



# KJS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear KJS families,

I hope this newsletter finds you well.

We are thrilled that next week we'll be welcoming Rachel Ip, an award-winning picture book author and author ambassador for Bring Me a Book Hong Kong. Rachel will be working with students across multiple year groups, sharing her passion for storytelling and inspiring our young writers and readers.

You should all receive the first of our new end of unit reports today in the ESF hub with the information related to these sent out a few days ago. As well as this, our booking system for the face-to-face conferences at the end of the month will go live over the next few days, please look out for the notifications in the app.

Next Thursday and Friday, it is of course our IB evaluation visit. I know we are all excited with the opportunity to share the fantastic work we have been doing with a particular focus on relationships and wellbeing.

Lastly our cross country races took place at Perth Street Sports Ground earlier this week. It was great to see the determination, perseverance, and school spirit that makes KJS so special.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr MacGregor  
Principal

### IMPORTANT DATES

- \* **Face-to-Face Conference (Evening Session)**  
29 January
- \* **Face-to-Face Conference (Whole Day)**  
30 January
- \* **Half-Day School (school ends at 12nn)**  
13 February
- \* **CNY Holiday**  
14-22 February
- \* **Y5 Camp**  
2-6 March
- \* **Last Day of Term 2 (school ends at 2:45pm)**  
27 March

## LIBRARY NEWS



Dear KJS Families,  
Welcome back to the second week of Term 2! We hope the new year has begun with warmth, curiosity, and plenty of good stories. As we settle into the rhythm of learning, our library continues to be a vibrant space for discovery, creativity, and connection.

This week's newsletter is filled with inspiring moments from our literary community. We are delighted to share highlights from a wonderful author visit with Rachel Ip, whose book *Wild Crossings* beautifully connected to our students' inquiry into sharing our planet. We also celebrate the ongoing achievements of our talented alumni in SCMP Posties, whose poetry and thoughtful book recommendations continue to inspire readers of all ages.

We encourage you to continue nurturing a love of reading at home, and to explore the many voices, ideas, and adventures that books bring into our lives. Together, let's make this term one of joyful learning and meaningful stories.

Happy reading,  
The KJS Library Team

## LIBRARY NEWS Rachel Ip Author Visits

We are delighted to share the highlights of a wonderful learning experience that took place in our school library this week. Our Year 5 students enjoyed an engaging and informative author visit with Ms. Rachel Ip, an acclaimed children's author.



The session centred around Rachel's beautifully illustrated book, **Wild Crossings**, which provided a perfect real-world connection to the students' current Unit of Inquiry, "Sharing the Planet." Our Central Idea, "*Creativity can increase the effectiveness of efforts to conserve the Earth's biodiversity*" came to life as Rachel shared insights from her research and writing. *Wild Crossings* is also this year's Golden Dragon Book Awards shortlisted title in the Debbie Alvarez category.



During her interactive talk, Rachel covered:

- A bit about herself and where she finds inspiration.
- The concept of sharing our planet with plants, animals, and other living things.
- Our impact on habitats, with special connections to Hong Kong's environment.
- Why animals move (migration, seeking food/shelter).
- Case studies from *Wild Crossings*, identifying problems and creative solutions to man-made obstacles for wildlife.
- The importance of wildlife crossings for biodiversity and conservation.
- Insights into the roles of the illustrator and the research process behind the book.
- Examples of real-life scientists, ecologists, and conservationists creating innovative wildlife crossings.

The session was highly interactive, and our students were captivated, asking thoughtful questions that showed their deep engagement with the theme.

To continue this inspiration at home, families who wish to purchase a copy of *Wild Crossings* or any of Rachel Ip's other books may do so via this Google Form:

<https://forms.gle/qGDbW11AnYKtFcHn7> (Open to all year groups, not just Year 5.)

We are pleased to announce that Rachel will be returning to KJS on **Monday, 19th January** to work with students in Years 1, 3 and 6. She has kindly agreed to sign books for our students; further details regarding the book-signing will be shared once orders have been processed.



We encourage you to ask your child about the talk and what they learned about creative conservation. It was a memorable morning that reinforced the power of curiosity, reading, and creative problem-solving in making a positive impact on our world.

### Alumni Authors Illuminate Posties with Poetry & Passion!

This week, we are thrilled to shine the spotlight on two more brilliant KJS alumni whose words continue to inspire our community in SCMP Posties! Whether through the gentle rhythm of poetry or the powerful summary of a meaningful story, our former students are proving that the love of storytelling they nurtured at KJS only grows stronger.



First, let's welcome back Angela Chen, whose beautiful seasonal poem "Nature and Light" graces the pages of this week's issue.

Angela first appeared in Posties back in Issue **#649 (April 7, 2025)** with her poem "Seasons", and it is wonderful to see her return with another thoughtful piece. Her latest work captures the quiet beauty of the natural world—from whispering trees and morning light to deep oceans and roaming animals. Angela's ability to weave imagery and emotion into verse shows a maturity and sensitivity well beyond her years. We are so proud to see her continuing to share her voice with readers. Well done, Angela!

