

# Christmassy Litera News!

*The Literacenter Official Newsletter*



## Welcome Message

By Ms. Evie Nicolaou, Director of Studies

BA English Language & Literature (Uni. of Cyprus)

MA Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (Uni. of Leeds)

Dear all,

It is with great pleasure and pride that we present you with our first school newsletter! Celebrating our school's 5th birthday, we felt the need to create something that can showcase just a tiny bit of all the great things our students learn here.

We are so grateful and proud of all our students' work and progress and it was honestly, very hard to just choose some of the best pieces of their work. Special thanks to all the students that contributed their work for this newsletter and of course to our English teacher Ms. Semeli Tilemachou for her invaluable help in designing this newsletter! Special thanks also go to all the parents in the LITERA family for trusting us. We know how important your children are and we do everything in our power to educate them in a creative, inspirational and nurturing environment where the sky is the limit!

Finally, we would like to wish you all a jolly, Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year 2020! May you enjoy the holidays with your loved ones and come back refreshed, recharged and ready for all the cool stuff we are preparing for you in the second term! Love you all!

Happy reading!

Yours sincerely,  
Evie



## Announcements

- School closes - 20th December
- School reopens - 7th January
- Reports day - 23rd January

## Inside this Holiday Issue:

- Our Students' Work
- Difficult Sounds
- American vs British English
- Phrases & Idioms
- Litera Wall of Fame
- Must-Watch Xmas Movies



## Our Students' Work: The Penfriend Project

### Andrea Karyda, Year 3

Hi there!

My name is Liu-Jo. I am 9 years old. I am from Limassol. I'm in the 4th grade of K.A. primary school. My favourite subject is English! My favourite food is pasta.

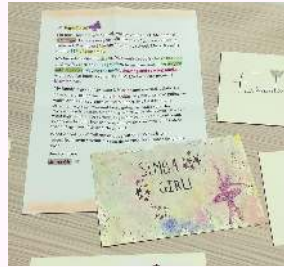
My best friend's name is Eleni. She's from Cyprus. She's nine years old. Her birthday is on 5th November. She is short and clever. Her eyes are brown. What about you?

Who is your best friend?

Email me soon!

Bye for now,

Liu-Jo



### Natalia Anastasiou, Year 5

Hello there, I am your pen friend. I am 12 years old and I like sports. I adore animals and I have a lot of parrots and a turtle. I have a big family, 2 sisters and 1 brother. I am one of the biggest fans of STRANGER THINGS and I am so excited about season 4. Well, as you know... I love FORTNITE and I am the #1 fan of FaZe H1ghSky and FaZe Sceptic. I've got about 100 photos of them and I really want to be as good at FORTNITE as them. I have a lot of best friends, but the one that I love the most is Marina. She's tall and she has short straight hair. We share everything and she's honest, good, sweet, very clever and so funny. Well, I've got a lot of hobbies, like art, music, writing romantic poems and playing FORTNITE. I like playing the guitar and singing. I love playing basketball, I adore my team and we have a lot of fun together. I can't wait for our next competition.

Love,

Your penfriend \_sunset\_lover\_

### Tatiana Vryonidou, Year 4

Hi Liu Jo!

My name is Popcorn and I'm 11 years old. I live in Limassol and I'm in the 6th grade of the 13th primary school. I have Latin and hip-hop lessons twice a week.

I love dancing! My favourite subject is Physical Education and my favourite food is tuna-salad and baked pasta.

My sister's name is Natalie and she's studying Classical Philology. My mum's name is Elena and my dad's name is Christakis. I have a pet too, it's a rabbit. His name is Kouis and he is 3 years old. My best friends are Avgoustina and Eirini. They like doing rhythmic gymnastics and going to the MALL.

Bye for now and take care!

Popcorn 😊



### Eliana Christodoulou, Year 6

Hi \_sunset\_lover\_

I'm so happy that I'm your pen friend. I am 12 years old and I love sports too! So, I think we have lots in common! My family isn't very big, we are only 4. I only have one younger sister. As you said, you are one of the Stranger Things fans. Honestly, I don't watch many series on Netflix or on TV, but I have an obsession with HARRY POTTER and especially with the character of Hermione Granger (Emma Watson) who is my idol. Another one of my favorite movies is "Descendants 3" and my favorite character is Mal and Eve. Have you seen the movie?

