



September - October Newsletter

Holy Cross Greek School

www.belmontgreeksschool.com

T: 650-508-8164

A word from the Director... Katerina Papachristou-Chiotis

Welcome to the **2017-2018** school year at **Holy Cross Greek School!** There is nothing more energizing than the smiles and sounds of children being back in school. We want school to be the best part of your child's day and a place where children feel happy and engaged, and where parents feel welcome and involved.

We are very proud of our students and staff! We are anticipating another great year with high expectations for all! I will be in classrooms and around the school, so please feel free to introduce yourself. I look forward to collaborating with this great community as we work together to make sure every student has a great year here at Greek School!

As we embark on a new school year, it is very important to ensure that your children are in school on time. We begin our classes at 4:30. You cannot hold us accountable for the academic success of your child if your students are not present and on time to learn.

This year, our school wide attendance goal is 95%. I know that we can do it because you want your children to succeed just as much as we do here at Greek School! I look forward to seeing your beautiful kids growing and achieving at high rates!

Αγιασμός, πρώτη μέρα στο σχολείο! Ενθουσιασμός και χαρά για τη νέα σχολική χρονιά, απογοήτευση και νοσταλγία για το καλοκαίρι που φεύγει! Νέοι στόχοι, νέα οράματα, αγωνίες και προσπάθεια. Αγώνας από τους μαθητές για να επιτύχουν τους στόχους τους, αλλά και από εκπαιδευτικούς και γονείς για να καταφέρουν να προσφέρουν το καλύτερο δυνατό.

Εύχομαι σε όλους σας μια καλή και δημιουργική σχολική χρονιά. Είναι μια χρονιά γεμάτη προκλήσεις και ευκαιρίες. Είμαι βέβαιη ότι με τη βοήθεια όλων θα έχουμε ένα καλό αποτέλεσμα! Σας ευχαριστώ πολύ για την υποστήριξη στο έργο μας, μαζί θα τα καταφέρουμε.

Καλή, δημιουργική και παραγωγική σχολική χρονιά με υγεία και επιτυχίες για όλους!



Calendar

October 9

NO SCHOOL – Columbus Day

October 16

16-20 **Yearbook** photo week

October 29

Awards Certificates & Souvlaki Fundraiser

October 31

NO SCHOOL-Happy Halloween

Important Announcement

We are interested in forming Greek Language Certification classes for levels **A1, A2 and B1** for children in the 6th, 7th or 8th grade. If you or someone you know is interested in these classes, please let us know.

You can contact either Katerina Papachristou-Chiotis via email at chiotiskaterina@gmail.com or via phone at 650-868-0728, or Rika Tsitsinia Papadopoulou via email at tsitsinia@gmail.com or via phone at 650-210-6348.

Please do not send peanuts, tree-nuts, kiwi, and pineapple, and sesame (in any form – seeds, oil, etc.) due to food allergies.

GREEK SCHOOL NEWS by Rika Tsitsinia-Papadopoulou
School Administrator & Development Director

Our new academic year has started and the classrooms and playground areas are buzzing from the voices of new and returning students. There is always so much joy in seeing old friends and catching up to all that happened during the summer!

We started our academic year with new school leadership. The retirement of our beloved Mrs. Theodora Kounalakis is now sinking in but her devotion and commitment will be inspiring us all as we go forward. We are blessed to have two new qualified, committed and enthusiastic staff to lead our school. Mrs. Katerina Papachristou-Chiotis has taken the role of Director. Katerina is certainly not new in our community as she has served as teacher almost continuously since January 1995. Ms. Rika Tsitsinia Papadopoulou has taken the newly created position of School Administrator & Development Director to be overall responsible for the school and to explore new initiatives.

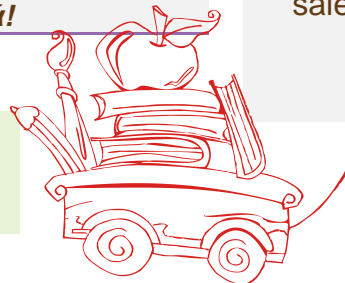
Our school has welcomed almost 130 students in its 3 children's programs and 15 adults in the two adult sessions. We have 17 more children than last year and 7 more adults. We are also blessed to have 12 outstanding teachers - 7 returning and 5 new teachers. We welcome the following new teachers: Ioli Advani, Dimitra Armenaki, Bettina Iliopoulou, Dimitris Kagioulis, and Ioanna Vlachou. Our Greek school community reaches San Francisco to the north, Berkeley, Oakland and Fremont to the east, and Los Altos to the south! We are honored and humbled in the trust that all these families put in us and we are committed to serve them.

All three programs started with the Agiasmo service and Fr Peter and Fr Tom included the children in singing Kyrie Eleison. His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos and His Grace Bishop of Medeia Apostollos Koufallakis came to the first Agiasmo service and His Eminence spoke to the children about the importance of learning their faith, Greek language and heritage. We were also honored with a visit from the new Consul General of Greece Mr. Antonios Sgouropoulos who voiced his commitment to our community and the Greek school mission.

Enrollment in both the children and adult classes continues and we invite anyone who wants to visit our school before they decide to register or not to arrange for a visit day (or week) to see the wonderful learning environment and our outstanding and committed teachers in action. Visits are available to both children and adults.

Καλή σχολική χρονιά!

Parents get together at "**Kafeneio**" every Friday afternoon, during Greek School hrs. at **OAKS ROOM**
4:30 – 6:30



**Oct. 29,
Awards Certificates**

*Με αφορμή την επέτειο της
28ης Οκτωβρίου το
σχολείο μας θα απονεμίσει τα
πτυχία Ελληνομάθειας
στους επιτυχόντες στην
εκκλησία την Κυριακή 29
Οκτωβρίου.*

**Oct. 29,
Souvlaki Fundraiser**

*Ελάτε, αγοράστε και
απολαύστε τα νοστιμότατα
σουβλάκια μας!*

*Όλα τα έσοδα θα διατεθούν
για την υποστήριξη της
λειτουργίας του σχολείου.*

Support our School!

SOUVLAKI FUNDRAISER

**BENEFITING THE HOLY
CROSS GREEK SCHOOL**

**October 29th, 2017
Following Liturgy**

At the Oaks Room

Come join us for the Coffee
Hour after
Church Services, sponsored
by the Greek School.

Delicious souvlaki will be for
sale to either eat or take
home with you.

**Please do not send peanuts, tree-nuts, kiwi, and pineapple, and
sesame (in any form – seeds, oil, etc.) due to food allergies.**