

Newsletter

2024

Greek School of Ayia Triada Birmingham

Strive, Learn, Grow in our Community



Message from our teachers



Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians, on behalf of all the staff I would like to start off by wishing everyone a happy new year! I hope that you all had a peaceful and joyful Christmas and enjoyed quality time together with family and friends. Welcome to the first newsletter of 2024. The beginning of a new year is an exciting time to energize ourselves with fresh ideas and goals for the future. We have lots to look forward to this year and we cannot wait to go along with you on this journey. January has been a super busy month for our school, we have all settled back into our classes and we have seen the beginning of new projects for our school.

We are well on the way to achieving bronze status as part of being a UNICEF rights respecting school and if you have a look around the school you will see our new displays. The children have also been working hard on the European ambassador project and each class has spent time discussing different countries in Europe.

We also have celebrated our 40th birthday as a school, with a big celebration as part of the Three Hierarchs annual event. We were lucky enough to have the minister of education for Cyprus come along with many other honourable guests, and join us for the celebrations where we were able to show just all the hard work that goes into our Greek school community. I know you will join me in wishing the school a big happy birthday and here's to many more years!!



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ΤΟ ΠΟΙΗΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΜΗΝΑ

Του Γενάρη το ηλιοβασιλεμα

Του Γενάρη ηλιοβασιλεμα
θαλανό, καθάριο λάμπει,
στολισμένο με τα χρώματα
μιας μαγιάτικης αυγής.

Πρώιμη άνοιξη χιορτάζουνε
ο άλλος κόσμος άλλοι κάμποι:
Τ' ουρανού τα ρόδα ανθίσανε
πριν ανθίσουνε της γης.

Γεώργιος Δροσίνης



UPCOMING EVENTS

- NURS/REG REP THEATRE 10/2/24
- HALF TERM : 12/2 - 18/2
- CATHOLIC EASTER: 29/3 - 12/4
- GREEK ORTHODOX EASTER: 3/5 - 6/5
- PARENTS EVENING WEEK: 19/2 - 24/2
- 50 YEARS ANNIVERSARY from 1974 22/2

ΠΡΟΣΚΛΗΣΗ

Το Λύκειο Αποστόλου Λουκά Κολοσσίου
&
το Ελληνικό Παροικιακό Σχολείο Αγίας Τριάδας Birmingham

Σας Προσκαλούν στην Εκδήλωση
"Μαύρες μνήμες του 1974"

Πέμπτη 22
Φεβρουαρίου 2024 18:30 ώρα γυμναστηρίου
16:30 ώρα Αγγλίας
Στο θεατράκι του Λυκείου Κολοσσίου

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

NURS. & REC.

Stavros.K

Christina.D

YEAR 1

Theodoros.N

Christina.D

Christoforos.B

Eleni.M

Georgia.Ch

YEAR 1 ADV. & 2

Alexandra L.

Anastasios M.

Stefanos.I

YEAR 3 & ADV.

Zacharias W.

Melania S.

Angelos Gk.

Theo.W

Anna-Maria.K

Athanasios S.

Efraim S.

YEAR 5

Elina K.

Lydia G.

Zacharias.K

YEAR 6 & GCSE

Yiorgos.K

Haris.A

Vasilis.M

Antonia.F

Yiannis Chr.

Anatoli M.


Anastasis D.

A LEVELS & ELLINOMATHEIA

Nestoras.P

Evangelos.F



A close-up photograph of a student's hands writing in a lined notebook. The student is wearing a blue and white striped shirt and a tan cardigan. The notebook is open, and the text "SCHOOL ACTIVITIES" is overlaid in a bold, black, stylized font. A pencil is visible in the student's hand and another one lies on the page to the right.

**SCHOOL
ACTIVITIES**

Η ΓΙΟΡΤΗ ΤΩΝ 3 ΙΕΡΑΡΧΩΝ ΣΤΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ ΜΑΣ

Στις 28 Ιανουαρίου γιορτάσαμε στο σχολείο μας τα ελληνικά γράμματα. Μια γιορτή που γιορτάζουμε κάθε χρόνο τιμώντας τους τρεις Ιεράρχες, τις σημαντικότερες ίσως μορφές της χριστιανικής ορθόδοξης γραμματείας, τους τρεις πατέρες της Εκκλησίας μας, τον Μέγα Βασίλειο, τον Γρηγόριο τον Θεολόγο και τον Ιωάννη τον Χρυσόστομο.