I have a lot of best friends too! We hang out at Starbucks or at our houses. I love them so much and I really want us to be best friends forever! Oh, I forgot to mention that I really love playing volleyball. I play for Anorthosis team and every Saturday I have a match! My team is one of the most important things in my life. Some of the girls in my team are my best friends, so as you may understand we have a very strong bond as a team. Another one of my hobbies is playing the piano (since I was 7). Also I love singing English pop songs and my favorite song is "Shallow".

With love,

Your penfriend TikTok\_lover\_



### The Classroom

The desk is brown. The ruler is orange. The computer is blue. The book is green. The pencil is yellow. The pen is purple. The rubber is pink. The mouse is grey. The chair is blue. The boy is cool.

### Lydia Christodoulou, Year 1



# Difficult Sounds

Can you read these?					
-oo	th-	-e	-ph	-gh	-all
pool	three	make	alphabet	eight	ball
boom	third	cake	elephant	sight	fall
school	through	fake	phrase	might	mall
<b>BUT</b>	<b>BUT</b>	take	phase	night	stall
blood	this	lake	phobia	fight	tall
door	those	shake	Aphrodite	tight	call
floor	that	fate	Philip	right	wall



## American vs British English

Spelling		Vocabulary		Pronunciation	
British	American	British	American	British	American
organise	organize	chips	fries	mother /'mʌðə/	mother /'mʌðər/
centre	center	flat	apartment	tomato /tə'mɑ:təʊ/	tomato /tə'mæto: /
colour	color	lift	elevator	married /'mærid/	married /'merid/
licence	license	holiday	vacation	everybody /'evri:bɒdi/	everybody /'evri:bədi/
travelling	traveling	jumper	sweater	water /'wɔ:tə/	water /'wɑ:tə/
mum	mom	trousers	pants	bottle /'bɒ.təl/	bottle /'bɑ.təl/

## Phrases & Idioms

### sleep on it (think about it)

If you can't decide right now, sleep on it and get back to me tomorrow.

### break a leg! (good luck on stage)

Your performance is about to start, off you go! Break a leg!

### not my cup of tea (something that does not suit or interest me)

Rock music is not my cup of tea. I prefer softer music like jazz or pop ballads.

### your guess is as good as mine (I have no idea)

'Do you think he's going to pass his driving test next week?'

'Well, your guess is as good as mine!'

### to wrap your head around something (to understand something difficult)

Can you help me with this game? I just can't wrap my head around the rules!

## Ways to remember new vocabulary

- After I finish a unit in the Student's Book, I read it again a few weeks later and check any words I don't remember.
- When I find a new word or expression in the unit, I highlight it.
- I write a new word on a piece of paper. On the other side of the paper, I write a definition. Then I test myself a few weeks later.
- When I find a new word, I check in my dictionary for other words that I can build with it, for example, commute (verb), commuter (noun).
- I write new words in lists with the translations next to them. Then I cover the words and try to translate them from my own language.
- I write the new word in a sentence that is important to me.
- I read more texts on similar subjects to the unit. I usually find some of the new words in the text.
- I choose ten new words and write a short story using them all.

## Christmas Movies on your must-watch list:

- The Elf
- Christmas Chronicles
- Surviving Christmas
- The Holiday
- Santa Clause
- The Grinch
- The Knight Before Christmas
- Polar Express
- Christmas with the Kranks



# Our Students' Work



## Bullying

### What do we exactly call bullying?

Bullying is an unwanted aggressive behaviour amongst children that involves an imbalance of power or strength. The behaviour is usually repeated over time. Both kids who are bullied and who bully others may have serious long-lasting problems.

### What are people usually bullied for?

Some children mock the other children for their height or weight, where they are from and the way they talk or move. Anything that is perceived as different. There is also religion racism.

### Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place over digital devices like cell phones, computers and tablets. It can occur through SMS, texts messages or online on social media, forums, gaming chat forums where people can view, participate in or share content. It includes sharing personal or private information about someone else causing embarrassment or humiliation.

### Why do some children bully?

A common reason that a kid bullies is because he or she lacks attention from a parent at home and lashes out at others for attention. Older siblings can also be the cause of the problem. If they have been bullied, they are more apt to bully a younger sibling to feel more secure or empower themselves.

### How do bullied children feel?

Children who are bullied feel powerless, scared and unpopular. They don't have friends and they feel sad and lonely. They are demotivated and stressed and they are unable to sleep.

### Verbal Bullying

Verbal bullying is one type of bullying. It is when you say bad things to another person. If you call another person lazy or worthless this is verbal bullying.

