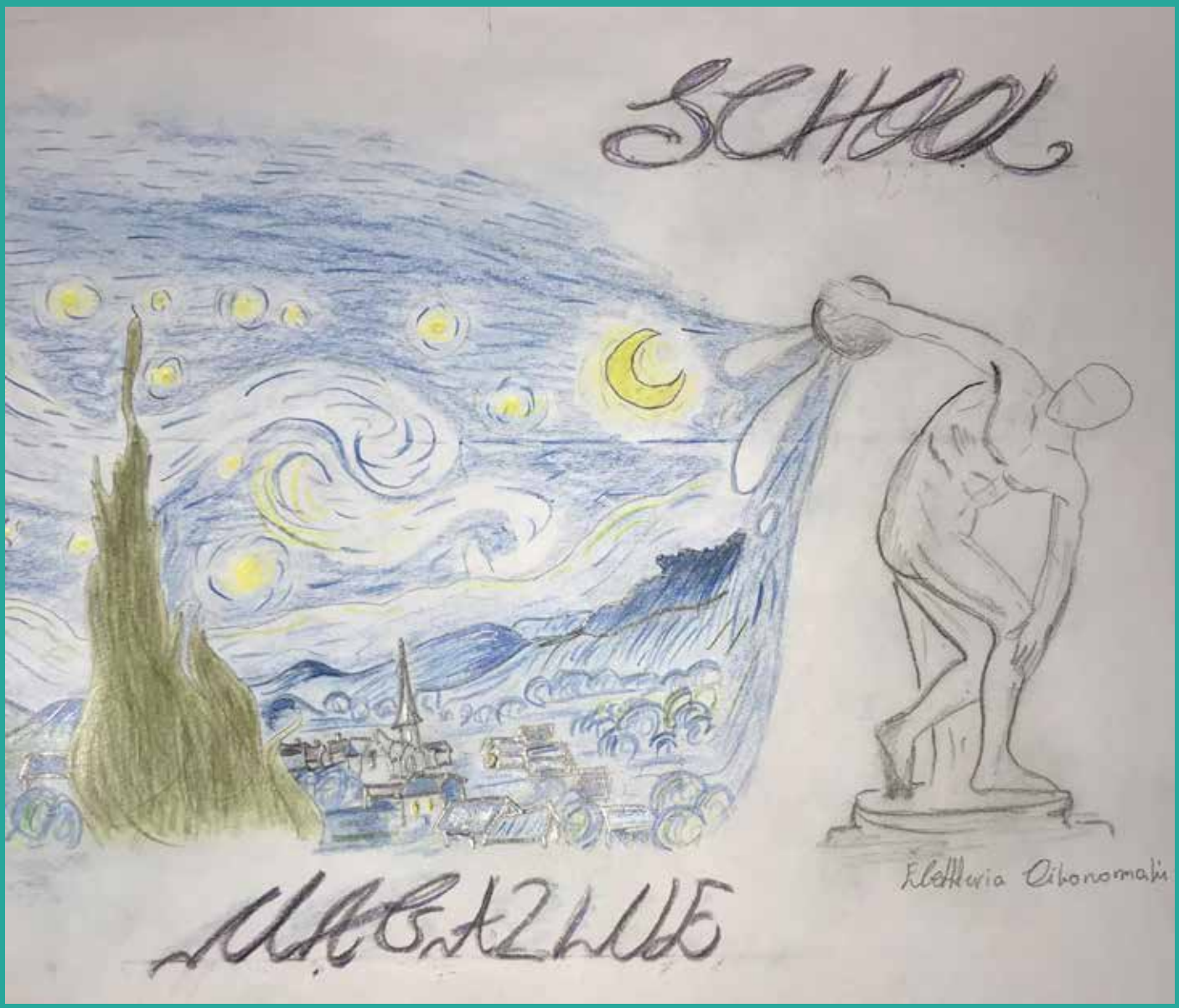
The English Magazine
Of Geitonas Junior High school



Drawn by Eleftheria Oikonomaki, Year 9 student

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Preface

Post Quarantine Times, Part 1, 22/09/2020

'To be honest, I feel thrilled that I am back to school and that there is no quarantine. It is annoying to wear masks, especially in the heat but I can meet my friends now.

Ermis

'Coming back to school after all these months home feels like a new start. I'd say it's quite strange...Plus, I can't stand wearing this mask! I wish we could go back to our normal lifestyles...'

Ismini

'After the quarantine I was very happy because I could see my friends and I also met new friends but I don't feel good with the mask. Moreover, I am free and I don't have to send an sms to go outside!'

Jason

Turbulence and Van Gogh's 'Starry Night'

https://www.vangoghgallery.com/painting/starry-night.html

One of the most amazing abilities of the human brain involves recognizing patterns. Nevertheless, some patterns are hard to understand. One of the most difficult patterns to comprehend is turbulent flow in fluid dynamics. Difficult though it may be, art has been used to illustrate it.

