





2nd meeting, VASSILIKA, GREECE

"Our language: personal and shared history"





Δ HMO Σ Θ EPMH Σ , $BA\Sigma$ I Λ IKA, THERMI MUNICIPALITY, VASILIKA: our area

THE HISTORY OF VASSILIKA

The small town of Vassilika is 26 km easterly located from Thessaloniki and southerly from the main road leading to Poligyros which is 26m above sea level. According to tradition, the town of Vassilika, meaning 'royal', was named after the royal estates of the Macedonian king or a Byzantine emperor, which were located at the very place. It should be noted that the Danish archaeologist King, who passed in 1886 Vassilika from Olinthos, accepts as historical truth the tradition linking the name of Vassilika with the founding in 888 or 886 of the Saint Anastasia Monastery by Theophany, Leo Sofos wife, son of Basil, of the Macedonian dynasty. Long before 1821, the residents of Vassilika were in the silk line. Moreover, the residents of the town stood against the Turks in 1821. As a result, the whole town was burnt down by the Turks except of three houses which salvaged from the fire. The church of Saint George was burnt to the ground also in the holocaust of Vassilika. It was rebuilt and inaugurated in 1838. Nowadays, there is a memorial for those who died at that time. Furthermore, Vassilika took part in the Macedonian War. Some men as soldiers, some others as leaders and some host 'rebels' who supported them in their fight ..







TRADITIONAL CLOTHES

Men's clothes

Shirt: made of cotton, white coloured, knee -length, made by women

Trousers (called Benevraki): made of cotton or wool, black coloured , loose on the upper part and tight on the anckles with fake pockets on each side , made by women

Belt (called Zounari): made by the same fabric, cotton or wool, two metres long and about 10cm wide, worn around the waist supporting the trousers.

Hat (called Tragiaska): made of cotton, black coloured with a variety of lovely embroidery on it.

Women's clothes

Shirt: made of cotton, white coloured, knee length

Dress: made of purchased fabric, floor length and wide at the waist. The festive dresses were tailored and silk-woven by themselves using silk also bred by themselves.

Apron: made of cotton for the summer and of wool for the winter, colourfully embroidered.

Gold Coins: a present given by the man to the woman he was engaged with Women used to wear them on their chest on festive days.

THE CARNIVAL CUSTOM

'Carnival' has been celebrated in the small town of Vassilika since ever. This celebration lasts three weeks reaching its peak on Shrove Monday when the residents are enacting a traditional wedding wearing traditional costumes and dancing in the streets all day and night. Everyone is invited to take part in the wedding ceremony and to parade on the wedding float. A boy is parading holding the Hellenic flag, followed by girls wearing traditional costumes and carrying the bride's dowry and then the bride and the groom along with the bestman escorted by their relatives, friends and guests. When the parade is over, everyone gathers at the town's square and dances to traditional music until late in the evening.





Recipe of a traditional Easter dish: 'Vouloto'

Ingredients:

liver, a bunch of fresh and tender onions, mint, parsley, salt, black and red pepper, rice(proportion:1cup of rice/3 cups of water), tomato paste

Wash the kidmeat well and add salt and red pepper. Heat the liver and cut into smaller pieces. Steam the onions, wash and add the liver. Steam well. Add two teaspoons of tomato paste, salt, black pepper, rice, water and boil. When it's ready and cold, stuff the kids belly with it, leaving space enough for the rice to distended and stitch it up.

Put the stuffed kid in the fridge. Next morning, place the kid salted water in a large baking pan. At 8am put it into the warmed up rustic oven(for 2hours) and place tiles on it. Seal the oven with a stone and earth it up to block the air so that the food doesn't get burnt. By 10am turn over the kid and add the rest of the rice. Bake for two more hours with the tiles on top.



Our school is 1 GENIKO LYKEIO VASSILIKON, (general secondary education), with 250 students, boys and girls- age of students: 16,17,18- and 25 teachers, in Vassilika, THESSALONIKI, GREECE.

