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Message from the Principal

This term has flown by and we are fast approaching the summer holiday. We have said goodbye to our Y11 and Y13 students – I wish them all well for their next steps in education or training. I hope that the time they have spent with us here has helped them develop as effective learners and leaders. At the end of term we always see a number of students in all other year groups leave due to postings; I wish them all a smooth and productive transition to their new schools.

It has been a very busy year; we have seen trips to the UK, university talks, MediMUN, alumni return, a new approach to marking and feedback, field work visits in Cyprus, involvement in league football, swim Gala in the Federation and with International Schools, launch of ePraise rewards, new House System, summer of sport, school Facebook groups, twitter feeds and new websites, liaison activities with our feeder primary schools, Y6 core values days, world book day, paddle boarding, knitting, civvies days, amazing musical performances, drama productions, lots of exciting training for staff such as 'Co-operative Learning' and a whole day promoting 'Challenge' which was led by our staff, launch of 'Growth Mindset', visits from other Headteachers, UK experts (such as a Chris Smith, UK curriculum consultant) and our Link Inspector (Mrs Judith Rundle), in fact, there are simply too many brilliant things to list. I am so proud of our staff; they offer a broad, high quality curriculum along with extra curricula activities and can be relied on to go the extra mile for the benefit of the students in our care.

We will soon say goodbye to Mr John Eveson, Vice Principal, currently based at King Richard School. His 11 years' service as VP at both secondary schools in BFC has been exemplary. His work ethic and humility will be missed by us all and on a personal level I will greatly miss his support. We all wish John and his wife, Helen, the very best of luck as they prepare to move to Kenya where John will be taking up his new post as Headmaster at a British International School.

It is hard to believe that Mr Dave Yates has worked at St John's School for 28 years; his youthful looks hide his true age! However, Dave is retiring from his post as Head of MFL at the end of this term and he will be missed by all of us. His passion for language, teaching, sport and for St John's School is second to none. We all wish him a long and very happy retirement, although we are glad and grateful that he will continue to teach A Level French and German for the first term when we come back in September.

In September we will be welcoming some new full time teachers to our team:

Ms A Hill – MFL, King Richard School
Mr S Hill – History, King Richard School

Mr J Greenwell – Music, King Richard School
Miss K Pettit – Science/Physics, St John's School

I thank you all for your continued support of St John's and King Richard Schools and I look forward to another exciting year when we return in September. I wish you all a happy, safe summer break.



Mr Dan Browning
Executive Principal
@mrdrowning



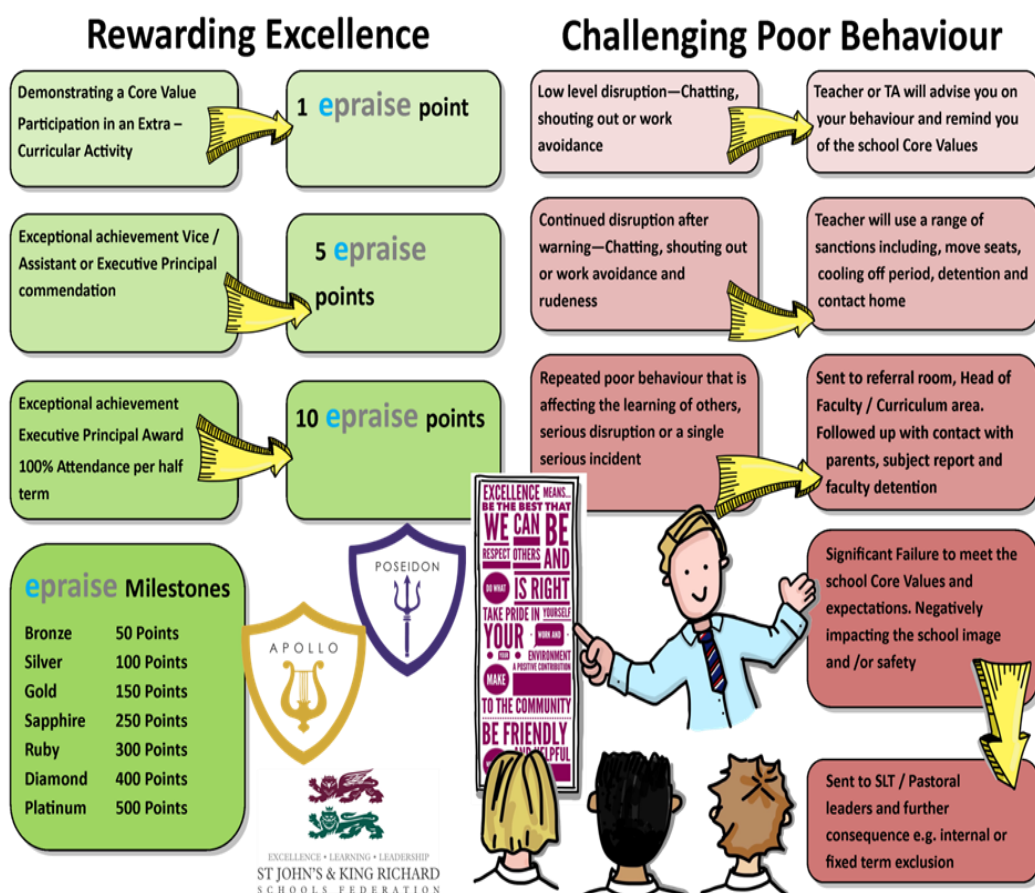


*The Pupil Leadership
Team made some
very good
recommendations*

Rewards and Expectations Ladder

During the year we have been visited by many external experts who have enjoyed coming to St John's School and observing the outstanding progress the students make and the positive relationships between all members of the school community. During one such visit Gail Lewis spoke to students from all year groups. She asked how St John's School could be even better. One of the things that students mentioned was that they would like to have a clear and transparent framework that makes the schools system for praise and expectation obvious to all. They thought that, whilst the teacher's understood how the systems worked they, and particularly new students, would benefit from some sort of simple summary of the whole policy.

This prompted the SLT and key members of Middle Leadership into action to produce the rewards and expectations 'ladder' pictured. After initial ideas were considered they were taken to Pupil Leadership Team who made some very good recommendations of how to improve it further. It was then given over to staff for further consideration prior to it being launched in assemblies throughout June. The ladder is now up in all classrooms and provides staff and students with a clear and consistent in class policy for praise and a transparent framework for expectations and consequences.





Film Club *by Mrs Lister*

This year the Drama and Film department has started an 'Into Film' Film Club. This is set up with support from a charity in the UK working alongside the BFI, whose aim is to broaden the perspectives and experiences of young people through film.

As a start to the club we have been showing well-known films aimed at a young audience in order to promote awareness of this great opportunity. So far we have screened Mars Attacks and Monsters VS Aliens. Our aim is to broaden the range of films gradually and also offer in-house workshops led by Film Studies students.

