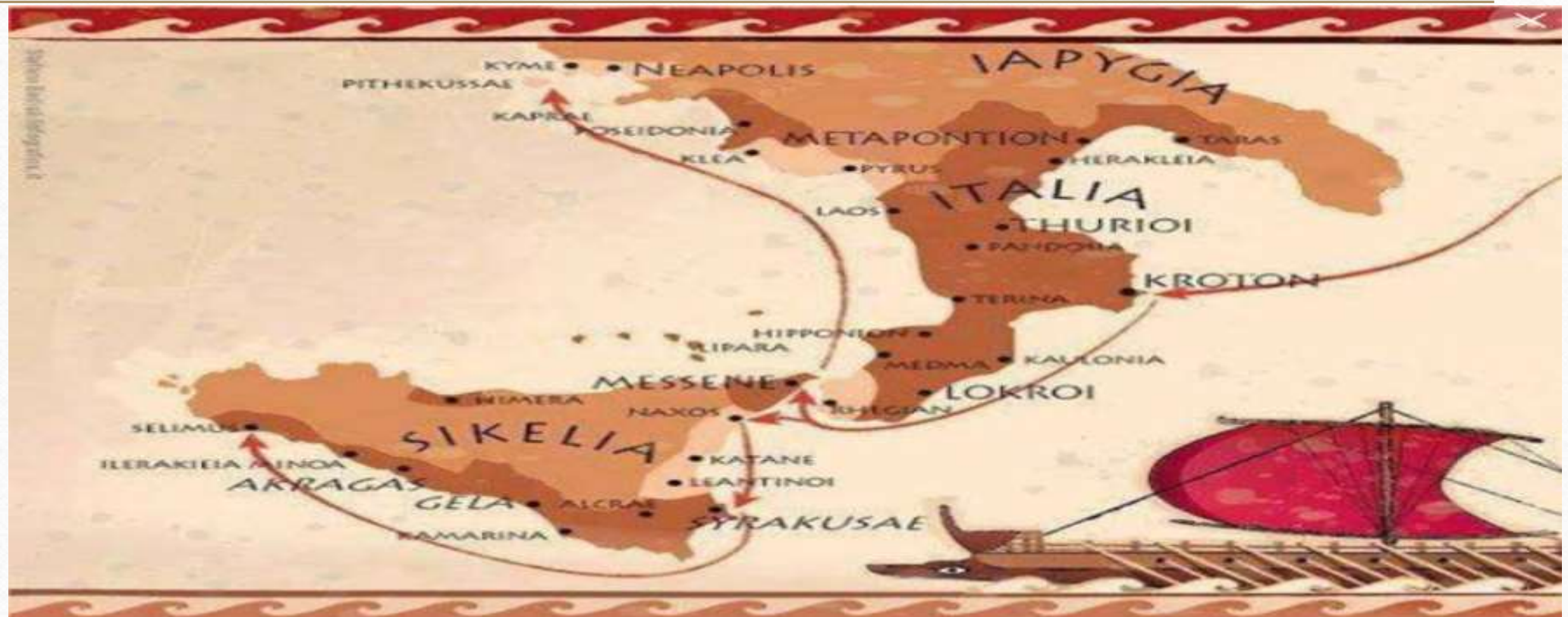


Common Heritage

**“A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of
its people”**

Mahatma Gandhi.

We learnt about the Greek Colonization in South Italy. The presence of Greeks in southern Italy dates back thousands of years, when they settled after successive waves of immigration, starting from the 8th century BC.



We learned that a great number of the Greeks of the Southern Italy have managed to maintain the character of their Greek identity, as well as their traditions, language and distinct culture (15% of surnames are of Greek origin).



You traditionally speak the Greco language which is a dialect of the Greek language. The name Griko(s) comes from the traditional name for the Greeks in the Italian peninsula.



In the Grecia Salentina region of Lecce, Puglia, Greek populations reside mainly in the villages of Kalimera, Martignano, Martano, Sternatia, Zollino, Corigliano d'Otranto, Soleto, Melpignano and Castrignano dei Greci.



At the beginning of the 19th century, the current nine Greek-speaking villages of Grecia Salentina, together with those of Soliano Cavour, Coursi, Kanole and Koutroviano, formed the Decatría Choría (Decatría Choría) of the Otranto region, which preserved Greek traditions and language



In the English class, we worked on finding common elements between the traditions of the two countries. We were delighted to learn about Sciacuddhi a mischievous elf that makes pranks to every human he meets.



Moreover, we noticed that similar elves exist in almost all European cultures: for example in Greece there are the Nymphs, the Nereids, the Naiads.



One of our peers who is from Ireland referred to the Leprechauns, the Irish elves.



Thank for your attention



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