### Social Bullying

Social bullying is when you call someone bad names. Also, it is when you tell other children not to be friends with someone or when you gossip or embarrass someone in public.

### Physical Bullying

Physical bullying is when you hit or kick someone. Also, it is when you get something from someone and break it.

**Charalambos, Stefanos & Andreas Year 6**

## So how do we deal with bullying?

Well, here are some ways to handle it.

- 1) You must ignore the bully and avoid places where bullying might take place. You can always walk away if bullying happens where you are.
- 2) Stand up for yourself and for other people and think beforehand about what you can say.
- 3) Use humor if you want to avoid a difficult situation. If you act confident no one can bully you.
- 4) Always walk to school with a friend. If you walk alone it is easier for them to bully you.
- 5) If someone bullies you don't fight back, tell an adult instead, or a parent or a teacher. Don't face this situation alone.
- 6) If you see someone that is being bullied you can help him or her by hanging out with them at school and show them that they are not alone. Work on anti-bullying projects and create posters, or write about it to the editor of your local newspaper, your school magazine, or an online blog. This way, you will help in making bullying stop!

**Styliana Ioannou, Year 6**



## My School

My school is the 21st primary school in Limassol in Mesa Yeitonia area. It is situated opposite the Hellenic Bank.

There are twenty big classrooms with desks and chairs for the students, a big desk for the teacher, a bookcase, a whiteboard and a projector. Also there is an expensive computer on the teacher's desk that she uses to show us many things on the Internet.

In my school there are forty teachers who teach Greek, Art, Mathematics History, Geography, Science, French, Technology, English, Religious Education and P.E. All these teachers are very kind and helpful. The teachers have a big conference room where they discuss many issues.

Also there is a big school canteen that sells many things to the pupils during the break.

Outside the classroom there are five big yards where we all play.

I really like my school!

**Andreas Loizides, Year 3**

## Film Review:

### The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind



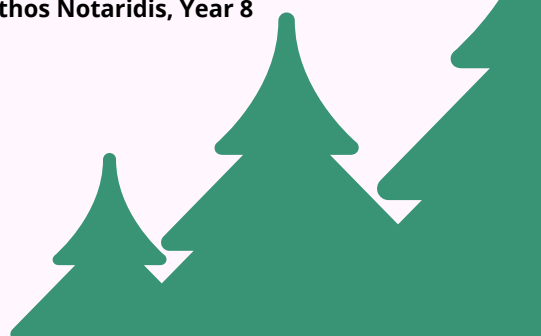
Do you fancy watching a gripping, inspirational film that will make you question the importance of education in our lives? If the answer is yes, you'd better put 'The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind' at the top of your must-see films!

"The Boy who harnessed the wind" is a 2019 British drama film written, directed and starred by Chiewetel Ejitor. The film is based on a real story about a 13-year-old boy who was thrown out of school that he loves so much when his family can no longer afford the fees. However, he sneaks into the library and learns how to build a windmill in order to save his village from famine. Will he make it?

The film is absolutely amazing as there's a lot of suspense and action in it, although what I think is its strongest characteristic is that it is so moving that it constantly brings tears to your eyes! The excellent acting in it also makes it easy for the audience to relate to each and every different character.

Overall, I think nobody should miss watching this film. As there are a few violent fight scenes in it, I wouldn't recommend it to children under 12 years old, but anyone older than that should definitely make every effort to see it. It will stay with you for life!

**Chrysanthos Notaridis, Year 8**



## My Dream House

by Eleni Georgiou, Adults 1



My dream house is in Limassol. It is opposite a dog park. There are many trees around. It is located in a quiet neighbourhood. My dream house is enormous! It has got two bedrooms, one bright kitchen, a spacious living room, one small bathroom, a beautiful garden and two balconies.

My dream living room has got two comfortable sofas in the corner. Also, it has got two massive, brown armchairs. There is a fireplace at the back of the living room. Above the fireplace there are two beautiful paintings. On the floor, there is a warm grey carpet. It has got one wooden coffee table in the living room there is a shelf next to the door. There are three windows with shutters and light grey, wide curtains.

My dream guest bedroom has got one big, grey bed. Also, next to the bed there are two bedside tables. There is one chest of drawers near the shoe cabinet. Above the chest of drawers, there is a big mirror. There is a wooden wardrobe by the armchair. There is one window with shutters and light grey curtains. The bedroom is cosy.

