



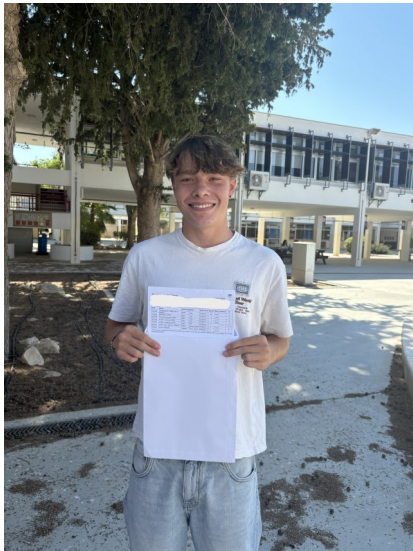
Newsletter

5th September 2025 | Issue 118



Dear Families,

Welcome back to the start of a new school year. Whether you stayed on island, returned to the UK or ventured further afield, I hope you had an enjoyable summer. For families joining St John's School, a very warm welcome. I am extremely grateful to you, as I am all families, for entrusting our school in caring for your child and in providing their educational provision.



This academic year marks the fourth year of my Headship here at St John's School. I am extremely proud of what we, as a school community, which very much includes you as parents, have managed to achieve. You will no doubt have heard of the outstanding exam results our students achieved this summer. In every Government measure our cohort performed significantly above the national average. Congratulations to everyone associated in securing these outcomes, particularly our students, who we are confident will enjoy further success as they continue their Post 16 qualifications at university, in work and/or in embarking upon a career in the military.

Upcoming School Events

Week Commencing 8th Sept.

All Week

Thursday 11th September

Year 7 Progress and Cognitive Ability Testing (All Week)

SJS Coffee Morning 0900—1000 hrs

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org

Week 2

Week Commencing 15th Sept.

All Week

Wednesday 17th September

Thursday 18th September

(NGRT) Reading Tests (All Week)

Sixth Form Geography Residential Pre-Trip Meeting @ 1430hrs

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

Applying to University: A parent information event 1430—1530 hrs

Week 1

Week Commencing 22nd Sept.

Thursday 25th September

Friday 26th September

SJS Coffee Morning 0900—1000 hrs

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org

Cyprus Independence Day Celebrations (All Day)

Week 2



Newsletter

5th September 2025 | Issue 118



Ministry
of Defence

St John's School celebrates outstanding exam results

77% achieved a GCSE Grade 4 (C) or above in both English & Maths

The National Average was 64%

.....

59% achieved a GCSE Grade 5 (B) or above in both English & Maths

The National Average was just 43%

.....

The average grade achieved was a Grade 5 across all subjects

The National Average was just Grade 4

.....

Average Post 16 grade achieved was a C (Merit) across all subjects

This is in line with the National Average

.....

School attendance was 95.6%

The National Average was just 91.4%

Last year our attendance was 94.2%



Newsletter


5th September 2025 | Issue 118



Ministry
of Defence

Our School Improvement Priorities

Guided by our moral purpose to eliminate educational disadvantage caused by mobility, our school improvement priorities remain unchanged and displayed below.



INTEGRITY • COMMITMENT • RESPECT

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

SAFEGUARDING PROVISION

Safeguarding provision is '**exemplary**' and supports other MOD Schools in improving their provision.

EDUCATIONAL OFFER

The educational offer is consistently '**Good**' ensuring St John's School ranks in the **Top 5%** of schools nationally for student progress.

Eliminating educational disadvantage caused by mobility

ATTENDANCE

Student attendance is **above 96%**, exceeding the national average.

INCLUSION

The learning needs of our varied and diverse student community are effectively met through well planned lessons that provide **support and challenge**, underpinned by a caring pastoral ethos.

STUDENT MOBILITY

St John's School is a centre of best practice; eliminating educational disadvantage caused by mobility. **Student progress exceeds 0.38**

STAFF WELLBEING

Staff at St John's School feel valued and motivated by a shared moral purpose. There is a collective sense of achievement. **Employee turnover is less than 5%**

STUDENT SATISFACTION

Students are **highly satisfied** at St John's School, possessing an attitude towards their learning that exceeds that of all other students nationally.

