



Alumni Newsletter

February 2024

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IMPERIUM
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE



1982
Pusat Tuisyen
KASTURI



PUSAT TUISYEN

A Heartfelt Welcome to The New School Year!

As the new school year begins, and the hallways once again echo with the excitement of new beginnings, it is with immense joy and enthusiasm that I extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you. The start of a new academic year is like the opening chapter of a captivating novel – *filled with anticipation, potential, and the promise of growth.*

Our school is not just a building; it's a vibrant community that thrives on shared values, mutual respect, and the pursuit of knowledge. Aligned with the longstanding La Salle tradition and values, our primary objective at St. John's International Secondary School has consistently been to provide top-notch holistic education, moulding our students into future leaders, all the while fostering cherished memories of their alma mater.

To our returning students, welcome back! Your enthusiasm and dedication have been the driving force behind our school's success, and I look forward to witnessing your continued achievements and contributions. For our new students, a special and heartfelt welcome! You are now part of a community that values curiosity, creativity, and the pursuit of excellence. Embrace the opportunities that lie ahead, make new friends, and let your unique talents shine.

As we embark on this new academic journey, let us collectively commit to creating a positive and inclusive atmosphere where each student feels valued and inspired to reach their full potential. Our school is not just a place of learning; it's a second home where lifelong memories are created, friendships are forged, and dreams take flight.

To our dear alumni, you also play a crucial role in this ongoing adventure. Your experiences, perspectives, and knowledge serve as priceless assets that can motivate and provide direction to our present students. We urge you to persist in sharing your achievements, the lessons you've acquired, and the influence of your education on your current path. Your active participation in our community serves to connect the past with the present, reinforcing the ties that knit us together as a closely bonded family.

Together, let's make this school year a memorable and enriching experience for all. Here's to a year of growth, discovery, and academic success!



“ *Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.* ”

- Marian Wright Edelman

Ms. Deborah Gordon
Principal



Alumni of The Month

Wayne Boo
Huan Heng

Batch 2018

Hi everyone, thanks for having me in this edition of the newsletter! I am so glad to be back again to relive my time as a student here in SJIS. As I did both my secondary and A-levels education here, SJIS will always have a special place in my heart, and it was really a nostalgic trip down memory lane when I came back for a visit.

I can still remember having fun with my friends during our time here and making lots of unforgettable memories especially during secondary school. Even though we were studying hard, we never failed to make every day count and we truly enjoyed our time as students. I can still vividly remember those days with my friends playing on the old futsal court during break times, or just going around the school grounds chatting about our interests and latest gossip.

Another one of my most cherished memories is being a crucial member in the formation of the St Johns Ambulance division, which is sadly no longer in operation. Back in the day, we went on many first aid duties for events both inside and outside of school, as well as fundraising activities to maintain the operation of the club. Providing our services during sports day was always a highlight as we would be all clad in our uniforms and ready to help the athletes with their injuries at any moment's notice. It taught me a lot about leadership and being proactive in all scenarios, especially when it comes to saving lives and tending to injuries. I really hope the club can be revived in the school again at some point in the future!

Other than friends, teachers also played a crucial role in my student experience at SJIS. A teacher who has been very inspiring to me in particular was my A-level physics teacher, Mr See Tuck Man. He was not only an amazing teacher but also an amazing mentor for us during our time in A-levels. He was extremely skilled in his teaching and knew the material like the back of his hand. That inspired me to really take my university studies seriously and do everything to the fullest of my potential. He was also very approachable and helped us with any difficulties we had during our AS and A2 exams. I loved being in his class as it was always exciting and very informative.



Friendship

Life has been good for me post-SJIS, and I am looking forward to embarking on my engineering profession in the near future. Currently, I am a 4th year degree student pursuing Electrical and Electronics Engineering in UTAR. There are aspects of my current course that I really enjoy. Firstly, I really love all the challenging coursework that is given to us; every assignment, tutorial and practical session has been a great learning experience. We can really express ourselves through our work, such as building prototypes using various methods and skills we learned throughout the course (e.g., programming microcontrollers), using practical skills like soldering and breadboarding to test designs, and working as a team with other course mates to get things done.