Our next screening is Jumanji on the 15th July at 17.30. Screenings are free and the concessions stand is open from half an hour before the film.



St. John's School Governance Committee

Are you interested in becoming a Parent Governor on our School Governance Committee (SGC)?

Details about the role can be found here:

<http://www.stjohnsschoolcyprus.com/about-us/school-governance-committee/>

If you are interested, please contact
Penny Demetriou, Secretary to the SGC, on 3888 or
pdemetriou@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com





“Best Prom in 20 Years!” by Mrs Curran

On 24th June the Year 11 prom took place at the Columbia Beach Hotel in Pissouri. For the first time in many years the evening was attended by the whole of Year 11 and they all looked amazing in their glamorous outfits. Many staff attended as well, including Mr Browning, Mrs Kerr, Mrs Curran, and the Year 11 tutors, although sadly Mrs Warren was not able to make it as she is back in the UK receiving medical treatment.

Photos were taken by Mr Barber with the spectacular backdrop of the Mediterranean Sea and a setting sun. Guests enjoyed a delicious buffet, followed by speeches, awards and thank yous. Music was provided by the fabulous guest DJ who managed to get everyone up dancing, I think Mr Browning was even spotted at one point on the dance floor.



The evening was full of laughter and tears from some very emotional students who are now moving on to new adventures and we wish them every success for the future. Mr Browning was quoted as saying that it was “the best prom he had been to in 20 years”

Special thanks to the prom committee; Lara

Jefferies and Emily Hughes in particular who worked extremely hard in the weeks leading up to the event, organising the table decorations and entertainment for the evening.

A special thank you goes out to Mr Barber, Mr Bones, Mrs Lister and Mrs Wolanski for your help on the evening. If Year 11 students would like a disk of the photos taken by Mr Barber they should contact the school.





Year 10 Catering Exam *by Ms Lea*



The Year 10 GCSE Catering group produced a feast fit for a king in June during their Afternoon Tea themed practical exam.

Each pupil produced four tantalising dishes of both the sweet and savoury variety. Pupils really stretched themselves by producing choux pastry, meringues, sausage rolls, cheese cake and salmon puff pastries just to name a few.

Following three hours in the kitchen pupils had to then beautifully present their dishes to a restaurant standard, which I'm sure you'll agree they achieved. Well done Year 10!





Dabaso School Kenya *by Graham and Ann Lawrence*

During February we made our customary visit to Dabaso School and were delighted to see and hear about the continuing progress which is being made thanks to the hard work by all the school community.

Esther Kutto (Head Teacher) was very pleased to advise us that the 'Mean Score' following the end of academic year examinations for Standard (Year) 1 – 7 inclusive during November last year had increased by sixteen points: a significant improvement.



Eight Standard 8 (final year of primary) students had secured places at National Schools, the top level of secondary school in Kenya. Equally important is the fact that more parents/carers are involved in education, attending meetings as requested. This is a huge step forward as many children originate from families who have not had the benefit of an education.

The focus of the practical support to the school was the provision of much needed and highly valued books for the school library.

The priority for the book selection was to support Life Skills in the final two years of primary - 13/14 years. Esther said this was vital, when teaching people from different cultures and religions to live together with patience, tolerance and understanding.

In addition, the school wanted to focus on 'choices and consequences' hence a book with the title 'My Life in Prison' and another title 'A Criminal's Wife'. Other chosen books were general story books and specific books for the Special Needs Class.

As can be seen the books are of a good quality with colourful illustrations, and are slim—encouraging children to finish a book and select another. The majority of the books purchased were in English..



The day before our departure one of the Standard 3 teachers visited to thank us for the books, which he said make a huge contribution to the vastly improved standard of written and spoken English, particularly important as the children do not usually speak English at home.

The Government has changed the school day in order to raise education standards. Children from Standard 3 now register at school at 6:30am, and others have an additional lesson until 5:30pm. Add to this walking time to and from school of one hour or more each way and yet the children continue to smile and are desperate to learn.



*"The children
continue to
smile and are
desperate to
learn"*





KS3 Festival of Sport

135 pupils from SJS and KRS took part in the annual festival of sport at Happy Valley. Sports included volleyball, rounders, ultimate frisbee and water polo. This year pupils competed for the new house teams (hence the blue and yellow t-shirts). Poseidon won overall winning lots of house points.



Under 18s End of Year Football Tournament *by Ollie Saunders*

The end of year tournament was an eventful end to the season for the lads. We had played outstanding football for the year. I feel we bonded really well as a team and that's what won matches and enabled us to play with the great standard of football that we did. We had some great individuals in the team that really showed their class and helped the rest of the team by defending well or scoring goals. We finished second in the league and we were just one point from clinching the title from Foley's school.

The tournament was very competitive. We won two of the games against Heritage school and American Academy and then drew to Foley's school and Logos school. This left us in second place at the end of the tournament, just missing out on winning by goal difference. Logos ended up winning the tournament.

On behalf of the team we really enjoyed playing in the Victory Football League and look forward to next year's season and hope to do even better in the future. A special thanks to all the staff members that helped out such as Mr Marsden, Mr Barber and Mr Millard. Also a big thanks to the family and teachers that came to watch and support.





SJS Prize Giving 2016

The annual Prize Giving Ceremony at St John's School was held on 15th June. It is an fantastic opportunity to recognise the students efforts in learning and their contribution to the school and community. This is a selection of prize winners that were recognised during the evening.

*"It is both a
happy and sad
occasion"*



Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Winners:

Paige Beech
Khadija Begum
Thomas Glencross
Dafydd Millard
Bayley Dynan
Wallace Williams
Clayona McGann
Shona Henry



Our Y13 students are moving on to exciting times either to university, further studies or overseas travel. We wish them all the best.

Adam Broadberry, Daisy Bowater, Jess Burton, Aimee Dagnall, Tom Glover, Jasmine Harvey, Megan Houston, Jodie Leigh-Hudson, Matt McDonald, Ellie MacDonald, Jess Mansfield, Lewis Palmer-Hunt, Calum Smith, Frans Schapendonk, Ben Hutchinson, Will Skinner, Ellie Winston.

Cyprus Music Service
provided some fantastic
music as parents,
students and visitors
arrived for the ceremony.





Shona Henry was awarded the Gina Haynes Memorial Prize for contribution to Drama.

The Holly Austin Prize for Kindness and Empathy

Holly was a Y7 student who died following a tragic accident. This prize is in her memory and is awarded to a Y7 student who shows particular kindness and empathy. This year the prize was awarded to Lucy O'Neill.



Daffyd Millard was one of the musicians who entertained the audience during the evening.



We celebrated the success of St. John's three football teams by awarding trophies to team captains.