We are a small, secondary school with broad interests in science and culture, situated in the eastpart of Thessaloniki district, in the border between Thessaloniki and Chalkidiki, north Greece. We host a middle and low-mainly- level students- as far as their social, economic and demographic backgrounds are concerned, in a rural area- from the villages around Vassilika, in Thermi municipality.

We have also students coming from families of immigrants from the first and/or second generation -mainly from Albania- and this year we host also some underage refugees from Syria who live in neighboring hostitality centers. We also have students with special needs (dyslexia, dysgraphiaetc (around 8% of all the students). All pupils learn English as their first foreign language and French, as a second language. We are a vibrant school, engaged in cultural and curricular projects and ready to tackle new challenges. In addition to that, we have been organizing certain student teams addressing various topics such as culture, health and career. In these teams using mainly drama in education and creative writing, we voluntarily work beyond the official school working hours, addressing issues like types of addiction (smoking, Internet, drugs), human rights, refugees, our cultural heritage etc. Especially with the drama group, recently, we work in a drama project and we prepare Sofocles ANTIGONE with our own way .It was a e twinning project and in collaboration with european schools- France, Belgium- we "won" European quality label.

1ο ΓΕΝΙΚΟ ΛΥΚΕΙΟ ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΩΝ 1GEL VASSILIKON THESSALONIKI

DIALOGUE: youth in action

FFBRUARY PROGRAM 16-22/2/2020

1.15-16/2/2020: ARRIVALS



2. 17/2/2020: 1 We present the 12 months traditional story:

all different, all together

- 2 Logos prizes ceremony
- 3 Workshops:
- a. european citizen: What does it mean to be a young European citizen today? (we talk and finally vote about 5 advantages)
- b. two weeks travels by train in Europe,

we vote the best

- 3. 18/2/2020: Tour in byzantine Thessaloniki:
- we visit famous landmarks of the town and we bicycle along the side of the beach to town port
- 4. 19/2/2020 Tour in our villages:

we discover our "hidden treasures" and we visit traditional industries

- 1. We knead traditional bread and pies
- 2. We find out the famous mineral water SOUROTI,

whitch gave its name to one of our villages.

- 5. 20/2/2020 (barbecue Thursday) 3 workshops until noon and after noon:
- 1. the partners teams present their traditional industries also.
- 2. all teams present their country "hidden treasures and...
- 3. their twinned towns or villages.
- 4. CARNAVAL: we play a tradidional game,

GAITANAKI

- 5. Afternoon until night.
- a. we take the certificates
- b. party with traditional songs and dances!

(All partner teams present their own traditional dance)

6. 21/2/2020 Excursion in our makedonian treasures:

VERGINA, PELLA, and ...we arrive to EDESSA with its Waterfalls

7. 22/2/2020 DEPARTURES

MONDAY, 17/2/2020:

The 12 months traditional story: all different, all together



«There once was a widow who had five children and not a penny to her name. She could only get work once a week, when she made bread for a lady of the town. Even then, the lady only paid her by allowing the poor woman to carry the dough that stuck to her hands back to her children. Once home, the woman would wash her hands with clean water and make a gruel that kept them fed until next week, when she could return from her work with dough for them again.

The rich woman's children, for all their fine food, were skinny and hollow-eyed, while the poor woman's children thrived on their portion. The rich woman spoke about this to her friends, who told her, "The reason why her children are fat and yours skinny is that she takes your children's luck away on her hands. Make her wash before she leaves."

