

St Johns Journal

Autumn Term 2016

EXCELLENCE • LEADERSHIP • LEARNING
ST JOHNS & KING RICHARD
SCHOOLS FEDERATION



Inside:

RAF STEM Day

Carols by Candlelight

Sports Updates

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Now in Professional Print





In this issue....

Page	
3 - 4	<i>Message from the Principal</i>
5	<i>Fabulous SJS Sixth Form</i>
6	<i>Big Food Survey</i>
7	<i>Podcasting with BFBS</i>
8	<i>8AW Baking for Breast Cancer</i>
9	<i>Exam Success</i>
10	<i>Excellence in the Geography</i>
11	<i>Digital Leaders</i>
12	<i>Carols by Candlelight</i>
13	<i>Swimming Gala</i>
14	<i>Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme</i>
15	<i>Teaching and Learning Update</i>
16	<i>STEM Day at St. John's</i>
17	<i>Safeguarding Training</i>
18	<i>Macmillan Cake Sale</i>
19	<i>Dragon's Den</i>
20	<i>Year 7 Leadership Day</i>
21	<i>Art Trip to Hambis Print Museum</i>
22	<i>John Coughlan's Quo Visit's St. John's</i>
23	<i>Military Personnel Test the Sixth Form</i>
24	<i>St. George's Chapel Happy Valley</i>
25	<i>Year 8 RE Assessments</i>
26	<i>MEDI Mun Training</i>





Message from the Principal

I am writing this in the final few days before we break up for the Christmas holiday; however, I am very conscious that you will be reading it in the New Year, so I hope that you had a joyful Christmas and I would like to wish all readers a very happy New Year!

Communication with the parents and our community is something that we strive to continually improve; our Facebook pages have over 700 'likes' each and some of our videos have been watched over 20,000 times! After some research, we discovered that we could have our brilliant school magazines professionally printed for less than it was costing to produce them in house. I would like to thank Claire McVicar and Lisa Sloan (who has taken over editing 'The Lionheart' from Claire Piercy) for their outstanding work bringing all the articles together and Christos Christofi for arranging the printing. We hope that you like the new format and enjoy reading about the many fantastic opportunities and activities that we have arranged for our students. Our magazines should also act as a keep sake for our students and the time that they spend with us.



As I have said before, King Richard and St John's Schools are both due to be inspected by Ofsted this academic year. We have worked closely with our Link Inspector Advisor, Judith Rundle, to ensure that we are prepared and ready to show our visitors what makes our schools great places for our students. In her last report to the MOD she commented that:

"The Headteacher and senior leadership team continue to drive initiatives and improvements across the two schools, bringing consistency and quality to all aspects of the schools' work."

"Teachers know students and their needs extremely well which results in excellent relationships, high levels of student engagement and swift progress in learning."

"High levels of independent work and cooperation in pairs and small group work seen in all lessons."

If you would like to share your views about our schools with the inspectors, please do so on the Ofsted Parent View website - <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>, you will need to use the following numbers to search for our schools:

King Richard School – 132420

St John's School – 132416

In my last letter to you, I asked for volunteers to become school governors on our School Governance Committees. We had a great response and I would like to thank all of those to have offered to help us in this way; their work to support and challenge us is vital in our school improvement journey. The names and email addresses of all our SGC members are on our websites (About Us > School Governance Committee) for your information.

It is with great sadness that before Christmas we said goodbye to Laura Massey, Vice Principal. She is returning to the UK to marry her fiancé, Hugh, and start her new life in Suffolk. She has made a huge impact supporting Teaching, Learning and CPD across both of our schools and we all wish her every success for the future.





Message from the Principal (continued from page 3)

Finally, I would like to highlight the amazing exam results that our GCSE and A Level students at both schools achieved in the Summer. More details are included in this magazine or can be viewed on our websites (Information > Attainment). In many cases, they are the best results that we have ever had and this is down to the hard work of students and staff and the support that they have from parents.

Once again, happy New Year; I am sure that it will be another great one for our schools. Thank you for your continued support.

