



Newsletter

11th November 2022 | Issue 10



**They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old:
age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.**



**At the going down of the sun and in the morning
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM**

Laurence Binyon, Ode of Remembrance



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Dear Families,

The week began with our Year 8 Parent Afternoon. Despite the grey skies and at times heavy rain, it was great to see that attendance was not dampened, ensuring this, like Parent Afternoon's that have gone before, was very well attended. Already this year we have hosted more than forty different parent engagement events that have ranged from traditional parent afternoon's to wide ranging parent information events and formal opportunities to visit the school during the day whilst lessons are in session.



Monday's Parent Afternoon was followed on Tuesday, when parents and students of Year 11 attended a revision workshop that looked to share ideas and strategies that would enable parents to support their child prepare for the upcoming mock examinations. Although weighted towards revising for English, Math's and Science we hope that those of you in attendance found the session extremely informative, with strategies hopefully being transferable across all subjects. It is our intention to host further curriculum evenings for parents and students in other Key Stages in the coming months.



Over the course of this week, students, staff and a governor have also been supporting me in the appointment of new members of staff. I write this week to you from Upavon, Wilshire, where we are at the Department for Children's Services (DCS) Headquarters interviewing for perspective St John's teachers in the subjects of Computing, Maths and Design Technology. I look forward to updating you on the outcome of these interviews next week.

The week ended on Remembrance Day, which was marked by an extended assembly led by our Padre. He reminded us of the sacrifice made by soldiers who had given their lives for our freedom and the important symbol of the poppy. He also reminded us of the sacrifice that Jesus has made for us on the cross so that we can have a relationship with God.

At 1045 the whole school gathered at the flagpole to perform the act of remembrance. Army and Air Cadets stood at the front, proudly wearing their uniform. A wreath was laid by student representatives from the Air and Army Cadets Joshua Marshall and Emilia Dufficy. Capt MS WILSON | Unit Welfare Officer | 1st Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment gave a reading and the last post sounded followed by 2 minutes silence. The students respectfully used the time to think about sacrifice, not just for the fallen, but also for their families. The reveille brought the ceremony to a close. We are very grateful to Drummers Keely and Rose for playing the bugle for us.

Students will be representing St John's at the remembrance service in Happy Valley on Sunday by laying a wreath.



Mr Colin Guyton Acting Headteacher

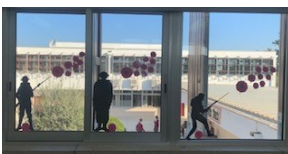


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This week at St John's School in pictures



Inter House Football

Under 18's

Poseidon won 8-4

Under 14's

Poseidon won 4-2

Mock Examination Launch

Students explore different strategies and approaches that are to support their revision ahead of their Mock Examinations this December





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Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition is rapidly approaching, with students soon to spend at night at Happy valley on Friday 25th November. Each week participating students ready themselves with this week the group focusing upon setting up their tents.