Ollie Horsenail	Under 14 Boys
Jack Ford	Under 18 Boys
Aimee Dagnall	Under 18 Girls

It is both a happy and sad occasion when students reach the end of Y11 and their GCSE studies. The following students graduated from Year 11 by receiving a Framed Certificate of Graduation to mark this important milestone in their education.

Mr Francis 11 RF
Danielle Atkinson
Jakob Bennett
Bayley Dynan
Emily Hughes
Lara Jefferies
Owen Larwood
Iona McVicar

Mrs Warren 11 LW
Samuel Barber
Paige Beech
Charlie Brayshaw
Maisie Gaskell
Nathan Singleton
Kathleen Stacey

Mr Glencross 11 AG
Katie Burton
Connor Cooper
Shona Henry
Tia Hudson
Mawer Declan
Brooke McDowell
Andy Smyth

Mrs Pendle 11 EP
Khadja Begum
Thomas Glencross
Erin Hart
Clayona McGann
Dafydd Millard
Gianna Smith
Wallace Williams





Federated Sports Day 2016 *by Mr Lister*

This year saw the first federated sports day which was held at the Tsirion stadium in Limassol. The PE departments from both schools collaborated over many months to provide a fantastic day and opportunity for the students to compete on an internationally recognised track which meant that lots personal bests were achieved. GCSE PE students were also able to use the event as part of their moderation which resulted in an increase in practical marks due to the fierce competition and atmosphere that was created on the day.



"The atmosphere was very good and everyone was enjoying themselves"

"It was fun enjoyable and we got to meet new people." - Oscar Y7

"It was good because everyone worked as a team and we had fun." - Rose Y7



"We went to a great place and I loved all the sports." - Arran Y7



"It was very competitive, and made you work much harder." - Cameron Y8





"It had a great vibe to it, it felt like a real competition." - Callum Y8

"It was good as it was 2 houses competing together. We also had to work together with KRS to earn housepoints." - Issy Y8



"The stadium was much better than last year." - Casey Y8

"The atmosphere was very happy and everyone was enjoying themselves." - Alanya Y8



"It was good to socialise and mix with other schools." - Callum D Y8



It was also the first big event that launched the new house system, with Apollo and Poseidon battling it out for the Olympus cup which Poseidon eventually came out winners by 55 points. Staff and pupils had a great time with huge participation throughout the federation as well as a high level of performance from the event winners. Well done.





Music News by Ms Edwards

As we move towards the summer holidays, members of St John's Voices are still working very hard as they continue to rehearse for their bookings with the London-based Lyceum Productions Team.

The first performance back in May, where they opened the concert for Tony Christie, gave the students an insight into what putting on a professional show involves. From security companies to sound and lighting crew to sound checks to dressing rooms, etc.



*"A great venture
for the students
to be involved
in"*

Last week, the students were extremely fortunate to not only open the "Night of Soul" at Pissouri Amphitheatre but to sing alongside the voices of soul, Three Degrees lead singer Sheila Ferguson and X-Factor's Andy Abraham. St John's Voices shared the stage with local ladies choir Achord and all 69 voices together backed Andy and Sheila in the finale, "Sister Act Medley", which was simply stunning.

The students gave absolutely everything they could to that performance and were simply buzzing when they came off the stage. It was an outstanding performance. Next week, the students will open the show at Pissouri Amphitheatre for The Cruise and Loose Women's Jane McDonald, which I'm sure will be another amazing evening of entertainment for Lyceum Productions.

This is a great venture for the students to be involved in and they have most certainly been a real credit to the school. Next term, we look forward to joining forces with Sam Bailey once again on Wednesday 7th September at Zante Outdoor Venue in Limassol, and then with BGT's Richard & Adam at Pissouri Amphitheatre on Friday 30th September.

Thanks to parents and staff who have supported us so far in taking on this commitment. We look forward to your continued support as St John's Voices continues to prepare for forthcoming concerts and shows.

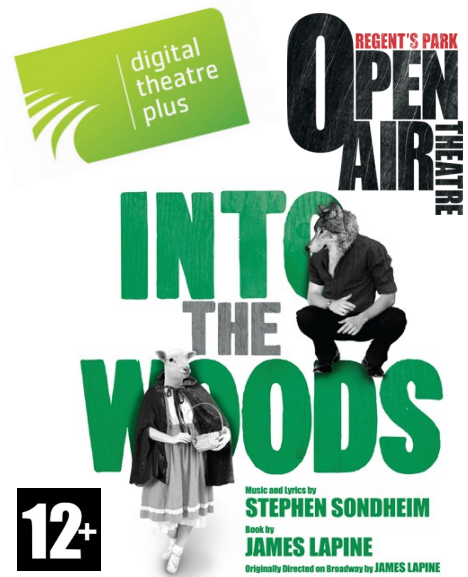




Digital Theatre comes to St. John's by Mrs Lister

Following on from the success of the NTLive project by the National Theatre more companies have started to record their most popular and ground breaking theatre work. We have bought into this with a company called Digital Theatre. Earlier this term we screened Into The Woods filmed at Regents Park outdoor Theatre and it was highly successful.

This was followed on 8 July by Shakespeare's A Comedy of Errors, produced by a company called Told by an Idiot. At a cost of just 3 Euros, these events are a great evening's entertainment. Keep a look out for details of more screenings next term.



Epi Primary Big Arts Fortnight

During this years Big Arts Fortnight at Episkopi Primary school, students from St John's Drama and Film department have been helping students to explore their film themes.

Y10 Drama students have been working with FS2 up to Y3 providing drama workshops on a variety of themes. Y12 Film Studies students have been helping Y4 to Y6 classes create their own films.

The sessions have been created entirely by the St John's students and they have taken responsibility in pairs and threes for planning the content.





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

The Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) is hard work. After an expedition, you'll probably spend a day in bed, feeling awful and watching hours of TV because you can barely walk from your sore feet, that's probably how SJS students felt at the end of their expedition this year.

Year 11 students were awarded their Bronze award at the annual Prize Giving night. The students completed their expedition in summer 2015 and have spent the last few months completing the remainder of the Award – including volunteering, physical activity and attaining a new skill.

18 Year 10 students have recently completed the Expedition section of the Award. It was a challenging year with thunder and lightning testing them to their limits in the Akamas and glorious hot weather in April where they all successfully completed their qualifying expedition.

The students work hard to achieve the Award, Year 10's are currently working on their skills where they are testing out their cooking skills and completing the other sections.

The Award is a fun, challenging and rewarding journey where you'll grow in confidence and become more independent. Achieving a DofE Award opens doors to education and employment opportunities for any young person. Volunteer, get fit, learn, go on expeditions... it's one amazing adventure after another that you'll never forget, so if you are in Year 9, get thinking about it. Are you up for the challenge?

