



Newsletter

13th March 2026 | Issue 141



Ministry
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Dear Families,

A significant degree of normality is returning to St John's School. Following the disruption that ensued over the previous week we have seen our school attendance bounce back. The vast majority of students have returned to school and we also welcome primary students from both Akrotiri Primary School and Episkopi Primary School whilst the former remains closed.



With normality comes our scheduled Core Mock Examinations for Year 11. This will get underway on Monday and I wish our Year 11 cohort well. The unwanted disruption has impacted upon our exam preparations at a crucial time of year. There are just 5 school weeks and 7 calendar weeks until exams get underway. It is crucial that students of Year 11, 12 and 13 commit to their independent revision at home to make up for the disruption they have endured.

Upcoming School Events

Week Commencing 16th March

Week 1

Monday 16th March

Year 11 Core Mock Examination

Tuesday 17th March

Year 11 Core Mock Examination

Year 9 HPV and booster vaccination

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

Thursday 19th March

DofE Silver Practice Expedition: Day 1

Year 12 and 13 BTEC Exam Results published at 1000 hrs

SJS Coffee Morning 0900—1000 hrs

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschoools.org

Interschool football tournament (away) @ 1130 hrs

Friday 20th March

DofE Silver Practice Expedition: Day 2

Week Commencing 23rd March

Week 2

Monday 23rd March

Year 11 Core Mock Examination

Year 6 Open Afternoon

Post 16 Options Afternoon : 1430 hrs in the Hall

Tuesday 24th March

Year 11 Core Mock Examination

Wednesday 25th March

Year 6 Open Afternoon

Thursday 26th March

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

Year 9 GCSE Options Afternoon : 1430 hrs in the Hall

Friday 27th March

Last Day of Term— school closes at 1230 hrs

Week Commencing 30th March

All Week

Spring (Easter) Holiday

School closed to students and staff



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This week at St John's School



Year 12 went to Manchester last week to attend the UCAS University Fair in addition to visiting a number of universities in an effort to inform their Post 18 choices. They had a great week, enjoying the opportunity to explore Manchester, hang out with friends and meet former students of St John's School who study in both Manchester and Liverpool.



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Mitigating the impact of the current regional situation

St John's School has aimed to provide the required continuity and support rightly expected by our community over the past fortnight. Late on Wednesday we learnt that the current situation that has seen families dispersed, our Akrotiri Primary School closed and a delay to the start of the school day for some students will likely continue until the end of April 2026. There are a wide variety of courses of action being taken by the school and command groups across the WSBA. Further updates will be provided in due course however at the current time I am able to confirm the follow:

Year 11 and 13 Public Exam Series

We are 5 school weeks away from the start of the Summer Exam Series. Exam boards have been proactive in contacting our school for support surrounding the immediate disruption to coursework and external moderation. They have also expressed a willingness to support over the exam season. The school is engaging with exam boards as well as the Department for Education to establish what this support may ultimately look like. It may be some time before we know and in the meantime it is essential that students in Years 11, 12 and 13 prepare for their upcoming exams, demonstrating a personal commitment to overcome the adversity we understand they are currently facing.

School Life

The routine of school life has provided a much needed sense of normality. Students are distracted from the current situation through their engagement in learning and through the interactions among peers. The school is providing the required relief for students and it is reassuring to see our students being just that—students!

Akrotiri Primary School

With the primary school closed we have welcomed the opportunity to accommodate pupils and staff of Akrotiri and Episkopi Primary Schools into our building. I look forward to them taking advantage of our resources over the coming weeks including the use of our gym, cookery classrooms and science, and music rooms as well as our drama studio.

Looking ahead

As mentioned we are exploring further efforts we can realise to further reduce disruption to learning. This includes a plan to provide students with breakfast at school to help bring them into school sooner than some currently are. We have also postponed our school Inset Day calendared for Monday 13th April. We recognise that for some families they will have made holiday plans that will prevent attendance on the 13th, however, for those who can, we are keen to give them opportunity to get into school and avoid further days away from school.