My dream second bedroom has got two single beds and between them there is one bedside table. In front of the beds there is a wardrobe. Also, there is a computer on the desk. The desk is opposite the bookcase. Above the desk there is a shelf with books. There is a body mirror next to door. On the floor, there is a warm dark green carpet. There are two windows with green shutters. The bedroom is bright.

My dream kitchen is very big it has got a long countertop. On the countertop there is one microwave and one toaster. Below the microwave there is a dish washer and next to there is a washing machine. There is one dishwasher and under there is a cupboard. There is a fridge next to the microwave. The cooker is between the toaster and the kettle. There are five cupboards above the bench. There are three windows with curtains. The room is very bright.

My dream garden isn't very big. It has got three roses and two lemon trees. There is one big house for my dog.

I can't wait to create my dream house and live there with my family and my dogs.



## Stay Alive: A Survival Story

by Efrosini Kerkidou, Year 5

I had the scariest experience of my life last year and I am lucky to be alive. Some of my friends and I decided to go on a journey in Africa. I was very impatient and happy at the same time. It was boiling hot and there was a heatwave so we took a lot of water bottles in case we got thirsty. We also took a camera, a map, a compass and first aid kit of course!

While we were on the plane suddenly the plane crashed. Our luggage fell to the ground. One of them hit me on the head and I lost consciousness. When I woke up unfortunately, most of my friends were dead. I was very sad and I cried a lot! I hurt my head and my right leg had a cut on it so I decided to use the first aid kit. I was exhausted!

I looked around me and I realised that I was in the middle of nowhere! I decided to use my compass to find where I was but it was broken so I looked in the map but I still didn't understand where I was. Because I was very hungry I started walking endlessly. Then I found big trees with fruit on them. While I was eating I heard a strange noise! I looked around me and I saw...CANNIBALS!!! I was shocked and I didn't know what to do! They were trying to eat me! I started running and yelling for help! I found a big cave and I hid there. Luckily they lost me!

One hour later I decided to go out of the cave. I was walking very carefully when all of a sudden, I heard a different noise again. It was a MIRACLE because above my head there was a helicopter! Without a second thought, I started screaming I AM HERE!!!, HELP ME!!! Luckily, they saw me and they threw me an airplane staircase to help me get on the helicopter.

That was the worst trip ever! But in the end, things got better and I lived happily ever after!

# Communicating with confidence

by Ioli Georgiou, Year 7

Speaking English is a skill that will help you communicate with other people in many different countries. English is the most widely spoken language in the whole world. You might face some difficulties while learning it, like having trouble with writing, reading or even pronouncing the words right, but it is worth the time and effort.

I think that a good way to improve your English is to study English in a group and learn English in a formal setting. Another suggestion might be to watch different movies and TV shows to improve your listening skills. Another idea is to have lessons with a private tutor because this way the tutor will give all of his or her attention to you so you will learn better and faster. I also suggest having online lessons because you can use your laptop to study English everywhere you go. I think my ideas will actually work because I have tried two of them myself and I think that my English has improved a lot. However, it also depends on the person and his or her learning style.

## Christmas Blues

by Natalia Anastasiou, Year 5

It's Christmas time  
The houses are decorated  
The cakes are baked  
And all the couples are together  
Only me is left behind  
Without someone to kiss  
Someone to hug  
I just want someone  
with whom I can dance  
I went outside  
I saw the moon  
And it made me  
Think again of you  
Me and my dog  
Were sitting on the grass  
I felt something strong  
Like a broken glass  
After this, it came  
And it hugged me  
Then I realised  
that it loved me  
I don't need a date  
To feel better  
I've got my dog  
And I feel on top of the world



## Letter of Advice

By Katerina Andreou, Adults 2

Dear Nina,  
I'm so sorry to hear that you're feeling sick! Don't worry though, I will give you some advice so you can feel better as soon as possible.  
First of all, you should go see your doctor. If you have a sore throat or a terrible cough, you could drink some tea with honey, lemon, cinnamon and ginger, because it has anti-inflammatory properties and the throat softens. Also, you can take some cough syrup twice a day. You should be alright if you rest for a few days and take some vitamins. Finally, if you have a high temperature or a headache you should take a pill once a day and drink enough liquids like water, tea etc.  
I hope you follow my advice which will surely help you get better.  
Take care! I hope you feel better soon.

