



# Newsletter

29th September 2023 | Issue 44



Ministry  
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Dear Families,

We have already reached the midway point of this half term. The term continues with purpose both in and outside of the classroom. This week the school came together to celebrate [European Day of Languages](#), before our students successfully competed against King Richard School in the Key Stage 3 Swimming Gala. Next week our Sixth Form geography students head off on their course residential and fieldwork studies. Tuesday also sees our students compete against their peers in the UK in this year's Senior Maths Challenge - we wish them well. As you will read in this week's newsletter we have also found time to



co-construct educational offer around our new whole school values of **Integrity, Commitment and Respect** in the form of our **Pedagogy Wheel**. I am grateful to all of our students and staff who together have crafted this guiding model and contributed to our new Teaching and Learning approach and policy.

## Upcoming School Events

### This Week

All Week

Monday 2nd October

Tuesday 3rd October

Wednesday 4th October

Thursday 5th October

Year 12 and 13 Geography Residential

Berlin Wall Unity Day

Inter School Swimming Gala : 1130—1500hrs

Senior Mathematics Challenge

HPV Vaccinations

Headteacher's Surgery @ Akrotiri Hive 0900—1000hrs

DCS School Assurance Visit

### Next Week

Tuesday 10th October

Wednesday 11th October

Thursday 12th October

HPV Vaccinations

Fiji Day

Year 11 and 13 Parent Afternoon : 1430—1700hrs

School Governors Meeting

SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000 hrs

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

Parent Forum @ St John's School : 1500—1600hrs



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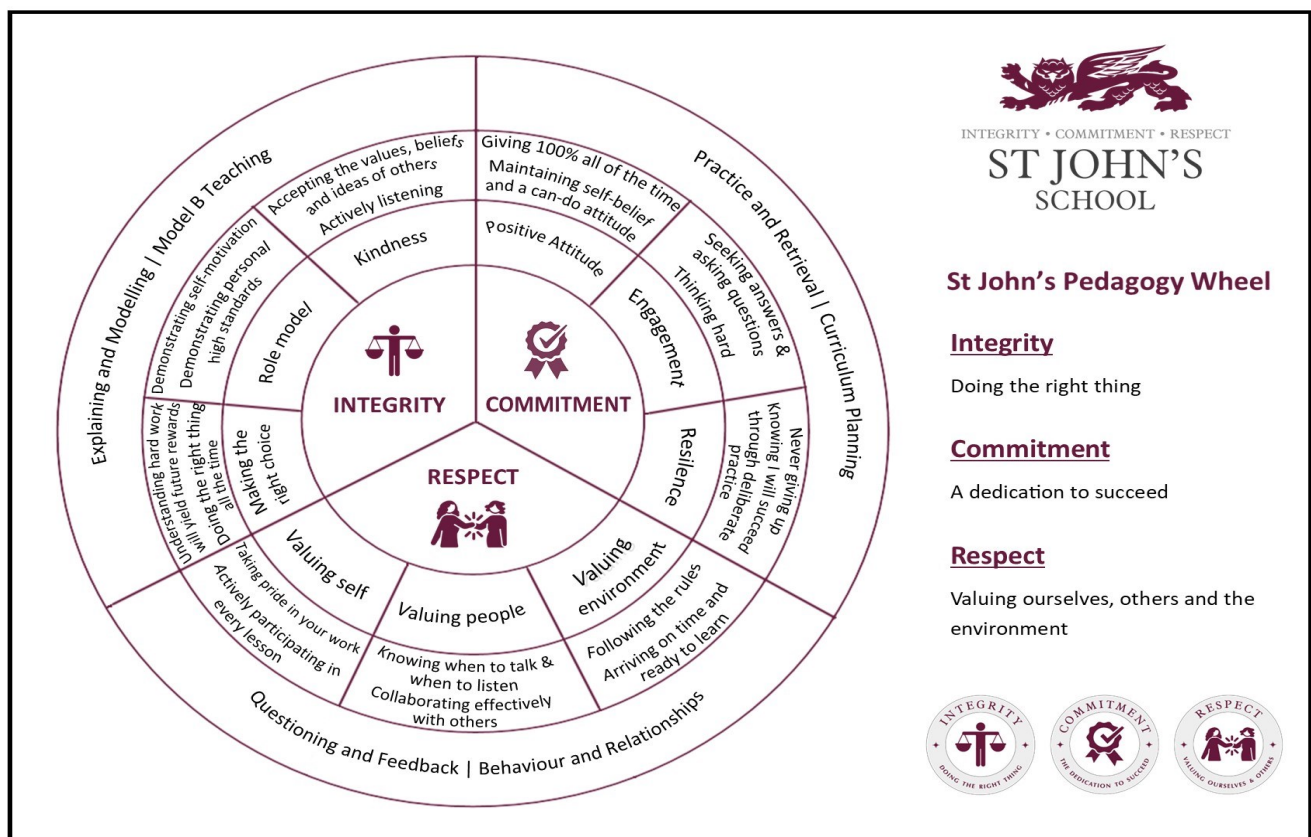
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## Our Values and Educational Offer