The rich woman forced the poor widow to wash her hands after she baked the bread. The poor woman returned empty-handed to her hungry children, and wept

miserable when she saw their anguished faces. She soon dried her tears , and went out into the night to beg for bread. Someone in the village spared her a crust of bread, and this she soaked in water to share among the children . She left them as they slept, hardly daring to look back upon her hungry children

She roved the wilderness alone that night, lost in thought and desperation. She eventually saw a light in the distance, which turned out to be a great tent lit with a candelabra of 12 candles , from which hung an ornamental ball. Inside she found 12 young men ,seated in a circle , deeply involved in conversation . Near the entrance to the right sat three youths with shirt collars open, each holding bunches of grass and fruit blossoms. Three more men sat near them, sleeves rolled up and tanned ,carrying ears of wheat. Three more men flanked them, with bunches of ripe grapes in their hands. And the last three , to the left of the tent flap, huddled up in furs from head to toe. When they saw the woman , they greeted her politely , and bid her enter the tent. She greeted them in kind , and they asked her to be seated. They asked her how she happened to find them. And she began, a bit timidly, to tell them of her troubles and what led her to their door. When they knew she was hungry, one of the young men in furs went to get her some food, and she saw that he had a bad leg. After she had refreshed herself , they asked her about various matters of the surrounding country side, and she answered gamely.

The three young men bearing the flowers asked her: "Good Aunt, how do you like the months of the year? How do you like the months of March, April and May? " Very much, my dear lads," she said, ' for the whole earth is green and brilliant with flowers. Then the birds begin to sing, and farmers know it's time to make their grain store ready." The young men with the wheat ears then piped up , " And how about June, July and August? " I can't complain about them ,either, for their great warmth ripens the grain and fruits . The orchard workers pick their fruits, and the farmers reap their grain ,and even the poor are happy, as they do not need expensive clothes in this time." The young men with the grapes asked her about September, October and November. She replied ," The wine harvest is ready then, and folks busy themselves pressing the fruit and filling the casks. The frost they bring also helps to remind us to get ready for winter's chill." Finally the three men in furs asked her how she found December, January and February. Here she smiled , and said , "These three months , though they are cold, are months of rest, for men and the earth. We would be tempted to work the year round for our grain if they were not here , and so we are allowed respite from our labors, while the rain and snow prepares the ground for another year. Each month of the year is good, and serves its purpose, each according to the will of our Lord . It is man who is not praiseworthy." Eleven of the young men, having heard this , signaled the first young man with the grapes . He left the tent , and returned in a twinkling with a jar in his arms. Smiling, he said, " Here , Auntie, feed your children with this." She set the jar on her shoulder and thanked the assembled men profusely, wishing them many years. They in turn wished her good luck, and sent her on her way.

She reached home at dawn ,and , while her children slept, opened the jar. Inside she found it full to the brim with gold pieces. When the sun was higher in the sky, she made for the baker's , the cheese shop, and who knows where else, bought provisions for her family, and hurried home. She woke her children, dressed them, made them wash, and set them to their prayers . When they had done all this , they all ate heartily. Later , she bought a measure of wheat , had it ground at the mill, then headed off to the baker's to beak bread. She was heading home with the laden bread board on her shoulder, when who should see her but the rich woman! Full of curiosity, the rich woman asked the poor widow how she had gotten the money to make the bread. Suspecting nothing, the poor woman told her neighbour every detail.

The rich woman then went out to find the young men for herself, greedy for the riches the poor woman had gotten . While her family slept , she slipped out of the house and searched for the tent. She entered the tent , and the young men asked her what brought her there. " I am a poor woman," she said, "and I need your help." " And how do you find things in your town?" " They could be worse , I guess ," she snapped." And the months of the year, " they asked, " how do you find them?" "Well , she growled, "There isn't one that doesn't have something wrong with it. August roasts us till we drop, then all of a sudden September, October and November brings cold snaos that give us colds and coughs. The come of the winter months , with their ice and snow , filling the lanes and keeping us cooped up inside our houses - February 's not even a proper month! " (Here poor February reddened terribly) " And March, April and May are not quite warm enough , so we have nine months of dismal cold! Can't even have a proper May Day picnic . But as soon as June, July and August roll around , here it is too hot to do anything at all. It's obvious that the months of the year (a pox on them all) are a trial to us all." Silently, they motioned to the second of the young men that carried the grapes . He returned with a jar for her. "Take this jar home, shut yourself into a room by yourself , and open it . Do not open it on the way home." She nearly sprinted home, arriving before dawn. Locking herself into her room, she wrenched the stopper out of the jar and poured it out on the table. What was inside ? Snakes ! They twined their spotted bodies around her and filled her body with poison. But the poor woman , with her kind words and her pure spirit, became a lady of quality, and she and her family flourished.»

