

WISHSTAR PROGRAMME  
IMPLEMENTATION  
GUIDE



The Wish  
has the power  
to restore  
childhood!

## Our Mission

Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.

## It's more than a wish!

**Critical illness steals childhood from a child. A wish has the power to restore it. Joy, play and learning are crushed by worry, treatment and pain and their dreams for the future fade.**

**Become a child again!  
Become a #WishMakerKid!**

For the 26th consecutive year, the WishStar programme continues to be sent to schools all over the country. Through a survey of teachers at various grade levels conducted last year, a need was identified for "tools" to explain the work of the organization and serious illness to students of all ages.

So, your favorite educational program this year addresses the necessity of empathy, with you, the teachers, leading the way in cultivating it by channeling the truth to students.

We invite you again this year to enhance or purpose with a symbolic donation of 2€ by receiving the paper WishStar as a souvenir, but also to motivate the children to understand deeply the reason in giving.

Use the WishStar itself as a tool by cutting out the rainbow together with the children and send us back messages of love and optimism which we will then give to the wish children .



# WishStar Programme effect on students

Throughout our lives we connect and interact with people. Empathy is the essence of human relationships. It helps us to recognize not only what we see, but also what we don't see, the feelings and thoughts behind actions. Empathy is the ability to understand what others are feeling, to be able to see things from their perspective and to imagine ourselves in another's place. In short to be able to put ourselves in another's shoes, to feel what they are feeling. This is an important life skill, particularly for children, as it is essential that they understand from an early age that their actions can affect the people around them.

Awareness and psychosocial preparation will lead students to the acceptance of serious illness, since it is by sharing the appropriate knowledge that we lay the foundation for the cultivation of empathy.

**Through this process the children are able:**

- to trust adults;
- to manage and express their feelings;
- to feel comfortable enough to ask questions;
- to help in their own way.

Children are not young adults and their understanding depends on their developmental stage. It is important to explain the concept of empathy to students and help them put themselves in the shoes of Make-A-Wish children.

It is also necessary for them to understand the difference between a serious illness and a simple illness, e.g. a cold, that a serious illness is not contagious and that they should not avoid a classmate if they get sick or if they look different. The school community should be an emotional refuge for all children where they feel equal and express themselves freely.

In this context, the children of Make-A-Wish will be able to have some sense of childhood and carefreeness restored back into them. The WishStar will light the way for every sick child to become a child again.

★ **The school is a miniature of our society.** Therefore, on the occasion of the WishStar, we raise awareness among children of all ages in order to help them develop empathy. We form citizens that care for their fellow human beings, with a strong sense of equality and acceptance.

★ **The WishStar becomes the messenger of love,** friendship and acceptance. A messenger with a bag full of wishes to awaken the child within, guided by the children as our compass and destination. By doing so, we all become better human beings, because having full awareness of another's situation, we are also fully aware of our own diversity and our own selves.



**Koutli P. Thaleia**

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Postgraduate training in School Psychology  
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# Implementation process



**1** Inform students & parents through the information material (free of charge) by contacting [schools@makeawish.gr](mailto:schools@makeawish.gr) or 210 963 7667.



In collaboration with your students, decide on the **desired number of stars** you would like to purchase.



**3** Place your order online or by phone. Visit [www.wishstar.gr](http://www.wishstar.gr) and click Online Order Schools. Fill in the necessary details in the online order form.



By placing the order online, you have the option of choosing which wish you would like to contribute to.



The WishStar team prepares your order immediately, making sure you receive it **within 7 days** free of charge (contains stars - fabric wristbands - information material).



Once you have completed the action, make the deposit of your donation **according to the instructions** in the package you receive with the stars.



Upon completion of the programme, you will receive your wish adoption certificate and receipt of your donation electronically. **Keep your proof of payment until we send you the receipt of your donation.**



## The WishStar respects and protects the environment

The printed information material and the paper WishStar have been printed on FSC® certified recycled paper. With respect to managing its impact on the environment and with a commitment to environmental and ethical behavior, the WishStar project chooses to have all materials printed on FSC® certified paper.

