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Dear Parents and Carers,

Our staff had a busy weekend with 26 teachers attending the CTY workshop on identifying the gifted students in our classrooms, with an interesting talk about game theory from Mr. Papadopoulos that certainly made us all think. Many thanks to Mr. Papadopoulos and Mrs. Pittas for organising it and thank you to the staff who were able to attend for your enthusiasm and willingness to try, win, but more importantly, understand the games that were discussed as part of the session.

Last weekend also saw Mrs. Kaccoufa presenting to her international colleagues in NATRE (National Association of Teachers of Religious Education). She showed the work she has developed on World Views and Theology at KS3, enabling students around the world to benefit from her expertise.

Earlier in January Mrs. Asvesta and some of our students presented at the United Nations Peacekeeping Force Networking event and spoke movingly about the Cyprus Friendship Programme. This valuable programme is a part of our school life and it is good to see the opportunities that exist for young people to get involved and to work together for peace and understanding. If any students are interested in joining the Cyprus Friendship Programme, please do encourage them to speak to Mrs. Asvesta. We are very lucky to have such dedicated and experienced teachers in our school.

We welcomed two visitors from the Youth Peace Ambassadors (YPA) to the Critical Thinking Club. The YPA is an informal network of young peacebuilders who organise education activities on human rights education, peace, gender equality, conflict transformation and anti-discrimination. The workshop that they organised for our school was based around gender equality and how young people can work to achieve it. The students enjoyed taking part in an interactive and exciting workshop that widened their perspectives on gender issues and they were also pleased to feel that their voices and opinions on such topics do matter and need to be heard. Thank you to Mr. Aristodemou for organising such an interesting experience for our students.

We are very much looking forward to our annual Humanities week, taking place next week. Our Humanities department have prepared a full schedule of events taking in RS, History, Geography and Global Perspectives.

The next session of activities will be starting next week and we have some exciting new additions to the timetable. One among them is the new Ancient Greek club which is proving very popular, Mr. Ropolis will be exploring Greek mythology, History and Philosophy with the students. They will also be learning the fundamentals of the Ancient Greek language.

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We are looking forward to our Open Evening next Wednesday 26th January. Due to Covid restrictions this will not be a normal Open Evening but we are hopeful that one day soon we will be able to welcome you into the school to see what school life is like properly. In the meantime I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff and students who have been working so hard to make the Open Evening a success for our visitors.

The rapid testing unit will next be in school on Wednesday 26th January so, if your children need a rapid test for their SafePass, they will need to have a test over the weekend.

Wishing you all a good weekend!

Kind Regards,

Dr. Beth Ashfield

Acting Senior School Headteacher / Principal
THE JUNIOR & SENIOR SCHOOL



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