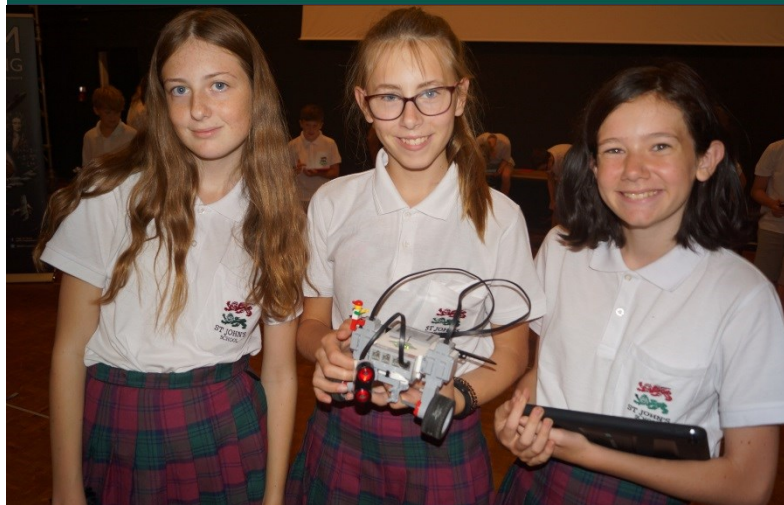


St John's Journal

Winter 2019/20

EXCELLENCE • LEADERSHIP • LEARNING
ST JOHN'S & KING RICHARD
SCHOOLS FEDERATION





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The outside of the mansion was lavishly decorated; streams of fairy lights were placed on pillars in twinkling helices that lit up the entrance way in the darkening twilight. A large wreath was hung on the door with vibrant, yet plastic, holly leaves and berries. Glow-in-dark snowflake stickers surrounded the wreath and the slight green glow added a, probably unintentional, alien vibe.

Ethan could easily imagine his mum standing there and painstakingly placing each sticker because she trusted none of the servants to do it perfectly.

The thought brought a slight smile to Ethan's face as the driver opened the front door and closed it behind him. Alone in the foyer, Ethan admired the explosion of decorations. Things like this usually stressed his mum out as she tried to get everything ready in time, but Ethan knew the end result always satisfied her. This room's tree (because there was at least a small tree in every room) was real, unlike the wreath, and a healthy green colour. The branches had a light dusting of fake snow and it was full of bright red and gold baubles. More red and gold was added to the room with each bit of tinsel laid on top of every picture frame that held all the formal family portraits. However, the bright colours did nothing to make the people in the pictures look cheerful...

Hi,

My name is Elizabeth. I started Y12 in September and I am fortunate enough to have the privilege of being this year's Newsletter editor.

What you have just read is an extract from one of my creative pieces. Through this newsletter, I want to push creative writing and look forward to encouraging students to share their creativity through the newsletter in future editions.

I feel like this has been a fantastic start to the year, especially since my experience of Sixth Form so far has been very enjoyable. The Sixth Form staff go out of their way to provide leadership opportunities for us which has allowed me to be involved in the newsletter and a couple of charity events. The highlight of my term has to be the Children In Need day we held as I had fun helping to set up all the stalls and running one of the bake sales.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for reading the Newsletter and wish you all the best for 2020. My vision for the Newsletter is to be more representative of St. John's student voice and welcome all contributions from students, especially about trips, visitors and pride in work; feel free to email!



Elizabeth

Email: newsletter@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com





Message from the Headteacher, Mrs Bryson



It is exciting to write my first item for the newsletter as the new Head of St John's School and I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term here. There is so much to celebrate and all members of the school community should be very proud of their achievements.

I spent much of the first term "quietly" observing usual practice and absorbing the daily life of the school. I teach Drama twice a week to Year 7, deliver weekly assemblies to the whole school, frequently visit lessons and speak to students and have had a particular focus on the Sixth Form and how they develop independent study skills with our support. I have also met many parents, members of the community and held two SGC meetings. It has certainly been a busy term but one which has consolidated for me the true family feeling and excellent ethos which exists in St John's School. Teachers and leaders work tirelessly to deliver bespoke, challenging yet supportive pathways for all students; students show amazing pride in their work, are polite and courteous and want to do well; parents too are very keen to support their children to succeed be it academically or socially: it really is a great place to be and a place to be great!

We fully embrace our core values of Excellence, Learning and Leadership and to strengthen these further, have identified four main priorities for this academic year:

- Leadership: growing a new team so that greater consistency is achieved across the school
- Curriculum: starting with a review of Year 7
- Community: looking to further engage and support our parents
- Independence: developing effective study attitudes and habits to maximise exam performance.

You will find some information to support independence and exam preparation through discourse markers later in the newsletter.





I have been particularly impressed with the school's engagement with the local military and Cypriot communities, ensuring our students get a fantastic experience both within and outside the classroom. From swimming galas to meeting an Olympic medallist, from trips to education fairs in Nicosia to local school visits in Trachoni and from RAF/Navy aptitude tests to Operation Christmas Child: we have had a blast! We believe strong links with the community, bringing a sense of real audience and purpose to students' work, enhances not only academic performance but also students as decent, well-rounded young people. If you have any particular skills or experiences you would like to share with students in lessons, assemblies or after school, please let us know: we'd love to welcome you as part of our new curriculum and whole school community.

In addition, our SGC consists of a large number of members from a variety of backgrounds, all coming together to support and nurture our school. You will see an item from one of our governors later in the newsletter and I urge you to contact your SGC parent representatives should you need any support outside of school. I am also intending to visit local hives once a half term to meet parents and discuss any concerns you may have. Working together to put students- their progress and welfare - first is really important to me and I look forward to meeting more of you as the year continues.

Thank you to all members of our school and wider community who support us and our students.





Governors Corner -

A word from Emma Kelley, Parent Rep Episkopi.

My morning walks to school are, like for many of us, fraught with emotion and on this particular morning the slight chill in the air had sent my daughter into full emotional meltdown because her legs were cold. As I, very helpfully, began to remind her that not more than 6 months previous she was walking to school in the Falklands facing the strength of the ice cold wind, a lovely young person in St John's uniform, recognising that my daughter was feeling sad, began chatting happily to her which instantly improved her mood and turned our walk into an extremely pleasant one. It made me think of all of the walks to and from school where I encounter pupils from St John's. They exchange pleasantries, they are respectful and show others kindness and it makes me appreciate why I wanted to be part of the school's Governance Committee which gives me the opportunity to celebrate the incredible young people we have in our community and to help them achieve success in this unique environment.



