Dear Parents,

**NATIONAL LITERACY & NUMERACY WEEK**

Next week, National Literacy and Numeracy Week (NLNW) will be celebrated across Australia from **29th July - 4th August**. We will join the fun and celebrate the **15th Anniversary** of NLNW by taking part in the national activities, *Read for Australia* and *Reach for the Stars*.

In the literacy activity, we will celebrate the joy of reading by joining in the *Read for Australia* event on Thursday 1st August during our weekly assembly. Teachers and students in schools across the country have been invited to participate in a mass simultaneous read of the selected book *Herman and Rosie* by Gus Gordon.

The *Reach for the Stars* numeracy activity is called *This is Rubbish!* Students will use maths to count, sort and analyse the waste in their classroom and playground bins. The activity will teach students how to use their maths skills to help keep the environment clean when they find out exactly what’s in their bins during NLNW!

(*The *Read for Australia* event has been moved from Wednesday as a result of the Year 5/6 Debating Competition.)*

**ICAS SCIENCE RESULTS**

Congratulations to **Narek Topouzian** and **Noah Smith** for receiving **Credit** in the ICAS Science Competition. All students who participated in the competition were tested on a wide variety of thought provoking skills ranging from observing, measuring, interpreting, predicting and concluding to investigating, reasoning and problem solving.

The students’ tests and results are included in this week’s newsletter folder. Challenge yourself with some of the questions which will test the brightest of minds. If you have any queries about your child’s result, please do not hesitate to contact their teacher.

**PROMOTING ‘CRUNCH&SIP’**

The ‘Crunch&Sip’ film crew was at Alexander school towards the end of last year to record this healthy eating program in action.

As a member of the Healthy Kids Association, we were happy to help share our success and encourage other schools to follow.

I am happy to announce that the promotional video has now been released and is published on the association’s website, with the aim of promoting the program to teachers and schools around Australia.

Together with three other schools involved in this project, the students and teachers of Alexander school are featured throughout the video, showcasing the success story and excellent work carried out at our school. In the clip we see our students harvesting some vegetables from the garden, preparing them in the canteen and serving them as part of our ‘Crunch&Sip’ break!

I would like to once again congratulate and thank all the students, teachers and parents for their cooperation and help in promoting the activity. Once again, it highlights the quality and diversity of education provided at our wonderful school!

*The video is also featured and available on our website.*

26th July 2013

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN
2013 HONOUR AWARD LIST

Congratulations to
Narek T.
Chanel D.
Matthew Z.
Kevork D.
Lara K.
Alexandra D.

TEACHERS’ AWARD
TERM 3 – WEEK 2
Year 6: Jonathan
Year 5: Narek Silvy
Year 3: Talia, Noah Matthew, Chanel
Year 2: Lara, Kevork
Year 1: Alexandra
Prep: Stephen Isabella

HOUSE POINTS TERM 3
Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards
ARARAT - 49 points
MASIS - 57 points

DATES TO REMEMBER
28/07 Year 5/6 serving parishioners after church
Syrian Armenian Relief - School Choir
29/07 National Literacy & Numeracy Week
31/07 I.C.A.S. - English Assessment
Interschool Debating Comp. # 5
08/08 Emily Eyefinger - Glen Street Theatre
13/08 I.C.A.S. - Mathematics Assessment
14/08 Interschool Debating Comp. # Final
09/09 Sports Carnival 2013 - Terry Hills Oval
26/10 AGBU - 50th Anniversary Concert
01/11 AGBU - 50th Anniversary Dinner Dance
03/11 Armenian Cultural Day & Fair
Check the online calendar for more details.

Canteen Notice
LUNCH SPECIALS FOR NEXT WEEK

Tuesday
30/07/13: Sausage Sizzle* .................. $3.50

Wednesday
31/07/13: Fried Rice (Veg & Chicken) ....$3.50

* Please note the menu change from Mince Kebab & Rice

FOLLOW NORMAL ORDERING PROCEDURES

BOOK CLUB - ISSUE 5
Order Forms/Money Due by Tuesday
30th July, 2013
Orders after this date cannot be processed.
Please place your orders in clearly marked envelopes.

