

Ministry of Defence

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Dear Families,

It is half term. Where did those six weeks go? Wherever this half term takes you and your family, I hope you have an enjoyable one and manage to stay warm!

This week, like each week of the past term has been a busy one. The week began with a sizeable St John's School delegation at this year's Model United Nations Conference, which took place in Nicosia. Our students debated topical issues to arrive at a resolution



with delegates from schools across the Cyprus and wider Eastern Mediterranean region. Our GCSE Food Technology students undertook their practical exam on Thursday, whilst other students from across the school embarked upon their residential Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award. On Friday as the term drew to a close the school came together to support Mental Health UK and raise money for this important charity as students wore a different pair shoes to their school shoes as they considered how it would be to spend a day in someone else's shoes. Initiated by Lauren in our Sixth Form the aim was to promote empathy and understanding surrounding mental health and the challenges people face when accessing the support they need.

This week also brought together members of our School Governing Committee. On Wednesday the sixteen members from across Akrotiri and Episkopi met to discuss the school's progress towards its school improvement priorities and shape our next steps. Governors have been a proactive and strong presence in our school, whilst also conveying the concerns of the community. Wednesday's meeting gave opportunity for the Chair to ratify our revised Anti-Bullying Policy, which was circulated on Thursday and outlines how the school swiftly addresses incidences of bullying through the appropriate use of education, support and sanction. This revised policy can be found on our website.

Having acted as Headteacher of St John's School over these past six months, I am grateful and extremely proud of the opportunity to have been appointed as the Substantive Headteacher following my interview on Monday. Over the past six weeks, I am pleased to have set the strategic direction that lays out our journey of whole school improvement. As I reflected in my Christmas Newsletter, we have made significant early strides and, although there will always be much to do, I am pleased to have the mandate and support of my colleagues, students, parents and wider stake holders to drive further improvements that ensure we realise our moral purpose of eliminating educational disadvantage caused by mobility.

Mr Colin Guyton Headteacher



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This week at St John's School in pictures





















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This week at St John's School in pictures





GCSE Food Technology

Students this week undertook their final GCSE Practical Exam serving up some delicious food.







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This week at St John's School in pictures













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This week at St John's School in pictures







Auction Winner

You may recall that prior to the Christmas
Holidays we had our termly Reward
Auction. I was pleased to deliver on my
promise of a chocolate cake provided in
lesson for our winning bidder, Isla, and her
class!



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This week at St John's School in pictures





Mental health UK Friday 10th February



Wear your own shoes

Lets walk through this together!



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E-Safety Coffee Morning

I was extremely proud of the expert knowledge, advice and guidance provided by students from St John's School, as they supported pupils and parents at Episkopi Primary School on how to stay safe online.







Useful Resources

www.childline.org.uk
www.safewise.com
www.nspcc.org.uk
www.internetmatters.org
www.saferinternet.org.uk



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Model United Nations Conference - Nicosia

The students from St John's put their hard work and training over the last few months to use when they attended the MediMUN full conference in Nicosia on Friday and Saturday, the 3rd and 4th of February.

Over the two days St Johns students took part in the creation of resolutions to solve some of the world's most pressing problems form the creation of political extremism through social media to the reproductive rights of women around the world.

This involved working with students from over thirty other schools to create resolutions, negotiate and merge resolutions with the students from other schools representing the countries of the UN. (St John students were acting as representatives of one of Azerbaijan, Myanmar and Switzerland).

Once this had been completed, the teams of countries that had merged their resolutions together had to present their resolutions to the whole UN General Assembly, answer questions and win the votes necessary to get their resolutions passed.

It was St John's most successful MediMUN with members of the St John's 6th Form being involved in getting four of their resolutions passed, a really extremely impressive achievement and something that we have not achieved before.

From the staff point of view, it was a privilege to take such a positive, pleasant group of young people away. It was also a genuine pleasure to see our young people move from being, understandably, a bit nervous at the start of the first day to being confident and combative in the negotiations and presentations in the General Assembly of the MediMUN. Finally, the students' ability to eat almost everything of the meze at the Lebanese restaurant where we had the Friday team meal was also most impressive!!!

