

## In this issue:

<i>New Chairman of SGC</i>	2
<i>Visit of Imam Ali Omar</i>	3
<i>GCSE ICT Visit</i>	5
<i>Under 18's Boys Football League</i>	7
<i>House Captains</i>	8
<i>Year 11 GCSE Catering</i>	9
<i>Music News</i>	10
<i>Teaching and Learning Initiatives</i>	12-13
<i>CMI</i>	14
<i>'Designing Your Future' Visit</i>	16-18
<i>A Level Geography Visit</i>	19
<i>MUN Conference 2016</i>	21-22

## Message from the Principal

Yet again, this term has been a busy and productive one. Many of the fantastic extra curricular events are celebrated in the pages of this magazine. For example, the outstanding performance of our 6<sup>th</sup> Form students at this year's Mediterranean Model United Nations held in Nicosia or the leadership qualities demonstrated by our Pupil Leadership Team (PLT) and by those students who were interviewed for positions as Head and Deputy Head of House. It is a firm belief in our Core Values of Excellence, Learning and Leadership that underpin all of the opportunities that we arrange for our students so that they can flourish as learners and citizens.



We aspire to be a self-improving school Federation, one that nurtures the talent of students and staff. To this end, we have worked with outside organisations such as SSAT, Leading Edge, TTSA and other schools in SCE to further improve elements of our provision. We have been visited by a consultant from TTSA who reviewed our behaviour and safety policies and her report highlighted that behaviour at both schools is excellent. We have also been visited twice this year by Mrs Judith Rundle (ex-HMI) in her capacity as SCE Link Inspector Advisor. She has been particularly impressed with our new KS3 Assessment and reporting approach, the behaviour of our students and Professional Development Opportunities we offer teachers and LSAs focussed on teaching and learning. These visits give us food for thought and lead to developments in school. For example we are currently developing a clearer marking and feedback policy to support students to make consistently rapid progress.

Many parents have been kind enough to complete our online Parent Survey 2016. The feedback provided has already helped us to acknowledge where our practice is good and reflect on areas for development that will help us on our journey to be graded as 'outstanding' at both schools. I recently wrote to you with a list of 'You said...we did' points to demonstrate that we are a 'listening school' and take all comments seriously. I was delighted that over 95% of parents who answered agreed or strongly agreed that their child was well looked after and made good progress.

House Apollo and House Poseidon have now been launched and we have appointed Head of House, Deputy Heads of House and House Captains. Our new rewards system, ePraise is also live and you can see updates on the front page of the website. I am looking forward to our first ever Federated Sports Day this year where all students and staff from both schools will come together to compete for the House Cup.

Finally, a reminder that details of what's going on in school are now posted on our official Facebook pages, twitter feeds and websites. Copies of letters sent home are uploaded into the 'Letters' section under the 'Information' tab. Also, under the 'News' tab there is a calendar of school events for your information.

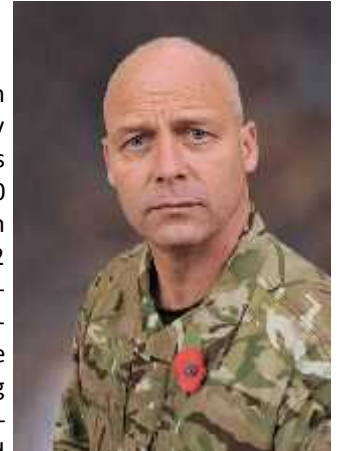
Wishing you all a happy Easter break and thank you for your continued support.

Mr Dan Browning  
Executive Principal  
@mrdrowning



## Head of School Governors, St Johns School, Episkopi

### Episkopi Station Commander Lieutenant Colonel Martin Payne BEM RAMC



Lieutenant Colonel Martin Payne was born in Manchester in 1963. His passion for the Army began as a member of the Army Cadet Force at the age of 13 in Stalybridge as a Mercian. His career journey started at the Junior Soldiers' Battalion in 1980 with The Prince Of Wales Division, 22 Cheshire Regiment in Taunton; he then transferred to the Royal Engineers in 1982 where he qualified as a Combat Engineer, HGV Driver and Carpenter & Joiner; he spent 3 years with 59 Independent Commando Squadron in Plymouth and Arbroath, during his time he served as an instructor with the All Arms Commando Training Team. In 1989 his career took on another challenge and he capbadged into the Army Physical Training Corps, where he served with 2nd Battalion Scots Guards in Hounslow and Edinburgh; Hong Kong Physical Adventure Training Centre as an instructor, he also advised on recruitment and selection in Nepal; 8 R IRISH in Armagh; JSSADC as the Army Diving Specialist in Plymouth; Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS) as the Training Warrant Officer and HQ 1(UK) Div & HQ 20 Armd Bde, as the SMI in Germany.

