

Please **email** the completed form and any related documentation by 1st October or 1st May to: secretary@hellenicsociety.org.uk

Name of applicant: Ruth Magee

Brief description of the project for which the grant was applied for and subsequently used:

£1,120

Key Stage 2

- Class sets of Greek books such as (modern day fiction) Who Let The Gods Out and (legends retellings) Marcia Williams £400 (all schools) **Successfully implemented**
- Trip to Tyne & Wear Museum to study Hoplite soldier & Ancient Greece <https://greatnorthmuseum.org.uk/whats-on/virtual-ancient-greece-workshops> £300 (Heddon & Belsay schools) **Changed to online**
- Staff training through Classics for All or The Classical Association with the intention of a Greek language club on a rotation in each school. £100 **Partly implemented (staff absence due to COVID)**
- Languages library (£100): talking picture dictionary (£30), Greek Primer (£30), Greek picture board books x3 (£40) **Successfully implemented**
- in school workshop **Postponed till next year (at schools' cost)**

Date or period of project:

November 21 - June 22

Was the project successful? Did it engage the students? *Please add any anonymous student comments that could be subsequently used by The Hellenic Society for a write-up of the project.*

Summary

Our original bid was to support the development of Greek across 5 primary schools in Northumberland. Despite some interruptions due to the lingering effect of the pandemic, we were pleased to creatively embed Greek elements throughout our curriculum. The project has inspired shared knowledge, expertise and resources across our schools with the promise of building on exciting projects around Reading Roots and even partnership work with a school in Athens.

Cross-curricular workshops



Due to complications with COVID protocols, we shifted from in-person workshops to live remote workshops online thanks to the Great North Museum team. Belsay school Headteacher described this as “splendid as always.” The same restrictions meant that Heddon bought resources to recreate workshops in school. Our other schools also implemented their own Greek workshops: in Ponteland Primary around sport associated with Ancient Greece & the Olympics, and at Richard Coates Primary around history, food, & tourism in Modern Greece. Thus increasing staff knowledge and capacity to replicate at a lower cost

each year.

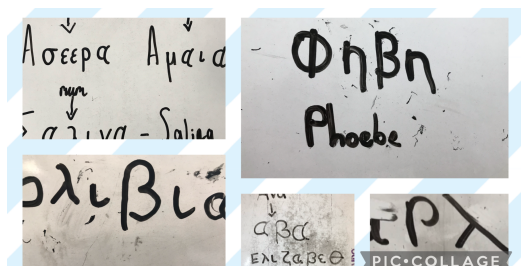
- “i loved tasting the Greek food. It makes me want to go there” (Richard Coates, y5)
- “I absolutely loved chucking the discus. i didn’t know so many of our sports and the Olympics came from the Greeks” (Sam, y6, Ponteland)



This strong cross-curricular approach means that staff in the Trust can go on to share ideas as to how they have successfully enhanced their pupils’ knowledge of and interest in Greece in a number of different subject areas. By the same token, the 5 schools have pooled together to share these resources, as well as the artefacts bought to support learning specifically about Ancient Greece, in a shared ‘Greek mobile resource library’. This was even shared outside our Trust with another local y3 class, Sacred Heart Primary in Newcastle.

Links to Language Learning

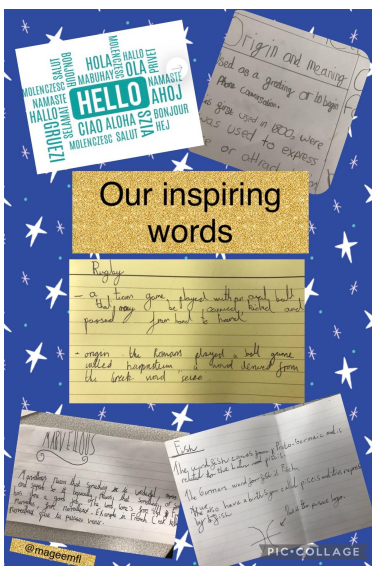
The above initiative mimics the shared Languages Library which has inspired two projects beyond the original scope of the bid. Firstly, a Lunchtime Languages club at Darras Hall in which pupils accessed Greek language taster sessions and took it in turns to teach us about their own home languages. Despite herself contracting a long form



of COVID, our languages teacher used a free online app to learn some Greek to upskill her own language knowledge and support teaching beginner's Greek. Secondly, a school wide Etymology project that emphasises the connections between Indo-European languages, specifically the roots of English and French in Greek.



This latter project was taken up by the English team with a love of finding words celebrated in Years 1 and 2 whilst Year 5 and 6 researched and presented on the etymology and cognates of their favourite words during 'Reading Roots' week.



- “I really enjoyed learning about the Greek alphabet. I think it has helped me understand about languages more” (Ava, y5, Richard Coates)
- “When I started hearing the Greek words I realised I knew them in Maths” (y6 pupil, Ponteland)

Links to Literacy

The money that had been put aside for staff language upskilling (not used as staff used free online apps e.g. Duolingo) was diverted to buy further reading materials for school libraries and as class readers. Thus, Year 6 at Darras are now able to share double the amount of copies of *Who Let The Gods Out* as their class reader between their 2 classes.

