

December was a busy month for us in Greek! Our PreK through first graders (Ms. Noel & Ms. Soraya's, Ms. Anna's, Mr. Chris's, Ms. Leslie's and Ms. Teresa's) have been learning about the colors, counting items in Greek through 20, and using puppets during dramatic play to learn different greetings and phrases in Greek. Some phrases we are learning are: kalimera (good morning), kalinixta (good night), eime agori (I'm a boy) eime koritsi (I'm a girl), our Greek names, and more. For our younger grades, they are also beginning to learn their shapes in Greek i.e. kiklos (circle), tetragono (square), orthogonio (rectangle), and trigono (triangle) and building their vocabulary. We have been focusing on the vowels A and O (alogo, alati, achinos, asteri, avgo, Olga, ombrela, ocho, odontovourtsa, odontokrema, odigos, etc.) Have you heard your child singing any of our songs? Ask them about Haropa Ta Dio Mou Heria Ta Xtipo or Mikri Arachni!

Our first and second graders in Ms. Bia's and Mr. Foti's class have begun to construct words using two vowel sounds such as OU (ouranos, pouli, louloudi, petalouda, koukla, vouno, soupa, koutali, pappous, etc) and EI (eikosi, scholeio, psigeio, grafeio, heimonas, eikona). We are also learning about personal pronouns (ego, esi, aftos, afti, emeis, eseis, afti).

Ms. Dionysia's class had a really fun time learning about Greek traditions during the holiday season. What is the meaning of cutting a vasilopita? Why do we have someone do a podariko at our house? See if your child can you tell you why! We also covered two chapters in our book about "To Panigiri tis Koinotitas Mas" and "Sto Parko Me Tous Filous Mou."

Ms. Alexandra's class has been learning about healthy food choices and the food pyramid. Our focus has been a motto the ancient Greeks used to say, "Nous igeies en somati igeie", meaning healthy mind in a healthy body. The students are discussing healthy food choices they believe we should follow in order to live and practice this motto everyday. We also talked about living in "one beautiful world" where the main idea centered around taking better care of mankind and our world, instead of only thinking about ourselves. How if everyone would plant love and peace in their hearts, people all over the world would live more harmoniously and all the children would be happy. The song we learned that spreads this message is "Opou iparxei agapi" which you will hear at the Holiday Program.

Each and everyday in all our Greek classes we strongly encourage speaking only in the Greek language that way we can build upon on our vocabulary and speaking skills.

Happy Holidays and have a wonderful break!

-Kuria Despina, Kuria Eleni N., Kuria Eleni K.