In June 1889 Vincent van Gogh painted the view just before sunrise from the window of his room, while being in distress. In the 'Starry Night' the brushstrokes in circles depict clouds and eddies of stars. The light of the star appears to twinkle and melt through milky ways. The impact incited is called 'luminance', referring to how intense the colour is on canvas. In other words, if two colours are very bright we see them as one. The more primitive part of our visual area will mix two differently coloured areas together if they look alike in terms of luminance, but our brain's private subdivision will separate the colours. These two interpretations take place at the same time and, as a result, the lightening in the 'Starry Night' seems to flicker.

Turbulence remains one among the many unsolved problems in physics. When there is an energy cascade, big eddies transfer their energy to smaller ones. While experiencing moments of torment Van Gogh was able to perceive and illustrate one of the hardest concepts nature has ever given to humanity and to connect his mind with movement, light and fluid.

VAN GOGH QUOTES

‘A good picture is equivalent to a good deed.’

‘We spend our whole lives in unconscious exercise of the art of expressing our thoughts with the help of words’

‘It is not the language of painters but the language of nature which one should listen to.... The feeling for the things themselves, for reality, is more important than the feeling for pictures.’

Source:
https://www.vangoghgallery.com/misc/quotes.html

DID YOU KNOW?

Image from the cover of a new book about the sketchbook, claimed to be a self-portrait of a sunburned Van Gogh.

Photograph: Éditions du Seuil

An unprecedented argument broke out in 2016 between the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam and a scholar, who alleges that she has come across more than 60 drawings included in an accountant book, which the painter had returned to the owner of the house he used to rent and which had remained hidden for 120 years.

Source: https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2016/nov/15/newly-discovered-van-gogh-drawings-labelled-imitations-museum

Van Gogh, Starry Night' Exhibition,
Atelier des Lumieres, Paris

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bb-grHnbgoDU&-feature=youtu.be

Pictures of the digital exhibition in the Atelier des Lumieres in Paris, a visual and musical production taking us to the intense life of the painter, who in the last ten years of his life created more than 2,000 pictures.

'Starry Night' inspired by Jason Psychogios

Geitonas School students inspired by the 'Starry Night'

INTERVIEW with Natasa Tsesmeli

by Ismini Anagnostou, Annie Drakogiannopoulou and Ermis Theodoridis

Why do you do what you do?

I have always loved art and children. It comes as no surprise that I wish to be with them and teach them what I love. Art!

How do you work?

I work on my paintings with acrylics and mixed techniques ; charcoal, spray paint, pencils, and whatever else I believe will give me the desired result.

Explain what you do in 100 words.

I am a painter and a sculptor. At the same time, I am involved with artistic photography. I work as a Fine Arts teacher at Geitonas School. I paint the different aspects of life, trying every time to depict new worlds. My goal is that my students learn how to explore their souls, express themselves creatively, discover new skill sets, be able to find beauty around them and develop their imagination.

What work did you most enjoy doing?

Sculpting with metal. Large textured steel structures with material that I found in the industrial zone of Piraeus based on aerial photography.

What is your strongest memory of that experience?

My strongest memory of that experience was the smell of metal and the power of fire that was transforming it.

Why Van Gogh?

Vincent Van Gogh was a very special artist and human being, who kept to himself. In his work, one can observe intense motion, the characteristic swirls, the intense strong and bright colors, his unique stroke. It is truly impressive that a man like him with such intense peculiarities was able to put in his work such vibrancy, light and such strength! This is where we talk about the 'magic' of art and how it affects the human psyche.

What is your dream project?

I would like to create a piece of art of really large scale that will combine sculpture, painting, photography, engraving. At the same time, the viewer will be able to wander in it and perhaps - through some interventions- will be able to reshape it!

What is the best piece of advice you would like to give?

Paint, create, travel with the power of your mind and your imagination!

Translated by Ermis Theodoridis

JOB INTERVIEWS

During the quarantine we all had and still have the opportunity to spend some quality time with our beloved ones. We asked , therefore, the School Magaziners to act out as journalists and interview their parents. We got an insight into various professions and learnt important tips and advice from prominent professionals and experts.
Here is what we got.

Job Interview

by Ismini Anagnostou

PROFESSION: ECONOMICS TEACHER

What are your main responsibilities as an economics teacher?
To organize the academic syllabus for the year, to run weekly lectures, workshops and tutorials and to assess students' performance on a regular basis.

What do you like most about your job?
The fact that through passing on knowledge to young generations, I help them in forming a better future.

How did you become interested in this field?
I was mainly influenced by my dad who had studied economics and worked as an accountant for more than 40 years.

What skills, abilities and personal attributes are essential to success in your job?
Analytical thinking, organizational skills, communicative ability, leadership skills, altruistic love for students

If you could do it all over again, would you choose the same path for yourself?
I would definitely follow the same path because my job is my passion and makes me who I am.