On commissioning from the ranks into the RAMC in 2003 he has served with 5 GS Med Regt as Ops and Trg Offr in Preston; 4 GS Med Regt as E (13) Sqn Officer Commanding (OC) and 2IC in Aldershot; SO2 J1/J4 Med in Bosnia and Afghanistan; RMAS as Old College Assistant Chief Instructor; Quartermaster (QM) 4 Med Regt in Aldershot; OC Sp Sqn and QM 22 Field Hospital in Aldershot; PJHQ Fwd SO2 and Mentor to the Afghan National Army Officer's Academy and Officer Commanding Phase 2 Training at Litchfield. His final post prior to promotion was as Officer Commanding Support Squadron and Quartermaster with 33 Field Hospital in Gosport. He has been deployed on various operations and exercises all over the world during his 35 years service.

Lieutenant Colonel Payne assumed the appointment of Episkopi Station Commander on 23 November 2015.

He is married to Tanya and has two children, Sophie (23) an A&E Nurse and Benjamin (22) a Physiotherapist - not forgetting their loyal rescue German Shepherd dog Reggie.

His hobbies are spending quality time with the family, travelling, DIY and if the operational tempo allows ensuring soldiers have the opportunity to participate in a variety of challenging outdoor pursuits. The usual sporting and outdoor interests are steadily moving from player to spectator; however the heart & mind is stronger than the body! His main effort and focus is the duty of care and welfare of his staff, soldiers and families.

**We are keen to have more Parent Representatives on our School Governance Committee (SGC) following the departure of Mrs Laura Campbell. More details about the role and a leaflet can be found on our website under the 'About Us' tab. If you are interested in joining the SGC as a Parent Rep, please contact Mrs Penny Demetriou, SGC Secretary on 3888 or [pdemetriou@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com](mailto:pdemetriou@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com)**

*Are you interested  
in joining the SGC  
as a Parent  
Representative?*





## The Visit of Imam Ali Omar *by Jasmine Harvey*

On the 23rd February, we were lucky enough to have a visit from Imam Ali Omar, the Muslim Chaplain for the 650 Muslim members for the Army, Navy and Royal Air Force. After an introductory assembly where he spoke about the Islamic religion and his job and some of the GCSE and A level RE students got the chance to ask him some questions.

In A2 RE I am studying Fundamentalism, and it was really useful to be able to speak with someone who has such great knowledge about Islam to get a different perspective on these issues. Hearing these things first hand was such a nice change from reading from a textbook. Imam Ali was such a lovely man and it was a great experience to meet him.



## Imam Ali Omar and Lat Blaylock, top UK RE Adviser

Two gentlemen taking our thinking further: RE students and RE teachers!



All the RE leaders on island met both men and Imam Ali was welcomed to all schools and held assemblies and Q and A sessions with many students. As one primary student said: "He's alright he is, when will he back so we can find out more?"





## Spirited Arts Competition 2015

Finally the certificates arrived and Mr Browning gave them out. Well done to all who took part.



We are looking forward to entering again in the summer and this year RE and Art will be joining forces and this will mean more time and opportunity to think outside the box and produce some lovely thoughtful pieces.

### “What is RE?” Bookcover competition



Congratulations to Matthew Hanman for winning first prize and to the runners up Lizzie Haines, Ellie McDowell and Neeve Strang





## GCSE ICT UK Visit—January 2016 *by Mrs Wolanski*

Students visited Harry Potter World in Watford and Bletchley Park, near Milton Keynes to look at both extremes of technology. Bletchley allowed the students to see the first computers used in WW2 and how these helped to decipher the codes which it is claimed, shortened the war by at least two years. Students were able to use the Enigma machine and experience what life was like for the thousands of people who worked at Bletchley during this time, many of whom have gone to their death carrying the secret of their vastly important job.

At Harry Potter Studio's the students experienced how developing technology has helped to create the amazing effects and animations which have captured our interests in the eight Harry Potter films.

Seeing the first computer to the latest developments within the technology and animation worlds showed us all that although we feel that we have come a long way since the first level of coding and computer machines were developed and used in the war, we have only moved with the times. Those first computers built were extremely intelligent and played just as important a part in our lives as our devices do today – they are just more attainable for everyone to benefit from!





## Dabaso School Kenya

A huge thank you to staff and students for supporting 'Festive Civvies Day' on the last day of the Autumn Term. We raised a total of Euro 868!

Collage by Daniel Leirer Year 8



*Students can now be awarded house points for demonstrating a core value*

### ePraise by Mrs Curran

On February 22<sup>nd</sup> this year St John's and KRS went live with ePraise our new online rewards system. Student can now be awarded House Points for demonstrating a core value or for excellent attendance. House Points also go towards their own house Apollo and Poseidon. Students and parents can log on to their profile and track how many points they have been awarded and more importantly decide how to spend those points! The ePraise shop is stocked full of stationery items chosen by students themselves as well as other prizes such as Coffee and Co vouchers and tuck shop credit. In addition if students choose to save up their points they can cash them in for experiences such as a cookery session, private music lesson or even a pool party! There has been quite a buzz around school and students are already coming to the ePraise shop (which is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays second break) to buy their rewards.





