



# Newsletter

1st May 2026 | Issue 146



Ministry  
of Defence

Dear Families,

The week began with students completing their Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expedition in the northwest of Cyprus. Pleased to be able to offer this opportunity, seven students undertook the expedition around Latchi. Congratulations to all of our students in completing this award and thank you to our staff and community volunteers who gave up their weekend in support.



Thank you to those of you who managed to find time to complete our parental survey over the last fortnight. Our students have also completed their survey with both surveys designed using the OFSTED Inspection questions. We will now gather the responses and share with you the key trends, views and observations in our future newsletters.

This week students made a start on their GCE and GCSE Exams and, through their speaking exams, demonstrated significant progress in their confidence and articulation of the target language. The art work completed under exam conditions is impressive and will be showcased at our upcoming Art exhibition early next term.

Sadly we say goodbye to pupils and staff of Akrotiri Primary School to whom we have played host over the past nine weeks. It has been a privilege to accommodate them within SJS and we are pleased that the time has come for you to return to RAF Akrotiri.

This weekend is a Bank Holiday and school will be closed on Monday. We hope you have an enjoyable long weekend.

## Upcoming School Events

### Week Commencing 4th May

Week 2

**Monday 4th May**

**Bank Holiday—School Closed**

**Thursday 7th May**

**GCSE and GCE Final Examinations Commence**

**Headteacher’s Surgery : 0900—1000 hrs @ Akrotiri Hive**

**Friday 8th May**

**GCSE and GCE Final Examinations**

### Week Commencing 11th May

Week 1

**All Week**

**GCSE and GCE Final Examinations**

**Thursday 14th May**

**SJS Coffee Morning 0900—1000 hrs**

**Bookings required via [SJS.Enquiries@modschoools.org](mailto:SJS.Enquiries@modschoools.org)**

**Year 9 Parent Afternoon @ 1430 hrs in the Hall**

### Week Commencing 11th May

Week 2

**All Week**

**GCSE and GCE Final Examinations**

**Wednesday 12th May**

**School Governors Committee Meeting @ 1000 hrs**

**Thursday 14th May**

**Headteacher’s Surgery : 0900—1000 hrs @ Akrotiri Hive**

**Year 9 Parent Afternoon @ 1430—1700 hrs**



# Newsletter

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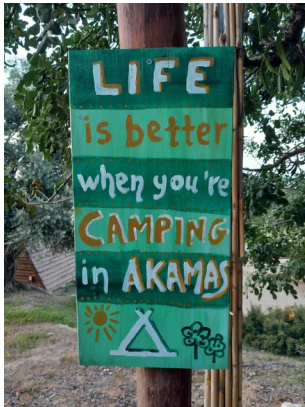
Ministry  
of Defence

## This week at St John's School



On Friday morning we hosted all three WSBA Schools in our Amphitheatre as we came together to give thanks for the support we have afforded one another over the past nine weeks.

Akrotiri School recited and shared a printed copy of their poem of thanks to students and staff of St John's School and Episkopi Primary School.



Students participating in this years Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expedition visited the Akamas Peninsula last week under to undertake their practice hike and overnight stay





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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 lessons 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.



