



Newsletter

30th September 2022 | Issue 5

Dear Families,

We have reached the half way point of this term!

I cannot believe how fast the past four weeks have gone and that we are now about to step into October.



Throughout this past week, I have had the opportunity to meet with many parents. On Monday we hosted the Year 11 and 13 Parents' Afternoon. The afternoon was very well attended and provided a purposeful feeling. I hope that for those of you in attendance you left equipped with the information and variety of ideas to support your child over the coming months that will lead up to their Mock Examinations. These examinations will begin on Monday 5th December and run up to the end of term. A second Parents Afternoon will follow and is to be held on Thursday 19th January 2023, where you will receive their Mock Examination Results.

I have also had the opportunity to meet with parents of students in Year 7, 8 and 9 over the course of this week. In doing so, I had the chance to explain and share individual student reports generated from the recent GL Progress Tests that were completed two weeks ago. Should you have been unable to attend and wish to receive your child's report please email Mrs Penny Demetriou who will arrange for the report to go home with your child and for a member of SLT to call and help you to interpret the report.

Elsewhere this week we were joined by School Nurses from SSAFA who administered the HPV Vaccines to students in Year 8. Our Fijian student community have been busy preparing for Fiji Day Celebrations on Monday 12th October and our extra curricular enrichment programme is fully underway.

If you have not yet had chance, please ensure you have registered with the EPraise App, information on how to do so follows. This is of particular importance for Parents of students in Year 7 as this will be the only way to make appointments for the upcoming Year 7 Parent Evening on Thursday 20th October.

Mr Colin Guyton Acting Headteacher



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STEM careers

Where might **science** take you?**A**
is for
**Aeronaautical
Engineer****B**
is for
Botanist**C**
is for
Conservationist**D**
is for
Dietician**E**
is for
Equine Dentist**F**
is for
Forensic Scientist**G**
is for
Geoscientist**H**
is for
Hydrotherapist**I**
is for
Immunologist**J**
is for
Journalist**K**
is for
Kinesiologist**L**
is for
Lab Technician**M**
is for
Marine Biologist**N**
is for
Neuroscientist**O**
is for
Optician**P**
is for
Paramedic**Q**
is for
**Quantum
Physicist****R**
is for
Robotician**S**
is for
Sports Scientist**T**
is for
**Telecoms
Technician****U**
is for
Urologist**V**
is for
Volcanologist**W**
is for
**Weather
Forecaster****X**
is for
X-ray Technician**Y**
is for
Yacht Master**Join the conversation**
#whysciencematters**Z**
is for
Zoologist

RAF Youth STEM Day

STEM subjects include Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Together these continually evolving sectors are rapidly becoming the largest growth areas for current and future employment. Jobs range from Computer Programmers and Chemists to Systems Analysts and Engineers.

Next week, we have teamed up with the Royal Air Force Youth and STEM Team who are looking to inspire young people into studying STEM subjects and pursue exciting and rewarding careers in this sector. On Thursday and Friday next week all students in Year 7, 8 and 9 will participate in a wide variety of activities that centre around the promotion of STEM.

Students involved will be withdrawn from their timetabled lessons to participate and I look forward to report via Facebook and next week's newsletter what they have got up to.



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Black History Month 2022

Saturday 1st October—Monday 31st October 2022

Established in 1926 in the United States, Black History Month is celebrated in the UK in October and USA in February. The month is aimed at celebrating, recognising inspirational individuals from history and also those who are influential in today's society.

Throughout this month during tutor time students will be exploring 4 themes and sharing their own thoughts on topics that include:

1. History of Slavery
2. Martin Luther King Jr.
3. Malcolm X
4. Should Black History Month be Celebrated?



A Great Black Britain: Baroness Doreen Lawrence of Clarendon, OBE

When Black History Month was first celebrated in the UK, Stephen Lawrence was 13 and dreaming of becoming an architect. Five-and-a-half years later he was dead, murdered in a racist attack just as his life as an adult was beginning.