See you!  
Katherine

## All roads lead to Rome

by Nicole Gkeorkian, Year 7



I may be only fifteen years old, but I'm at the early stages of my travelling addiction. Many people all over the globe suffer from this condition. Studies have shown that it can't be cured, only reduced by booking a flight to the land your soul desires.

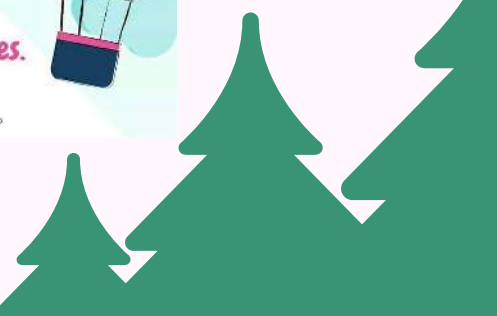
Like I've previously said, I'm a teenage travel junkie, and since my mum is fully aware of my condition, she decided as a twelfth birthday present to book a flight to the capital city of Italy, Rome. Rome - as the Italians call it - is the city of all time and of all the world, a place where two worlds collide.

Every place in La Città Eterna (eternal city) tells the story of the ascended city. The greatest monument of them all is the world famous Colosseum. It doesn't cost much to walk down the same halls as the greatest Roman conquerors. As you walk through the crowded halls you see the Colosseo buzzing with life again just like it used to thousands of years ago. The lively atmosphere there, in which it is impossible to feel unhappy, is created by hundreds of tourists from different parts of the world, who are laughing, chatting and taking pictures.

A ten minute walk from the amphitheatre leads you to the Fontana di Trevi. While roaming along the busy streets, you notice Michelangelo's (rebel of the Renaissance) mark left on the majestic architecture of the historical buildings. The never-ending cheerful laughter of the tourists adds a little something to the colourful atmosphere of the city of Romulus and Remus. As you approach the Trevi fountain, which also happens to be in the very heart of the city, you see all the architectural styles (Early medieval, gothic, renaissance and baroque) combined in one masterpiece. There you can see impatiently waiting travellers for their turn to toss a coin in the fountain in hope that their wish of returning to this city will be fulfilled.

On the way back, you can take a walk through the Via del Meloria, the enormously big food street. While passing by the restaurants you not only smell the Italian traditional food but also the cooking of the immigrants from different parts of the world and this is a fact that shows the multiracial-cosmopolitan side of Rome. On the same street the main smell belongs to the straight out of the oven homemade pizza. The pizza smell is followed by a cup of a freshly brewed cappuccino with cinnamon and a piece of an authentic Italian tiramisu. My personal favorites are the canolies, another Italian dessert that's extremely crusty on the outside but has the creamiest texture on the inside. When this combination comes in contact with your tongue it melts immediately leaving you with a mind blowing stage of mind wanting to try more.

In my opinion, the main reason why Marco Lucano decided to call Roma Capital Mundi (capital of the world) is because of the delicious food here Rome is the city that deserves the phrase Veni, Vidi, Amavi (I came, I saw, I loved) and is a city that will always have a special place in someone's heart no matter how many days they will spend here.





## LITERA WALL OF FAME

**Congratulations are in order!!!**

**Distinctions in Cambridge Exams:**

Andrea, Andreas, Loucas, Angelos, Emily - **Starters**

Anna & Tatiana - **Movers**

Natalia - **Flyers**

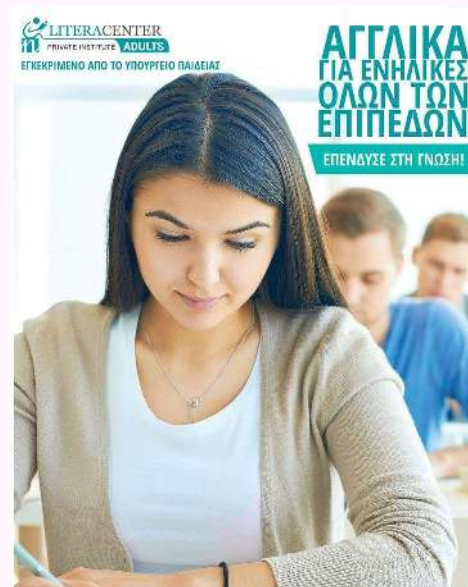
Eliana & Styliana - **KET**

Nicole - **PET**

Alexandra Kavalieratou A\* in **IGCSE**

Stefanos Ktoris 8/9 in **IELTS**

Chrystalleni Alexandrou 7/9 in **IELTS**



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