

JIS Alumni Portal

The improved JIS Alumni portal is live! Make sure to sign up if you haven't done so yet.

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JIS ALUMNI

E-NEWSLETTER - FALL 2020



Dear JIS Alumni,

Hello and *apa kabar!* I hope you and your family are staying safe and engaged wherever you are in the world.

As I write to you now, Jakarta is in its second phase of large-scale social restrictions (a partial lockdown locally referred to as PSBB), JIS students are close to completing their first quarter of Home Online Learning for the 2020/21 academic year, and access to JIS on-campus facilities is limited as mandated by local government regulations.

Through the ups and downs, however, our community has remained vigilant and upbeat about the boundless possibilities offered by a digital classroom. We've held live-streamed events and virtual Coffee Mornings for parents, students have staged choir and theatrical performances via Zoom, and teachers are pushing their skills and creativity more than ever before.

In this first JIS Alumni Newsletter of the 2020/21 academic year, we are proud to inform you that our school has stayed engaged and connected during Home Online Learning. You will find out that many of our students even initiated their own community service projects during the summer break to help vulnerable groups affected by the pandemic.

Once again, I must thank you, our amazing community of international alumni, for all your support and words of encouragement — especially during these trying times. Remember to stay connected via [JIS Alumni Portal](#) and our official JIS Alumni social media accounts on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). Whether it's to shout-out to former classmates or to promote your business, we would love to hear from you!

Warm regards,

Tarek Razik
JIS Head of School





CIS SURVEY

JIS is currently engaged in a school re-accreditation process with the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Accreditation is a rigorous process of evaluating our school against leading international education standards and involves continuous review and reflection focused on school development. Accreditation ensures our commitment to an exceptional standard of excellence.

JIS is committed to involving its stakeholders in meaningful ways within this process. **An important way for you to be involved is to fill out the CIS Community Survey.** This survey is an essential piece of evidence that will be used within our Self-Study to reflect on our practices and to help identify our strengths and areas for improvement.

Please take a moment to complete the CIS Community Survey. Your thoughts and insights, as a graduate of JIS, are extremely valuable. The survey is anonymous and will take approximately **five minutes** to complete. The survey will be open until October 15th.

To access the survey, please click on the button below

[CIS Community Survey](#)

If you encounter any difficulties accessing the link or have any general questions about the survey or the CIS-WASC accreditation process, please contact the Office of Learning at jislearning@jisedu.or.id.

Thank you in advance for your time and commitment to this very important process.

Best regards,

Elaine Nicholson

Deputy Head of School for Curriculum

Send us your photos!

Do you have any photos that you would like featured in the next Alumni Newsletter? If so, please send them to us with a short note and we'll help share your memories of JIS with all of Dragon alumni worldwide.

For further information please contact: alumni@jisedu.or.id

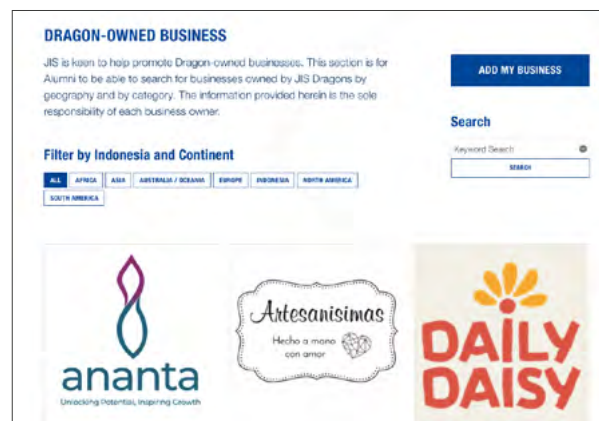
JIS ALUMNI PORTAL

Did you know? The JIS Alumni portal contains the majority of yearbooks digitized going back to 1972.

Check out these treasures with pictures from back in the day of students, plays, sports, and various events. How can you see them? Log onto the JIS Alumni portal. If you have not registered yet sign up now.

[Click here to sign up](#)

What's more, the [Dragon-Owned Business](#) section allows you to promote your business to an international network of JIS alumni.



Our commitment to providing an exceptional learning environment for students is down to our amazing staff, faculty and administrators. If you would like to be part of our Dragon community as a professional, whether as a teacher or staff member, please check our **Jobs&Internships** section on the alumni portal, to see if we have a vacancy that would be suitable for you. Please note that JIS does not accept unsolicited job applications.



