



Newsletter

05th December 2025 | Issue 130



Ministry
of Defence

Dear Families,

Our students have been fantastic in their approach to their Mock Examinations. An exam window, usually extending over six weeks come the summer, has been condensed into a fortnight. Despite this, our students have proudly demonstrated in spades our value of Commitment. I wish them well for their final exams next week.



On Tuesday we benefitted from a whole school assembly led by students of Year 8. They reminded us all of the importance and value of Advent, providing a welcome introduction to the festive season. As the festive season gets underway, I look forward to welcoming parents and community members to our annual Christmas Concert hosted in our school hall on Thursday. I am also looking forward to joining students for their upcoming Christmas Dinner at a local taverna. I am delighted by the response to this opportunity which will see the majority of the school come together on different occasions to formally eat together, an opportunity rarely possible.

Upcoming School Events

Week Commencing 8th Dec.

Week 2

All Week

GCSE and GCE Mock Examinations

Wednesday 10th December

School Governing Committee @ 1000 hrs

Thursday 11th December

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

Christmas Concert @ 1800 hrs in the School Hall

Friday 12th December

Year 7 Christmas Dinner @ 1200 hrs

Week Commencing 15th Dec.

Week 1

All Week

GCSE and GCE Mock Examination Catch Up

Student Christmas Dinner—arrangements communicated separately

Wednesday 17th December

Year 11 School Trip (communicated directly to parents)

Thursday 18th December

SJS Coffee Morning 0900—1000 hrs

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschools.org

Key Stage 3 Disco @ 1800 hrs in School Hall

Friday 19th December

Last Day of Term— school closes at 1230 hrs

Week Commencing 22nd Dec.

All Week

Christmas Holiday

School closed to students and staff



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This week at St John's School



COMMITMENT Quick Note

Just thought you would like to know that

has demonstrated the value of Commitment.



Signed: _____

Date: _____



This week in assembly students received one of our Quick Notes in recognition of their **Positive Attitude**.

Each fortnight our staff will focus upon one behaviour drawn from our learning circle.

Over the current fortnight staff will be focused upon **Engagement**



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Our Duke of Edinburgh students made the most of the fine weather on Wednesday for their practice walk



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Timetable Changes

As your child may have reported we have suffered from a number of unavoidable staff absences over the past couple of weeks, which have compounded the impact of two long term staff absences. Teachers available for supply are in high demand across all of our Cyprus schools and this offers an additional challenge in ensuring we adequately cover classes.

Aided by a reduction in the number of students on roll I have taken the decision to reduce the number of classes from three to two in Year 7, 8 and 9. This change will come into effect on Monday 8th December. Class sizes will remain significantly below the UK average at 23 students per class.

Making this change will allow me greater flexibility and improved resilience in covering for absent colleagues with teachers known to our students.

In addition to the timetable changes I have also been successful in recruiting a very well qualified former Head of English and an experienced teacher of Geography to provide cover in these subject area. They will both be joining us in January (if not sooner) and add much needed capacity within this core subject.

I am so sorry for the recent staff absences and hope that I maintain your confidence in our efforts to do everything I can to maintain stability for our students, which is underpinned by a safe, calm and purposeful learning environment.

Headteacher's Surgery - Akrotiri Hive

On Thursday 11th December 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.



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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EPISKOPI SCHOOLS' CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2025

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH
READINGS, MUSIC AND DRAMA



Join our joyful Christmas Concert to really
get into the festive spirit!
Mince pies, mulled wine and more
refreshments will be available on the
night.

11TH DECEMBER 2025
1730HRS DOORS OPEN
1800-1930HRS PERFORMANCE
ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL



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Community **CHRISTMAS DONATION DRIVE** In support of the Learning Refuge

The Learning Refuge:

The Learning Refuge is a volunteer-led centre, based in Paphos, that supports refugee and asylum-seeking families.

The centre will be holding their annual Christmas party in early January and they would like to provide presents for the children (currently there are 250 children aged 0-16 years).

You can help spread joy this holiday season by donating presents for the children. Your generous contribution will bring smiles to many faces.

What to donate:

- New or as new toys, crafts, books and games suitable for ages 0-16.
- Wrapped and labelled with the age and gender of recipient child
- No perishable items please

How to donate:

We will have various drop off points at around camp. Locations to follow once confirmed.

All donations will be collected on 19th December



St John's School is a drop off location