Dan Browning
Executive Principal



@mrdrowning

dbrowning@kingrichardschoolcyprus.com

dbrowning@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com

St. John's School Geography Department

St. John's School Geography Department has been recognised as a Centre of Excellence by The Geographical Association. The Secondary Geography Quality Mark (SGQM) award process encourages and supports schools to reflect on their work and strive for the highest quality in their teaching. All the award winners undergo a rigorous moderation process, and the team of assessors were hugely impressed by the manner in which all are continuing to embrace new and innovative approaches to teaching geography. The SGQM, now into its 10th year, recognises student attainment, progress and achievement in areas such as geographical knowledge, understanding, values, skills and concepts, and sets expectations about the quality of teaching in geography. It aims to promote effective subject leadership and management, helping subject leaders raise the standards of geography in their schools

In 2016, 16 schools were also awarded the coveted **Centre of Excellence** status. These hubs of excellence are pivotal to the GA's desire to spread good practice through the development of local networks of teachers. The Centre of Excellence award recognises a school's contribution to disseminating quality approaches to the teaching of geography and global learning. In these schools geography is managed by enthusiastic curriculum leaders who are able to inspire their colleagues.





Fabulous SJS Sixth Form *by Mrs Dixon*

The Sixth Form have finished the half term in style working with Rachel Lambert, from Study Flex. The Year 12 students participated in a "Fit for Learning" programme and at the same time achieved the Level 2 Chartered Management Institute qualification, an industry wide recognised qualification. This prevents our students from leaving St John's without the skills many employers feel are missing from the curriculum. Currently, twenty students have passed the course and will receive their certificates in February 2017.

Year 13 have moved to the next level participating in the "Fit for Work" programme. The students demonstrated excellence and were more than happy to rise to the challenge. The topics they covered included "What are employers looking for", "How to present yourself at interview or assessment centre", "Speed interviewing", "Writing a CV" and "Presentation Skills"

The students were enthusiastic and on task all day - in fact I think they were quite shocked when it was 2pm. The presentations at the end of the day made me immensely proud of all the students.

I am sure you will agree we have a great group of students in the Sixth Form with so much potential.





Big Food Survey *by Mrs Wolanski*

On Wednesday 5th October, a number of SJS students took part in the Big Food Survey organised by the BBC.

Students used the new pocket –sized codeable device - BBC MicroBit - to record what they had to eat over the course of the day. The aim of the survey was to gather data on the eating habits of Key Stage 3 students over the course of a day.

Students from across the UK used the devices to share their behaviour and opinions on food with the BBC research team. The aim of the survey is to inform them what young people eat and drink both at school and at home during the course of a normal school week.

The BBC aim to use the results to see how schools, home, parents, carers and friends affect the nutrition and health of these young people. Students were asked to complete a record of what they ate, when they ate it, additional snacks and drinks that they had and whether the evening meal was eaten with friends or family and more interestingly, where they ate it e.g. in front of the tv, at a dinner table or out for a meal.

One students view:

“Our task was to help find out what children eat on a daily basis using the BBC MicroBit. It was a fun task but also set us a real challenge, because we had to remember to put in the information at regular times during the day or else it would say that we hadn’t eaten. This was a real challenge as we had to remember to eat and to enter our personal data too so that our responses could be sent back to the BBC. The activity was both challenging and fun. I hope that we can use the MicroBits more in school for different activities.”

The UK results will hopefully be used in the future for schools to promote healthier life-style options for students and to raise awareness of the importance of eating healthily at this age. Well done to all those who participated.





Mr. Browning in the stocks *by Mrs Kerr*

Mr Browning was a 'willing' volunteer to go in the stocks at the Episkopi Fete to raise money for the Youth centre.

This was an opportunity not to be missed and both teachers and students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to contribute towards this great cause.



Podcasting with BFBS *by Mrs Wolanski*

One of the Year 8 ICT groups met with Jess Bracey from BFBS recently to look at Podcasting.

Over the next half term they will be creating individual podcasts on a variety of subjects, ranging from sports, Harry Potter, game reviews and local Cyprus culture – mouflons. All the groups have selected their own topics and will be working with Jess and Anthony from BFBS to create some interesting and amusing podcasts which will be aired on the radio early in 2017.

Whilst working on the projects they will experience creating and editing the materials and hopefully get hands on experience over at the BFBS studios in Akrotiri. This will allow them to see how the radio presenters and producers create material ready for air or live streaming.

We will keep you posted on when the podcasts go live, so you can listen to their hard work.





8 AW Baking for Breast Cancer *by Mrs Wolanski*

Students in 8AW decided to show their teamwork and leadership skills by raising money for charity.

October was PINK month to raise awareness for Breast Cancer, all students in 8AW decided they wanted to raise money for this worthy cause. Running up to the event, they all worked hard on producing posters and publicity materials to make sure that everyone in the school knew about the event and brought cake donations in to sell and money to buy cakes and biscuits.

On Friday 21st October the students organised themselves by ensuring that the stall was well staffed at both breaks, showing an excellent demonstration of the school Core Values. The majority of the cakes and biscuits for sale had the PINK theme and all proceeds collected went to Breast Cancer UK.

