ΠΑΝΤΑ ΙΣΧΥΩ ΕΝ ΤΩ ΕΝΔΥΝΑΜΟΥΝΤΙ ΜΕ ΧΡΙΣΤΩ ΙΝΑ ΑΡΙΣΤΕΥΩ

I AM STRONG THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

TO THE BEST THAT I CAN BE

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ST CYPRIAN'S

GREEK ORTHODOX PRIMARY ACADEMY
CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AGED -11

Ακαδημία Άγιος Κυπριανός

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Newsletter 22

Friday 27th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers;
A return to school after a well-earned rest has coincided with the start of Lent, so whilst we might have experienced a couple of springlike days this week, the focus for everyone at school is a time or preparation for the Great Feast.

PTA
Thank-you to our PTA members who organised our own-clothes ('mufti') day today. The theme was Apokries. Although we are a little late with this as we are now into Lent (Sarakosti), the spirit of coming together for a good cause was evident. All funds raised will be the start of a fundraising drive by St Cyprian's Fellowship to prepare for Easter celebrations.

Assemblies
Now that we have begun Lent, the focus will shift slightly at assembly time.
The next assembly for ALL year 5 children will be at 9am on 13th March.
As all the children in Year 5 have been working together for a while, we have decided that they will present one assembly to parents on this date.
20th March – Greek Independence Day – *all parents welcome.*

Safeguarding – Croydon Secondary Schools
Earlier this week I wrote to all families about the potential dangers posed by children using TikTok to align different schools in Croydon against each other. I would like to reassure everyone that the Metropolitan Police are monitoring this situation closely. If you have children of secondary school age, please be vigilant at this time. Once again, we are minded of the dangers created when children use social media in an unsupervised way.

Playground
Thank you for the comments about the changes to the playground that were described in the last newsletter. We have the following feedback for everyone.

- Very few children have told adults in school that they are unhappy with the new arrangements, and lots have enjoyed being able to interact with children from other year groups. As a staff we are looking at ways to encourage children to play together in a safe, supported way.
- The children have a separate morning break session which they enjoy and have a chance to use the playground differently.
- The plastic barriers to mark different play zones for the children are not a great success and we will look at different ways of indicating where to play for the children.

- We are discussing the use of the astroturf pitch, and talking to the older children about how it should be used, and will decide on a plan for this next week.
- We received just three negative comments from parents about this trial.

We have decided to continue with the current set-up for another week, with some changes, and will keep parents and carers informed.

Help with milk and food purchases

With this newsletter is a poster from the NHS about how families can get help for buying milk and food.
www.healthystart.nhs.uk

World Book Day

World Book Day in Thursday 5th March. In school we will be organising a series of activities for the children to inspire them to 'go all in' and read. Please make a note in your diary: there will be a book fair in school in the following week, from 9th to 13th March. The travelling book fair will be set up after school for parent and children to browse.
https://www.worldbookday.com/

Poem of the Week

The poem of the week is 'The Sounds of Evening' by Eleanor Farjeon. This beautiful poem is a meditation on the sounds that we hear as children in a familiar house. It is a beautiful poem to share with your child this weekend, and perhaps to describe some of the vocabulary.
https://allpoetry.com/The-Sounds-in-the-Evening

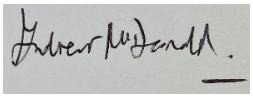
The religious life of the school

In our prayer and reflection on Monday we began with a discussion about Christ and his time in the desert. The children have a good appreciation of the hardships of an environment like this and how hard it must have been, We have been learning about the importance of finding a quiet place to pray and to rest.

The focus for our Lenten reflections will be sacrifice, discipline and preparing well.

I wish you all a peaceful weekend.

Yours faithfully,



A.J. McDonald
Headteacher