Logos prizes ceremony







1 2 3

Workshops:



european citizen:

What does it mean to be a young European citizen today?

Talking about the human rights and EUROPE offers about that.

We form 6 teams from all over the countries, with 7 members every one. Every team choose and propose 5 advantages and argue about them. We all vote finally the 5 best.

two weeks travels by train in Europe

Discover EU: Your European bucket list adventure for the summer of your 18th birthdays

Every country-team prepares and presents the travel has chosen:

Countries and maps, train routes, landmarks, criteria for our choice, tickets and cost. Finally we vote (as team) the best travel and we argue about our choice



TUESDAY, 18/2/2020:

Tour in byzantine Thessaloniki: we visit famous landmarks of the town and we bicycle along the side of the beach to town port

The City Walls (Fortress): The Thessaloniki Walls (Fortress) are the result of a long building process that dates back to the foundation of the city by Cassander (316 BC) and reaches the beginning of the 20th century. Thanks to its walls, the city was saved many times from its external enemies. The main construction phases were undertaken during the 3rd, 4th and 5th century AD, while the parts that have been better preserved belong to the Byzantine period. The Walls were still surrounding the city until the late 19th century when large parts including the entire seaward section were demolished as the Ottoman authorities were trying to change some of the city's urban features.







The Trigonion Tower: Being perhaps the most imposing element of the city's walls and one of the most popular sights in Thessaloniki the Tower of Trigonion is a medieval masterpiece. Built in the 15th century AD, it was used as an armory and an artillery tower.

Saint Demetrius Church: Saint Demetrius, patron Saint of Thessaloniki, is one of the most beloved and popular saints of the Greek Orthodox Church. The first church of Saint Demetrius was built in Thessaloniki in the 5th century AD on the site where the Saint was imprisoned and executed by Roman soldiers in 303 AD. The church, which was repeatedly destroyed by fire, was eventually rebuilt as a five- aisled basilica in the 7th century. Nowadays, some of the church's magnificent mosaics as well as an urn with the Saint's reliques are still treasured in it. The Church of Saint Demetrius is one of the 15 Byzantine Monuments of Thessaloniki which were added to the list of World Heritage Sites by UNESCO in 1988.







The Roman Forum (Agora): The Forum was constructed by the Romans in the late 1st century A.D. Along with the Galerian Palace Complex it was the center of political and public life in Thessaloniki. It was a large open area surrounded by buildings of various functions some of which were very elegant and impressive, displaying the financial prosperity of the city during the Hellenistic and Roman period of its history. The Forum remained active during the 2nd, 3rd and 4th century AD.

The Aristotelous Square: Aristotelous Square is the main city square of Thessaloniki. Located along Niki's Avenue, near the city's waterfront, Aristotelous is right in the center of it all in Thessaloniki. Designed by the French architect Ernest Hébrard after the immense destruction of the great fire of 1917 which ruined a great deal of Thessaloniki, the square is a striking symbol of the city and plays an important role in the country's cultural and political life as well.

The Rotunda: One of the city's oldest religious and archaeological sites and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Rotunda was built in 306 AD by Caesar Galerius as part of the complex of his Palace along with a Triumphal Arch (Kamara). It is believed that it was intended to be Galerius' mausoleum although it was never used for this purpose. In the 5th century AD it was converted into a Christian temple and part of it was reconstructed. The brightest remnants of this early christian phase of the monument

The White Tower: A circular building, consisting of a ground floor and six upper stories, the White Tower was built in the 15th century AD, after the fall of Thessaloniki to the Ottomans in 1430. At its location there had been an older tower belonging to Thessaloniki's Byzantine fortifications, where the eastern wall met the sea wall. In time it became the symbol of Thessaloniki since from 1911 it stood by itself on the seacoast following the demolition of the sea and eastern walls and its own surrounding wall. After the city's liberation in 1912 the Tower had various uses. In 1983, the Tower was given to the Ministry of Culture. Since 2008, the White Tower houses the permanent exhibition on Thessaloniki from the age of its founding in 316/15 B.C. to the present.