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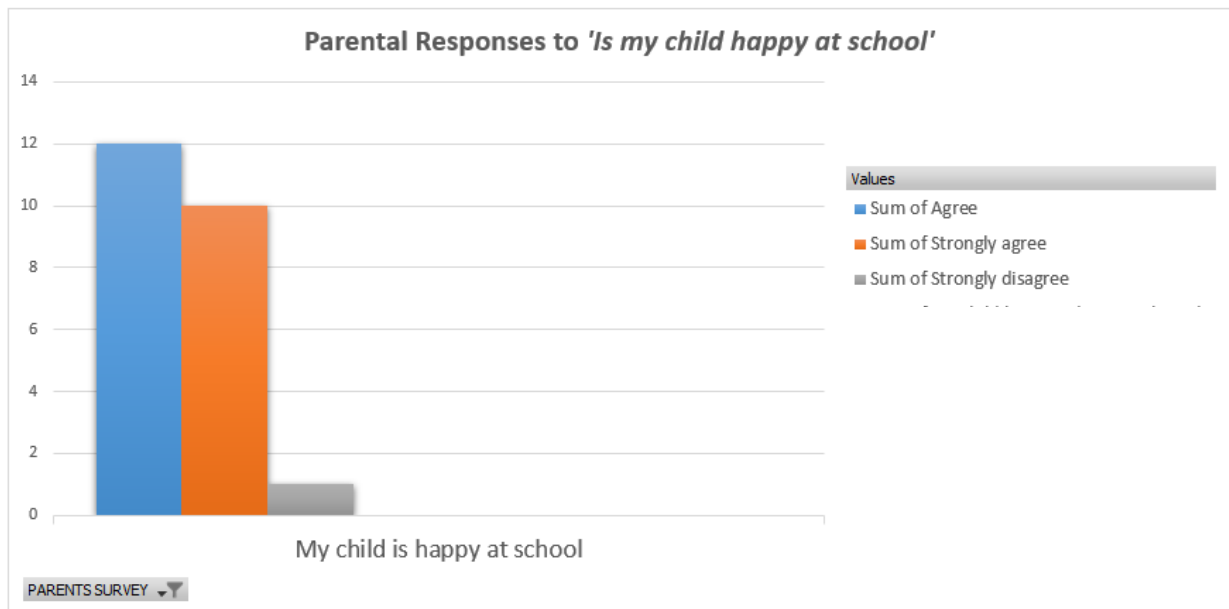


Ministry  
of Defence

1st May 2026 | Issue 146

## Parent Voice

Thank you for taking the time to respond to our Parent Survey over the past two weeks. Approximately 10% of families responded to our survey. Over the coming weeks I will try to share with you your collective responses and address some of the key themes you have kindly provided through your suggestions.



I am pleased to read that our school is one where your child(ren) is happy. A key aim of our school is to ensure that our community is proud of St John's School and exceeds on the experience of your child's previous school. Responses and comments such as *'our previous experiences in schools in the UK have been good, but never have they taken the time that teachers do here to ensure my child feels safe and happy'* evidence the impact we are having in our effort to instil community pride in our school.

It is acknowledged from your responses that we could improve the range of subjects offered, particularly post GCSE where *'better sixth form choices are needed'*. This is something I fully agree with and we continually advocate for with Regional Command through Defence Children Services. The February external review of our Sixth Form arrived at the same conclusion and we await the response to the reports findings by Regional Command.



# Newsletter

1st May 2026 | Issue 146



Ministry  
of Defence

## 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](mailto:Hayley.Twyford@modschools.org).

## Water Bottles

The temperatures are beginning to rise as we head into the Cyprus Summer. It is essential that students come to school prepared for the warmer months that are a feature of this Summer Term. Students are therefore asked to come to school with their own refillable water bottle to ensure they can stay hydrated. Students should use break times to fill their water bottle. Students are also able to wear a hat during breaktimes when enjoying breaktimes in the sunshine.



Don't forget to  
bring your own  
bottle to refill

## Headteacher's Surgery - Akrotiri Hive

On Thursday 7th May 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.





# Newsletter

1st May 2026 | Issue 146



Ministry  
of Defence

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Bobby in Year 9 whose submission to a national poetry competition was shortlisted amongst thousands of entries which together comprised a "powerful selection of work". This year Never Such Innocence, a charity whose mission is to give children and young people a voice on conflict, visited St John's School in January 2026. The competition allowed students to produce and submit entries that considered

*'Conversations on conflict: in someone else's shoes'*



[www.facebook.com/stjohnsschoolcyprus](https://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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# Newsletter

1st May 2026 | Issue 146



Ministry  
of Defence

<b>DATES:</b> 11TH JUNE 18:30 12TH JUNE 18:30 13TH JUNE 16:00	<b>VENUE:</b> ST JOHNS AND EPISKOPÍ PRIMARY SCHOOL GROUNDS	<b>TICKETS:</b> ADULTS: £10 KIDS FREE PASS HOLDERS ONLY (INCLUDING HOLIDAY VISITORS)
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**LIVE ON STAGE!**