Την ίδια ώρα, τιμήσαμε μαζί και τους εκπαιδευτικούς μας, εν ενεργεία και μη, ως ελάχιστη εκτίμηση για τους ανθρώπους αυτούς που έθεσαν σκοπό της ζωής τους τη μετάδοση της γνώσης και την καλλιέργεια των νέων ανθρώπων στη βάση ακατάλυτων και ευγενών αξιών. Παράλληλα, η εορτή αυτή δήλωσε επίσης όχι μόνο την έφεση που έχει ο λαός, το έθνος μας στα γράμματα, αλλά και την αναγνώριση του θεμελιωτικού ρόλου που παίζει η παιδεία στην ιστορική διαδρομή και την προκοπή μας.

Γιορτάσαμε τα Γράμματα μαζί με την εορτή των τριών Ιεραρχών. Γιατί οι τρεις αυτές ξεχωριστές πνευματικές μορφές της Ορθοδοξίας εμπέδωσαν τη σύνθεση του οικουμενικού ελληνικού πνεύματος με το πανανθρώπινο κήρυγμα του χριστιανισμού. Οι τρεις Ιεράρχες που έζησαν και έδρασαν τον 4ο αιώνα στον Πόντο, την Καππαδοκία και την Αντιόχεια, διακρίθηκαν κατ' αρχήν για τη μοναδική ελληνική παιδεία τους. Δεν δίσταζε ο Μέγας Βασίλειος να δηλώνει με τη γνωστή ομιλία του «Προς τους νέους όπως αν εξ ελληνικών ωφελούντο λόγων». «Πώς να ωφελούνται δηλαδή από τα ελληνικά γράμματα.»



Η ΓΙΟΡΤΗ ΤΩΝ 3 ΙΕΡΑΡΧΩΝ ΣΤΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ ΜΑΣ





40 YEAR BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREEK SCHOOL OF AYIA TRIADA BIRMINGHAM

The Holy Trinity School of Birmingham is celebrating its fortieth anniversary this year. By 1981 it was fully operational with six branches in Telford, Cannock, Worcester, Tamworth, Stourbridge and Erdington. It is the largest school outside of London and currently operates with approximately 270 children in the Greek and Cypriot Home in Birmingham. Pioneers of the founding of the school of the Holy Trinity George Giakoumis, Grigoris Zachariou, Makis Papakostas, Kostas Petrouis, Ourania Christofi, Lenia Stylianou, Kyriakos Akantiotis Katerina Iordanous and there is a special place in the heart and soul of the community for their contribution and work and also their continuous struggle to ensure the operation of the school.

The school started with very little resources but great enthusiasm and love for our education, our country, our culture, our customs and traditions and one really cannot help but be moved by all that they have achieved, the school's rise and countless distinctions in Cyprus, Greece, Great Britain and abroad. Agia's school is the only school actively involved in Commonwealth affairs with many awards in the institution and the only school to ever take part in Commonwealth Day which takes place in London every March at Westminster Abbey.

The event for the 40 years of operation of the school, on the occasion of the celebration of letters, was attended by the Minister of Education Dr. Athena Michailidou, the Consul General of Cyprus Mr. Odysseas Odysseos, the Consul General of Greece Mr. Alexandros Ionnidis, the Director of European Programs Dr. Ioannis Savvidis and EDE Dr. Georgia Passiardi and the Honorary Consuls of Cyprus and Greece in Birmingham Mr. Costas Petrouis and Dr. Nikolas Batis. In addition, the Director of KEA Mrs. Maria Loi and the Director of the Education Office at the Greek Embassy Mrs. Irini Veroni attended the event.



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40 YEARS



40 YEAR BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREEK SCHOOL OF AYIA TRIADA BIRMINGHAM



As part of the event, Dr. Michailidou addressed a festive greeting thus opening the event. Among other things she stated: "The Greek School of Ayia Triada Birmingham is one of the largest and most important centres of expatriate Hellenism in the United Kingdom, and especially of diaspora education. With its creation in 1984, the school was staffed with experienced teachers from the Cyprus Educational Mission and together with the on-site staff and the organized parents of the communities, work every day with dedication with the aim of transmitting and promoting Greek education and education to the children of the emigrants us. The primary goal is the learning and use of the language, highlighting its value in shaping the world spirit, as well as the knowledge of elements of our history, our Greek Orthodox religion and our culture. The series of diverse actions that the school undertakes, as well as the multitude of distinctions and awards it received in competitions of UNESCO, the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth and other organizations in Cyprus and Greece, confirm its special commitment and activity in matters concerning , among others, the promotion of our cultural heritage, peace and environmental protection. It is worth noting, as indicative of his influential action, the representation of the school, the children and their teacher, for the first time, at Commonwealth events and at Buckingham Palace." Our Minister also emphasized that the school's upward trajectory is primarily due to the voluntary contribution and hard work of all the members of this community, who for 40 years now with a spirit of collegiality and patriotism,



