



Newsletter

20th June 2025 | Issue 113



Ministry
of Defence

Dear Families,

The GCSE and Post 18 public examinations finally came to an end of Wednesday and this gave opportunity to celebrate with students of Year 11 and 13 along with their parents. As mentioned in previous newsletters, the approach to the exams was exemplary and we look forward to receiving their results in August. Next week the exam baton is passed to Year 10 and 12 and I wish them well in their mock exams.



This evening I look forward to the Sixth Form end of year dinner, with the Year 11 Promenade to follow next week, both a fixture of the Summer Term.

Upcoming School Events

Week Commencing 23rd June

Week 2

All Week

Year 10 and 12 Mock Examinations

Wednesday 25th June

Year 11 Promenade

Thursday 26th June

Armed Forces Day Celebrations (all day)

SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000 hrs

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org

Friday 27th June

INSET Day : School closed to students

Week Commencing 30th June

Week 1

All Week

Year 10 and 12 Mock Examinations

Tuesday 1st July

Transition Swimming Gala @ SJS

Interschool Water Polo Tournament @ KRS

Thursday 3rd July

Headteacher's Surgery : 0900—1000 hrs @ Akrotiri Hive

Year 7 Parent Afternoon : 1430hrs —1700 hrs @ School Hall

Year 6 Transition Day 1

Friday 4th July

Year 6 Transition Day 2

Week Commencing 7th July

Week 1

Monday 7th July

Year 10 Work Experience

Tuesday 8th July

Year 10 Work Experience

Wednesday 9th July

Year 12 Work Experience

School Governors Committee Meeting @ 1000hrs

Thursday 10th July

Year 12 Work Experience

SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000 hrs

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org

Friday 11th July

Inter School Swimming Gala



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This week at St John's School



On Wednesday we celebrated our Year 11 and 13 students who have come to the end of their public examinations.





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This week at St John's School



Students in Year 10 studying Food Technology at GCSE helped to prepare the canapes ahead of Wednesday afternoon Leavers Assembly and Creative Faculty Exhibition.

Thank you to Cpl Jackson, the chef to CBF, who lent his time and expertise to support the students in preparing an excellent array of canapes. These included mozzarella twists, caramelised onion sausage rolls and tomato & feta tarts .



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Year 7 Parents' Afternoon

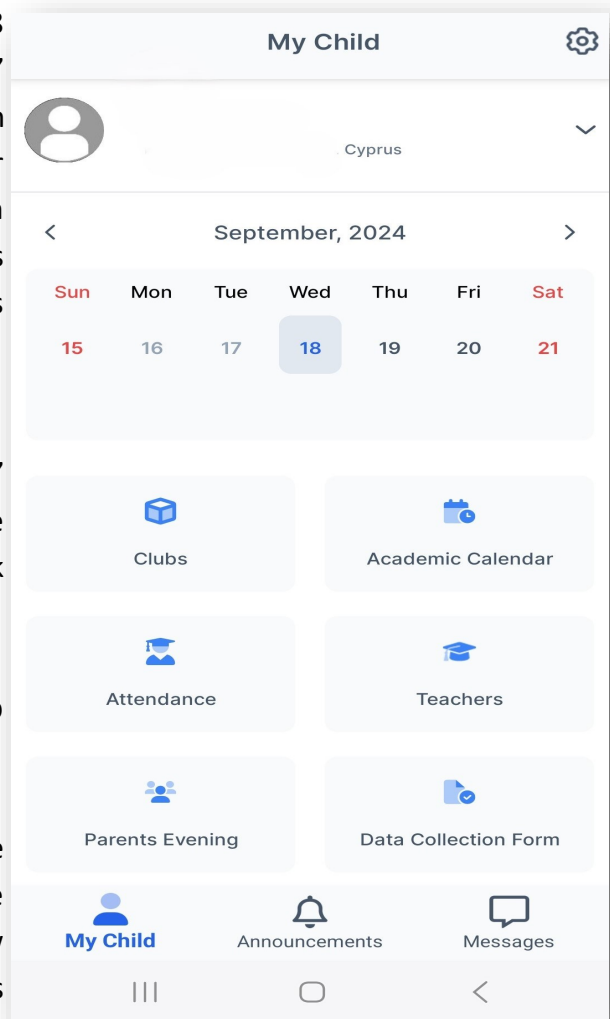
Thursday 3rd July 1430—1700 hrs

We look forward to welcoming parents of our Year 8 students into school for their upcoming Parents' Afternoon. The Parents' Afternoon will give you an opportunity, along with your child, to meet their teachers in a series of 1:1 meetings. During each meeting you will be able to reflect upon your child's progress since the start of this academic year across their curriculum.