COMMUNITY PRIDE

The community is **proud** of St John's School, celebrating the strengths and successes of a school which exceeds their child's previous school experience.

Over the past three years our efforts to further improve the educational offer at St John's School has emphasised the importance of assessment for learning (AfL). This year, AfL will remain a key feature of lessons, whilst being further underpinned by different metacognition and self-regulation approaches to teaching. These approaches have a significant effective size, as evidenced by educational research ([EEF, 2024](#)). Employing metacognition and self-regulation in lesson and through home learning, students are supported to *"think about their own learning more explicitly, often by teaching them specific strategies for planning, monitoring and evaluating their learning"* ([EEF, 2024](#)). Essentially the aim is to encourage students to be more self directed in their learning and take greater responsibility in order to realise the potential positive impact of metacognition and self regulation of more than 7 months of additional progress ([EEF, 2024](#)). In future newsletters I will suggest how parents can aid their child in promoting greater independence through the launch of our new home learning policy.



Newsletter

5th September 2025 | Issue 118



Ministry
of Defence

Our Safeguarding Team



Safeguarding Team

If you have any concerns regarding your safety or anyone else's safety please report it to:



Kate Parkinson
Pastoral Manager
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Steve Dixon
Deputy Headteacher
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Colin Guyton
Headteacher



Katie Gardiner
Head of Key Stage 3
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Kelly Bonar
Head of Key Stage 5
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Andrew Holden
SENDCO
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



In addition or
instead of raising a
concern in person
Scan the QR Code
to report a concern



If you have a concern that affects your wellbeing and/or the wellbeing of others report it with confidence.
Anonymous reports can be made.



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



Newsletter

5th September 2025 | Issue 118

Ministry
of Defence

Our expectations for the academic year

Uniform

The students have begun the new academic year by wearing the correct uniform with pride and, as such, look incredibly smart. As a school we will work hard to ensure these high standards, characteristic of the start of the new academic year, are maintained.



Piercings

Students are permitted to wear studs in either ear and are now also permitted to wear a single nose stud. This week a number of students have come to school with a nose ring and, having been informed, a ring is not permitted, will from Monday 8th September be asked to remove a nose ring in favour of a nose stud. All other piercings will need to be removed and all piercings must be removed when participating in PE.



Piercings

Small studs in nose and ears are permitted. No hoops or other facial piercings are allowed and will be expected to be removed before school.
All jewellery MUST be removed for PE with no exceptions

Fashion Accessories

Students are reminded that they may wear natural coloured nail varnish on short nails. No coloured nail varnish or long nail extensions are allowed in school. Regarding make up, students are permitted simple make-up and subtle tones. Natural looking (in length and style) eyelashes are permitted. Please note that hair colours not deemed as natural are not permitted.



Hair & Make-Up

Simple make-up and subtle tones are allowed. Natural looking eyelashes are permitted. Extreme hair colours or styles are not allowed in school.



Nails

Natural coloured, short nails are permitted. No coloured nail varnish or long nail extensions are allowed for school.

Other

Shoes and Socks



Black, white, or grey socks and black shoes/trainers are allowed. Coloured or patterned socks are not to be worn. Shoes/trainers should be fully black with no variation in colour.



Phones

Mobile phones should not be seen in school. If students have them in their bags, they should be switched off. They should only be seen in lessons as a learning tool.



Other Jewellery

Only a watch can be worn for school. All other bracelets, wristbands, rings and necklaces should be removed to prevent loss or injury. Smart watches can be worn but must not cause a distraction.



PE Shorts

Compression shorts are not permitted in school. PE shorts should be plain black, loose fitting and mid thigh in length



Newsletter

5th September 2025 | Issue 118



Ministry
of Defence

CAT4 Testing

Over the course of next week some students will participate in Cognitive Ability Testing, often referred to as CAT4 tests. These tests will be for all students in Year 7 to support the school in its understanding of a child's latent ability and its subsequent progress towards the national accountability measures. The tests will also be taken by students who have recently joined us. Students do not need to do any preparation in advance of sitting these tests.