Job Interview
by Alexis Ouzounidis

PROFESSION: FOOTBALL COACH

What are your main responsibilities as a football coach?
To prepare my players, physically and mentally, so that they can do their best in every game.

What do you like most about your work?
I like football very much and as a coach I want to help and improve my players, especially the younger ones, with my knowledge and my experience to become better footballers but also better people.

What kinds of problems do you deal with?
Usually the lack of patience from the administration if the results are not positive and the criticism from the mass media, which has an impact on the fans.

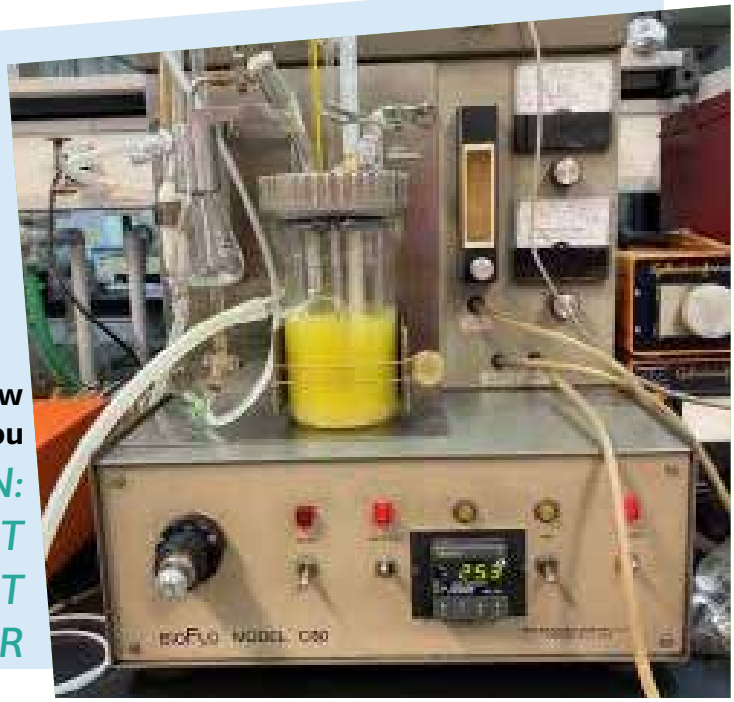
How does your job affect your lifestyle?
Since it's a job which requires being at the training center for a long time, there is not much time for personal life. Because of that, in my free time, I try to be with my family and do things with them, such as going for a coffee or eating in a restaurant all together.

How did you become interested in this field?
When I was young I used to play football with my friends in the neighbourhood and later I became a professional player. When I stopped playing, I wanted to continue in this field because I love football.

What advice would you give someone who is considering this type of job?
I would advise him to be humble. It is important trying to impart your knowledge to your players. That's how they will improve themselves.

Job Interview
by Annie Drakogiannopoulou

PROFESSION: AGRICULTURALIST BIOTECHNOLOGIST RESEARCHER



What are your main responsibilities as an Agriculturalist – Biotechnologist Researcher?
I work in the Agricultural University of Athens in the Laboratory of General and Agricultural Microbiology and my main responsibility is to do research on the growth conditions of phytopathogens microorganisms.

What is a typical day (or week) like for you?
The conditions of each experiment determine how many hours of a day and days of a week I have to work. In addition to doing research in the laboratory, I also have to guide students throughout their dissertations and help in the laboratory courses.

What do you like most about your work?
I really enjoy working on subjects that have not been researched before and I am particularly pleased when my work leads to original results.

What do you like least about your work?
What I like least about my work is the unstable working schedule which means that I sometimes have to work on the weekends as well.

What kinds of problems do you deal with?
A common problem I deal with in my job is that due to an infection you may lose cultures, results and work of months.

What kinds of decisions do you make?
Before starting any experiment, you have to decide first whether the specific subject is of particular interest to deal with, how your results can be used in practice and the exact way of conducting the experiment.

What advice would you give someone who is considering this type of job (or field)?
I would advise him/her to be open-minded, to utilize all the information he/she receives, to read and try to be constantly informed but most importantly to dare to follow his/her dreams because this is the only way to happiness

Job Interview
by Ermis Theodoridis

PROFESSION: MANAGING DIRECTOR

What are your main responsibilities as a Managing Director of an engineering company?

I have to manage day to day activities of the company such as staffing, work production, payroll, IT, etc. I have to secure new business, do business development and keep a positive cash flow for the company. I have to make sure company staff produce good quality work and within the allocated budget.

What is a typical day (or week) like for you?

My job starts at 9 am and typically ends at 8 pm. I start in the morning by reading and responding to all emails that remained from the day before, attend to the most pressing daily items, meet with staff and delegate work, assist with work related issues, attend meetings and make phone calls.

What do you like most about your work?

I like the core of my job, which is designing bridges and solving structural engineering problems.

What do you like least about your work?

