



9486 3266

www.alexander.nsw.edu.au

9486 3204

Dear Parents,

GOOGLING ALONG!

All students in Year 3-6 now have an account on the school domain with 'Google Apps for Education'. As I have stated before, the time has come for schools to embrace the idea of integrating technology and do 'different things' in the classroom. We need to empower our students, the employees of the 21st Century, to think outside the box and do *different things* in order to have a competitive edge over their counterparts and become masters of their fields. We need our students to become 'co-constructors of knowledge' rather than one expert telling them what they know. 'Google Docs' is one of the tools that helps to achieve this by providing opportunities for students and teachers to work more effectively in a *collaborative* environment.

Students are progressively being introduced to their Goggle Apps. They have so far setup and personalised their 'Gmail', 'Calendar' and are now starting to create documents using 'Google Docs'. This online office suite is the core foundation allowing users to create word processing documents, slideshow presentations, and spreadsheets. Students will no longer need to have 'Microsoft Office' or a similar product installed to create and save documents. Most importantly, these documents can be worked on *collaboratively* in real-time, by both staff and students. They can then share it with their teacher or class as required. Students will no longer need to transport documents to school via flash drives or by attaching them to emails that they send to themselves. The work they start at school can be completed at home and be shared or presented to their teacher with great ease... this is 'Cloud' computing and we are right on top of it!

**STAYING SAFE ONLINE**

With the new changes taking shape in the way our students use the internet at school or at home, now is a good time to review a number of important messages about staying safe online. Australians are increasingly relying on the internet in their everyday lives for banking, shopping, education and communication. Our children have never known a world without the internet. It is therefore important that they are able to use the internet in a secure and confident manner. The Australian Government through the Australian Communication and Media Authority's Cybersmart program has established a range of initiatives to raise the awareness of internet users about the importance of cyber security and the simple steps they can take to protect their personal and financial information online.



The school recognises the opportunities the internet offers for education, social interaction, innovation and convenience. However, we also know that along with all the opportunities, there are risks that can make the online world unpleasant and even dangerous. It is acknowledged that young Australians are particularly vulnerable to e-security threats as they are early adopters and comfortable using new or existing online technologies. The Department of Broadband, Communication and the Digital Economy has implemented a range of e-security initiatives to help raise online awareness. One of the initiatives is the development of a cyber security education package also known as *budd:e*. This package aims to assist students in learning about secure online practices and behaviour that will strengthen their computer defences and make them less susceptible to online attacks.

The modules in the package continue to be implemented in the classrooms as part of our computer lessons. The modules have learning based activities for students.

They are accessible through the Australian Government's e-security StaySmartOnline.gov.au website.

You can also check the newsletter for some practical tips to help manage online risks with young children.

14th June 2013

GO SOCCEROOS!

Alexander School Green & Gold Day!

Tuesday, 18 June 2013

To Cheer for the Socceroos!

Easy! Make your Sports Uniform
into green and gold!

(Blue tracksuit pants are fine)

Please donate a **\$2 Coin** as fundraising for
the Year 5/6 Bathurst Excursion.



EXTRA PHOTO ORDER

SCHOOL PHOTO

\$20

If you are interested in ordering a **whole school** photo, then please contact the school office on 9486 3266 and request the special order form and payment envelope from 'Academy Photography'. Alternatively, fill the order form when you have viewed a sample copy near the office.



**BIRTHDAY
OF THE WEEK**

Happy Birthday to...

Mrs Zela

HOUSE POINTS TERM 2

*Uniform, Playground, Charity
& Awards*



ARARAT - 166 points

MASIS - 168 points



TEACHERS' AWARD

TERM 2 - WEEK 3

Year 6: Kevork
Year 3: Noah
Talia
Year 2: Anita
Prep: Stephen



DATES TO REMEMBER

17/06 I.C.A.S. - Writing Assessment, Years 3-6
18/06 Green & Gold Day! - Sports Mufti
19/06 Interschool Debating Comp. # 4
20/06 Life Education Van Visit
21/06 Life Education Van Visit
Half Yearly Reports
25/06 C.A.R.E.S. Bike Safety visit - Years 4-6
28/06 Last day Term 2
15/07 School Development Day - Pupil Free
16/07 First day Term 3 - Students Return
03/11 Armenian Cultural Day & Fair
15/12 Christmas Concert and Graduation

Check the online calendar for more details.

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

WEEKLY REPORT: Term 2 Week 7

8 Points – MASIS	\$12.70
6 Points – ARARAT	\$10.00
TOTAL:	\$22.70
ACCUMULATED:	\$454.05

SPONSOR A CHILD IN ARMENIA THROUGH THE
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au

Keeping kids safe online

Here are eight easy ways to help your kids stay out of trouble in cyberspace.



