



# Newsletter

8th March 2024 | Issue 62



Ministry  
of Defence

Dear Families,

As we pass the mid-point of this half term it has been a busy one. This week Year 11 have been undertaking a series of mathematic mock examinations as they prepare for their final exams that begin in 7 weeks time! On Thursday we welcomed members of the BFC community to undertake 'Reading Raids' across our school as part of World Book Day. The end of the week also saw our 30 successful STEM applicants participate in a two day workshop run by the RAF and visited by AVM Peter Squires, Commander of British Forces Cyprus. Further afield we have two groups of students enjoying educational trips across Europe and I look forward to sharing with you what they have been up to upon their safe return.



Looking ahead to the final week of term, we have a number of events that will hopefully be of interest to parents of students in different year groups and, of course, we have our annual school show: Grease.

For members of our community observing Ramadan—*Ramadan Mubarak* from us all at St John's School.

## Upcoming School Events

### Week Commencing 11th March

Week 1

**Monday 11th March**

**Grease Rehearsal (all Day)**

**Year 9 Options Afternoon @ 1500hrs**

**Tuesday 12th March**

**Meet the Professional—A Careers Event**

**Wednesday 13th March**

**Year 11 Post 16 Information Evening @ 1415hrs**

**Thursday 14th March**

**Grease Rehearsal (all Day)**

**SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000 hrs**

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

**Pastoral Reward Trips**

**Friday 15th March**

**Comic Relief—Wear something **Red** €1 donation**

**Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying Expedition (All Day)**

### Week Commencing 18th March

Week 2

**Tuesday 19th March**

**Grease : A St John's School Show : 1900hrs**

**Wednesday 20th March**

**School Governors Meeting : 1000hrs**

**Thursday 21st March**

**Grease : A St John's School Show : 1900hrs**

**Head Teacher's Surgery : 0900—1000 hrs @ Akrotiri Hive**

**Friday 22nd March**

**Grease : A St John's School Show : 1900hrs**

**Last day of term : School Closes at 1230hrs**

### Week Commencing 25th March

**All Week**

**Spring Break : School Closed to Students and Staff**



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## This week at St John's School in pictures



### **STEM Workshop**

On Thursday and Friday of this week thirty students from Key Stage 3 engaged in a two day Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) workshop organised and delivered by the Royal Air Force.

Students were set a range of scenarios that included the design, construction and coded instruction that will see their Lego robot deliver aid to effected communities.







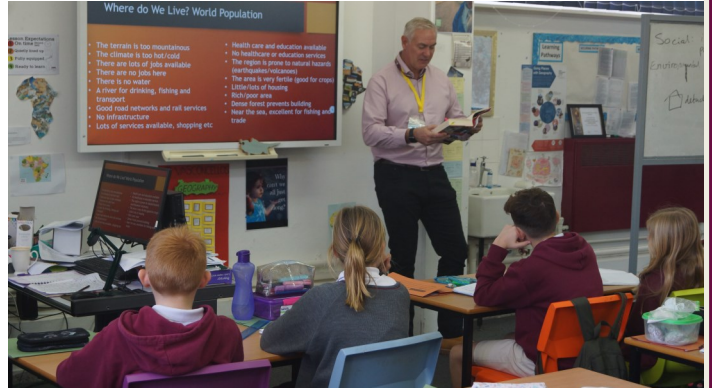
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## This week at St John's School in pictures



### World Book Day

Thank you to the fifteen members of the BFC Community who raided lessons on Thursday to read to our students as part of World Book Day. A huge amount of thought was given to the choice of texts, which were appreciated by all at St John's School



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## Year 9 Options Afternoon

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 1500 hrs we would like to invite parents of students in Year 9 who are intending to continue their studies at St John's School in Year 10 to an Options Afternoon meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to provide students and parents with important information about the GCSE programme and to have the opportunity to meet with subject leaders to find out information about specific courses, including content and exam requirements. I do hope that many of you will be able to attend this event at which your child will be given their Options Form.