Finally, a huge thanks to the following staff and supporters that have helped make running the Award possible, in particular – Phil Dakin (Station Youth Worker), Kevin Byron, Tom Bringhurst and Andy Davies (CJPU) Mr Roberts, Mr Francis, Mr Woods, Keeley Bringhurst, Mr Cooper (SJS)

*“Are you up for
the challenge?”*



'Those who aspire to teach must never cease to learn'

On Thursday 24th March teaching staff and learning support staff attended a federated professional development day (PDD) at St Raphael Hotel. The theme of the day was 'Challenge.' The purpose of the day was to launch new initiatives and deliver innovative and creative workshops during which staff could collaborate and speak honestly. Thus allowing staff to walk away with initiatives/activities which they could use right away, which are relevant for our students and which have a positive impact on student outcomes.

What was covered?

The day included SLT presentations on 'Improving Schools,' 'Growth Mind-Set' and the launch of 'Mark, Plan, Teach - Repeat', the Federated marking protocol. Mr Pointon facilitated co-operative activities exploring 'The Power of Coaching' and we also had 8 workshops planned and facilitated by the LITT

1. Creating effective challenging homework – Mr Pointon
2. Less is more: the challenge of improving our own efficiency – Mr Francis
3. Amazing Spaces: the challenge of creating and inspiring environment – Mrs Downham and Mrs De-long
4. Challenge for all: developing a mind-set – Dr Kelly
5. KS4 Assessment, feedback and student responses – Mr Burvill
6. Challenging students on their different pathways – Mr Devine & Miss Vance
7. Creating challenge during Kagan activities – Mrs O'Sullivan and Miss Massey
8. Challenging HLP – Heidi Nevison and Craig Balmer



Teachers evaluation of PDD:

What did you rate the day overall:

27 = EXCELLENT 17 = GOOD 2 = OK 0 = POOR



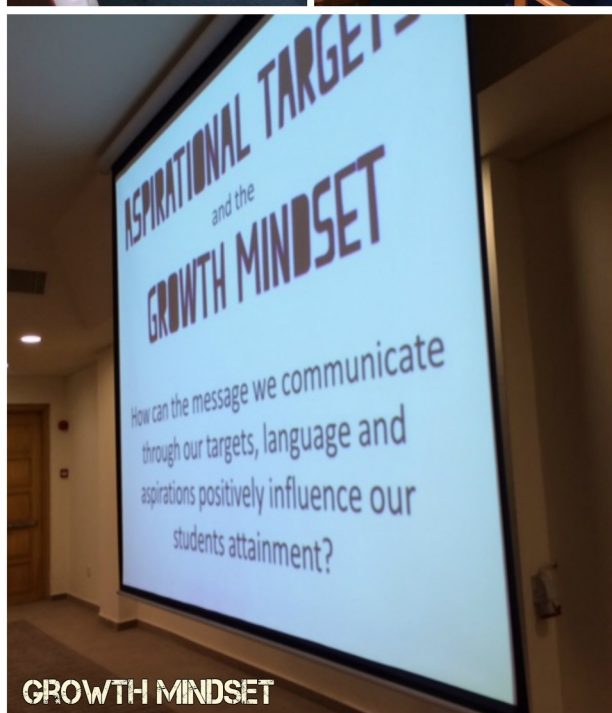
LITT PREPARATION



SELF IMPROVING SCHOOLS



ARRIVING TO PDD



GROWTH MINDSET



CHALLENGE FOR ALL



KAGAN WORKSHOP



MARKING & FEEDBACK



KAGAN

LAUNCH OF THE
NEW MARKING &
FEEDBACK
PROTOCOL

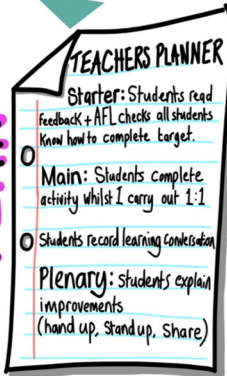


MARK

TEACH



PLAN



HLP WORKSHOP



INSPIRING ENVIRONMENT



An example of a Kagan activity used during PDD and then replicated in an English lesson at KRS

How to complete the 3-step interview

Students work in groups of 3 and are assigned an individual role

A = interviewer B = interviewee C = recorder/coach

Student A asks student B questions on a specific topic of the teachers choice.

Student B answers the questions and student C is responsible for recording the answers.

Works well if student C is the HLP student. This is because student C 's role as coach means they intervene if;

1. Student A cannot think of questions
2. Student B cannot think of answers
3. If they hear something incorrect

As a coach student C should support students in creating questions, answering questions or in discovering the correct information by the skilful use of questioning.

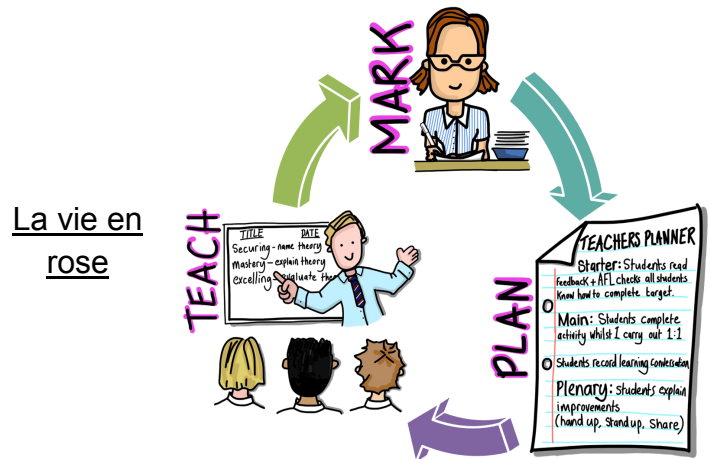


In Year 12 English Literature I used the Interview-Coach three student discussion structure to encourage the students to consider Hardy's *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* from a tragic perspective. This included detailed reference to the genre conventions and how they are used (or not) in the text. To set up the task and to ensure that students had a competent working knowledge – this was the first lesson back after the Easter holidays and students had just completed reading *Tess* – we set up the tragic conventions on sugar paper around the classroom and the students circulated and created mindmaps with the convention at the centre, essentially developing each others' ideas. After this starter activity, students were in a confident place to interrogate each other on the nuances of the text; the interviewer and coach model enabled the students to really develop their answers through questioning, helping them push to the advanced level that they require in the run up to their AS exam.

