



# Newsletter

13th January 2023 | Issue 17



Ministry  
of Defence

Dear Families,

It was a proud moment for pupils, staff and the wider ESBA community this week when Queen Berengaria School (QBS) was officially opened in Dhekelia by Princess Anne on Wednesday. Integral to the opening ceremony was the role of the charity, Never Such



Innocence. The charity aims to provide young people with a voice on conflict through poetry, art, music and speech writing. Benefitting from the opening, our students in Year 7 and 8 were able to take part in two workshops, the first with Year 7 focused upon creating individual stories on conflict, whilst the latter with Year 8 focused on the collective creation of a Rap song. The students thoroughly enjoyed both opportunities and the work they completed was outstanding. The facilitators were full of praise for our students who, as always, represented our school with distinction.



Despite the heavy rain showers our students remained dry as they continued their preparations for their Duke of Edinburgh expedition, this week hiking around the hills of Episkopi.

On Thursday students were visited by candidates and colleagues from the Department of Children's Services. The candidates were on interview for the role of Assistant Chief Education Officer to be based locally in Cyprus. Once more it was our students that were the subject of high praise with both candidates impressed by their approach and attitude towards their studies. Behaviour was described as being "remarkable", an observation that clearly fills me with pride.



**Mr Colin Guyton** Acting Headteacher



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## A story on conflict - Tye Y

War is death  
War means hateful people  
When I think of war I think of power  
Powerful countries  
Powerful men, powerful women  
Powerful leaders who stop powerful countries  
Crushing countries  
Countries crushed  
Women left to bleed  
Children left to scream  
Men dodging bullets  
Bullets dodging hearts  
War is taking  
War is taking back  
War is death

War sounds like screams  
Women screaming  
Soldiers scream orders  
The tortured scream  
Begging for death  
BOOM! BOOM!  
Bombs drop down  
Villages once there  
Villages gone  
People now gone  
They cannot escape the bombs  
Their only escape is screaming  
War sounds like screams

War feels Bloody  
Soldiers carrying guns  
Bang! Bang!  
Helpless children screaming  
Children feel the bullets in their parents  
They feel the blood  
They feel the death  
War feels Bloody

It makes me want to scream  
It makes me want to shout  
Help, Help, the torturing  
PTSD, it makes me scream  
WAR makes we want to scream

SHUT The Front Door

We need strong people, people who aren't afraid to  
Stand up, people who say the truth  
Stand up in battles, stand up in ideas

We don't need any more Hitler's  
Or Vladimir Putin's, evil men,  
Evil women, people who torture,  
people who start wars  
Remember Churchill?

Amazing people, be like them, stop wars  
Remember Hitler? Remember Vladimir Putin?  
Don't be like him. Don't start wars  
War is hell. Peace is heaven.



War is death. War is the reason that peace eventually comes along.  
Emotions spill out, bullets are shot out. War is the cause of  
grief and love. Would you save someone's life for love?  
Or would you stand on the hill watching as the clouds  
gaze upon the death of your fellow people. Toxic gas fills your  
nose as you tremble watching from afar. War is betrayal.  
War is destruction. ~~that~~ Deafening screams are heard  
everywhere. You can't escape the pain. Tears run down  
in face. You stop breathing. You stop living.

War!

War is innocent people dying and families ~~the~~ <sup>being</sup> ~~uprising~~  
Soldiers fighting to death and people thereat. Hope in  
the people's heart dress in a funeral. War is never-ending.

War sounds like people screaming then dreaming.  
Then dreaming which they're dead.  
Families sleep but war is deep.

War makes me feel Deafened but relieved and new.  
War makes me feel Greatful. People  
but afraid too.

It makes me want to die but a lie.  
It makes me want to dance only with a chance.  
It makes me want to



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## A story on conflict - Kaitlyn A

War is dark, but the military who fight help brighten the sky.  
To me war means that innocent lives die.  
War gives me grief and fills my heart with sorrow.  
Locals ship the children away.  
They are made to leave the ashes that were their homes.

Wait!  
There is always hope.  
Not everyone dies.

