

WELCOME TO THE SPRING SEMESTER 2023

The Spring Semester is about to start and we are looking forward to welcome new and returning students and also our academic staff. We are glad you are a part of the Casa College community. Together we can ensure that each one of us enjoys all of the benefits and opportunities that our college offers and that in return, we too, can make our mark within the community.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 3
FEB | Announcement of Retake Exams' results
Casa College Campus A & B |
| 13
FEB | Commencement of classes – Spring Semester 2023
Casa College Campus A & B |
| 19
JAN | Cyprus Road Races Grand Prix, 10km Road Race, 1km, 5km
GSP Stadium, Nicosia 8:00 am - 11:30 am |
| 26
FEB | Grand Carnival Parade
Archbishop Makarios III Avenue, Limassol |

CYPRUS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS 2023 | February 5th (& 12th)

The Republic of Cyprus became an independent state on August 16th, 1960 after Cyprus gained its independence from the United Kingdom. The president of Cyprus, is the head of state and the head of government. Presidential elections in Cyprus take place every five years. On Sunday, February 5th, 2023, citizens of Cyprus are called to vote for the 8th president. There are currently 14 candidates. The first two candidates that receive the most votes will face each other in a second election to be held one week later, on February 12th, 2023. The newly elected president will assume his duties on March 1st, 2023. Voting is the foundational concept for the entire democratic structure as it offers the average citizen a voice on important issues that affect their daily lives and community, from roads to education, climate change and housing, employment and tax reforms.



INTERNATIONAL BOOK GIVING DAY February 14th

February 14th, is a day to do exactly what the day says – give books. This special holiday is celebrated by book lovers all over the world. It is a day to share your love of books with someone – who might not have access to as many books as you do. It's not a coincidence that International Book Giving Day falls on the same day as Valentine's Day – it is a day of love after all. International Book Giving Day is about two things – a love of books and a love for fellow human beings.



6 Exceptional Books that will change your life tremendously

1. *Manifest: 7 steps to Living Your Best Life* by Rosie Nafousi
2. *The Rules of Thinking* by Richard Templar
3. *Stop Overthinking* by Nick Trenton
4. *Happy Planning* by Charlotte Plain
5. *Big Magic: How to Live a Creative Life and Let Go of your Fear* by Elizabeth Gilbert
6. *Rising Strong: How the Ability to Reset Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead* by Brene Brown



TSIKNOPEMPTI – GREEN MONDAY & CARNIVAL TIME February 16th, 26th, 27th

Greek Orthodox Easter, a profound and prominent holiday on the island of Cyprus, falls on April 16 this year, and yet beloved traditions and celebrations commence as early as February. Cypriots enter a period of fasting 40 days prior to Easter, known as Lent.

- 11 days prior to the commencement of Lent families and friends gather together to indulge in grilled meats, in a day known as 'Tsiknopempti'. The word comes from 'tsikna' (smell of grilled meat) and 'Pempti' (Thursday).
- 'Kathara Deutera' (Clean/Green Monday) is the first of the forty days of Lent, also known as 'Sarakosti', a time for leaving behind sinful habits and non-fasting food.
- The day before 'Kathara Deutera', Cypriots wear brightly colored costumes and delightedly dance through the streets to music. Modern-day carnival in Cyprus has its roots to Ancient Greece and the commonly held Festival of Dionysia (honouring god of wine and ritual madness, Dionysus).