FSC certification provides the link between responsible forest management and the consumption of products derived from forests, ensuring that forest management is environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.

Spreading our vision is our deepest desire. We encourage you to visit [www.wishstar.gr](http://www.wishstar.gr) and make use of the educational materials that you can find on Starclass. In that way, you can inform your students about Make-A-Wish Greece and convey the message of the project.

For further information visit: [makeawish.gr/αστεροτάξη](http://makeawish.gr/αστεροτάξη)

## WishStar grants wishes!



*I wish to go to a Paris Saint-Germain match*  
Ioannis, 7, type 1 diabetes

Ioannis is an active and very pleasant boy. He adores soccer and fanatically supports Paris Saint-Germain. His wish is a lifelong dream: to watch a live match of his favorite team. Fairies did their best to fulfill it. When Ioannis received the tickets for the upcoming trip, he was jumping from joy and happiness! He started counting the days until going in Paris! The big day came, and he is in a crowded stadium! Ioannis felt an unimaginable joy when he realized how close his favorite players were. Ioannis and his family were seated in privileged, VIP seats, as his fairy made sure that he will have the ultimate experience. During the match, he was shouting and clapping all the time, while the victory of Paris-Saint-Germain made Ioannis celebrate with all his heart!

***"It was the best day of his life!" his mother said. "Ioannis, told us he lived his dream, and he will never forget his journey!"***

It was a typical day at the office, with lots of phone calls, meetings, emails... Meeting, however, with Dimitris and his family, made that day special! Dimitris is always smiling; he is cheerful and - of course - nobody can resist and not smile at him back. It was love at the first sight: instantly we adored him, and we established a strong bond. Hand by hand with his fairies, we walked into the fairieshome and that's how his journey started. A walker would help him to take his first steps before he turns 6 years old. While we were waiting for the new walker to be prepared for Dimitris, we had a frequent communication exchanging funny and smiley videos!

And when the big day came, his mom, Maria, and Nefeli, his sister, helped the fairies to turn their house into a dreamy one scenery. Balloons, WishStars, gifts and his new vehicle transformed the family living room! Dimitris arrived with his father. The WishStar path led him into his sister tight hug.

***We all lived touching moments with Dimitris in his new walker, making his very first steps.***



*I wish to have a walker*  
Dimitris, 6, cerebral palsy

## Creative Competition

Once again, the WishStar team invites all students to represent their school and take part in our creative competition with a group entry. They can be inspired by the charity work of the organization, their emotions and thoughts about the value of volunteerism, the educational programme WishStar and the stories of wish children.

### Competition categories:

#### Song

You can use your love of music and make your own song.  
Duration: 2:30 to 3:00 minutes and copyright-free music.

#### Creative construction

Create a group construction by using your imagination.

#### Creative writing – essay

Students at nursery and primary school can write a short poem up to 150 words, while at secondary school and high school, creative writing could be an essay of up to 300 words.

#### Design your star

By getting inspired from our values and using your creativeness, you can design your own star.

**Attention!** No names or faces of both minors and adults should be mentioned in all categories.

## Submission Procedure

Entries must be submitted **exclusively** via form at [www.wishstar.gr](http://www.wishstar.gr) and the creators keep the original work. The winners of the competition will be decided by a jury set up for this purpose.

## Competition timetable

Submission of entry files: 13/01/2025 - 13/03/2025

Announcement of results: 10/04/2025

Awarding of the winners: October 2025

*All entries of students receive a commendation for participation, after the announcement of the results.*

# We would like to thank you

for your participation in our creative competition and for all the dedicated effort.

For further information visit: [makeawish.gr/διαγωνισμός](http://makeawish.gr/διαγωνισμός) or Scan here.



All photos are creations that were distinguished in the creative competition 2023-2024.

2022

Make-A-Wish®  
Κάνε-Μια-Ευχή Ελλάδα



2 years ago, you met Christina  
as the protagonist of WishStar Programme campaign.  
Her wish had just come true!

**Today she continues to be carefree!**

We need your support to fulfill the wishes of the  
**230 children** who are waiting!

Visit [wishstar.gr](http://wishstar.gr) for further information



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2024

