



LIFE AT THE JUNIOR & SENIOR SCHOOL

Autumn Edition

NEWSLETTER 2024

Friday, 25th October 2024

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There is so much going on daily at The Junior School and it is wonderful to see our students coming in happy every day. Below is a brief overview of some of the amazing things that our students participate in.

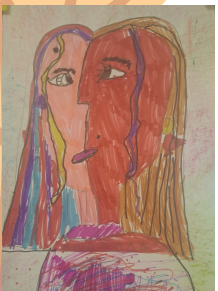
Year 1: A super start for Year 1

In Year 1 we have been learning to count past 20 and all about the part-whole model. We have created self-portraits and mandalas and loved learning about the ocean. We have also been working hard at learning new phonics.



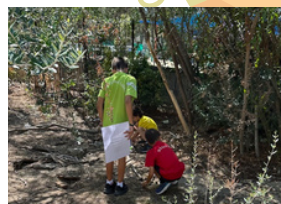
Year 2: Starting Y2 with Great Fun

In Maths, children were working on place value, learning with manipulatives and fun games like maths tag. In Art they made their very own Picasso portraits and in Science they experimented with dissolving as well as making some great material posters. The Year 2 children had an experimental lesson on “Charlie”, and how important it is to respect other’s feelings and treat people with respect and kindness.



Year 3: Health Day

We ended off our first topic on Human and animal nutrition with a Health Day. As well as making healthy fruit salads and competing in a fun class quiz, we also built skeletons out of things we found in our forest school. We look forward to many more exciting topic days this year.





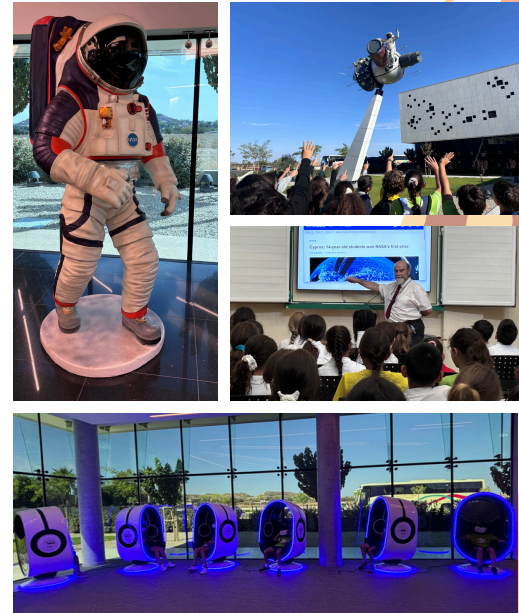
Year 4: Trip to Athalassa Park

Year 4 have enjoyed a busy first half-term with some exciting and educational events including a Science trip to Athalassa Park and a morning of Teambuilding Activities led by Chris from Jubilee. The children thoroughly enjoyed both events and they have been working hard on the skills and knowledge that they have gained in both. Year 4 have had a productive half-term earning a well-deserved rest; we cannot wait to welcome them back refreshed and ready to learn.



Year 5: Year 5... 4... 3... 2... 1... Lift Off!

This term, Year 5 launched into Our Place in Space! Highlights included creating mnemonics to memorize planets, researching female astronauts, and tracking the moon's phases in our Moon Watch. Artistic creations of galaxies and moon phases made learning even more fun! We were thrilled to welcome Mr Danos, President of the Cyprus Space Exploration Organisation, and our trip to the Cyprus Planetarium, featuring Apollo 11 and virtual reality space journeys, was truly out of this world!



Year 6: Trip to Troodos

Year 6 had an enriching educational trip to Troodos, where they visited the Troodos Visitor Centre. During their visit, students learned about the Troodos National Forest, exploring its diverse flora and fauna, as well as the importance of preserving this vital ecosystem. The day continued with a delightful hike along the Kaledonia Trail, culminating in a scenic picnic at the waterfall. It was a memorable and enjoyable experience for everyone involved!