WEDNESDAY: 19/2/2020

Tour in our villages: we discover our "hidden treasures" and we visit

traditional industries

Monastery of Agia Anastasia Farmakolytria

The monastery of Agia Anastasia Farmakolytria (St Anastasia the Curer) stands near Vassilika of Thessaloniki, was founded in 888 by Augusta Theophano, under the Patriarchate of Photius the Great. In 1522, the hieromonk Theonas with his companions re-established this Holy Monastery and became its Abbot. Later he was ordained Archbishop of Thessalonica, and had a holy ending, and the Church numbered him among the Saints. In the Holy Monastery are kept the sacred Head of St Anastasia and the whole relic of St Theonas, Abbot of the Monastery and Metropolitan of Thessalonica, Holy Wood, a gift of Augusta Theophano to the Monastery, and many other relics. During the Turkish domination, the monastery owned many acres of land but it was destroyed and was rebuilt from scratch in 1830. Today, it belongs to the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and honors St Anastasia on the 22nd of December. The monastery is included on the UNESCO World Heritage list and there are only around 800 in world! In the Holy Monastery one can find the whole relic of St Theonas, Holy Wood, a gift of Augusta Theophano to the Monastery, and many other relics.





Traditional Industries

From the Ancient times to this day, Souroti's natural carbonated mineral water has been preferred by many. The water is not only famous for its excellent quality but also for its therapeutic properties. Once again we must thank nature as it has provided the solution for us to be able to drink one of the most richest mineral waters in the World. Myth also has it that Alexander the Great was a huge fun of Souroti and regularly visited the spring to partake of its valuable waters. During World War I French troops set up camp in the area. French officers were filled with enthusiasm by the exceptional quality of the water, so much that they set up the first rudimentary bottling plant. 1935, the Souroti spring was officially recognized as being a spa spring* and the first contract was drawn up between the Greek State and Mr. Choneos on exploitation of the spring...



Agios Antonios is located on the southern slopes of Mount Kalavros near the borders of the prefectures of Halkidiki and Thessaloniki where it belongs administratively. The local community of Agios Antonios also belongs to the settlement of Monopigado. The population, which is a large majority of refugees, reaches 600 and is 70% of the Pontians - who came after the Pontic genocide of 1919, 25% of Sarakatsans and 5% of Thracians.

Women's Agricultural Cooperation in Agios Antonios of Traditional Products is a must thus to enjoy a warm, friendly environment in harmony with the beautiful view of Mt Olympus. Traditional handmade, high quality products with recipes that reflect their cultural heritage of Pontos



Monopigado is built at an altitude of 411 meters and its beautiful two-storey houses with their tiled roofs and courtyards are scattered around the village. Around the central square of the village are the church and the Pontian Memory Museum.

Ktima Perek lies 30km from Thessaloniki in the mountainous Pontic village of Monopigado with breath-taking unhindered views of Mt. Olympus' peaks and the alluring Thermaic Gulf. An ideal destination for exceptional food specializing in Pontian cuisine. Needless to say, the women's workshop which makes traditional recipes handmade from home grown products.





THURSDAY 20/2/2020 (barbecue Thursday)

workshops until noon and after noon:

the partners teams present their traditional industries also.

Every country-team will research a traditional local industry and examine its built heritage, tools and machinery, recovers and presents its operation history and products (if it is possible compares it with another in Europe)



all teams present their country "hidden treasures

Every country-team presents (2) landmarks, monuments, buildings, art objects etc. from their country and tries to convince the audience they are the treasure for all. (The host country organize an excursion to visit these "treasures")



and...

their twinned towns or villages.

Every country students will find out a village or town twinned with one in another EU Country (preferably) They will present these "twins" explaining the criterion for this twinning. This criterion (standard) is the "heart" of this workshop.