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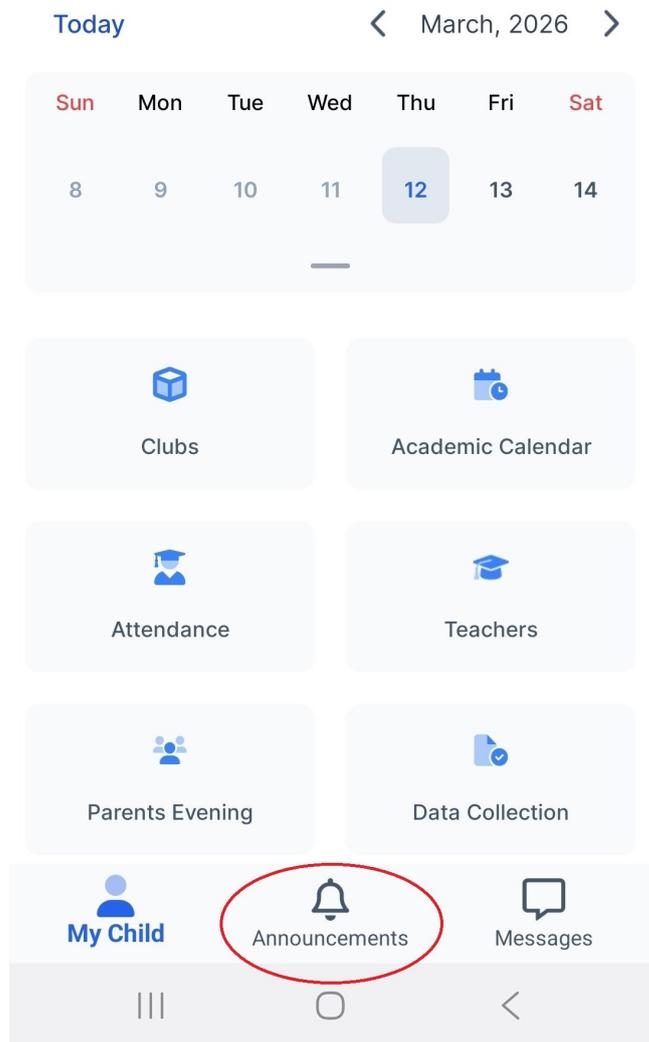
Receiving announcements through the My Child at School (MCAS) App

One or two parents have reported difficulties accessing communications through the MCAS App. To access communications from school please make sure you are looking at the School Announcements tab on MCAS App; this can be found on the bottom of the main MCAS page (as shown).

This where you will find important information regarding the current situation, as well as other school notifications. If you receive notification of an announcement, and you have more than 1 child in school, but you can't see the announcement on their account, please toggle between your children on MCAS; every announcement is sent to the relevant child's account.

If you are not getting notifications regarding this, please can you refer to your phone's notification settings, and ensure that they are on.

If you are having any issues regarding the setting up of your MCAS account, please contact Mrs Hayley Twyford (Hayley.twyford@modschools.org), who will be able to assist you.



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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Year 9 Options Information Afternoon: 26th March at 1430 hrs

As our Year 9 students move closer to making their GCSE choices, we are delighted to invite parents and students to our Year 9 Options Information afternoon, which will take place on Thursday 26th March from 1430 – 1530 hrs in our school hall or online via this [link](#)

This afternoon is designed to support families at an important moment in your child's educational journey. The choices students make now will shape their next two years of study and we want to ensure that every student feels informed, confident and excited about their decisions.

The event will begin with a short presentation outlining the options process and highlighting the significance of choosing subjects that align with students' interests, strengths and future aspirations. This will provide a clear overview of how the options system works and what students should consider when making their selections.

Following the presentation, parents and students will have the opportunity to explore our Options Fair. Curriculum leaders from across the school will be present, each hosting an information stall for their subject. This will be an informal and valuable chance to speak directly with subject specialists, ask questions and find out more about what each course involves, how it is assessed, and how it might link to future study or career pathways.

Whether your child already has clear ideas about their choices or is still weighing up different possibilities, this afternoon will provide the guidance and insight needed to make well-considered decisions.

We strongly encourage all Year 9 families to attend as this is a key step in helping students choose a path that inspires and motivates them.

We look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be an informative and engaging afternoon.

Post-16 Options Afternoon: 23rd March at 1430 hrs

We warmly invite parents of Year 11 students to attend our upcoming rescheduled Post-16 Options Afternoon, where you will have the opportunity to learn more about our Sixth Form and hear about the range of academic and vocational courses we offer along with their entry requirements.

The event will also include a tour of the Sixth Form and an opportunity to talk with both our staff and some of our current Sixth Form students.

