



# Newsletter

21st June 2024 | Issue 74



Ministry  
of Defence

Dear Families,

The public exam series for all students, whether in Year 11 and Year 13, came to a close this week. Well done to all of our students in making it to this key milestone, it is now time to enjoy your summer!



On Tuesday we held our annual Awards Ceremony. Taking place at RAF Akrotiri for the second year in a row, in doing so we enjoyed the opportunity to further recognise our role in being a WSBA Community School. Thank you to all in attendance, it was a lovely opportunity to recognise and celebrate our students who were nominated and won various awards.

## Upcoming School Events

### Week Commencing 24th June

Week 1

All Week

Year 10 and 12 Mock Examinations

Tuesday 25th June

Year 8 Parents Evening

Armed Forces Day Celebrations with 84 Sqn

Thursday 27th June

SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000 hrs

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

Year 11 Prom, Columbia Hotel

### Week Commencing 1st July

Week 2

All Week

Year 10 and 12 Mock Examinations

Thursday 4th July

Year 6 Transition Day 1

Headteacher's Surgery : 0900—1000 hrs @ FDLC Classroom 3

Friday 5th July

Year 6 Transition Day 2

### Week Commencing 8th July

Week 1

All Week

Pupil Attitude to School and Self Assessments

Monday 8th July

Year 12 Work Experience

Tuesday 9th July

Year 12 Work Experience

Wednesday 10th July

Year 10 Work Experience

SGC Meeting @ 1000hrs

Year 10 Work Experience

Thursday 11th July

SJS Coffee Morning 0800—1000 hrs

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

Friday 12th July

Year 12 to 13 Transition Interviews



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## The week at St John's School



Award winners were presented by members of our BFC community, including the respective Station Commanders, the Commander of the 1Lancs and The Commander of British Forces Cyprus, Air Vice-Marshal Peter Squires.

Students were awarded for their performance and endeavour across each of the National Curriculum subjects, both at Key Stage 3, 4 and 5. Each award was presented by Heads of Faculty.



Presentations were punctuated by some outstanding speeches from our students, including our Head Student on the work of the Leadership Team, cast members from Grease, the school musical and fellow peers who reflected upon the educational opportunities offered over this past academic year.

Students were also awarded in recognition for their demonstration of our whole school values of Integrity, Commitment and Respect.







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## Student Voice Focus Groups

It was great to welcome two of our governors into school this week. They enjoyed the opportunity to explore student perspective of life at St John's, what they enjoy and what they would like to see improve further. I look forward to seeing their responses after a further series of focus group sessions due to take place next week which will inform our school improvement planning for the next academic year. Thank you to our governors and students for their participation and continued enthusiasm for school improvement.



## Congratulations

Well done to one of our Year 12 students who has successfully completed her Level 2 Occupational Studies qualification, which she chose to support her career aspiration of being a sport journalist.

She completed this with the support of Akrotiri gym, earning the following units:

- Communication skills for business
- Taking part in sport
- Personal physical fitness
- Understanding careers in leisure and tourism
- Understanding the leisure industry





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## Farewell to Ms Tina Chilman

Sadly Ms Tina Chilman leaves St John's School after three and a half years of service; and having previously worked for MOD Schools at King's School, Germany. Ms Chilman has been a true advocate of Service Children, inspiring many with creative lessons planned with enthusiasm. Ms Chilman has taught a wide variety of subjects ranging from Business Studies through to Science. Ms Chilman has been instrumental in organising very many community events, associated with our 'Community Pride' school improvement priority. These have seen many visitors providing informative workshops, including Marines, Military Bands as well as a wide variety of professionals sharing their insights into their respective careers. Having held roles beyond the classroom, I am grateful for Tina's leadership of PSHE, as well as her contribution to the School Leadership Team throughout the 2023-24 academic year. Ms Chilman leaves St John's School changing career by stepping into the Civil Service. For Ms Chilman's classes we are grateful to Mrs Padmore who will teach Key Stage 3 Science and Mrs Davis who will teach Year 10 Business Studies.



**SLIP** on a t shirt

**SLOP** on some suncream

**SLAP** on a hat

**SLIDE** on some sunglasses

**SHADE** wherever possible

**ssafa** | the  
Armed Forces  
charity

**5 S's of sun safety**

## SJS Coffee Mornings

On Thursday 27th June 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@modschoools.org](mailto:SJS.Enquiries@modschoools.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.



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## Year 8 Parents' Afternoon

Tuesday 25th June 1430—1700 hrs

Have you made your appointments? Appointments must be made in advance of the Parent Afternoon. Appointments can only be made through our Parent Portal, EPraise.



