

An introduction by the School Principal, Mrs Maria Topouzi

It gives me great pleasure to write the introduction of this year's edition of the school magazine, which is dedicated to the tenth anniversary of our school. At the end of this school year Kokkinotrimithia Regional Secondary School completes its first decade. Ten years of continuous and successful educational activities and contribution not only to our students but also to the residents of the five communities in our region from which we accept students.

It seems like yesterday when, during the opening ceremony of the Second Primary School of Kokkinotrimithia on June 16th, 1995, the Parents Association suggested to the former Minister of Education and Culture, Mrs. Claire Angelidou the establishment of a secondary school in our community, which would cover the five communities of our region. It seems like yesterday when the first negative response of the Minister became positive, when the data with the numbers of students of primary schools in the area, arrived at her office. It seems like yesterday when the foundation stone was laid by the former Minister of Education and Culture Mr. Ouranios Ioannides on 16th May, 2002 with the participation of the choir of the neighbour school Koutsofta M. - A. Panayides Paliometochi Lyceum. It seems like yesterday when the first Headmaster of the School, Mr. Themistoclis Masouras and his two Deputies, Mr. George Topouzis and Mr. Charalambos Iacovou, were appointed at Kokkinotrimithia Regional Secondary school, with a small group of teachers and started to organise and run the new school. They furnished the classrooms, arranged the equipment and welcomed their first students. It seems like yesterday when the first School Board, chaired by Mr Nikos Konstantinides was trying to find solutions to the appearing problems.

Kokkinotrimithia Regional Secondary School opened its doors for the first time for the teachers on Monday, 2nd September 2002. During the first meeting of the teaching staff the main concern was the safety of the students, because of the building constructing works, which were still continuing in the school yard. The

great effort and the hard work of the school management, the teachers, the Ministry of Education, the School Board and the Parents Association brought the expected result. The school was ready to welcome its first 160 students on Wednesday, 11th September, 2002.

It seems like yesterday when the first parents meeting took place for the election of Parents Association Board with the first president Mr. Lakis Hatzikyriakos.

All the pioneers, who had the idea of the establishment of this school and struggle for it, should be praised and honoured.

On the 22nd May 2005 his Excellency the Ex President of Cyprus Mr. Tassos Papadopoulos made the official opening ceremony of our school.

It has been ten years since then; a bright decade during which our students gave us joys and sorrows, excitements and disappointments, success and failure. A decade during which we do not count only the daily hard work of the teachers and the students for achieving our goals, but also the struggle and the great desire of the parents to contribute to school's work for the sake of their children. Since then a lot has happened. The work of the school was not confined to school limits, but it expanded and covered the spiritual and cultural needs of the inhabitants of the region, therefore the staff has earned the respect and appreciation of both local residents and the officers of the Ministry Education and Culture. There are so many activities to mention. We have organised and participated in festivals, artistic events, theatrical performances, national competitions, athletic contests, dances, parades, international and European programmes, evening meetings, surveys, student conferences, charity bazaars and many others. They give us strength and courage to continue our efforts, always aiming higher. The smile of our students, their progress and prosperity will be the best reward for us.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all my colleagues, deputies and teachers, who worked hard and manage to collect the material for this edition. Especially, warm thanks to the members of the publications committee for their hard work.

I would also like to thank all the colleagues who have contributed to the edition of this special school magazine with their texts and photos. In addition, I should thank the students who willingly responded to our call to contribute to this publication.

Finally, a warm “thank you” to the President and Members of the Parents Association, who covered the cost of printing the school magazine, and the President and members of the School Board for their help and support.