I come from a background of Sixth Form teaching, leading departments and pastoral care. I have taught adults on GCSE courses and onto Access to University courses, so coming into a school environment has some huge differences which I am enjoying learning about. I, like some of the other Parent Reps on the Governance Committee, have a background in teaching or have pupils at the school and we can be a useful tool to offer support on where to go if you have a question or a concern. We are spread across Episkopi and Akrotiri. Please feel free to approach us; we will be able and very happy to signpost any question or concern to the appropriate Tutor or Head of Year and support any communication you might have. In addition to this, all Governors have also received up to level 2 Safeguarding training and I attended the course recently. I have been to many Safeguarding meetings and training courses like this throughout my career and I would like to note that this one was delivered with an incredible depth of knowledge and encouraged me to reflect again on my approaches, whether that be with my own parenting (remember those emotional walks) or in an educational context. It reminded me that we are fortunate in our community to have such strong support systems in place in school or externally with SSAFA.

Finally, I would just like to thank the students who entered photographs for the Filtered Reality Photography Competition. Not only did I see some excellent work, I know that this project came at a time when students were preparing their UCAS statements and for mock examinations. I feel like one of the strengths of the school is the amount of varied opportunities pupils have beyond the curriculum and this should be rightly celebrated. Shortlisting my top ten photographs was a real challenge and, as I can never quite get away from my teaching of History, I ask the students to consider the impact of filtering images on how the historians of the future will view us? I will finish now, as I prepare for the walk to school pick up, looking out for those smiley faces from pupils to help us on our way.

Best wishes

Emma Kelley, Parent Rep Episkopi. emmaclairehall@btinternet.com





EXCELLENCE • LEARNING • LEADERSHIP

**ST JOHN'S
SCHOOL****School Governance Committee 2019-20**

NAME	POSITION	EMAIL
Lt Col Max Davison	Chairman Station Commander Episkopi and Troodos	Robert.Davison855@mod.gov.uk
Matt Fensom	Vice Chairman Military Rep	matt@fensom.com
Penny Demetriou	Secretary to the SGC	pdemetriou@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com
Jan Dowlen-Gilliland	Safeguarding Rep	JAN@ssafa.org.uk / li-
Nichola Robertshaw	Teaching Staff Rep	nrobert-
Richard Roberts	Support Staff Rep	rroberts@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com
Robert Cowin	Community Rep & Retired Teacher	rob44cowin@gmail.com
Capt Nigel Garcia	Regiment/Parent Rep Episkopi UWO 2 Mercian	Nigel.Garcia907@mod.gov.uk
John Mauger	Health and Safety Rep	John.Mauger100@mod.gov.uk
Lee Hollingworth	Regiment Rep	Lee.Hollingworth739@mod.gov.uk
Phil Dakin	Parent Rep Episkopi/ Youth Services Rep	phildakin@hotmail.com
Iain Ross	Parent Rep Episkopi	iross@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com
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Adam Deeves	Parent Rep Akrotiri	adam.deeves467@mod.gov.uk
Terry Tappin	Parent Rep Akrotiri	terrytappin@yahoo.co.uk





Welcome



Tom Anscombe - RE Teacher: A keen Coventry supporter, Tom loves to eat sushi and once caught SS Das who played 23 Test Matches for India.

Last read: The Myth of Sisyphus by Albert Camus

Last Watched: Fire In Babylon

Favourite quote: "In looking, we sometimes only see ourselves" – Marcel Duchamp

Would rather... Be a wizard than a superhero; be surfing the internet than the ocean; live on the beach than in a cabin in the woods and would rather be the worst player on the team that always wins rather than the best player on the team that always loses!

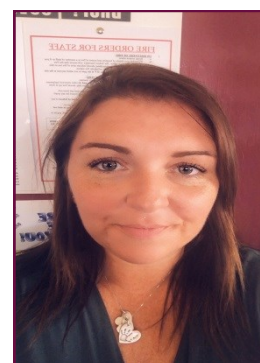
Kelly Bonar - Geography Teacher /Careers Leader : A Geordie mam of 3 from the North East of England, Kelly loves to eat chocolate and is a qualified dance teacher, once danced on a TV show called Saturday Superstore and has starred in theatre performances of Thriller and Wizard of Oz as a dancer when she was a little girl.

Last read: Factfulness; Ten reasons we're wrong about the world- and why things are better than you think by Hans Rosling

Last Watched: Abominable (It's great, go see it!)

Favourite quote: Work hard, play hard!

Would rather...Star in a movie than be the author of a best selling book; live without TV than music; and would rather lose the ability to walk than the ability to talk!



John Dunbar - Head of Maths: The new head of Maths at St. John's, John (or Mr Dunbar as he prefers to be called) loves to eat Thai Red Curry, is always right and is a self-professed magician!

Last read: The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson.

Last watched: The Guard

Favourite quote: If in doubt, factorise! (*his own)

Would rather....Be the author of a best-selling book than star in a movie; travel back in time rather than to the future; and would rather live in a cabin in the woods rather than on the beach!

Rebecca Gladwell - History Teacher/Head of y10: Mum to identical twin girls, Rebecca loves to eat Fish and Chips from Grimsby and was an extra in the film 51st State.

Last read: The Irish Princess by Elizabeth Chadwick.

Last watched: Maleficent, Mistress of Evil

Favourite quote: "Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn!"

Would rather...Live without TV than music; travel back in time than to the future; and would rather have the ability to speak all languages and in the world but never be able to read rather than be able to read all languages but not speak them!





Ella Tarjanyi - PE Teacher: Ella loves to eat Sausage and Mash (but they must be English sausages!) and used to teach Mr Bean's (Rowan Atkinson's) son and daughter!

Last read: Gone girl by Gillian Flynn.

Last watched: In the Tall Grass

Favourite quote: Smile, it confuses people!!

Would rather... Be a superhero than a magic wizard; be surfing the ocean than the internet; and would rather be the best person on the team that always loses rather than the worst player on the team that always wins!

Annita Antoniadou - Senior Science Technician: Annita's favourite food is chocolate, and chocolate and more chocolate and she has climbed a pyramid in Egypt, a pyramid in Mexico and a pyramid in Greece...same triangle-shape everywhere!

Last read: Escape from Rome: The Failure of Empire and the Road to Prosperity by Walter Scheidel

Last watched: Frozen 2

Favourite quote: If you don't like where you are, move, you are not a tree.

Would rather... Have super speed than super strength; live on the beach than in a cabin in the woods; and would rather lose the ability to talk than the ability to walk.



Nikki Batey - 6th Form Learning Mentor: Northumberland native and mum of 3, Nikki loves to eat Pizza and isn't the best person to have on your quiz team!

Last read: Talk like Ted by Carmine Gallo.

