

to respect the Greek Flag as I learnt about the bloodshed for freedom our ancestors had to go through to liberate Greece after 400 years of slavery under the Ottoman Empire. I learned about the tragic events of the Asia Minor catastrophe, the heroic Greek struggle during the Italian attack and the German Occupation. I was acquainted with Famous Greek Personalities, like: I. Kapodistrias, Makriyiannis and others who played such a vital role in the freedom of Greece. Therefore, studying Greek, cleared up for me the issue of identity. I know that I am Greek-Australian. I love and respect both these two countries equally and I will be prepared in the future to stand and serve both of them.

How does your school system work in order to accommodate your need to do Greek and other subjects?

I feel very grateful to have had the opportunity to go to a school which offers a wide range of subjects. St Spyridon College has been very successful in catering to all the students' interests. Personally I am very grateful as I had the opportunity to take on Greek as a HSC subject while I was still in Year 11.

Being able to do this subject has truly impacted me. St Spyridon College not only has an excellent staff of Greek teachers, but also allows students to extend their knowledge of the Greek language and culture through theatrical plays, excursions and musical productions. The College also gives students the opportunity to go on a trip to Greece, which truly inspired not only me, but other students too to take on Modern Greek as an elective.

Despite my love for Greek, St Spyridon has also offered me the opportunity to take on other subjects that I love, including Modern History and Hospitality. With my hard work and the guidance of my teachers, the school has successfully accommodated my needs to do Greek and other subjects that I love.

Regardless of the clashes that occurred in my timetable because of Modern Greek, my teacher and I were able to find suitable times. All my fellow students, regardless their subject choices, arranged their timetable the same way with our teacher. For this flexibility we want to thank Mrs E. Stefanou, the Head of our College, Mrs A. Katsogiannis, our Principal and our teacher Mrs M. Faletas who worked above and beyond the expected workload for our benefit, for the school's good reputation and maintaining high records of attendance in the Greek HSC.

What will you remember from your last two years doing Modern Greek?

There are countless unforgettable memories that I will carry with me from my experience of taking Greek as a HSC subject. It has truly been an amazing experience and I'm so glad that I had taken up the opportunity, offered by my school, to do Greek as an accelerant student. Although, what made it such a great experience, was being able to share it with twelve incredible students. Seeing that it was a small class, over the course of these two years, we bonded not just as friends but as if we were a family. Not only was I constantly