ALUMNI IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Name

Lisa Keemink

When did you attend JIS as a student?

1992-1998

What do you remember most about your time here as a student?

The diverse community of students and the wide variety of subjects and electives available.

What is your current position at JIS?

Part-Time Copy Editor & Copywriter for the Communications Office

What made you decide to return to JIS as an administrator/teacher/staff member?

When I was offered a position with the Communications Office, I jumped at the chance to go back to the JIS Cilandak campus, this time contributing my skills to the school and work in a multicultural environment.

How has your experience been so far?

I'm part of a great team of creative, talented people from whom I've learned a lot in my three years at JIS as an employee. Though my position here is only part-time, I've been made to feel extremely welcome and look forward to the days I get to come to campus.



...despite the major changes our campus has gone through, the core values of JIS — diversity, inclusivity and rigorous learning — are still very familiar.

Do you think that being a former student has helped you with your job at JIS?

Yes, to an extent, because despite the major changes our campus has gone through, the core values of JIS — diversity, inclusivity and rigorous learning — are still very familiar. I think that having grown up with these values (I was at JIS for middle school and high school), I had a unique perspective of the JIS culture and was able to ease into my responsibilities as part of the Communications team with ease.



Congratulations to JIS Alumna Chiara Porro (Class of 2002)

on her new appointment as Australian Ambassador to the Holy See!

Chiara spent much of her childhood in Indonesia and attended JIS Middle School in the 1990s.



ALUMNI IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Name

Maya Nelson (Rangkuti)

When did you attend JIS as a student?

I was at Joint Embassy School and Jakarta International School from 1971 to 1977.

What do you remember most about your time here as a student?

It was a wonderful time and a great community. I remember the friends, the teachers, the families that all lived here in Jakarta at that time. Because there were limited things to do, we were a very tight group of high school students. We were at each other's houses, knew each other's parents and the connections were super tight. JIS had really enriching extracurricular activities, as they do now. As students, we really relied on these to fulfill our lives and have time with one another. The American Club and the Agape House were standard places for hanging out, as well. The JIS community was super tight and the friends I had in High School are still my closest Facebook friends. It was a very special time and the JIS campus was new, Pondok Indah did not exist, and Blok M was the place to be. Our campus was beautiful, though very remote at that time. There were signs that said, "Wear your shoes!" as snakes were a daily occurrence. We had amazing musicals



and theater productions, sports trips were happening to Singapore, and there was a lot of school spirit! The teachers were influential to us as students and many of us still keep in touch with those who most touched our lives. That says something. It has been decades.

What is your current position at JIS?

I am the Deputy Head of School at JIS, after being the Elementary Principal at PIE and PEL for the last two years.

What made you decide to return to JIS as an administrator/teacher/staff member?

I was raised as a TCK [third-culture kid] and I have continued on the path of traveling and working in the world. My father was Indonesian and my mom lives here in Indonesia. I have been privileged to work in outstanding international schools including the Taipei American School, American School in Japan, and most recently at Hong Kong International School, as well as in schools in the USA. I love what I do — it's such a wonderful profession and I am always privileged to spend days with educators and students in creative and inspiring learning environments. Why did I come back? The opportunity was there — The timing was right. I was excited about a new adventure. My home has always been within the walls of international schools. To be able to return to JIS and have one of my own children



ALUMNI IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Maya Nelson (Rangkuti)

experience a piece of the school that shaped me and helped me develop as the person I am today, seemed like an amazing opportunity and it is. There was something about my growing up here that had a profound influence on how I view the world — I see that in my High School friends and the people who have spent time at JIS. I love that this school has grown individuals who thrive in their own right; whether it is those who profoundly influence the world or influence an individual, people who reflect the goodness in the world, and strive for the best in the world.

The JIS mission says it all — it is new to me as it didn't exist when I was here as a student but "being Best for the World" is definitely something that has long been in these walls, prior to those words being written. I wanted my son to get to know the family I have here, and to experience what I did; a world that celebrates not only the person who is the entrepreneur and owns a company, or a professional in the business world, but the person who strives for saving the world, feeding the poor, and works for a non-profit. JIS represents that. Etched in my mind are the dinners at friends' houses with so many different professions and nationalities. It was impressionable. That, coupled, with a great school, made coming back an easy choice.

How has your experience been so far?