Last watched: Christmas Chronicles

Favourite quote: "The grass is greener where you water it!"

Would rather... Be a superhero than a super wizard; have super strength than super speed; and would rather lose the ability to walk than the ability to talk!

Karen Donnelly - NVQ Assessor: Spreading her time between NVQ Assessing and her role as a Learning Support Assistant, Karen's favourite food is Tikka Masala and she is a whizz at Music quizzes.

Last read: The Institute by Stephen King.

Last watched: Fractured

Favourite quote: "If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always gotten" Tony Robbins.

Would rather... Be the author of a best selling book than star in a movie; travel back in time rather than to the future; and would rather lose the ability to talk than to walk!





What's new?



St. John's Nurture Hub

St John's has recently developed a new pastoral support area called the Nurture Hub. The Nurture Hub is designated for pastoral support area for all young people. We have created a relaxed, welcoming environment where young people feel safe and can talk things through with an experienced member of staff. We are open every break and lunch offering games club Monday, Wednesday and Friday lunchtime and mindfulness sessions Tuesday and Thursday breaks for all students.

Our one-to-one Emotional Literacy support work (ELSA) and Nurture Group are delivered in the Nurture Hub where we have collated a library of resources to support our young people on a range of topics such as self-esteem, friendships, mental health and social skills.

At St John's we believe that for our students to achieve academically we need to have an holistic approach and offer them the tools, advice and opportunities to develop emotionally as well.

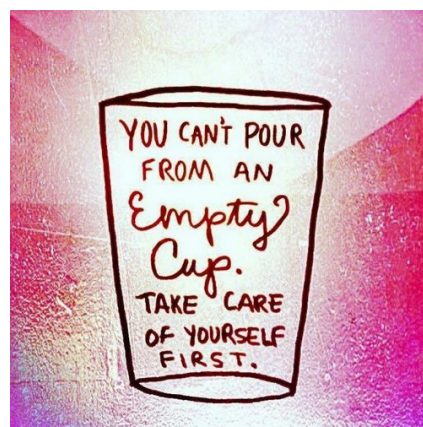
The Nurture Hub is also supported at lunch times by the Sixth Form peer mentors, who offer a positive role model to the younger students and someone else to talk to if preferred.



Article by Lindsay Daniel, Learning Support Assistant and Nurture Hub Co-ordinator.

"I like playing games with the younger students. It's a great chance for me to talk to others outside of the 6th Form and for me to feel like I can be a friend and have friends outside of my usual groups!" Emily Hutchinson, y12.

"It's just nice to have somewhere to go, to play board games and have a break from the busy school day! It's nice to feel like I can be supporting others and enjoying myself at the same time!" Ben Mawson, y13.





Keeping up with tradition!

This year, over what was a very long and hot summer, CSP refurbished our much loved amphitheatre. This came about as part of a series of works that are happening to ensure the school site is safe and trip hazard free.

When I was approached about the plans for the refurbishment I was amazed and excited about the prospect of the use of local cut stone from Kividies. I was even more delighted as work progressed to see the quality and accuracy of the work.

It is a real masterpiece which will be enjoyed by thousands of students for years to come. The Facebook post with images of us having our whole school photo taken prompted many of our Alumni students to remember being in the same photos many years ago. This one made me smile!



Michael Leach Just remember that you are so fortunate to park your derrieres on the hallowed ground, that was sat on by so many before you. Kids today are too often denied the feeling of tradition. Enjoy this privilege.

Like · Reply · Message · 4w



Thank you to CSP for your amazing work!

Article by Alex Kerr, Deputy Head.





“Choose a job you love, and you’ll never have to work a day in your life!”

Article written by Kelly Bonar, Teacher of Geography and St. John's Careers Lead.





Dave West Memorial

After Dave West's sudden and tragic death, I was approached by Cole Hughes, one of my sixth form students who wanted to produce a memorial. Cole was in the final term of A Level Art, so this was an extremely challenging task for someone who already had a demanding schedule. Tom Glencross, another student, also agreed to assist with this.

The inspiration for the piece came from the Brazilian mural artist Eduardo Kobra. He has painted over 30 large scale murals in over 20 countries, including the 60m high mural of David Bowie in New Jersey. Dave West had the ability to generate a smile and a laugh in any situation and it was felt that Eduardo Kobra's work projected this same element of fun and positivity.

Tom initially completed some preliminary drawings and the idea was originally for the whole piece to be drawn out onto a large circle of wood. Tom soon realised the challenges of trying to develop a large scale drawing of Dave's face that captured characteristics that he wanted to emphasise. It was decided at this stage to investigate the idea of using a large transfer of Dave's face over the top of a painted background. Tom spent considerable time editing and modifying an image of Dave's face on Photoshop, while Christos Christofi approached a local graphic design company to get the image printed on a large format transfer.

Rich Webster kindly cut the 180cm circular piece of wood, while Tom liaised with Lynne Everett regarding one of Dave's favourite quotes to include on the piece. The painting took considerably longer than anticipated, in part due to the sheer size of it. While Tom was responsible for the final design and painting, there were so many different people involved in ensuring that a fitting gesture became a reality. The final piece is now aptly displayed in the Sixth Form Common Room where Dave can continue to inspire students.

Article written by Phil Bougeard, Teacher of Art.





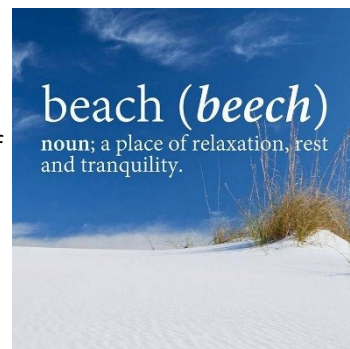
High Tides and Good Vibes

Team building is an essential element when bringing new people together, facilitating communication and collaboration. 2 key outcomes of team building opportunities are networking, socialising and getting to know one another better and also learning how to work with one another, thus boosting performance. The beginning of any school year can be daunting, especially if you're new to island and have yet to meet any new friends. Fun activities help bring people together, allowing them to see one another in different lights and connect in different settings.

On Friday 6th September, St. John's welcomed in the new school year for 6th Form students with an induction day down at the Military Water sports Centre at Tunnel Beach. New and existing 6th formers spent a hot but breezy day enjoying cultural boat tours, rides out on the towed inflatables, sea kayaking, paddle-boarding and getting to know one another.

A fun day spent connecting and spending time together on the sea inflatable trampolines, playing basketball, cooling off indoors playing darts, table football, and snooker, was concluded with a yummy BBQ. Students and staff departed the beach happy, relaxed and brimming with enthusiasm for the new school year.

Article by Nikki Batey, 6th Form Learning Mentor.