## Under 18's football league *by Jack Ford*

Since the start of this academic year, a selection of Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 students have been working together in the Victory Football School League playing against various schools from Limassol and the surrounding area. There are 5 teams in the league; St John's, Foley's School, Logos, Heritage School and the American Academy.

St John's suffered a shock defeat in the first game of the league, however since then the boys have come together and gelled much more as a team. They have been unbeaten since, even with the hindering of shock injuries such as one of their goalkeepers unfortunately dislocating his knee before their fixture. The boys have played outstanding football throughout the season winning 4, drawing 3 and losing just 1 against some very strong sides. The team finished 2nd in the league by a single point which is outstanding for their first ever league campaign.

Special thanks to Mr Marsden, Mr Barber, Mr Lister and not to forget our beloved tuck shop-runner, Mr Robin Millard for attending each and every week to allow it to happen.

Also a special thank you to all the supporters; Mr McKenzie, Ms O'Sullivan, Ms Jackson, Mr Yates, Mr Browning, not to forget the parents and students who turned up week in week out to cheer us on; it made a massive difference.

Well done boys!



### Squad

Nathan Singleton, Cameron Simpson, Frans Schapendonk, Dafydd Millard, Matt McDonald, Ben Hutchinson, Connor Dagnall, Ollie Saunders, Calum Smith, Jack Ford (C), Zach McKenzie, Lewis Palmer-Hunt, Jakob Bennett, Robert Sloan, Samuel Barber, Matthew English, Oscar Holden, Sam Crossley.





## House Captains

St John’s and King Richard Schools have now launched our two new houses; Apollo and Poseidon. There will be much healthy competition between them, both in and out of the classroom. This will culminate in one of the houses being awarded the House Cup at the end of the school year

The House Captains for each year group were selected from a shortlist of candidates because they were considered to possess the qualities of leadership, teamwork and reliability required to help motivate and inspire the students in his/her year group.

### Apollo

- Finley Simpson
- Masey Turner
- Cameron McGettigan
- Tia Rudman
- Archie McVicar
- Imogen Durr
- Matt English
- Abi Sargeant
- Iona McVicar
- Sam Barber .



### Poseidon

- Owen Lowe
- Emma Whatley
- Callum Espley
- Phoebe Briggs-Mould
- Will Brayshaw
- Jamie-Lee Kenwright
- Katherine Skinner
- Ollie Horsenail
- Lara Jeffries
- Jakob Bennett



*There will be much healthy competition between our new houses of Apollo and Poseidon.*

## Heads of House

Congratulations to Jack Ford, Head of House for Apollo and Darcie Walbrook, Deputy Head of House and Anna Wilmot, Head of House for Poseidon and Joe Ball, Deputy Head of House.







## Year 11 GCSE Catering



Ms Lea's Year 11 GCSE Catering group of 7 girls put their culinary skills to the test on the 9th of March during their GCSE Practical Exam. All students picked a country to research and produce a two course meal using ingredients native to their chosen country. Dishes included Beef Mignon cooked by Erin Hart and Salmon Sushi from Japan made by Katie Burton. The students were fantastic and worked hard all day to cook their final dishes.

Well done ladies.





## Exciting Times Ahead for St. John's Music Department

London-based Lyceum Productions, who were responsible for bringing X-Factor winner Sam Bailey over to Cyprus last September, have been busy setting up their 2016 series of performances, with UK artists booked to fly over to entertain us and perform alongside our students.

The plan for this season is to bring over a different well known UK artist each month, from May to September, and for them to perform at various venues across Cyprus.

The exciting news is that Lyceum Productions have asked St John's students to open one of their concerts each month – and they will alternate between opening the Pissouri Amphitheatre performance and the Curium Amphitheatre performance. These are two fantastic venues for the students to have the chance to perform at, and even more of an amazing opportunity is that the students have been invited to sing alongside some of the artists during the Concerts.

Students are currently busy rehearsing, every Tuesday after school and during break times, the songs that the artists have sent through for them to prepare.

We are still awaiting the go-ahead from Lyceum Productions to announce the names of the artists coming over and, indeed, the finalised performance dates. Once we get the "green light", all of this information will be conveyed to you so that you can book your tickets for the concerts in good time.

This is a really exciting time for St John's and for the students – and actually for Cyprus and the wider community. If this season goes well then the Lyceum Productions Team assure us that next year will be even bigger and better....if that's possible!

Watch this space for more information, dates and ticket sales as soon as possible.

We look forward to welcoming you at the performances, supporting our students who are already working hard and getting quite excited about who they will be performing with.

We have a quarter of the school initially signed up for this venture, which is fantastic. This is such an amazing opportunity for our students, who I'm sure will do themselves and school extremely proud.

