



# Newsletter

11th October 2024 | Issue 84



Ministry  
of Defence

Dear Families,

This week we hosted our annual Swimming Gala, which took place in the school pool on Thursday. The Gala saw students from St John’s School compete against students from King Richard School. Congratulations to everyone who took part, it was a highly competitive event between extremely competent swimmers, who eventually swam St John’s School to overall victory!



It was also a lovely opportunity to welcome parents of students in Year 11 and 13 to our first Parents Afternoon of this academic year. The focus of the afternoon was to reflect upon mock exams taken earlier this academic year, the start to the new academic year and what must be done ahead of the next round of mock exams that will commence at the end of November.

Elsewhere, this half term passes with a canter as we enter the final two weeks. I continue to be impressed by what I see in lessons and how the new year energy, enthusiasm and purpose has not waned.

## Upcoming School Events

### Week Commencing 14th October

Week 1

**Monday 14th October** Promotional photos being taken of St John’s School  
**Thursday 17th October** **Head Teachers Surgery : 0900—1000 hrs @ Akrotiri Hive**  
**Friday 18th October** ‘Settling in Report’ published for Year 10 and 12

### Week Commencing 21st October

Week 2

**Monday 21st October** External Quality Assurance Visit (all day)  
 Supporting your child in their mock examinations Y11 and 13  
 Parent Information Event: 1430hrs in Exam Room  
**Wednesday 23rd October** School Governors Meeting @ 1000hrs  
**Thursday 24th October** SJS Coffee Morning 0900—1000 hrs  
 Bookings required via [SJS.enquiries@modschools.org](mailto:SJS.enquiries@modschools.org)  
 KS3 Halloween Disco @ 1800hrs in the School Hall  
**Friday 25th October** Year 7 Settling in Reports Issued  
 Last day of the half term

### Week Commencing 28th October

All Week

Half Term

School Closed to students and staff



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## This week at St John's School

Students studying BTEC Sport in Year 12 and 13 had opportunity to meet with a former student of St John's who is now an apprentice jockey.

Students found out about the training required as well as diet, exercise, sleep and routine.



## Tag der deutschen Einheit - Germany Unity Day

Our Year 10 GCSE German group celebrated German Unity Day in style as they commemorated German unification when in 1990 East Germany joined West Germany to once again form a single German state.

They watched videos about the construction of the Berlin Wall and subsequent escape attempts and studied maps and diagrams showing how the city was divided.

The hard work was followed by sampling German food, with brezel, pancakes and currywurst on offer. Traditional costumes were also on display and pupils were more than willing to try on Lederhosen or a Dirndl, a traditional dress!

Many thanks to parents for sending in all the tasty treats and a special mention to Freddie for baking the brezel.

Vielen Dank





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## This week at St John's School



Thursday saw our annual Swimming gala against our biggest rivals KRS. St Johns hosted this event at home with parents and carers cheering on from the side lines. This year both teams battled hard throughout the day and the atmosphere was incredibly competitive but also supportive and respectful. There were some very close finishes with screaming cheers from the crowd to highlight the winners. St Johns clearly lead after the 25 metre races with speed and physical prowess but KRS pulled it back in the 50 metre races with efficient endurance. In the end St John's lead after the 25 Metre races could not be beaten and we won by 25 points. Special thanks must go to all of the parents who came to watch and to KRS for being gracious competitors, but mostly to the amazing students who took part in the day with integrity and respect. Congratulations to the winners St Johns and we look forward to the swim gala at KRS in the summer.



[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



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## This week at St John's School



### *Ready Steady Cook for 6th formers*

'Ready Steady Cook' is an extracurricular class for 6th form students. The lessons are aimed at preparing students to cook for themselves when they leave the family home, learning how to budget, meal preparation whilst having their own independence in a cooking environment.

Sign up is weekly on Google classroom



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## Dentist Appointments

The Episkopi Dental Surgery has additional capacity over the half term holiday which begins on Monday 28th October.

An additional visiting dentist will be available to undertake routine appointments and check-ups. Priority will be given to students to avoid the need to miss school either side of the half term holiday.

Telephone: 00357 2596 3265



## Contacting the school

Parents are reminded that contact can be made through:

- [SJS.Enquiries@modschoools.org](mailto:SJS.Enquiries@modschoools.org)
- [SJS.Attendance@modschoools.org](mailto:SJS.Attendance@modschoools.org)
- **00357 2596 3888 (0730—1500hrs)**

## Headteacher's Surgery - Akrotiri Hive



On Thursday 17th October at the adjusted time of **1100—1200 hrs**, parents and/or members of the BFC community are welcome to drop into the Akrotiri Hive, without appointment, this week to meet our Pastoral Manager and Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Kate Parkinson, 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.



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## Home Learning

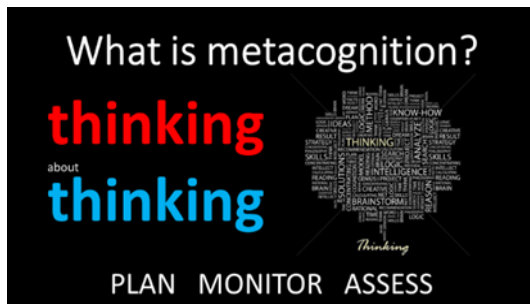
Our students are thinking about thinking!

