



# Newsletter

6th October 2023 | Issue 45



Ministry  
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Dear Families,

It has been a busy week at St John's School. Our 6th Form Geographers spent the week in and around the Avakas Gorge completing their fieldwork activities that are a compulsory part of their A-Level course. I was fortunate to join them for dinner on Tuesday and together with the photos (to follow) they clearly had a great time. At school, on Monday



we hosted King Richard School for our annual interschool swimming gala - well done to all who competed for both schools. This event was the first organised and run by our new Student Leaders, who were fantastic. Elsewhere, students studying German celebrated German Unity Day in style, arriving in school in German National Dress, whilst students in the upper school took part in the national Senior Mathematics Challenge.



## Upcoming School Events

### This Week

**Tuesday 10th October**

**HPV Vaccinations**

**Fiji Day**

**Year 11 and 13 Parent Afternoon : 1430—1700hrs**

**Wednesday 11th October**

**School Governors Meeting**

**Thursday 12th October**

**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**

**Friday 13th October**

**Fiji Day Celebrations**

### Next Week

**Monday 16th October**

**SJS : External School Quality Assurance Visit—Day 1**

**Tuesday 17th October**

**SJS : External School Quality Assurance Visit—Day 2**

**Thursday 19th October**

**Never Such Innocence—Workshops providing a voice on conflict**

**Friday 20th October**

**Headteacher's Surgery @Akrotiri Hive 0900—1000hrs (Cancelled)**



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## Sixth Form Geography Residential and Fieldwork



## Fiji Day — Tuesday 10th October

Fiji Day, the celebration of Fiji's Independence, is fast approaching. To celebrate this day and let students get a taste of Fiji's culture, the **Community Student Committee** have organised food for our students during second break on Friday 13th October.

The food being offered will be food most Fijians eat on a day to day basis and will also include a range of sweet treats. Cake and desserts will range from 50 cent to €2 whereas the main meals will either be portions equal to the Snack Shack for €2.50 or larger portions for €5 consist of a main dish with a side portion of rice. The price charged will cover the costs of the ingredients with any profits being saved for future school initiatives to be organised by the Student Leadership Team.





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## External Quality Assurance Visit

On Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th October St John's School will be visited by an educational consultant. The consultant is a former secondary Headteacher and an experienced and practicing Ofsted Inspector who has worked extensively with secondary schools in England.

The educational consultant will work with the senior leadership teams of King Richard School and St John's School as well as their respective middle leaders to help prepare for a future school inspection through the use of the current Ofsted Framework. This external quality assurance visit is independent of any provided by the Department of Children's Services and will help to evaluate, and then shape, our trajectory of school improvement.

The quality assurance visit will focus upon what is happening in lessons through lesson visits and subsequent conversations with students. After school hours there will be an in-depth focus on our school's safeguarding practices and SEND provision. The consultant will also meet with Curriculum Leaders and Governors.



As with an Ofsted Inspection we are keen to formally capture the views of parents. On Monday 17th October between 1600 and 1700hrs the consultant will host a parent drop in session in the school hall, to which you are all cordially invited.

Should you be unable to visit you are encouraged to share your views of our school through the [Ofsted Parent View website](#). Should we have enough responses the consultant will be able to draw upon these views in her final report. The Ofsted Parent View website can be found [here](#). Upon visiting the website you will be asked to log in or create an account, which will take you to the page shown below - you can then find our school by typing 'Episkopi' into the 'Name of School' bar.

The screenshot shows the Ofsted Parent View website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, Give your views (highlighted), Ofsted Parent View results, My profile, Link to us, Log out, and Contact Us. Below the navigation bar, there is a link to 'Return to the main Ofsted website'. On the left side, there are three orange buttons: 'Terms of use', 'How to use Ofsted Parent View', and 'Preventing misuse'. The main content area is titled 'Give your views' and 'Search for schools'. It contains a text box for 'Name of school' with 'Episkopi' entered, and an empty text box for 'Address'. Below these are 'Search', 'Help', and 'Clear' buttons. At the bottom, there is a progress bar with steps: 'Quit survey' (with a close button), 'Your progress', 'Log-in', 'Search' (highlighted), 'Questions', and 'Finish'.





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## Grease—School Production

Congratulations to everyone who was casted in our upcoming school production of Grease, which will take to the St John's School stage in March 2024. The upcoming musical that involves 20% of our students follows the hugely successful production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat in May.

