



# Newsletter

3rd July 2026 | Issue 154



Ministry of Defence

Dear Families,



## Monday 6th July is an INSET Day The school is closed to students



Parents are reminded that Monday 6th July is a school Inset day, which means the school is closed to students. You will recall we changed the date of our previously planned training (Inset) day from earlier in the year to counter the disruption caused to Year 11 and 13 exam preparations caused by the incident at RAF Akrotiri.

On Tuesday I had opportunity to host the new Head of Defence Children Services (DCS) Brigadier (Ret) Leigh Drummond in his first visit to Cyprus and St John’s School. His visit presented a great opportunity to showcase our school, introducing him to our students and staff, whilst also having chance to outline the perceived support required from DCS as we move into the new academic year.

On Thursday and Friday this week we welcomed students in Year 6 from Akrotiri and Episkopi Primary Schools for two secondary school transition days. It was great to welcome them to our school and have them experience what secondary school life is like and we look forward to many of the pupils who are to remain in Cyprus join us formally come September.

Finally, a small number of students took flight this week heading to Malaysia on a three week expedition. Upon their return I will share further information, but for now we wish them well.

To our American families, happy 4th July as you celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States, enjoy the weekend.

## Upcoming School Events

### Week Commencing 6th July

All Week

Monday 6th July

Thursday 9th July

Year 10 Work Experience

Inset Day—School Closed to students

Year 7—10 Swimming Gala (all day)

Year 6 Transition Disco @ 1800 hrs

### Week 2

### Week Commencing 13th July

Thursday 16th July

Friday 17th July

End of year reports issued

Last day of term, school ends at 1230 hrs.

### Week 1

### Week Commencing 20th July

All Week

School Closed to staff and students  
Summer Holidays



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## This week at St John's School

### A trip to the dentist



The Y12 Health and Social Care AAQ students had a visit to Episkopi Dental Centre on Tuesday. The students had a tour of the facility, met with the Senior Dental Officer, Dental Nurse and Practice Manager and also observed a check-up appointment in the practice.

The students had a chance to experience a Primary Health Care setting and discuss the skills that are involved in working within one. Students were shown how to prepare dental equipment, follow hygiene procedures, make records, observe X-rays and also the close communication between a Dentist and Dental nurse. They discussed career progression and asked questions to support them in their future aspirations. Well done Y12.

### A night at the musicals



Students demonstrated their talents on Wednesday to family and friends



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## DCS Careers Advisor

I am privileged to introduce myself as the new Careers Advisor for Defence Children Services, and I am here to support students across secondary and sixth form with exploring their future pathways and making informed decisions about their next steps; building confidence in not only themselves but also in their choices.

With over 8 years of experience in career development and coaching, I work with young people to help them identify their strengths, interests and aspirations and guide them towards suitable options including further education, apprenticeships and employment routes.

As part of a Forces family, I have been privileged to receive a unique insight into the distinctive strengths that children from military families possess; their maturity, pragmatism and empathy when navigating unfamiliar territories is both inspiring and admirable. I also understand the curious mix of excitement and uncertainty that can accompany change; and how this can be magnified within the context of asking children to consider their own wants and preferences for their future. As their Careers Advisor, I strive to create an environment in which they feel understood, settled and safe to articulate their considerations and plans.

My initial priority for the summer is meeting with Year 12 and 13 Students to gain awareness of their progress towards Higher Education, Employment and Vocational Pathways, then progressing with initial consultation with the current Year 9 and 10 Students. Come September, the focus will envelop the wider school community, preparing students for Options and FE explorations.

I am conscious that August represents a pivotal point in our children's lives, when the culmination of all their exam preparation is reached. Whilst we are immensely proud of our students and anticipate fantastic outcomes for all, I am conscious that 13th and 20th of August may bring unexpected opportunities for new pathways to be explored. With this in mind, my intention is to host an engagement session before the end of the School Year, to give you, as Parents and Carers, the opportunity to understand and explore next steps, no matter what the results may be.

I will also be available for the students on both Results Days to discuss any pressing concerns.

For any questions or queries throughout the School Year, I can be contacted via the following email address - [DCS.Careers@modschools.org](mailto:DCS.Careers@modschools.org).

I look forward to working alongside you, providing support for your children's futures.





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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@modschoools.org](mailto:Hayley.Twyford@modschoools.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

## SJS Coffee Mornings

As we near the end of the school year my weekly coffee mornings held in school or in RAF Akrotiri have ended. I look forward to undertaking these weekly commitments in the new academic year and thank you for your attendance over the past year.



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

[www.facebook.com/stjohnsschoolcyprus](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsschoolcyprus)

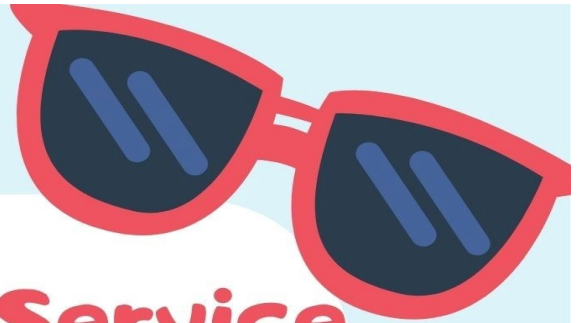


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## BFC Youth Service Akrotiri Summer Programme



2026

Join the youth service team this summer for a jam packed programme!

From  
School  
Yr3+



This programme is made possible through the generous support of our funders RAFBF; their support has significantly reduced participation costs

Places are limited and must be pre-booked.  
Use the QR Code below to register your interest  
Registration opens Mon 22 Jun at 8pm  
Your places will be confirmed by email



Supported by



Royal Air Force  
Benevolent Fund

BFC Youth Service - Akrotiri  
Summer Activity Programme 2026