The work the students put in both before the event to promote the sale and during the day, setting up the tables and serving eagerly awaiting customers, showed the true spirit of students at St John's and how they are always prepared to help others.

All students in 8AW were involved in organising and selling the cakes on the day (making sure that enough contributions came in for sale), which demonstrated a good level of team work, cooperation and leadership skills. Both myself (as their tutor) and Mrs Cambridge (as their Learning Manager) were very proud of all the students in the tutor group for their efforts and participation in this event.

Mr Browning presented them all with ePraise points and letters for excellent Leadership.

The day proved very popular with enough cakes made to sell both break times, enticing long queues of hunger students eager to part with their money for charity.

'The Day proved very popular with enough cakes made to sell both break times'



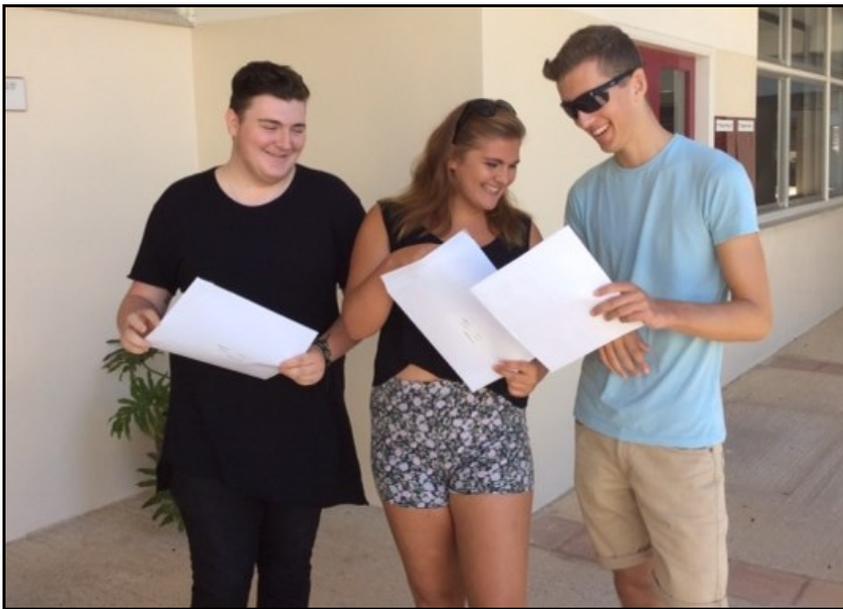


Exam Success *by Mrs Kerr*

SJS celebrated its best year for A Level results this year with students gaining the highest percentage of A and A* grades (33% of all qualifications taken) and the highest percentage of A*-C grades. Students all accessed the university places of their choice and the Sixth Form team are working hard to prepare this years' Y13 and 12 students for their Higher Education applications and interviews.

At GCSE students achieved 66% A*-C including Maths and English and the percentage of students gaining 5A*-C was 85%, 18% above the national average. Our value added progress 8 score was a very impressive +0.35.

We look forward to equally successful results in 2017.





Sports Leaders by Mrs De Long

The sports leaders have made a great start to their Level 3 course this term. They demonstrated skills that they have been learning in their lessons by leading a group of fifty Year 5 Episkopi students in a multi stationed activity circuit. All the students involved demonstrated excellence, learning and leadership and are looking forward to repeating the lesson with the Akrotiri Primary School students in the future.



'We were most impressed by the work you have done to support Episkopi Primary School'

Excellence in the Geography Department by Mrs Dixon

"We were most impressed by the work you have done to support Episkopi Primary School. You have clearly had a significant impact on their Geography through supporting them through their application for a Gold Primary Geography Quality Mark Award. We note the dissemination of good ideas through media such as Twitter. Within the school you continue to offer your pupils an innovative and challenging curriculum. It is very interesting to see the extent to which you involve your students in curriculum design. An enquiry approach is embedded throughout the curriculum and it is obvious from your pupil voice that students appreciate the stimulating and engaging resources the department has produced. The team is clearly reflective and has continued to innovate since your last application. With the challenging situation of a transient population, your department has still achieved excellent GCSE results. We (the GA) think this is the result of the hard work you have put into your Key Stage 3 curriculum and the progress your students make".



Geographical Association





Digital Leaders by Mrs Wolanski

Technology touches us all and most people these days have some kind of digital device.

The environment we live in as part of the MOD means we rely heavily on technology to keep in touch with family and friends across the world, and those around us.

