



Newsletter

12th April 2024 | Issue 65



Ministry
of Defence

Dear Families,

Welcome back!

It has been great to catch up with our students as they return from their Easter Break. Having benefitted from some excellent Cyprus weather they have had a great holiday and with the rain on Tuesday, it certainly made coming back slightly easier.



As we embark upon the final full term of the academic year it will be one that is full of purpose and, for our students in Year 11 and 13, they are just three weeks away from their final exams.

The term began this week with an In Service Training day for our teaching staff. The focus of this day centred upon the development of a whole school reading provision. Sitting within our school priority of 'Educational Offer' establishing a culture of reading as a school will continue to emerge as we move into the next academic year and, for our students, will become an increasing feature in lessons and throughout the school day.



Upcoming School Events

Week Commencing 15th April

Week 2

Thursday 18th April

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

Week Commencing 22nd April

Week 1

Tuesday 23rd April

Art A-Level Exam (all day)

Wednesday 24th April

Art A-Level Exam (all day)

KRS Vs. SJS Football Tournament @ KRS : 1300hrs

Thursday 25th April

Art A-Level Exam (all day)

Junior Maths Challenge

Friday 26th April

SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000 hrs

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org

Sixth Form Prom @ 1900hrs

Week Commencing 29th April

Week 2

Tuesday 30th April

Year 10 and 12 Parent Afternoon : 1430—1700hrs

Thursday 2nd May

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

Year 11 Prom Catwalk, opportunity to purchase Prom attire @ 1400hrs

Friday 3rd May

GCSE and A-Level Public Exams Commence



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2023 Examination Series

This year's exam series will soon be upon us. This week our GCSE Music students undertook their practical examination. In the coming fortnight students will undertake examinations in Art and Modern Foreign Languages. All students will begin their formal public exams in three weeks time as outlined in their individual examination timetables.

Speaking with students upon their return to school this week I am both delighted and encouraged by the approach Year 11, 12 and 13 have taken towards their exam preparations. With three weeks to go, students should be increasing the amount of time they are spending on their revision. Currently students should be revising for a minimum of two hours each evening in 30 minute chunks. At the weekends students should be undertaking a further four hours, ideally attempting two full exam papers under timed conditions and without reference to their notes. These papers can be collected from their teachers at school and subsequently marked upon their return.

School Leaving Dates

The academic year is melting away and, with the final exams on the horizon for Year 11 and 13, we can confirm the school leaving dates for these year groups.

Year 13

The last day students in Year 13 are expected to attend school and their timetabled lessons is Friday **24th May 2024**. After this date students may still have exams, however students only need to come into school for any remaining examinations.

Year 11

The last day students in Year 11 are expected to attend school and their timetabled lessons is Friday **14th June 2024**. After this date students will still have exams, however students only need to come into school for any remaining examinations.

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 18th 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.

Sun Safety

As we enter into the Summer Term and the temperatures are on the rise, please can I ask parents to ensure students attend school with a refillable bottle so they can stay hydrated throughout the day.

During breaktimes students are encouraged to wear a hat to protect their head from the sun. Students are also encouraged to wear sun cream to school and for outdoor physical activity.

-  **SLIP** on a t shirt
-  **SLOP** on some suncream
-  **SLAP** on a hat
-  **SLIDE** on some sunglasses
-  **SHADE** wherever possible

ssafa | the Armed Forces charity **5 S's of sun safety**



Don't forget to bring your own bottle to refill

As it continues to warm up, please can you ensure your child attends school with a bottle to refill at breaktimes.



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Snack Shack : Limited Service

As we wait to appoint a new colleague to run our Snack Shack our Student Leadership Team have offered to run a limited service from Monday 15th April. The Snack Shack will open Break 1 allowing students to purchase an assortment of drinks and snacks, which will include jacket potatoes, popcorn pots, jelly pots and fruit pots.



Contacting the school

Parents are reminded that contact can be made through:

- SJS.Enquiries@modschoools.org
- SJS.Attendance@modschoools.org
- **00357 2596 3888 (0730—1500hrs)**

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.

School
Leavers



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.



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Nut Free School

As you will likely be aware, a significant number of our staff, students and visitors have a severe allergic reaction to nuts and peanuts. Severe allergic reactions result in anaphylaxis.

Nuts and Peanuts can cause severe allergic reactions in a wide range of ways. A person with an allergy does not have to eat nuts or peanuts to have a severe reaction, this can be caused by surface contact and airborne particles. This allergy effects approximately 1/50 children and adults.

In recent years we have seen a sharp increase in snacks containing peanuts and a rise in the use of peanut butter in sandwiches.

As a school we have a responsibility to keep our students, staff and visitors safe and to reduce risk of harm. As you can imagine in a busy school environment this can be a challenge and following consideration, we feel the only way to protect those students is by removing the allergens from the school.

What this will mean?

- Peanut and nut based products will no longer be sold in the canteen.
- Students, staff and visitors **will not** be able to bring products containing nuts or peanuts into school.

Items that are found to break this rule will be confiscated and disposed of safely.

What products will not be allowed in school?

- Peanuts and nuts and products containing peanuts or nuts.
- Peanut butter or peanut based chocolate snacks (Snickers/ Reece's pieces etc).
- Items where peanuts or nuts are listed as main ingredients.
- Nut or peanut based oils or products.