And finally possible discussion about the criteria of twinning.



Afternoon until night

we take the certificates...

CARNAVAL: we play a tradidional game, GAITANAKI





Gaitanaki is a traditional Greek dance and singing, custom of the Greek carnival. One person holds the pole and 12 dancers hold each one of the 12 coloured ribbons that are fixed on the top of the pole and hang from it. Tradition says that the 12 ribbons symbolize the 12 months of the year. The dance goes as follows: Each dancer passes under the next dancer's ribbon, thus creating a circle. The result is a beautiful colourful braid created on the pole. But surely is not that easy as it sounds.

traditional music and dance party

We all enjoy an afternoon of music, dancing and fun in the school hall. Host team especially and every country team demonstrate a traditional dance and all are encouraged to dance together.



We present:

SYRTOS: is a traditional dance which is danced all over Greece in different variations in 2/4 rythm. Its name originates from the ancient greek word syroserno which means "lead the dance". It is the most familiar and ancient rythm.

CHASAPOSERVIKOS: is a variation of the Chasaposerviko dance in fast rythm, which was influenced by musical influences of Balkan countries and countries from Eastern Europe. It is similar to Serbian dances

PARTICIPATIONS: they are going to dance with us...

The Vassilika Folk Dance Association, La.Ho.Sy.Va, was founded in 2006 by people with passion, desire and love for the tradition of our place, and the whole of Greece. Our purpose is the preservation of the traditions of our country, but above all the dissemination of them to younger people, who will continue the efforts and work. Our club maintains and promotes Greek tradition, serves culture and performs important social work.

TRADITIONAL FOLK DANCES

SIDIRODROMOS

Sidirodromos is a local dance and title-song of Vassilika about love. Focusing on the meaning of grave and beauty but also on the anxiety of the lover to meet his beloved travelling by train which was supposed to be a luxurious means of transport. of that time.

CAIRO (TABACHANIOTIKOS)

People living in Vassilika but also in the area of Chalkidiki love dancing Tabachaniotika. (orchestral music with no lyrics).

ZONARADIKOS

Zonaradikos is danced in every geographic region of Thrace and is named after the grip the dancers are holding while dancing. That is, holding each others belt when dancing.

IKARIOTIKOS

According to the mythology of Icarus, the first pilot in the Greek mythology, fall from the sky into the sea off the coast an the island and drowned. Thus, this island was named after him, Ikaria, and the dance after the island. It is one of the most favourite traditional dances and it is said that at the festivals on the island of Ikaria begin and end by dancing Ikariotiko.

CHASAPIA

Chasapia is danced all over Macedonia , in quick rhythm and its name originates from the Turkish word 'kasap', which means butcher, while the equivalent Greek name is slaughterer .

TSAMIKOS

Tsamikos is usually danced in mountainous areas and symbolizes and expresses the upstandingness and the dash of the dancers. There are two contents, the triumphant and the fighting. It was danced before and after the battle, or in the respite.

PENDOZALI

Pendozali is danced on the island of Crete accompanied by various melodies, the well-known Pendozalia. It is called pendozalis because it symbolizes the fifth (pende means five in Greek) zalo (step), which is supposed to be the fifth hope of the Cretans for the liberation of Crete from the Turkish yoke.

The folklore society "Agios Antonios youth"

was recently founded by young people, residents of Agios Antonios, in Thermi Municipality, aiming the preservation and spread of Pontic civilization, which was brought along from their homeland by refugees after Pontic Hellenism genocide.

TRADITIONAL FOLK DANCES

EMPROPIS: Widespread Pontian dance. The dance pattern consists of two triples. The hands are held with their elbows bent while the dancers are close to each other

OMAL TSIMERAS: A simple six-step dance that does not require any special dancing skills, we find it in Tsimera in Argyroupoli and Trabzon.

TIK MONO (single) TIK DIPLO(double) TIK TONGIAS: "TIK" is the most renowned of all the Pontic Dances, of which there are several. Tik means something that is very straight, like a straight beam ("thokari").

