



# Newsletter

13th October 2023 | Issue 46



Ministry  
of Defence

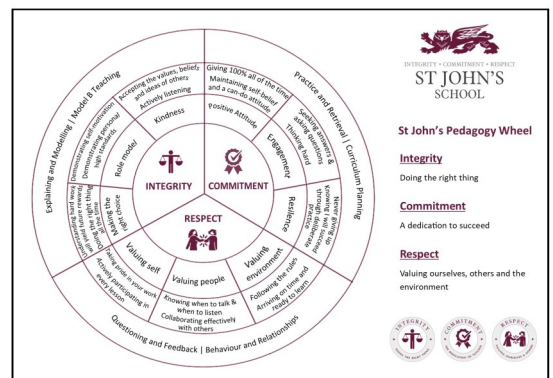
Dear Families,

We ended this week celebrating Fiji Day alongside our Fijian community. Organised by our Community Ambassadors we began the day in assembly, before having opportunity to enjoy a wide range of Fijian food prepared and brought into school by some of our parents. Enjoyed by all, the demand was terrific and I am grateful to everyone who came together to support this initiative, which illustrated our improvement priority associated with Community Pride.



Earlier in the week it was great to welcome parents of Year 11 and 13 to the first of their two parent afternoons. This event was extremely well attended with over 80% of our families meeting with teachers to review the end of year mock exam results and the first few weeks of term before looking ahead to the winter mock exam series.

Throughout the past week my colleague and deputy, Mr Steve Dixon, was in the UK, where he was working alongside colleagues from other DCS schools in developing a more consistent educational approach and strategy. I am proud to hear that our whole school approach, previously shared in a recent newsletter, was highly influential in developing this strategy and again illustrates how St John's School is being called upon as an example of best practice subsequently adopted by schools beyond Cyprus.



## Upcoming School Events

### This Week

**Monday 16th October**

**Tuesday 17th October**

**Thursday 19th October**

**Friday 20th October**

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

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

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

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

### Next Week

**Monday 23rd October**

**Thursday 26th October**

**Friday 27th October**

**Year 11 and 13 Information Evening : Preparing for Mock Examinations : 1500—1600hrs in our school hall.**

**SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000 hrs**

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

**School closes at 1400hrs for half term**



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## Fiji Day — Tuesday 10th October







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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 Tuesday 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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## German Unity Day

In 1990 West and East Germany officially unified after the fall of the Berlin Wall. This is celebrated each year on October 3rd.

To mark the occasion, Year 10 GSCE German students spent time learning about the Cold War, the division of Germany, both economically and politically, and eventual reunification. Flags, traditional costumes and football kits were all on display, and of course "Kaffee und Kuchen" were part of the refreshments. The students also helped out with a German taster lesson for a Year 7 class, where students learnt how to count to 20 and practised a short conversation introducing themselves. Thanks to previous postings in Germany some Year 7 students were able to share extra knowledge of the language and experiences of living in Germany.

Many thanks to all participants and also to the parents who sent in costumes from their extensive Oktoberfest fancy dress store!

Vielen Dank.

Frau Cambridge



[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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## Key Stage 3 Halloween School Disco

Tuesday 24th October 2023 @ 1800—2000hrs

Key Stage 3 students will be offered the opportunity to attend a School Disco in the St John's School amphitheatre on **Tuesday 24th October 2023 between 1800hrs and 2000hrs**. The event will involve a disco, games and a tuck shop with students being encouraged to take part in Halloween fancy dress. The disco will cost €2 for attendance and students should also bring money to buy from the tuck shop.

Students will need to be dropped at Episkopi Primary School car park and picked up from the same location. Collection and drop off for the event will be from the overflow car park next to the Youth Club. Please can you walk to collect your child from the Primary School gates.

In order to confirm attendance, students must complete the sign-up form on the QR code below prior to the event. This form will close on 20 October 2023.

