THE JUNIOR & SENIOR SCHOOL

SS Headteacher's Newsletter

September 2024

QUOTES OF THE MONTH



'The International Baccalaureate® aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.'

International Baccalaureate – Mission Statement

'IB students develop strong academic, social and emotional characteristics. They are also likely to perform well academically – often better than students on other curricula.'

IB Key findings from IB research

''Further research indicates that Diploma Programme (DP) graduates complete college faster than their peers, feel more prepared for college-level coursework involving research, and are better able to cope with demanding workloads and time-management challenges.'

IB: Benefits for schools

Exciting New Chapter: IB Authorization Journey Begins!



Ms Deepa Dindoyal:
Head of IB

I am thrilled to be joining this vibrant school as we embark on an exciting new adventure – introducing the International Baccalaureate (IB) programme!

I am Deepa, a Mauritian who has lived and worked in Mauritius, Ghana and Azerbaijan before landing in beautiful Cyprus. I have been in the IB system for 23 years and have been leading the IB Curriculum for the past 14 years.

Together, we are taking the first steps toward bringing this globally recognized and enriching curriculum to our school. The IB's mission to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people aligns perfectly with the incredible potential I see at TJSS.

IB is more than just a curriculum – it's a mindset, hence parents play an integral role in this journey. It is about nurturing students who are not only academically strong but also ready to make a difference in the world. I cannot wait to work with all of you as we prepare for the IB authorization process and shape the future of our school.

GET READY, AMAZING THINGS AHEAD!



Congrats!

Congratulations to our school for being recognised once again (for 2024-25) as a Microsoft Showcase School! And many thanks for Mr Nick Paphitis for leading this achievement.



Dancers triumph!

Many congratulations to Jasmine Chedid (Year 13) and her dance crew, Stop & Lock, for an impressive achievement at the UDO World Championships in Blackpool, UK this August! Competing against over 8,000 dancers, 320 teams, and participants from 54 countries, they took home 1st place and earned the prestigious title of World Champions in the Over 18 Novice category at the UDO Street Dance Competition. Stop & Lock proudly represented Cyprus, joining 9 other talented crews from the island in this international event.



Jasmine takes home the trophy!

Welcoming our new Year 7!

What a fantastic start for our new Year 7 students at the Senior School!

Induction Day proved to be an amazing start to the new term, and the arrival into the Senior School of our Year 7s, where our inductees met their mentors and started building friendships that will last a lifetime. They enjoyed a fun-filled bonding trip, where teamwork was key and new connections were made.

Students got to know their **form tutors** and had a special session with our school's psychologist. In this session, they explored how our differences and uniqueness are strengths to celebrate, learning how to co-exist peacefully while embracing what makes each of us special.



Year 7 welcomed to SS!

The first week for included a collaborative bonding trip that emphasized the importance of teamwork, allowing students to forge new connections with one another.


Lots of opportunities to get to know each other a little better!

This year, Year 7s soundtrack is the song "High Hopes" by Panic! At The Disco. The choice of this song is quite intentional; its lyrics are a powerful reminder of the dreams and aspirations we hold for our students, as well as the journey they are about to undertake.
We believe that having high hopes is crucial, and we encourage our students to dream big and aim high. We are dedicated to supporting them in every way possible so they can realize their full potential.

We look forward to a productive and enriching year ahead for all our Year 7 students.

Thank you to Head of Year 7, Ms Vasiliou and her team for welcoming our new intake!

Religious Studies Students participate in 'Spirited Arts' competition

At the end of the summer term our Year 7 and Year 8 RWE students entered the International Spirited Arts Competition run by the National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE) in the UK. Congratulations to all who entered the competition. It was difficult to pick the best 10 as the work was of a very high standard.
Here are the winning entries from our Year 7 and Year 8 studnets. The competition is now being judged in the UK and we will find out the results at the end of this month.

Here is the link to the Wakelet that can be viewed by anyone. Well done to all. Fantastic work. And many thanks to Ms Kaccoufa for her guidance and support.

Spirited Arts Competition 2024 Year 8 and Year 7 Winning Entries

Student leaders' message to the community!

Our Leadership team for this year is made up of Harriet Economidou and Pavlos Bismal as Head Girl and Head Boy, Emily Kyriakides and Rebecca Petrou as Deputy Head Girls, and Joe Stewart as Deputy Head Boy. We are extremely proud to be given these positions and honoured that we have the opportunity to represent the school and its community in this way.



Meet our student leaders!

This year, we want to focus bridging the gap between younger and older students, by becoming more involved with the Junior School and creating a more close-knitted community within our school environment. We also want to enhance school spirit, through being involved in the celebrations for our school's 80th birthday but also events such as Sports Day, Founder's Day and even the School Musical.