War makes me feel scared but I am brave like the fallen soldiers that lay before me.  
War creates history.  
It creates memories of the people who fought to protect us.  
The opposing country will always have blood on their hands.  
It makes me want to laugh the pain away.

War sounds like eerie screams from the dead.  
War will always come to an end.  
We must never lose hope...



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.

[www.facebook.com/stjohnsschoolcyprus](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsschoolcyprus)





EXCELLENCE • LEADERSHIP • LEARNING

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## This week at St John's School in pictures







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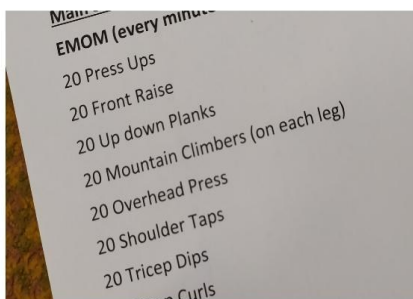
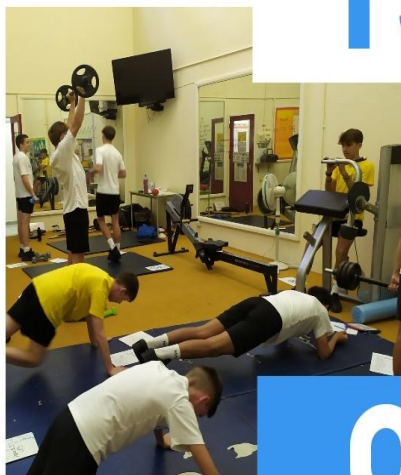


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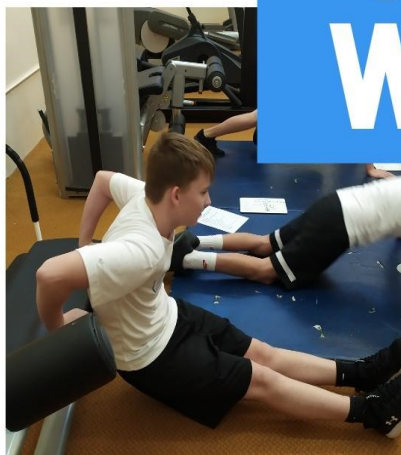
## This week at St John's School in pictures



## Y9 FITNESS



## CROSSFIT WORKOUT





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## Upcoming Sporting Fixtures

To provide permission for your child to participate, please complete the form linked below

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfSkVcMgg-JSzLpy1Cav4bUxK6G5R-S2ueM4TWR7YTzPpnBw/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfSkVcMgg-JSzLpy1Cav4bUxK6G5R-S2ueM4TWR7YTzPpnBw/viewform?usp=pp_url)

Students in Year 11 and 13 will be permitted to participate in away fixtures, depending on their academic progress

Date :	Teams: Age / Home / Away / Sport	School Name: Time
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	Football (Away) U18's Boys 11- 11 U14's Boys 7v7 - 2 teams U18's Girls 7v7 U14's Girls 7v7	KRS 2.30 -4.30pm Dinner - McDonalds Return Aki 7 / Epi 7:30pm
Friday 20th January	Volleyball (Away) U18's Girls & Y9 Boys U18's Boys	Foleys 2.45 - 3.45 3.45 - 4.45 Return Aki 5.30 / Epi 6pm
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Basketball (Away) U14's Mixed U18's Mixed	Foleys 2.45 - 3.45 3.45 - 4.45 Return Aki 5.30 / Epi 6pm
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	D of E – Walk	2-5pm
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Football (home) U18's Boys 11v11 tournament U18's Girls 7 v7 tournament	HV 1-4pm SJS, ESK, KRS, Foleys & Logos
Tuesday 31st January	Boys Football (home) U12's and U14's	HV 2.45 - 4pm
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Netball (Away) Yr 7-13 3 x Mixed teams	KRS 2.30 -4.30pm Dinner - McDonalds Return Aki 7 / Epi 7:30pm
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	D of E Practice Walk	All day
Friday 17th into Saturday 18 March	D of E Bronze Qualifying Exped	Both days all day



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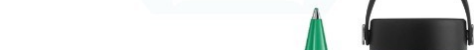
## Ready to Learn

Please make sure your child is fully equipped and ready to learn this new term. Essential items are pictured below. Tutors will be expected to check daily and make contact where your child does not have the equipment prescribed. Please can I draw your attention to the need for students to have a water bottle, which can be filled, before school and during breaks. Too much learning time is being lost with students collecting disposable cups from reception and this will no longer be permitted.