Mrs J Edwards

EMAIL: [jedwards@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com](mailto:jedwards@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com)

TEL: 2596 8023



*"This is such an amazing opportunity for our students"*





### Code Cyprus by Myles Dixon Year 7

On the 5 March I went to Code Cyprus at UCLAN. There were several workshop but me and my friend Finn Bowden chose the robotics workshop which was not as good as we expected. After we had done the workshop we did a treasure hunt however we didn't win. The best part of the day was when we were running around doing the treasure hunt; I really wanted the prize which was 200 euros worth of CYTA vouchers. I really enjoyed the day and would love to do it again.



*"I really enjoyed the day and would love to do it again"*

#### Latest News from the Careers Hub:

The Careers Centre at St John's School is having a make-over.....watch this space!

#### Sixth Form UCAS Applications

Fantastic news from UCAS— All St John's sixth form students who have applied for University places have been made offers for September 2016.



This double page spread includes a few examples of the T&L initiatives/staff training which we have been engaging in across the Federation this term.

On World Book Day, I had the privilege of being treated as a literacy VIP at Ayios Nikolaos Primary School. I judged the amazing costumes for the whole-school book parade, and took part in storytelling with every year group in the school: this included some fantastic dramatic work from KS2, and a very lively performance of fairy tales by the Year 1/2 staff. Dhekelia Primary School invited me in to watch the exciting eruption of a volcano with Year 3/4, but even more excitingly for me, I got to assist in a fantastic literacy lesson based on sentence structures and vocabulary choices using seismic sensations as their stimuli. The celebration of literary events culminated in my leading a workshop this week on Shakespeare using physical theatre techniques. All of Year 3/4 presented the story of Macbeth using tableau: there were some very entertaining, creative and intelligent contributions. All in all, a productive and positive few weeks building on ensuring a smooth subject transition from KS2 to KS3.

By J.Purdie

English Department at KRS—Jamie Purdie



**All RE leaders across the Island experience two full days of RE training.**

We were privileged to have Lat Blaylock (the top UK RE advisor) in school for two full days during which he delivered training to both SCE primary and secondary school teachers. Teacher comments of the two days include “how inspiring,” “outstanding,” “fantastic resources” and “a super two days of high quality inset.”

## The Leading Edge Programme 2016

**SSAT; Leading Edge A national network for high-performing secondary schools.**

We are part of the SSAT leading edge programme. This connects us with other high performing schools in the UK and supports us in arranging visits so that we might share best practice and raise achievement. This week we met with co-ordinators of Leading Edge and shared our best practice in

- ) New KS3 assessment
- ) Our new house and reward system
- ) Using Kagan structures to raise achievement (page opposite)
- ) The introduction of a higher learning potential programme

**Up and coming  
T&L and CPD event:**

**CHALLENGE**

On Thursday March 24th we have our Federated Personal Development Day.

All teachers and LSAs from across both schools will come together to explore aspects of Challenge.

We look forward in sharing the outcomes with you in next terms magazine.

## Cooperative Learning Structures in MFL

Cooperative Learning Structures (also known as 'Kagan' Structures) are an effective way to engage and challenge pupils in order to maximise progress. Here are some photos of last week's in MFL lessons.

### **The Impact of Cooperative Learning Structures:**

- )] All the pupils in the class are engaged and actively participating.
- )] The pupils work cooperatively and collaboratively, which helps develop their social skills.
- )] The teacher is able to circulate the class, check pupils' understanding and correct misconceptions, which means the learners make



**Year Group: 7**

**Structure:** Find Someone Who

**Topic:** Asking other pupils what they eat and drink at school.



**Year Group: 7**

**Structure:** Rally Coach

**Topic:** Items of clothing and colours — Understanding the gender of nouns.



**Year Group: 7**

**Name of Structure:** Showdown

**Topic:** Understanding the prices of tuck shop snacks and drinks in German.



**Year Group: 7**

**Structure:** Round Table Consensus

**Topic:** Understanding what time lessons begin and end.



**Year Group: 8**

**Structure:** Match Mine

**Topic:** Holiday activities — 'verb in second position' rule.



**Year Group: 9**

**Structure:** Numbered Heads Together

**Topic:** Describing a school trip using the perfect tense



**Year Group: 10**

**Structure:** All Write Round Table

**Topic:** Saying what you will do on holiday using the future tense.



**Year Group: 11**

**Structure:** Stand N Share

**Topic:** Revising the German words for bedroom furniture.

In February I attended the Lead Practitioner Conference in London which was run by SSAT, the largest & longest-standing network of secondary schools in England. The aim of the conference was to discuss the most up to date educational research and how it can help improve the work we do in schools. As part of the 'Carousel of Experience,' during which delegates had the opportunity to share good practice and learn about school-based projects, I delivered a workshop about how we have been promoting Cooperative Learning Structures at KRS and St John's. I demonstrated two structures and explained the positive impact they can have on pupil progress.