Rehearsals began this week for what is certain to be a popular series of shows and you're all invited so please save the date.



**SAVE THE DATE**

You are cordially invited to St John's School  
Production of  
**'GREASE'**

Tuesday 19th March, 2024  
Wednesday 20th March 2024  
Thursday 21 March 2024



[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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## 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

## Year 11 and 13 Parent's Afternoon

### Tuesday 10th October 1430—1700

Have you made your appointments? Appointments must be made in advance of the Parent Afternoon. Appoints can only be made through our Parent Portal, EPraise.



### Trouble Registering?

Should you encounter difficulties it is possible the email address we have for you is out of date. To update your email address or to notify us of difficulties please email Mr Barber who will gladly assist you in logging on. Mr Barber's email is [Dave.Barber@modschoools.org](mailto:Dave.Barber@modschoools.org)



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## St John's School Writers

This week, students have been celebrating National Poetry Day at St John's School. The theme of this year's national event is **refuge** and we are inviting all SJS students to submit a poem as part of an in-house poetry competition. It is not too late to enter!

Please email any submissions to [hharper@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com](mailto:hharper@stjohnsschoolcyprus.com) by Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October.

We look forward to sharing students' work next week.

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### Year 9 Gothic Writing

From a picture stimulus and starting sentence, Year 9 have produced some fantastic gothic settings.

The graveyard was eerie and still. The leaves were twisted, leaning and twisted over the dead bodies of loved ones. The graves stood as silent as the night sky. Clouds were seeping in between the cracks of the tree. My heart was pounding outside of my chest, my spine crawling. There was a sudden shrieking. A crow? A ghost? A human? I didn't know. Silence fell once again; it was deafening. I could feel the thick air around me. The taste was dry, almost as if pure death. I tiptoed over the graveyard feeling as if they were staring at me, as if they were screaming for help.

*Katie S*



The graveyard was eerie and still. The leaves were twisted, leaning over the pathway. The night was dark and misty. A solitary figure prowled elegantly amongst the graves. A white dress trailed along the floor but left not a whisper upon the fallen leaves. She knelt next to one of the crumbling, stone graves and sighed longingly. Her ghostly white hands reached out towards the grave: "I will revive you my love."

*Grace W*

The graveyard was eerie and still. The leaves were twisted, leaning over the pathway. The fog filled the night sky like the ash of a volcano. The hairs stood up on the back of my neck. The cold consumed me. With every step I took, I felt the misty ground below devour me. The smell of damp moss and rust attacked my nose. The back of my throat stung from the immense chill. The silence was deafening. I felt in a permanent state of anguish. I could feel every branch snap, every crow's croak.

Everything was out to get me.

*Charlie C*

The graveyard was eerie and still. The leaves were twisted, leaning over the pathway that was covered in moss. It was quiet. As quiet as an empty corridor. The rows of graves gave me a sense of mystery. The grey, ominous clouds started to rain. I looked around me and saw no way out. Like an endless maze, I ran along the cobbled path. Started to panic, my mind racing. Anguish rose up in my body. How did I even get here? As I look up, all I see are the dark and gloomy clouds pouring rain on my face.

*Lucas G*



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## Year 11 Extra Curricular Opportunities in English

There are two exciting opportunities for students in Year 11 to support them with their GCSE English courses. These opportunities are being provided as a series of extra curricular opportunities and, although not compulsory, students are strongly encouraged to attend as it will support them in their understanding of key literature texts.

### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October

The English and Drama faculty will be hosting a whole-play screening of the 2018 RSC production of 'Macbeth', featuring Christopher Ecclestone from the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> break through to 15:00hrs. We are strongly encouraging all Y11 students to attend and will be offering popcorn and a concessions stand during the event. The late bus will be running for students who live outside of Episkopi Station. We understand that some students may have after-school commitments outside of school and will release any students who need to leave at the end of the regular school day.

### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October

Students will be attending a live-streamed Royal Shakespeare Company lesson with the actors participating in the current UK production of 'Macbeth' and other schools across the UK. This will run towards the end of period 4 and through lunch into period 5, so we ask that students either purchase their lunch at first break or bring a packed lunch for that day. We will give them a second opportunity to eat following the live lesson at approximately 13:15.

We hope that these opportunities will enrich students' understanding and enjoyment of the play and give them opportunities in line with those of their UK peers.