## Post 16 Options Information Afternoon

### Wednesday 13th March 2024 @ 1415 hrs

As Year 11 draws to a close, student thoughts are turning to their Post 16 options, whether here at St John's, in the Blackpool area or elsewhere. Students and parents are invited to attend an information event which will be hosted by external speakers who will provide an overview of the Post 16 options. Students and parents will learn about the different qualifications that range from A-Levels, T-Levels, V-Cert's and more. The merits of apprenticeships will also be considered.

As the event progresses, students and parents will be invited to branch off into one of three breakout sessions as follows:

1. A presentation by Blackpool & The Flyde College for families returning to Blackpool
2. A presentation provided by a Careers Advisor to look at the application process more broadly
3. A presentation by Mrs Bonar detailing the St John's School Sixth Form offer



[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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## Red Nose Day | Comic Relief

On Friday 15 March St John's School will be celebrating Red Nose Day and we will be raising money for people who are living in poverty.

On Friday 15 March we would like students to come to school

wearing something **red** and invite them to donate 1 Euro in support of Comic Relief.



Alongside this, KS3 will be running a Talent Contest during period 5 on 15 March and all Key Stage 3 students will be able to attend this, with a further 1 Euro donation. Drinks/snacks will also be provided during this lesson for students at a small price so please provide them with pocket money on the day.

We hope we can raise as much money as possible for this fantastic cause. If you would like further information on Red Nose Day please follow the website link below or contact Mrs Gardiner on the email address provided.

[Red Nose Day | Comic Relief](#)

## Leavers - Year 7 to 12

Sadly this academic year will see a significant number of students leave St John's School. We are aware that a number of you are starting to receive details of your next posting and that many members of our RIB will be returning to the UK through a staggered approach starting in early Spring.

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 that 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).

School  
Leavers





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**kooth**

## Big changes can be hard at times

Visit **kooth.com/mod**  
to get started



### Has your child accessed Kooth?

It is a free, safe and anonymous place for young people to find online support and counselling. There is a bunch of features and tools to support young people if they are not feeling their best. The website provides advice and tips on all sorts of things from anxiety and relationship advice to ideas for relaxing after a stressful day.

## School Equipment – The Top 5!

Items you must bring to school everyday

- ◆ Pencil
- ◆ Ruler
- ◆ Calculator
- ◆ Reading Book
- ◆ 3 Pens (Black x2, Green x1)





INTEGRITY • COMMITMENT • RESPECT

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*St John's School*

PRESENTS



# GREASE

*The Musical*

**Tuesday 19 Mar 2024**

**Wednesday 20 Mar 2024**

**Thursday 21 Mar 2024**

**7.00pm**



**Tickets available from:**

St John's School Reception (Tel: 25 963888 or email: [sjs.enquiries@modschools.org](mailto:sjs.enquiries@modschools.org))

Episkopi Hive, Akrotiri Hive

Adults €10.00 / Children €5.00 (Open to Non-Pass Holders)

Please call the school to give your details.



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## St John's School Writers

Year 10 have completed their initial reading of J.B. Priestley's 'An Inspector Calls' and are now focusing on developing their analytical skills. Here are two excellent essay responses from students based on the prompt question:

### How does Priestley present Mr. Birling in Act 1 of 'An Inspector Calls'?

Throughout Act One of the play, Mr. Birling is presented as a pompous and obstinate man. Priestley used Mr. Birlings character throughout the act to personify the flawed ideology of capitalism, the ignorance of the older generation and the callous nature of the higher class within society. From the offset of Act One, Mr. Birling is seen to be holding court and resorts to name dropping: 'Finchley' in order to impress Gerald Croft, who is considered of a higher class to the Birling family. This implies that Mr. Birling relies heavily on his social status and is still trying to gain approval from those superior to him, suggesting he truly believes that being of high status is the best way to impress, again showing his ignorance. Mr. Birling is also seen to be self-absorbed, this is indicated when he is discussing Gerald and Sheila's engagement, when he states, 'this is one of the happiest nights of my life'. This alludes to the notion that Mr. Birling is so blinded by his need to climb the social ladder that he disregards Sheila's hand in marriage and is more concerned about improving his company and making more money. This also represents that Birling prioritizes money over his family and is focused heavily on himself and how others see him.