This year, I'll be working on my final year project, as well as integrated design projects for my university. It is the final stage for us to prove our competence and obtain our degree, before we embark on our career pathway. I am hopeful that everything will go well and I will excel in these projects as it contributes greatly to my professional trajectory.

Aside from my studies, I am also playing an active role in my university's co-curricular activities, like being the vice president of the music club! I've been pursuing my hobby in music and. I am working on projects like workshops and concerts for my music club, while pursuing my own hobbies and passions at the same time, like playing shows with my rock band in and out of university. I really do miss playing with my secondary school rock band, Imperium, and hopefully we will be able to come together and perform again for one of SJIS's esteemed events soon!

As this is the Friendship issue, I would like to share a little about my friendships as well. To be honest, I've mostly lost touch with the people I've acquainted with in SJIS, except for my closest friends. I still remain in close contact with them, frequently communicating with each other on platforms like WhatsApp and Discord, playing games together and organising gatherings regularly.

One of my favourite activities to do with my close friends is getting together and jamming to music. Since this is such a niche activity, it can be quite difficult to find the right people who can share my music tastes and communicate smoothly as band members. Fortunately for me, joining the music club really helped a lot as it developed our camaraderie and took us to

many places we wouldn't have been able to go on our own. It strengthened our friendship and we became a tight-knit group after going through so many trials and tribulations.

Another thing that helped us to grow closer together is our understanding and love for less popular music genres like ska, metal, and alternative music. To many people, it might seem bizarre to listen to niche genres like metal as it is considered "noisy", but this genre of music really speaks to who we are inside. This mutual love for music and the feeling of "us against the world" actually allowed us to connect with other similar-minded people and foster a sense of community within local circles.

Alumni of The Month

Batch 2022

Leong
Yu Hang



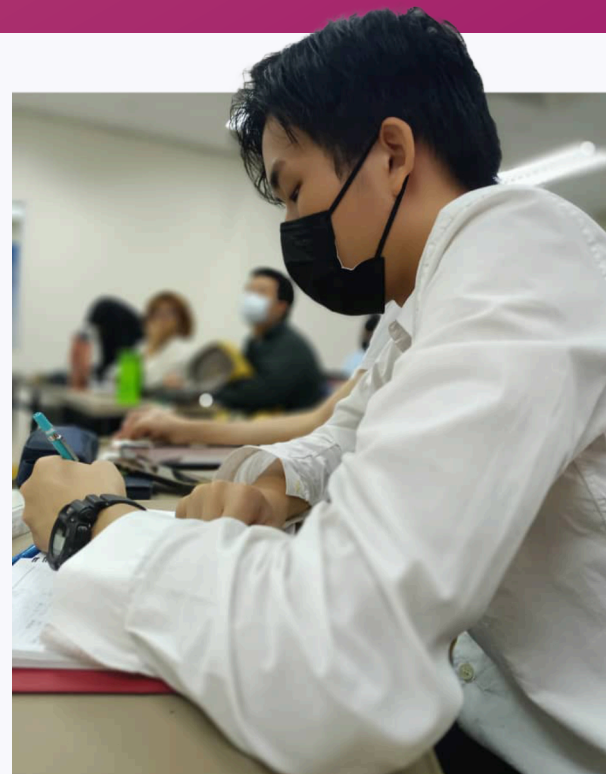
One of the things I really loved about my experience at SJIS is being a part of the Senior Student Council (SSC) during A-levels. It was really a fruitful experience being the Secretary of SSC as I learnt many soft skills, such as communicating with teachers and other students.