"The beach day was a really good ice breaker for 'new' and 'old' students" - Tegan Collins, y12.

"Being new to island, the induction day at the beach was really helpful for me as I knew absolutely no-one but I came away from that day with a couple of friends who have become my really good friends!" Libby Parry-Paxton, y12.





Educated at St. John's School, made in the Royal Air Force or Royal Navy?

St John's School had the pleasure of hosting a Bi-Service visit from the RAF and Royal Navy on 25th and 26th September 2019. The two UK-based education teams fully immersed themselves into school life by first delivering a whole school assembly to students and staff which gave an overview of their respective branches within the armed forces.

Following on from the assembly, students were offered the opportunity of taking recruitment selection tests for non-commissioned positions both as airmen and ratings. All participating students passed with flying colours and received individual feedback discussing trades that could be open to them.

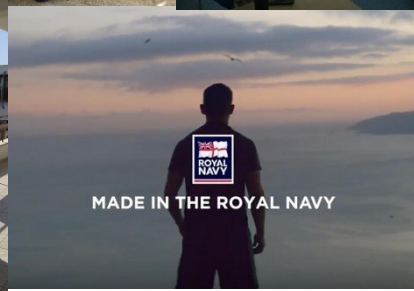
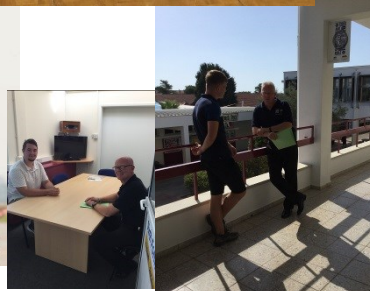
These results are valid for 3 years and even if students decide not to pursue a military career, the psychometric tests provided useful practice of popular assessments procedures - often used in civilian recruitment practices as well.

The teams spent the break times chatting informally with the students - even challenging one or two enthusiastic pupils to some press-ups!

Finally, each team delivered a more detailed session within the PSHE programme to all the KS4 and KS5 students. This gave students the chance to interact more with the teams, ask questions and hold detailed discussions about life as part of the armed forces.

The trip was a great success and it has helped enthuse students to start thinking about and planning their own individual career pathways, be that within the Forces environment or not.

Article by Sue Maloney, Careers Advisor for St. John's School Episkopi and King Richard School, Dhekelia.





Robotics with the RAF

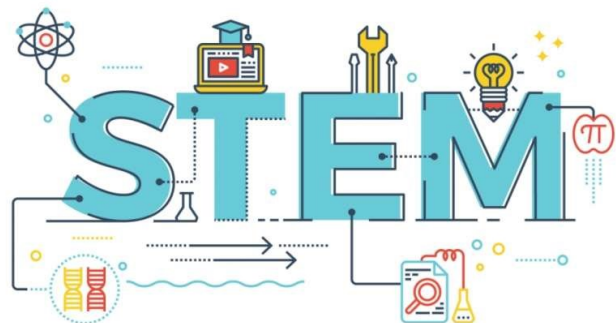
On Thursday the 3rd of October, an RAF STEM team from the UK came to St. John's and the theme was robotics. The leader of the STEM team was John who took us through the process of how to build a moving robot using Lego. We were in groups of twos or threes and we had to make our own version of the basic design John had shown us based around the main electric block which would help us code it later on. We were given two wires which we had to incorporate into the design and connect it to the electronic device in our Lego robot; this would give the code directions to the robot.

Then we had a 5 minute tutorial on how to do the coding using iPads. We then had 15 minutes to write all the coding on the app and connect it to our robot (which we got to name) then another 15 minutes to test the robot and see if it would move to our commands on the app. The reason for this was because we had to take part in a race against all the other teams and their robots. The race was from one line to the middle, turn 360 degrees and then carry onto the further line and return as fast as you could.

Finally we had to scrap the code we made and make a new code to play the game 'closest to the wall but not touching.' We only had 10 minutes to write and test it, then the game started but of course there could only be one winner.

Overall, it was a great experience and, even though it was 2 hours, the time flew by! The team who came over from the UK were amazing, friendly and very helpful; we hope to see them again soon.

Article written by Genevieve Cotter and Gloria Kabu, year 9.







Hola! Bonjour! Ciao! Hallo! Guten Tag!

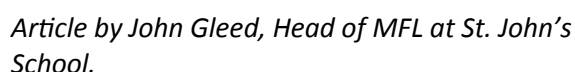
First honoured in 2011, a European Day of Languages is celebrated on 26th of September each year, with the aims to raise awareness of the importance of learning languages, to increase intercultural understanding, to promote greater linguistic diversity across Europe and to encourage lifelong learning, both in and out of school; be it for pleasure, to enhance mobility, exchanges or opening up future career possibilities.

There was considerable interest in the stickers, with some students gathering a collection!

Each teacher wore a badge detailing the languages they speak with varying proficiency, from a few words to degree standard. Students were encouraged to challenge their knowledge and to greet people throughout the day with their new vocabulary!

The absolute highlight of the day was the culinary delights provided by Mr Millard in the "Snack Shack." At first break we had 'pain au chocolat' and 'Berliner.' In the second break we had the opportunity to sample 'Currywurst,' which went down well with staff and students alike.

There was a real buzz around languages on this day. It was fabulous to see and hear students expanding their knowledge and using different languages. We now very much look forward to extending our celebration of the day further in 2020.





'The world's too small for walls'

- Author unknown, Graffiti from the Berlin wall

The fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989 paved the way for German Unification barely a year later in October 1990. October 3rd is a National holiday in Germany known as German Unity Day (Tag der Deutschen Einheit), and celebrations are held throughout the country.

To honour this celebration, year 9 students and some staff from St. John's came to school dressed in German costumes.

They created the Berlin Wall in unexpectedly windy conditions and invited Year 6 from Episkopi Primary School to join the event with Year 9 playing the 'Wessis' (Westerners) and Year 6 playing the 'Ossis' (Easterners).

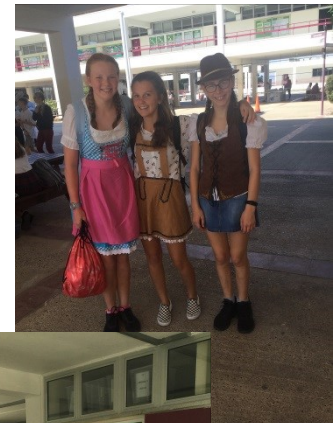
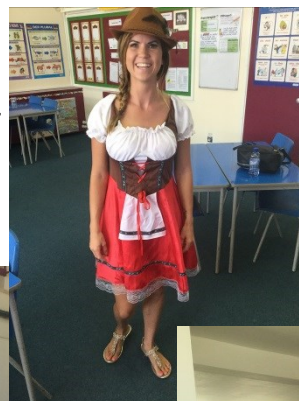
Following a very sudden demonstration of the power of the people, the wall was destroyed by the Ossis! What followed was a great example of unification as students partook in a brief German conversation across the ruined wall and then sat together sharing juice and biscuits.

