

# **“We speak Greek in March!”**

## **Open letter**

**From: The Cyprus Educational Mission of the Cyprus High Commission and  
the Coordinating educational office of the Greek Embassy in London**

***To: Teachers, parents and school committees of Greek schools in the United Kingdom***

We would like to ask all of you to participate and support a worldwide initiative called “*We speak Greek in March.*” The initiative started in Australia and New Zealand, and we would like your help to spread it in the UK and the rest of Europe.

The aim of this campaign is to promote the oral dimension of the Greek language. Apart from reading and writing the Greek language, we aim to promote listening to it and speaking it. The Greek language has been alive for 4,000 years, without any interruption and is spoken worldwide.

During the month of March, we aim to use the Greek language in our homes, in our schools and in our communication with each other as much as possible. We need to “intentionally” put English aside, and immerse ourselves in our everyday encounters in the Greek language.

Here are some ways we can go about it:

-Utilize the social media (i.e. Instagram, Snapchat, FaceTime, WhatsApp, You Tube, Skype) to connect with friends and family, at home and abroad, by using Greek.

-Make maximum use of the social media to bring together classrooms from the UK with other classrooms elsewhere in the world: students can share their experience learning Greek with other students learning Greek in other parts of the world, and learn about customs and traditions from Greece and Cyprus.

-Provide incentives to students to use as much Greek as possible during the month of March and make sure these students receive the due recognition and praise (acknowledgement in school assembly, receiving a certificate or prize).

For more information on the initiative “We speak Greek in March,” you may visit the following links:

<http://speakgreekinmarch.com/> <http://kea.schools.ac.cy/> <http://hellenic-education-uk.europe.sch.gr/>

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