



# Newsletter

23rd June 2023 | Issue 36



Dear Families,



The public exam series for all students in Year 11 and Year 13 came to a close this week. To mark the end of this year's Summer Exam Series, I was extremely proud to share in the celebration of their hard work and effort on Wednesday afternoon at our Annual Leavers and Awards Ceremony. This year our event took place at RAF Akrotiri as we continue to find ways to deliver upon our whole school improvement priority that is to ensure our community is proud of St John's School and can celebrate in the strengths and successes of our Western Sovereign Base School. As your feedback confirms, the event was a wonderful occasion and considered by one retired member of staff in attendance as one of the best in the past 51 years.



On Thursday the celebratory feel surrounding the school at this time of year continued with the Year 11 Prom. Thank you once more to the Hillview Restaurant and Hotel which hosted this year's event. All in attendance had an outstanding time and it was incredible to see how mature and grown up our young people presented in their suits and gowns.



Elsewhere this week there has been more to celebrate at St John's School. On Tuesday students competed in Dhekelia against King Richard School in this year's Inter School Swimming Gala. Despite a narrow loss overall, we were able to celebrate a close competition with some closely contested heats.



As I compose today's newsletter, we have been joined by members of the 1 Lancs, who are kindly supporting our school wide celebration of this year's Armed Forces Day. I hope to see many of you at the weekend's celebrations in Happy Valley and thank you all for your service.

**Mr Colin Guyton** Headteacher



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## This week at St John's School

### St John's School Annual Awards Afternoon







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## This week at St John's School

### Year 11 Prom







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## Armed Forces Day 2023



Thank you to the 1 Lancs who supported our celebrations of this year's Armed Forces Day.

On Tuesday Lt Col Rob Carr led our whole school assembly outlining the importance of Armed Forces Day and the work of the 1 Lancs here in Cyprus and over the past 12 months.



Tuesday's assembly was followed up on Friday by a visit from the 1 Lancs who showcased some of an assortment of equipment to all of our students and many from the primary school.



Friday also saw our Cadets attend school in uniform, providing us with an opportunity to celebrate their service publicly at school.

On behalf of all of us here at St John's School, thank you to you all for your service, whether serving, a veteran, reservist, a cadet, Civil Servant or a family member, we are collectively grateful for your contribution to the work of our UK Armed Forces in defending the UK and its interests.





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## Year 8 Mathematics

On Monday 10 July, Year 8 will sit their end of year examination in Mathematics. We will use this examination data alongside the Progress Tests that they are to complete in the coming weeks to determine which set they will be placed in in Year 9.

The assessment is 90 minutes long and all students will complete the same assessment so that we can standardise the scores across the year group.

All students with examination access arrangements; including extra time, readers and scribes will have these available to them.

As a department we appreciate that there have been some unavoidable changes to classes and teachers this year and we would like to use these assessments to ensure that this is not the case next year, and that each one of our students is placed in the correct group from September and receives high quality, consistent teaching across the whole of the year.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with me at [Kimberley.Fox@modschoools.org](mailto:Kimberley.Fox@modschoools.org)



School  
Leavers



## Leavers - Year 7 to 12

As we start our final term of this academic year, we are actively planning our transition into the new academic year of 2023/24.

As we know, being part of the military community means we see a lot of movement in the summer and unfortunately have to say goodbye to a lot of our families. If you know you will be leaving us before the new academic year, please can you inform the School Office as soon as possible. This will help us ensure that your child has a smooth transition to their new school and all the information required is prepared and ready to send across to them. This also includes children in Year 11. If you are unsure of exact dates, or currently do not have a school confirmed, please still complete the form as these details can be added at a later time.

If you have any queries regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Parkinson on 00357 2596 3888 or alternatively you can email at [Kate.Parkinson@modschoools.org](mailto:Kate.Parkinson@modschoools.org).



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## Changes to our assessment and reporting approach at Key Stage 3

The way we set targets and monitor progress will be changed for the start of next year as we overhaul the pathway system. This overhaul comes following discussion with all participating stakeholders, who have raised concerns around the understanding of the current pathway system, its suitability and accuracy in tracking and reporting progress.

From September, each student will be given a target for each subject separately based on previous results at KS2 and the CATs\* assessments they do on arrival. The targets will be focused towards the GCSE exam targets.