Next, we celebrate Quincy Lo and Summer Yang, who have teamed up to deliver a compelling book recommendation for "Safiyyah's War" by Hiba Noor Khan. In their article, they introduce this award-winning historical fiction novel, which tells the inspiring true story of how the Grand Mosque of Paris helped save hundreds of Jews during World War II. Quincy and Summer highlight the themes of courage, compassion, and resistance, and thoughtfully reflect on what the book teaches us about war, identity, and humanity. It's a moving and insightful recommendation that is sure to inspire others to pick up this important story. Fantastic work, Quincy and Summer!



We are incredibly proud of Angela, Quincy, and Summer for continuing to share their creativity, empathy, and critical thinking with the wider Posties community. They remind us all that stories—whether written or recommended—have the power to connect, teach, and inspire.

Congratulations to all three! We can't wait to read what you'll share next.

To read more KJS Success stories from SCMP Posties, [click here](#).

To submit articles to Posties for consideration by the editors, [click here](#).

### Staff Book Recommendation of the Week



This week's recommendation comes from **Ms. Kyla, Library Assistant**

**Book:** Fruits : a Caribbean counting poem by Valerie Bloom and David Axtell

**Ms. Kyla** says: I love Fruits because it is a lovely poem about many of my favourite fruits!

The poet is right, one guinea is certainly not enough!



## PTA NEWS

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Dear Parents,  
We hope everyone has settled well back into school routine.

### Upcoming events- Mark your diaries!

Friday 27 February -Movie Night at KJS

Come and watch with your friends and family and enjoy an evening under the stars. More details will be shared soon.

Friday 6 March- Parents Bingo Night

Following last year's very successful evening, the PTA is hosting this super exciting social event again. It's for **adults only** and will be held off site. Join us for an evening of fun, laughter, drinks and food, games and prizes. Watch out for more details.

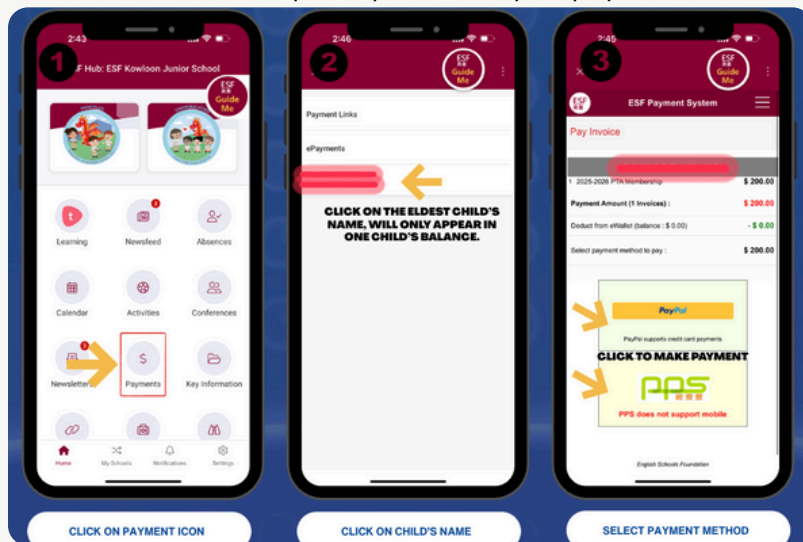
NEW DATE ! Saturday 25 April

The KJS Carnival (School Fair), the biggest event of the PTA calendar. A must attend event!

### PTA Membership Fees

There are still many families who have not paid the mandatory PTA membership fees. It is only \$200 for the full family for the whole year and supports the important work of the PTA.

Please follow these simple steps to make your payment.



CLICK ON PAYMENT ICON

CLICK ON CHILD'S NAME

SELECT PAYMENT METHOD



## Primary

Ages 6 - 11 Years

Primary English (Lower/Middle/Upper)  
Primary Writing (Lower/Middle/Upper)  
Primary Phonics  
Cooking Club  
Spanish (Beginners/Improvers)

Basketball Tag Rugby  
Football Pickleball  
Swimming Gymnastics  
Multi-Sports Tennis

## ESF Explore Term 2

### Term 2 Enrolment Now Open at KJS & ESF Campuses in Kowloon!

There is still time to join our Term 2 programmes! Join our expert-led programmes designed for every age and skill level.

- Academic & Skills: English & Writing (all levels), Phonics, and Spanish.
- Creative Fun: Get hands-on with our New Cooking Club! (Classes offered in Wan Chai)
- Stay Active: Choose from Football, Basketball, Swimming, Tennis, Gymnastics, and more!

Enrol now! [KJS Listing](#) | [Full Listing](#) | [Kowloon Listing](#)

Reminder: Use promo code **ESFAPP10** for 10% off (ESF students only)