Due to our unique environment, the way we use our technology and keep ourselves safe is extremely important. What we post online or show as our status or location could put us and those around us in danger.

In an attempt to keep ourselves and others safe in an ever changing world, St John's and King Richards schools have decided to appoint Digital Leaders to act as role models both in and out of school.

The students were posed a number of questions, such as:

1. Do you know how to set your privacy settings on all your devices?
2. How often do you check your privacy settings on your devices?
3. Do your parents know how to set the privacy and parental controls on your siblings game or tablet devices?
4. Do your parents know how to set their privacy settings on devices?
5. Do your parents actually set strong/restricted privacy settings on devices to limit who can see their posts or locations?

Students were then asked to formally apply for one of the Digital Leader positions.

The applications from across all age ranges in the school demonstrated that we have a number of very astute students, who are good role models and willing to share their digital knowledge and understanding with others.

One of their key roles will be work in conjunction with CJSU in the community to help keep us safe on island. Well done successful candidates.





Carols by Candlelight by Mrs Edwards

On 8th December Christmas finally arrived at St John's when they held their annual celebration of Christmas. This year it was Carols By Candlelight, held in the Episkopi Garrison Church. Performances were given by students from Years 7-13 and included vocal solos and duets, instrumental solos, readings and items from St John's Voices singing group. Episkopi Primary School Choir beautifully performed 2 songs, the Cyprus Music Service added performances throughout the evening and accompanied the congregational singing. The students were, as always, professional in their approach and exceptional in their performances. They really showed what talent we have here at St John's.

The evening closed with parents and guests joining us for mince pies and mulled wine, where there was lots of great feedback and praise for the students' efforts.

"The students were, as always professional in their approach"





Swimming Gala by *Mrs De Long*

A massive congratulations to all the students and staff who were involved in the first ever federated swimming gala on the 6th October. There were over 40 students involved across both Apollo and Poseidon. The students displayed a multitude of the core values, representing each year group and taking the initiative to cover all the races. The students were enthusiastic, motivated with smiles on their faces.

There was fantastic interaction between the two schools, communicating, co-operating and working together.

An overall win for Apollo with 328 v's Poseidon 286.



Victory Football League by *Mr Lister*

November sees the resumption of the Victory Schools Football League and once again St John's are entering three teams into the league which pits us against private schools in the Limassol area. This year the league includes teams from KRS, who will be using the sports pitches at Happy Valley for all of their home games. Matches will be played throughout the year with a final tournament being played in the spring term for each of the three leagues. Last year all teams had great success and will be looking to make improvements for another successful season. Parents are as ever, welcome to watch any home or away games. Good luck to all students who are taking part.



VICTORY
FOOTBALL





Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme *by Mrs Dakin*

A fantastic start to the year for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, 27 Year 10 students taking part in the Bronze which is run in partnership with Episkopi Youth Centre with a smaller group of Silver participants completing their Award later on in the year. The students are already mastering the art of putting up tents, map reading and team working. Our first practice walk, from Prastio to Avdimou, was a great success, with the students putting their knowledge from the classroom into practice. A staff training residential has also taken place enabling staff and volunteers to build a great team. Over the coming months students will be taking part in a number of walks as well as their practice and qualifying expeditions. Throughout the year students need to undertake a skill, take part in a physical activity and volunteer within the local community to gain their full Award. Thanks everyone for your enthusiasm and commitment.



"A fantastic start to the year for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award"



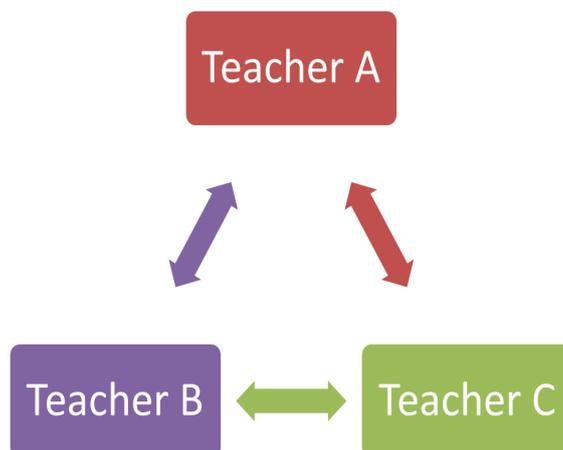
Teaching and Learning Update

by Mr Pointon

Across the Federation, we consistently aim for 'Outstanding teaching in every lesson every day'. We are constantly looking for ways to make our teaching even better, because we believe that even the very best teachers can make improvements in their practice. This term, we have introduced 'Coaching Threes' as a way to learn from our colleagues and reflect on our own teaching, to ensure the highest pupil outcomes.