It's been really interesting and amazing. Even though I feel like I have come "home", it has been a transition. Learning how to live in Jakarta with a family, finding my way, and transitioning into another large school takes time. Everyone has been gracious and supportive and I have grown immensely as a person and a professional. We so enjoy being

here, my family is thriving and my son loves being in the High School. It is very different walking the hallways of this school as a parent and administrator, versus a student. But WOW, what an incredible feeling and how honored I am to be able to come back here to serve this Dragon nation.

Do you think that being a former student has helped you with your job at JIS?

That's a great question. Maybe, it helps because it gives me loyalty and a fiercely protective stance over the school. It helps because I can watch a student go through their experience here and know that what we do will bring about goodness in the world and I get it as I have experienced that myself. It helps because when we talk about HS musicals, SAT testing, playgrounds, service, or even Bali trips, I had my own version of each of these experiences. But, every place grows and evolves. Every place builds their culture over time and so there are many elements of the school which are different and new from what I knew. This is a new job for me and every day is a very new experience. I was a principal for over a decade before coming here and being a principal at PIE and PEL was different because the school culture is different, the demographics are different, the time is different. It's the same for this job. I think everyone who starts a new job takes with them what they have experienced, what they know, and have learned previously and puts that skillset into the new position and evolves. That is what is so exciting about starting a new job: In a school, you learn so much each day from the people around you, the students, the environment, the culture. I bring my life experiences to this job and I can proudly say that includes my years as a younger dragon.

We had amazing musicals and theater productions, sports trips were happening to Singapore, and there was a lot of school spirit!



ALUMNI IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Name

Yuichiro Hara

When did you attend JIS as a student?

From February 1986 to May 1989.

What do you remember most about your time here as a student?

Diversity both in and out of classrooms! With just over a hundred students per grade level in the high school, students naturally made friendships beyond their respective ethnic groups. Every day, every hut, was a UN event.

What is your current position at JIS?

High School teacher.

What made you decide to return to JIS as an administrator/teacher/staff member?

I think every JIS graduate intuitively just how progressive the community is, that the way students address differences and problems amongst each other independent of — or directly addressing — misconceptions and stereotypes is unique. I graduated thinking that the world would catch up to JIS norms regarding race and relations. That first semester after graduation was a bleak one. Maybe it's a prototypical TCK case study, but I couldn't find anywhere that was comfortably



comfortable. I was an outside insider in Japan and an inside outsider in the States. And I was lucky enough to come back to the one place that made me feel both normal and special at the same time.

How has your experience been so far?

Rewarding and life-affirming. I'm a part of something greater than myself: the community that welcomed and gave me belonging—and now I get to offer that same feeling to others—both alike and unlike me.

Do you think that being a former student has helped you with your job at JIS?

Yes, I think so.

As students, we could always tell the difference between teachers who cared about students and those who cared about themselves, whether it was for their careers or paychecks or both. The former always had time for you and the latter almost never—they entered the classroom only to teach and left just as quickly afterward. I think it may be a little different now, but one aspect that students always perceive is a teacher's attitude about multiculturalism. Independent of the creeds that one may declare, students have a whole school year to perceive



ALUMNI IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Yuichiro Hara

Diversity both in and out of classrooms! With just over a hundred students per grade level in the high school, students naturally made friendships beyond their respective ethnic groups. Every day, every hut, was a UN event.

nuances although they usually only need a month. What it comes down to might be the difference between those who ultimately reinforce an ethnocentric worldview or try to decentralize their perspective.

And trust, participation, taking chances — all the different ways in which students engage with the teaching of a course — are all determined by that perception. So, I think that the tolerance, understanding, and acceptance of other cultures and their values cultivated here at JIS (whether it was immediate or evolutionary — probably both) is earned and genuine, and so perhaps that allows current students with multicultural backgrounds to trust me.

Hmm... asking the students might elicit more useful or accurate responses!

If you have an interesting story to share or know of another JIS alum that would be interesting to feature please let us know by sending us an email to: alumni@jisedu.or.id



Pattimura campus in the early 1960s.



IN REMEMBRANCE

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to several beloved members of our community who have passed away in recent months. As longtime teachers, they were a familiar, friendly face greeting us every day in the hallways, and for many, a valued source of support and inspiration both during and after our time at JIS. Educators, colleagues, friends; they are cherished and will never be forgotten.



