



Newsletter



Ministry
of Defence

2nd September 2022 | Issue 1

Dear Families,

Welcome to the start of the new academic year, whether you have recently arrived and beginning your first week at St John's School or returning following a restful summer break, it is great to have you with us.



I look forward to welcoming students back to school in the early part of next week.

This week I welcomed staff back to school and facilitated their participation in two days of in-service training. The focus of this week's training centred upon uniting everyone behind our moral purpose, which is to eliminate educational disadvantage caused by mobility. Staff were given the opportunity to refocus upon the fundamentals of their classroom practice. Chief amongst this refocus was the role that Assessment for Learning (AFL) plays in identifying gaps in a child's education. As identified by the [Education Endowment Fund](#), AFL and specifically the feedback that is subsequently provided can significantly improve learning and accelerate progress. In lessons this year, your child/children can expect to see a wide variety of AFL strategies used in each and every lesson, with the feedback informing the use of a variety of differentiated learning activities that provides each child with a bespoke level of support and challenge.

Next week, in my welcome assemblies, students will begin to develop their own familiarity of what they should expect in a 'good' lesson, so that they can be confident in identifying as and when they are receiving the high quality of education they are deserving of.

Mr Colin Guyton Acting Headteacher





Newsletter

2nd September 2022 | Issue 1

Welcome to new staff

The end of last academic year saw a significant number of departures from staff who have provided St John's School with very many years of service. Although disappointed to see so many leave, we have been provided with an excellent opportunity to forge a new staff team, with new ideas and different experiences, who together will enrich the educational offer we provide your child/children.

New Staff for the 2022-23 Academic Year

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Mr S Dixon | Assistant Headteacher | Mrs L Allard | Teacher of Maths |
| Mrs S Papaioannou | Teacher of RE | Mrs L McKenna | Teacher of Maths |
| Mrs H Harper | Head of English | Mrs L McVey | Teacher of Design & Tech |
| Mrs K Fox* | Head of Maths | Mrs K Parkinson | Safeguarding Assistant |
| Mrs T Hewitt | Teacher of Science | Mrs N Anders | MIS Manager |
| Mrs J O'Byrne | Teacher of Maths | Mrs L Hollis | Food Technology Assistant |
| Mrs Lucy Clarke | Teacher of Geography | Mrs E Dionysi | Learning Support Assistant |
| Mrs C Padmore | Teacher of Science | Mrs A Davis | Learning Support Assistant |

* Kim Fox will be arriving on island on 09th September 2022

Meet the teachers - Thursday 15th September 1430 - 1600hrs

You are cordially invited to meet our teachers at an informal event that will take place in the courtyard place on:

Thursday 15th September 2022 between 1430 and 1600hrs

It is hoped that this event will enable you, along with your child to meet their teachers, as well as other parents (new and old). A selection of complimentary drinks and light snacks will be available.



Newsletter

2nd September 2022 | Issue 1

First Day Arrangements

Monday 05th September — Year 7, 10 and 11

On Monday 5th we welcome to school for the new academic year students in Year 7, 10 and 11. Students should be at school for 0800hrs. Students in Year 7 will be guided into the School Hall and introduced to their Pastoral Tutors. Students in Years 10 and 11 will be guided to the Amphitheatre to meet with their Pastoral Tutor.

The first lesson of the day will focus on student orientation and will involve team building games, tours of the school for new students, health and safety briefings and the issuance of their new timetable.

Students will be in lessons from 0915hrs.

Tuesday 06th September—All Students in School

On Tuesday 06th we welcome all students back to school. Students in Years 7, 10 and 11 will report to their tutor room, whilst students in Years 8 and 9 will be guided to the Hall and the Sixth Form to the Sixth Form Study Room.

There will be a whole school assembly during the morning, along with further orientation activities for all. Students in Years 7—11 will be in lesson from 0915hrs, whilst students in the Sixth Form will attend a team building day at MTW.



www.facebook.com/stjohnsschoolcyprus

Let's be friends!

Be sure to add us as a friend of Facebook to keep up to date with what is happening at St John's School



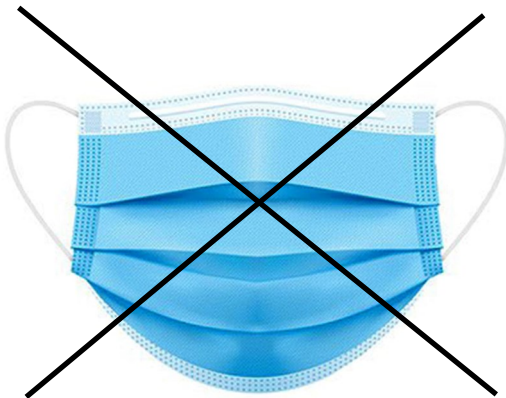
Newsletter

2nd September 2022 | Issue 1

The Snack Shack

St John's School offers a tuck shop for students to purchase an array of food and drink items. During Covid-19 restrictions we were unable to take cash payments, however as restrictions have eased we will gladly accept payment by cash. Once we have completed our full enrolment of students, parents will also have the opportunity to pay in advance and also pay digitally.

