



# Newsletter

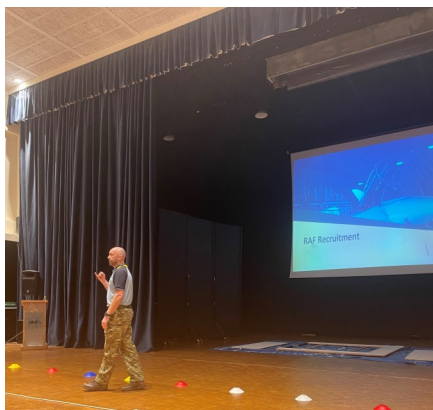
20th January 2023 | Issue 18



Ministry  
of Defence

Dear Families,

We are already at the half way point of this half term!



Thank you to the Royal Air Force for visiting students in our Sixth Form earlier this week. Our students benefitted from their participation in a wide variety of activities that promoted the practice of key skills sought by prospective employers. The visit also provided an insight into careers within the Royal Air Force, whilst also providing advice and guidance in making a successful application.



I enjoyed my personal opportunity to lead Monday's assembly at Episkopi Primary School. The students were fantastic and it was a great opportunity to underline our commitment to support, as a school in the wider community, and work more closely with other schools across BFC.

Students competed on Tuesday in a series of football matches away at King Richard School. Our teams performed well, winning three of their games and drawing two all. Student involvement was outstanding with 20% of our students taking part. Thank you to the students for their participation as sporting ambassadors of our school and to staff for providing this opportunity. Today there are further sporting fixtures as students play in a series of Volleyball matches.



Yesterday we held our second Parent Afternoon for Year 11 and 13, attendance was excellent, exceeding 80%. As you would expect the emphasis rests upon the final exam run in and what students must do to improve upon their mock exam grades. Every student is being challenged to improve upon their mock exam results by one whole grade, which will pull our two cohorts within reach of our ambitious progress target of 0.38 and place St John's School in the top 5% of schools nationally for student progress.

**Mr Colin Guyton** Acting Headteacher



# Newsletter

20th January 2023 | Issue 18



Ministry  
of Defence

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



This week in Science, Year 9 students investigated whether a piece of elastic obeyed Hooke's Law.

Positive staff wellbeing was promoted, with some of our staff trying their hand at playing the ukulele



Students in Year 9 this week practiced their rap compositions before performing them to the class and receiving evaluative feedback from their peers



# Newsletter

20th January 2023 | Issue 18



Ministry  
of Defence

## Year 11 and Year 13 Exam Dates

This week schools received final confirmation of examination dates for the Summer 2023 Exam Series. Students will receive bespoke exam timetables in April. Aware that families and our Year 11 and 13 students may be thinking about when they wish to leave Cyprus this summer, please be aware of the message below and the need for students to remain available until Wednesday 28 June 2023 to complete all of their exams

### Message from Joint Council for Qualifications

The awarding bodies have collectively agreed a contingency day for several years now which is always scheduled at the end of the GCSE, GCE AS and A level exam timetables.

The contingency day is in the event of national or significant local disruption to exams in the United Kingdom, being part of the awarding bodies' standard contingency planning for exams.

Following the Covid-19 pandemic, further resilience was needed within the exam timetables. A single contingency day was not felt to be sufficient if a national event or incident had a significant effect on the exam timetable. For example, summer exams could be affected by extremely high temperatures.

For the June 2023 exams, the awarding bodies have therefore introduced two additional half-day contingency sessions. These are on **Thursday 8 June 2023** and **Thursday 15 June 2023**. The standard contingency day remains at the end of the timetable being scheduled on **Wednesday 28 June 2023**.

Schools and colleges should ensure candidates and parents are aware of the contingency arrangements on these three days. They should consider the contingency day of Wednesday 28 June 2023 when making their plans for the summer.

**Candidates should be encouraged to remain available until Wednesday 28 June 2023 should examinations need to be rescheduled.**





# Newsletter

20th January 2023 | Issue 18



Ministry  
of Defence

## School Production



St John's School is about to stage its next big musical production. After too long of a break caused by Covid restrictions we are proud to be staging 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicoloured Dreamcoat.'

