

SS Headteacher's Newsletter

February 2025

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.

Coretta Smith King – US author, activist and civil rights leader and spouse of Martin Luther King



SSPGA - Thank you

How lucky we are to have such a vibrant and generous parent community! The PGA of the Senior School have been incredibly hardworking and kind in not only their organisation of events such as Valentine's Day treats but also their support of events such as the Key Stage 3 Disco and the 'Welcome Back' party back in September. Indeed, the Tsiknopempti day's events (on Thursday 20th) could not have materialised without their preparation and organisation on the day and the incredible task they had of ensuring all students got fed! – See separate report and photos below. Moreover, we are fortunate to have had contributions to the school which are important in a number of ways such as the provision of the wooden benches you may have seen popping up, the extra bins, the brand new podium in the Hall, etc. Whatever the contribution made, it has come through the devotion of time and energy to every project taken on by the active members of the PGA. This not only shows their commitment to the wellbeing of the school and our students but also a generosity and kindness which acts as a model of how we can all work together as a community for the benefit of all.

I would like to take this opportunity to express the school's heartfelt gratitude for everything the SS PGA does in support of the Senior School. We will continue to work with the PGA to explore all avenues for the further development of facilities in the school along with the many other contributions they make. I would also like to encourage all parents of SS students to sign up and register as members. The PGA Committee will, I am very sure, welcome all contributions and registrations!

TSIKNOPEMPTI 2025

Once again, the Senior School celebrated Tsiknopempti in style with a large-scale cook-in, plenty of traditional games and dances, Year 13 bbq skills, and opportunities for students (and staff!) to dress up in their preferred costumes! Many, many thanks to Ms Nicoletta Hadjipavlou (Head of Greek) and her team for the planning of the day's events and to the SS PGA for all of the work that went into the preparation and cooking of the souvlaki meals, the organisation of tickets, and the very tasty loukoumades, freshly made on site! A great time was had by all, as indicated in the photos below!



Banana costumed and about to consume his pita souvlaki!



Wise men in robes...



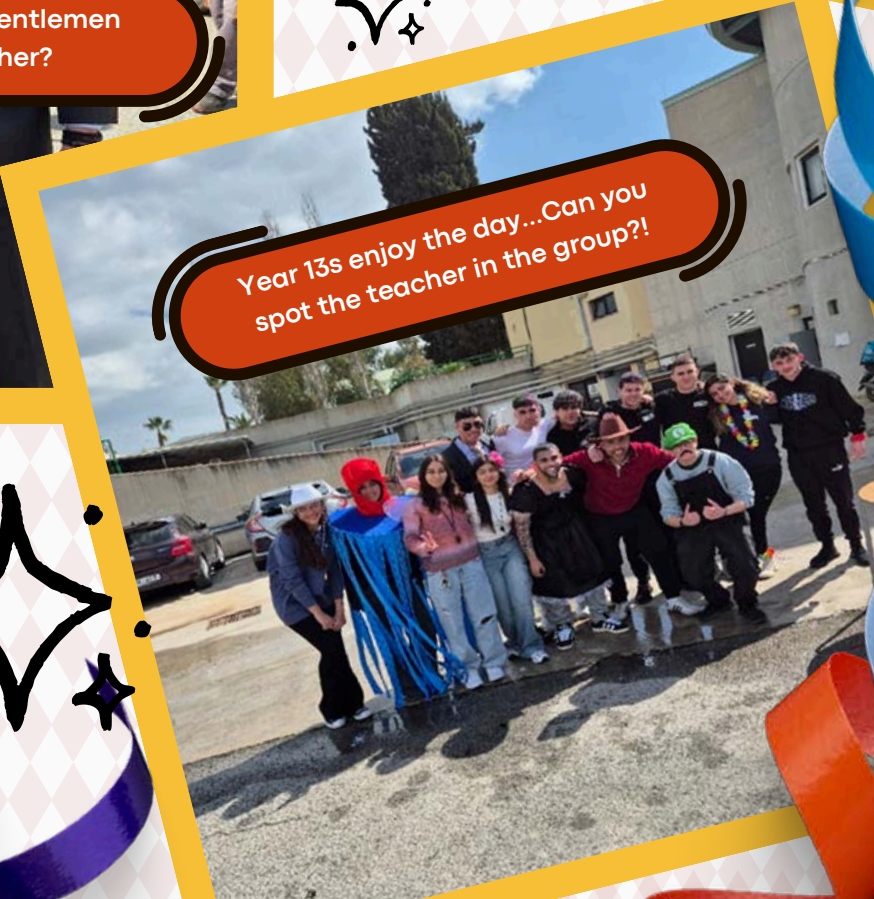
Even Lara managed to hobble in dressed appropriately for the day!