An important message was portrayed on the day and hopefully this was an experience that both year groups will remember.

Article by John Gleed, Head of MFL, St. John's School.



Let's join hands to celebrate the unification day and pay tribute to history





A true 'Mr Motivator'...

On Thursday 14th November, St. John's were honoured to host retired Olympic Bronze Medalist Boxer, more recently professional wrestler and star of 2015's Strictly Come Dancing, Anthony Ogogo.

Visiting Cyprus on a morale boosting trip, Anthony visited the troops and children on island and shared his story of hard work, resilience and success. 6 Form Students, along with year 5 students from Episkopi Primary, were lucky to spend their Core PE session training with Anthony then grilling him about his story.

Many lessons were taken away by all who met Anthony on the day, with many students commenting on his infectious determination to succeed and his dedication to progressing his career. Staff were particularly impressed by his ability to tackle quick fire Q & A sessions and how well he captivated the students with his talk of self-discipline and hard work. But most of all, staff and students alike were astounded by his motivational speaking and how truly inspiring his story is.

On his own experience of resilience, 'Don't judge me on my success, judge me on how many times I went down and picked myself up!' Anthony openly discussed not only his climb to the top but also his injuries and the subsequent rebuilding of his career. A true inspiration.

"It was so much fun training with Anthony, he makes a better PE teacher than Ballroom Dancer!" Bethany Robinson, 6F FM.

"I wish he was in the 6th Form Study Room all of the time!" Mrs Curran, Head of 6th Form.

'All pupils thoroughly enjoyed the activities and interactions with Anthony; the whole morning was a success. I didn't realise how powerful his public speaking would be and particularly his ability to link boxing to exam success!'
Frank Marsden, Head of PE





Without CPR the chances of surviving cardiac arrest are zero.

Across the UK, there are over 30,000 cardiac arrests outside of hospital every year, but the survival rate is less than 1 in 10.

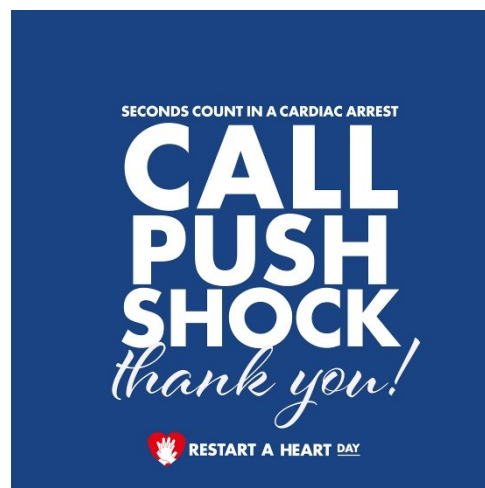
The Restart a Heart campaign (RSAH) is an annual initiative led by the Resuscitation Council (UK) in partnership with The British Heart Foundation, British Red Cross, St. John's Ambulance and Yorkshire Ambulance Service which aims to improve the low numbers of people surviving out-of-hospital cardiac arrests.

On and around Wednesday 16 October 2019, an alliance of organisations all over the world came together to increase public awareness of cardiac arrests and increase the number of people trained in life saving CPR by organising and facilitating training events.

2019 marked the 6th annual Restart a Heart campaign, the 2nd World annual Restart a Heart campaign (WRSaH) and on Thursday 10th October, St. John's School held their first!

Enthusiated students tried their skills at CPR in the quad during break time, helping to raise awareness of the importance of this essential life-saving skill.

Article by Victoria Critchley, St. John's School Nurse.





#asmallschoolwithabigheart

Supporting Charities

St. John's Charity Committee work tirelessly throughout the year in support of many different charities and the work they do. This term we have come to school wearing jeans and spots, we ate cake (lots of it), we wore poppies, we packed shoe boxes, and we were filmed and subsequently broadcasted on the BBC for Children in Need; all of which wouldn't have been possible without the support of the families, our community, the students, and staff at St. John's. We really are a small school with a big heart.

Kameron, 6th Form Charity Committee Representative, seen here with Elizabeth, Newsletter Editor and Libby, also Charity Committee Representatives.

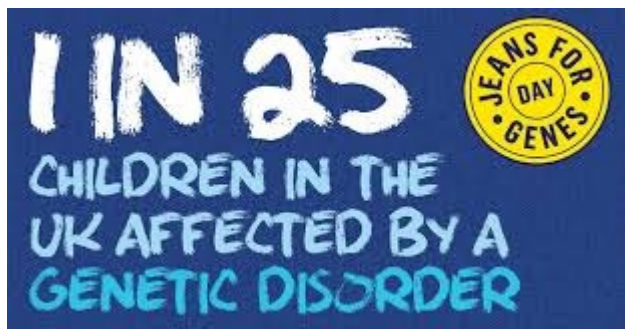


Wearing jeans to save lives

On Friday 20 September, students at St. John's each donated 1 Euro to come to school wearing their jeans in support of the Charity 'Jeans for Genes'.

"Raising funds to support children affected by genetic disorders, the **Jeans for Genes** charity are working to support and provide hope for children across the UK with genetic disorders. There are around 6,000 genetic disorders, and currently around half a million children in the UK alone affected by the disorder. It is estimated that one in 25 children is affected and 30,000 babies and children are newly diagnosed in the UK each year".

A grand total of **190 Euros** was raised on the day, and it was fantastic to see all students supporting such a worthy cause!





It's always a good time for a brew!

"Having a Coffee Morning is the perfect chance to catch up over a cuppa and a slice of something delicious for a great cause. One in two of us will face cancer, and the money you raise at your Coffee Morning will help everyone with cancer to live life as fully as they can.

Since the first one in 1990, Coffee Morning has raised over £2 million for Macmillan Cancer Support" www.coffee.macmillan.org.uk

On Friday 11th October, Students from the year 8 and 10 GCSE Food groups held a coffee morning in the quad at St. John's. As well as yummy treats they had made themselves, lots of lovely donations from staff and students were added to the bounty to be sold at break time.

