



Newsletter

21st November 2025 | Issue 128



Dear Families,

This week has been a much quieter week with the fortunate absence of earthquakes and the heavy rain that fell following Sports Day. Lessons continue with purpose and students in both Year 11 and 13 prepare both in school and (hopefully) at home for their upcoming mock examinations which get underway from the end of next week. We wish our students well in these exams which will provide indication on how well-placed they are ahead of the summer exam series.



Poseidon ran out overall winners during last Friday's Sports day. It was great to see the students compete in a way that modelled our school values of Integrity, Commitment and Respect. Thank you to our parents who were able to free themselves up to cheer on our students and also to Group Captain Adam Smolak, our RAF Akrotiri Station Commander, who awarded medals to our winners.

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, St John's School celebrated 50 years in our current accommodation. We were proud to host over 70 alumni who returned with fond memories to their old school. Thank you to everyone who supported with this event including students, staff, parents and wider community members.

Upcoming School Events

Week Commencing 24th Nov.

Week 2

All Week

GCSE and GCE Mock Examinations

Monday 24th November

Episkopi Races Y7-9 @ Happy Valley

Tuesday 25th November

Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 27th November

Year 11 & 13 Yoga and Mindfulness

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

Week Commencing 1st Dec.

Week 1

All week

GCSE and GCE Mock Examinations

Tuesday 2nd December

SJS Vs. KRS Football Tournament @ 1400 in Happy Valley

Thursday 4th December

SJS Coffee Morning 0900—1000 hrs

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org

Friday 5th December

BFC Christmas Pantomime : Rapunzel @ 1500 and 1800hrs in School Hall

Week Commencing 8th Dec.

Week 2

All Week

GCSE and GCE Mock Examinations

Wednesday 10th December

School Governing Committee @ 1000hrs

Thursday 11th December

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

Christmas Concert @ 1800hrs in the School Hall

Friday 12th December

Year 7 Christmas Dinner @ 1200hrs

Sixth Form Christmas Party



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This week at St John's School



Our students in action last Friday as they competed for the House Cup during our annual Sports Day. It was a close finish with Poseidon coming out on top with 470 points to Apollo's 422.

It was also a close finish with our race against the weather with heavy rain following 15 minutes after we concluded our closing ceremony.



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Headteacher's Surgery - Akrotiri Hive

On Thursday 27th November 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.



Classroom access arrangements through coloured paper

In recent years there has been an increase in student requests for learning materials to be printed on various colours of paper. This growing demand has increased staff workload and pressures on the day of examinations. The Joint Council of Qualifications (JCQ) who oversee national examinations such as GCSE and GCE's have ruled that *'alternative ways of working should be explored, such as the use of coloured overlay or the candidate wearing coloured glasses'* ([JCQ.2025](#)).

Making such a change for students in Year 11, 12 and 13 in the months before their exams would be unfair and we will continue to support students in these years with their current usual way of working by supporting them with different colours of paper. For students in younger years we are adopting the rule of JCQ and will cease to provide learning materials on different colours of paper opting instead to explore other ways of working.

All students who have a diagnosed need to use different coloured paper have been provided with an overlay, which they should use instead. We have also ordered, and begun to issue, different glasses which allow access to learning materials in the desired colour preferred by the student. Should you have further questions or concerns regarding your child's educational needs, please contact Mr Phil Cornford, the Assistant to the SENDCO, via email: Phil.Cornford@MODSchools.org



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Episkopi Garrison Christmas Pantomime

Friday 5th December 2025

Doors open at 1600 with the show starting at 1630hrs

At the St John's School Hall



The British Forces Foundation
Proudly presents

Rapunzel



This BFF charity funded touring pantomime is provided in partnership with TPB Productions Ltd.

To help support The BFF panto tours and give us your feedback on our pantomimes please get in touch with us.

www.bff.org.uk