Teaching staff make the most of the sunny weather and Year 13 cooking!



Which of these two gentlemen is the Headteacher?



Year 13s enjoy the day...Can you spot the teacher in the group?!



Cows with attitude! 'Cow costumes' seemed to be a popular choice this year!



A hive of activity at the Year 13 bbq



A selection of costumes...



Prepping the meat...



Mops are cool!



Traditional Cypriot dancing



Year 13s and staff take to the dance floor...



Thank you, PGA and Mr Kyriakos for the delicious loukoumades!



SSPGA made it happen!



This is where all the meat was cooked!



PGA members ready to serve!

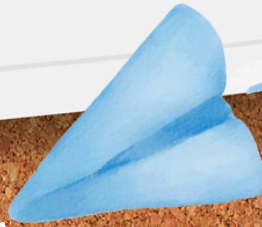
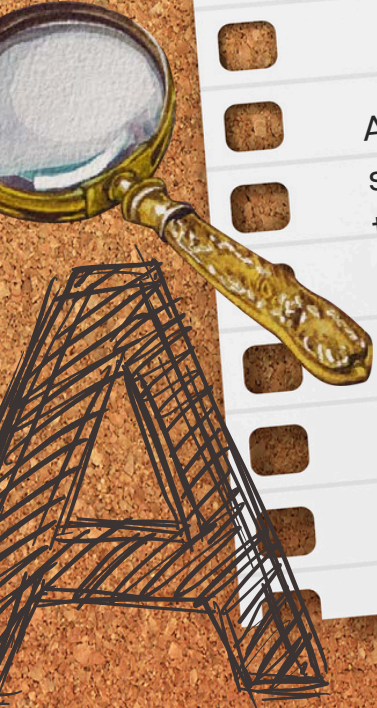


SS Parents pitch in

Other News!



After raising an impressive €370 through their bake sale, our Year 12 English Literature enthusiasts put their plans into action by organising a trip to Solonion Bookshop. There, they carefully selected a fantastic collection of English literary classics and modern masterpieces—from Oscar Wilde to Margaret Atwood. Visit the library to explore these exciting new additions!



Year 12 Lit make their selections



Y13s apply their knowledge of Physics!

Learning physics doesn't have to stay in the classroom! As part of their A2 IAL Physics course, our Year 13 students, along with Ms. Monou, took their studies to the park, where they explored oscillations and resonance on the swings, circular motion on the merry-go-round, and moments on the see-saw. The trip was a fun and engaging way to bring physics principles to life!

They are actually carrying out an experiment!



Community Connect: A Student-Led Initiative Making a Difference

Community Connect is a newly established after-school club at the Senior School, created by students, for students. This initiative provides pupils with valuable opportunities to engage in community service, gain real-world volunteering experience, and accumulate Duke of Edinburgh International Award (DoE) volunteering hours—all while making a meaningful impact on those in need.

The club allows students to suggest, discuss, and take part in various community-focused actions. Their latest initiative is an intra-school food and supplies drive in support of **Alkionides Charity**.

Donation boxes have been available at both the Junior and Senior School campuses.





Community Connect has quickly become an asset to **The Junior and Senior School** community, fostering a spirit of collaboration among students of all ages. It empowers them to turn ideas into action, making a real difference both within and beyond the school.

For more information and updates, follow [@communityconnect_tjss](https://www.instagram.com/communityconnect_tjss) on Instagram.

Human Rights Club Calendar

The Human rights club have produced a calendar that they have put up on the notice board of each Form group. Each month they will showcase a different human right and its tensions with other human rights. The aim is to encourage each class to consider what they have showcased and cross off the days each morning, drawing attention to the different religious and non-religious events for each month.

Spirited Arts competition 2025



This week the Religious Studies Department are launching the Spirited Arts Competition 2025. This is a whole school international competition judged by the National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE). Our current Year 9 students won the 'All Gods Creatures' category in 2024. Follow the link or scan the QR code to see this year's themes and details of the competition entry requirements.

[Spirited Arts Competition 2025](#)

Model United Nations Conference 2025

Congratulations to our students who participated in the Model United Nations Conference 2025, which was held at the European University from 7th to 9th February. The Senior School represented Germany and Kenya. The delegation representing Germany was made up of Anna Panayiotou, Daniella Metaxa and Leonie Wiederud. The delegation representing Kenya included Lara Lapithi and Noah Nathaniel. All students are from Year 12.

Our students performed extremely well. They impressed observers with their strong research skills, resolution writing and excellent debating skills showcasing their strong knowledge and understanding of parliamentary debate. Debates in all the General Assemblies were fierce, with resolutions focusing on the question of Artificial Intelligence technology and its impact on the creative industry and cultural identity, mechanisms surrounding the use of chemical and biological weapons, the question of illicit drug trade destabilising the global economy, the matter of honor killing and the topic of providing safe and humane conditions for refugees.