PIC•COLLAGE



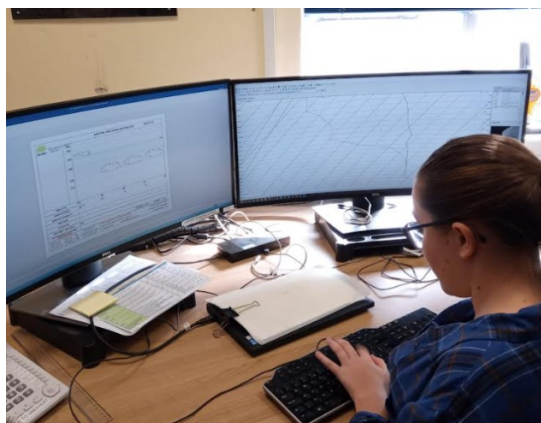
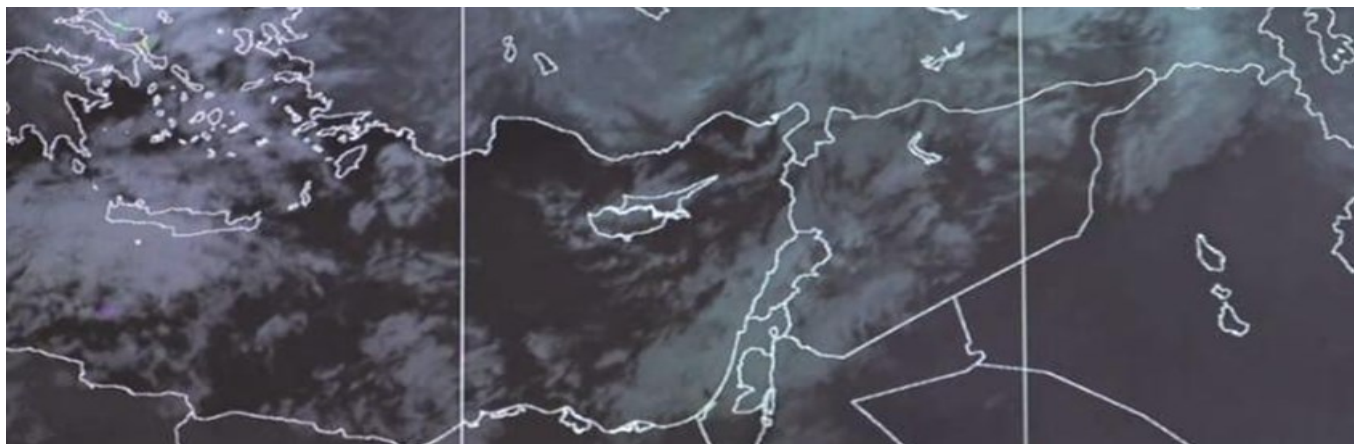
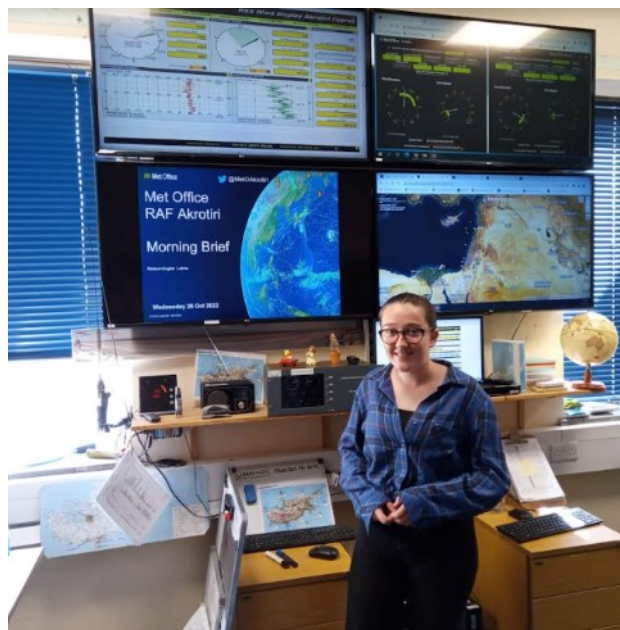
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Met Office, RAF Akrotiri

Keen to study Geography at university, Lainie (Year 11) took it upon herself to seek out and organise work experience that would support in her future university applications. During the half term Lainie took up the invitation to work at the Met Office in RAF Akrotiri. During her time at the Met Office Lainie explored how the weather here across Cyprus and the wider region is tracked and forecasted. Lainie was able to study the weather systems that occurred over the half term and create a brief based upon her analysis.

Well done to Lainie for securing such an opportunity, such an experience will certainly help in composing your personal statement and allow you to stand out from other applicants. Thank you also to the Met Office at RAF Akrotiri for providing such an opportunity for one of our students.





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2022

St John's School

Christmas Card Competition



Christmas Card Competition

Your child's design could be our 2022 Christmas Card



We would like to invite students of St John's School to design a Christmas Card. The winning card will become the School Christmas Card to be used this Christmas.

There will also be opportunity for the winning design to be reprinted and available for purchase, with proceeds being donated to a charity of the winning students choice.

The deadline for entries is **Friday 25th November**, Entries should be submitted as a physical design to the school office.



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Youth Parliament

On Friday 4th November Will Turner (Year 9) joined members of Youth Parliament who sat in the House of Commons to discuss and debate the topics of:

- Impact of discrimination on health
- Environment and health
- Education and health
- Cost of living and health
- Mental health services

This years event was chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons, Rt Hon Lindsay Hoyle MP.

Will stated that as one of the youngest participants that it was a great opportunity to sit in the House of Commons, however it was a shame not have the opportunity to speak publicly.

Thank you Will for representing St John's School in the House of Commons, will we see you in the house in years to come?



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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Y11 intervention schedule

A new Y11 revision and intervention schedule starts next week for all students and the timetable of afterschool sessions that are on offer are below. These sessions will be carefully planned to support students in their mock exam preparation and we ask all parents to encourage their child to attend.