How do 'Coaching Threes' work?

Teachers work in groups of three and jointly decide a focus—this can be any area of teaching which they would like to develop in their own lessons. These three teachers arrange to visit each other's lessons to see what the pupils are doing and how the activities help them make progress. Following the visit, the teachers get together for a discussion about the lesson. This is an important part of the process, because it gives teachers the opportunity to reflect upon their own practice and how they might adapt what they have seen in their own subject areas.



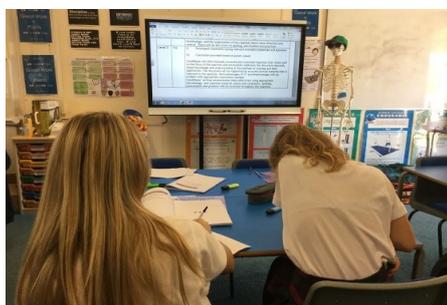
What has been the positive impact of Coaching Threes?

We have lots of outstanding teachers at our school, but we often don't have time to visit each other's classrooms. Coaching Threes are a great way to share good practice and learn from each other.

I found my visit to Mr H's classroom very interesting, especially the way he encouraged pupils to use higher order thinking skills to improve their responses. I will try to use this idea in my own lessons.

I picked up a couple of practical ideas which I will use with my exam classes. For example, how to make sure pupils achieve the highest marks when writing extended answers in exams.

The most useful part of the Coaching Threes process was the discussion I had with my two colleagues after the lesson—It gave me the chance to reflect on the theme of 'differentiation' and how to make sure pupils of all abilities make excellent progress.





STEM Day at St. John's 2016 *by Tia Rudman*

On Wednesday the 28th September, RAF youth engagement and STEM came to St John's to give selected students a fun, competition-based day on all things engineering. The students were put into mixed age and gender groups, and had to perform a series of tasks to get 'Mission Credits' or MCs. Along the way, these credits could be 'spent' on useful items depending on the task.

The first challenge was simple-build small bridge out of wooden dowels and lollipop sticks to transport 'goods' across. It was simple, that is, until we had to make a working vehicle from Kinects and a motor to transport the goods in, and that the vehicle must pass- unaided- over the bridge. This was a difficult task, especially as many of the people in the groups had never met. Everyone, however, succeeded after some time and endless support from the lively team in charge of the event. Some of the working bridges stretched over a metre!



The next task (one my team was not so good at) was to create a steady 'helicopter landing pad' out of paper, which at least one 'helicopter' (wooden pad block) could rest on. This was judged on two things, the height of the landing pad and how many 'helicopters' could fit on it. A wide range of products were produced, from those 1.5m tall to some that could easily hold five helicopters. Every design was different, and some showed clear engineering skills and hard work.

After a short yet inspiring presentation from Squadron Leader Paul Harrap about uses of Engineering, we were set our third and final task. Sometimes, the RAF cannot land in places of need to distribute supplies, and must then simply drop them out of a plane, we were told. Our task, then, was to build a smaller version of one of the protective containers which hold the supplies and drop it from one of the balconies. To stimulate the supplies, we were given raw eggs.

The team gave us some tips, showing us the crumple zone and cage etc. that modern cars use to protect passengers, and we were off! We had a limited amount of Mission Credits then spend on priced items such as bin liners, art straws and glue. In the end, it was not all joy when we tested our containers and parachutes, but we certainly had a lot of fun.

Prizes were presented to the winning team and the runners up team. A special mention was also given to another team for their amazing construction in the second task and their remarkable teamwork.

Overall, it was an enriching day, with BFBS interviewing students. It was a great experience and, most of all, a lot of fun.



"We certainly had a lot of fun"





Safeguarding Training *by Mrs Kelly*

Safeguarding Training

Some Sixth Form students at St John's School are learning about Supporting Teaching and Learning with a qualification offered through the Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education (Cache).

Cache qualifications are part of the national, government framework and are recognised and valued nationally. They have helped millions of learners raise professional standards across the sector. As a result, Cache has gained a deserved reputation for excellence and leadership.

As part of their course, the students use both research and practical experience to explore the information and knowledge needed to work in primary, secondary or special schools. They investigate the many varied roles that support staff might take on in a school including: administrative roles, site support roles and technical roles. As part of the course, the students are encouraged to work directly with children and young people in a school environment, in order to discover first-hand what supporting involves

Safeguarding Awareness Workshop

The students taking the Cache qualification have also had the opportunity to attend a Safeguarding Awareness Workshop run by Jackie Raymond, the Senior Education Social Worker. The aim was for them to be more aware of the essentials in safeguarding and child protection in schools within the MoD community.

