. The first club I joined in Year 7 was the table tennis club, and it was a lot of fun. Even though I was a new student, the seniors always made me feel included all the time. Sometimes, I would even win a game or two against the more experienced seniors! I also loved being part of the karate club. The coach would always push me to become a better sportsperson every week.

Other than sports, we also participated in club activities. My club of choice was St John's Ambulance, and I really enjoyed the memories we have created every Thursday. I was able to meet many people with more experience who are passionate about serving as part of St. John's Ambulance. Club activities like discussions, quizzes, practicals etc was also the best way for me to take my mind off from school and examinations.

Thinking back about our debates and discussions in St John's Ambulance, I now realise we were nothing but pseudo-doctors pretending to know how to heal people. Perhaps that is what inspired me to choose science stream for my A-levels in order to pursue medicine. I really enjoy this course because I am a curious person in general, and medicine is something that intrigues me. One aspect of medicine that is fascinating is the constant innovation and advancement in medical research and technology. Researchers and healthcare professionals are continually discovering new treatments, developing innovative therapies, and improving medical technologies to enhance patient care and outcomes.

Overall, I believe the opportunity to contribute to the advancement of medical knowledge and technology, and ultimately make a positive impact on patient care, is one of the most rewarding aspects of being involved in the field of medicine. I am more than ready to overcome every obstacle on my way to becoming a well-known surgeon. It requires a lot of effort for sure, but I am up for the challenge!



Cause for Concern

- I care about the prevalent climate change, which refers to long-term shifts in temperature, precipitation, and other atmospheric conditions. The main cause of climate change is human activities, such as burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial processes.
- Pollution is another environmental issue that truly scars my soul. Pollution of air, water, and soil is a significant environmental concern. Pollution can harm human health, disrupt ecosystems, and degrade natural habitats. The picture of a turtle with a plastic straw stuck in its nostril still haunts me to this day.
- Deforestation is the clearing of forests for agricultural, logging, and development purposes. It contributes to habitat loss, loss of biodiversity, soil erosion, and climate change. Deforestation also threatens the livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities who depend on forests for their survival.

My Top 3 Tips for Sustainability

- Instead of accepting single-use plastic bags when shopping, bring your own reusable bags. Keep a stash of reusable bags in your car or by the door so you always have them handy when you go shopping.
- Avoid single-use plastics such as straws, utensils, and water bottles. Instead, I recommend using reusable alternatives such as stainless steel straws, bamboo utensils, and refillable water bottles.
- When shopping for groceries and other items, opt for products with minimal or recyclable packaging. Choose products packaged in glass, paper, or cardboard whenever possible, and avoid products with excessive plastic packaging.



Alumni of the Month



SJIS offered a conducive learning environment that I found extremely **enjoyable.** The teachers guided us through each lesson, allowing me to easily keep up with the class. Whenever I had any doubts, I could always rely on my teachers to provide me with thorough explanations and support. Additionally, my friends were a tremendous source of assistance, always ready to lend a helping hand whenever I needed it. They contributed greatly to my overall enjoyment of school. Furthermore, SJIS organised sports and clubs every Tuesday and Thursday, which I greatly looked forward to attending. The volleyball court was where my friends and I had a fantastic time, thanks to the coach who prepared us for the upcoming competitions. Despite the challenges, I found the extra training to be enjoyable. Moreover, I had the privilege of being the president of Interact, where we held meetings every Thursday to discuss our plans and aspirations.

Having served as the former Interact president, I honed my leadership skills. Now in college, I was actively engaged in service-learning activities where I could further develop my leadership abilities and guide my team towards achieving success. This experience was invaluable as it prepared me for future endeavours in the

corporate world and upcoming group projects. I was eager to step into the role of a leader who motivated and empowered my teammates to strive for excellence. This opportunity allowed me to explore my leadership potential, enhancing my self-awareness and understanding of my role within a team.