1. **Keep computers out in the open** - Your child may think twice about looking at inappropriate websites and won't be able to chat to their friends all night while you think they are doing their homework.
2. **Mind your business** - Remind your child to keep information such as their name, address, phone number, school and even your credit card number to themselves. When signing up make sure passwords are not easy to figure out. If your child is going to put photos on the internet, ensure they are not the type that would attract unwanted attention from strangers.
3. **Just because it's on the internet, it doesn't mean it's true** - Make sure your child uses multiple sources for research, and is careful not to plagiarise.
4. **Stranger danger is online, too** - Ensure your child never organises to meet up with any strangers they have met online. Remind your children to also be wary opening emails from strangers. They could contain spam (online junk mail), a virus (which will harm your computer), or be from a stranger looking for trouble.
5. **Get a filter** - Internet filters can help block inappropriate sites for children. None are completely reliable and it's best if you talk about what websites are appropriate with your child so they understand and make the right choice on their own.
6. **Encourage your child to talk with you about their online experiences: good and bad** - This will make it easier for them if they see something inappropriate or are emailed something unsuitable. If they are embarrassed to tell you, persuade them to at least tell a teacher or another trusted adult.
7. **Good manners also exist online** - Talk about this with your child and it may lead to a decline in bullying behaviour, not to mention the many disagreements that children have with each other.
8. **Forever is a long time** - A lot of blogs and websites maintain information as part of cyberspace forever. By publishing without thinking of the future, your child's innocent work online may be something that comes up later on and may negatively impact their career and personal life.

SYRIAN ARMENIAN RELIEF - FUNDRAISING DINNER - Sunday, 28th July

The various Armenian community organisations and bodies have for some months been working together as part of the **Joint Committee for Syrian Armenian Relief (SOMM)**.

The committee has organised a 'Fundraising Dinner with Cultural Performances' to raise funds for the cause. The event will take place at Miramare Gardens (48 Myoora Road, Terry Hills) on **Sunday, 28th July 2013 from 4.30pm to 9.30pm**.



The organising committee has invited our **School Choir** to perform during the evening.

This is a good opportunity to showcase our school to the rest of the community. Please let us know if you would like your child to join this group and attend the fundraising dinner.

SOMM is offering a special price of \$25 to primary aged children who accompany their parents to the event.

Please indicate your response below and return to school by *Wednesday, 19th June*.



SYRIAN ARMENIAN RELIEF - CHOIR

Years 1 - 6

STUDENT/S NAME/S: _____ CLASS: _____

Please ✓tick the appropriate box and return the form to the office by Wednesday, 19th June.

- YES, I would like my child/ren to join the School Choir *and* we will attend the fundraising dinner.
- YES, I would like my child/ren to join the School Choir *but* we are unable to attend the fundraising dinner.
- NO, my child/ren will not be able to join the School Choir or attend fundraising dinner on 28th July.

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____



SYRIAN ARMENIAN FUNDRAISER DINNER CULTURAL PERFORMANCES

Organised By **SOMM**

Joint Committee for Syrian Armenian Relief

Date: **SUNDAY 28 JULY 2013**

4:30 PM- 9:30 PM

Venue: **MIRAMARE GARDENS**

**48 MYOORA ROAD, TERREY HILLS
Sydney, Australia**

Entry Donation: **ADULTS \$100**
UNDER 16 \$ 75

Community Announcement

Community Announcement

Community Announcement

Community Announcement

WINTER ASTHMA WARNING!



Statistical research in Australia reveals that hospital admission rates for asthma are highest for children in the months of May to June. Winter is a time of increased exposure to major asthma triggers such as cold air, colds and flu and indoor allergens such as mould, mildew, pet dander and dust

mites. In children, viruses are the most common trigger for asthma with the common cold being a trigger for approximately 80% of asthma attacks.

Best practice asthma management for students with asthma in winter includes:

- ◆ Students with severe asthma should see their doctor for a 'flu vaccination'
- ◆ Always carry their reliever medication
- ◆ Continue to take their preventer medication regularly
- ◆ Have a current **Asthma Action Plan** to guide the management of their asthma. This requires visiting a doctor to develop the plan with the student, tailored to their needs
- ◆ Avoid exercise if they have a cold or flu or are unwell

Also need to:

- ◆ Know what to do in an asthma emergency
- ◆ Ensure parents/carers are informed of any asthma incident



If parents have any questions, they should call the Asthma Information Line on 1800 645 130 or speak with their doctor.

Asthma Foundation NSW ☎ 1800 645 130 🌐 www.asthmansw.org.au