250 Euros was raised in support of Macmillan Cancer Support.



WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT





Comment

It would seem
It appears
Obviously
Possibly
It seems likely
Presumably
One might consider

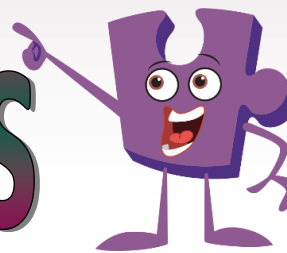
Compare

Equally
Similarly
In comparison
Likewise
Parallel to
In much the same way
Also

Contrast

However
Nevertheless
Alternatively
On the contrary
Yet
Whereas
On the other hand

Discourse Markers



Explain

Because
So
Therefore
Consequently
Hence
As a result
Due to
In addition
Furthermore

Discuss

For example
So that
Resulting in
Therefore
Allowing for
Meaning that
Although
Another way
Unlike

Time

Presently
Without exception
Currently
In the future
Rarely
Frequently
At the same time
Next

Illustrate

For example
Such as
For instance
In the case of
As revealed by...
Illustrated by
As seen when...



**Analyse**

Although
In spite of
Accordingly
Moreover
Nevertheless
As a result
Notwithstanding
Consequently
Regardless of
Even if
Since
Even though
Furthermore
The fact that
Hence
Therefore
Thus
In addition
Which resulted in
In particular

Evaluate

In addition
Also
Moreover
Furthermore
One limitation is...
One strength is...
I think that...
I would suggest
Without a doubt
To conclude
In conclusion
Finally
In summary
To sum up
Overall
On the whole
Evidently
I believe
The most
important thing..

**The glue which binds together
a piece of writing.**

Discourse markers, also known as linking words, linking phrases or sentence connectors, are used to make a sentence logically constructed, allowing for connections and turns between sentences and paragraphs.

Students are encouraged to familiarise themselves with discourse markers in preparation for examinations to ensure relationships between ideas can be correctly expressed or joined together.

Discourse markers can assist students to link together points which have been made and points which they will go on to say showing a deeper understanding of the topic.

These skills are invaluable in preparing for examinations.





Pride and Poppies



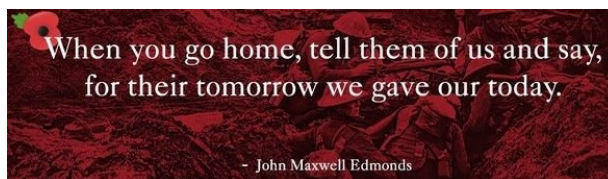
During the week of the 4th-8th November, Poppies were on sale around the school in support of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal helping the charity to achieve their 2019 goal “to raise over £50 million to help support serving and ex-serving members of the Armed Forces community and their families”.

The Royal British Legion “are the country’s largest Armed Forces charity, with 235,000 members, 110,000 volunteers and a network of partners and charities; helping us give support wherever and whenever it’s needed” - www.britishlegion.org.uk.

The charity and their work is at the heart of the community here at St. John’s and it was fantastic to see staff and students wearing their poppies with such pride in support of Remembrance Day.

A significant contribution was raised in support of the Poppy Appeal.

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



Monday 11th November; Remembrance Day 2019. Staff and Students of St. John’s congregated at the South Playground to pay our respects and hold a 2 minute silence in remembrance for all those, past and present, who have fought for our freedom. We were extremely grateful to have Mr Pete Betley from the Cyprus Music Service to play the last post.

Making Christmas Wishes come true.

Members of the Charity Committee attended the Episkopi Christmas Fete on Friday 6th December and raised a whopping 100 Euros for the Make a Wish UK Charity selling their hand crafted Christmas cards and crafts!





Spreading Christmas Cheer

"Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world" - www.samaritanspurse.org

Operation Christmas Child is an annual event where people of all ages come together and fill shoeboxes to send to children who are in greater need than themselves; giving something to love, something to keep, something to wear, something to read, something creative and something to keep clean. 168 million shoeboxes have been delivered since the charity began in 1993.

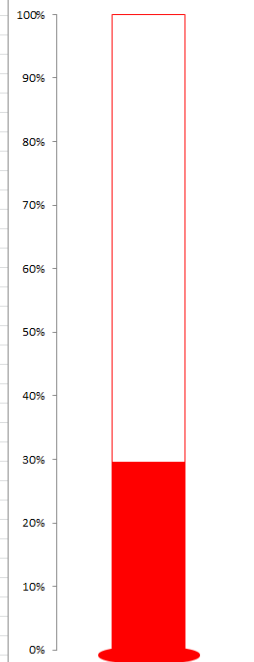
A huge THANK YOU is extended to students and families who contributed to St. John's efforts to pack Operation Child Christmas boxes this year, your kindness and generosity is overwhelming. A whopping 26 boxes were filled with gifts and donations ready to be sent out to 10-14 year old girls and boys around the world.

Article by Ange Dakin,
PE Department LSA.



After the first term of the 2019-2020 academic year, the SJS Charity Committee are over-joyed to announce that they have raised **1780** of their **6000** Euro target so far!

SJS Charity Total
2019-2020





We're supporting
BBC
Children
in Need





Without a doubt, the highlight of this term has been BFC's contribution to BBC Children in Need. Like all schools on island, St. John's prepared a day of fun and games and welcomed the BBC Camera Crew, and of course Pudsey, to join in on the fun!

Pin the nose on Pudsey, Hook a Duck, "throw a wet sponge at a teacher", Splat the Rat and Giant Jenga were order of the day as well as the most popular Ninja Warrior course organised by the PE department. Of course there was an amazing cake sale and the highlight of the day: Isaac Glencross and the GCSE Music group performing Isaac's own song (written for his GCSE exam) about Children in Need.

1278 Euros was raised overall by St. John's which contributed to the collective amount raised on island. We couldn't have done any of it without the generous support and cooperation of families, students and staff!



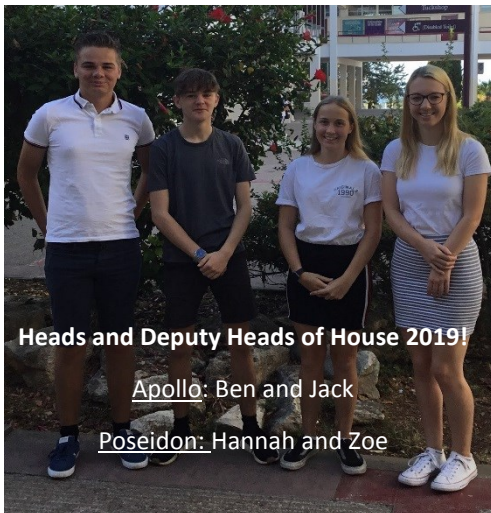






Game of Houses...

As we close 2019 with our current Heads and Deputy Heads of Houses, we reflect on a successful 2019, with particular highlights being the Easter Quiz, Sports Day and the BBC Children in Need Charity Day.