Dorothy Barbour was one of the rare teachers who witnessed JIS's transformation from Joint Embassy School to Jakarta International School, teaching and inspiring students throughout the 1970s and 1980s. A gifted storyteller and "stellar educator", she is described as the North Star of teachers who had a passion for history and a sharp sense of humor. During her time at JIS, Mrs. Barbour was also the first Chair of the History Department and advisor to the National Honor Society — all part of her commitment to giving JIS/JES students her unwavering support and direction in their learning journey. She continued to inspire them throughout their university years and careers as an educator, friend, and role model.



Roger Brumby was a significant part of the JIS community for 27 years, arriving in August 1981 and staying with us until June 2008, four years before his official retirement in 2012. He taught Geography and Theory of Knowledge, but many of us also knew him as our IB Coordinator or High School Vice Principal for Academic Affairs. A lover of sports who loved to hike and rarely missed a major soccer match on TV, Mr. Brumby also coached the JIS High School tennis and soccer teams. To train under his tutelage was to be treated fairly and with respect as he always made sure that his players enjoyed the game above all else. To this day he is remembered as an esteemed coach, role model, and motivator who focused on his students' strengths and made them feel valued.

*Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day,
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
Still loved, still missed and very dear.*



IN REMEMBRANCE



Gisela Burgess was a JIS mainstay for 17 years, from 1983 to 2000. She patiently guided us through the complexities of the German language as a High School Teacher for IB German A and B, both the Higher and Subsidiary levels. A social person who loved spending time with friends and colleagues at ISCI or sailing at Carita Beach, Mrs. Burgess became a personal friend to many of her former students who continued to turn to her for advice long after they had graduated from JIS. Her dedication to helping them think critically and reach their academic potential meant she often set aside time after school to help them in any way she could. Mrs. Burgess described her years at JIS as some of the best of her life and had nothing but fond memories of her time in Indonesia.



Laure Kruger taught Middle School French at JIS from 2015 until her sudden passing only a few months ago. Like many JIS teachers, she was an experienced international educator who had lived and worked in a number of countries before making Indonesia her second home. She is remembered for her bright smile, her love of water and traveling, her adventurous spirit, and most of all, sharing her passion for teaching and the French language. Mrs. Kruger was often described as a vibrant presence and will be missed by many.



The Cilandak campus in the late 1970s.



HOME OF THE DRAGONS

Happy Birthday, JIS!

It was 69 years ago on September 1, 1951, that JIS was established by a small group of United Nations workers. From humble beginnings with only five students and a makeshift classroom in one of the founders' homes, JIS has evolved and grown over the decades to become a widely recognized pioneer in international education. But our mission to provide students with a rigorous learning experience in a diverse and inclusive environment has remained the same.

It remains our goal to provide a place of learning where students, teachers, and staff — and their families — feel welcomed and encouraged to participate in all aspects of the community. We will continue to work together and grow as a Dragon family, learning in Indonesia to be Best *for* the World!



The school was first opened in the Stepanek's home, Jl. Kebon Sirih, 1952.

Online Learning - School Year 2020 First Semester

The first few days of a new academic year is usually a time for students to make connections that will stay with them for the rest of their time at school. We are pleased to see that despite the unprecedented circumstances we now face as a community, these valuable connections are still being made and our students are making the best of the situation. JIS Middle School had its first-ever Bali Stage assembly via live-streaming, held to welcome students and new teachers, as well as to celebrate *tujuhbelasan*, our host country's Independence Day. We also saw virtual assemblies in the Elementary School to kick off the school year for our new and returning students and teachers.



Prior to the first day of school, 100 new JIS High School families took part in an online orientation that included an introduction to our school values, one-on-one meetings with counselors, a special presentation by the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA), as well as a virtual tour of our Cilandak campus. This was capped off with a wonderful welcome assembly to start the school year. Overall our enrollment school-wide is strong at just under 2,000 students.