Another unique thing about SJIS is the variety of students from different backgrounds and regions. Since all the students are from different regions or countries, I was eventually exposed to different cultures and learnt about different ways of life. This also helped to strengthen my social and networking skills, which I am sure will contribute greatly to my career life in the future.

Even though A-levels is only a short 18-month course, everyone got along easily in the cheerful environment. The student den is one of the places that created the most memories for us, as we would get to know each other much better while playing pool together. I still keep in touch with my friends through social media, and sometimes I would even visit the school to meet up with my juniors.

Other than that, our lecturers were really helpful all the time. Whenever I have questions or difficulty understanding any of my subjects, my lecturers were ready and willing to provide me with guidance and answers.

I am an alumnus from the August 2022 A-level intake, and currently, I am applying to universities overseas to pursue my degree in Computing Science. I am still waiting for confirmation so wish me all the best!



Alumni Events

Alumni Video Shoot



Throughout the month of January 2024, we invited five selected SJIS alumni to participate in an exciting video production right here at the heart of our school. The goal of this video shoot is not only to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our distinguished alumni, but also to document the journey of personal and professional growth they have undertaken since graduating from SJIS. We take immense pleasure in presenting the stories of five exceptional individuals who have left an indelible mark on the SJIS legacy, the first of which is available for viewing on our Facebook and Instagram page now.

These compelling video narratives serve as a medium through which our accomplished alumni share their unique experiences at SJIS. As they traverse the familiar hallways and spaces within our school compound, recounting cherished memories, we were transported back in time. At the same time, we also find ourselves invigorated and

encouraged by the ambitious dreams and aspirations they have for their futures.

Beyond the screen, our earnest desire is that our alumni maintain an enduring connection with SJIS. We yearn to remain an integral part of their ongoing journey towards success, offering support and encouragement every step of the way.

If you would like to have your inspiring stories featured in our newsletter or on our social media, please get in touch with us through WhatsApp at **+6017-2471788** or by sending a message to our dedicated Facebook page: **@officialsjisalumni**.

Your stories are a testament to the enduring spirit of SJIS, and we are eager to share them with our wider community!

SJIS Events

New Parents' Orientation



6th January 2024 marked an eagerly anticipated event at SJIS as the campus buzzed with the energy of new beginnings during the annual New Parents' Orientation Day. The event provided a platform for parents to meet faculty members, ask questions, and gain a deeper understanding of their child's educational journey.

The day kicked off with a warm welcome from our school principal, Ms Deborah, setting the tone for an uplifting and collaborative experience. Informative sessions, led by seasoned faculty members, offered insights into the school's culture, academic programs, and extracurricular activities. Our new parents, undoubtedly an integral part of the day, listened attentively to understand the school's vision, mission, and support systems in place for their children.

We would also like to shine a spotlight on the inspiring speech delivered by one of our esteemed alumni, Ethan Ng, during the orientation. His words provided a window into his transformative experience at SJIS, offering a unique perspective on the lasting impact of our educational community. Ethan's insights and reflections were not only inspiring but also served as a testament to the values and principles instilled in our students during their time at our school.

Once again, a heartfelt thank you to all parents for your participation and commitment. We look forward to building a strong partnership with you and ensuring a successful and rewarding educational experience for your child!