The long hours. I have to return home late at night and sometimes I need to attend /host online meetings that may spill into the morning hours.

What kinds of problems do you deal with?

I deal with all problems that relate with the operations of our company. Most pressing ones are problems that arise during construction of some of the bridges that we have designed and which require a quick response from us.

How does your job affect your lifestyle?

Work takes a lot out of my personal time but it compensates me for my time and effort allowing me and my family to live comfortably. It also affects my travel habits as I have to make frequent trips between the US and Greece.

How did you become interested in this field?

I was good at maths and physics so engineering was a natural step in my educational ladder. I always wanted to work in Greece even though I studied abroad, and civil engineering was a well-established engineering profession in Greece at the time.

What steps would you recommend I take if I want to prepare to enter this field?

Study a lot of math and physics. Learn early about the different aspects of Civil Engineering and see what fits you best. Gather good work experience early on. Don't be afraid to open your wings and live and work abroad.

What skills, abilities, and personal attributes are essential to success in your job/this field?

Good study habits, inquisitive mind, good communication skills, learn to work as part of a team, good work ethic and be able to stay calm under pressure.

If you could do it all over again, would you choose the same path for? If not, what would you change?

That is a tough one. I think I could also do other things. I would have also liked to be an architect.

The Story behind my name, by Ermis

‘My name is Ermis. My parents chose this name so it would match (in a way) with my father’s, whose name is Kriton. They are both from ancient Greece.

Hermes was a Greek god that served as a messenger of the Gods of Olympus. If we dive a bit deeper, my name possibly means ‘heap of stones used as a landmark to mark boundaries’. Furthermore, Hermes protected lots of people, ranging from travellers and athletes, all the way to thieves and orators.

Source:
https://www.behindthename.com/name/hermes

The Story behind my name, by Ismini

'Nowadays, you often hear people say their children are given ancient names. My name is a case in point. The name Ismini probably comes from the ancient Greek word 'ίσμή' meaning knowledge and was the name of Oedipus' and Jocasta's daughter in Greek mythology.
Nevertheless, I must admit that my parents did not really know about my name's origin.
Contrary to that, they gave it to me as it was my grandmother's name.'

Source:
https://www.behindthename.com/name/ismene

The Story behind my name, by Achilleas

'My name comes from the Greek Ἀχιλλεύς (Achilleus),the meaning of which remains unknown. It probably derives from the Greek word ἄχος (achos) meaning 'pain' or from the name of the Achelous River. This was the name of a warrior in Greek legend, one of the main characters in Homer's Iliad.
The most fearless of all Greek heroes in the war against the Trojans, he was, in the end, killed by an arrow to his heel, the only vulnerable part of his body

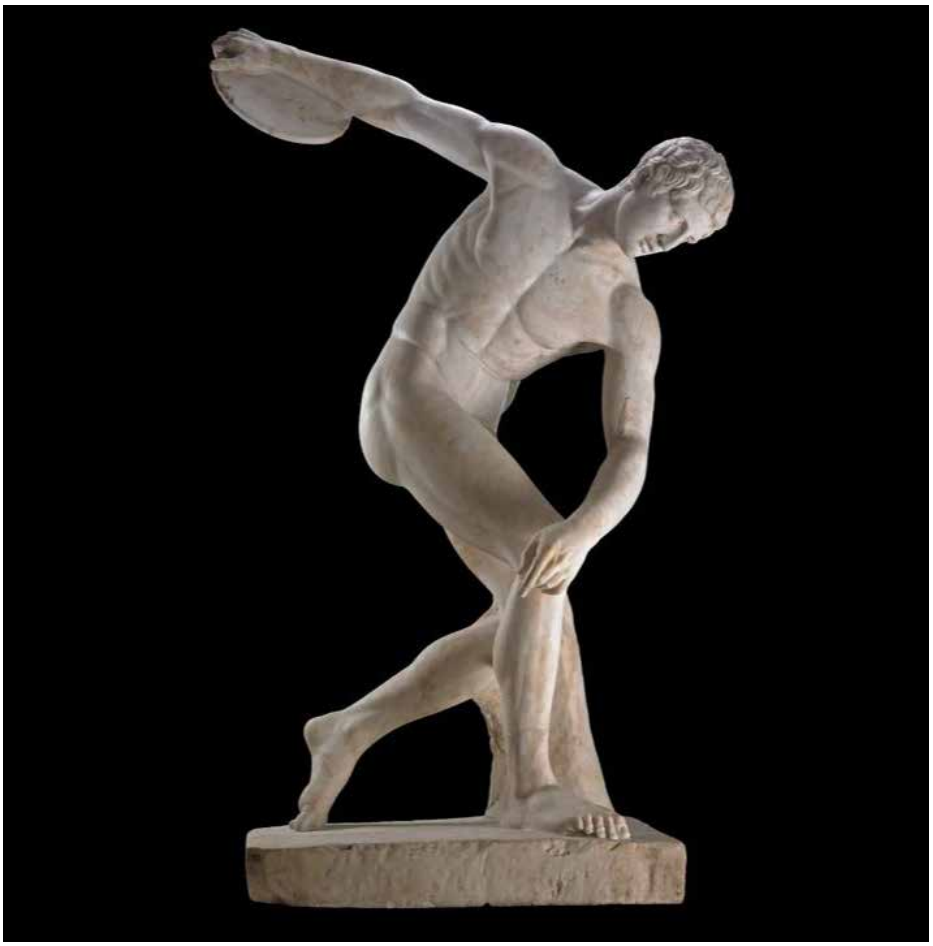
Source:
https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/achilles

