

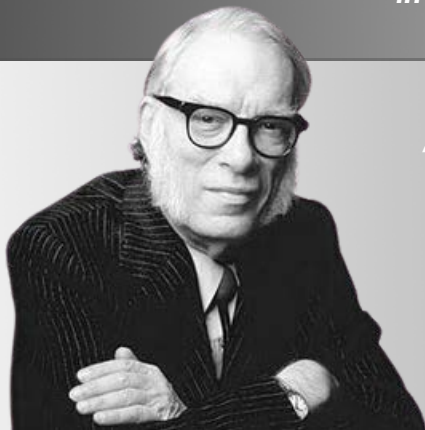
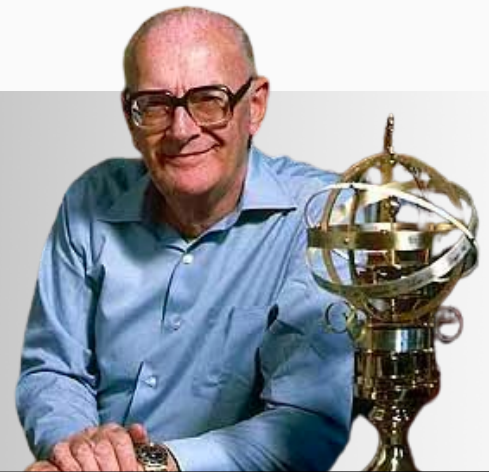
SS Headteacher's Newsletter

March 2025

QUOTES OF THE MONTH

'If an elderly but distinguished scientist says that something is possible, he is almost certainly right; but if he says that it is impossible, he is very probably wrong.'

Arthur C. Clarke, British science fiction writer, futurist and inventor



'The true delight is in the finding out rather than in the knowing.'

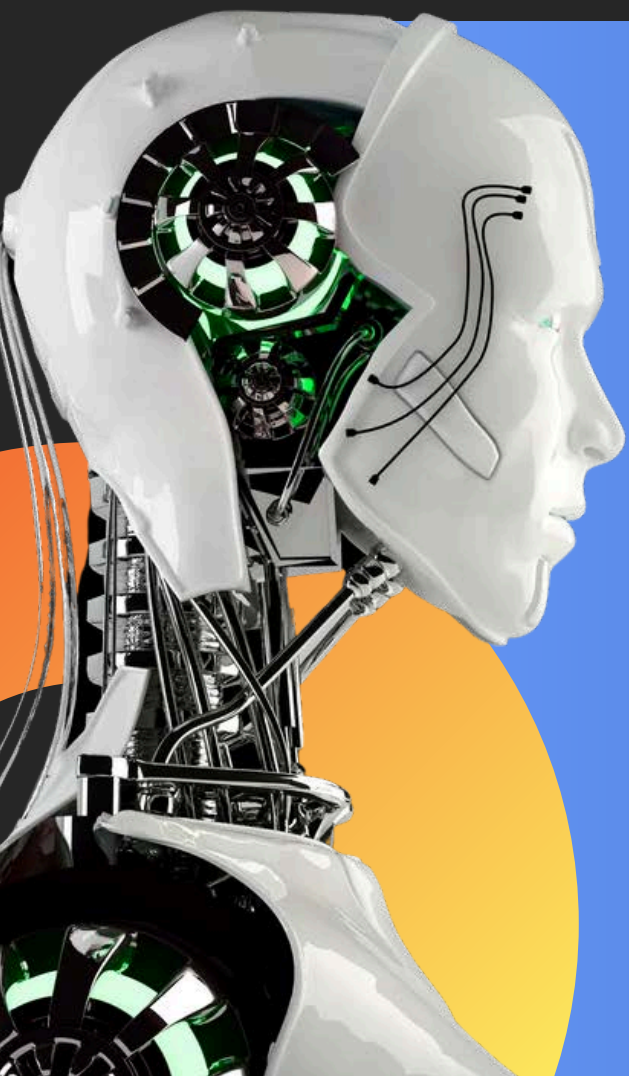
Isaac Asimov, American science fiction writer and scientist