Y11 Revision / Intervention – Term 1 SJS

'Eliminating educational disadvantage caused by mobility'

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tutor Time	English - Whole year group 'Revision topic of the week' presentation in science lecture theatre		Targeted Maths interventions for selected students on different topics – Maths Department	Science revision – whole group assembly on Revision topic / tip of the week in science lecture theatre	
After School 2pm – 3pm Week 1	Staff meeting / training – no interventions	Triple Chemistry (compulsory) AG Set 2 Maths KS Football Club	D of E Bronze for Y9/10 and silver to Y11 GCSE MUSIC TOP UP (Y10/11, but open to any Y9 who want to come and make music) Netball Club – All students welcome Geography Revision Y11 Islam Revision RE Y11	Biology Revision 30 mins (or full hour for non business students) Business Revision 30 mins TC Y11 English Guided independent study. Help, resources and support on how to prepare for the English GCSE exams	
After School 2pm – 3pm Week 2		Y11 Combined Chemistry (compulsory for those under their target grade) AG Y11 Set 1 Maths KF Football Club	D of E Bronze for Y9/10 and silver to Y11 Netball Club GCSE MUSIC TOP UP (Y10/11, but open to any Y9 who want to come and make music) Geography Revision Y11 Islam Revision RE Y11	Y11 Triple Biology / Physics NR	



Y10 and 11 Revision App

In addition to these after school and tutor time interventions we have purchased a revision app that enables student to practice their knowledge daily and this is monitored by teaching staff. Tassomai guarantee that a student who does 80% of all activities set online will pass their GCSE or we get our money back!

Welcome to Tassomai
(pronounced Tass-oh-my)
The scientific way to study
Let's get started...



ST JOHN'S SCHOOL eliminating educational disadvantage caused by mobility **TASSOMAI**


The science of learning
It's why Tassomai works!
Did you know? ... Researchers into revision and learning techniques found the best way to study and get knowledge to stick is:

- *Work for concentrated short bursts*
- *Regularly test yourself*
- *Frequently switch between topics*

Tassomai is designed to help do all of these things


ST JOHN'S SCHOOL eliminating educational disadvantage caused by mobility **TASSOMAI**

Success!
Tassomai has helped 1000s of students get top marks in GCSEs.



ST JOHN'S SCHOOL eliminating educational disadvantage caused by mobility

"What's 'the Tree'?"
The Tree is a **visual representation of knowledge**. It's personalised and will update in real time! **Each leaf represents a Tassomai question** (the branches represent topics), and the colour indicates whether you're answering that question correctly or not.



ST JOHN'S SCHOOL eliminating educational disadvantage caused by mobility **TASSOMAI**



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Homework

After a review of our current homework procedures we have decided to make a few changes to the way we set and monitor homework for our students. All of our homework is informed by the results of internal testing carried out in September which indicated that our students would benefit from improved reading and comprehension skills as well as effective and accurate use of vocabulary and spelling. Retrieval of prior learning is also high on our list of skills we want to improve so that all of our students approach their examinations as resilient and confident learners.

We believe that homework is an integral part of education in that it::

- Promotes students' self-discipline and personal responsibility for learning and organisation.
- Reinforces work started in class, extending knowledge and understanding.
- Gives opportunities to practise and develop skills.
- Allows parents to become involved in their child's learning.
- Is valuable in ensuring students' progress and raising achievement.

We will now set homework as follows:

Pieces set (per fortnight)

	English	Maths	Science	History	Geog.	RE	MFL
Year 7	3	3	3	1	1	1	1
Year 8	3	3	3	1	1	1	1
Year 9	3	3	3	1	1	1	1
	English	Maths	Science	Option A	Option B	Option C	
Year10	3	3	3	2	2	2	
Year11	3	3	3	2	2	2	



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Homework continued:

	English	Maths	Science	History	Geog.	RE	MFL
Year 7	25 min	25 min	25 min	25 min	25 min	25 min	25 min
Year 8	35 mins	35 mins	35 mins	35 mins	35 mins	35 mins	35 mins
Year 9	45 mins	45 mins	45 mins	45 mins	45 mins	45 mins	45 mins
	English	Maths	Science	Option A	Option B	Option C	
Year10	60 mins	60 mins	60 mins	60 mins	60 mins	60 mins	
Year11	60 mins	60 mins	60 mins	60 mins	60 mins	60 mins	

We are kindly asking that parents support their child and the school by ensuring they have a peaceful place where they can get on with homework undisturbed. Talking to children about the homework they have received and checking this against the homework timetable would really help them to know that the homework they are given is valuable and an important extension of their learning in class.