This will serve the exceptionally large intake of next year's Year 6 cohort well. They have also purchased subsequent titles in the series for their library. At Ponteland Primary, copies of the Percy Jackson series were bought to support Year 4's growing interest in myths and mythology. In all schools, Marcia



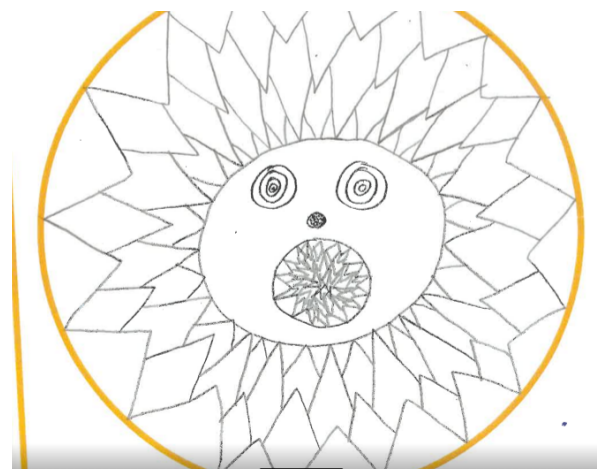
William's easy readers were bought to support pupils with lower reading ages. These were all crucial purchases as a curriculum revamp meant that some of these class teachers were teaching about Greece and The Greeks for the first time. This ensured enjoyable wider reading for all learners - even staff!

- "I literally don't want to put this book down, but I'm not allowed to read this one till we've done the first one in class!" (Mohammed, y6, Darras Hall)
- "I didn't know about word roots before but this book makes me want to find out more" (Lilly, y6, Darras Hall)

Further Quotes

A small selection of the positive comments teachers had to say.

- "Thank you for the loan of the helmet, coins, vase and the rest. It really brought our topic alive. The children were so excited" (Sacred Heart, Y3 class teacher)
- "I'm delighted Percy Jackson has made it to our school library. I'll enjoy these as much as the children will" (Ponteland Primary, y4 class teacher)
- "The etymology project has really got us thinking about how to teach the children about the importance of Greek and Latin for their spellings and development in literacy." (Darras Hall, y6 class teacher)
- "The Great North Museum bespoke online session was a highly structured and pupils had their entire A4 list of questions answered. It has ended up with some excellent myths from the children in their topic books which is great to have quality writing across subjects.



Hoplite shields by Belsay KS2 pupils' GNM workshop.

Impact

Access to the generous Hellenic Society funds have helped us to pool knowledge and

resources across our Trust's schools and across most subject areas. Whilst the positive impact on deepening children's knowledge about world history, foreign languages, and their own literacy in English is clear, it is the conversations that this has started among staff that might have the most impact.

We have recently submitted a bid to the Turing Scheme to fund a mobility to Greece that will be led jointly by our languages teacher and Ponteland Primary's lead for History. The theme of the trip is to look at Power & Governance in relation from Ancient to Modern Greece. Both members of staff have been inspired by the Greek language and history resource acquired through the SPHS grant and plan to update further on their spoken Greek as well as Ancient Greek (<https://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/courses/ancient-greek-beginners-part-1?code=O22P786CLW>).

Senior Leaders in each school are keen to further develop the Etymology/Reading Roots project throughout the Key Stages. Both these spin-offs and the continued sharing of resources and expertise will embolden the links to Greek language and culture in our curriculum ensuring a longevity from these initial funds.



Social media connections. Please provide details for connecting to the social media locations where you promoted and shared your project experiences, including Twitter name; Facebook page; a link to your blog. This will allow The Hellenic Society to connect with you and re-post your project and share your success.

PeleTrustPrimaryLanguages twitter @mageeMFL

(insert piccollages previously posted on twitter)

Some of our school twitter feeds have reposted news and thanks about the Hellenic Society funding @primarypont @DHPS @HeddonSchool

We have also talked about and promoted the Hellenic Society on other platforms/teacher events including UKlingua conference, Durham University, a Linguascope online Webinar, and the National Education Group's webinar on Subject Leadership of Languages in Primary

Schools (as our Languages Teacher presented these this year).

Bilingual Talking Dictionary	18
Greek Alphabet Book for Kids	8
Ancient Greek Artefact Pack	115.99
Who let the Gods Out	59.4
The Word Collector	10
Percy Jackson Books	35.46
Greek Myths Collection	19.96
The Illyiad & The Odyssey	16.5
Talking pen	96
PE equipment - disks x2 sets of 8	180
See Inside Ancient Greece	7.99
Primary History Ancient Greece	9.99
Ancient Greek Class Pack	95
Ancient Greek upskilling (for 2 members of staff & donation to gnm for workshop)	250
Greek food for workshop	20
Marcia Williams cartoon strip books	70

Contribution of the institution itself and any other funding received:

Matched donation to Great North Museum for online workshops.

Payment for staff cover to organise in-school workshops led by staff.

Purchase of matching sets of reading books for classes.

Duplicate Etymology resources (Greek alphabet book)

Cost of printing KS2 etymology resources <https://maximumclassics.com/ks2-3-word-roots/greekworddetective.pdf>

(Postponed cost of in-person workshops)

Would you recommend The Hellenic Society school grants to other institutions? :

Yes, it has provided an excellent springboard for initiatives that align with our schools' aims.