We look forward to welcoming you in person on Monday 23rd March or online via this [link](#)



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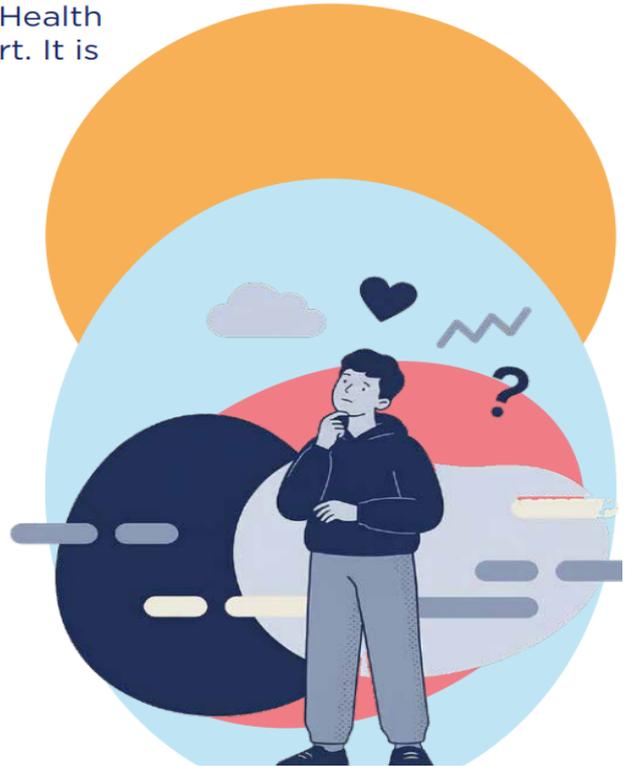
At this unsettling time SSAFA Community Health would like to offer some advice and support. It is important you know you are not alone.

Why do I feel this way?

After experiencing an event that has been scary, upsetting or stressful:

- You may feel a mix of emotions, such as, worried, upset, scared, sad, afraid, angry, confused, stressed or others.
- You may feel these emotions on their own or all at once.
- You may even not feel any emotions at all.
- You may also have these feelings at a later date.
- You might have certain feelings in your body, like a tightness in your chest or like your tummy is churning.

Either way, all this is normal and you are not alone.



Where can I go for online support?

There are a number of trusted online services that offer support if you want to talk, learn ways to cope, or connect with others.

Support for young people from Armed Forces families

[KOOH.com/MOD](https://kooth.com/mod)

Provides free mental wellbeing support for young people aged 11-19 from Armed Forces families, both in the UK and overseas. You can chat online with trained mental health practitioners, use self-help tools, or take part in moderated community support.
www.kooth.com/mod

Support for all Armed Forces family members

[Headspace](https://www.headspace.com)

Headspace offers free access to mindfulness, breathing, and relaxation tools to support mental wellbeing for families and armed forces personnel who sign up using a MOD email address.
www.headspace.com

HeadFIT

HeadFIT provides simple, practical tools to help you look after your mental fitness, including tips, exercises and self-help resources.
headfit.org/

Togetherall

Togetherall is an online support service for Armed Forces family members aged 16+. It offers anonymous, 24/7 access to trained counsellors, a supportive community, and a range of self-help resources.
togetherall.com

Other support available to all young people

[YoungMinds](https://www.youngminds.org.uk)

YoungMinds provides information, advice and support for children and young people experiencing mental health difficulties.
www.youngminds.org.uk

Mind (for young people)

Mind offers guidance, resources and support to help young people understand and manage their mental wellbeing.
www.mind.org.uk/for-young-people/

The Mix

The Mix provides free, confidential support for young people, including information, one-to-one support and helpful resources.
www.themix.org.uk/





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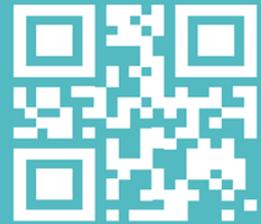
Has your child accessed Kooth?

It is a free, safe and anonymous place for young people to find online support and counselling. There is a bunch of features and tools to support young people if they are not feeling their best. The website provides advice and tips on all sorts of things from anxiety and relationship advice to ideas for relaxing after a stressful day.

kooth



Big changes can be hard at times



Visit kooth.com/mod
to get started

Kooth may be of particular use at the current time and provide opportunity for young people to manage any anxieties they may be feeling.

Contacting the school

Parents are reminded that contact can be made through:

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





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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 Twyford on 00357 2596 8003 or alternatively you can email at Hayley.Twyford@modschools.org.

SJS Coffee Mornings

On Thursday 19th March 0900-1000 hrs, 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.

Headteacher's Surgery - Akrotiri Hive



On Tuesday 17th March 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.

The surgery is set to continue and should the Hive be closed I will position myself outside on the picnic benches.