

LIFE AT THE JUNIOR & SENIOR SCHOOL SPRING EDITION

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

As part of our Science topic the Year 1 children have had a wonderful time exploring the Forest School, feeding the birds and planting flowers. By planting their own seeds, they have discovered what conditions a plant needs to grow. Maths Day was also great fun! They played number games and excelled in the scavenger hunt outside!



YEAR 2

Year 2 has had a very productive and enjoyable Spring Term so far! We have been busy learning about shapes and patterns in Maths, and expanding our learning through Art, making shape pictures and geometrical trees! Living things and their habitats have been explored in our Science Topic, looking at micro habitats as well as making our own food chains! The children have also become great poets, writing alliteration and acrostic poems. Half term ended with a fabulous educational trip to the park with the Senior School's Eco Club sharing their knowledge about our environment! Well done to all our hardworking Y2 students!



Greek Department: The children of Y2 watched the play entitled "THE GRIMM STORY", a story based on three well-known fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm, discovering how important it is to fight for justice as well as the importance of forgiveness.

YEAR 3

Our students embarked on a journey into Ancient Egypt through a group research project, using essential Microsoft skills for the 21st century. This project fostered critical thinking as students analyzed online resources, showcased creativity in presentations, experienced teamwork and refined communication skills during presentations. We're immensely proud of their dedication and growth!



YEAR 4



We've had some very exciting topics this term. Year 4 put their archaeological skills to the test and went excavating for some artifacts in our very own dig! We have also been immersed in the world of Narnia where we recreated the magical wardrobe Lucy and her siblings enter and we even used our electricity knowledge to create a working lamppost. Our book this term has also helped us empathise with people affected by War. We made our own evacuee cards, just like British children made in 1941, and talked about how we can help welcome people into our community and help those less fortunate. This year many students across Year 4 have put this into practice by organizing school sales for charity, including a clay animal sale!



YEAR 5

To end off a busy half term, the Y5 students engaged in activities intended to help cultivate collaboration skills. They enthusiastically embraced teamwork and took part in a scavenger hunt in our Forest School area. This was later followed with activities and games designed to further improve their communication and enhance problem-solving abilities amongst the children, with a focus on being kind to each other.

Greek Department: The Y5Y children have been learning about the Byzantine years and during this topic they have created lovely projects about the Agia Sophia, the most important Greek Orthodox Church.





YEAR 6

Year 6 students successfully concluded their exploration of Victorian life through a series of interactive activities, allowing them to gain a deeper understanding of the Victorian era. These included dramatic performances and a Victorian Day designed to immerse them in the Victorian experience. Students engaged in lessons replicating Victorian educational practices, including handwriting drills with slates and quills, with some students participating in playful reenactments of Victorian classroom discipline, sporting a dunce's hat, and experiencing a mock caning. They also recreated Victorian photographs through drama, experienced 'drill', played traditional games, and baked traditional Victoria sponge cupcakes, which were enjoyed with jam and cream. The range of activities fostered an engaging and educational experience.



ROAD SAFETY AMBASSADOR

The Road Safety Ambassador of the Cyprus Youth Organization, Mrs. Raphaella Miltiadou, visited our school as part of our thematic unit "I drive safely" in which the Y4 children are working on. A particularly important experience for the children to cultivate traffic education, since they had the opportunity to submit a large number of questions that they had prepared.



CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country always brings a whole range of emotions with it, but on the whole is greatly enjoyed. Year 3 who experience cross country for the first time run twice around the hockey pitch. We were so proud of their effort and hard work.



Year 3 girls getting into the stride of things!



Our 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners for girls and boys!

Year 4 experience running in the park next to the school and they also did amazingly well. This is the starting line for the boys and girls separately!



Year 4 Boys 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.



Year 4 Girls' 1st , 2nd & 3rd winners

Year 5 had two false starts to their cross country in the sense that it was postponed twice due to the weather conditions. However, third time lucky for our Year 5s who were the last group to complete the annual cross country races!



Year 5 Boys' winners



Well done to Markella and Eden who came joint first for an exciting finish and we are proud of Eden who immediately offered not to have a medal as there was only one gold one (she was given one later!).

Year 5 Girls' winners

Year 6 race needed to be postponed due to rain and were fortunate enough that the rain stopped just in time for the postponed race. Boys setting off at last!