Furthermore, Priestley uses a myriad of dramatic irony in Mr. Birlings speeches. This could suggest that Priestley is mocking the ruling class and their ignorance regarding issues that truly matter. This is further shown when Birling voices that 'Germans don't want war' and 'the titanic is unsinkable'. Adding to this, these suggestions made by Birling would upset the 1945 audience who would have lived through both world wars, allowing the audience to sympathise with him and understand his views. The use of a political diatribe is shown throughout the play, shown via a capitalist view shows Priestley's feelings on the matter to be negative. Throughout Mr Birlings speech this can be shown as Birling repeatedly explains how 'a man' must do all the hard work and 'look after himself' to get to a good place encapsulating his mass amount of anger about the situation, expressing aggression through his tone and choice of vocabulary. This is likely because this is what Birling had to do to reach the place he is at now as he was described as 'provincial in this speech' potentially showing a lack of sophistication. These views are likely as he had to work extremely hard for his money and therefore does not want to lose it, or that he wants to make more money showing his greedy characteristic and that he is not willing to share. This is further backed up by Birling not wanting to share or work with others getting 'mixed up like bees in a hive'. This simile shows his belief that if this happened it would be chaotic like a hive with bees all around. The phrase 'mixed up' again exposes Mr Birlings views on the lower class and upper class being equal (socialism). The verb mixed alludes to the idea that the two classes do not combine naturally.

*Ethan, Year 10*





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## St John's School Writers

### How does Priestley present Mr. Birling in Act 1 of 'An Inspector Calls'?

Within Act 1, Priestley presents Birling to have a patriarchal attitude towards both his business and family. During the Edwardian time of which, 'Inspector Calls' is set, the male dominant society is seen to heavily influence Birlings views and opinions on life especially when it comes to business. This is shown by his belief that, "a man has to make his own way in life". The emphasis on the noun "man" shows his narrow minded views and beliefs in female inferiority, followed by "make his own way". This shows Birling's personal self-absorption, inferring his own successes and personal growth is all that matters rather than being supportive of others achievements. Moreover, Priestley continues to convince the audience that Birling is misogynistic by introducing his character as a, "hard-headed, practical man", this not only uses repetition of "man" but reassures us Birlings yet to be made comments are not just occasional, but instead frequent, which leads us to believe antisocial behaviour is quite common for him as a character.

Furthermore, Priestley shows Birling to have arrogant and ignorant attributes, alongside absolutist views. Birling's strong-minded views contradict the future, "The titanic unsinkable absolutely unsinkable" not only does this statement foreshadow the sinking of the Titanic later that year, but also creates dramatic irony due to the ship being produced through capitalism. Birling, being a clear capitalist this is seen as ironic and as if he is only supporting the ship due to the shared belief of capitalism with its creators. Priestley also creates Birling to seem the arrogant type by making long speeches about his predictions for the future, not just about the Titanic. Birling also shows ignorance by referring to a group of young boys as, "you" instead of seeing them as individuals, therefore belittles their characters.

Alongside the arrogance and ignorance, Priestley also depicts Birling to be a selfish character. We, as the reader, see Birling to have this trait from the beginning and we are able to see his lack of compassion for those other than himself. He does however state to care about his "family and business" making it clear that he has no empathy for "community and all that nonsense". This also highlights Birling's capitalist approach as mentioned throughout the play, and although capitalism was a common view during these times you would like to assume he would have some care towards others due to him owning high end businesses of which many people are described to have used. His selfish nature is also shown through his work, and is reinforced by him wanting to see "lower costs" and "higher prices" which would result in him increasing his profit whilst keeping those in his "workforce" as submissive. Priestley shows that his craving of profit is all that matters to him and by him enabling the capitalists to profit rather than the majority is what keeps him content.

To conclude, Priestley conveys Birling to be patriarchal and overall arrogant. Birling's capitalist principles are orchestrated throughout the entirety of Act 1, demonstrating him to be an egotistical character.

Erin Year 10