At the Senior School, we are constantly exploring ways in which we can nurture a practical application of the knowledge and skills students acquire in their lessons. This is especially evident in some of the remarkable achievements we have seen from our students in recent weeks, which are highlighted below. STEAM education (science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics) is an area or approach to learning which allows for innovation and creativity across a number of disciplines. For young people to be prepared for future careers, it is important to develop those skills that address constantly fluid environments whereby a mindset of creativity and flexibility in thinking about and addressing the challenges of the world and the workplace is fully enhanced. Without this mindset, society can not move forward and adapt to what is recognised as a world of continual upheaval. Problem based project work will nurture minds that can more quickly adapt and rise to the unexpected and the exceptional. We are, therefore, particularly proud of our students in their pursuits outside the classroom such as our participation in a local robotics competition and our success at the Euromath/EuroScience event, let alone Junior Achievement. These and other participations are encouraged and supported as far as possible with a view to widening the educational experience of young people in our school.

Senior School Robotics Circuit breakers success!

Well done to our team of innovators who recently took part in the First Tech Challenge Pancyprian Competition in Nicosia! They Secured 6th place and, in addition, gained 2nd Place for the Inspire award. Along with support from the SSPGA and their teachers, our team designed and constructed their robot in competition from a number of teams and schools from across the island. The team's creativity, innovation and collaborative spirit were all key to their success!

Our team of dedicated Year 7,8,9,10 and 11 students devoted tremendous time and energy from the beginning of the academic year, building on last year's participation (our first ever) in the National event. Our robot's 6th place (out of 26 teams) was incredible progress from last year's first attempt. Most importantly, though, our team's hard work and dedication all year not only in building a working robot but also successfully completing an interview with a panel of judges to present our team and public outreach events and successfully submitting a portfolio of our robot work enabled us to win 2nd place for the prestigious Inspire award. This win gives our team the opportunity to participate at the European Premiere FTC Event this July 2025.



We extend our congratulations to all the students and the coaches for their well-earned prize and wish them the best of luck at the European Event this summer in Eindhoven, Netherlands. The club members who participated at the 2-day competition on March 8th-9th are: Phillipos Carnero-Leao, Daniel Cleanthous, Yiangos Grimm, Georgios Iacovou, Constantinos Michealas, Xenios Larkos, Zoe Booton, Ioannis Episkopou, Marija Godunova, Thomas Adams, Panayiotis Panayiotou, Benjamin Dockray. At the competition, our team demonstrated exceptional teamwork, enthusiasm, cooperation with other teams and technical skills led by Senior School staff Katerina Iordanou, Melina Chrysostomou and Martha Cleary who mentored and coached the students throughout the year, devoting countless hours to ensuring successful registration and completion of all requirements to participate. Congratulations to all on a job well done!

We are incredibly proud of their achievement and wish them the very best of luck in July in Eindhoven!



Students from the Team had the following to say about their experience at the competition:

- 'the robotics competition was a great opportunity, and I can't wait to compete in Holland!'
- 'the FTC competition was great, people asked me about our school, we learned a lot about other school's methods and strategies and I made a lot of friends just from going stall to stall helping each other out.'
- 'The experience was exhilarating, I never expected that we would achieve so highly, it makes me excited for the future of our robotics team!'
- 'I look forward to what the future holds for our robotics team. Despite the odds, we gave it our all and won the Inspire Award - an unforgettable experience!'
- 'The FTC was an amazing experience where I got to make lots of new friends.'
- 'It was a challenging but exciting experience that pushed our team's engineering skills to the next level.'
- 'After months of preparation, teamwork, and determination, we won!'
- 'I thoroughly enjoyed this year's robotics competition and loved seeing all kinds of teams from all around the world, especially as this meant that we made friends and met new people, providing us with a truly unique and unforgettable experience.'
- 'I really enjoyed the experience of being around such highly intelligent and committed people with such will and motivation for improvement and passion to learn , I'm for sure looking forward to more opportunities like this in the future.'
- 'The experience was so great, the competition was fantastic, everyone was so nice, and it was something that I will never forget. I was excited about the result and so happy to have attended.'
- 'It was a wonderful experience and gave people from different countries the chance to work together and help each other knowledge-wise.'