Students no longer need to pre-order their food and we look forward to expanding upon the school menu in consultation with students during the first fortnight of the school term. Further information will be provided in future newsletters.



The School Buses

In line with an update from BFC HQ, students no longer need to wear a facemask on the school buses.

Registering for the School Bus

Students must be registered to travel on the school bus. If you have not registered please visit the Families Office.

SJS Coffee Mornings

On Friday 09th September 0830—1000hrs, I will host our first coffee morning for parents. Parents are cordially invited to book a place by emailing SJS.Enquiries@MODSchools.org.

Limited to 15 people, I look forward to touring you around the school, visiting lessons and answering any questions or concerns you may have.

A further Coffee Morning will take place on Friday 16th September, before we move to a fortnightly cycle with a Coffee Morning every other Friday and the introduction of a Headteachers Surgery to take place on the other Friday. Further information to follow.



Newsletter



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of Defence

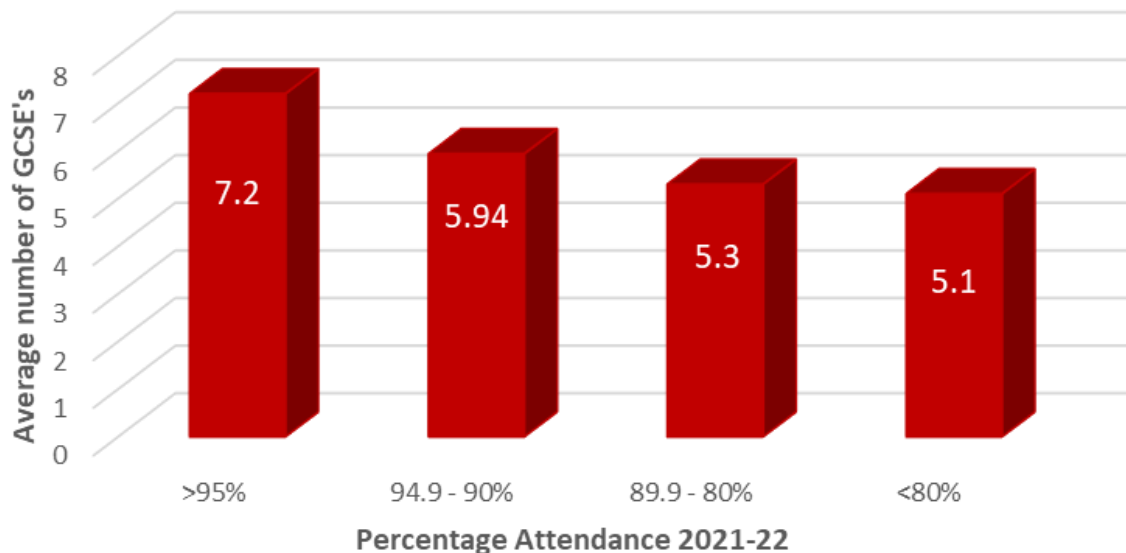
2nd September 2022 | Issue 1

School Attendance

Attendance is a significant determining factor to attainment outcomes and GCSE Grades. Students with no absences are 2.2 times more likely to achieve %+ GCSEs 9-4 or equivalent (DFE. 2015).

Last year at St John's School there was a direct correlation between student attendance and GCSE outcomes. Students whose attendance was below 95% achieved 1.26 fewer grades at a Grade 4 or above than their peers.

St John's School Attendance Vs. Attainment 2021-2022



A key whole school improvement target focuses upon student attendance and we look forward to working in partnership with students and parents to ensure students miss no more than 7 days of school each academic year and maintain a whole school attendance that is above 95% and exceeds the National Average.

Attendance Rewards

Congratulations to all of the students who achieved 96% school attendance during the last academic year, winning the opportunity to enjoy a day out at Fasouri Water Park – what and for who will this term's attendance reward be?



Newsletter



Ministry
of Defence

2nd September 2022 | Issue 1

School Equipment – The Top 5!

Items you must bring to school everyday

- ◆ Pencil
- ◆ Ruler
- ◆ Calculator
- ◆ Reading Book
- ◆ 3 Pens (Black x2, Green x1)



Stay Hydrated

With temperatures still in excess of 30° and many of us acclimatising to the Cyprus heat, bringing plenty of water is essential. Reusable bottles should be brought to school where they can be filled with cold water before school or during breaktimes.

Upcoming School Events

This week

Monday 5th September

First day of school for Years 7, 10 and 11

Tuesday 6th September

First day of school for Years 8, 9, 12 and 13

Team building activities for KS5 at MTW

Friday 9th September

SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000hrs

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org

Next Week

Monday 12th September

Progress testing begins for Key Stage 3

Thursday 15th September

Welcome to SJS—Meet the Teachers 1430—1600hrs with wine and cheese

Friday 16th September

Whole School Photos

SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org