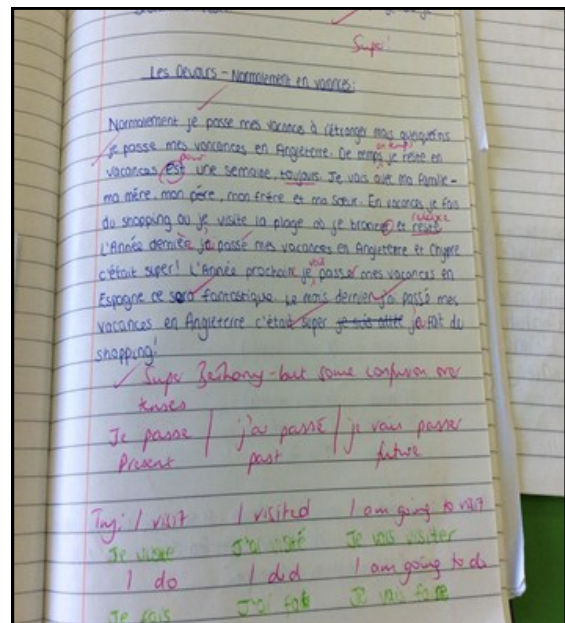
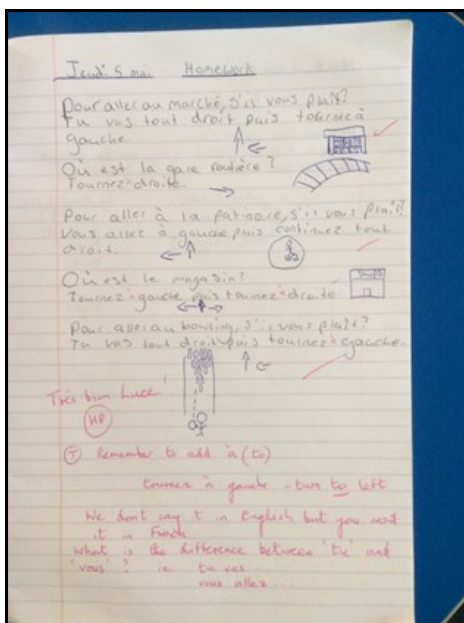
Our new Marking and Feedback Protocol was launched during PDD. Here MFL explain; more.



L'équipe MFL, après beaucoup d'années avec les stylos rouges, est prête pour corriger le travail avec les stylos roses!



Since its launch at the PD Day in March, much has been said about the new marking policy. Some people may have been marking in red (dark pink?) for a long time now. But ... no big deal; it is only a slight change of shade and the main thing is to ensure our quality marking remains quality marking or becomes even better. In MFL we do, as you might expect, mark very exactly and all errors are usually highlighted for pupils to see and take note of. But do they always look beyond the mark they have received and whether they have a house point before comparing their mark with the person sat next to them? Do they really look carefully at what was right and wrong and make a written or mental note so that the same mistakes don't happen again? Do they make the time we have spent marking their work worthwhile?



Setting them next steps or 'try this' with a small additional follow-up task (DIRT activity) will ensure that pupils move on from mistakes they have made. The fact that they do this in green will make it easier for both teachers and pupils (and other parties!!) to see at a glance where improvements are being made. Dialogue can take place too – it doesn't have to, but where it does, it can only be beneficial.

Hopefully, all we are doing is 'tweaking' our already good marking.

Alors, mes amis ... en avant avec la vie en rose!





Geography Beach Visit *by Myles Dixon*

On Thursday the 4th of May Year 7 went on a Geography visit to the beach in Happy Valley (Lemmings). We did this to do some primary fieldwork data collection. The map below shows the locations we went to.



We went here first

We then went here

The data sets we collected were pebble size and smoothness, gradient (using an expensive piece of equipment called a leveller that Mrs Dixon selected a few students to use) and wind direction.

The leveller is mainly used by engineers and surveyors which is why Mrs Dixon only allowed a select few set up and use.

Mrs Dixon gave out a lot of house points during the day and managed to put herself at the top of the teachers giving out leader board.



The expert team setting up the leveller





Battle of the Somme Commemoration *by Mr Francis*

On 1st July, a delegation of St. John's pupils participated in the Episkopi HQ Somme commemoration service at the garrison church. Orchestrated by the History department, the eight pupils accompanied by Mr Francis and Mr Browning took time to remember the sacrifices made during the 141-day campaign on what was the 100th anniversary of the start of the battle.

The event was particularly pertinent, as not only have Year 9 pupils examined the painful lessons learned by the British military in the aftermath of the Somme which would permit more effective combined-arms offensives such as that at Amiens, but the Resident Infantry Battalion, 1LANCS, remember their ancestral regiments that participated in the battle.

The service proved moving, the readings thought-provoking, and as ever, the pupils represented the school with distinction. Special mention must also be given to the Cyprus Music Service (in which a number of SJS pupils performed) and the Military Wives' Choir who enhanced the experience of the service through their contributions. All in all, the horrendous losses sustained by all sides (19,240 British and Commonwealth troops died on the first day alone) continue to cause us to consider both military strategy and objectives, and the human costs of war.





UCAS Day by Oscar Holden

The UCAS day, which took place on the Monday 20th, focussed on informing, encouraging thinking and putting into place the next stage of educational life and familiarising students with the UCAS process. I personally felt that the day was helpful to take the next step in my future. The day was broken down into different sections, each of which focussed on a different aspect of the application process.

At first, using the UCAS website was the main focus, learning to use the website features and becoming used to the format. Different tasks were completed and personal interests were considered, this was helpful as it gave us information which could later be used to apply for university. The part of the day that I found the most useful and relevant to me was the question and answer session with students who had left St. John's School for University in recent years. Students were allocated to groups and answered a range of questions, varying from student finance and the social aspect of university to the application process itself. The final part of the day was aimed at the personal statement. Lots of useful information was given as well as examples and further advice to help us start the process.

I felt that the day was useful as it helped me to seriously consider the next stage of education and the successful future that I would like.



ALUMNI STUDENTS DISCUSSING UCAS

The Snack Shack by Robin Millard

As I come to the end of my first year in post things are continuing to develop at the Snack Shack. Following its Easter refit, we are slowly but surely expanding our choices, which have been well received. Once the final equipment is in place we will be able to offer further hot food choices from September.

Your feedback on new ranges, and suggestions for the future are always welcome.

As you know we keep our prices low and don't aim to make a profit. For this year though, we have been able to contribute our efficiency surplus to school funds, this money is used to support activities for the students such as trips and prizes for the ePraise shop. The tips and small change box provided a donation of 53.66 to cancer research and there was a 12 Euro contribution to the School's Sports Relief total.

Have a great summer.



Daisy Bowater with her design for the Snack Shack





Auf Wiedersehen and Au Revoir to Mr Yates.

Miss Cambridge and Mrs Curran are heartbroken – the lovely Mr Yates is leaving St John's after 28 years. It is hard to imagine the MFL department here without him and the whole school will miss him greatly. He inspires staff and students alike with his generosity, kindness and humour. Mr Yates has time and a kind word for everybody. His jokes at Sports Day and Swimming Galas are legendary and his extensive wardrobe has kept us entertained at Café Noel and Language Days.