For further information, please visit: www.gi-assessment.co.uk/assessments/cat4/

Applying to University: A parent information event

Thursday 18th September 1430—1530 hrs

Parents and students who may have a future interest in applying for university are invited to attend an information event on Thursday 18th September, starting at 1430 hrs in the Exams Room. Primarily pitched for parents and students in Year 13, parents of students in other years are equally welcome.

The event will look to provide information on:

- courses and providers available to students
- the UCAS application process
- information regarding student finance



SJS Coffee Mornings

On Thursday 11th September 0900—1000hrs, parents of students at St John's School are cordially invited to join our coffee morning, should you wish to book a place, please email SJS.Enquiries@modschools.org.

Limited to 15 people, I look forward to touring you around the school, visiting lessons and answering any questions or concerns you may have.





Newsletter

5th September 2025 | Issue 118



Ministry
of Defence

Aspire

In March we invited applications from students then in Year 7 to join our Aspire Programme, which is due to get underway next week.

The programme aims to provide students with a broad suit of enrichment opportunities designed to further challenge and develop their academic curiosity. Students will participate in activities that will facilitate their learning of Greek, allow certification in Science through the CREST Award and in completing the Foundation Projects Qualification. Students will also have opportunity to develop their debating and public speaking skills, whilst also exploring a wide variety of subjects ranging from sociology, criminology and journalism. Students participating will also be provided opportunity to attend a University and Cultural residential visit to the UK.

Should there be students in Year 8 who were not at St John's School in March and did not have opportunity to apply, but wish to be considered, please contact Ms Fox via email at Kimberley.Fox@modschoools.org for further information.



Our students who successfully enrolled themselves into our
Aspire Programme.



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)**



Newsletter

5th September 2025 | Issue 118



Ministry
of Defence

Annual Consent Form for school trips and other off-site activities

Following the successful implementation of our annual consent form which enables you to give permission in advance for your child/children to take part in activities locally, such as outdoor learning, and school trips further afield we are now able to link this to the My Child at School app.

Please can I direct you to the 'consents' section on the MCAS app for you to agree to giving consent for your child to attend school trips / off site activities. Parents/carers will still be contacted in advance of school trips with fuller excursion details. This provides a further opportunity to withdraw consent if applicable.

The trips and activities covered by this consent include:

- **All visits (including residential trips) which take place during the school day, during holidays or at the weekend**
- **Adventure activities at any time**
- **Off-site sporting fixtures outside the school day**

You can, if you wish, tell the school that you do not want your child to take part in any specific school trip or activity.

Further written parental consent will not be requested from you for off-site activities offered by the school.

By giving consent on MCAS you are signing to say you are happy for your child / children to:

- a) **To take part in school trips and other activities that take place off school premises; and**
- b) **To be given first aid or urgent medical treatment during any school trip or activity.**

If this could be completed by 30th September 2025 it would be appreciated. Any questions please contact me at angela.dakin@modschoools.org



Newsletter

5th September 2025 | Issue 118



Ministry
of Defence

Our Curriculum

You can find the latest curricula for each and every subject on our website. Upon opening the link you will be able to see what your child will be studying at any stage in their educational journey at St John's School and explore how you may help them at home.

www.stjohnsschoolcyprus.com/curriculum

The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with options: About Us, Admission, Attendance, Careers, Curriculum (selected), Information, News, and Contact Us. The main content area is titled 'Year 7-13 Curriculum rationale' and features a quote from Margaret Atwood: "A word after a word after a word is power." The text describes the English Curriculum's aim to help students see their power and place in the world. A sidebar on the right lists subjects: Geography, History, Modern Languages, Mathematics, Music, Religious Education, Physical Education, and Science. Below the main text, there are two buttons: 'Year 7-13 Curriculum rationale' and 'Drama'. The Drama section includes a description of the curriculum's goals and a button for 'Year 7-11 Curriculum rationale'.

As temperatures remain high, please can you ensure your child attends school with a bottle to refill at breaktimes.



Don't forget to
bring your own
bottle to refill



Newsletter

5th September 2025 | Issue 118



Ministry
of Defence

DCS Music Service

Registration for instrumental lessons with DCS Music are now open.

Closing date for applications is 9th September 2025.

All lessons for old and new pupils will start in the week commencing 15th September.

<https://forms.office.com/e/EfE5yF5Rs4>



DCS Music
The Music Service

Apply for instrument lessons!