Mr Pointon



### *CMI by Ros Kelly*

Congratulations to the Sixth Form students who have now completed their qualification with UK's leading management institute – the Chartered Management Institute. This course enabled the students to achieve a nationally recognised management and leadership qualification.

Rachel Lambert, Managing Director, StudyFlex, came out from UK in October to deliver an initial introduction to the students. Involving a series of role play and presentation skills exercises, the aim of the day was to help students improve their skill levels, aspirations and opportunities by helping them to become equipped for the workplace and fit for leadership. The students had a quick introduction to basic management theory and they came away with some useful study tools such as Personal Development Plans and Gantt Charts.

After the visit by Rachel Lambert, the students were set six tasks to complete; working independently and in their own study time. The tasks covered topics such as personal development, information and communication, developing good working relationships, using resources and planning work, coaching and feedback.

Many of the students found their own work experience outside school was useful as the course was based on a real life scenario. By completing the tasks, the students gained real experience in developing their leadership skills. They can now use techniques such as the Question Funnel and LACPAC to improve their communication skills; they have been introduced to business models for giving feedback such as BIFF and BOOST and are all set to coach the next generation of students using Tell/Show /Do and GROW.

As part of the course, the students also receive a 1 Year Student Membership of the Chartered Management Institute which means they have access to the CMI web based resource library with more than 2 million online articles, books and journals, as well as podcasts, videos and e-learning modules.

*As part of the course the students receive a 1 year Membership of the Chartered Management Institute*





## Shoe Box Appeal

On 23rd December several members of Year 12 and 13 travelled to Kofinou to deliver the shoeboxes that had been filled by tutor groups during December. A fantastic total of 60 shoeboxes were handed out to families and children during the morning. We were joined by members of several churches in the Limassol area who had also organised gifts for the children which were distributed by Father and Mrs Christmas. Reverend Christine Goldsmith led the students on a tour of the camp and answered any questions about the families living there and how the camp is run. It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to see the work of the refugee centre and volunteers and make a difference to the families at Christmas.



## Science Ambassadors

Congratulations to our Science Ambassadors!

These pupils received this award for showing leadership skills by volunteering to lead and help at the Y6 Science club after school during last term and for the recent Y4/5 Science club.

They have a pin badge and they received a certificate and a New Scientist book on amazing scientific facts, presented to them by Mr Browning.

They are left to right: Connor Carlile, Casey Young, Charlotte Berry, Emily Hutchinson, Lewis Keenor and Phoebe Burley.





## ‘Designing your Future’ Visit 2016

The Sixth Form is now buzzing with conversations about the opportunities post Sixth Form and this is because of our recent visit to the UK.

Within a week we managed to visit five universities for talks and tours, a HE fair with seminars, learn about gap years (that don't have to be a year), opportunities in the Military, Level 4 apprenticeships and other vocational opportunities. This was just the start of a hectic but rewarding week as we set the students a number of challenges including living on a budget (with a high success rate) and a shopping challenge to find out if they knew the ‘real cost’ of living and where would be a great place to shop on a budget.

*“A hectic but rewarding week”*

I enjoyed going around the different Universities and seeing all of the facilities and courses that they would offer me if I applied with them. Going on this trip has made me definitely want to go to University to my higher education.

George Beswick Blake

Visiting Liverpool University was a good opportunity to see what a city university looked like, whilst still being a campus, compared to the other universities that we visited. Also, the Gap year talk gave us a good insight into what volunteering would be like as well as giving us the opportunity to travel the world: enabling us to have job or University applications that stand out above the rest. Kiera Davidson

Before attending the UCAS exhibition I thought that it was either university or the military that I had to choose between, however talks from Gap year companies and other representatives at UCAS showed me I have various paths that I can take after my A levels.

I have now chosen to find extra courses to enrich my CV and to join the RAF as a RPAS Drone pilot or an air traffic control officer.