Not only is Mr Yates one of the nicest men you will ever meet but he is also an excellent teacher. He has led an incredibly successful department, which has achieved consistently outstanding results – surely a testament to his teaching and his ability to inspire others. Countless students have benefitted from his commitment and care; every individual matters.

He has made an enormous contribution to the wider life of St John's, leading trips abroad, being an honorary member of the PE department with his football and hockey skills and supporting countless school events. And who can forget his enthusiasm for the Schools Fantasy Football League – this year he was finally crowned champion of the world.

We are not the only ones who think this. Here are just a few of the comments from former students.

*"A fantastic
teacher and a
fantastic school"*

Mr Yates taught me A Level German between 1989-91. Such a lovely teacher, I remember him bringing in Simnel cake for us to eat,

I feel very privileged to have had him as my teacher and I wish him a very long and happy retirement,
Nikki Hills

Mr Yates was my form tutor in 1988. A great teacher– I am sure he will be sorely missed at St. John's. A fantastic teacher and a fantastic school. Very fond memories of St. John's.
Jon Martin

Mr Yates was my German teacher between 2005-2008. He made German very fun and it became my favourite subject. Brilliant teacher and a very approachable person. Dan Tait

Mr Yates was my French teacher between 1996 and 2001. A truly inspiring man and thanks to his introduction to this subject, I went on to get a degree in French Liz Hawker



A true gentleman, he has dedicated almost all of his working life to St John's and it is undoubtedly a better place for that.





Year 8 Geography Trip to the Kyros River.

On Friday, the 20th of May, Year 8 went on a trip to visit two sites along the Kyros River. The first one was in Platres near the Kaledonia Falls and the second site was near Kouris Dam. Our aim was to collect data about the river using a variety of instruments so we could prove or disprove the hypotheses we made in class.

As a participant of this amazing trip organized by the Geography Team, I found it interesting and fun gathering information about the River. We waded into the cool, refreshing water and felt the wet, soggy silt reaching in between our toes. A student brought his drinking tube that enabled him to drink the water from the river without picking up any illnesses. For me, the best part of the trip was when we collected the data down at Kouris Dam. I enjoyed working in a team. Everyone in the team played their part from measuring the river banks to analyzing stones. Collecting real data improved our understanding of the school work and helped us with our assessment.

Phoebe Briggs-Mould

We left school at 0830 heading up to Caledonia falls in Troodos. We hiked up the trail towards the falls. Halfway we stopped at site 1. Here we took measurements of how wide the river bed was (the wetted perimeter). After that we measured the width and depth of the river; depth at every 30cm so we could see if the depth was different at any point in the river. We then measured the velocity of the river so that we could see the difference in speed at certain points. We also measured the angle of the river as it descended from source to mouth, measuring every 10 metres. To do this we used ranging poles, a clinometer and a tape measure. All this was done with help from Mrs Parkes.

We then moved onto site 2 and repeated the process; however we had to do it in groups without assistance. We also had some fun along the way with people falling in the river, making us all laugh!

After we had finished taking the measurements we then got together to record the information in the booklet we had been given, sitting beside the river. We then packed away and took a group photo and headed back to the coach. It was an enjoyable field trip despite getting very wet.

Ella Rowe





Year 10 Explore Cyprus' Medieval Defences *by Mr Strang*

On the 6th and 7th of June the Year 10 History GCSE students took the opportunity to explore the castles and medieval defences of Cyprus.

The two day trip allowed us to explore not only the southern defences and the role of Kolossi castle in the areas local to the SBA about also travel to the north of Cyprus and examine two of the most famous castles in not just Cyprus but the world; St. Hilarion and Kyrenia.

We had a long journey to Kyrenia at the start of the first day, however on arrival we were able to go straight into Kyrenia castle. Built in 1450 as the most advanced castle of its time Kyrenia is built with cannon in mind its wall over 20 metres thick with sloping sides to deflect cannon fire.

No windows or outward decoration are to be seen only cannon ports and the design of the castle is such that to attack it seems to be to court death.



The castle itself was built to defend the key northern port of Kyrenia and was used as a military base up until 1960.





At the end of our visit we sat in the castle court yard and pooled our research. Then we headed down to the port itself where we felt like tourists having a meal by the harbour. Following a quick look around the town it was back to our hotel to settle in and prepare for the next day.

On the Wednesday we were up bright and early to visit the first of our two castles of the day. St Hilarion castle is world renowned for the beauty of its location and the strength of its defence



Located in the pass of the Kyrenia Mountains between the northern port and the capital Nicosia, this concentric castle has been guarding the route from the North Coast to the central plain for over 800 years. The castle itself only stopped being used for military purposes in 1974.



Finally we headed back to cross the border to the Republic of Cyprus and on to our third castle Kolossi. At first sight Kolossi is a disappointment, dwarfed by the other castles (Kolossi would fit inside one of Kyrenia's towers). However Kolossi has its own charm, built not to defend the island as a whole but to provide a base for the Knights of St John. It is more homely comfortable and human and a good counterpoint to two impressive castles we saw earlier in the trip.





Trampolining—Developing Excellence

Our Year 8 students have had a fantastic experience of developing their Trampolining skills with John Beer- a former Former British Gymnast, the Technical Director, National Coach and Double Olympic Coach for the Great British team.



Key Stage 4 Drama Exams

At the beginning of this term all of the KS4 Drama students took part in a performance evening. For the Year 11 students this was their final exam piece and for Year 10, their first chance to perform a scripted piece in front of an audience. The performances took place in The Studio and displayed a wide variety of scripts from Godber's Teecher's to Whittington's Be My Baby. All of the students worked exceptionally and provided a good evening of entertainment.

This year has been the first year where students have opted to be assessed on technical skills rather than the more typical performance options. In Year 11 Paige Beech has completed the whole course using her technical skills as both a Set and Costume designer, and in Year 10 Rosie Favis is following closely in her footsteps. This is a huge step forward for the Drama department and is proving successful in allowing a wider range of students to engage in the arts.





Sixth Form Induction Day

St John's Sixth Form hosted its first induction for new students from Monday 27th-Wednesday 29th June. The event included taster lessons, participating in lessons with current Sixth Form students and the opportunity to meet the team whilst learning about the expectations of a Sixth Form Student. The event was well attended and the feedback extremely positive with all students feeling the induction had been worthwhile and had developed their understanding of the demands of being a Sixth Form Student.

We are looking forward to welcoming all our new students in September and would like to remind parents that admission interviews take place on **Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st August**.

