



**Καλό Πάσχα ! Happy Easter!**  
**Joyeuses Pâques! Frohe Ostern!**  
**Glad Påsk! Gzuar Pashkën!**  
**ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΒΟΚΡΕΨΕ!**  
**Buonan Pasqua! God påske!**

**April greetings from the President and the Board**

**The days of new hope and beginning are here. Let's come together to celebrate Spring !!**

This month our meeting is before Holy Week and the Easter break so you can all get your spring cleaning done in time for the greatest celebration in the Greek calendar which is **EASTER**.

Good news for those counting down the days until warmer weather. The 2017 spring equinox took place at 10:20am GMT on March 20th. Temperatures are slowly moving from miserable to manageable . In Greek villages the gardens are being planted with colourful spring flowers and the walls are being whitewashed and in towns balconies are being enhanced by bulbs and potted plants. Everything is being done in preparation for this great celebration of sacrifice and love .This is a time of renewal of life when we all feel a surge of energy to make a fresh start .Easter reminds us that hope should never be lost and we can bloom again just as nature does.

Our next meeting will take the form of an Easter/Spring Fair to which we would like you to invite your friends. We will have the opportunity to listen to the angelic voices of pupils from the 1st class of Anatolia Elementary School under the supervision of Ms Eleni MOUNTZI singing songs of Spring. The children are really excited about their first performance and we would like you to support them. You will also be able to have a long chat with your friends and make some Easter purchases. Some of our members have volunteered to bake while others have crafted artistic items. It will be a relaxing, enjoyable event , so please come !

There will be some special Easter prizes to be won at the April meeting. Who knows April may be your lucky month !

In April we are organizing the first of our outings. This time we are staying near home and taking a walk in Thessaloniki to learn about some of Thessaloniki's lesser known treasures. The list we had last month will be at the door in case some others would like to sign up. You can read about the walk inside the newsletter – it's called " Selanik – the Sultan's rose ."

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Mary Grizos who spoke to us in March. She made us realize that we should never give up on people and that having an education and the right teachers, people can reform and discover their potentialities. We would also like to thank the members who brought items for the Second Chance School. Mary was really impressed by your generosity.

Sandra McMeekan – Hatzigeorgiou

***"Let us be grateful to those who make us happy. They are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom."***

**Marcel Proust**