Jack Ford



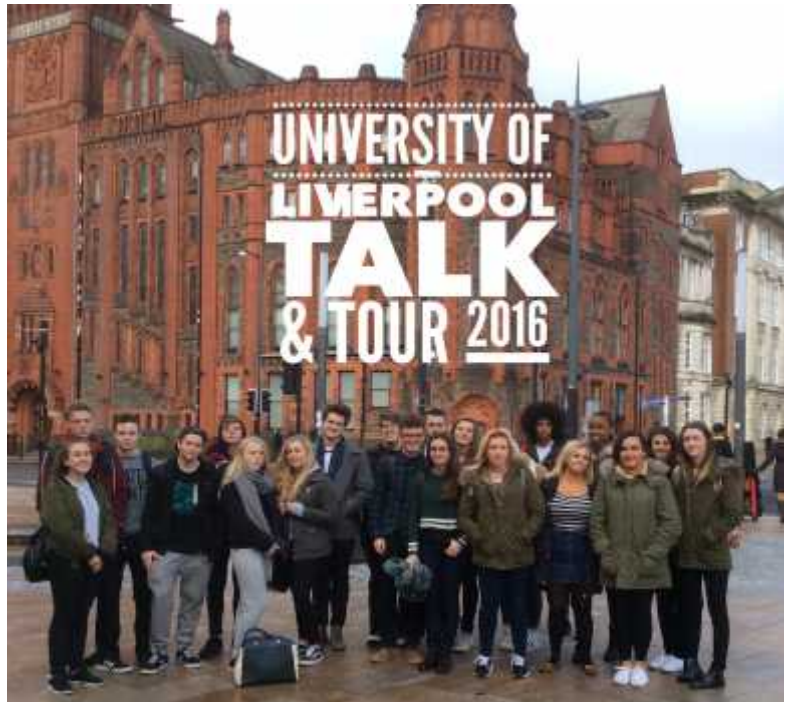
My week in Manchester helped me to make many decisions about my future, it gave me insight into the life of a University student and the sorts of things I haven't even considered previously. I'm now more aware of the finance and general lifestyle choices I need to look out for, it's also given me some incentive to work much harder than I have been in order to achieve what I want to. Oscar Holden







From the Manchester trip I found that one of the most useful thing was learning about the prices of accommodation and that if I choose to join the forces and go to university, they will pay for the fees. I was also able to successfully navigate my way around both Manchester and Liverpool which would be useful if I were to go to University there. Sam Crossley



The trip was very useful due to the fact that I am now able to fully see what university accommodation is really like and to also see the facilities that are available at certain universities. I have not changed my mind about going to BIMM as I believe it gives me the best option for my choice of career, but this was confirmed at the UCAS fair as I had a chance to meet them.

The Manchester trip gave us the chance to see different universities like campus and city based sites. On the first day we saw Keele University and this experience showed us what campus life is like. One of the biggest selling points was that it is a very safe place to live. After this on the second day we visited Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU). This was a city university and as it had buildings all around the city, this would be a great way to experience city life. On the third day we traveled to Liverpool University and had a tour around the campus. This differed from MMU because it was a campus within the city. I personally like this type of university the most because everything is so close and the public transport links are fantastic. On the fourth day we went to Salford and Manchester University. Salford was okay and it had good media facilities based at Media City. Manchester University was similar to Liverpool with it's campus feel, brilliant buildings and great facilities. The fifth day was spent at the UCAS Higher Education Fair. This gave students the opportunity to see and talk to representatives from a universities that you are interested in. They gave you information about the course and what you need to do to be successful in getting a place. They also told you about University life and what makes their University different or better than the others.

On our last day we had a Gap year talk which was really interesting because it gave us lots of information about how they can help you in your future and the life experience that you get on a placement. It also showed us that a gap year doesn't have to be a whole year, it can be as long as you want. For example, I am planning on volunteering this summer for two weeks. After this we had a tri-service talk which told us about careers in one of the Armed Forces and what they can offer you in terms of training and careers. Joe Ball



The Manchester trip explored several directions a student could take after Sixth Form including University, joining the military or taking a gap year; this detailed information on each option helped the students on the trip consider which would be best for them. Examining a variety of universities was very helpful as it allowed all the students to recognise unique and important features of each university and demonstrated the importance of viewing the university in person when making a choice. Anna Wilmot





The feedback from students has been unanimous is recommending the “Designing your Future” visit for all students in Year 12 and identifying that it has really made them consider their futures. Their next step is to begin the research and preparation for life post Sixth Form. This could be arranging work experience, writing a CV, signing up for an online course, a careers meeting with Miss Moloney, using Unifrog to research courses and universities ready for applying to university or considering the topic for their EPQ.

I found the Manchester trip very useful for the decisions I will make about university; there were things I learnt about that you wouldn't usually know about university. One of the things I found most useful about going to different universities was what their unique selling points were, for example accommodation or facilities that they have to offer undergraduates. However, I believe this trip would have been more useful for Year 11 students as you're picking you're A Levels which decides what you do at university; I found that when we visited Salford university, I wanted to go into Media Studies instead of my original choice as a Quantity Surveyor. Its worth looking at universities early so you can decide what you really want to do with your life. Overall, this trip was fun and a good experience, and I believe it has been beneficial to my education as I am now really motivated to do well, so I can go to university.  
Darcie Walbrook



*“The trip was a very useful experience”*

I personally think that the Manchester trip was extremely useful as it has given me many different ideas on what I would like to do in the future. The things that I enjoyed were going to a wide variety of Universities. It helped me to use my money wisely and also get an idea of prices in the UK. I also enjoyed having free time to go and see the city and watch things at the theatre. Things that I think could be improved about the trip would be not as much walking. Overall I really enjoyed the trip and think other pupils will do next year.