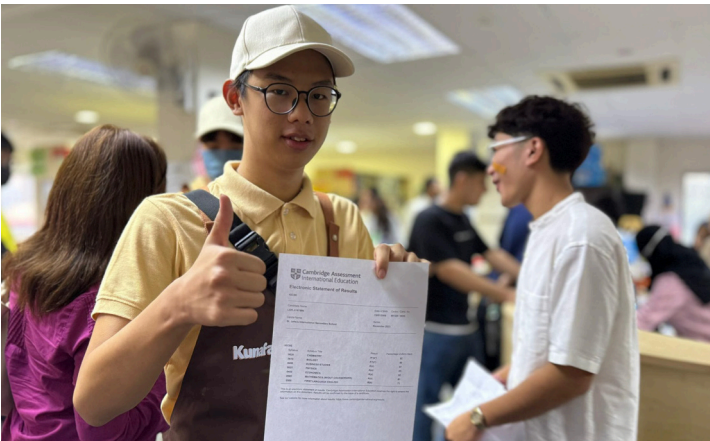
SJIS Events

IGCSE Results

Every year, our students diligently strive for excellence, and this year is no different. Heartfelt congratulations to all IGCSE students on the remarkable achievement of your outstanding results! Your unwavering commitment, tireless dedication, and relentless perseverance have undeniably borne fruit.

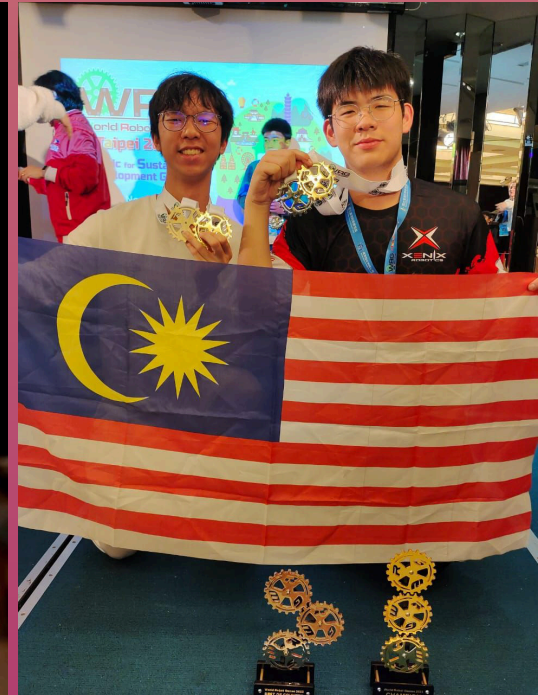
The road ahead holds a myriad of possibilities, and this achievement is but a stepping stone to the boundless opportunities awaiting you. Embrace the knowledge and skills you have acquired during your IGCSE studies as a robust foundation for the challenges and triumphs that lie ahead. Your journey is just beginning, and the horizons of success are expansive.

Congratulations once again, and may your journey ahead be nothing short of extraordinary!



SJIS Events

Congratulations, Tan Anson!



We are delighted to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Tan Anson, a remarkable student from Year 11, for his outstanding achievement at the World Robot Games 2023 (WRG2023) in Taipei! Securing the first-place position in the Senior Sumo Doubles 3kg (Autonomous) category not only underscores Anson's exceptional skill but also highlights his innovative and forward-thinking approach to robotics. Anson and his partner were also awarded the "Best in Country" trophy in recognition of their victory and outstanding performance across four additional events.

Anson's journey to victory took an impressive turn during the semi-finals when he outperformed the category favourites from Thailand, even though he was viewed as an underdog contestant due to this being his first time competing in WRG. This added layer of accomplishment not only demonstrated the depth of their skill but also underscored the ingenuity of their robot design. Anson and his partner's strategic thinking, dedication, and hard work undeniably paid off, culminating in a well-deserved triumph.

Despite facing stiff competition from teams representing the Philippines, China, Bhutan, Mexico, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, and Taiwan, Anson described the competition as thrilling. After their commendable performance, Anson and his partner intend to further develop their success and elevate their skills to greater levels, drawing inspiration from their exposure to the global stage.

At SJIS, we take pride in witnessing young minds like Anson excel on the international stage, contributing significantly to the advancement of technology. Anson's success is not just a personal achievement but a source of inspiration for our entire school community. We applaud him for his dedication, perseverance, and exemplary representation of SJIS values.

Congratulations, Anson! We look forward to witnessing your continued success in your future endeavours.



SJIS PRIVILEGE CARD

Brand new outlets
coming your way

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