ETAIRE KALON KORITS: Dance of Matsouka, Trabzon area. A form of seranits athat got its name from the lyrics of the song "Callon Girl".

"TRYGONA": is danced all over and is named after a woman's name. The story goes that she was married to a lazy husband, and she woud have to do the daily chores and bring the firewood home. The lyrics depict the lazy husband and his wife.





The folklore society 'Aretsou' of New Risio,

was founded in 2001 by the residents of New. Risio, Thessalonikis, aiming the preservation and spread of the Minor Asia civilization, which was brought along from their homeland by refugees from Risio and Ambarli in Istanbul. There are about 250 members and there classes for adults are traditional dance and children. The society 'Aretsou' has taken part in various events, conferences and festivals in Greece and abroad and has won many distinctions. It has also presented its work on TV and radio shows.

Dances from Smyrna

- 1. Smyrniot Waltz (an amorous and mated dance from Smyrna).
- 2. Syrtos (it is the most popular wedding dance, also favoured by women).
- 3. Syrtobalos (common all over Minor Asia, danced by a pair making various evolutions).
- 4. Aptalikos (danced by male pair/two men and was the females pride as it was a dashing dance. A very expressive dance without steps. Men dance for their destiny and yearnings).



- 5. Slow Karsilamas (Karsi means opposite, mostly danced by men in pairs facing each other).
- 6. Slow Chasapikos (traditional dance in Minor Asia, mostly danced by men. The dancers make small steps and special evolutions).
- 7. Fast Chasapikos (consist of two parts, a fast and a slow part, danced by men and women, usually at feasts).
- 8. Azizies (danced in Smyrna and Genesis. An amorous and mated dance).

FRIDAY, 21/2/2020 Excursion in our makedonian treasures: VERGINA, PELLA, and ...we arrive to EDESSA

Vergina: Small town in Northern Greece, part of Veroia municipality in Imathia, Central Macedonia. Best known as the ancient Aigai, the first capital of Macedon. There Philip II was assassinated and Alexander the Great was proclaimed King. Famous for it's archaeological museum where tombs of the kings of Macedon, including the tomb of Philip II, are housed. Aigai has been awarded UNESCO Heritage Site status.



Pella: Regional unit of Greece in the geographic region of Macedonia. It is named after the ancient city of Pella, the second capital of ancient Macedon and the birthplace of Alexander the Great.



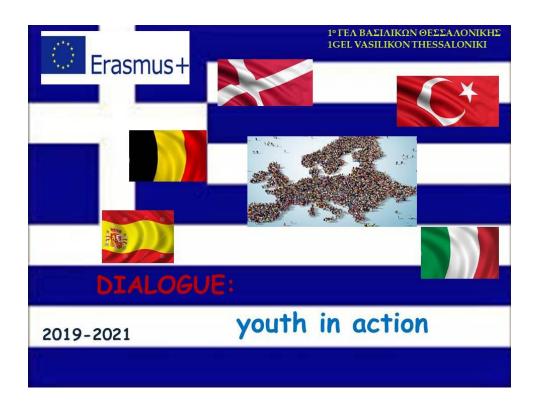
Edessa: Capital of the Pella regional unit, in the Central Macedonia region of Greece. Special for the Greek history as, according to some ancient sources, it was where Caranus, the legendary founder of the Argead Dynasty (whose famous member was Alexander the Great), established the first capital of ancient Macedon. Edessa, due to its strategic location, controlled the Via Egnatia, the road constructed by the Roman's in the 2nd century BC. It was one of Greece's industrial centers until the middle of the 20th century. Today, it is based on services and tourism due to the many ancient sights nearby, including ancient Pella, the waterfalls and winter sports. Edessa, due to its strategic location, controlled the Via Egnatia, the road constructed by the Roman's in the 2nd century BC.



SATURDAY,22/2/2020:

DEPARTURES





" A true tradition is not a testimony of an outdated past, it is a living force that animates and informs the present."