There will be three target bands as follows:

- ⇒ **Foundation** - for students who will be expected to achieve target grade 3-5 at GCSE
- ⇒ **Intermediate** - for students who will be expected to achieve target grade 7-9 at GCSE
- ⇒ **Higher** – for students who will be expected to achieve target grade 7-9 at GCSE

The target should not limit the possibility of aiming higher. All students will be expected to work hard to achieve or exceed their target! There will be opportunities in the next school year to discuss this with your teachers.

\*CATs stands for Cognitive Abilities Tests. They are designed to assess a pupil's ability in three different areas: verbal (thinking with words); quantitative (thinking with numbers); and non-verbal (thinking with shapes and space).

Further information will follow in the coming weeks, again in the new academic year and together with future target setting information and reporting.

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## Year 10 and 12 End of year exam results and reports

Next week students in Year 10 and 12 begin their end of year examinations. Upon completion we will be releasing their results along with their end of year reports on the following dates:

- Year 12 on Friday 14th July at 1330hrs in the school hall
- Year 10 on Tuesday 18th July at 1330hrs in the school hall.

You are invited to come to a session to collect the results with your son/daughter. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions or discuss the next steps.





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## ARMED FORCES DAY

Recognising all those that serve or have served in HM Armed Forces

# 2023

TUNNEL BEACH WATERSPORTS CENTRE - MTW

Date

# 24 JUNE

(SATURDAY)

0900 - 1230 AFD ACTIVITIES & GAMES

1230 - 1600 AFD BAND & BAR SHOW

Cultural Tour | Towed Inflatables | Paddleboarding | Sit-On-Kayaks

Sandcastle Competition | Volleyball Competition

Kids Assault Course | Fun Games

Charities - RDA, SSAFA & RBL | Face Painting

Food Trucks | Refreshments | Ice Cream Van

Open to Episkopi & Akrotiri Personnel, Veterans, LECs, Non-Pass Holders, Family Members & Close Friends

FREE COACH



Timings & pick up points TBC

Special  
Appearances

Cyprus Flyboarding

&

Mid Life Crisis Band

FREE ENTRY!



For more info:  [Philip.Edwards369@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Philip.Edwards369@mod.gov.uk)



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BY KIND PERMISSION OF THE  
STATION COMMANDER

**RAF Akrotiri Voluntary Band presents**

## SUMMER CONCERT

WITH AKROTIRI AND EPISKOPI  
MILITARY WIVES CHOIRS  
& CHILDREN FROM ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

**WEDNESDAY 5TH JULY, 2023  
7:30PM**

*ST JOHN'S SCHOOL, AMPHITHEATRE,  
EPISKOPI*

**ADULTS: €5      UNDER 12 YEARS OLD: FREE  
BFC PASSHOLDERS ONLY**

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON THE DOOR  
AND AT THE HIVE (AKROTIRI AND EPISKOPI)







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## St John's School Art Department GCSE and A Level Art Exhibition



Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June, will see the official opening of the GCSE and A level exhibition. Why not come and join us in the Art Department between 1530 and 1700, for light refreshments and the opportunity to view the outstanding work produced by our Year 11 and 13 students.

We look forward to seeing you.



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## SJS Coffee Mornings

On Friday 30th June 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@modschoools.org](mailto:SJS.Enquiries@modschoools.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.



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

## Upcoming School Events

### This Week

All Week

Year 10 and 12 Mock Examinations A-Level, GCSE and BTEC Exams

Key Stage 3 Progress Tests in English, Maths and Science

Tuesday 27th June

Peer Review to be undertaken by colleagues at King Richard School

Thursday 28th June

Key Stage 3 Inter School Water Polo Competition

Art Exhibition, open to the community

Friday 30th June

SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000 hrs

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

### Next Week

All Week

Year 10 and 12 Mock Examinations A-Level, GCSE and BTEC Exams

Key Stage 3 Progress Tests in English, Maths and Science

Wednesday 5th July

RAF Akrotiri Voluntary Band Summer Concert hosted by SJS @ 1930hrs

Thursday 6th July

Year 6 Transition Day 1

Friday 7th July

Year 6 Transition Day 2

SJS Headteacher's Surgery @ Akrotiri Hive : 0900hrs—1000 hrs