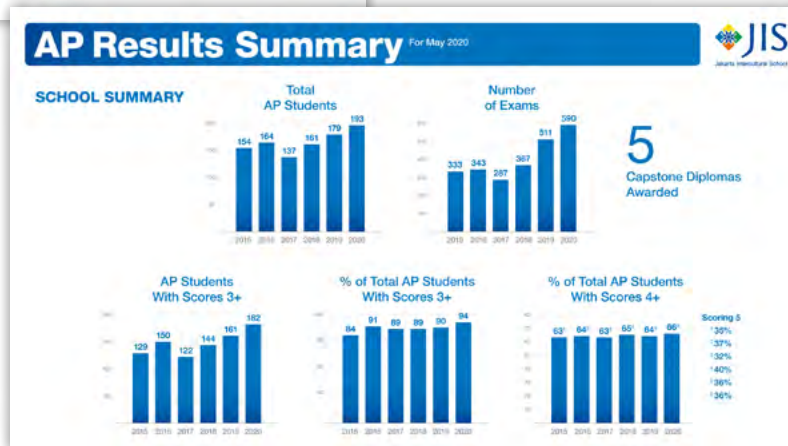
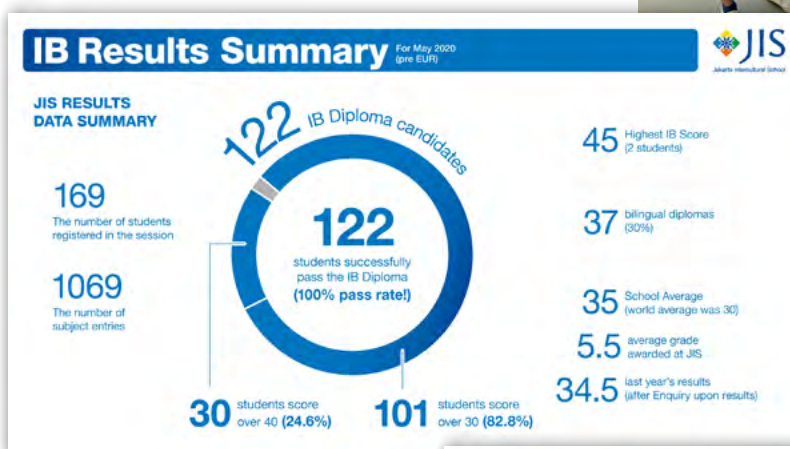
HOME OF THE DRAGONS

2020 Senior Results

JIS was one of the first schools in the world to offer the International Baccalaureate (IB®) diploma. Today, we are one of the few to provide both the IB® and Advanced Placement (AP®) programs, deepening our commitment to providing the guidance and mentorship needed for High School students to achieve their academic goals for higher education.

This year, the trend in average AP® scores again increased across the board and five Capstone Diplomas were awarded.

The results of the IB® program were very positive as well. JIS students scored higher than the global average with an average grade of 5.5, and two students received a score of 45 points. Fantastic results!





JIS GIVES BACK



Bhinneka Tunggal Ika (BTI) Scholarship

Last school year was anything but ordinary and posed it's fair share of challenges. But in true Dragon Spirit our community was able to show their resilience and resourcefulness to finish the academic year online. This spirit was evident in all of our JIS BTI Scholars who entered the online learning period with a positive attitude and a "can do" mentality. All of our scholars have continued to exemplify the values and culture of JIS.

Last year our scholars competed in IASAS sport and music competitions, were admitted to film festivals, began IB studies, and continued their learning journey. We all have your generous support and philanthropy to thank for the amazing opportunities that our scholars are able to take advantage of.

We are also excited to announce that our 2020/21 BTI scholar has joined us in Grade 10. Although the pandemic and uncertainty presented a challenge to our fundraising and recruitment efforts, we have strived to embody the resilience that we seek to instill in our scholars. Our new scholar is starting their time at JIS like no other scholar has in the past. But we are confident that this will be the first of many challenges that they are able to overcome.

Thank you again for all of your support and all of your efforts to help these scholars access a JIS education and all of the opportunities that come with it. The scholars will go on to do great things for Indonesia and be best for the world. We are forever grateful for your contributions and actions to plant the seeds for a brighter future for Indonesia.

If you would like to know more about our BTI program and how you can help support the initiative, please visit our scholarship site: www.jisedu.or.id/giving or email: scholarships@jisedu.or.id.



JIS GIVES BACK

Bhinneka Tunggal Ika (BTI) Scholarship

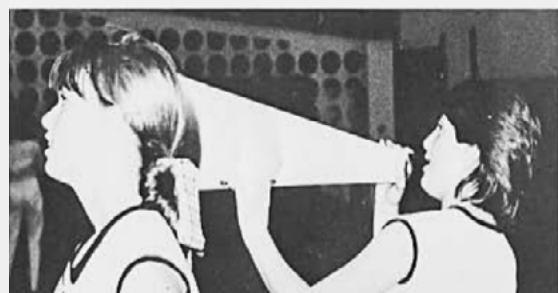
Voices from the BTI students

"After two years in this school, I can proudly say it is such an honor and a great privilege to be in this community. I was incredibly grateful when my work was received well in this year's film festival. I have grown so much as an artist, as a service leader and as a person. JIS's commitment to give back pushes me to believe that I can do more for others and most importantly, to take tangible actions. Last year, I received a grant that allowed me to go to Hanoi and volunteer hands-on with the Bai Giua community to help tackle their river's plastic pollution issue by advocating for affordable sustainable practices. And since, I've tried to incorporate those practices both in my own home and the service clubs and events I am involved in, like Earth Day! I look forward to continuing to be an activist for these very urgent issues and additionally I look forward to exploring universities that will hold the same altruistic values that JIS does."