Since Stephen's death in 1993, his mother Doreen has devoted her life to seeking justice for Stephen. Although yet to fully accomplish the justice Stephen deserves, Baroness Doreen Lawrence has broken down barriers to en-

sure a fairer society than the one that existed in 1993. Simultaneously, she has cemented a legacy for Stephen by keeping the focus on racial inequality and the celebration of efforts to remove it.





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Fiji Day Celebration Monday 10th October 2022

Are you in a position to support our celebrations of Fiji Day?

We are keen to hear from members of our community who maybe able to lead upon one or more events that help celebrate Fiji and Fijian culture.



Perhaps you could:

- Lead a Fijian storytelling session
- Share Fijian pictures and artefacts
- Walk the students through Fiji's natural history and tourist attractions
- Provide historical insights into Fiji's long established and important role within the British Military
- Give our students a taste of Fijian foods

Should you be able to help out in any way, no matter how small, we would love to hear from you and include you within our day of celebrations. Please contact Ms Tina Chilman for more information and to express your interest by emailing Tina.Chilman@modschoools.org



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



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Parent View

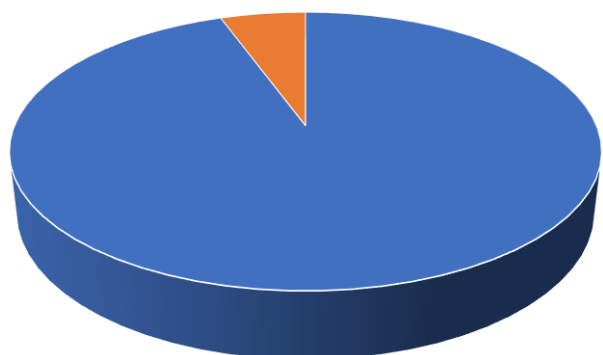
Parents are encouraged to record via 'Ofsted Parent View' their thoughts and opinions of their child's school provision and experience. Often these surveys are completed during an inspection, however you can provide your view at anytime by visiting :

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>



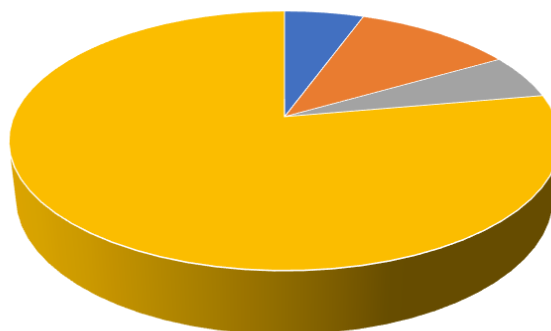
This week at our Parents' Afternoon we invited parents to share their view using the Ofsted Parent View questions and I have been encouraged by the views of Year 11 and 13 parents. I look forward to canvassing further views in due course and feed these views into our continuous evaluation of our whole school performance. Your views are essential in guiding our progress in making you and our community proud of St John's School.

My child feels safe at school



■ Agree ■ Disagree ■ Strongly disagree ■ Don't know

My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively



■ Agree ■ Disagree ■ Strongly disagree ■ not been bullied



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Extra Curricular Activities

Visit the Community Tab on the EPraise Website or App - here you will find an up to date programme of enrichment activities available to your child at different days and times across the school week.

You have the option of signing your child up to an activity or they can sign up themselves using their own log in details to gain access to the Website or App.

The screenshot shows the 'Activities' section of the EPraise website. It includes a search bar with a 'Go' button. Below, there are three activity cards: 'Arts Award' (Work towards Bronze, Silver or Gold in any area of Art, Music or Drama; Meet at Drama Room; Signed up: Every Monday at 2:00pm), 'D of E' (D of E Bronze for Y9/10 Silver for Y11 (if completed Bronze) Y12/13 Silver; Meet at Gym; Years 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13; Signed up: Every Wednesday at 2:00pm), and 'Fiji Day' (Celebration Planning; Meet at SB; 1 signed up; Every Tuesday at 10:15am). Each card has a 'Show details' button. On the right side of the page, there are three circular icons: a blue one with a red ribbon, a green one with the word 'AVAILABLE', and another green one with the word 'AVAILABLE'.