Heads and Deputy Heads of House 2019!

Apollo: Ben and Jack

Poseidon: Hannah and Zoe

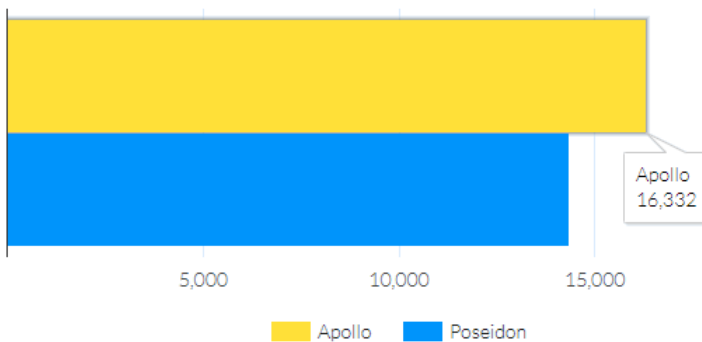
Motivated Students



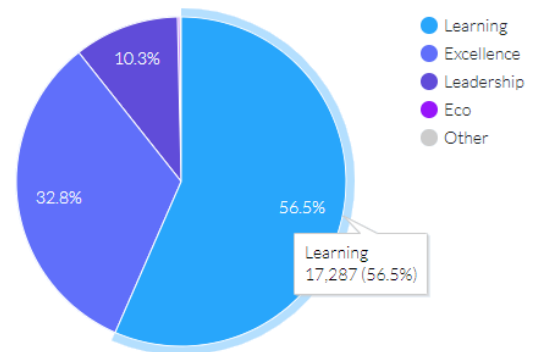
epraise



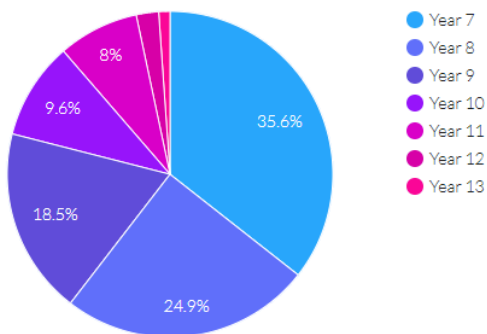
House points



Points given for

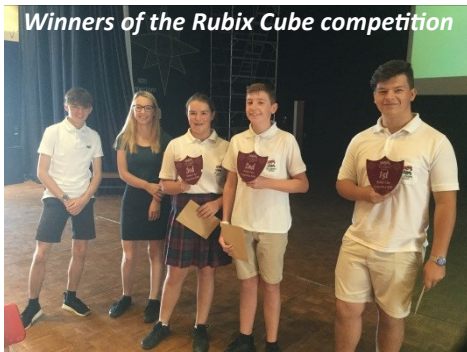


Points given to



#	Name	Year	Tutor	House	Points
1	Jacob	8	8 DK	Apollo	271
2	Sebastian	7	7 KBO	Apollo	265
3	Cameron	10	10 NR	Apollo	263
4	Lily	8	8 ML	Apollo	262
5	Kaitlyn	7	7 JD	Poseidon	261

Winners of the Rubix Cube competition



The Heads and Deputy Heads receiving their St. John's Plaque in thanks for all their efforts this year!



**Ben - Head of Apollo**

As Head of House I have been able to make changes to the school that I wanted. One specific change I wanted and implemented in early 2019, was First Aid lessons where sixth form students were taught basic CPR skills that could potentially save lives. I believe this was a critically important session to have because they are essential life skills. Furthermore, I feel the Easter Quiz and Christmas Quiz really brought the school together whilst having fun at the same time. Overall, Head of House has been a lot of hard work but I have reaped the rewards, as it has helped me to grow as a person with leadership skills, as well as being vitally significant for my university applications.

Jack - Deputy Head of Apollo

As the end of the year approaches and Christmas is just around the corner, my time as Apollo's Deputy Head of House comes to an end. It is now a time to reflect on the year past and what we've accomplished as a house and most importantly, as a team. Over the past year we have hosted a number of competitions, like the Rubix cube competition and the photography competition, where entries showed great skill and enthusiasm to make them both a success, and with the winners winning great prizes like Amazon gift cards and water park tickets. We have also hosted end of year and end of term festive assemblies, like the Easter quiz and the Christmas quiz, where we were able to get the whole school involved as well as staff and was great fun for all involved. As Heads of House we have ran the epraise shop where students earn credits from excellence in learning and showing great leadership skills, and spend them on a range of items as rewards for their achievements during the year. I first applied to the role of Deputy Head of House to make a change in the school for students to make their everyday school life more fun and rewarding. I believe that I have done this with the numerous competitions and seasonal house quizzes that we the Heads of House team have created and hosted. Lastly, I want to thank the other Heads and Deputy Head of House for making the past year so rewarding.

**Hannah - Head of Poseidon**

As Head of Poseidon, I have been able to develop my interpersonal skills by leading school events, meeting delegates and delivering speeches. This opportunity has been challenging but rewarding at the same time. I chose to apply for Head of House so that I would be able to make an impact at the school, as well as being a positive role model for the younger students. During my time as Head of House I have been able to see the school from a different perspective.

Poseidon had a very successful sports day where we won the challenge between the houses which put us in a stronger position over Apollo to win the house cup. This paid off at the end of the year when Poseidon won, which was down to the sheer dedication of the students in the house. In addition to this, I have thoroughly enjoyed being involved in numerous charity events; Children in Need 2019 was a huge success. Awards evening was another high point where I was able to see all of the hard working students displaying the school's core values being rewarded for what they have achieved. The 'Filtered Reality' photography competition was successful with a large uptake of budding photographers. Organising the Christmas quiz was the perfect way to round off a great year as Head of Poseidon, seeing everybody get into the festive spirit and support Poseidon on the day!