40 YEARS



40 YEAR BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREEK SCHOOL OF AYIA TRIADA BIRMINGHAM



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supported and continue to support the school and the Cypriot Government and the The Ministry of Education, feeling grateful to the expatriate Hellenism, will continue to be by the side of the school of the Holy Trinity and the other parochial schools of Great Britain as fellow travellers and supporters. The director of the School, Dr. Stella Tryfonos, thanked the Minister of Education for accepting the invitation to attend today and emphasized how important it is that such a day is at the school of Agia Triada celebrating together the 40 years of operation and thanked the Board of Directors of the Holy Trinity (Mrs. Katerina Jordanous, Bobby Thuki, Chrysoula Ilias, Kassiani Neophytou, Androula Kola, Prof Alexandros Psychogios, Prof Eirini Mavritsaki, Dr Virginia Amanatidou, Mr Antonis Agapakis, Maria Hellina, Chrystalla Kalispera, Anthoula Georgiou, E. Selianiti) for their support as well as for the time they dedicate voluntarily for everything the school needs as well as the excellent team of teachers who work at the school for the organization of the event and their tireless and patient effort despite the difficulties in their educational work (k D. Fragou, Mr. M Koufomeritis, Mr. E. Desli, Mr. M. Georgiou, Mr. E. Topalidou, Mr. E. Platsi, Mr. S. Fokas, Mr. E. Bakola, E. Souza) The event ended in the reception hall of the Hellenic Cypriot Home with rich food, and dancing and awards for excellent students in Greek and GCSE and A levels Examinations.

40 YEARS

40 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREEK SCHOOL OF AYIA TRIADA BIRMINGHAM



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40 YEARS

NURSERY-RECEPTION



MONDAY & TUESDAY



FIELD TRIP BIRMINGHAM 29 JANUARY 2024

Μια ξεχωριστή μέρα περάσαμε τα παιδιά του σχολείου μας του Υ1 της Δευτέρας τη Δευτέρα 29 Ιανουαρίου. Τα παιδιά συναντήθηκαν στο κέντρο του Μπέρμιγχαμ στην πλατεία Centenary Square και έκαναν μια περιδιάβαση γνωρίζοντας και μιλώντας για τα διάφορα κτίρια της Πλατείας. Τα παιδιά το ευχαριστήθηκαν και μαζί τους ήταν και η ΕΔΕ Δρ Γεωργία Πασιαρδή και η Διευθύντρια της ΚΕΑ κα Μαρία Λοή. Παίξαμε ένα παιχνίδι Κυνήγι Θησαυρού και ανακαλύψαμε τις ομορφιές της Βιβλιοθήκης.



SATURDAY



DANCE CLASSES



This year our school has been running dance classes led by our Dance Teachers Mrs Sotiria Karafillides and Mr Dimitris Themistokleous.



Dance classes are on Monday 19:30-20:30 for our students, Tuesdays from 18:30-19:00 for the children and then 19:00-20:00 for adults, and on Saturday we also run two groups: one for the school children from 14:00-15:00 (which is for two different age groups) and then from 15:00-16:00 for adults dance group.



It's amazing to see that this year our dance classes are flourishing and both children and adults are enjoying them.



Anyone interested in dance classes can contact our school directly or the class teachers. We are always happy to welcome new students





HISTORY & CULTURE

THEOPHANY

JANUARY 6TH

At the Greek Orthodox Church of Holy Trinity and Saint Luke's

ΚΑΛΑΝΤΑ
ΘΕΟΦΑΝΕΙΟΝ

Σήμερα τα φώτα κι ο φωτισμός
η χαρά μεγάλη κι ο αγιασμός.
Κάτω στον Ιορδάνη τον ποταμό
κάθεται η κυρά μας η Παναχιά.

Κάλημερα, κάληπερα.
Καλή σου μέρα αφέντη με την κυρά.

Όρθανο βαστάει, κερι κρατεί
και τον Αϊ-Γιάννη παρακαλεί.

Αϊ-Γιάννη αφέντη και βαπτιστή
βάπτισε κι εμένα Θεού παιδί.
Ν' ανεβώ επάνω στον ουρανό
να μαζέψω ρόδα και λίβανο.



The main ritual of Theophania in Greece involves the Great Blessing of the Waters.

On January 6th, the clergy, accompanied by a procession, go to bodies of water, such as rivers, lakes, or the sea. A cross is then thrown into the water, symbolizing the baptism of Jesus, and young people dive into the cold water to retrieve it, competing to be the first to bring it back. It is believed that the person who retrieves the cross will be blessed for the entire year.

The celebration of Theophania is not only a religious event but also a cultural one. In many Greek towns and villages, festivities include music, dance, and traditional food, making it a joyful occasion for communities to come together.