Netball



Duke of Edinburgh
Award



Music Club



Fiji Day Celebration Rehearsals



Chess Club



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Meet Miss Sam Papaioannou

Teacher of Religious Education

Hello, I am Samantha Papaioannou and I am honoured to have joined St John's School as a teacher of RE.

I am from Lincolnshire where I raised my two children, Eleni and Michael and have spent the last 18 years working in a large secondary school where I held many roles, the most recent being Head of Faculty for Humanities and Social Science. Coming to St John's School has allowed me to touch base with my first love which is teaching my specialism of RE. RE is much more than religious education, it encompasses ethics, philosophy and self-awareness, allows students to wrestle with the mysteries of life and the answers given by a wide variety of religions, belief and non-belief in order to develop a clear sense of what is of real value in world today. I am looking forward to having some interesting debates and discussions with the students here at St John's School.



I have not always been a teacher and before I found my passion for developing and teaching quality RE, I had a varied and diverse career journey, from being a dancer in a film, a photographer's assistant on a cruise ship, a careers coach and a night manager at a hotel to share just a few! Feel free to ask me about some of my adventures when we meet!

Now that I have been teaching for many years, I can honestly say that there is no other job as rewarding, exciting and challenging and I look forward to sharing my passion and positivity with the students, staff and parents at St John's School



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EPraise Parent Communication Website and App

To centralise and improve our communication, whilst facilitating you as a parent to see how well your child is getting on at school, we are going to use EPraise. We have had access to EPraise for some time and our students will be familiar with it as a reward system. However, we have invested in a wider range of functionality and we invite parents to register for an online account.



Logging In

You will initially need to register by downloading the EPraise App or by visiting their website via:

www.epraise.co.uk/index.php?school=stjohnscyprus&login=parents

1. Select the parent tab on the EPraise log in form
2. Click the register button.
3. Enter the email address previously provided to St John's School and request the login code
4. EPraise will send an email to the registered email account. This email contains a code, which you must then use as the password to login for the first time.

Note:

The password link remains active for 24 hours so you will need to create the password within that time or repeat the steps above to obtain a new email. Sometimes emails can take a few minutes to arrive or are automatically redirected to the junk folder so it is worth checking before re-registering your account.

Trouble Registering?

Should you encounter difficulties it is possible the email address we have for you is out of date. To update your email address or to notify us of difficulties please email Mr Barber who will gladly assist you in logging on. Mr Barber's email is Dave.Barber@modschools.org



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EPraise Website Tabs

At the top of the webpage or app, there are a variety of tabs which link to the information details below:

Me > Settings

Here you can change your password, which we recommend to avoid obtaining a registration code each time you log on. Through the settings tab you can also set your notification preferences.



Me > Messages

Messages will eventually allow you to send and receive messages from your child's/children's teacher. At present it is our intention to use this facility to push out notifications to you as a parent. For example letters and the weekly newsletter will come through EPraise Messages.

My Children > Profile

You can view your child's/children's profiles under the my Children Tab. Here you can see their school attendance, reward point tally and timetable. Further functionality will be launched in due course.

My Children > Planner

Here you will be able to view all of your child's/children's homework and notes set by their teachers. You will have the option to see any attachments included and can see which are set, due, overdue or completed. This aspect will become fully functional from Monday 30th October.

Community > Get Involved

Here you will see various enrichment activities available to your child/children and where you can sign them up. They even earn points indicated by the activities with praise points in the corner.

Community > Parents' Evening

You will soon be able to see allocated parents' afternoon events displayed here. When a parents' afternoon approaches, you will be able to book appointments to see their teacher. To do this simply select the 'book appointment' button and fill in the details. Further information will follow ahead of the Year 7 afternoon on Thursday 20th October 2022.