Year 6 Girls' winners in 2nd, 3rd and 1st place



Year 6 Boys' winners 3rd, 2nd and 1st place



INTER-HOUSE FUTSAL MATCHES

Year 6 and Year 5 House Matches took place in February. These were to be held at the Strovolos Municipal Courts, but due to an imminent thunderstorm, the Year 6 House Matches were played on the school grounds. The Year 5 House Matches took place in glorious sunshine! It was nice to have parents being able to watch and everyone enjoyed action packed tournaments that included extra time and penalties in a few of the matches! Most importantly, our children had fun representing their house and showed skill and sportsmanship. The results were:

Y6 BOYS:

1st STONE
2nd GAYFORD
3rd CHRISTODOULIDES
4th KENNY

Y6 GIRLS:

1st STONE
2nd KENNY
3rd CHRISTODOULIDES
4th GAYFORD

Y5 BOYS:

1st GAYFORD
2nd STONE
3rd KENNY
4th CHRISTODOULIDES

Y5 GIRLS:

1st KENNY
2nd STONE
3rd GAYFORD
4th CHRISTODOULIDES



INTER-SCHOOLS GIRLS' AND BOYS' FUTSAL COMPETITION

The Junior School successfully hosted this year's inter-school Tournament on the 23rd of February at the Strovolos Municipal Courts. We were happy to welcome the American International School of Cyprus, The Falcon School, The Grammar School and the GC School both for boys and girls' teams. All participants greatly enjoyed the tournament with some great performances and excellent sportsmanship from all. Our Junior School boys team took first place and our girls took second. We are very proud of our teams and all the hard work they have put in.





BERBAS CY CHALLENGE



BEBRAS
CHALLENGE

Approximately 600 students from our school participated in the BEBRAS CY challenge.

In December 2023, students in years 3,4,5,6,7,8 and 9, together with other students in Cyprus (both from the private and public sector) participated and undertook the BEBRAS CY challenge. BEBRAS is an international student competition, a challenge, on Computational Thinking. The goal is to promote Computational Thinking among students in a way that advances student ability beyond science and mathematical skills and enhance the students' analytical, algorithmic and problem solving skills.

The challenge is comprised of 2 rounds. Amongst all the students that participated in Cyprus, from each age group, the top 50 in the first round qualify for the second round which is in person.

Congratulations to all students that participated in the first round and good luck to those that qualified to the second and final round.

Some of those who qualified and for the second round are:

From Year 4: Christos, Pavel, Sofia Maria, Maya, Ziwen, Angelos and Ioanna

From Year 5: Vassilis, Stavros, Andis, Joan and Anna Maria

From Year 6: Paris, Iasonas, Andreas, Anastasis, Nelia, Aleksandra, Fenia, Arina and Vasileia

Breaking news! At the weekend the second round took place. These are the students who are ranked in the top 15:

Christos, Pavel, Vassilis, Andis, Paris, Iasonas, Nelia and Fenia.

We are very proud of all our students who took part and would like to congratulate them all, and of course those who qualified for the second round and our winners!

E STOP!



International school bullying day: the children had the opportunity to interact in the story telling of the story "The rhinoceros that did not share the water of his lake" by Dr. Elina Pettemeridou, and then they made their construction with the slogan "E STOP" to school bullying



PELLOMASKA COMPETITION

On March 13, our students presented another version of themselves through their PELLOMASKES (funny masks), full of ardour, creativity, and passion. The PELLOMASKA competition was held in grades Y5-Y6, one of the many traditions celebrated in Cyprus during the "Ten Days of Carnival/Apokrea." During that time, people made costumes out of whatever materials they had at home. They also chose to disguise their faces by painting them in a variety of styles. Those who were dressed in masks visited their friends' homes and made jokes. Carnival is always a good time to be a little more cheeky, isn't it?



ECO-SCORE ERASMUS MISSION

Year 6 had the opportunity to participate in a practical, mission based exercise developed to raise awareness of air quality. Each team used a location-sensitive game app to scan QR codes which gave specific instructions on 8 missions. Points were awarded for correct answers. 'The Silent Wheels Challenge' asked the teams to classify transport into eco and non-eco friendly. The 'Fountain of Purity' questioned the teams on water filtration and 'Garden Treasure' which was based in the Forest School raised questions regarding the air-quality benefits of indoor and outdoor plants.

Many thanks to George and his team for a fantastic learning opportunity.



THANK YOU, PTA

We would like to thank the PTA committee who have worked very hard this half term. They created an incredible atmosphere for Tsiknopempti, whilst feeding over 1000 people! The organization and hard work behind this event has to be seen, to be believed. Tsiknopempti came straight after 10 full on days of having every student in the school photographed. Again a huge amount of organization is needed both before, during and after this event. In addition to these events, the committee organized a Year 3 & 4 disco, the day after Tsiknopempti which was greatly enjoyed by all. Finally, the same weekend the PTA organized for any students and parents who wanted to join the Carnival Parade! Everyone of these events has been a great success and we are truly grateful for the dedication of our PTA committee.



THANK YOU

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We love our school! We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our incredible Early Years team, to our Assistant Heads, our supportive families, the dynamic PTA, and our creative PA, Pascale, for designing this newsletter. Together, your efforts not only enrich our school experiences but also strengthen the bonds within our warm and inclusive community.

- Naomi Theocharides
Headteacher of The Junior School