A journey back in time
A journey back to Ancient Greece

'Myth serves two primary purposes' as was written by the poet and scholar Robert Graves back in 1955. 'The first is to respond to the sort of odd questions that children ask, like Who made the world? How will it end? Who was the first man?.'
The second purpose of the myth is to explain a prevailing social organization and justify traditional rites and customs. In ancient Greece, stories about gods and goddesses, heroes and monsters were a crucial part of everyday life. They clarified everything from religious rituals to the weather, and they interpreted the cosmos.

Source: https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/greek-mythology

ANCIENT GREECE
The history of a Myth by Konstantinos Georgoulis



The civilization of Ancient Greece is famous for its art, heroes, democracy and philosophy. About 4,000 years ago, Ancient Greece was founded at the Aegean Sea. The Greek Empire expanded from Spain all the way up to India. The Ancient Greeks stood out for their politics, military and culture that remained even after the fall of the empire.

The political system of ancient Greece was unique because, unlike other nations, ancient Greece was made up of over 1,500 city-states all of which had their own rules. Another political accomplishment of ancient Greece was the development of the first form of large-scale democracy.

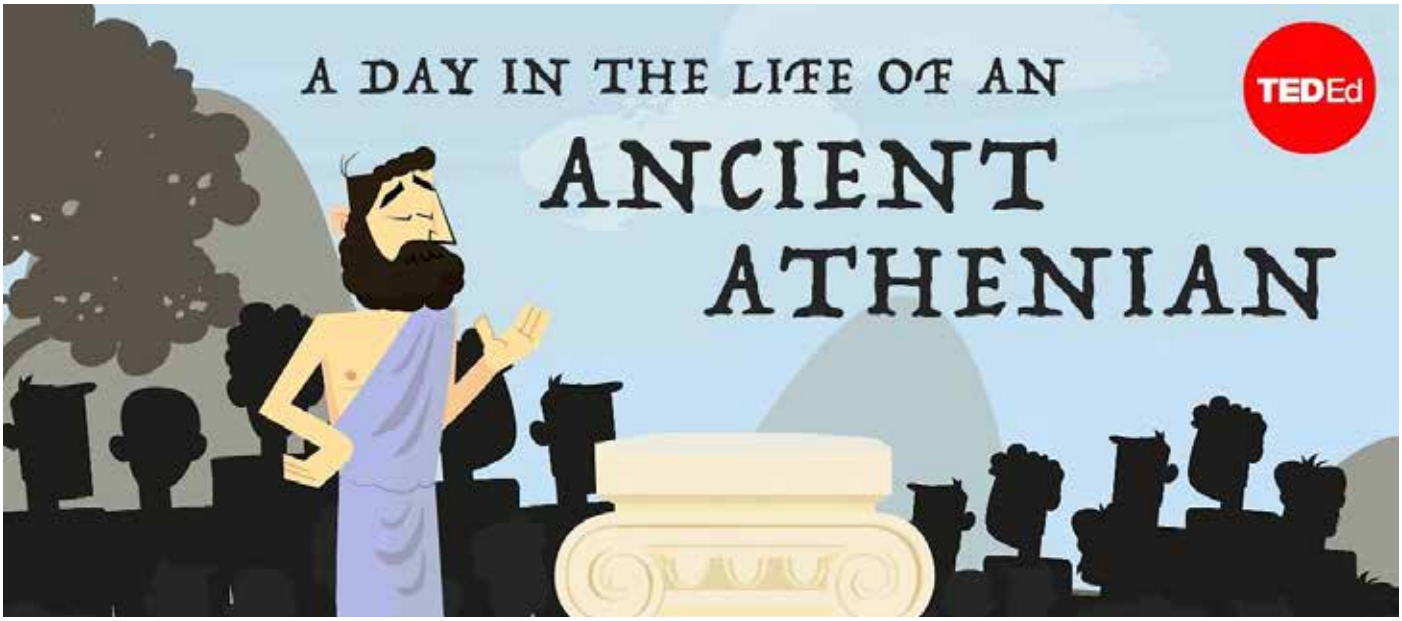
Democratic rule gave people representation and political power.

