

# SS Headteacher's Newsletter

## MAY 2025

### QUOTES OF THE MONTH

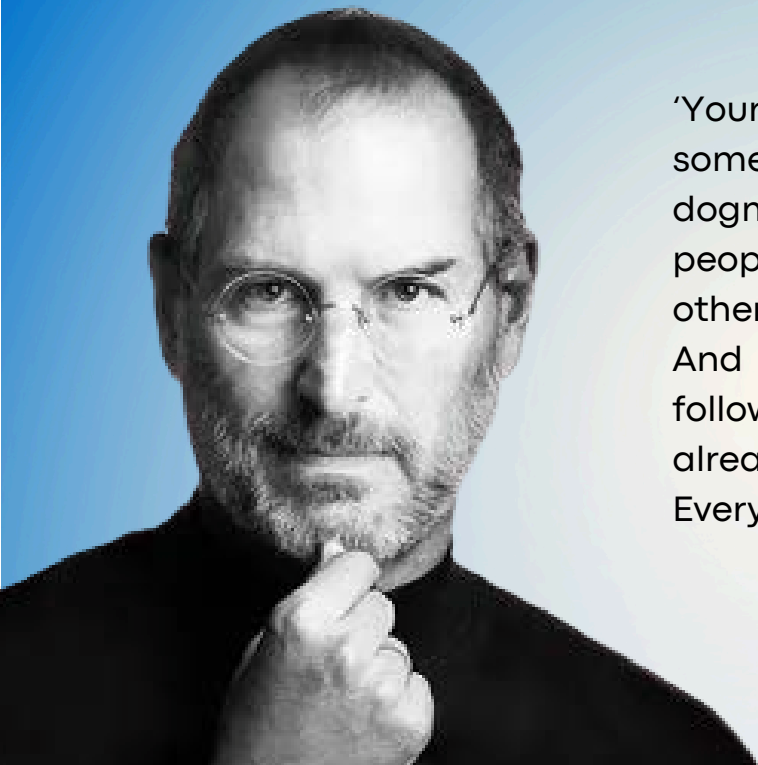
'Talent is cheaper than table salt. What separates the talented individual from the successful one is a lot of hard work.'

***Stephen King, author***



'Your time is limited, don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma, which is living the result of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition, they somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary.'

***Steve Jobs, co-founder and ex-CEO of Apple Inc.***





We are now well and truly into exam season and Year 11s and 12s in particular have been busy all month sitting IGCSEs and AS exams, with A Levels for Year 13s now underway also. Year 10s and Key Stage 3 are moreover in exam mode with school end-of-year examinations on track. As always, we advise students to build good study habits and to adopt a style of revision that suits them. For KS3 and Year 10s, the following link may be of some use:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/groups/cd5exmm663et>

Our ethos is to support our young people in all their pursuits, but we also encourage and indeed value wellbeing and a grounded approach to assessments. It can be stressful, but what is more important is that students are able to address their revision with a plan and a focused mindset that centres on doing the best they can but also taking onto account that these assessments are an opportunity to both show their level of attainment and to identify gaps that can be closed during the summer months.



## GRADUATE NEWS!

Ariadne Panayiotou (alumna) has won first prize in the 2025 Wax Poetry World Cup with her poem Horology!

<https://waxpoetryart.com/worldcup/2025/firstplace.html>

And here is a link to the poem itself:

<https://waxpoetryart.com/axil/published/2024ariadnepanayiotou-ioannou.html>

Ariadne went on to read English Literature at Durham University after graduating from the Senior School three years ago. The English Department is incredibly proud of her!

## MFL SUCCESS

We are happy to announce that during the Easter holidays, three Year 8 students—Andriani Georgiou, Savvina Koumna, and Ioanna Papapetrou—and one Year 9 student, Michail Kravets, successfully passed the Goethe A1 Fit in Deutsch German language examination. Several students have also sat external Spanish and French exams (DELE and DELF) in May, with results expected in August.

We are also delighted to report that Maria Petrescu (Year 10) has won the **Gold Prize in French** at the **Kangourou Competition** held in Cyprus! This remarkable achievement highlights her dedication, hard work, and exceptional skills in the French language. We are incredibly proud of her success and the determination she displayed throughout the competition.

