



International Student Program Newsletter

Newsletter 4

CRICOS No 00608A DETE

Term 4 2013

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Published once per term

Γεια σου/σας (Yia sou/sas – sas is plural) is the general greeting and farewell used in Greece. Although Καλημερα (kali mera) is used in the mornings (Good morning) and Καλησπερα (kali spera) is used in the afternoon (Good afternoon). Miss Masselos is of Greek heritage.

This term has been very busy for our senior students as they had to complete their school work with a shorter term.

Wednesday 13 November saw Felice attend the Year 12 formal. Friday 15 November was the last school day for our Year 12 students. I will certainly miss seeing Felice's smiling face around school.

Felice is in the yellow dress – this photo was taken at the Formal. She is home in Taiwan now enjoying a holiday before commencing university.



Birthdays this Term

Four birthdays were celebrated over this term.

8 November – Mia Zhang
2 December – Grace Xian
13 December – Sherry Zang
27 December – Jean Jang

We combined the birthday party with the end of term party. It was also a farewell celebration for Felice An (Year 12), Sheriden Fernando (Year 11), Luca Di Martino (Year 11), Riccardo Masserini (Year 11) and Riko Yamaji (Year 10).

Grammar Lessons

Mrs Sneddon has been providing ESL help for our international students for most of this year. In 2014 we will see Mrs Sneddon continue her work with our students.

We have also organised for additional ESL help for all students (International and Domestic) during sport time. This will be designed to help with paragraph and sentence structure along with tenses. We also wish to include structured essay writing.

If you have any concerns with any of the students please

contact me on
mmass2@eq.edu.au or
extension 709.

Students

Next year we will be joined by Bridget Nsiah from Ghana and Yee Man Leung from Hong Kong in Year 11. Mari Sekiguchi from Japan and An-Tsu (Vicky) Chang and Yiwen Wu from China in Year 10. Andrew Tuke will join us in Year 8 from the Solomon Islands.

Barbara Simon will join us in Year 8 as a Dependant student.

Homestay News from Lesley

Legal Liability Insurance

As a homestay provider you are required to have adequate home and contents insurance and legal liability insurance of no less than \$10,000,000. Legal liability insurance is like public liability insurance but for non- business residences.

Regular home insurance covers you for legal liability when friends and visitors come, but as homestay students are paying money to live at your house, some insurance companies treat this differently. **Your standard home insurance policy may not cover you for legal liability** should a student living with you incur an injury on your property. It is important to take a look at your policy and if you are unsure if you are covered please ring your insurer and ask.

There are products in the marketplace that particularly cater to host families. If you would like

any information on these products please contact me.

Certificate of Currency

It is important that you provide me with a certificate of currency to ensure you have a current home and contents (including legal liability insurance) in place. When you renew your policy each year please remember to provide me with a copy of your renewal documentation.

Lesley will be working in the office on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 am – 3:00 pm. If you need to contact her please either come and see her or send her an email on lhuxl6@eq.edu.au.

Cultural Differences

Greece

Population 11.4 million



Size: 131,958 sq km

Location: Greece is considered to be part of Southern Europe. The Mediterranean Sea laps Southern Greece while the Aegean Sea is closer to Athens.

Climate: Mediterranean climate
Athens has been the capital of Greece since 1834.

Population: The population of Greece is composed of 98% ethnic Greeks.

Religion: The main religion is Greek Orthodox.

Interesting Facts

- ☼ Greek has been spoken for more than 3,000 years, making it one of the oldest languages in Europe.
- ☼ The men's national costume – fustanela has 400 pleats –

one for each year of occupation by the Ottoman Empire.

- ☼ Approximately 7% of all the marble produced in the world comes from Greece.
- ☼ Greece has no navigable rivers because of the mountainous terrain.
- ☼ 13 is an unlucky number.
- ☼ An old Greek legend says that when God made the Earth he had some rocks left over and he threw them over his shoulder and created Greece.
- ☼ Greece has over 2,000 islands of which approximately 170 are populated.
- ☼ Continuously inhabited for over 7,000 years, Athens is one of the oldest cities in Europe.
- ☼ The Goddess Athena is the protector of Athens which has been named for her.
- ☼ All Greek men must serve from 12 – 18 months in the armed forces. If a male of Greek decent lives in Greece for one year they must serve in the armed forces.
- ☼ Greece is the leading producer of sea sponges.
- ☼ Greece has more archaeological museums than any other country in the world.
- ☼ Football (Soccer) is the national sport of Greece. Its name in Greek translates into “foot round”.
- ☼ Retirement homes are rare in Greece as grandparents usually live with their children's family until they die. Most young people live with their families until they marry.
- ☼ Greeks are given names that appear in the Bible and celebrate that Saint's name day and not their birthdays.
- ☼ The first Olympic Games took place in 776 BC and only men

could compete. Women were not allowed to even watch.

- ☼ According to the Canons of the Church all Orthodox Christians must be buried and not cremated. It is thought that cremation burns the soul.
- ☼ Greeks are buried facing East and the coffin is carried out with the feet facing the door. During the funeral service the head faces the altar.
- ☼ No point in Greece is more than 137 kilometres from water.
- ☼ Ancient Greeks are considered to be the inventors of mathematics.
- ☼ The first Greek philosopher is considered to be Thales of Miletus (624 – 546 BC).
- ☼ Greece's official name is the Hellenic Republic – also known as Ellas or Ellada.
- ☼ Greece's currency, the drachma, was 2650 years old. It was replaced in 2002 with the Euro.
- ☼ The Greek flag includes nine blue and white horizontal stripes, which represents the nine syllables in “Eleftheria I Thanatos” (Freedom or Death).
- ☼ Many English words are derived from the Greek language
- ☼ Greek priests can marry but only before they are ordained

Γεια σου/σας

Until next term!



Winter uniform of the national guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier – Athens.