Madi Ashley

I felt that the trip was really beneficial to me as we had a look at different university styles and also we got to look at different opportunities such as the military talk and also the UCAS fair was good. It was really good because there was a much larger range of universities than the fair in Nicosia. The tasks we were given were good because it gives an insight about the cost of living as a student. The shopping opportunities were really good as well. Overall it was a great trip and I would highly recommend doing it next year.  
Ollie Saunders

The trip was a very useful experience and worth every penny. The most useful part of the trip was having the £15 per day budget which limited our spending and made us have a more realistic feel of University life. It was also useful getting to look round the Universities to see the difference in the courses and to find out which University was best for our specific course. Ellie Bailey





## A-Level Geography Field Trip *by Mrs Dixon*

As I am writing this article I am sat in the sunshine in the middle of Snowdonia National Park surrounded by glacial and post glacial features. The view is awe inspiring and is exactly the reason why at SJS we choose to bring the students to study the geography with the Field Studies Centre in North Wales. Since arriving on Sunday the learning hasn't stopped. We have visited all stages of a river from source to mouth, collected and analysed data and considered the continuing issue of flooding. Can we really manage it? In addition we have been bringing statistics to life looking at correlations through the application of Spearman's Rank and statistical significant difference in data sets using the Mann Whitney U test. We have visited the town of Llandudno to compare the differences in the standard of living in these areas and to appreciate the impact social welfare has.

This week long immersion in Geography ensures that our students perform significantly better than those from similar schools (on the skills paper at AS) whilst bringing the geography to life. Geography is about people and places so, quite rightly, at SJS we pride ourselves on ensuring every year group is offered the opportunity to bring the subject to life on more than one occasion.

Our next visit to Wales will be with our GCSE students in June for their controlled assessment so look out for the details in the next magazine.

The Geography trip was a good and different way to learn all the information that we need for our second exam. On one of the days we went to visit the River Conwy and we gathered data at three different points along the course of the river. This was especially good because it showed us all the features and gave us experience of finding the data which will make it easier to answer these exam questions.

North Wales is a great place to see all the features of river and glaciers. I also managed to see a Roche Moutonnée, a special type of rock formation created by the passing of a glacier, which was amazing.

Joe Ball



During the week we went to Cwm Idwal and the Ogwen Valley in the Snowdonia National Park. This was to gain a better insight for the glaciation part of our geography exam. We walked around the valley and up part of the mountain range to get a clear image of what the glacier had done to the land around us some 22 thousand years ago. This was specifically helpful as it allowed us to see the landforms 'in the flesh' which we will remember much easier for our exam rather than seeing photos on a PowerPoint. It was overwhelming even for myself, having lived in North Wales for most of my life to see the natural beauty of Wales and to be able to use the outstanding features available in North Wales to learn. I highly recommend that if given the chance, geography students go to these field study centres as they are very effective in making that information stick in your mind for the exam.

Jack Ford





## The Year of Fieldwork

The Geography Department is well known for its fieldwork opportunities so we are ecstatic that this year is the “year of fieldwork”. This provides us with yet another reason to celebrate all the opportunities available to our students throughout the year that we offer to improve their learning.

Key stage 3 opportunities are wide and varied ranging from a lesson to a whole day.

Year 7 have already visited Choirikta earlier this year to learn about settlement locations and the factors influencing the choices in the past (the history department looked at the Neolithic settlers too). We then fast forwarded to modern times and visited Limassol Marina to consider the reason for the development of the new residential area here and why Limassol has continued to grow. Students were encouraged to be problem solvers and apply their maths to calculate the land use. They then had to consider their own ideas about where settlements should be and why.

Soon Year 7 will be collecting data around the school site to consider the microclimate that exists. They will use a range of instruments and focus on different ways to collect and present data. We will then be studying coasts and visiting the local beach to collect and analyse some data about the movement of materials in order to appreciate the physical processes that create our local landscape.

Year 8 will soon enjoy a visit to the Kyros river and the Calednonia Falls to bring our raging rivers unit to life. This will involve sketching and getting a little wet in the name of geography. Again we will be encouraging our students to have enquiring minds when collecting data and then comparing it to the theories presented in the textbooks.

Year 9 students visited Paphos at the start of the year to research the impact of tourism. This applies their skills to GCSE level standard work and they had to write a report about their findings. As an extended piece of work it required the students to structure their research, ask appropriate questions, present their data appropriately and come to valid conclusions. Whether choosing Geography at GCSE or not the skills developed within this work will assist them with their future studies.

For our GCSE students we are building on the success experienced through our field visit with students meeting or exceeding their target grade on this element. We are already planning the visit to Orielson in Pembrokeshire with the centre booked for June 2016. We will collect the primary data come rain or shine for our controlled assessment and bring to life our case studies with the assistance of the FSC experts.