Appointments can be made by contacting Penny Demetriou on 2596 3888



Year 13 Leavers Meal

On 1st July a large number of teaching staff joined the Year 13 students at TGI Friday's in Limassol to help them celebrate the end of their time at St. John's School. It is sad to be saying goodbye to such a great bunch of people but we are so pleased that they are ready to move on to the next stage of their lives, Good luck to all of you.





St. John's School Football Awards Dinner *by Mr Marsden*

Thirty eight pupils and staff attended the end of season awards dinner at the Sunshine Restaurant at Curium. We celebrated the success of the three teams and enjoyed a nice meal together and we had ice cream for pudding! Tegan Collins, Zach McKenzie and Lewis Bennett won awards for being the top goal scorers of the season. Jamie Leigh Hardy and Archie McVicar picked up the most improved player awards. We look forward to challenging for the title next year in all three league competitions—Under 14, Under 18 and Under 18 girls.

*"We celebrated
the success of the
three teams"*



ePraise News *by Jack Ford*

This year saw the launch of the new house system, separating the pupils into either Apollo or Poseidon. Epraise, the online praise system, was introduced, which rewards students points for showing excellence, learning and leadership in school. Immediately, we saw a major improvement in lessons with pupils striving to increase their points by exhibiting the core values. This competitive nature ran throughout the whole academic year and made the federated sports day in Limassol much more exciting and showed some outstanding sporting talent in all year groups. Not only was Epraise an enormous success in terms of individual achievement, it also enabled us to donate over £200 to Help for Heroes and WWF, showing the amazing generosity of pupils in our school. Poseidon house met their goal of £100, just one day earlier than Apollo meaning they were rewarded with a further 100 house points to go towards the race to the finish line for the house championship. At the time of writing, Apollo and Poseidon are still extremely close and only time will tell who will be crowned as the house with the most points this year.

A massive thank you all the pupils who contributed to the charities and their houses.





As part of the Teacher Training day on March 24th I was asked to deliver a 30 minute training session on improving the aspirations of our students. As a teacher I have always been very aspirational for my students and I firmly believe that there is no limit to a students potential if they work really hard to develop their skills and understanding and are resilient to set backs. I just didn't know how to frame this in the context of a training session.

Then I discovered the work of Dr Carol Dweck and what is commonly called having a 'Growth Mindset'. I firstly watched a short TED talk (available on YouTube) called 'The Power of Yet', I would encourage everyone to watch this 11 minute video. This put into words what I have always believed to be true about students and what I have seen so many times. I was hooked and went on to read her book.

The ideas are very simple, common sense in fact

They are essential for teachers, students and parents to understand

Growth Mindset

- I believe intelligence can be developed
- I have a strong desire to learn
- I embrace challenges
- I keep going even when it is challenging
- I learn from feedback and criticism from others
- I learn from my mistakes
- I believe that hard work and effort leads to success



VS.



- I believe intelligence is fixed
- I avoid challenges
- I give up easily
- I ignore negative feedback, even when it is useful
- I believe that hard work and effort is for those that aren't good enough
- I feel threatened by the success of others

Fixed Mindset

GROWTH MINDSET *core values*

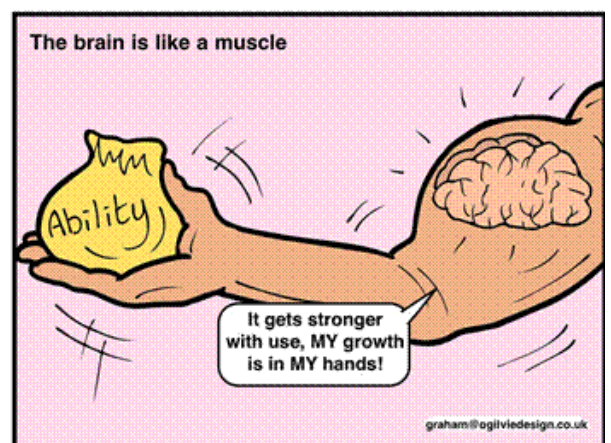


NEUROPLASTICITY

The development of scientific research into the brain supports the idea that your brain is like a muscle. The more you work it the stronger (or smarter) it gets. This is called Neuroplasticity. Your intelligence is not fixed at birth, like eye colour, it can grow through persistence, effort and learning from mistakes (watch 'your brain is plastic').

Students who have a Growth Mindset do better in school. How can we develop a Growth Mindset in our students?

We have introduced growth mindset to students through assemblies, lessons and classroom displays. Our Core Values are actually great for re-enforcing Growth Mindset thinking. Next year all students will be learning about the brain and Growth Mindset in PSHE. We are encouraging all teachers and TAs to use the language of Growth Mindset.



ADVICE FOR PARENTS

So how can you, as a parent, help your child to develop a Growth Mindset and reach their potential in school and any other area of life they are pursuing? The language you use at home has a big impact of your child's belief about effort and achievement. Try thinking about how you phrase your praise when you are talking to them about their school work. Want to know more? Visit www.mindsetkit.org/growth-mindset-parents

**STUDENTS WITH
A GROWTH MINDSET FLOURISH EVEN
WHEN CHALLENGE INCREASES.**

THEY BELIEVE THAT

THEIR ABILITIES

GROW THROUGH TRYING NEW THINGS.

EVEN IF THEY FAIL.

they tend to see failure as

UNCOMFORTABLE BUT

useful and important



GROWTH *mindset* FACT

HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD

1 Talk about it

Talk to your child about their day but guide the discussion by asking questions like...

"Did you make a mistake?"

"What did you learn?"

"What did you do today that was difficult?"

2

Praise the process

Instead of saying "you are so clever" praise effort and persisting through challenges or being creative...

"Wow! You have worked really hard on that"

"Well done for not giving up"

3

The brain can grow!

Remind your child that their intelligence is not fixed. Remind them that when things are difficult their brain grows if they persist through challenge. Each time they learn new stuff their brain is making new connections.

4

Help them change their dialogue

The way your child talks to them self makes a huge impact on their mindset. If they say "this is too hard" help them to change it to "I can't do it yet, but I will keep trying".

5

Encourage failure

Your child needs to know that failure does happen and it is OK. Each time they fail and try again their brain is growing stronger. Don't step in to prevent failure, this is how they learn to persevere in the face of challenges.

Students who have been told that they are gifted or very clever and have found work in school easy sometimes have a fixed mindset.

As work gets more challenging they tend to give up. This is because they have not been used to failure and see it as a bad thing.

They forget that everyone finds things difficult as they get harder and then need to build their resilience and push themselves. This can happen when students transit to A'levels where the work is much more challenging.



The Suitcase Kid by Katherine Skinner

On Wednesday 13th April students from Years 7-10 put on a small production of Vicky Ireland's stage adaptation of Jacqueline Wilson's book 'The Suitcase Kid'. The play focuses upon a young girl, Andy, caught between her parents' bitter divorce, and the determination she has to get her parents back together. The play contains narration by Andy whilst she explains the situations faced in the order of the alphabet as suggested by her new step-brother Graham. Andy soon realises that her parents will not get back together and that she has to move on like they did.

