



Learn Greek. It is the language of the wisdom

I asked an eight year old little girl if kids in her class like Greek. The reply was: They don't like Greek because it is a hard language and they think they will fail the test. They also think it is boring...

ers at the school are all native speakers and the students not only benefit from innovative teaching methods (there are computers, data projectors, electronic white boards in many class rooms and internet access in every class room), but also from a dynamic staff that take the students on great learning experiences: for example from local excursions to overseas excursions. The languages Faculty has in fact organised 21 overseas study tours over the past 12 years to Greece, Italy, China, France and Germany! There aren't many schools that offer such a diverse and exciting curriculum.

The school's curriculum structure is also a very unique one, which allows students to progress according to their skills rather than simply by age cohort: no wonder

learning Greek at Beverly Hills Girls High School is so popular!

Some of the girls wrote their opinion on the benefits of learning a language, reflecting on their own personal experiences and how this has altered their outlook on languages. In a way, they are trying to encourage the younger years to choose Modern Greek!

Μάθε Ελληνικά. Είναι η γλώσσα της σοφίας

Teachers should start up a campaign to make sure kids are well informed about the Greek language, the potential and strength of it and the new methods of teaching... Save the Greek Language!



Stephanie Frade and Marilena Montuoro

Cultural ambiguity: do I learn Greek or Portuguese?

It seems impossible to let slide the hopes, goals and disappointments from the Euro Cup a short four years ago for every "mere mortal" who loyally watched each match, let alone the "almighty winners" Greece. I certainly couldn't forget, even if I wanted to as the fuel-loved final sets a metaphor for my own euro cup family and therefore cultural ambiguity. Greek or Portuguese? That is the question.

In the first years of my education I found myself in a classroom being taught Portuguese; my mother's language; however a few semesters on and I moved to another school which did not offer Portuguese. I chose Greek instead and stuck to it for the rest of my years in primary school. Later on, in between the banging of a wooden ruler on a table, I realised I was lacking in the grammar foundations which would enable me to continue successfully with the study of Greek. But when I arrived at Beverly Hills Girls high school, that was all about to change. With each high school year my love for learning language, specifically Greek, has grown and it seems just as with the Euro cup, at the last minute I scored the winning goal: my Greek has improved and I now speak it quite well! In years 11 and 12 I have learnt more Greek than I did in my past 10 years of schooling!!!

Of course, this was partly because of my new found organisation, confidence and determination; someone's foot must initially kick the ball but without the other team-members to pass to- my helpful classmates, enthusiastic, dynamic and caring teachers; no progress could be made. As a Greek student, the Study Tour to Greece last year definitely didn't hinder any of my excitement.

The small class numbers I am a part of is one of the greatest benefits to my learning and my exposure to the high level of teaching throughout my secondary public education has only helped me to kick that ball in the right direction.

Although the question still stands, Greek or Portuguese? I know I will continue to build upon the Greek language foundations and friendships I have quickly gained with help from every team player.

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