*2016—The Year  
of Fieldwork*





## Model United Nations Conference 2016 *by Jack Ford*

Back in January, 7 students from Years 11, 12 and 13 travelled to the European university in Nicosia to take part in the 11th annual Mediterranean Model United Nations conference. The event lasted from Friday to Sunday and was both fun and very educational. The conference is designed for students to make friends and debate real world affairs acting as a UN country. There were 4 assemblies (GA's); GA1 was based on conflict, GA2 was based on saving the environment, GA3 was based on humanitarian issues and GA4 was based on territory and civilisations. Furthermore, there was the security council and G20 in which more enthusiastic delegates had the chance to debate major world problems and the world economy respectively.

I was in GA1 and was the delegate of Saudi Arabia. I was assigned the task of debating *'Identifying non-military measures to address the underlying conditions which give rise to brutality and extremism in the Middle East'*. This basically consisted of finding a peaceful way to solve the problems in the Middle East at the moment. Each delegate had to write a resolution on how their country would attempt to solve the problem. They would then merge their resolutions with those of other delegates to form a final resolution which would then be taken to debate. The resolution would then be presented and each delegate would vote on the resolution as to whether they wanted it to go be put into action.

On the Friday we merged our resolutions with other delegates to form alliances in order for our ideas to be stronger in debate. On Saturday we began debating within our GA in which if our merged resolution was good enough and voted for, we would then take to debate with all of the GAs on the Sunday.

The whole experience certainly opened our eyes to the world around us and made us much more aware of current affairs which is very important in today's world.

Special thanks to Mrs Dixon and Mr McKenzie for sacrificing their spare time to allow it to happen!

**Jack Ford** - Saudi Arabia

**Joe Ball** - Saudi Arabia

**Megan Houston** - Saudi Arabia

**Anna Wilmot** - Myanmar

**Shona Henry** - Myanmar

**Ellie Macdonald** - Israel

**Iona McVicar** - Israel





## Model United Nations Conference 2016

Model United Nations was such a worthwhile and enjoyable experience. I was in GA3, which is the General Assembly, which deals with humanitarian issues. It was really interesting to be in this GA because I got to deal with a lot of ethical issues and worked to find solutions that were sensitive and did not offend the cultures from which these issues came. It did have its challenges as working with many people who can all speak Greek to each other was daunting – but I feel as though it will stand me in good stead for later life, especially when it comes to a time when I may have to work with people I don't know and still get my voice heard. MUN allowed me to make many new friends, who I have kept in touch with since and also brought me closer to the people who went from St John's, all of whom I have now become good friends with. It was a brilliant long weekend and I can't wait to participate next year.

Iona McVicar

The experience at MUN is a very unique one. It gives an opportunity to meet people from different backgrounds and cultures. It's also a way to improve your public speaking and extended writing. This may put you off but it shouldn't because it is done in a fun way. Another reason to take part is because living on SBA we are closed off from the rest of the community and this is a great way to find new people with the same interests as you. It also gives you the opportunity to go away for a weekend with your friends who have similar interests and ideas as you.

Joe Ball

*"It will stand  
me in good  
stead for later  
life"*



**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
Lincoln Green Polo Shirt (until Sep 2016)	€10.00
York Red Polo Shirt (until Sep 2016)	€10.00
PE Shorts	€6.00

**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](http://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](http://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
23 March	School Closes	Last day of Term for Pupils – Easter Holiday
24 March		Staff INSET Day
11 April	School Reopens	
11 April	Football	End of Year Cup Tournament Girls and Under 18's
13 April	Sixth Form Options meeting	
13 April	School Play	The Suitcase Kid
15 April	Geography Trip	Year 7 Geography Trip to Melandra Coast
20 April	Sports Leaders Festival	
21 April	Sports Day	Joint Sports Day with KRS
22 April	GCSE Music	Practical Exams
22-25 April	D of E	D of E Award Expedition
25 April	PE	External Practical Exam
2 May	May Day Holiday	School Closed
11 May	Parent Meetings	Year 8 Parent Meetings
20 May	Geography Trip	Year 8 Geography Trip to Kyros River
27 May	School Closes	Half Term
6 June	School Reopens	
6 June	Exam Period	Year 7-10 Exam Period begins
7 June	History Trip	Year 10 Trip to Kolossi Castle
9-10 June	History Trip	Year 10 History Coursework Trip
10-16 June	Geography Residential	Year 10 Geography Residential
15 June	SJS Prize giving	TBC
16 June	Festival of Sport	KS3 Festival of Sport at KRS
17 June	Year 11 Prom	TBC
27-29 June	6th Form Induction	
4-8 July	Exam Week	Year 12 Exam week
6-7 July	Year 6 Induction days	
18-20 July	Activities Week	
20 July	School Closes	End of summer Term
1 Sep	Staff Inset Day 1	
2 Sep	Staff Inset Day 2	
5 Sep	All pupils return to school	Autumn Term 2016



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

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