**Please join us in congratulating Maria for this outstanding accomplishment!**



# MATHS SUCCESS!

Well done to SS students for recent successes in Mathematics! Yuxin Guo (Year 12) has received a Bronze medal in the Mathematics Olympiad for Grade 12 along with Ioannis Skordis (Year 9) who also received a Bronze medal for Grade 9.

## SS CHESS ACHIEVEMENT

The Cyprus Chess Federation recently organised the Cyprus Team School Chess Championship 2025. On Sunday, May 11th at the Journalists House in Nicosia, more than 130 students from public and private schools across Cyprus participated in a highly competitive event. Our team won second place and was awarded the Silver Medal in the Cyprus Lyceums category.

Captained by Zian Di Bruce (Y11), Alexandros Kyriakides (Y10), Michail Kravets (Y9) and Marios Panayiotou (Y7) our school's team participated in the competition for the very first time. Michail also won the 3rd Chess Board Best Player Award.

Amazing achievement by our students. Many thanks to the Chess Federation for the opportunity to compete.



# KARATE TRIUMPH



We are proud to celebrate Katherine's amazing achievement at the Nicosia Karate Open 2025 competition, which took place on the 26th and 27th of April. We are pleased to share that she gained **second place** in the team competition. We are incredibly proud of her success and the determination she displayed throughout the competition.



## BREAKING NEWS

HUGE  
HONOUR  
FOR THE  
SENIOR  
SCHOOL!

### THE SENIOR SCHOOL HAS BEEN NOMINATED TO REPRESENT CYPRUS AT THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SCHOOL (TES) AWARDS OF JA EUROPE

The Business Faculty recently received the letter below from JA Cyprus:

Dear Mr Pipis and Mrs Papapavlou,

I hope this message finds you well. Each JA Member is invited to nominate one school to represent their country. A selection committee will review all nominations and select the top 10 schools which will be awarded with the TES Award and recognised at Gen-E 2025 in Athens (1-3 July). We are pleased to inform you that JA Cyprus will be nominating The Junior and Senior School for the 2025 JA Europe TES Awards. This nomination is in recognition of your school's ongoing participation and valuable involvement in JA Cyprus programmes over the years. Your consistent support and dedication to fostering entrepreneurial education have made a significant impact, and we believe your school truly embodies the spirit and objectives of the TES Awards.

Well done to the Business Faculty and JA students over the years. This is truly a great achievement for our school. We wish them the best of luck!

# ATHLETICS NEWS

We are delighted to report on exceptional performances from our Year 8 students at the prestigious Pancyprian Track and Field Competition, held on 5th May at the Tsirio Stadium in Limassol.

Two of our talented athletes, Cleo Mouzakis and Anastasia Rostantis, demonstrated remarkable skill and determination in their respective events.

Anastasia delivered an outstanding performance in the 600m race, completing the distance in an impressive 1.49 seconds. While she won her heat convincingly, the overall competition was incredibly fierce, and despite her excellent time, she narrowly missed out on a medal position.

Cleo showcased exceptional form in the high jump competition, clearing an impressive height of 135 cm. This outstanding achievement secured her fourth place in a highly competitive field, demonstrating her tremendous potential in the discipline.

Both students have shown remarkable dedication to their training, and their performances reflect the high standards of our school's sports programme. Congratulations to both on fine performances at the Pancyprians!





As reported in the last issue of the Newsletter, many thanks again to all the staff who volunteered to either dress up in a silly costume or take part in the ice bucket challenge to support the Pachamama project - a charity which supports refugees experiencing period poverty. The Student Council and Wellbeing Ambassadors worked hard in a very short space of time and managed to raise ..... close to 700 Euro

The next stage of the School's support for the Pachamama project is to set up an afternoon club from September 2025 to make the reusable sanitary pads that will be sent to refugees in Greece.