Appointments must be made in advance of the Parents' Afternoon. Appointments can only be made through the My Child at School (MCAS) App. The appointment book will open on Monday at midday.

Please ensure you have registered to use the MCAS App in advance of Monday 23rd June.

Once registered, to make your appointments, please visit the Parents Evening tab via the MCAS homepage after midday on Monday 23rd June. You can then follow the prompts to make appointments for your child's teachers.



Having difficulties?

Should you encounter difficulties please email Mrs Twyford who will gladly support you in logging in for the first time and/or making an appointment. Mrs Twyford's email is Hayley.Twyford@modschools.org



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Armed Forces Day

Saturday 28th June 2025 marks Armed Forces Day with events taking place across the UK to show support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community: from currently serving troops to Service families, veterans and cadets. A day of celebration, we are marking Armed Forces Day at school on Thursday 26th June.

A visit from members of the Princess of Wales Royal Regiment

Throughout the day a number of small events will take place including a visit from members of the Princess of Wales Royal Regiment who will be displaying a wide variety of equipment, whilst meeting many of our students.

Serving Cadets

Students who are active members of the cadets are encouraged to attend school in their respective uniforms.

Donations

Thursday's celebrations are not being marked through a non-school uniform day and therefore students are not required to make any charity donations. However, a collection will take place for students and families who wish to donate to the Royal British Legion.



In advance of Saturday's Armed Forces Day, I would, on behalf of everyone at St John's School like to take this opportunity to thank all members of our Armed Forces community past and present for their ongoing dedication in Service to our nation.



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Student Voice

Last week we surveyed our students on their views of our school and their educational experience. The results come at a time of the year where we are undertaking our review of the past year and planning ahead for next. The student feedback and follow up focus group interviews will feed directly into our preparations for the next academic year.

Some of the headline results from the students are as follows:

89% of students report that they enjoy school

95% of students feel that the work set challenges them.

86% of students state that behaviour is good in lessons

96% of students feel safe at school

91% of students would recommend St John's School

51% of students want more careers advice and guidance

57% of students report that the school encourages them to look after their fitness and healthy eating.

70% of students participate in after school activities



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PE Uniform for September 2025 onwards

Over the past year Nike Pro Training shorts have become increasingly popular amongst students participating in Physical Education (PE). The shorts and similar compression-style athletic shorts (pictured) are made to be close fitting with stretchy material and from September 2025 will no longer be permitted to be worn for PE.



This decision has been made in order to uphold the school's standards for appropriate dress, ensure a consistent and respectful learning environment for all students, and maintain a focus on physical activity over personal attire. While Nike Pro shorts are popular for athletic performance, they are not aligned with the school's expectations for modesty and uniformity during school hours.

Approved PE attire includes the following:

- Loose-fitting black athletic shorts of mid-thigh length or longer
- PE T-shirts provided by the school
- Athletic shoes suitable for physical activity

Suitable loose-fitting black athletic shorts can be purchased from school directly for €5 or elsewhere.

Students who arrive to PE in non-compliant attire, including Nike Pro shorts, will in the first instance be asked to change with repeated non-compliance being addressed through the use of our behaviour policy.

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 which has already begun.



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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School Governance Committee (SGC)

School Governance Committee (SGC) members are interested members of the community, including parents of children at St John's School.

We work with the Headteacher and school staff to assist in making key decisions vital to the successful running of the school, contribute to decisions directly affecting the education and wellbeing of pupils, assist in improving standards throughout the school and monitor the school budget.

The SGC meets each half term as a whole committee to review and discuss school business, and represent the views of parents.

Main Roles

Provide a Strategic Overview

- Focusing on the key issues of raising standards of achievement, establishing high expectations and promoting effective teaching and learning

Act as a Critical Friend

- Providing the Headteacher and staff with support and advice using members' knowledge and experience

Ensure Accountability

- Questioning and openly discussing with the Headteacher the school's performance and other issues, whilst respecting both the professional roles of the Headteacher and school staff and their responsibilities for the management of the school

Are you interested in joining our SGC?