My thanks to Phil Dakin for giving up his time to drive and supervise on the weekend and Mrs Glencross for attending both the training day, the full conference and also being a key member of after school preparation sessions, before and after Christmas, to make sure that the students were ready for the main conference. Their help was most appreciated by myself and the students.

Mr Strang





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Model United Nations Conference - Nicosia











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Volunteers Wanted

As you will now be aware, St John's School is soon to stage it's next big musical theatre production. It's been a number of years since we last saw our talented actors, dancers and singers take to the stage and we are certain the results of all the hard work we are about to put in will be well worth it. Tickets will go on sale in April and we advise that you get yours quickly to avoid disappointment. 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicoloured Dreamcoat' promises to be one of the biggest shows we have ever staged.

Staging a full-scale musical production is a very involved and complex task and we are now looking for volunteers from our supportive community of parents and carers to help us. We will need help with:

- Creating costumes.
- Set construction and painting
- Front of House on the evenings of the show.
- Publicity and ticket sales.
- Stage management and back-stage supervision

If any parents/carers or friends of the school want to get involved in whatever way you can please email Stephen.Dixon@modschools.org and we will get back to you. You don't have to commit to a huge number of hours but your help in any way would be greatly appreciated.





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Walking to School

Please can I encourage parents of children who walk to school from the Lionheart Estate to avoid crossing at the Tank Roundabout near to the main gate into camp. There is a crossing just up from the roundabout and students are requested to use the crossing, as opposed to crossing the roundabout. Students have been notified through a whole school assembly.



Primary School Car Park

It has been reported that increasing numbers of parents are dropping their children to school by driving into the Episkopi Primary School car park. Please can I ask that students are dropped off outside of the primary school at the Youth Centre. This will help reduce congestion and the potential for injury.

Science Health and Safety Review



I am pleased that our Science Faculty successfully participated in a review of practice during the early part of this week. The review was to confirm that the faculty and school conforms to, and works within, the statutory guidelines to ensure students and staff are kept safe when undertaking practical experiments.

Year 9 Parents' Afternoon

Thursday 23rd February 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 Headteacher's 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



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Black PE Shorts and Football Socks

St John's PE T-Shirts

Tailored Grey Trousers

School Uniform for Key Stage 3 and 4





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Personal Social Health Education

Next Term:

Core Theme 3 - Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

In the next term during PSHE lessons your child will be learning about relationships and sex education which supports children and young people to stay safe, enjoy positive relationships of all kinds, and make informed decisions. The PSHE programme of study aims to ensure that young people in St John's school stay safe and help them make informed decisions.

Our Relationships Education programme will help your child build positive foundations for healthy and safe relationships of all kinds. This will include family and friends, how to be kind, and exploring online friendships.

In Key Stages 3, 4, and 5 your child's PSHE education will include learning about respectful relationships, families, contraception and parenthood, understanding consent, staying safe online, recognising unhealthy or abusive behaviours, and healthy intimate and sexual relationships.

Every lesson is accessible from the Google classroom for you to further explore with your child. If you have not already joined the class, please accept the invitation you have received or contact your child's PSHE teacher who will be able to resend the invitation.

If you have any further questions regarding your child's PSHE lessons, please do not hesitate to contact their teacher directly, or alternatively contact: Tina Chilman, Head of PSHE and Careers tina.chilman@modschools.org





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Should I keep my

child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scables	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek





Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit https://qrco.de/minfec.





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Headteacher's Surgery— Akrotiri Hive

On Friday 24th February 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.

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.

The next Headteacher's Surgery will take place at the Akrotiri Hive



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

Upcoming School Events

This Week

Monday 20th February School Closed—Staff Training day

Thursday 23rd February Year 9 Parent Afternoon: 1430 —1700 hrs

Friday 24th February Headteacher Surgery: 0900 —1000 hrs

Next Week

Friday 3rd March SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000 hrs

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschools.org