The Greeks were also well-known for their military. The military helped the Greek expansion overseas and defended them against foreign intruders like the Persian Empire. When great dangers like that occurred, the city-states combined to protect their home. Many city-states, like Sparta, considered their warriors as heroes and gave pride to their military. Heroism was frequently turned into a legend because of literary works like 'The Iliad'. War heroes encouraged the creation of the Olympics, which were renowned for physical competition.

The culture of ancient Greece had a significant influence on the western world. Particularly notable is the ancient Greek art and architecture. They created unbelievable sculptural works, such as standing figures and reliefs. In addition, they created three styles of columns and used them in structures like the Parthenon. This artistry was implemented by other civilizations and spread throughout the world for millennia.
How the Greeks understood the world was also imitated in other cultures. Greek religion, which was composed of many anthropomorphic deities, helped outline the spiritual principles of the Etruscans and the Romans.
Greek philosophy, which explored problems of reason, ethics and natural law inspired later civilizations' feats and political science. Greek language stood out as well. Ancient Greek delivered the foundation of many present languages. The English language on its own has thousands of words with Greek roots.

Ancient Greece's artistry, regard for heroes, and democratic rule left a significant impression on world history. With contributions continued for millennia, the civilization of ancient Greece is nothing short of legendary.

Source:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=6bDrYTXQLu8&feature=youtu.be
[Ancient Greece 101 | National Geographic]



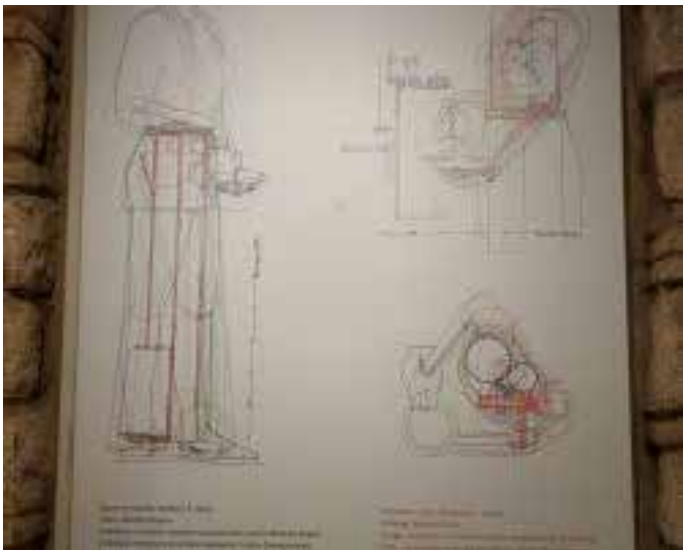
https://ed.ted.com/lessons/a-day-in-the-life-of-an-ancient-athe-

ANCIENT GREEK TECHNOLOGY

Nowadays, some of the Greek inventions are used in our daily lives, while others are used by experts in their respective fields. Ancient Greek discoveries in the area of astronomy, mathematics, and geography innovated several areas of science.

Below are some of the most astounding Ancient Greek inventions which inspired many of the modern time breakthroughs. The photos appearing in these articles were taken last year during a visit to the Herakleidon Museum, where the exhibition entitled EUREKA. SCIENCE, ART & TECHNOLOGY OF THE ANCIENT GREEKS took place.

EUREKA. SCIENCE, ART & TECHNOLOGY OF THE ANCIENT GREEKS



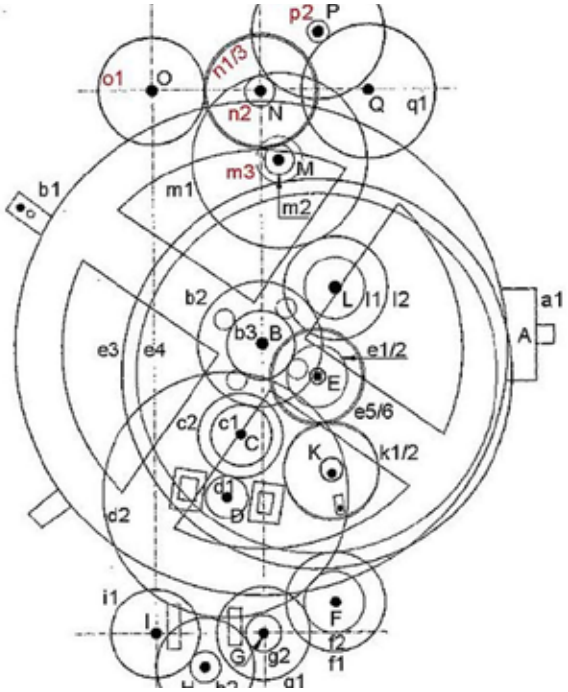
ANTIKYTHERA MECHANISM

by Alexis Ouzounidis

In 1901 Greek sponge divers found the corroded remains of an Ancient mechanism at the bottom of the sea near the island of Antikythera. This was called 'The Antikythera Mechanism'.

