



The junior and senior high school are pictured in front of the light house while attending the Union of Crete Celebrations.

Student of the Month Middle School Brooklyn Fain, Grade 8

By Monika Gartzke

Where are you from?

I'm from Washington State, USA.

What is your favorite school subject?

I really like science because it's so fascinating and never gets boring.

What is your favorite food?

Mashed Potatoes.

What is something you're proud of?

I'm proud of the cakes I have baked and how much I have been able to improve my cake decorating skills.



Anniversary of Union of Crete with Greece Celebrations

By Lourin De Kock

On December 1, 1913, the blue and white flag was raised with all solemnity and began to wave proudly, sealing the Union and marking the transition to a new era for Crete and for Greece.

This holiday holds importance to the Cretan people because it marked the end of an almost half a millenia struggle with the Ottoman Empire for their independence.

The President of the Republic, Katerina Sakellaropoulou, in her statements to the media said:

"This year marks 100 years since December 1st, 1913, when Galanolefki was raised at the Firkas Fortress, sealing the union of Crete with Greece and justifying generations upon generations of Cretans who fought for this holy cause. We honor their sacrifices, and gratefully remember the leadership of Eleftherios Venizelos, who with

foresight upon generations of Cretans who fought for this holy cause. We honor their sacrifices, and gratefully remember the leadership of Eleftherios Venizelos, who with foresight and perseverance succeeded in uniting Crete with the national body.

The Mayor of Chania, Panagiotis Simandirakis also delivered a speech in which he said:

"At this very spot, in the historic fortress of Firka, 110 years ago history was written. Once upon a time there was a prison here, where terror reigned and freedom fighters were inhumanely tortured. But on that day, Firkas stood out and for all as a unique landmark, supreme symbol of Cretan freedom.

Since ancient times, Crete has been a bone of contention for the powerful of every era. The

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Join the Friday Fun!

Theater
Robotic Club
Chess Club

Tae Kwon Do
Cretan Dance
Art Club

Community Service

December is the month of giving and this year the students at Theodoropoulos school donated food to the local food pantry charities of Chania.



Staff of the Month: Athina Nikolaou

By Monika Gartzke



Where are you from?
Zambia.

What classes do you teach?
I teach math to the middle and high school students.

What do you like most about working at this school?
I enjoy the environment of the school and I value the friendships I have built with my colleagues. I also love the students here. They never fail to keep me on my toes each day!

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

It was actually by accident. I was giving math and biology lessons to some classmates of mine in university as a side job. Then one of the professors asked me to be the teacher's assistant in experimental psychology and soon after I was asked to teach first-year university courses.

What is one of your hidden talents?

I know what people are going to say before they say it.

Christmas Cookies

By Noah Girgis

December is known for being all about the Christmas spirit, and Theodoropoulos' students from the international side kept that spirit alive! A common Christmas tradition is making gingerbread cookies.

On December 21st, a wide range of ages gathered from the school's international program. One of the teachers named Mrs. Maria made the cookie dough with the 11th grade class. Then, everyone made cookies. We had special cutouts, and crystal sugar pieces. Afterwards, everyone put the cookies on a tray. The amazing kitchen staff baked the cookies for us, and everyone got to eat at least 2. This tradition came from Germany.



Elementary, Middle and High school students making Christmas cookies



Cookie cutouts before baking



Making the cookie dough



Christmas Concert

By Monika Gartzke



On December 13, the international students hosted their annual Christmas performance. They sang traditional Christmas songs from around the world and read about heartfelt traditions from all 18 countries represented by our students. Our school’s music teacher, Ms. Gogo taught the middle and high school classes how to play some Christmas songs on the xylophones. After the wonderful performance carefully organized by teachers and staff ended, everyone went outside to enjoy the delicious holiday desserts provided by parents. Thank you to all the patient teachers and staff who without your help this performance wouldn't have been possible. Lastly, thank you to all our students for their participation. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Elementary School Student of the Month Joshua Barney 4th Grade

By Monika Gartzke

Where are you from?

I’m from Italy but I was raised in America.

What is your favorite school subject? My favorite class is math because it’s fun and I’m good at it.

What is your favorite movie?
13 Hours.

What do you want to be when you grow up?
I want to be a football player for the Napoli football club. I want to play as a right wing and defender.