In Years 7,8 and 9 children will be bringing home a reading book. All pupils in the class have been given the same book and reading homework will be set by the teacher. Knowledge and understand will be checked during library lessons. The English department will also set one homework which deepens and develops vocabulary.

Mathematics will set homework on Maths Watch which is an online package. In addition to this they will be set topic tests and be asked to revise previous knowledge.

Science will be setting work through online packages which aim to challenge and develop understanding as well as promote retrieval activities.

All subjects will set homework which will guide student revision so that they are better able to cope with the expectations and demands of assessment and examinations. Parents can expect to see their children preparing revision resources to ensure memory retrieval is effective.

We will monitor carefully the completion of homework and pupils who fail to hand in three pieces will be required to attend a homework club from 14.00 – 15.00 in the School Hall to ensure they catch up with missed learning. Parents will of course be kept fully informed if homework is missed regularly.

As with everything that we do in school, homework is an integral part of ensuring our students achieve the best possible educational outcomes and educational disadvantage caused by mobility is eliminated.



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BRITISH FORCES CYPRUS SUPPORTS
INTERNATIONAL STAND UP TO
BULLYING DAY.



**BE A
BUDDY,
NOT A
BULLY**

STAND UP TO BULLYING AND RAISE
MONEY FOR THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT IN CELEBRATING OUR
DIFFERENCES WITH A NON UNIFORM DAY ON
INTERNATIONAL STAND UP TO BULLYING DAY,
18 NOV 2022. PLEASE DONATE TO THE RBL

CALL THE BULLYING, HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION DEFENCE ANTI
BULLYING HELPLINE ON +44 330 008 5942 OR SEE JSP 763 FOR MORE
INFORMATION



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1500-1930 THU 1 DEC 22 - EPISKOPI CHRISTMAS FAIR

1500-1545 - PEOPLE START ARRIVING
1500-1930 - ALL STALLS OPEN
1500-1730 - CHARITY CHALLENGE CORNER
1500-1845 - CHRISTMAS GAMES
1550-1555 - SANTA ARRIVES
1610-1630 - MILITARY WIVES CHOIR
1650-1700 - STUDENTS RECOGNITION AND AWARDS
1700 - CHRISTMAS TREE TURN LIGHTS ON
1705-1715 - SBA'S GOT TALENT DANCE SHOW
1720-1730 - SANTA'S STORY
1730-1930 - SANTA'S GROTTO OPENS
1730-1750 AND 1800-1820 - SBA'S GOT TALENT KEYBOARD SHOW
1735-1750 - SSFA CAKE COMP
1750-1810 - MILITARY WIVES CHOIR
1820-1850 - KIDS CHRISTMAS DISCO
1900-1920 - RAFFLE DRAW - 20 PRIZES
1920-1925 - BEST DRESSED CHRISTMAS OUTFIT
1930 - CHRISTMAS FAIR CLOSES



SCAN ME
FOR SANTA'S
GROTTO INFO



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SJS Coffee Mornings

On Friday 18th September 0830 - 1000hrs, parents of students at St John's School are cordially invited to join our coffee morning, should you wish to book a place, please email

SJS.Enquiries@MODSchools.org.

This weeks Coffee Morning will be hosted by Mr Steve Dixon in my absence, who as I do will tour you around our school, visit lessons and answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Year 9 Parents' Afternoon

Wednesday 16th November 1430 - 1700 hrs

Have you made your appointments? Appointments must be made in advance of the Parent Afternoon. Appoints can only be made through our new Parent Portal, EPraise. You are invited to make appointments with all of your child's teachers.

If you are yet to register your account with EPraise, instructions on how to do so can be found in previous editions of the Headteachers Newsletter.

Having difficulties?

Should you encounter difficulties please email Mr Barber who will gladly support you in logging in for the first time and/or making an appointment. Mr Barber's email is Dave.Barber@modschools.org



Upcoming School Events

This Week

Monday 14th November	MOD Headteacher's from around world to visit St John's School
Wednesday 16th November	Year 9 Parents Evening : 1430 - 1700 hrs
Friday 18th November	Children in Need/Stand Up to Bullying - Non Uniform Day
	SJS Coffee Morning 0800 - 1000
	Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschools.org

Next Week

Wednesday 23rd November	School Governing Committee Meeting
Thursday 24th November	Epi Races - Inter School Cross Country Competition
Friday 25th November	SJS Headteacher Surgery 0800 - 1000