**In order to do this, they need your help in the form of donations:**

- Fabric donations - cotton, including curtains and duvet covers (good-as-new and dark or coloured patterns)
- Towels
- Fleece material e.g. hoodies
- Dark coloured synthetic (anti pill) fleece new /unused or Dark coloured synthetic (anti pill) fleece nearly new
- Plastic Kam Snaps - size T5 size 20

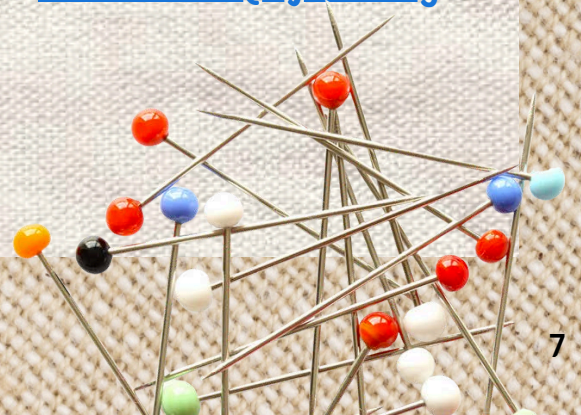


**They will also need:**

- Sewing machines to make the sanitary pads (these can be donated or loaned to the school)
- Thread for the sewing machines
- A helpful parent to show them how to use the sewing machine!

Please do follow the link to find out more about the Pachamama Project: [\*\*The Pachamama Project | Fighting Period Poverty\*\*](#)

Please ccontact Ms Anne-Marie Theodorou at [atheodorou@tjss.ac.cy](mailto:atheodorou@tjss.ac.cy) for further information.





## Year 9 at the UNic STEM Fair



Well done to our Year 9 students who represented the school at the University of Nicosia on May 17<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness about Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) during the STEM Fair. Our students engaged the public in a range of educational activities, including teaching about the correct use of antibiotics, exploring the myths and facts surrounding microbes, and examining the history of medical inventions.

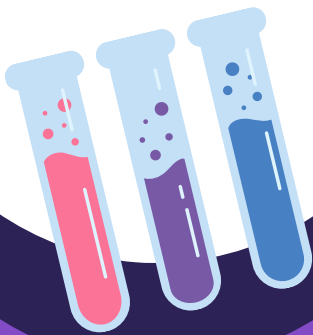
## ON TRACK FOR THE IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME!



In May the school underwent an IB Verification visit from representatives of the International Baccalaureate Organization.

Our guests were fulsome in their praise of all staff (teaching and non-teaching) and of the preparatory work we have put in towards authorization to deliver the IBDP as of September! Indeed, they were hugely impressed with our school and its students! Congratulations to our school for reaching this important milestone but especially to our Head of IB, Ms Deepa Dindoyal, for her leadership of this process!

# FIRST PRIZE AT SCYENCE FAIR



Two of our Year 9 students, Nereis Georgia Ioannidou and Anastasia Ioannidou, were awarded first prize at this year's Science Fair held at the Cyprus Institute for their project entitled 'BioCleanse' (an all-natural mouthwash they have developed).

Pictured is Anastasiou Ioannidou receiving the award from the President of the Cyprus Institute Professor Stavros Malas and accompanied by Mrs. Iordanou, Head of Science at the Senior School. Anastasia shared her and Nereis' experience:

'Taking part in the 2025 sCYence Fair organized by the Cyprus Institute was a truly unforgettable experience. The energy, curiosity, and creativity shared by everyone over the two days made it such a joyful celebration of science. I was so proud to present my project, BioCleanse, and to see how many people were interested in the work we've done. I'm incredibly grateful to my teachers for their constant support and encouragement—they've not only guided us throughout this journey but have also inspired us to keep pursuing our passion for science with confidence and determination.'



# Geography Fieldtrip 2025

Our IGCSE & A-Level Geography students had an incredible hands-on learning experience during their two-day field trip to Limassol. Students had the opportunity to practice their data collection techniques and work with their groups to analyse results and discuss findings.

On the first day, students investigated the land use patterns of Limassol city, for which they conducted surveys, analysed urban zoning, and discussed how different factors shape the city's development.