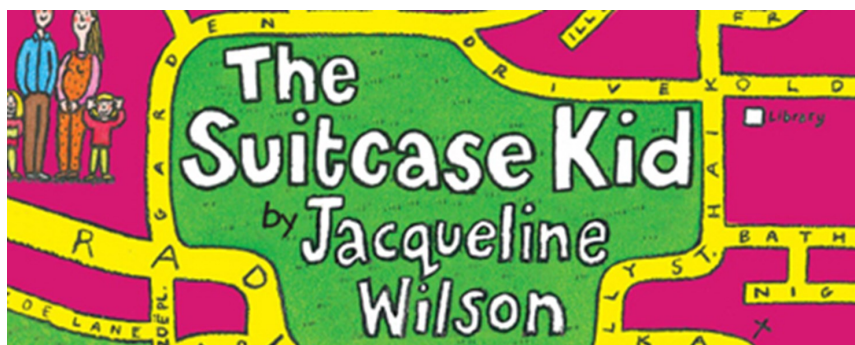
Even though the play tackles some sensitive and relatable issues amongst young children, they're put across in a light hearted and fun way.

The auditions were originally held in late 2015 and a cast of about 20 Year 7-11 students was put together as well as roughly 10 Year 7-13 backstage hands. However, around about late February the Year 11 students in the cast and crew were unable to continue due to after-school revision sessions which caused a major problem and the date of the play was pushed back a couple of weeks. Luckily, 4 Year 10 students agreed to step in and took on the roles learning the lines in only a matter of weeks.

The backstage crew helped with many things ranging from costume to light and sound. They came to every rehearsal with the cast however the replacement of the year 11 cast meant the backstage help number would drop as well. In the end, there were only 4 backstage crew; 2 from Year 13 and 2 from Year 10.

Before the evening play and during the interval, there was a bar selling a range of drinks. A thank you goes to the people who helped run that. Another thank you goes to the Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 students for letting us hijack their common rooms and borrow the furniture for our audience to sit on during the interval.

One student who deserves a massive thank you, is Clio Bowater for standing in as the role of 'Mum' the day before the production. Due to an injury in rehearsals the original cast member was unable to take part in the performance. The play was held in the school hall with an amazing set created purely by the 2 teachers who made it all possible, Mr Bones and Mrs Lister. They worked tirelessly day and night in order to make it happen and without them there would not have been a play. Finally, a massive thank you to everybody who attended and contributed including the students themselves.



*"Thank you to
everybody who
attended"*





Breaking New Ground with the PLT *by Mr Francis*

The Summer term saw the meeting of the new Pupil Leadership Team (PLT) of St. John's School. Freshly elected by the pupils of the school, the PLT were keen to begin with their core business of conveying the voice of the students to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), participating in the interviewing of new staff, and developing new charity and Improvement projects.

The PLT provided valuable insights in response to the new school feedback policy, and modifications to our existing behavioural and reward system.

More recently, following meetings with the SLT, the team has determined the road ahead for projects in the Autumn term. Watch this space for a new rehydration campaign, a project to support learning at our partner school in Dabaso, Kenya, and new ways for pupils to direct the PLT in their representation of the student body. The PLT also ran a developmental session in leadership at our recent Year 6 Core Values Day.

Finally, the PLT will begin raising money to go towards even more prizes for the ePraise rewards shop. Now, time to get down to work...



Isaac
(Y7)



Neeve
(Y7)



Emma
(Y7)



Tia
(Y8)



Carys
(Y10)



Owen
(Y11)





Alternative Provision *by Mrs Kelly*

St John's School Sixth Form offers opportunities for 16-19 year old learners who do not wish to follow the traditional route of academic study post-16. There may be some young people who find themselves temporarily not in education, employment or training; NEET and support is provided for these learners until a suitable programme of study can be found for them.

The Alternative Provision Options are there to provide the opportunity for Post 16 students to gain a professional industry recognised qualification, or follow a preparation for life and work course. In addition, some students may also combine studying A Levels or BTECs.

As a member of the Sixth Form, students benefit from the academic support that is required for success as well as the pastoral support that is sometimes needed to maintain motivation and engagement. In addition, learners have access to an on-site Careers Advisor who is able to give impartial advice on how best to make the next steps to further study or employment either in Cyprus or back in the UK.

2015-2016

In October 2015, a number of students in the Sixth Form took the opportunity to study a professional leadership qualification with the Chartered Management Institute, CMI. Using their own experience of leadership outside the school curriculum, they covered topics such as personal development, information and communication, developing good working relationships, using resources and planning work, coaching and feedback.

By successfully completing the six tasks, the students have not only improved their skill levels, aspirations and opportunities but they are also better equipped for the workplace and ready for leadership. The opportunity to achieve a recognised management and leadership qualification also makes students more attractive to employers, whether at the end of Sixth Form or after University.

A similar opportunity was provided for Sixth Form students to undertake a qualification Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools. A practical course, the Cache Level 2 qualification enabled the students to develop the knowledge and skills needed to support teaching and learning, including looking at children and young people's development, supporting those with disabilities or special educational needs and communication and professional relationships.

For those with an interest in working with young people the Cache qualification is invaluable. Supporting learning, either in schools, colleges, universities or in the community is not just about working in the classroom and there are many different positions and jobs available in an education setting and once they have completed the course, students can apply for work as; Learning Support Assistants, Midday Supervisors, or Technical Support Staff in Schools.

Following the success of the Additional Provision Options 2015 -2016, the Sixth Form is now looking to expand the range of courses available for those students who are looking for something beyond the traditional route of academic study post-16.



**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
18-19 July	Activities Days	
20 July	School Closes	
30 August	Sixth Form Interviews 8-4pm	New Year 12 students
31 August	Sixth Form Interviews 8-4pm	New Year 12 students
1 September	INSET Day 1	Staff Only
2 September	INSET Day 2	Staff Only
5 September	First Day of Autumn Term	All pupils return to school
21 October	School Closes for Half Term	
24-28 October	Half Term	
31 October	School Re-opens	
14 December	Last Day of Autumn Term	
3 January 2017	First Day of Spring Term	
17 February	School Closes for Half Term	
20-24 February	Half Term	
27 February	School Re-opens	
6 April	Last Day of Term	Last Day of Term for pupils
7 April	INSET Day	Staff Only
24 April	First Day of Summer Term	
1 May	Closure Day	
26 May	School Closes for Half Term	
29 May—2 June	Half Term	
5 June	School Re-opens	
21 July	Last Day of Summer Term	



St. John's Twitter QR Code



St. John's Facebook page QR code

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