What products are allowed?

- Items that "may contain nuts" and "may contain traces of nuts" or "made in factories that use nuts" These present a low risk and are not direct ingredients in the products.





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St John's School Writers

This term sees our GCSE and sixth form classes approach their final examinations and we have seen a range of committed revision from our students.

This week's writing is an essay completed by a Year 11 student during their Easter break, exploring the development of the character of Sheila in 'An Inspector Calls'. Year 10, who have just completed their study of the text, will also benefit from giving this a read!

How and why does Sheila Birling change in 'An Inspector calls'?

In the beginning of the play, Priestley introduces Sheila as a materialistic, naive young woman who was raised by a family of capitalists who have sheltered her from the realities of the world for several years. Priestley conveys this through Sheila's engagement to Gerald when she seeks a reaction from her mother to her engagement ring whilst exclaiming; "look, mummy isn't it a beauty?... Now I really feel engaged?" Priestley cleverly constructs the childish colloquialisms of Sheila calling her mother 'mummy' to characterise Sheila as puerile, immature and dependent as she relies on the nurture of her mother and makes the audience view her as childish, not as a grown-up who is soon to be married. The way that Sheila immediately comments on the 'beauty' of the ring, leaving Gerald as an afterthought, further conveys the superficial aspect she possesses on her engagement, emphasising her materialistic nature. Priestley purposely portrays the interaction between Sheila and her mother to present women's greater empathy at comprehending the patriarchal expectations of beauty in the 1930s. Furthermore, Sheila's questioning additionally conveys her infantile manner as she is seeking comfort and reassurance from her mother whilst simultaneously looking to please Gerald. Here, Priestley suggests that Sheila seeks guidance and explains why she is so strongly influenced by the Inspector later on; due to how generally impressionable and open to adoption of socialist ideologies she is.

When Sheila is immediately confronted by the Inspector in act one, Priestley structurally creates a change in tenses to highlight how Sheila is prepared to admit her mistakes briskly and is remorseful for her actions. Priestley utilises the past tense when Sheila confesses that "it was my own fault". Although it is fundamental to acknowledge the past, Sheila rapidly comprehends that she cannot look retrospectively and change the past as it is fixed. Instead, Sheila focuses on the present and discloses; 'if I could help her now I would' and resolves to change immediately, declaring; "I'll never do it again". Alternatively, and perhaps more implicitly, the rapid tense shift may represent the motif of time (Inspector Goole: "I haven't much time.") and how if social reformation is not present swiftly more poor people will suffer, economic equality gap will widen and capitalism will prosper.



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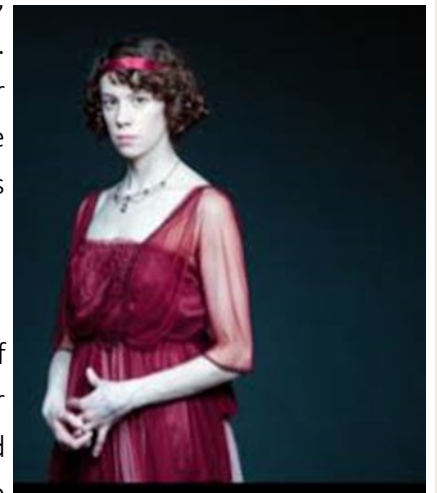
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St John's School Writers

As well as this, by the end of Act 1, we also see another side to Sheila that opposes the capitalist beliefs of her parents when she states “these girls aren’t cheap labour, they’re people”. The B and P plosive on ‘cheap labour’ creates a harsh sound signifying the brutal and barbaric exploitation that is permitted by capitalists such as Mr Birling. Furthermore, the plural of ‘girls’ implies that a vast group of people are collectively suffering, emphasising the effect capitalists have on society as a whole. The ‘girls’ also connote innocence and further exasperate the dehumanising exploitation and the fact that capitalists willingly exploit the young, innocent and vulnerable. However, although Sheila begins to comprehend the Inspector’s message and begins to grasp on his socialist ideologies, the adjective ‘cheap’ connotes an object of monetary value. Interestingly, although she recognizes the immorality of capitalism, her capitalist ideologies of viewing people in terms of wealth and status are still ingrained within her and she cannot part with them yet as she has been ceaselessly indoctrinated by capitalism for several years.



Priestley purposely conducts Sheila’s character to oppose the beliefs of her parents, to illustrate Sheila as a microcosm for the younger generation in 1912 and portray the progressive and open-minded mindset. Priestley intentionally characterises Sheila in this way, to exemplify the ignorance and egotistical nature of capitalism and how their lack of social conscience directly limits societal progression. To further exemplify Sheila’s new-found social conscience, Priestley employs Sheila to take on the role of the inspector's proxy and emulate his final speech to carry the message of Socialism and enlighten her family about the hellish consequences of capitalism. As well as this, Sheila becomes the Inspector’s mouthpiece in the same way the Inspector is Priestley’s. This highlights the contagiousness of socialist ideologies through the prevalent infection of the younger generation. Priestley establishes Sheila's character as such so that she would become a symbol of hope for the 1945 audience in an attempt to emphasise that reformation as possible even for the ignorant, selfish capitalists in society when provided with a moral example which Priestley offers in his play.

Anna K (Y11)