What is your favorite food? Empanadas.

If you could visit anywhere in the world, where would you go?
I would go to Dubai because it’s pretty and has cool skyscrapers.



Students singing Christmas songs



Students presenting the traditions from their home countries



Escape Room and Kypos Garden

By Olivia Nilsen

On Thursday December 14th, students from the Junior and Senior high school went to the Mystery Loft and Kypos Garden in Chania. The Mystery Loft has three escape rooms in total, so the students were divided into six groups with three groups going at the same time. The last three groups were in the park waiting for their turn. The three escape rooms are unique and are filled with clues and codes. One of the rooms is called "Silent Hill" and is based on the movie "Silent Hill" from 2006. This room had an actor that would enter at random points during the hour, and you would have to hide inside or else you would have to exit and would not be able to play anymore. The other rooms, "The Jail" and "The Last Will" did not have an actor to disturb them.



Letter to the editor

If you have any comments send an email to kostopoulos@zita.gr

Science Corner

The 11th grade Earth Science class did a STEM project on designing a Zoo Exhibit. They had to research and give details about the type of rocks used in the exhibit and what geological processes made them. Then research was conducted on how the animals use and adapted to those rock formations.



Monika Gartzke made a Black bear Exhibit



Orlando Hales made a Skink Exhibit



Soula De Castro made a South American Beetle Exhibit



Tuana Mejin made Lion Exhibit

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conquerors succeeded one another and the enslavement of the island continued uninterrupted for centuries. Have we really considered how many generations of our ancestors were born and spent their entire lives enslaved, with the vision of freedom and the unquenchable flame burning in their souls?

On December 1, 1913, the blue and white flag was raised with all solemnity and began to wave proudly, sealing the union and marking the transition for a new era for Crete and for Greece.

The dream was coming true, The eternal longing for freedom been fulfilled. The blood-soaked struggles were finally being vindicated. On that special day, Chania is on alert. Blue and white everywhere, arches, images of fighters, laurels, and myrtles set the tone. Thousands of people of all ages and social classes have flooded the streets of the city, the waterfront at the port and participated wholeheartedly in a frenzied festival.

The arrival of the battleship "Averof" causes a frenzy of excitement. The church bells of the city are ringing merrily. King Constantine and the Prime Minister of Greece, Eleftherios Venizelos disembark from the glorious battleship and head to the Firkas Fortress on foot. There in the crown you can distinguish the two living legends of the Cretan revolutions, Hatzimichalis Giannari and Anagnosti Mantaka. But above all, you can distinguish the great protagonist, the Chaniotis Prime Minister of Greece, the great leader who, synchronizing his internal clock with the clock of history, modernizing and doubling the Greek state.

On that day, Venizelos had the satisfaction that everything his compatriots had suffered over the centuries was not wasted. The Atheninan newspaper "Patris" described him as "fortunate," stating: "as a Christian, as a Greek, as a Prime Minister of Greece, but also as a human being, he experienced the maximum happiness that fate can reserve for a mortal" and the newspaper added "that after so much work a fairer reward could never have been given to a political man, fulfilling not only the Cretan dreams of his own country, but also the great desires of Hellenism..."



Military at Agia Triada



The President of the Republic, Katerina Sakellaropoulou raising the flag.



Traditional Cretan clothing at the Firkas Fortress and a military brigade in the sea.



Panagiotis Simandirakis, Mayor of Chania, giving the anniversary speech.



International students waiting for the celebration to begin.



The walk from Agia Triada to Firkas Fortress.



Students from Theodoropoulos carried the flag during the anniversary celebration.

ELEMENTARY EDITION

International Day

By Eleanna Manolessakis



For international day with disabilities 1st-4th grade tried being blind.

Craft Making

By Eleanna Manolessakis



Mrs. Soula's class created a Santa Claus craft for Christmas.

Fun with Math

By Eleanna Manolessakis



Mrs. Soula's class did a math project using scales to weigh different object.

Tree Decorating

By Vicky Barney



Mrs. Demetra's class decorated a little Christmas tree with ornaments and a star.

ELEMENTARY EDITION

Visit to Elpinski

By Vicky Barney

The elementary side went on a field trip to Elpinski on December 14th



Secret Santa

By Vicky Barney

International students gave each other a gift for secret Santa.