In a recent external school visit the understanding of our new school values and the students' articulation of them received praise. I have been both surprised and encouraged at the speed in which they have been adopted and utilised throughout daily life in our school. As mentioned in a previous newsletter edition, it is my ambition to embed our three values **Integrity, Commitment and Respect** into every aspect of school life. This ambition began with a community consultation that explored how our values underpin our educational offer.

Starting on our September Inset day, teachers considered the **principles** that are associated with our values and would go onto underpin school life. The students in year group assemblies then considered their **learning behaviours** needed to demonstrate our three values. Finally, the **pedagogy** needed to support our learners to adopt their identified learning behaviours, the three values and their identified principles were explored. The process has culminated in our **Pedagogy Wheel** that illustrates our whole school co-constructed approach to embedding our values and providing educational offer rooted in current educational research and best practice. Our Student Leadership Team will now use our wheel to identify the St John's School Student Charter, whilst I will work with colleagues to establish our St John's School Staff Charter





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## Year 11 and 13 Parents' Afternoon

**Monday 10th October 1430—1700hrs**

We look forward to welcoming parents of our Year 11 and 13 students into school for their first parent afternoon of this academic year. The afternoon will give you an opportunity, along with your child, to meet their teachers in a series of 1:1 meetings. The focus of each meeting will hinge upon their recent exam performance following the July Mock Examinations and how they can improve upon their grades between now and the December Mock Examinations.

Appointments must be made in advance of the Parent Afternoon. Appointments can only be made through our new Parent Portal, EPraise. The appointment book will open on Monday 2nd October at Midday.

Please ensure you have registered to use EPraise, either via the website or App in advance of Monday 2nd October. Instructions on how to do so can be found in early editions of the weekly newsletter.

Once registered, to make your appointments, please visit the Community Tab after Midday on Monday 10th October and select Parents' Evening. You can then follow the prompts to make appointments for your child's teachers.

### 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)



[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



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## Headteacher's Surgery - Akrotiri Hive



On Thursday 5th July 0900—1000 hrs, parents and/or members of the BFC community are welcome to drop into the Akrotiri Hive, 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 may be 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.

## Parent Forum

On Thursday 12th October 2023 at 1500hrs I will be hosting this year's first Parent Forum. Running once each half term, parents are cordially invited to attend. Each forum will look to explore new initiatives, policy and/or issues affecting St John's School.

This term's Parent Forum will take place at St John's School in the Teaching and Learning Room.

Each Parent Forum alternates between St John's School and Akrotiri Primary School and the dates for this year's Forums are:

Date	Venue	Time
Thursday 12th October 2023	St John's School	1500—1600
Thursday 7th December 2023	Akrotiri Primary School	1500—1600
Thursday 8th February 2024	St John's School	1500—1600
Thursday 21st March 2024	Akrotiri Primary School	1500—1600
Thursday 23rd May 2024	St John's School	1500—1600
Thursday 11th July 2024	Akrotiri Primary School	1500—1600



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## St John's School Writers

Next week, we will celebrate National Poetry Day on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October. The theme of this year's national event is **refuge** and we are inviting all St John's School students to submit a poem as part of an in-house poetry competition. Please see EPraise for details of the task and how to share your entry. We look forward to reading your submissions!

In this week's student article, Bobby in Y11 discusses the proposal to expand the number of teams allowed to participate in the FIFA World Cup.

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### Should the FIFA World Cup be Expanded to Include 48 Teams?

The debate around the changes to the FIFA World Cup has sparked intense conversations and controversy and it is crucial that we carefully examine both sides of the argument. So, let us dive into the reasons why the World Cup shouldn't and should be increased to 48 teams.