We currently have a number of vacancies upon our School Governance, should you be interested we welcome a short expression of interest detailing your suitability by email to:

Penny.Demetriou@modschoools.org



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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Student Health and Wellbeing

Vaccinations

A reminder for parents and carers to check whether their teenager is up to date with their **routine primary vaccinations**. These vaccinations are a vital part of protecting your child's health and the health of our wider community.

The following vaccinations are routinely offered:

- **HPV Vaccine** – Given in **Year 8**
- **Adolescent Booster** (includes **MEN ACWY** and **Td/IPV**) – Given in **Year 9**

If you believe your child may have missed any of these important vaccinations, please get in touch with the **School Health Nursing Service** stating your child's name, DOB, and vaccinations outstanding.

📧 **Contact Email:** BFC-SchoolHealth-GpMailbox@mod.gov.uk

For more information on the routine childhood immunisation schedule please follow the link: [NHS vaccinations and when to have them - NHS](#)

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD
SOLIHULL APPROACH

inourplace

NHS

Supporting emotional health and wellbeing from 0-19+

Free online courses for all parents, carers, grandparents and teens

- Antenatal and postnatal baby bonding
- Understanding your child or young person
- Your child or young person with additional needs
- Teenager's feelings and brain development
- And lots more specialist courses

Designed by clinical psychologists in partnership with practitioners and parents



Families in **MILITARY OVERSEAS LOCATIONS**

In paid partnership with: **ssafa** | the **Armed Forces** charity

Use Access Code
MILITARY



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The Crucible

Arthur Miller

The story of the infamous Salem witch trials

TICKETS

€5

Purchase at
Episkopi Early Years
OR
Reserve tickets
here



Not recommended for
children under 12



SHOWS

26th 27th 28th

JUNE

7PM

AT
ST JOHN'S
SCHOOL
EPISKOPI

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International on behalf of Josef Weinberger Ltd. www.mtishows.co.uk / www.josef-weinberger.com



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St John's School Writers

This term, Year 8 are reading George Orwell's 'Animal Farm' and learning about its function as an allegory for the Russian Revolution and, more broadly, tyranny and conflict in society as a whole.

The following piece of writing demonstrates an astute awareness of these broad themes and how they are exemplified through Orwell's characterisation of Snowball and Boxer.

Why are Snowball and Boxer the heroes of the Battle of the Cowshed?

The absurdity of animals taking over a human farm will be emphasised in viral strings of gossip. There will probably also be discussion of how to solve the problem of the custody of the farm. Humans would have been trying to demonise the animals so that eventually Mr Jones will regain his farm. He has also tried his hardest to prevent people from developing favour towards these deviant animals. The Battle of the Cowshed is a pivotal moment when mankind attempts to seize power and are wonderfully defeated.

Snowball had the brains to orchestrate the battle in a way that assured them victory and Boxer delivered the hit which frightened the men enough to make them run away and be almost certainly too afraid to come back for a while.

Orwell might have wanted the readers to feel sympathy for Boxer, the carthorse, who has been forced into such violence. He also might be trying to paint Snowball as an inconsiderate character as he brushes Boxer's concerns away and discounts his grief. Boxer felt remorse: "He is dead, Boxer said sorrowfully." This builds a sense of sympathy between the reader and the horse. It also shows the harshness of Snowball's reply in cold juxtaposition. "War is war. The only good human is a dead one." This crude statement might be the start of Orwell building a sense of resentment towards Snowball's coldness, similar to the resentment that the reader, and the animals, would have felt towards Mr Jones, the farmer. The political parallels are emerging and Orwell is clearly demonstrating that those who wish to have power should not be allowed. As the famous quote claims "Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men, even when they exercise influence and not authority."



Sophiella E (Y8)



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**EPISKOPI, AKROTIRI & ESBA
MILITARY WIVES CHOIRS PRESENT
AN EVENING AT THE
MUSICALS**

**Featuring RAF Akrotiri Voluntary Band
&
Special Guests from Colerne & Corsham MWC**

**Saturday, June 21st, 2025
18:30
St John's School,
Amphitheater**

**Adults: €5 Children under 12 years: Free
BFC Passholders & British Passport Holders Only
Tickets Available From any Choir Member
and At The Hive (Akrotiri & Episkopi)**

More Information :
episkopi@militarywiveschoirs.org
akrotiri@militarywiveschoirs.org
ESBAcyprus@militarywiveschoirs.org

**Military Wives Choirs Charity Number
1148302**