Your generosity has given me this once in a lifetime opportunity, and I intend to become the best that I can be from here. You and this community have inspired me to give the most that I can. And I hope one day I can pay it forward to the community, just as this community has awarded me."

-Grade 10 BTI Scholar

"Last school year was a really amazing new experience for me. JIS offers me things that I was not expecting. The curriculum forces me to think more and JIS has helped me to become more self-aware and improve as an individual. I'm certainly going to try to be more involved in service clubs and activities this year. Of course there will be new experiences and challenges. However, I'm extremely grateful to have such an opportunity. I hope I can make the most of it."

-Grade 12 BTI Scholar**DRAGON-POWER TOWER**



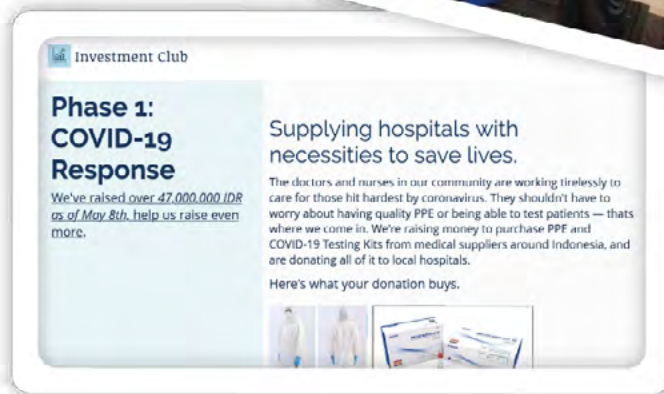
JIS GIVES BACK

Service Clubs

Over the summer break, as the pandemic started to severely impact vulnerable people and neighborhoods across Jakarta, JIS students rallied together and took decisive action. The **Plugged-IN** club, for example, collected used gadgets and donations of smartphone data plans. These were then distributed among state-school students who did not have the technology to participate in home online lessons. For more information on how you can support their mission to “help the unplugged”, make sure to follow them at @pluggedin_jis on Instagram.

Then there's **A Brighter Tomorrow**, a student-led initiative that sells homemade, guilt-free snacks before using the proceeds to buy various foodstuffs for those struggling with the impacts of the health crisis. They are distributed as *sembako* (staple food packages), and so far, 120 have gone to Gojek workers and drivers, as well as underprivileged residents of Sodong-Cipinang, East Jakarta. You can follow their efforts at @abrightertomorrow.jkt on Instagram and, while you're there, perhaps order a batch of cookies, tiramisu-flavored granola bars, or even a jar or two of almond butter.

Finally, the **JIS Investment Club** raised a whopping IDR 47 million (US\$3,182) in donations that went to purchasing personal protective gear for hospitals, orphanages, and NGOs. They've teamed up with the **JIS Microfinance Club** for Phase 2 of their mission, collecting clothing donations that will be sent to a tailor to make face masks for various social organizations. They have since distributed 1,225 masks to eight orphanages — and they're not done yet! Find out more about their ongoing activities at their Instagram account @investmentclubid.





DRAGON SPORTS

IASAS Announcement for Season 1 Athletics and Updates for Activities



The IASAS conference schools have communicated recently about the co-curricular programs in relation to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The current state of international travel restrictions and the varying allowances of on-campus student activities amongst our conference schools has brought us to the decision that Season 1 Athletics is postponed and all IASAS Activities events are to go ahead as virtual conventions until further notice.

Creative ways in which the Season 1 Athletics programs can be added to the school calendar at later dates are being discussed and will be decided upon at a later time. Furthermore, Athletic Seasons 2 and 3 are continually being monitored should a similar decision need to be made concerning the regular operations of these seasons.

While alternate options are being considered, factors beyond our control may mean some sports or seasons will need to be canceled during this school year. The IASAS Board will continue in its endeavor to explore options for events to be held.



The 1986 IASAS Girls Basketball champions with Coach Gene Magill.