## Lesson Expectations

**1 On time** Second bell**2 Quietly lined up****3 Fully equipped****4 Ready to learn**ST JOHN'S  
SCHOOL

### Essential



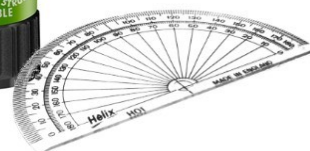
### Essential Items

- ✓ Black or blue pen
- ✓ Green pen
- ✓ Eraser
- ✓ Pencil
- ✓ Pencil sharpener
- ✓ Ruler
- ✓ Water bottle

### Extra prepared

- ✓ Glue stick
- ✓ Highlighter
- ✓ Protractor
- ✓ Pair of compasses

### Extra prepared







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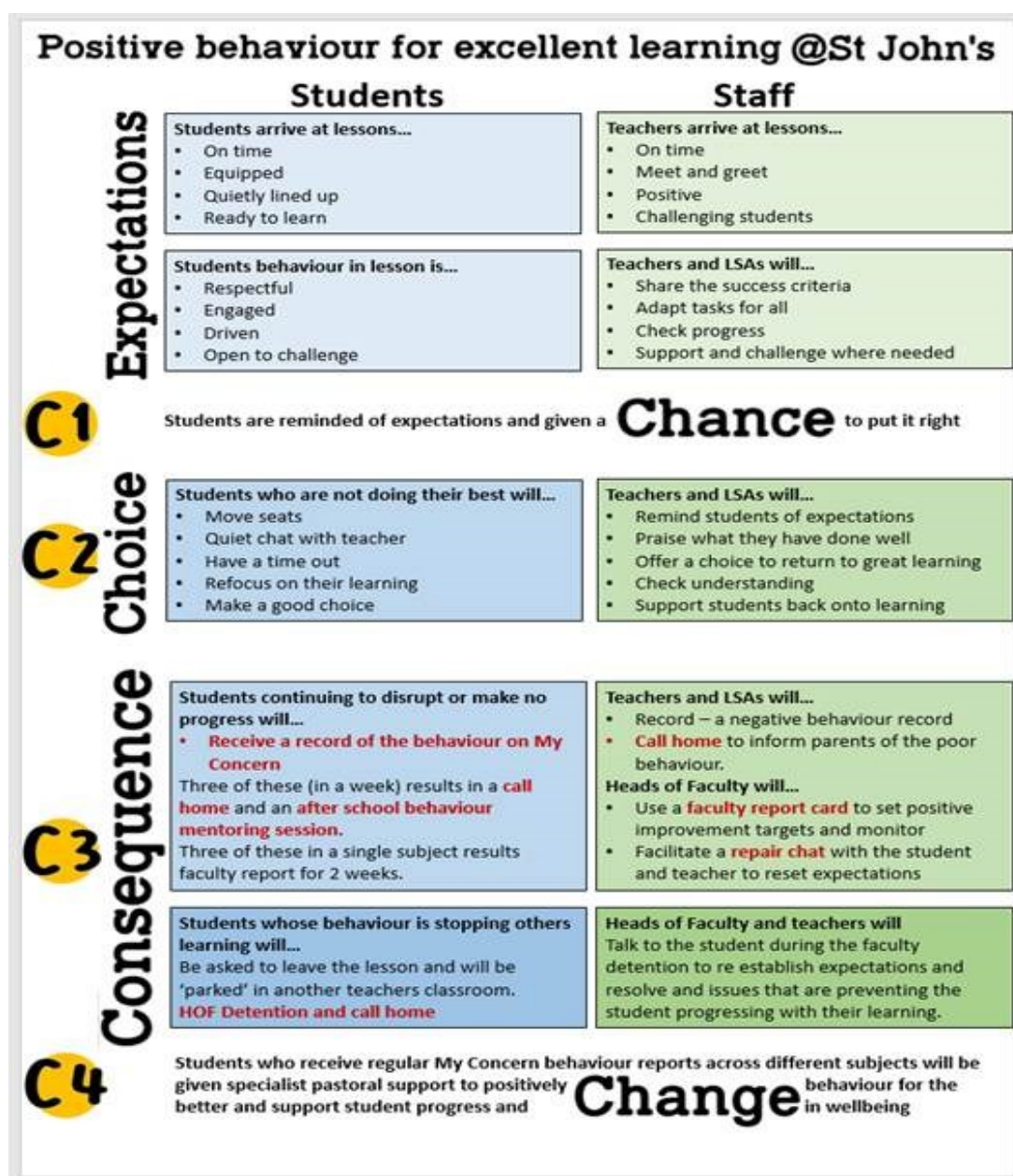
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## Ready to Learn

