

Fathers Day assembly at St Spyridon College

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 presented a wonderful Father's Day assembly at St Spyridon Hall on Friday 4th September 2009. The children sang in Greek and English and made their teachers, their parents and grandparents very proud. Year 2 sang a very well known song from Antypas, with a few adjustments "Se agapao[goustaro] poly apo thn proti stigmi".

Year 1's wrote a letter to their dad about why they love him. Kindertgartens - as always- 's-tole the show' with the song "otan tha pao mpampa mou sto pazari".

The assembly proved a wonderful idea and it encouraged pupils to consider some of the ways they can tell their fathers how important they are and thank them for all they do.

The youngsters listed so many things: playing football together, going to the cinema, cooking dinner, driving them around, taking them on holiday, helping them with homework.

It was lovely to see lots of fathers attending the assembly! Their presense made the children very proud and willing to tell them how important they are in their lives. Father's Day is a very important celebration to honor and commemorate fathers and forefathers. It involves gift-giving, special dinners to fathers and family oriented activities.

Anna Arsenis



Greeklsh mars pupils' language

The growing use of Greeklsh by schoolchildren is adversely affecting their spelling skills and may ultimately pose a threat to the Greek language, according to a recent study. The study was carried out by the Department of Early Childhood Education of the University of Western Macedonia during the 2008-09 school year, with the participation of children and teachers in all grades of secondary education at schools in Kozani, northern Greece. Greeklsh, or Grenglish, is the Greek language written with the Latin alphabet. A form of transliteration, it is commonly used by Greeks in e-mail communications, instant messaging and text messages sent by cell phone. But according to the study, the widespread use of Greeklsh, which begins as early as elementary school, has led to an increase in spelling and other errors in school essays. Apart from spelling, the most common types of mistakes were failing to insert accent or punctuation marks, the use of English punctuation marks and combining Greek and Latin letters in the same word. The frequency with which teachers reported finding words written in Greeklsh in school essays was as high as 64.3 percent. Teachers said they were also finding unexpected errors, such as a change in the tense or person in the case of verbs, the use of the wrong declension for nouns and the replacement of one word by another with a totally different meaning. Apart from using Greeklsh when sending various types of electronic messages, 15.7 percent of schoolchildren in the study reported using it also in written texts, including personal notes and school work. Some 19 percent of pupils in the seventh grade (junior high school) and 51.6 percent in the eighth grade reported using Greeklsh for at least two years, which means that they began in elementary school. According to the study, 77.4 percent of schoolchildren use Greeklsh, with numbers rising sharply between junior high and senior high. As for the reasons for using this particular type of script, the schoolchildren cited habit (83.9 percent), saving time (75.8 percent), usefulness or convenience (71.4 percent), to avoid making spelling mistakes (38.7 percent) and because it is fashionable (33.9 percent). The same study, 58.5 percent of schoolchildren believe that the use of Greeklsh poses a threat to the Greek language, a view shared by 64.3 percent of teachers.



**Steffie
at 2MM
radio station**



Steffie read two poems in Greek for Father's Day on Saturday 4th, 2009 @ Simon Kapodistria's radio program 'Nostalgikes Melodies'.