ΠΑΝΤΑ ΙΣΧΥΩ ΕΝ ΤΩ ΕΝΔΥΝΑΜΟΥΝΤΙ ΜΕ ΧΡΙΣΤΩ ΙΝΑ ΑΡΙΣΤΕΥΩ
I AM STRONG THROUGH JESUS CHRIST
TO THE BEST THAT I CAN BE
Headteacher: Mr Andrew McDonald
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Angelina Adrien

ST CYPRIAN'S
GREEK ORTHODOX PRIMARY ACADEMY
CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AGED -11
Ακαδημία Άγιος Κυπριανός

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Newsletter 15

Friday 19th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers;
In school our Christmas preparations are complete, and it has been a joyous time as we look ahead to the great feast next Thursday. Thank-you to all of you who joined us for carols and songs and a prayer this morning.

Nativity Plays
It was a pleasure and a privilege to share the Nativity Plays this week with parents.
On Tuesday the children from Year 2 presented a beautiful performance which made everyone think about the true meaning of Christmas. We thank Ms Hopper, Ms Tsiama, Mrs Woolford, Ms Papapericleous and our musicians who worked hard to prepare the children. On Thursday our EYFS children showed their speaking, singing and dancing skills and made their parents and grandparents so proud. We thank Miss Panayiotou, Mrs Bruno, Mrs Woode and the rest of the EYFS and KS1 team for all their hard work preparing the children.

Christmas Lunch
A huge thank you to Mrs Georgiou and her colleagues who provided the school with such a feast on Wednesday. The food was amazing, and it is quite a feat to produce so many tasty meals for the whole school.

Croydon HAF Programme
Don't forget that the HAF programme is in place this holiday for families in need. Please follow the link below to find out more:
https://www.croydon.gov.uk/holiday-activities-and-food

Safeguarding – Christmas
Christmas should be a time of joy for everybody. Sadly, the pressures of life mean that for some people it is a very difficult time. Childline is a hugely important charity that supports children who need help. If you have a small amount to spare, please consider a donation this Christmas so that they can continue their important work:
https://www.childline.org.uk/

After School Activities for the Easter Term
Yesterday you received a letter from the school office outlining the bookings for next term which will begin in the week commencing 12th January.

Poem of the Week
The poem of the week is 'The Centipede's Song' from 'James and the Giant Peach' by Roald Dahl. it is such a fun poem to share with your children, and if it is read aloud by an adult all children can enjoy it.
https://librariesmakeyouclever.wordpress.com/2015/06/14/the-centipedes-song-roald-dahl/

The religious life of the school
This week our focus has been on Advent and the importance of preparation. We had a scripture quiz in assembly which the children really enjoyed. An important idea that was share with the children is the fact that the joy of Christ's love for us is shared with children at Christmas. We are reminded of the words from St Matthew's Gospel (Chapter 19)
But Jesus said, "Allow the little children, and don't forbid them to come to me; for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to ones like these."
Our church visits had to be paused this week owing to illness.

The cultural life of our school
We are so privileged to receive first-class Greek language lessons in school once again this year, and it is owing to the generosity of The High Commission of Cyprus that this is possible. It is wonderful to hear the children sing in Greek in our celebrations like the Nativity Plays and assemblies. Once again, we have children entered to sit the *Ellinomatheia* in May and are receiving specialist tuition for this.

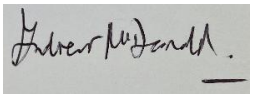
Assembly Dates
Please note the dates of these class assemblies for the Easter Term:
Cyprus Class – 16th January, Tinos Class – 23rd January, Kalymnos Class – 30th January

Bunk Beds
The kindness and generosity of one of our families means that we have a set of bunk beds stored at the school. We would like to pass them on to a family in need, if possible. Please telephone the school office in confidence.

Football News
We are delighted to share the news that a former pupil has been signed by Crystal Palace FC Academy. **Maxwell Horsford**, who left in July 2024, will be joining the Academy Under 13s.
Our own school team had a difficult game against a strong St James the Great team last week. The star player was **Logan**, our goalkeeper, who made some great saves. Well done Logan!

Finally, farewells
Today is the last day working in the school for **Mrs Lisa Herne** and **Mrs Rehana Hussain.**
Mrs Herne was the leader of our Nursery for many years and is a much-loved member of our community. She will be greatly missed.
Mrs Hussain has been the welcoming face of our Wrap-around care for many years. She, too, will be missed and her work is greatly appreciated.
We them the very best for their future careers.

May I close by wishing you a happy and holy Christmas. Thank-you to all of you for your warm welcome this term and your kind wishes today. May the light of Christ enter your hearts.
Yours faithfully,



Andrew McDonald
Headteacher