I used to have no musical talent, but I had a passion for singing, so my mother enrolled me in a music academy. While my singing skills did improve, I still lacked confidence in my voice. However, with the encouragement of my friends, I made the decision to join a band and performed at the awards ceremony. To this day, that memory remains vivid and impactful whenever I reflect on it. The excitement and enthusiasm shared among my bandmates and me made it an unforgettable experience. Despite the tiring and exhausting process, the fun we had and the positive outcome made it all worthwhile. Ultimately, what mattered most to me was not how well I sang, but the courage I displayed by stepping onto that stage and performing in front of everyone. It was a significant milestone in my life, one that I am immensely proud of, and I can confidently say that it enhanced my high school years.



During my time as a student, I never really contemplated what I wanted to pursue in the future, mainly because I lacked interest in most subjects and achieved average scores across the board. This left me at a standstill, unsure of which direction to take when I didn't even know what I wanted to study. However, one day while browsing through some courses with my mother, we stumbled upon a program that promised financial success if I excelled in it. Fortunately, I thoroughly enjoyed conversing with my teachers, and it was through one particular mentor that I received guidance on choosing the right path for my future. Without her, I might have ended up enrolling in a program that didn't align with my interests. After our conversation, I pondered over her advice and shared with my mother the pathway I had decided upon, which she wholeheartedly supported. I am truly grateful for the invaluable guidance she provided, as it led me to a path that I personally preferred.



I enrolled at MCKL for my A levels. The reason I chose MCKL was because they offered a German pathway, which was perfect for my aspirations of studying engineering in Germany. Transitioning from high school to college was a completely new experience for me. Undoubtedly, it was stressful, but life wouldn't have been meaningful without challenges. I firmly believed in the saying "no pain, no gain," so I was determined to work even harder for a brighter future, despite the difficulties that lay ahead.

World Earth Day

holds great significance for me due to its role in raising awareness about environmental issues. This annual event serves as a powerful reminder of the pressing challenges our planet faces, including climate change, pollution, deforestation, and the loss of biodiversity. By acknowledging these issues, World Earth Day encourages individuals to actively participate in various activities and events aimed at creating a healthier and more sustainable living environment for all. Moreover, this observance also plays a crucial role in my personal growth and development. Engaging in Earth Day activities fosters a sense of environmental responsibility, empathy towards the natural world, and a strong commitment to making a positive impact. Through taking action to protect the planet, I have the opportunity to cultivate valuable skills such as leadership, teamwork, communication, and problem-solving, which are applicable to my academic, professional, and personal life.

During my time in the A levels programme at MCKL, I actively participated in service learning. One of the impactful experiences was lending a hand to the recycling activities organised by Tzu Chi. The concept of reduce, reuse, and recycle was emphasised throughout this initiative. It became evident to me and my friends, while working at the recycling centre, just how much waste is generated by each individual. This realisation heightened our awareness of the importance of practising the three Rs. Without this awareness, the accumulation of waste would continue to harm our Earth and living environment. Additionally, I learned effective ways to minimise the waste I personally produce. By avoiding excessive packaging and opting for products with minimal or recyclable packaging, I am able to make a positive impact. Furthermore, I have made it a habit to bring my own reusable bags, water bottles, coffee cups, and containers to avoid contributing to the excessive use of single-use items.





SJIS Event:

Chinese New Year Celebration



On February 14, the Lion Dance troupe with their colourful costumes and accompanied by rhythmic drums, cymbals, and gongs, delivered a vibrant and energetic performance that captivated the audience at St. John's International Primary School (SJIP) and St. John's International Secondary School (SJIS). The students and staff were mesmerised by the troupe's dynamic dance styles and impressive acrobatic feats, creating an atmosphere of joy and celebration.