The entire International community of experts on the Ancient world was amazed by this finding. This incredible mechanism is a mechanical miniature of the Ancient Universe. It used 30 bronze gears in order to calculate the cycles of the Solar system. It could calculate and predict the positions of the Sun, the Moon as well as the solar and lunar eclipses.

Recent research has shown that the Mechanism also tracked the cycles of human institutions like the Panhellenic Games.



ANTIKYTHERA RESEARCH

by Marilena Chitou

The ephorate of underwater antiquities has begun a new investigation campaign at the Antikythera shipwreck since 2013 with the technical support of Woods Hole Oceanographic Academy Institution and the benevolent contribution and others, of the Swiss watchmakers Hublot and the Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation. The Antikythera mechanism was an acquaintance computer of breathtaking technical quantity.

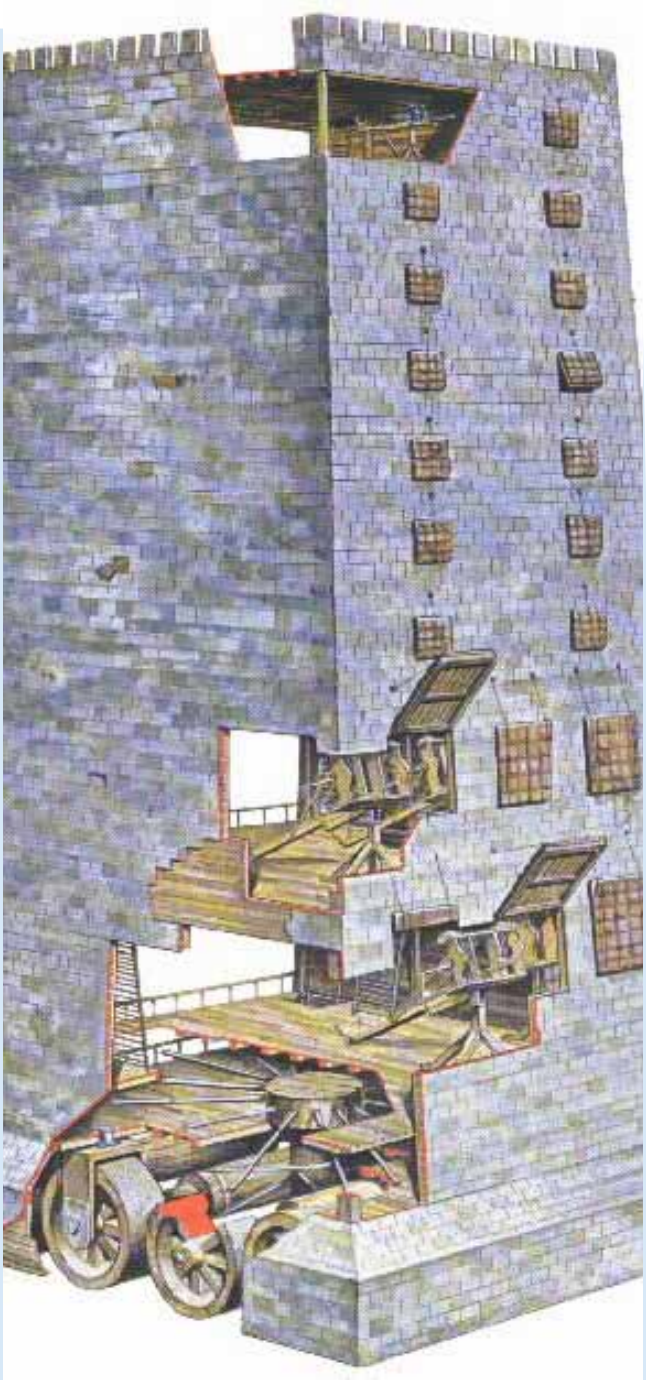
The Antikythera Mechanism, which was invented 2,000 years ago, was an analog computer. It could calculate with precision the location of the sun, the moon and perhaps the planets in the sky. It determined the phases of the moon, anticipated eclipses of the sun and the moon and defined the dates on which the ancient Olympics and the other 'Crown' games would be held.

On its covering plates and on its internal front and rear top one could find astronomical, geographical and technical captions, all written in Greek characters. The height of most of the letters was between 1.5 and 2.5 mm. Thanks to contemporary investigation techniques these texts, which remained silent for more than 2000 years, have now been read.