All our delegates' resolutions were passionately debated, contested and passed with pride.

Congratulations to all of our participating students. And many thanks to Ms Eithne O'Riordan for all of her guidance and support for our student delegates.

ACMUN 2025 Conference



Senior School Students recently returned from their participation in the ACMUN 2025 in Thessaloniki.

For the third consecutive year, students from our KS3/4 MUN activity attended the prestigious 20th ACMUN Conference in Thessaloniki, representing the USA and South Africa. Our students demonstrated exceptional diplomacy, research, and debate skills, making a strong impression throughout the conference.



Our ACMUN delegates

A special congratulations to our ambassadors, Philippos Carneiro Leao (USA) and Renee Strouthou (South Africa), whose clauses were successfully included in the final General Assembly resolution on the topic of Evaluating the Need for the Trusteeship

Council. In addition, Stephanos Artemis received the Best Delegate Award for his outstanding contributions in the C40 Cities committee.

The conference was a valuable experience for all participants, allowing them to engage in high-level discussions and refine their public speaking and negotiation skills. Our delegation included:

Year 11: Stephanos Artemis, Philippos Carneiro Leao, Daphne Liapis, Natalie Christofidou, Nefeli Vassiliou, Marilia Evangelou, Teodora Gorman
Year 10: Alexandros Kyriakides, Markus Lemonas, Maya Angelidou, Michaela Constantinou, Renee Strouthou, Stephanie Theocharides
Year 9: Alexis Kyriakides, Roma Theocharides

Congratulations to all our students for their dedication and success! A huge thank you to Mrs. Natalie Shaka and Mr. Nicholas Shixiate, our KS3/4 MUN Coordinator, for accompanying and supporting our students' successful participation throughout the conference.



SS hosts Education Exhibit



Our 2nd Education Exhibition held on Friday, 21 February, organised by our Careers Department, was a tremendous success.

Overwhelmingly positive feedback from visiting university representatives, parents, and students confirms the event's impact. Our sincere gratitude goes out to our Careers Department team and everyone who contributed to making this celebration of educational excellence possible!



Business Week charity drive



CHARITY



Many thanks to our students and staff for their generosity and community spirit! Together, we are making a difference.

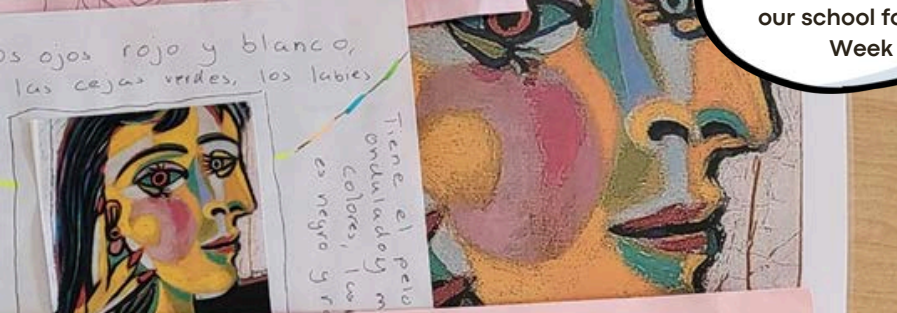
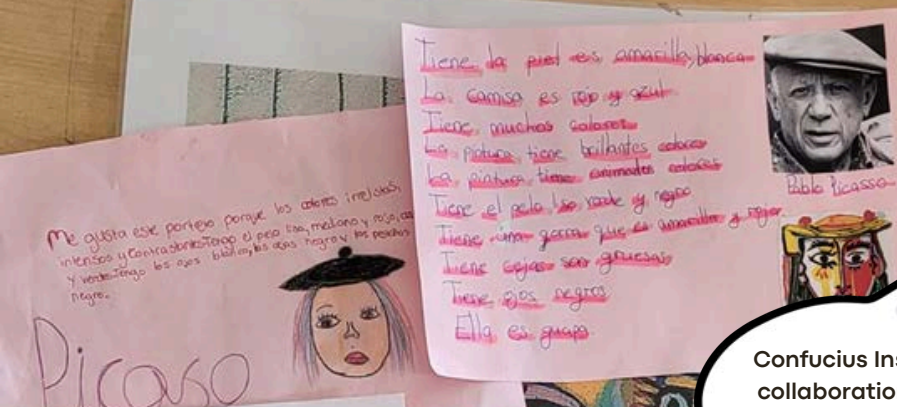
During Business Faculty Week, our school came together for a Bake Sale in support of the Karaiskakio Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to saving lives through its Bone Marrow Donor Registry.