For any queries or further information please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Gardiner by email: [Katie.Gardiner@modschoools.org](mailto:Katie.Gardiner@modschoools.org)







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## Autumn Exam Series : Timetable



### Exams Timetable

Autumn 2023

Date	Start	Exam Level	Time Allowed	Board	Option Code	Component
07/11/2023	11:00	GCSE	105 mins	AQA	8700/1	8700/1: English Language Paper 1
08/11/2023	11:00	GCSE	90 mins	Edexcel GCSE	1MA1F/1F	1MA1F (1MA1 1F): Mathematics Option F (Non Calculator (f))
09/11/2023	11:00	GCSE	105 mins	AQA	8700/2	8700/2: English Language Paper 2
10/11/2023	11:00	GCSE	90 mins	Edexcel GCSE	1MA1F/2F	1MA1F (1MA1 2F): Mathematics Option F (Calculator (f))
13/11/2023	11:00	GCSE	90 mins	Edexcel GCSE	1MA1F/3F	1MA1F (1MA1 3F): Mathematics Option F (Calculator (f))

This exam series is for students looking to retake either GCSE English and/or Mathematics to improve their grade and/or achieve a Grade 4 or above. Students to whom this applies will have already been notified and will receive an individualised timetable.

## St John's School Writers

Last week, we celebrated National Poetry Day at St John's School and the theme was **refuge**. We are delighted to announce our winners for this year's in-house poetry competition and we hope that you enjoy reading the thought-provoking work that follows on the final pages of this weeks newsletter.

**First place:** 'Refuge' by Denzel A-B (Y11)

**Second place:** 'Where I Feel Safe' by Ava W (Y7)

**Third place:** 'Migrant' by Ava M-M (Y7).





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## St John's School Writers

### Migrant

The bombs drop

The tanks boom

The people die

The survivors flee with a glimpse of hope

The journey starts, it's longer than most

No house to call home

No one to call friend

Will this tragedy ever end?

We stand here today, tall and true

We have people who stick to our heart like glue

But people still see us as Muslims or Jews

Christians or Hindus

Or people who are out of place in this world

Ava M-M (Y7)

*This poem was inspired by the book "The power of Welcome" which is a graphic novel about real-life refugees and migrants' journeys around the world. This book was illustrated by Ada Jusic (who is one of the refugees herself. She travelled from Bosnia and Herzegovina) and has a lot of information about different countries.*





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## St John's School Writers

### Where I Feel Safe

I feel safe at home,  
Because my family is there.  
All the love is spread around,  
They always show they care.

I feel safe with my friends,  
They are always really kind.  
Even when I'm crazy,  
They never seem to mind.

I feel safe at school,  
Especially round the staff,  
They all help me learn,  
And some make me laugh.

I feel safe in the hospital,  
As the doctors are really nice.  
If I ever need an opinion,  
They are always really precise.

I feel safe at clubs,  
Where the coaches help protect me.  
They help me learn new skills,  
To keep me safe from injury.

I feel safe on camp,  
The security's always tight.  
They're always stood at the gate,  
Morning until night.

Ava W (Y7)





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## St John's School Writers

### Refuge

*Refuge state of safety*

*Where the mind can safely sleep, where one's emotions are hidden deep, where the broken soul can sleep*

*The loving world they once loved and adored, threw them out into the world's bleak jaws*

*The contours of the soul then link and map*

*One's mind and body, their emotions and acts.*

*Refuge state of shelter*

*Their meaning stripped, their patience lost, from those who bicker and fight for what cost*

*Cry me a river, paint my broken heart, give back what you stole with your cold heart.*

*Absurdity from those who reject people in dire need, the stain and ridicule placed on them*

*Refuge state of defence*

*The inauspicious journeys taken, the hope placed, the familiarity void*

*Our bounding vows to this world, our ties to our refuge, our memories, our comfort*

*Refuge a tapestry of grace, its meaning woven into one's soul that links their purpose*

*We find refuge in solitude in this world, our solidarity with those who share our ideals.*

*We all are refuge seekers, we all seek refuge in our dreams, our memories, the things that keep us at bay*

*Our sacred place, the sporadic Uzumaki spirals consuming those who seek their refuge, those who want their protection, the assurance of safety*

*The inconsolable lost souls, the people who could not acquire that comfort and safety,*

*Their intertwined comfort, where they call "home"*

*My father his refuge is in the word.*

*The word of god, his religion, his refuge and his comfort is in the word of God.*

*His praise and worship to Lord is what keeps him at bay*

*My refuge is my heritage, the Ashanti tribe, violence and concessions. The looting and oppressions, the greed, the planted seed that flourished, poisoned minds, corrupt souls, seeking refuge in stealing gold.*

*Those seeking refuge from the capacious hands that wish to persecute them, the broad domain of hatred, despise*

*Our minds forged with lies, smear comments and views just on those, who are just trying to seek refuge and find a home.*

**Denzel A-B (Y11)**