The Antikythera mechanism was as prominent for the advancement of technology as the Acropolis was for the development of architecture. No other such ancient mechanism has ever been discovered. This makes us look into what technical infrastructure existed at the time when it was composed and what happened to the knowledge and skills that made this invention come true.
You can visit the following link:
http://www.visitgreece.gr/en/culture/museums/antikythera_mechanism

NAVAL HELEPOLIS

by Konstantinos Kodonidis

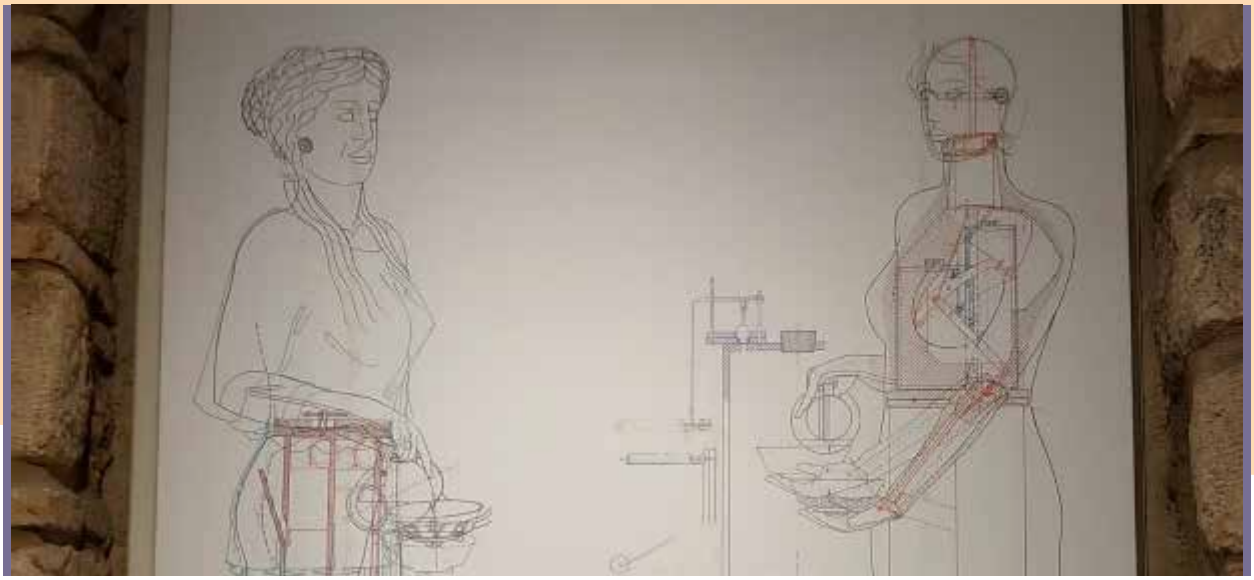


What was the Helepolis?
The Helepolis was the greatest and the most remarkable siege engine that was ever created. Its name means the destroyer of cities. It was a siege tower, 130 feet tall and 65 feet wide. It sat on 8 wheels so it could be moved forward and back.
The Helepolis weighed 160 tons and needed hundreds of men to push it towards the enemy wall. It had 9 levels with windows and enormous catapults. The front and the side walls were fire-proof. It carried men armed with bows and darts.

Who created it? Was it successful?
The Helepolis was constructed by Epimachos the Athenian and was utilized by Demetrius Poliorcetes, a general of Alexander the Great in the siege of Rhodes (304 BC). However, the Helepolis was defeated very easily. The Rhodians knocked a hole through their own wall at night where they expected the Helepolis to attack. They then flooded the entire area with water, so when the massive tower was moved up the next morning it got stuck in the mud.
Eventually, the siege failed and Demetrius left Rhodes, leaving behind all of his siege engines.

Visit the following link:
https://www.historyonthenet.com/engines-of-destruction-helepolis-the-massive-siege-engine-that-failed

AUTOMATA, by Ermis Theodoridis



The Ancient Greeks were believed to have given us the earliest examples of Automata. Hero of Alexandria, who was a Greek Mathematician, invented a water basin that had metal birds that could sing. It would then make a mechanical owl turn its head facing the birds to make them stop. One of the most famous creations was a windwheel. It is thought to have been one of the earliest non-sea environment uses of wind.
Another remarkably interesting Automata were the automatic maids. They were to pour wine once a cup was placed and added a bit of water when requested. Below is a video and a picture that shows the mechanism of how it worked.
In conclusion, there is no denying that the Ancient Greeks were way ahead of their time and made their lives easier.

Visit the following links:
https://themadmuseum.co.uk/history-of-automata/automata-in-greek-mythology/
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d7wwNRZ5y1U&feature=emb_logo

EPILOGUE

Post Quarantine Times, Part 2, 2/2/2021

'I have mixed feelings after the quarantine. On the one hand, I enjoy being with my friends and school and finally returning to a somewhat normal state. On the other hand, I dislike waking up early in the morning to go to school but the thought that I will see my friends kind of 'eases the pain'.

Ermis

'After the quarantine I feel good because now I can see my friends and go to school and do a lot of interesting activities.'

Konstantinos K.

'After the second quarantine, I believe that this whole situation is not over...I think we might be getting into a new lockdown again...I miss the life I had before the pandemic... At least the weather is good and the winter almost over.'

Ismini

Please email us your suggestions on what topics you would like us to include in our next issue.
The Editorial Team

The English Magazine Of Geitonas Junior High school