Over the coming weeks all students will be shown how to develop great study habits and become self-regulated learners. I am sure you have seen our pedagogical wheel which details the study habits we want to develop in all of our learners. Building on that foundation, we are now teaching our students about **METACOGNITION** which is simply just 'thinking about thinking'.

Today, all key stage four students (key stage three next week) were introduced to the idea of metacognition and how they might start to organise their study habits to maximise how they approach their independent study at home and revise in useful and meaningful ways when examinations are approaching.

By Christmas they will have been introduced to 10 metacognitive approaches including bubble maps, double bubble maps, bridge maps, multi-flow maps and many other graphic organisers to keep them studying effectively.

We will keep you updated as we progress through the term.



**PLAN (Before a task)**

- Is this similar to a previous task?
- What do I want to achieve?
- What do I do first?

**MONITOR (during the task)**

- Am I on the right track?
- What can I do differently?
- Who can I ask for help?

**ASSESS (after the task)**

- What worked well?
- What could I have done differently?
- Can I apply this to other situations?



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## SBA Leading Ladies presents...



An evening of mocktails and mingling for the next generation of leaders

Are you a young woman at St John's school aged 16-18 looking to sharpen your networking skills and make meaningful connections?

Join us for the SBA Leading Ladies' launch event dedicated to empowering the next generation of female leaders!

**Date:** Thursday 24th  
October

**Time:** 6-8pm

**Location:** Ante Room, Episkopi  
Officers Mess

**Dress code:** Smart casual

Register for this free  
event here !



### What to expect?

- Meet inspiring mentors and peers
- Engage in interactive networking sessions

### Why attend?

- Build a strong network of supportive connections
- Gain insights into various career paths
- Enhance your communication and networking skills



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## Halloween Disco



Key Stage 3 students will be offered the opportunity to attend a Halloween school disco on 24 October 2024 from 1800-2000 hrs.

The event will involve a disco, games and a tuck shop. Students will also be encouraged to take part in Halloween fancy dress on the night.

Students can be dropped at Episkopi Primary School car park but will need to be collected from the St John's School Hall at 2000 hrs promptly unless permission has been given through the QR code below for them to make their own way home.

The Disco will cost €2 for attendance and will take place in the St John's School Hall. Students can bring money to buy snacks and drinks from the tuck shop and to take part in games.

In order to confirm attendance, parents must complete the permission form via the QR code

(right) prior to the event. This form will close on 23 October.

For any queries or further information please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Gardiner on the email provided below.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Gardiner  
Head of KS3  
Teacher of Physical Education  
[Katie.Gardiner@modschoools.org](mailto:Katie.Gardiner@modschoools.org)

Halloween Disco 24th October  
2024







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## St John's School Writers

This term, Year 11 have been studying 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare and exploring the play's themes of ambition, fate, free will, and guilt. This week's excellent essay explores Macbeth's internal conflict in the context of his role as a tragic hero.

### How is Macbeth presented as a conflicted individual at the beginning of the play?

At the beginning of the play, Macbeth is described as 'brave' and 'worthy'. The Shakespearean tragic hero is transformed into a conflicted and power-hungry protagonist through the use of the themes of the play: madness, power, gender and supernatural elements.

In Act 1, Scene 2, Macbeth is described by the Captain as 'valour's minion', valour meaning courage in war and one whose blade 'smoked with bloody execution'. This metaphor could have biblical connotations of a flaming sword which will also be shown again in the next act, and additionally shows some desire for war. As a first impression, the audience is in awe of someone shown to be so great before even appearing on the stage, which will later bring their disappointment and his transformation owning a lasting effect. This could show Macbeth in one interpretation as some sort of fallen angel, exceeding the elements of Shakespearean tragedy, like his tragic waste and internal conflict. The wasted potential of the character will be shown in Lady Macbeth's challenge of his manhood as she calls him a 'coward in thine own esteem'.

Macbeth's hamartia, his obsession for more and greater power, is shown further until his death later in the play, as Shakespeare uses his emotional manipulation to show Macbeth as conflict in the beginning of Act 2. In the scene of the dagger hallucination before Duncan's murder (Act 2, Scene 1), the interpretation of it changes, going from a 'fatal vision' to 'a false creation'. This questioning of his mindset makes the audience additionally question the state of his mind: insane enough to hallucinate it, but sane enough to acknowledge it. This refers back to his flaw in obsession, contrasting his past self who was 'worthy Cawdor', again showing his two-faced personality. This again shows a different interpretation that Macbeth is really weak-minded, and his bravery is just an act of his true weakness.

In Act 1, Scene 3, Banquo describes Macbeth as 'rapt' with the idea of being king with little said to him. This is shown as Macbeth wouldn't stop mentioning it, stating the predictions as 'cannot be ill' to then 'cannot be good', two opposing ideas. This will soon be ironic and a form of foreshadowing as, at first, Macbeth enjoys being king but then meets his death to it. His conflicted mindset is also shown once he declares that he will be crowned 'without his stir', meaning he'll leave it to fate which is later thrown away by taking action instead. This shows an interpretation that Macbeth was always power hungry and had a greed for kingship and nothing really changed, except the predictions exceeding his feelings.

In conclusion, Shakespeare left many interpretations of the tragic hero Macbeth, ultimately showing his conflicting ideas, and overall as an individual in deeper and obvious context. This aligns with the key elements of his tragic heroes, showing tragic waste, ownership of a fatal flaw and ideas of good versus evil.

Theo M-M (Y11)