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 18

Friday 23rd January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers;
Thank-you for your understanding and patience this week when collecting your children. The inclement weather and roadworks have made the start and the end of the day difficult for everyone.

School Performance Review Meeting
On Wednesday we welcomed our Link Adviser from Croydon Local Authority, Joyce Lydford, to the school. She has worked in partnership with us for some time as offers advice to the leadership of the school. I can report that it was a very positive visit and that we are very pleased with the direction in which the school is moving. Thank-you to Mr Papanastasiou, our Chair, and Mrs Fernandes, one of our Governors, who took part in this process.

Class Assemblies coming soon.
Next Friday will be the turn of Cyprus class to present for their parents, and then we have the joy of Greek Language Day to look forward to.
30th January – Cyprus Class
6th February – Greek Language Day – *all parents welcome*
11th February – Santorini Class
13th February – Crete Class
6th March – Ydra Class
13th March – Samos Class
20th March – Greek Independence Day – *all parents welcome*

Safeguarding – what the law says about leaving children 'home alone'
All families have complicated timetables and sometimes it is difficult to make sure that your children are looked after appropriately whilst other commitments crowd in.
There is no law for the minimum age at which a children can be left at home unsupervised, as every child has different needs. However, it is strongly recommended that only children of Secondary School age are left alone at home. There is lots of good advice on the issue from the NSPCC:
https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/home-alone/

Number Day
6th February is Number Day. Please take time to read the important message from Mrs Clarke-Benson about what will happen in school. The letter will be mailed with this newsletter.

Year 5 provision
All parents received a letter on Wednesday about the current provision. Please check your inbox, or contact the school office if you cannot find the details.

Year 6 – proposed Educational Visit to Cyprus
At the same time as this newsletter, parents of Year 6 children are receiving an update outlining as much information as we can share at this point about the proposed Educational Visit to Cyprus. Please make sure that you read it.

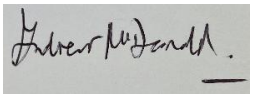
After School Activities – survey
Thank you to the six parents who responded to this survey. We will be reviewing after school provision and reporting back any changes that we decide to bring into place as a result.

Poem of the Week
Today in assembly we shared a funny old poem by Walter de la Mare, who lived in Beckenham and Anerley. It is called 'Alas, Alack!' and if you would like to share it with your child again, there is a link to a poetry website:
https://www.poetry.com/poem/56920/alas,-alack

The religious life of the school
On Monday we marked the feast of **St Anthony the Great**, the founder of Monasticism. In our liturgy we thought about the great sacrifices that Anthony made for a pure life. In our modern lives there are many distractions and his example told us to let go of the things that stop us getting closer to God.
Apolytikion of Anthony the Great
Fourth Tone
O Father Anthony, you imitated the zealous Elijah. You followed the straight paths of the Baptist and became a desert dweller. By prayer you confirmed the universe. Wherefore, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

The cultural life of our school
Our children have been recording again. As part of the radio show 'Once Upon a time' (Mia fora ki enan kairo), the children of Ithaca Class recorded their island song. The show will be broadcast on Sunday, 25th January just after 10am. (LGR @ 103.3), and children's families will be sent a link to listen.
https://www.lgr.co.uk/

Have a good weekend.
Yours faithfully,



Andrew McDonald
Headteacher