**Greece- 14th kindergarden of Mitilini**

Flag : blue, white

The national flag of Greece contains nine equal, horizontal and alternating white and blue parallel strips. Inside a blue square in the upper front part, there is a white cross. The nine lanes correspond to each letter individually, by the word "freedom". There are also as many as the syllables "Freedom or Death".

Country : our country is Greece, our capital is Athens. Our kindergarden is cited on an island of North Greece, Lesvos.

Zucchini flowers, traditional dish Mitilini. It contains cheese, eggs, flower, pepper, salt

Mitilini’ s castle: In the northern part of the city, between a green pine and the sea, the remnants of the castle of Mytilene rise. It is kept in good condition and is one of the largest castles in the Mediterranean area. Its construction and reinforcement has taken place at various times. It is probable that the Byzantine era was built in the times of Justinian. However, a major renovation was received by Francis Gatellouzos during the years of his hegemony on the island. It is currently believed to have been one of the most impenetrable and powerful castles. Inside it was his palace, called "Tower of the Queen". A Roman or Byzantine tank made of waterproof material is also preserved in the castle space. At the gates and in various other parts of the castle there are coats of arms of Palaiologos and Gatelouzos. Below the castle there are feature-length arcades, where women and children were gathered during a war period. The legend wants the galleries to exit and even a long distance from the castle. Its walls are kept in good condition and are examples of excellent fortification architecture.

Stratis is chosen as our mascot because he’s wearing the traditional costume of our island.

Flamingo: The Kalloni Bay wetland is one of the most important parts of Lesvos's ecological wealth. In recent years in Lesvos, the observation of birds, attracting scientists and visitors from abroad, as well as all nature lovers, has become very important. So far, 134 bird species have been recorded. The 66 of these are migratory, not including the specific species of neighboring ecosystems. There are birds from Europe, Asia and Africa. Definitely impressive is the view in the spring, when migrating birds from Africa towards Europe. The birds we encounter are the Flamingo (Flamingo), which impresses with its pink feathers, the Aurora, the Akoetta, the Kalamokanas, the Kastanochina, the Whitewask and many others.

Sigri’s petrified forest:

Sigri is famous for its Petrified Forest and for the only Museum of Natural History on the island. The Petrified Forest is one of the most beautiful monuments of global geological heritage. It extends over the northwestern portion of Lesvos, in a region covered almost exclusively by volcanic stone. The protected area encompasses 150,000 square meters. The Petrified Forest was created during the intense volcanic activity that occurred throughout the greater northeastern Aegean region 20 million years ago. The volcanic eruptions at that time caused enormous quantities of lava and ash to flow from volcanic vents, covering the center of Lesvos around these vents with molten lava, and the more distant regions with a thick layer of ash. Abundant petrified tree-trunks in very good condition can be seen submerged in the sea at a depth of 30 meters. The largest concentration of these has been recorded west of the little island of Nisiopi, opposite Sigri. Tree trunks with 2½-meter diameters have been found on the seabed. These finds corroborate the theory of the continuity of the Petrified Forest in this particular underwater region. In addition to tree trunks, systematic excavations here in recent years have uncovered petrified roots, fruit, branches and leaves.

Theofilos, local artist:

Theophilos was born between 1867 and 1870 in Varia Lesvos, that was back then under Ottoman occupation. His grand-father was an hagiographer. As Theophilos was always wearing the traditional Greek fustanella, a custom out of fashion at his time, he caused the mocking of other people. At the age of 18, he moved to the Greek consulate of Smyrna (modern Izmir) to work as a gate-keeper. In 1897 he moved to Volos where he was drawing houses and shops of the region. Many of his wall paintings survive till today. Along with painting, he was also organizing theatrical acts for national ceremonies and was making costumes for the local carnival. In 1927, he returned to Lesvos, where he continued to paint the walls of coffee places and shops around the island for a small amount of money or food. Many of these paintings survive till today, if they have not been damaged by time or repairs. He died in March 1934, probably from food poisoning. Soon after his death, his work was discovered by the renowned art critic and publisher Stratis Eleftheriades, originating from Lesvos but living in Paris. One year later, the works of Theophilos were exhibited in the Museum of Louvre as samples of a genuine folk painter from Greece. His themes were a combination of ancient Greek mythology, Greek history of all periods and folk life of his time. In 1964, Eleftheriades funded the creation of the Theophilos Museum in Varia. In July 2013, the museum was renovated and refurbished in order to better promote the work of the major folk painter of Neo-Hellenic art. Although the museum owns 151 paintings, only 35 are today exhibited as the rest are still restored by the Greek Ministry of Culture.