Y5 Housematches

Congratulations to all our Y5 students for competing in their first housematches! Our tournament was a big success and we are very proud of all our students. After a nail-biting final that went into extra time, Christodoulides girls clinched the win in a suspenseful shoot out with Stone in close second. Gayford took 3rd place and Kenny in 4th. After an exciting round of matches, the Gayford boys managed to take 1st place in an exciting final against Kenny. Stone and Christodoulides battled it out for 3rd and 4th place, with Stone finally taking third. Well done to all participants for their outstanding effort and enthusiasm!



Y6 Housematches

Our Y6 handball tournament was a great success with some excellent performances from our boys and girls. After some hard fought matches the Christodoulides boys managed to be victorious and the Kenny girls proved their superiority on the court!

Forest School

Recently, our Forest School leaders spent an insightful day at Akrotiri Primary School, working with Dave Churchward as part of their Level 3 training. The team had the opportunity to observe lessons and activities within the school's well-established Forest School area. They also engaged in meaningful discussions with staff about the positive impacts of Forest School on children's learning and development. The hands-on experience and shared ideas will contribute significantly to shaping our long-term goals for a vibrant and enriching Forest School program.





First Aid

This term, a group of staff participated in comprehensive training for Pediatric First Aid and Outdoor First Aid. They gained in-depth knowledge on handling both adult and child illnesses and accidents. As part of their Forest School training, they also learned how to administer first aid in outdoor settings, including the use of tourniquets, bandages, and defibrillators. This training proved to be an incredibly beneficial experience, ensuring we can provide the highest level of care to all those at the Junior School, both indoors and outdoors.

Positive Discipline

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering a nurturing and respectful environment for our children, we will be sharing two Positive Discipline Tool Cards every half-term. These tools will offer practical strategies for parents to reinforce Positive Discipline principles at home, encouraging respectful, responsible, and resourceful behaviours.

• Kindness & Firmness

Kind & Firm balances empathy and respect for the child's feelings (kindness) with clear, consistent boundaries and expectations (firmness). This ensures that discipline is both compassionate and effective, helping children feel supported while learning responsibility and self-discipline.

• Natural Consequences

Natural consequences are the real-world outcomes that naturally follow a child's actions, allowing them to learn from their experiences in a safe and supportive way. These consequences help children understand the connection between their choices and the outcomes, promoting responsibility and decision-making rather than imposing punishment.

Natural Consequences

Children often learn best by experiencing the natural consequences of their choices—with your support.

1. When a child insists on doing things their own way (as two- and three-year-olds love to do), consider letting them learn from experience.
2. For example, when Omar refuses to wear his mittens and then cries because his hands are cold, show empathy ("Your hands must be freezing!") and then use curiosity questions to solve the problem. ("What could you do so your hands stay warm?")
3. You can gently remind a child about what happened the next time the subject arises: "Omar, I know you don't like to wear mittens. Do you remember what happened yesterday when you tried to make snowballs without them?"
4. Natural consequences are not appropriate if they pose any risk to a child's health or safety.

Positive Discipline Tools for Early Childhood Educators
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Kindness and Firmness at the Same Time

Kind and Firm statements are very encouraging – even when children aren't getting what they want.

1. Show that you understand the child's perspective: "I understand that finishing your robot is important to you..."
2. In the same sentence, show respect for yourself and the needs of the situation: "...and we still need to clean up before lunch." (The "and" in this statement makes it clear that both things are true: The child wants to continue and it is time to stop.)
3. Offer limited choices that are acceptable to you: "We can take a picture of your robot, or you can put it on the shelf to finish this afternoon."
4. Be explicit about the child having some power: "You can decide."

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THANK YOU

We love our school. Thank you to our Assistant Heads, Pascale who worked on the design, PTA and our dedicated staff and to all parents, grandparents, friends and loved ones who work together for our school community and the benefit of our children.

- Naomi Theocharides
Headteacher of The Junior School