

Vari, 19/05/23

Dear Captain and crew of the Abyssinian,

We hope you are well. It's been a while since we last sent you an email but we had a lot of homework and tests after the Easter holidays.



Some days ago the headmistress of our school came to our classroom and shared her childhood experiences with us. Her father was a chief engineer on a ship so she could tell us many things and share many memories from her voyages with him.

As she was talking to us, many questions came to our minds about the life of a seaman nowadays and we would like to ask you some things. She told us that her father was on a voyage when she was born and he was 'away' for 19 months. He actually missed her birth and came home much later. So, how much time do you spend away from home? How long was the longest voyage that you have made? Don't you feel homesick? All these questions came to our minds and we thought that your job is really hard.

Another thing that our headmistress talked to us about was "pirates". We were surprised to hear that there are still pirates in the sea nowadays. Has your ship ever been attacked by pirates? Have you ever faced any "pirate-danger"? From what we heard we think it can be really dangerous and life-threatening. Do you have special training for such situations? We cannot imagine how difficult and stressful it can be.

We also learned that there is a playroom in ships and we thought that it must be very entertaining for you. How do you spend your time in the playroom? Do you play board games? Is there a PS5? Is there a pool table? We would love to learn more details about your playroom.



We have also started to construct a ship using hard paper and we are going to finish it soon. We are very busy with that task and feel like working in a shipyard.



Last week we visited the Neraida Floating Museum. We attended the educational programme “TRAVELLING WITH THE NERAIDA: A GAME ON BOARD”. With the help of interactive activities on board, we learned about aspects of Greek shipping and ferrying of the 20th century and explore individual themes such as voyaging and sea, ships and shipping, communication and transportation, people and memories. It was a very interesting visit.

These days we are rehearsing for our end-of-school year celebration and we will be dancing and singing to famous songs from Greek artists. We were wondering if you ever feel like you are losing your culture and traditions by being away from your home for such a long time.

We are wondering if we will be able to have a video call with you before the end of the school year. Is this possible???

We are looking forward to receiving an email from you! We wish you safe voyages!

Best regards,

The teachers and the students of the 6th grade of the 1st Primary School of Vari