Day two included the collection of data along the Limnatis River, where students had to put their classroom knowledge into practice. They examined how river characteristics change downstream and applied geographical skills to real-world data collection.



# International Day of Yoga

We are delighted to announce a collaboration between the Senior School and the High Commission of India in Cyprus for the celebration of **The International Day of Yoga on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025, 7.30-8.15am at the Senior School site.**

Our aim is to organise a 45 minute yoga session which will be tailored to suit participants of ages 12+ and all skill levels. The session is open to all our Senior School students, their parents and staff and will foster a sense of balance and mindfulness, promoting a healthy and productive environment.

If you are interested in taking part in this yoga session, please complete the following Forms link by **FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025** to help us with planning

<https://forms.office.com/e/wuUhukc3fC>

For more information please see the attached letter: [IDY\\_2025.docx](#)

# THE JUNIOR & SENIOR INSTITUTE IS GROWING – AND THRIVING!



After a successful first year, we are proud to continue expanding our English Language Programmes at the Junior and Senior Institute. Our commitment to providing high-quality programmes for learners of all ages remains stronger than ever, including:

- Young Learners English Programme for ages 4–6
- Cambridge English Exams for learners aged 6–18
- IGCSE English as a Second Language
- IELTS Academic - available both online and on-site

This year, we've also extended our popular Native English Language Programme, to include three additional year groups. This means children can now begin their journey from as early as age 6 through to 12, giving primary students the opportunity to build native-level fluency and confidence over time.

We have also hosted two inspiring Creative English Workshops – one at the Junior School for younger learners and one at the Senior School for more advanced students – both full of energy, imagination and language in action!

We're also proud to announce that we are now an official IELTS Test Centre, accredited by IDP IELTS, allowing students to prepare for and take a globally recognised English exam in a trusted, supportive environment – right here at our school.

As of September 2025, classes will be offered at both The Junior & Senior School sites, offering convenience, continuity and quality in every lesson.

At the Junior and Senior Institute, our mission remains the same: to empower learners through meaningful, engaging and internationally recognised English Education.



## PASS THE WORD!

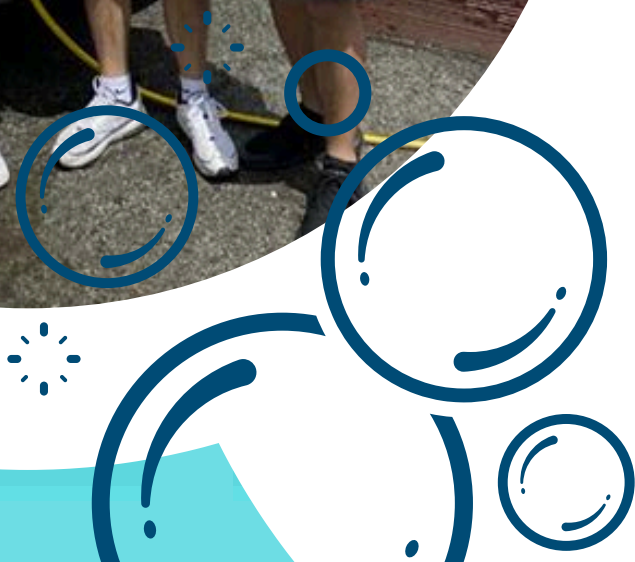
YEAR 13

# CAR WASH

*fundraising*



**Well done to Year 13s for their carwash fundraiser. A number of our graduates-to-be sacrificed their Saturday morning to deliver top a quality car wash for all customers on the SS premises!**



# AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS

A reminder that afternoon activities finish on FRIDAY 30<sup>th</sup> MAY 2025. Thank you to all who have participated and the efforts of the students, teachers, and parents who have made it possible.

A letter will be sent home at the beginning of July that will outline the proposed Afternoon Activity Programme for 2025-26....Watch this space, there are many exciting new additions to our already wonderful programme. This letter will also contain all the proposed external and internal trips for the upcoming academic year. Many thanks to our Assistant Head, Ms Anne-Marie Theodorou, for coordinating our afternoon activities programme and off site trips (local and overseas).

*Thank you*

**Yiannis Georgiou**  
Senior School Headteacher