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is a tale that follows the journey of a dreamer. Joseph is the son of Jacob and one of twelve brothers. He is given a coat of many colours by his father, which is symbolic of his favour and an object of his brothers' jealousy. The brothers decide to sell Joseph into slavery after initially plotting to have him killed. Convincing their father that his favourite son has died, they reveal his tattered coat and believe that they are rid of him once and for all. From his homeland of Canaan, Joseph is taken to Egypt where he becomes the slave of Egyptian millionaire Potiphar and earns his trust. Managing his household, he soon has to ward off the affections of Potiphar's wife. Enraged and unwilling to assess the situation, Potiphar has Joseph thrown into jail where he interprets the dreams of his cellmates. The prisoners are awed by his hidden talents of interpretation and encourage Joseph to pursue dreams of his own.

Joseph's fortunes take a turn for the better as the Pharaoh hears rumours of his talent. Having strange recurring dreams about cows and ears of corn, the Pharaoh asks Joseph what his mysterious dreams could mean. Joseph determines that they are omens of a famine that will swipe the land in seven years. This foresight allows actions to be made to prevent devastation and grants Joseph a position as the second most powerful man in Egypt. Back in Canaan, Joseph's brothers are afflicted by starvation and regret their treatment of Joseph. Hearing of the prosperity of Egypt, they unknowingly ask for Joseph's help. He devises a test to see if his brothers have changed their ways, and finally reveals himself donning his Technicolor dreamcoat once again.

We launched the show in assembly on Tuesday and immediately caused lots of excitement amongst students and even lots of the staff have been trying to get in on the act! Auditions will take place next Wednesday and Thursday from 2.00pm – 3.00pm. All students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 are welcome. Students will need to sing a short song of their own choice and also sing with others. They may also be asked to perform a short section of the show alongside other students.

We have some very talented students at St John's School and we look forward to seeing them perform in May. More details about dates, times and tickets will be issued soon.



# Newsletter

20th January 2023 | Issue 18

Ministry  
of Defence

## Recruitment Update

As I previously shared we have been successful in recruiting a number of new staff with appointments made at interviews in July and November. I am pleased that the onboarding process has been proceeding at pace and with the support of colleagues at DCS and DBS, we are expecting a number of new staff to arrive by the Summer Term. In the table below I have tried to detail the anticipated start dates.

Position	Appointed	Anticipated Start Date
Science	July 2022	April 2023
History	July 2022	February 2023
Psychology	July 2022	April 2023
Computing	November 2022	September 2023
Maths	November 2022	February 2023
Design Technology	November 2022	April 2023

Upon arrival, new staff will take on their new timetables, which will include the opportunity to team teach with existing staff exam classes to ensure continuity in the run up to their final exams in May, whilst adding capacity and support for bespoke interventions.



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)



# Newsletter

20th January 2023 | Issue 18



Ministry  
of Defence

## 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 20 <sup>th</sup> 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 31 <sup>st</sup> 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 17 <sup>th</sup> into Saturday 18 March	D of E Bronze Qualifying Exped	Both days all day



# Newsletter

20th January 2023 | Issue 18

## 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).



# Newsletter

20th January 2023 | Issue 18



Ministry  
of Defence

## SJS Coffee Mornings

On Friday 27 January 0830—1000 hrs, 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](mailto: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.

**Safeguarding Provision**

Safeguarding provision is **'exemplary'** and supports other MOD Schools in improving their provision.

**Attendance**

Student attendance is **above 95%**, exceeding the national average.

**Educational Offer**

The educational offer is consistently **'Good'** ensuring St John's School ranks in the **Top 5%** of schools nationally for student progress.

**Community Pride**

The community is **proud** of St John's School, celebrating the strengths and successes of a school which exceeds their child's previous school experience.

**ST JOHN'S SCHOOL**

**Eliminating educational disadvantage caused by mobility**

**Student Mobility**

St John's School is a centre of best practice; eliminating educational disadvantage caused by mobility. **Student progress exceeds 0.38**

**Staff Wellbeing**

Staff at St John's School feel valued and motivated by a shared moral purpose. There is a collective sense of achievement. **Employee turnover is less than 5%**

**Student Satisfaction**

Students are **highly satisfied** at St John's School, possessing an attitude towards their learning that exceeds that of all other students nationally.

## Upcoming School Events

### This Week

Tuesday 24th January

DCS Core Visit (Quality Assurance Exercise)

Friday 27th January

UCLAN—Year 9 Visit

SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000 hrs

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

### Next Week

Tuesday 31st January

Trampolining Festival

Wednesday 1st February

Post 16 Options Evening : 1430—1600 hrs

Friday 3rd February

Headteacher Surgery 0830—1000 hrs