In Chinese culture, the lion symbolises various attributes such as strength, wisdom, and superiority, making the lion dance a highly symbolic and culturally significant art form. It is believed that the loud music and vigorous movements of the lion dance can ward off evil spirits and bring good fortune and prosperity to the community. The performance not only entertained the audience but also provided a valuable cultural experience, fostering a deeper appreciation for Chinese traditions and beliefs among the students and staff at SJIP and SJIS.



SJIS Event: **Awards Day 2024**



On February 24th, 2024, St. John's International Primary School (SJIP) and Secondary School (SJIS) held their Awards Day at Dewan Tan Sri Abu Zahar, LPP Jln Sultan Salahuddin. The event commenced promptly at 8:30 AM, welcoming esteemed guests, proud parents, and our distinguished awardees.

We were privileged to have the presence of Y.M. Tunku Dato' Yaacob Khyra, Chairman of the Board of Governors, along with Ms. Anne Rajasaikaran, CEO of Edumaax Education Group, Tuan Megat Mizan Nicholas Denny, and Mr. Jayapal Ramasamy, among other honourable guests.

The ceremony kicked off with the singing of 'NegaraKu' and our school anthem, 'Faith and Fortitude,' followed by speeches from Ms. Mehala, SJIP Principal, and Ms. Deborah Gordan, SJIS Principal. The atmosphere was further energised by a welcoming address from Ms. Anne Rajasaikaran, CEO of Edumaax Education Group.

At St. John's International, it has always been our tradition to recognize achievements in academics, sports, and clubs. The excitement of the award recipients was palpable as they were called up to receive their well-deserved honours. The ceremony was enriched by captivating performances by our talented students, eliciting cheers and applause from the audience.

The event also included the installation ceremony for prefects of SJIP and SJIS. As the ceremony concluded, everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch spread, marking the end of a memorable Awards Day 2024. We extend our congratulations and appreciation to the SJIP and SJIS Awards Day Committee for their collaborative efforts in organising this successful event. Special recognition goes to our enthusiastic and spirited Masters of Ceremonies for their excellent performance on stage. To all the award recipients, we commend you on your achievements and wish you continued success in the future!

SJIS Alumni upcoming: Events & Activities

SJIS Alumni Events & Activities 2024

27 Hari Raya Celebration

4 Alumni Brunch Gathering

22 Friendly Futsal Competition

6 Alumni Reunion Dinner

12 SJIS Cross-Country Run

10 Personal Development Talk (Online)

28 SIIS Carnival Day

26 Alumni Teambuilding (Escape Room)

NOVEMBER Alumni Cocktail Gathering





Join us in sharing the joy of Hari Raya with the underprivileged children at

PUSAT JAGAAN KASIH MURNI

27 APRIL , 2.30PM TO 4.30PM



The SJIS Privilege card entitles its members to discounts and other benefits as notified by SJIS to the members from time to time.



THE OLIVE TREE GROUP

Employees working for our partners will be able to enjoy the benefits as stated below.

- > 15% off all F&B (except promo items)
- > Special Happy Hour price for staff's all day
- > Special Monthly Promos designed specifically for staffs
- > Exclusive Events (Free Invites)
- > No Cover Charge if Company ID is shown at the door
- > Applicable to all outlets under The Olive Tree Group except for Luca



NOSH & CO

Employees and Alumni for our partners will be able to enjoy the benefits as stated below.

- > 15% off all F&B for Lunch and Dinner (except promo items)
- > Special Promos designed specifically for staffs





SJIS PRIVILEGE CARD

2507

3055

1416



DURIAN BB

Employees and Alumni for our partners will be able to enjoy the benefits as stated below.

- > 10% off for all merchandise and 5% off for fresh durians purchased at DurianBB Park.
- > 10% off for all merchandise and 5% off for fresh durians purchased at DurianBB World.



A000 MELBOURNE CAFE

Employees and Alumni for our partners will be able to enjoy the benefits as stated below.

> 10% discount for any spending with RM30 and above in a single bill.