Positive behaviour for learning habits enable students to engage in learning, make good academic progress and sustain good relationships with both adults and peers. Establishing these habits helps students make smoother transitions between schools, into college, employment and adult life.

To support students in their behaviour, we have structured the existing policy into the four step visual approach below. Students are encouraged to take responsibility and recognise when their behaviour choices are unwanted. With our support students will have the opportunity to make the positive changes needed to ensure both them and their peers are able to learn and feel happy and safe in school.







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## Public Health Update: Scarlet Fever & Invasive Group A Strep

The UK is reporting a higher than usual incidence of Scarlet Fever and Strep Throat infections for this time of year. In a very small minority of cases, a complication called invasive Group A Strep can occur in children.

Whilst this outbreak is focused on the UK (and not Cyprus) – we all need to be **aware** of this as many of us will cycle through the UK during the Christmas Holidays. Scarlet Fever can be easily caught & spread.

### **What about Scarlet Fever?**

Scarlett Fever is caused by the same Strep A bacteria that causes Strep Throat. It's usually mild but can be easily caught and spread. Early treatment can reduce the impact.

#### **Symptoms:**

- Sore throat
- Headache
- Fever
- A fine, sandpapery feeling rash on the body (pinkish or red on fair skin; harder to detect on darker skin).

If you recognise these symptoms, call a Medical Centre and book an appointment.



Public Health  
England

### **What about Invasive Group A Strep (iGAS)?**

In a very small minority of cases, a complication called invasive Group A Strep (iGAS) can occur.

If your child is unwell: trust your instinct and reach out for help & advice.

#### **Call the Med Centre or Out of Hours number (111 in the UK), if:**

- your child is getting worse
  - your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
  - your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration
  - your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38°C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39°C or higher
  - your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is very tired or irritable

#### **In extreme cases, Call 112 (999 in the UK), if:**

- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

## Public Health Update: COVID-19 / Influenza / RSV

There has been an increase in the number of respiratory illnesses reported both in the Republic of Cyprus and our own population.

#### **Let's protect each other, our families and the festive season by:**

- Practicing good hand & respiratory hygiene to stop the spread of bugs. (Wash hands for min 20 seconds with soap and warm water; catch coughs & sneezes in a tissue).
- Staying at home (away from work / school / events) if you are feeling unwell.
- Performing an LFD before attending events (recommended).



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## Headteacher's Surgery

On Friday 20th January 0900 - 1000 hrs, 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.

## Year 11 and 13 Parents' Afternoon

### Thursday 19th January 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@modschoools.org](mailto:Dave.Barber@modschoools.org)

## Upcoming School Events

### This Week

Thursday 19th January

Year 11 and 13 Parents Afternoon : 1430 - 1700 hrs

Friday 20th January

Headteacher Surgery 0830 - 1000 hrs

### Next Week

Tuesday 24th January

DCS Core Visit (Quality Assurance Exercise)

Friday 27th January

UCLAN - Year 9 Visit

Headteacher Surgery 0830 - 1000 hrs

SJS Coffee Morning 0800 - 1000 hrs

Bookings required via [SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org](mailto:SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org)