Starting September 2025 we are offering...

Year 4 upwards: violin and cello

Year 5 upwards: flute / clarinet

Year 6 upwards: brass (cornet, trumpet etc.)

Year 7 upwards: guitar

Lessons are...

- During the school day, at school
- Group /shared lessons
- £70 per term
- Average of 10 lessons per term
- Instruments available to hire.



Click here to apply:

<https://forms.office.com/e/EfE5yF5Rs4>



Newsletter

5th September 2025 | Issue 118



Ministry
of Defence

The Snack Shack

We accept cash and card payment

Our Menu

Drinks

Water Bottle €0.50

Juice Carton €0.50

Snacks

Rocky Rice Bars €0.50

Mini Crackers €0.50

Hummus and Veg Sticks €1.00

Jelly €1.00

Yoghurt €1.00

Food

Tuna Pasta (small) €1.00

Tuna Pasta (large) €2.00

Tomato Pasta (small) €1.00

Tomato Pasta (large) €2.00

Assortment of sandwiches €2.50

Jacket Potatoes with various toppings €2.50

Weekly specials available



Newsletter

5th September 2025 | Issue 118



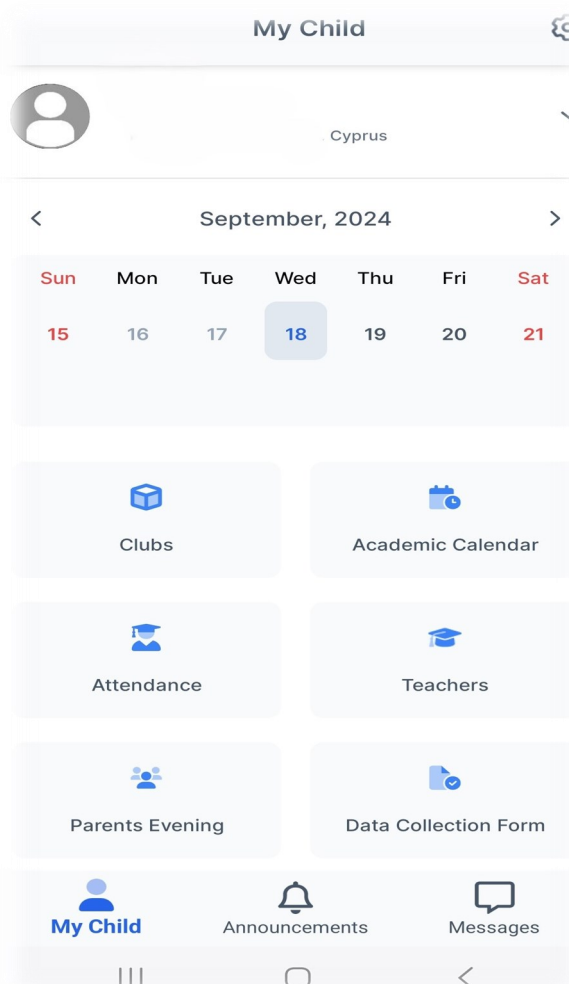
Ministry
of Defence

My Child At School App

My Child At School (MCAS) is an online parent portal that allows parents to monitor their child's progress and wellbeing at school with real-time information and instant updates. It can be accessed via any web browser or an app (available on iOS and Android devices) which offers parents the same features.



MCAS offers parents a wide range of capabilities, including the ability to monitor attendance and behaviour, book parents' evening slots, see reports, and other important documents, receive communications from the school, make payments, and update any changes in details. And with the parent portal app, all these features can be accessed from a personal device, like a smartphone.



Using the MCAS App

New parents will have already been sent an emailed invitation that will include a link to download the MCAS App. Once the App is opened you will be asked to enter your email address and create a password. You will then be asked to enter a 5 digit pin and tick to confirm to be presented with your child's dashboard.

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 Mrs Twyford who will gladly assist you in logging on. Mrs Twyford's email is Hayley.Twyford@modschoools.org.

Further Information

Further guides for parents on MCAS can be found at [MyChildAtSchool \(MCAS\) Parent Guides – Bromcom – Documentation Centre](#). Here you will find comprehensive information on what MCAS can do to