“
 Excellent work, everyone.
 Special thanks also to
 accompanying staff, Ms Elia
 and Ms Chrysostomou!
 ”

SS EUROSCIENCE TEAM BRINGS IT HOME!



Fantastic news from our participation in the Euromath/Euroscience event this month hosted in Thessaloniki, Greece. Two of our students (Nereis Ioannidou and Anastasia Ioannidou) managed to gain 1st Place in the Science Presentation category!! Amazing achievement!



“
 Well done to
 our team!
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SOLAR POWER ILLUMINATES YOUNG MINDS: YEAR 10 PHYSICS TRIP TO PROTEAS PROJECT

The Year 10 Physics students recently enjoyed a field trip to the PROTEAS project run by The Cyprus Institute, offering them a first hand glimpse into the future of renewable energy technology. This excursion perfectly complemented their ongoing studies on energy resources and generation in the classroom.

Upon arrival, students were greeted by specialists in the renewable energy field who guided them through a comprehensive tour of the cutting-edge facilities. The visit included an informative presentation that highlighted the institute's mission and its contribution to sustainable energy solutions both locally and globally.

"The experience was eye-opening," remarked one of the attending students. "Seeing some of the actual technologies we've been studying in class as well as learning about new ones made the concepts so much more tangible"

Throughout the tour, students discovered a diverse range of innovative projects currently underway at the site. They learned about how research facilities operate, and the rigorous processes involved in developing and testing new renewable energy technologies.

The specialists also shared exciting information about future projects that are in the planning stages, demonstrating the dynamic and evolving nature of the renewable energy sector.

The visit provided a valuable opportunity for students to draw direct parallels between theoretical concepts covered in their physics curriculum and real-world applications. From solar thermal collectors to advanced energy storage systems, students witnessed firsthand how scientific principles are being harnessed to create practical solutions for our energy needs.



Valuable insights gained into the practical applications of what has been acquired in class!



What made the experience particularly relevant was learning how these technologies will help Cyprus and other countries meet their renewable energy targets in the coming years. Students gained insight into the environmental benefits of these innovations and how they contribute to reducing carbon footprints and combating climate change.

As our school's Physics Department continues to emphasize the importance of environmental stewardship and scientific literacy, experiences like the PROTEAS project visit provide invaluable learning opportunities beyond the classroom walls.

STYLIANA'S PRESTIGIOUS ACHIEVEMENT IN THE QCEC!

We are proud to celebrate Styliana's remarkable achievement as she steps into the role of **judge** for the Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2025. Having previously earned two silver and two gold awards in the competition, Styliana has wholeheartedly adhered to the support and guidance of the English Department, which has helped shape her literary journey. Her selection as a judge is a testament to her talent and dedication, allowing her to remain actively involved in the QCEC even beyond competing. Styliana also had the honour this year of representing the school at the award ceremony hosted by the President of the Royal Commonwealth Society Cyprus, further highlighting her outstanding accomplishments. We look forward to seeing her continue to make her mark in the literary world!

HUMANITIES WEEK 2025



Humanities Week was a grand success this year with numerous interactive events allowing students to actively engage in promoting global citizenship and cultural understanding.

HIGHLIGHT OF HUMANITIES WEEK EVENTS INCLUDED:

Bake sale supports Eco School status bid





GEOGRAPHY:

The Eco Committee hosted a bake sale to support our school's journey to becoming an Eco School and presented their sustainability efforts and future endeavours to Year 9 students. Geography events for the week ended with an Interactive workshop led by the NGO Kykloikodromio, where students explored creative ways to repurpose household waste!