The students were able to discuss best practice and clarify some questions regarding safeguarding. The students looked at the legal context within England and BFC and how to identify indicators of abuse and neglect. They considered how to respond appropriately if they have a concern. The workshop was extremely useful and the students were very grateful to Jackie Raymond for taking the time to pass on her expertise.

Business Studies visit Lays Crisp Factory *by Khadija Begum*

Year 12 Business Studies students visited the Lays Crisp Factory in Limassol. We went there to find out how the crisps are made and find out information about how the business operates. On the day that we visited we found out that they had made 9,754 packets of crisps. They have a variety of huge machines which perform a variety of tasks, from cutting the potatoes to another which packages the crisps. Quality control is performed by a lady to decide which crisps should not be included in a bag. The company is also environmentally sound as all the waste products from the potatoes are passed on for animal feed. The visit was really interesting and we were given free crisps which was an added bonus.





Macmillan Cake sale and Non-Uniform day by *Eden Gerard*

I am a Sixth Form student in my final year and as part of my Extended Project Qualification in events management I decided to put together a fundraising event for Macmillan cancer support.

On Friday 30th of September St John's Sixth Form proudly hosted a Macmillan Charity Cake Sale to support this fantastic cause. We are kindly requested that everyone contributed by baking or bringing in a cake or any other sweet treats to sell. Episkopi Primary school also got involved and helped us to raise a fantastic €1,172! Thank you to everyone that helped to make such an amazingly successful event happen, and we hope to continue support other charities throughout the year.

“Thank you to everyone that helped to make such an amazingly successful event happen”



**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**





Dragon's Den by Mrs Wolanski

Students in Year 8 ICT classes have all been working on a Dragon's Den project. In line with the popular TV show, the project culminated in a pitch to the Dragons for investment in their business.

Each group had to create a company from scratch, including designing a new name, logo and full corporate image. The school core values then came into play as the project progressed with students demonstrating teamwork, making thoughtful decisions and being organised within their group. All students rose to the challenges set and the final pitches showed the qualities of some budding entrepreneurs who could offer a real challenge to the Dragons or even Lord Sugar.

One of the Dragons said "I was really impressed with the students....definitely entrepreneurs of the future!"

Well done to the winning group for your hard work and strong pitch – well deserved win and investment from the Dragons.





Year 7 Leadership Day by Mr Marsden

It was fantastic to see to see both SJS and KRS working together and focusing on the Core Values of Leadership. It was a fantastic learning environment for our Year 7 pupils enabling them to demonstrate team work and co-operation, using their own initiative, being responsible and listen to others. Congratulations to Year 7 for being positive role models and to Apollo who came out worthy winners on the day.



"It was a fantastic learning environment for our Year 7 pupils"





ART Trip to the Hambis Printmaking Museum *by Mr Bougeard*

On Thursday the 10th of November, GCSE and A level Art Students visited the Print making Museum in Platanisteia. After a guided tour of the gallery areas, where students found out about the different print making processes, they continued to investigate the process of lino printing in the workshop area.

Hambis has been print making for decades focusing on Cypriot landscapes and village life. He shared his skills and knowledge with the students, helping them to produce their own unique and creative prints. Students got the opportunity to see the whole process through to a complete conclusion, actually printing their piece at the end of the session.



Every student found the experience of working alongside a professional print maker invaluable, with many continuing to develop new prints after returning to school.





Mince Pie Making afternoon for Carols by Candlelight

One Friday afternoon in December a band of willing volunteers made over 400 mince pies, to be served at the Carols by Candlelight Service on 8th December.

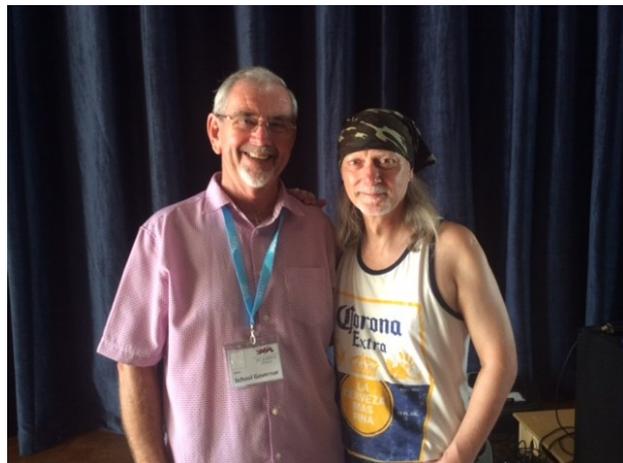
Many thanks to Mrs. Glencross and Mr. Roberts for making the pastry the day before.