We are keen on improving student life at our school, therefore ensuring that everyone's voices are heard is extremely important to us, which is why we want to focus on improving communication between students and teachers throughout our time as Student Leaders. We are extremely excited and looking forward to the upcoming school year, and we are wishing everyone a great start!

Our 80th Birthday!

Please note that as we celebrate the school's 80th anniversary this academic year, we shall be announcing a number of initiatives to mark this significant milestone in the history of our school.

Amongst other events, a marathon run will be happening in December with the primary aim of raising cash for charitable causes. More on this soon.

In December we will also be performing our 80th Anniversary event which will include music, drama and an exhibit of memorabilia form the history of the school.

In addition, on sale soon will be a range of items which will help us celebrate and remember this momentous year, such as specially designed T-shirts and hoodies, stationery, umbrella and car sun shields.

We look forward very much to keeping the community informed about the events of this year including, of course, Founders' Day events.

Please see also below our new celebratory letter heading:

80 years | THE JUNIOR & SENIOR SCHOOL

Inspiring young people to think & care

Welcome to the 6th Form Year 12!

Our Year 12 Induction Day offered a dynamic blend of important guidance and engaging activities to ease students into the new school year. Alongside learning about key expectations, students participated in interactive sessions and group activities aimed at fostering teamwork and a strong sense of community. The day struck a perfect balance between being informative and enjoyable. And , of course, welcome to our newly appointed Hed of Year 12, Ms Niki, Demetriou! We wish you the very best of luck!

Team work and community, very much the theme of the day!



Bonding activities...



Group activities on Day 1 for our new 6th formers!



Year 12s take to the pool...





TJS Institute is here!

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our brand-new Institute this September, a significant milestone in our commitment to academic excellence and inclusive education. Spearheaded by our dynamic Director of Studies, Ms. Nicky Shiarlis and her exceptional team - Ms. Latzias, Ms. Georgallas & Ms. Kozakou, our Institute represents a transformative leap forward in supporting students' English language development.

Our Institute is designed to cater to a diverse range of needs in the local community. Here is a taste of what we offer:

EARLY ENGLISH LEARNERS	We offer engaging English classes starting from as young as 4 years old for students whose first language is not English. Our tailored programmes ensure that these young learners build a strong foundation in English in a nurturing environment.
NATIVE SPEAKERS	For students whose first language is English but seek to enhance their language skills, we provide comprehensive classes that cover all aspects of English language development. These programmes are perfect for those looking to refine their proficiency and excel academically
IELTS ACADEMIC PREPARATION	Our Institute also offers targeted preparation for the IELTS Academic & General test. These classes are designed to equip students with the skills and confidence needed to achieve their best possible scores.
SUPPORT CLASSES	Recognizing that a small number of students may need significant additional assistance, we offer comprehensive, fully resourced courses aimed at helping those who are struggling with their English language skills and who require regular and substantive teaching to bolster their competence to able to cope with their normal school programme.

The opening of the Junior and Senior Institute marks an exciting new chapter in our school's journey and we are enthusiastic about the opportunities it will provide for our society. We are confident that, under the guidance of our Director of Studies and her dedicated team, this new initiative will greatly enhance our educational offerings and support every student's language learning journey.

Designated Senior Lead

PLEASE NOTE:

Until issues related to the status of the role of Principal are resolved, I remain as Acting Principal for the TJSS. In light of this dual role I carry as SS Headteacher-Acting Principal, we have established a delegated role:

Designated Senior Lead (DSrL). I have asked Ms Eithne O'Riordan to take on this duty until at least December. If need be, this will be extended until the matter of Principal/CEO/Head of School, etc. is decided by the Board of Governors.

The Designated Senior Lead is responsible for all Senior School related matters in the absence of the SS Headteacher (when he is located at the Junior School site in his capacity as Acting Principal). When I am not located at the SS, staff or parents may require a prompt meeting with the DSrL on matters of urgency or for the resolution of issues that require an immediate response. This is the key role of the DSrL. The DSrL may be required to take executive decisions depending on the urgency of the matter in the absence of the HT. In cases which require further consideration, the DSrl will record the concern or query and will inform the HT as soon as is practicable. The above duty (DSrL)) is then a means to address urgent or unexpected matters when I am physically absent from the SS site. In addition, meetings can of course be set up with me via my PA, Ms Stalo Spanoudi, when convenient, as is always the case.



BREAKING NEWS

Well done, Styliana Avraamidou, for winning the prestigious Gold Award in the 2024 Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition! This is an outstanding achievement, especially considering the competition's global scale, with over **34,000 entries** from talented young writers across the Commonwealth. Styliana's dedication, creativity, and skill have shone through in a contest that celebrates excellence in writing. We are incredibly proud of her hard work and accomplishment!



Thank you

Yiannis Georgiou
Senior School Headteacher
Acting Principal