We were honoured to welcome Mr. Paul Costeas, Executive Director, who inspired our students with his insights into the foundation's life-changing work.



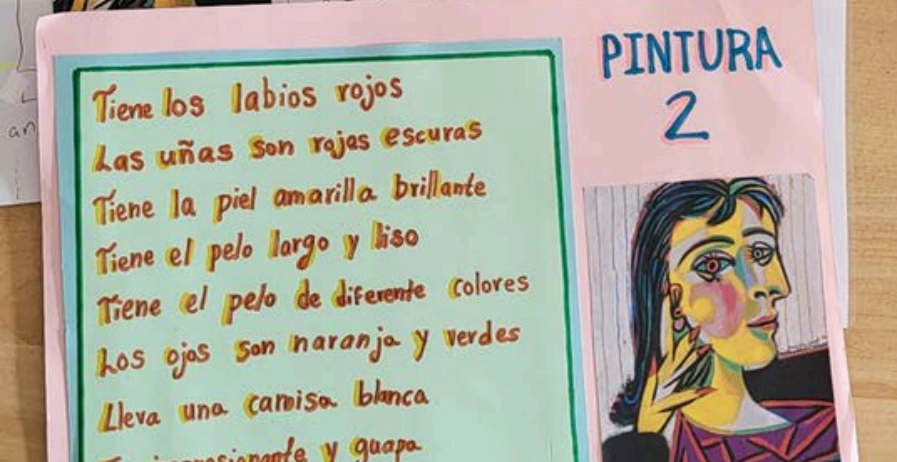
Modern Languages Week 2025

The Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) department organised an inspiring Languages Week, celebrating the power of language in fostering inclusivity, embracing diversity, breaking barriers, and creating a more inclusive society. Students and staff took part in a variety of activities that brought languages to life beyond the classroom. They shared and enjoyed international food, explored European museums through virtual tours, and connected art and language through the work of famous painters. The strong link between language and cultural identity was additionally highlighted through cultural workshops, calligraphy lessons and a martial arts session which were organized in collaboration with institutions such as the Confucius Institute, the Cyprus-China Art, Culture and Education Centre, the Dante Alighieri Institute, and the Cyprus Wushu Kung Fu Federation.



Confucius Institute collaboration with our school for MFL Week

Tasty food from around the world shared with students



Additionally, students shared their own languages and traditions, reinforcing the idea that language is more than just words; it serves as a bridge to new opportunities, strong relationships, meaningful connections, and global citizenship. Well done to Ms Papanastasiou and her MFL team for putting on a wonderful week of activities.

Sports School evening presentation



The Senior School hosted the official presentation of our Sports School Programme for the upcoming academic year 2025-2026. This event welcomed both parents of current students and those interested in enrolling their children in the programme next year.

During the presentation, parents gained insights into:

- The new structure of the programme
- Criteria for selection and participation
- Vision, mission, and objectives
- Operational framework for the next academic year



Mr. Constantinos Charalambides, Sports School Coordinator and Head Football Coach, introduced the Information Package 2025-2026, a comprehensive handbook outlining all key details. He also provided a brief overview of the Football Department. Mr Demetris Herodotou, Head Tennis Coach, presented his philosophy, criteria, and the high standards expected for students joining and continuing in the programme. Parents were also introduced to the Individual Athletes Programme, designed for students excelling in various other sports disciplines.

Many thanks to Mr Charalambides for the organisation and leadership of the presentation along with colleagues and student speakers.



Downhill racing Success for Nicolas

Well done, Nicolas Christofides, for gaining 2nd place in the Cadet Boys U14 category Stavrovouni Downhill race on February 16, 2025!



Business Week 2025

Last week, our school was buzzing with entrepreneurial spirit as we celebrated Business Faculty Week! From engaging activities in Economics, Business Studies, Accounting, and Financial Education, our students showcased creativity, sustainability, and business acumen.

Well done to our Junior Achievement Cyprus teams for their innovative business ideas:



Eco Pots – Turning cow manure, biodegradable cardboard & water into eco-friendly plant pots that nourish the earth!



Nature's Cup – Reinventing bubble tea with Cypriot flavours such as Honey, Carob & Rose. Local produce blends with Asian tea!



Heet 'Em Up – Sustainable fire starters made from recycled IQOS Heets & beeswax—eco-friendly warmth for outdoor lovers!



We couldn't be prouder of our students, their innovative minds, and our dedicated Business Faculty for making this event a success!



Good luck to all our Key Stage 5 students who will be revising for their Mock Exams which kick off on March 10th!

Wishing all a pleasant Green Monday
and a restful half term break!

Thank you

Yiannis Georgiou
Senior School Headteacher