“He would always be grateful for his time at St. John’s”

John Coughlan’s Quo Visits St. John’s

On 21st September St. John’s was treated to a fantastic whole school concert by John Coughlan’s Quo. Mick Hughes, lead guitarist and singer was a pupil at St. John’s in the early seventies. Mick was very emotional about returning to St John’s as he has such wonderful memories of the school. In those days swimming lessons took place at tunnel beach in the sea. He went on to tell us what an impact his time at the school had had on his life and how he would always be grateful for his time at St. John’s. The students had been learning 'Rockin all over the world' in music lessons and joined in with gusto when they closed the show with one of their classic hits.



Rob Cowin, now a school governor, taught Mick in 1971.





Military Personnel test the Sixth Form *by Jack Ford*

At the beginning of the school year, the Sixth Form took part in a team-building and leadership day in which military personnel from Aki and Epi came into school and set up various team building tasks to be completed. The Sixth Form was split into 3 groups and all did three tasks:

- Using teamwork to build a large tent whilst blindfolded; people had to guide those who were blindfolded to build the tent piece-by-piece
- Using teamwork to move tyres from one point to another but only being able to move one tyre at a time
- Using leadership to move 15 people and a fake bomb across land without touching the floor by using only a slab of wood and 2 boxes

Several students in the Sixth Form are intending to apply to join the Military. This day proved extremely helpful to these people as it provided an insight into the types of leadership and teamwork tasks they would be allocated when they go to join up.

*“These are the type of tasks you get given when you are at OASC (Officer Selection), doing them now and gaining an insight on how to effectively lead a group early on is really helpful for when I apply to be a Drone Pilot in the RAF” - **Jack Ford***

*“Today has really helped me in the sense that I now know I can do these tasks as part of a team which is vital to show at selection for the Marines” - **Sam Crossley***

*“It is really handy to have access to the RAF and Army at St John’s and today will be a big tick in the box when I apply for the RAF as it shows I have done preparation” - **Ollie Saunders***





St. George's Happy Valley by Mrs O'Sullivan

The RE department has taken 5 groups of students to visit St George's Church in Happy Valley. It is a special and thought-provoking place with stories of holy water, miracles and visions and the gentleman (monk, Fr Gerontius) who started the whole project to build the monastery and church greets the students with real warmth. Cyprus delight completes the visit for many. For Years 10 and 11 it brings their study of Christianity alive and for Year 7 it helps them explore the question "What is RE?"

"Visiting St George's meant a lot to me because the story of how it was restored inspired me to try harder in everything I do." Lewis Fearn 7EP

"The trip was fun. When I walked into the church it was calm and peaceful, I really liked that." Amah Bussel 7RF



"Visiting St. George's meant a lot to me"





Year 8 RE Assessments *by Mrs O'Sullivan*

These talented RE students received praise from Mr Armstrong and e-praise points for their outstanding, empathetic writing of a letter from Queen Maya to her son who would later become the Buddha:
Luca Briggs-Mould, Jess Thomas, Laila Dale, Connell Holden, Ellie McDowell, Finlay Taylor, Neeve Strang, Isaac Glencross.



St. John's Students go back in time *by Mr Strang*

St John's students working with Leicester University Archaeological Department at the Akrotiri dig. September 2016.





MUN Training Day in Nicosia 12th November

Even though the trip to Nicosia was just for the training, it always manages to get me very excited for the course in February. It is a brilliant way to get to know the people in your GA and to make some new friends (or allies) so you already have an idea of what the three-day conference will be like. We began the day in GA3 with some ice breakers – one which included handfuls of M&M’s! However, one of our ice breakers was less successful. It was where we all stood in a circle and threw a ball around, in an attempt to learn everyone’s names. I thought this was pretty unnecessary anyway, as although it is nice to learn people’s names, you can get away with just knowing people by which country they are!

We then ran through the basics of researching your country and the technicalities of writing your resolutions. Even though I had participated in MUN last year, it was still worthwhile to go over it once again to refresh my memory. We then had a some time left until the lunch break and so we put on some just dance! This was very enjoyable, and was something fun and different to do.

The lunch provided was brilliant – the cake was amazing.

The mock debate was also very effective and I enjoyed it immensely. I also liked the amount of time provided for lobbying after this, as I have managed to make some good connections with other countries in preparation for February.