### Trouble Registering?

Should you encounter difficulties please email Mrs Hadjinicolaou who will gladly support you in logging in for the first time and/or making an appointment. Mrs Hadjinicolaou's email is [Maria.Hadjinicolaou@modschoools.org](mailto:Maria.Hadjinicolaou@modschoools.org)



[www.facebook.com/stjohnsschoolcyprus](http://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

## 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 Parkinson on 00357 2596 3888 or alternatively you can email at [Kate.Parkinson@modschoools.org](mailto:Kate.Parkinson@modschoools.org).





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## ARMED FORCES DAY

Recognising all those that serve or have served in HM Armed Forces

# 2024

FREE ENTRY!

TUNNEL BEACH WATERSPORTS CENTRE - MTW

Date

# 29 JUNE

(SATURDAY)

0900 - 1200 WATER SPORTS, GAMES & COMPETITIONS

1230 - 1530 BAND & DJ PHIL

Tina Tunnel Turner - That's the Wheel of Fortune

Volleyball Competition

[REGISTER HERE FOR VOLLEYBALL COMP](#)

Chloe's Face Painting | Fun Games

Charities - ABF, SSAFA & RBL

Food Trucks | Beer, Bar & Cocktails

Music by: Blues Brothers Paphos



FREE COACH



Timings & pick up points TBC

**EVENT ENTRY: All BFC pass holders and MOD 90 ID in the BFC community including LEC's, immediate family, Veterans & UK passport holders**



For more info: [Philip.Edwards369@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Philip.Edwards369@mod.gov.uk)



<http://tunnelbeachwatersportscentremtw.simplybook.it/>



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## St John's School Writers

Year 7 have focused on the craft of storytelling this year, through their own writing and the reading of other stories. We close the year by looking at a selection of Ancient Tales, complementing the students' study of Greek Theatre and Myth in Drama.

One of our Ancient Tales originates from Ethiopia and Eritrea in Africa. What follows is an exemplary research homework from a Y7 student.



## Information about Ethiopia and Eritrea

### Ethiopia

#### Geography

Ethiopia is a country on the east coast of Africa. It is bordered by other African nations such as Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, and Eritrea. Ethiopia is a hot and mountainous country with a wide variety of wildlife. Ethiopia's central region is dominated by a huge plateau, which is rocky and covers two thirds of the country. The plateau is split in half by the Great Rift valley, that stretches all the way from Syria to Mozambique. The Great Rift Valley is a deep scar in the Earth's crust. The majority of Ethiopia is fertile and craggy, which makes it ideal for farming, which is the most common occupation for Ethiopians. The highlands are the coolest part of the country, and much of the farming occurs here, away from the scorching deserts that lie in the lowlands towards the border with Djibouti. The area of Ethiopia is 1,157,600 square kilometres, and there is a population of almost 57 million people. The official language is Amharic, and the main religions are Christianity, Islam, and Traditional African religions. Though Amharic is the official language, there are over 80 different languages commonly spoken between the vast number of different peoples that lie within the borders of Ethiopia. The capital of modern-day Ethiopia is Addis Ababa.



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## St John's School Writers

### History

Ethiopia has one of the oldest civilisations in Africa. Legend states that Menelik, the son of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, ruled Ethiopia around 1000BC. A powerful prosperous Arab nation called Aksum grew up there in around AD100, but by AD330 was Christian, and by the Middle Ages, Ethiopia was ruled by Christian Emperors. During the 1800s, Ethiopia managed to hold onto its independence. Italy managed to dethrone the current Ethiopian Emperor, Haile Selassie, but he later returned. By 1970, Haile Selassie was growing unpopular, and his government was accused of corruption. After many protests and the mutiny of the army, Haile Selassie was overthrown in 1974. After that, years of rebellions and military rule crippled Ethiopia, in addition to the thousands of refugees flooding in from Sudan. By 1990, Peace had been restored, but drought forced many farmers out of rural areas and into big cities like the capital, Addis Ababa.



### Eritrea

#### Geography

Eritrea is another African country, bordering Ethiopia, Sudan and Djibouti. It is a small country on the coast of the Red Sea. Most of the land is covered in mountains and desert, and the narrow coastal plain is home to some of the hottest locations on Earth. In the port city of Mitsiwa, the average annual temperature is 31 degrees Celsius. It is not easy to grow crops in the harsh landscape, but irrigation projects have made farming possible in some areas, however only 5% of the land is cultivated, and many Eritreans live a nomadic lifestyle. And herd domestic animals like sheep and goats. The country has a rich mix of peoples that speak many languages, like Saho and Arabic, though Tigrinya is the official language. The capital of Eritrea is Asmera, and the main religions are Christianity and Islam. The main exports of the small African country are hides, cement and salt. The population is around 3.5 million, and the area is 93,680sq kilometres.

#### History

Eritrea became an independent nation in 1993 after a long guerrilla war. Previously, it had been a province of Ethiopia, and they have shared a history since AD300, when Ethiopia became part of the kingdom of Aksum. Since then, Eritrea has been an Italian, then British colony before joining back with Ethiopia in 1952.

James G (Y7)