Εορτολόγιο

JANUARY 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- 1 Ιανουαρίου Βασίλειος, Βασιλική,
- 6 Ιανουαρίου Θεοφάνης, Θεοφανία, Ιορδάνης, Φωτεινή, Φώτιος
- 7 Ιανουαρίου Ιωάννης, Ιωάννα, Πρόδρομος
- 8 Ιανουαρίου Αγάθων
- 9 Ιανουαρίου Παρθένα
- 11 Ιανουαρίου Θεοδοσίος, Θεοδοσία
- 12 Ιανουαρίου Τατιανή
- 17 Ιανουαρίου Αντώνιος, Αντωνία
- 18 Ιανουαρίου Αθανάσιος, Αθανασία, Κύριλλος
- 19 Ιανουαρίου Μακάριος
- 20 Ιανουαρίου Ευθύμιος, Ευθυμία
- 21 Ιανουαρίου Αγνή, Μάξιμος, Πάτροκλος
- 22 Ιανουαρίου Τιμόθεος, Τιμοθέα
- 24 Ιανουαρίου Νεόφυτος
- 25 Ιανουαρίου Γρηγόριος, Γρηγορία
- 26 Ιανουαρίου Ξενοφών
- 28 Ιανουαρίου Εφραίμ, Εφραιμία, Χάρις
- 30 Ιανουαρίου Χρυσανγή
- 31 Ιανουαρίου Ευδόξιος, Ευδοξία



The 3 Hierarchs

Μέγας Βασίλειος



St. Basil is particularly renowned for his theological writings and for his philanthropic work. He emphasized the Christian duty to care for the less fortunate and established a complex of charitable institutions known as the "Basiliad." These included a hospital, a poorhouse, and a hospice for travelers, reflecting his commitment to social justice and compassionate care for those in need.

Γιορτάζουνε τα γράμματα,
γιορτάζουν τα βιβλία,
γιορτάζουνε κι οι
δάσκαλοι
και όλα τα εχολεία.

Άγιος Γρηγόριος ο Θεολόγος

Known for his powerful and eloquent sermons, Gregory earned the title "The Theologian" due to the depth and precision of his theological reflections. His theological works, particularly the Five Theological Orations, are considered masterpieces of early Christian literature. He is venerated as one of the great teachers of the early Church.



Μιλούμε για τα
γράμματα
και για την προκοπή,
μιλούμε για τις αρετές
που τρέφουν την ψυχή.



Άγιος Ιωάννης ο Χρυσόστομος

Known for his profound sermons and theological writings, St. John Chrysostom's preaching was characterized by his emphasis on moral integrity, social justice, and asceticism. He fearlessly spoke out against corruption and injustice, earning both admiration and opposition. He is venerated as a Doctor of the Church.

Τα γράμματα μας
δίνουν φως,
γι' αυτό και τα τιμούμε
και τα σοφά βιβλία μας
όλοι τα αγαπούμε.

The Rights of the Child vol.3



RIGHTS
RESPECTING
SCHOOLS

Greek School of Ayia Triada
Birmingham is proudly a Rights
Respecting School.

Article 21: Adoption and Kids

If kids can't live with their own family, governments will try to find them a new family who will love and take care of them.

Article 22: Refugee Kids

If you had to leave your country because it wasn't safe, the government will make sure you get special help and protection.

Article 23: Special Care for Kids with Disabilities

Kids who have disabilities have the right to special care and support to help them learn and play, just like all kids!

Article 24: Good Health for Kids

Everyone wants to make sure you're healthy, so you have the right to good healthcare and nutritious food. The government will help with this!

Article 25: Every child who has been placed somewhere away from home - for their care, protection or health - should have their situation checked regularly to see if everything is going well and if this is still the best place for the child to be.

Article 26: Governments should provide money or other support to help children from poor families.

Article 27: Children have the right to food, clothing and a safe place to live so they can develop in the best possible way. The government should help families and children who cannot afford this.



21 Right to care and protection if you are adopted or in foster care

22 Special protection if you are a refugee

23 Special education and care if you have a disability

26 The right to help if you are in need

24 A right to the things that will keep you safe, clean and well

25 If you are in care, your living space should be checked regularly

27 The right to food, clothing and a safe place to live

WE LOVE EUROPE



PROJECT TIME!
for our young ambassadors



A beautiful display with interesting information for many European countries has been made by our amazing ambassadors!!



European Corner

JANUARY IS FOR REMEMBRANCE

27th of January

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

The International Holocaust Remembrance Day, or the International Day in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust, is an international memorial day on 27 January that commemorates the victims of the Holocaust, which resulted in the genocide of one third of the Jewish people, along with countless members of other minorities by Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1945.



AMBASSADOR SCHOOL