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES:

Year 10 students led an assembly on food poverty for Year 8 students, discussing its global impact and solutions and showcasing their coursework. They also hosted a workshop on food poverty in Cyprus during PSHE sessions. Meanwhile, Year 11 students organized a bake sale to support Caritas Cyprus and raise awareness for refugee needs.

HISTORY:

The department brought history to life with a source analysis workshop by AHDR, a lively Speaker's Corner during first breaks throughout the week, and a fun historical dress-up day for teachers!

“
Speakers' Corner
event attracted a
good deal of interest!
”



The Human Rights Club had a Bakesale during Humanities week to raise money for Step Up Stop Slavery. They raised an impressive 307 Euros. The Human right they are focusing on in March is Article 4 Freedom From Slavery. Congrats to the team and thank you staff and students for your support!

Much appreciation to Humanities staff and students who participated and made the week such a success!

YEAR 11 GREEK IGCSE – VISIT TO UCY LIBRARY



Our students visited the University of Cyprus library this month and were able to conduct research on the thematic unit of Environment and Ecology (one of the IGCSE Edexcel topics) using library resources. A librarian provided a guided tour of the library, and the students learned about the architecture of the building. Students were given time to study the Revision Study Guide for their exam, which helped them become familiar with quiet study areas, fostering focused and independent learning.



Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου
University of Cyprus
Βιβλιοθήκη/Library

YEAR 13 BOYS GET A TASTE OF MILITARY LIFE

22 year 13 boys participated in an educational visit to the Naval Base "Evangelos Florakis" in Mari. The visit began with an informative presentation by the base commander, covering the rich history of the Cyprus Army, Navy, and the rigorous training of Navy SEALs. The graduates then toured the naval vessels stationed at the base, gaining firsthand insight into maritime operations. A significant portion of the visit included paying respects at the base's chapel, dedicated to Cypriot saints and martyrs, and honouring the memory of 13 heroes who lost their lives during the tragic Mari explosion in 2011 while defending the naval base. Our students demonstrated exemplary respect throughout this meaningful visit, which effectively combined military education with historical commemoration.



SS SKI TRIP TO CRANS-MONTANA



For the second consecutive year, our school organized and sent 22 students from KS3 and KS4 on a ski trip to Crans-Montana, Switzerland, from March 1st to March 8th. Under the guidance and supervision of Mr. Glyki and Ms. Masonou, the students had a successful and memorable experience.

This trip will undoubtedly remain unforgettable, as they gained valuable experiences and developed new skills while skiing in the Swiss Alps for a week under the instruction of experienced ski instructors.



BIKERS VISIT TO RECEIVE SS STUDENTS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO ONE DREAM, ONE WISH CHARITY

All proceeds go towards Fulfilling the wishes of children with cancer, financial support for their families and providing psychological support to both the children and their families.

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

BY NAYIA GEORGIADIS IN GYMNASTICS
COMPETITION



We are delighted to share the great news about Nayia Georgiadis from Year 7. On the 6th of March, Nayia participated in the Pancyprian Gymnastics Competition, which took place in Nicosia. Her performance was truly remarkable, demonstrating exceptional skill, dedication, and sportsmanship. Through her hard work and commitment to the sport, Nayia has made both her school and peers proud.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Nayia on this outstanding achievement and look forward to seeing her continue to excel in gymnastics. Well done, Nayia!

JUNIOR SCHOOL FOREST SCHOOL OPENS

Congratulations to the Junior School on the inauguration of the Forever Forest School!



Well
Done

Well done to our Year 12 and Year 13 students for having completed their Mock exams. It was a gruelling two weeks or so, but we are proud for all the effort they have put in!

Many thanks also to Mr Kaccoufa and Ms Shakti for all the planning and organisation of the Mock exam period.

MARCH 25TH PARADE – GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY



Congratulations to our SS students and Mr Athanasiou and Mr Glykis for a superb display at the Parade marking Greek independence.

Thank you

Yiannis Georgiou
Senior School Headteacher