Iona McVicar

On Saturday 12th November we went to Nicosia to take part in the MUN training day. During this day a lot of activities were run to teach us the basics of the MUN experience.

Firstly split up into our separate GA’s so that we could meet our fellow delegates. Then, after brief introductions, we took part in some icebreakers to make people more comfortable. There was a bowl of multi coloured sweets that we could take a handful from, and their colour corresponded to a question we would have to answer in front of everyone.

It took a while for us to get through everyone but some answers were comedic in their approach to the question which lightened the atmosphere before we went outside to do the next challenge. Once outside we played a game where we threw the ball at someone and had to remember all the previous names that had been said in the chain. This was very difficult and near impossible once we got to the twentieth person.

We then listened to a presentation detailing everything you could ever need to know about MUN. This information can also be found in the student handbook online. We then had the opportunity for some much needed refreshments.

When we returned to the hall, we took part in a mock debate, in which there was a pre-written resolution and speeches by delegates who stood at the podium and spoke for or against this specific resolution. After listening to the delegates who wished to speak we took a vote on the resolution, as if in the real debate. This was good practice as it gave us a great insight into how our actual MUN weekend will take place.

Finally they let us lobby in order for us to meet people and specifically the countries in which we wish to merge our resolutions with in the final debate.

Declan Mawer



“The mock debate was very effective and I enjoyed it immensely”



St. John's School Uniform - Current Prices

Uniform Item	Cost
Polo Shirt	€7.00
Skirt	€7.50
Shorts	€10.00
Boys Trousers (must be grey not black)	€15.00
Girls Trousers (must be grey not black)	€15.00
Jumper	€13.00
Cardigan	€13.00
Blazer (can be worn without a jumper)	€25.00
Fleece (must be worn over a jumper)	€13.00
Hoodie (KS4 & 5 only, must be worn over a jumper)	€15.00
New House PE shirt	€10.00
New Black plain PE shorts	€5.00
Black plain football socks	€5.00
Whit ankle socks	€4.00

ABSENCE REPORTING

If your child will not be attending school for any reason, please inform the school as soon as possible by calling (2596) 8003/3888 after 0730hrs, or send a text to 97843894 at any time.

A copy of the "Request for Absence during the school term" form, is available to download from the school website:

www.stjohnsschoolcyprus.com

LEAVERS

As soon as you know your leaving date, we would really appreciate it if you could please inform the school straight away. The "Departure" form is available to download from the school website:

www.stjohnsschoolcyprus.com

Or, alternatively, please contact the school office on (2596) 8003/3888, during school hours. This enables school records to be collated, ready for parents to collect (a signature will be required).





Date	Event	Details
3 January	School reopens	First Day of Spring Term
12 January	Film Club	'The Martian'
17 January	Meeting	Parents meeting 6th Form UK Visit
19 January	Assessment	Year 10 and 11 Mid Year Reviews Issued
23 –26 January	Visit	ICT Visit to UK
26 January	Meeting	Year 10 Parents Meetings
1 February	Meeting	Year 11 Parents Meetings
2 February	Assessment	Year 12 & 13 Mid Year Reviews Issued
10-12 February	Visit	MEDI Mun Nicosia
15-22 February	Visit	SKi Trip
16 February	Meeting	Year 12 & 13 Parents Meetings
17 February		Civvies Day for Epraise
17 February	Half Term	School Closes for Half Term
27 February		School Re-opens
1 March	Meeting	SGC Meeting
11-18 March	Visit	Sixth Form UK Visit
20 March	Visit	Year 9 Geography Visit to Nicosia
21 March	Meeting	Year 7 Parents Meetings
24-25 March	Visit	D of E Qualifying Expedition
27 March	Visit	Year 10,12 & 13 Biology Field Trip
29 March	Assessment	Year 8 Mid Year Reviews Issued
31 March	Sports	Sports Day with KRS
4 April	Sports	Trampolining Festival with KRS
4 April	Meeting	Year 8 Parent's Afternoon
6 April	Assessment	GCSE Music Practical Exams
6 April		Civvies Day
7 April		Staff Training Day—Pupils not in School
7 April	End of Term	School Closes for Easter Holidays
24 April	School Reopens	First Day of Summer Term



St. John's Twitter QR Code



St. John's Facebook page QR code

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL, Episkopi, Cyprus, BFPO 53

Telephone: 00357 2596 3888 **Fax:** 00357 2596 3708 **E-Mail:** enquiries@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com **Website:** www.stjohnschoolcyprus.com