For each continent the number of teams that can qualify have been increased with:

AFC (Asia) – eight places (up from 4.5)

Caf (Africa) – nine places (up from 5)

Concacaf (North and Central America) – six places, of which three go to hosts (up from 3.5)

Conmebol (South America) – six places (up from 4.5)

OFC (Oceania) – one place (up from 0.5)

Uefa (Europe) – 16 places (up from 13)

How this format will work we're unsure of as it could present one of two possibilities: The first being a format of 16 groups of three. This has previously been tried during the 1982 World Cup with groups of three, where Austria had already qualified and Germany needed a win to qualify for the round of 16. With them playing against each other on the last match day, both teams could controversially qualify for the round of sixteen making it so that Algeria would be knocked out of the World Cup. This was changed to what we know today.

Option 2 is 12 groups of four, using a preliminary round against other teams who finished third to decide who goes to the round of 32. This is the best option as it's how the world cup has been played for over twenty years.

Firstly, allow me to present the case against expanding the World Cup. The tournament in its current format is a historical masterpiece being like this for over 20 years with the number of participating teams increasing over time. It began as 16 teams from 1930 to 1982 with an expansion to 24, then in 1998 it changed to what we know as 32 teams. The 32-team structure ensures a high level of competition and quality. It brings together the footballing talent from around the globe, providing us with the ultimate display of skill and sportsmanship. This brilliance could be lost if the World Cup is expanded to 48 nations. It could lead to matches with imbalanced teams and a lower overall standard of play, potentially compromising the integrity and excitement that fans have come to expect.





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## St John's School Writers

### Should the FIFA World Cup be Expanded to Include 48 Teams? Cont...

However, let us now explore why the World Cup should indeed be expanded to 48 teams. Football is a global phenomenon, uniting people across continents, cultures, and backgrounds. Expanding the tournament would offer more countries the opportunity to participate, therefore promoting diversity within the sport. It would enable nations with emerging footballing talent to showcase their abilities on the grandest stage, fostering growth and development within their domestic football structures.

Also, an expanded World Cup would enhance the tournament's global reach and economic impact. Football is not just a sport; it is an industry that drives economies and generates significant revenue. By including more teams, FIFA can tap into new markets, attracting larger audiences and increasing the tournament's commercial value. This would create new opportunities for sponsors, broadcasters, and businesses associated with the World Cup, injecting vitality into local economies and providing a boost to the sport as a whole.

On top of that, a larger World Cup would promote greater engagement and enthusiasm among fans. Imagine the passion and pride of a nation when they witness their team qualifying for the World Cup for the first time. It ignites a sense of unity and excitement, inspiring the next generation of footballers and fans. Expanding the tournament ensures that more nations have a chance to experience this remarkable journey, which ultimately strengthens the global football community.

However, in my own opinion, the increase from 32 teams to 48 teams is an unnecessary change as it's perfect the way it is. From my own experience watching the World Cups, it plays out well with its structure. With an increase from 64 matches to 104 matches I believe this format is used to make more money from the viewership of these games.

In conclusion, the decision to expand the World Cup to 48 teams requires careful consideration of both the advantages and potential drawbacks. While some argue that the current 32-team structure preserves the tournament's prestige and quality, others advocate for inclusivity, economic growth, and the promotion of football worldwide. It is up to FIFA and the footballing community to weigh these factors thoughtfully and make a decision that best aligns with the values and aspirations of the sport. Let us remember that the essence of the World Cup lies not just in the number of teams but in the joy, passion, and friendships it brings to billions around the globe.





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## Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

The School Health Team will be delivering the HPV vaccination in school on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Please can we ask parents/carers of students in Year 8 to complete your child's Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine consent form by 02/10/2023. You can do this by following this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/Qd0ZAUFbNQ>

Details of the HPV vaccination can be found at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine/>

If you have any additional questions please contact your School Nurse, Mrs Martin-Bates, whose email is:

[cressida.martin-bates299@mod.gov.uk](mailto:cressida.martin-bates299@mod.gov.uk)



## Attendance

Our whole school attendance currently stands at 97.3% and stands above our whole school target of 96%, which is the expectation set by the UK Government. Thank you for your ongoing support of our school and your child in ensuring excellent school attendance.

Should there ever be a time where your child is unable to attend school, please email [SJS.Attendance@modschools.org](mailto:SJS.Attendance@modschools.org)



100% attendance – the very best chance of success. Well done if you currently have 100% attendance!



95%+ attendance – your attendance is good; well done and keep it up! Can you manage 100% attendance for a whole term?



93%+ attendance – try to improve on this, week by week. Intervention and support in school will be taking place.



Less than 93% - you should work hard to **immediately** improve your attendance. If you have any concerns, speak to your tutor. We will support you in any way we can.