Zoe - Deputy Head of Poseidon

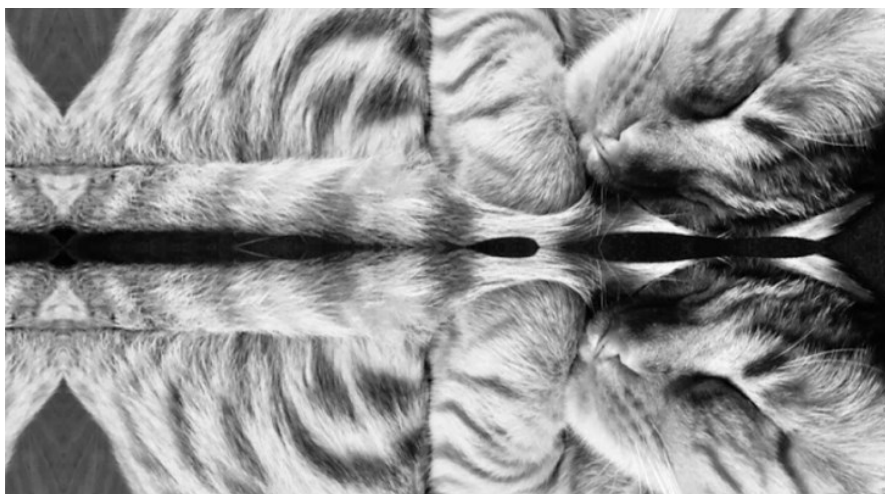
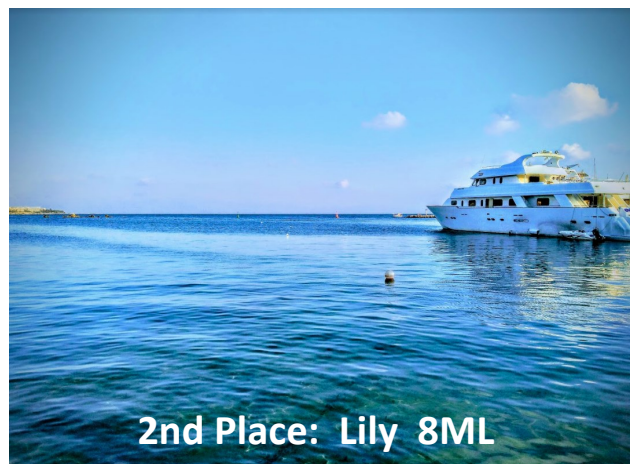
It has been a great pleasure to be the Deputy Head of Poseidon this year. I have particularly enjoyed being involved with the competitions and organising the whole-school activities. This opportunity has helped me to develop my confidence speaking publically and I feel way more equipped to go to university and juggle the demands of studying at a higher level. If there's one piece of advice I could share with the next Heads and Deputy Heads of House, it would be to enjoy the ride. The role is challenging and can be time consuming but I have found it to be highly rewarding and a great addition to my UCAS Personal Statement.







The Heads and Deputy Heads would like to extend a huge **thank you** to all students who submitted an entry to the 'Filtered Reality' Photography competition, to Emma Kelley, Parent Representative from the School Governance Committee, for selecting the final shortlist and to Daniel Knott, of Semper Fi Photography, for selecting the 3 finalists!



Winning Entry:
Jackamo
7KBO



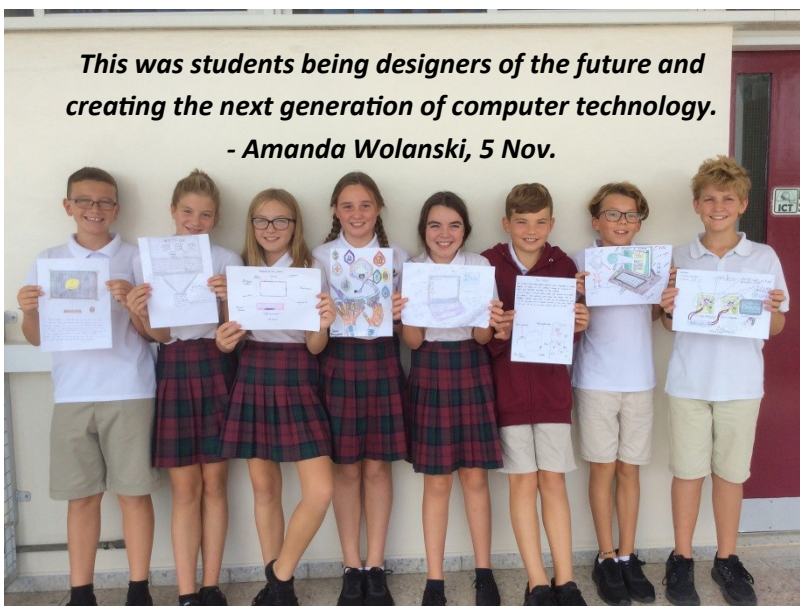


TAKE PRIDE IN
WHAT YOU DO
& LET THE
QUALITY OF
YOUR WORK BE
YOUR
SIGNATURE

#Pride in work!



*This was students being designers of the future and
creating the next generation of computer technology.
- Amanda Wolanski, 5 Nov.*





Pride in our work



St. John's 'Outstanding Teaching Assistants'

**WORK HARD & BE
PROUD OF WHAT
YOU ACHIEVE**



Sporting Central



#LetsGetPhysical







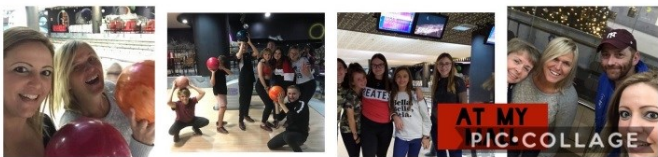




YEAR 9



XMAS FUN



AT MY PIC•COLLAGE



'Sankt Nikolaus' visited the school on Friday 6th December spreading early Christmas cheer and sweets!



ST. JOHN'S VOICES



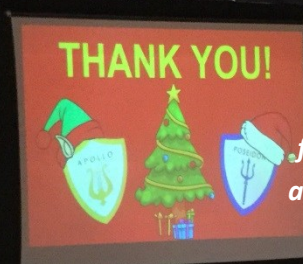
EPISKOPİ STATION



CAROL SERVICE 2019 PIC•COLLAGE



Christmas Quiz 2019



THANK YOU!

Thanks to the Heads of Houses for organising and decorating, Mr Marsden and Mr Gleed for their fantastic Quiz Host roles and all staff and students who helped make the St. John's Christmas Quiz 2019 a great success!

A fabulous win for Apollo!!!





Festive Civvies

Extending thanks out to Families, Friends, Students and Staff of St. John's for the collaborative efforts made towards raising 820 Euros for Dabaso School in Kenya!









Absence Reporting

If your child will not be attending school for any reason, please inform the school as soon as possible by calling (2596) 3888 after 0730 hours.

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

www.stjohnsschoolcyprus.com

Leavers Reporting

As soon as you know your leaving date, please inform the school as soon as possible by calling (2596) 3888 after 0730 hours.

A copy of the 'Departure' form, is available to download from the school website:

www.stjohnsschoolcyprus.com

Upcoming dates for the Spring term 2020:

First day of term	Monday 6th January
Half Term	Monday 17th to Friday 21st February
INSET day	Monday 24th February
School re-opens	Tuesday 25th February
Last day of term	Friday 3rd April

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St. John's Twitter QR Code



St. John's Facebook page QR code