Our use of EPraise is in its infancy and we look forward to broadening its functionality in the coming months.



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EPraise App Tabs

Once you are logged into the app you are presented with a menu page and a variety of tabs which link to the information details below:

Profile

The first part of the App you land on is the profile of your child/children at St John's School. Here for each child you can obtain an overview of their reward point tally, a detailed breakdown of where these points have been accrued from and their current school attendance percentage, which can be clicked upon for more detail.



More > App > Settings

Found on the top right hand side of the App. You can find a more detailed menu and the links to the App's broader functionality. At the bottom of the menu, you can change your password under the header App > Settings.

More > Community

Under the More tab beneath the Community Header, you will also find:

- An overview of the various enrichment activities available to your child/children and where you can sign them up. They even earn points indicated by the activities with praise points in the corner
- A link to Parents' Evenings. When a parents' afternoon approaches, you will be able to book appointments to see their teacher. To do this simply select the 'book appointment' button and fill in the details. Further information will follow ahead of the Year 7 parents afternoon on Thursday 20th October 2022.

Messages

The Messages tab can be found at the top of the App. Messages will eventually allow you to send and receive messages from your child's/children's teacher. At present it is our intention to use this facility to push out notifications to you as a parent. For example letters and the weekly Headteachers Newsletter will come through EPraise Messages.

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Headteacher's Surgery

On Friday 7th October 0900—1000hrs, parents and/or members of the BFC community are welcome to drop in without appointment to meet the Headteacher, Colin Guyton, to discuss any ideas or issues concerning St John's School.

This approach draws similarities from the MP Local Constituency Surgeries you maybe familiar with in the UK and it is hoped that it will prove a useful opportunity to share ideas that help improve the provision we provide to the young people in our care

Parent Forum

On Thursday 13th October 2022 at 1500hrs I will be hosting this year's first Parent Forum. Running once each half term, parents are cordially invited to attend. Each forum will look to explore new initiatives, policy and/or issues affecting St John's School.

This term's Parent Forum will take place at St John's School in the Teaching and Learning Room.

Each Parent Forum alternates between St John's School and Akrotiri Primary School and the dates for this year's Forums are:

Date	Venue	Time
Thursday 13th October 2022	St John's School	1500—1600
Thursday 8th December 2022	Akrotiri Primary School	1500—1600
Thursday 9th February 2023	St John's School	1500—1600
Thursday 23rd March 2023	Akrotiri Primary School	1500—1600
Thursday 25th May 2023	St John's School	1500—1600
Thursday 13th July 2023	Akrotiri Primary School	1500—1600



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Year 11 Maths Exam

On Tuesday 4th October Year 11 will sit Paper One from the GCSE Exam Series. This will act as a mock examination to assess their current attainment level and allow us to plan targeted support for them in the lead up to the next round of mock examinations in December.

I understand that this may cause some anxiety for some students but I would like to reassure you that it is a formative assessment to enable us to support them as much as possible in the coming weeks.

Any questions, please feel free to email Ms Kim Fox at Kimberley.Fox@modschoools.org

Health Care Plans—Reminder

We have this month been undertaking our annual review of Student Healthcare Plans to ensure we are effectively meeting individual healthcare needs. You have previously received a letter (14th September 2022) asking you to provide details of any medical conditions your child may have and that the school should in turn be made aware of. Using this information we will work alongside the school nurse to ensure that a comprehensive Health Care Plan is in place. If you are yet to return this letter and intend to, please note that a copy can be obtained on our website via the 'News' tab.

Upcoming School Events

This Week

Monday 3rd October

Black History Month begins

Wednesday 5th October

RAF STEM Day (Key Stage 3)

Friday 7th October

RAF STEM Day (Key Stage 3)

Headteacher's Surgery 0900—1000 (No booking required)

Next Week

Monday 10th October

Fiji Day Celebrations

Tuesday 11th October

World Mental Health Day

Wednesday 12th October

Inter School Swimming Gala

Friday 14th October

SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org