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

WEEKLY REPORT: Term 3 Week 2

8 Points – ARARAT ............. $17.95
6 Points – MASIS ............. $14.15

TOTAL: ............. $32.10

ACCUMULATED: ............. $545.25

SPONSOR A CHILD IN ARMENIA THROUGH THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au
‘Vartavar’ Celebrated with Sunday School

Last Sunday, a group of students from AGBU Alexander Primary School took part in a joint community concert on the occasion of ‘Vartavar’. The event was organised by the coordinators of the Armenian Apostolic Church Sunday School. Our students performed together with a group of students from Galstaun College and the AGBU Alex Manougian Saturday School.

The concert was held in the Edgarian Hall, following the Sunday Mass. In attendance were His Grace Bishop Haigazoun Najarian, clergy, members of the church council and community at large. They were all delighted by the wonderful performance and the quality of the presentation put forward by all the students.

Once again, students of Alexander school put on a magnificent display receiving the praise of His Grace and the audience. It was a great display of community spirit and cooperation for the benefit of the children.

We would like to take this opportunity and thank the parents for their cooperation. Special thank you to Mrs Seta Keoshgerian for her assistance in preparing the students and supporting the organising committee.

http://www.facebook.com/AlexanderSchool

Reminders...

SYRIAN-ARMENIAN RELIEF - FUNDRAISING DINNER

Performance by: School Choir
When: Sunday, 28th July 2013
Where: Miramare Gardens - 48 Myoora Road, Terrey Hills
Time: Before 5.00pm - Performing at 5.20pm
Dress: Winter uniform (including jumper, polished shoes and neat hair 😊)

Note: Parents who are bringing their children to join in the choir only are expected to meet in the foyer.
This year **Read for Australia** will be held on Wednesday 31 July at 2 pm*.

Teachers and students in schools across the country are invited to participate in a mass simultaneous read of the **Read for Australia** selected book.

**The Book!**

The book selected for **Read for Australia** in 2013 is **Herman and Rosie by Gus Gordon**. Set in New York, it is about friendship, music and following your dreams. This delightfully written and illustrated book will appeal to all ages and is the perfect springboard for discussion.

‘This is a tale about a big city. It’s a tale of hotdogs and music and the summertime subway breeze. It’s a tale of singing on rooftops and toffees that stick to your teeth. But most of all, it’s the tale of Herman and Rosie.’
Penguin website

‘Quirky, soulful and alive . . . a book to treasure, like a favourite song.’
Markus Zusak

**The Author**

**Gus Gordon** is an illustrator and author. He grew up on a farm in northern NSW and, after leaving school, worked on cattle stations all over Australia before deciding to pursue a career in drawing.

Gus illustrated his first children's book in 1996 and has now illustrated and written over 70 books for children.

Gus’s illustrations are known for their loose and energetic line work, mixed media and humour. His writing is always anthropomorphic—where animals take the place of humans in the narrative. He attributes this to his love of Wind in The Willows by Kenneth Grahame.

Gus’s first picture book, Wendy, is about a motorcycle-riding stunt chicken and was selected as a Children's Book Council of Australia Notable Book in the 2010 Book of the Year Awards.

Gus lives with his wife and three children on the Northern beaches of Sydney.

Discover more about Gus Gordon, his writing and his illustrating on his exciting website and facebook page:

[www.gusgordon.com](http://www.gusgordon.com)

* The **Read for Australia** event has been moved from Wednesday to **Thursday 1st August** as a result of the Year 5/6 Debating Competition.
The **Reach for the Stars** activity is *This is Rubbish!* This activity will involve students using mathematics to analyse the waste at their school.

Students will **collect, classify and count** the rubbish in their classroom or schoolyard bins. The data collected from the activity will be used to find the main sources of waste and how much of it there is.

When the data collected by the students has been submitted, it will be collated and analysed. A short report will highlight key findings and interesting discoveries. The full raw data set will also be made available.

It will enable classes to think about their rubbish, if it can be reduced, reused, recycled or disposed of safely?

Students can compare their findings with schools from all over Australia.

Did you know that Australians currently recycle more than two billion aluminium cans each year? How much would they weigh? Or that plastic bottles (PET) can be made into fleecy clothing? How many would it take to make one long-sleeved top?

The aim is to encourage students to **reduce, reuse, recycle and rethink!**

Reach for the Stars has been developed and coordinated by the Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers since 2003.

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**With Your Newsletter This Week...**

**Armenian General Benevolent Union**

**Alexander Primary School**

**School Report 2012**

Includes: Academic Performance, Teacher Standards, School Policies on Enrolment, Discipline, Safe & Supportive Environment, Improvement Targets, Summary of Financial Information and a lot more!

Grab an extra copy from the school office. Also available on the school website.
Coming Up…

Emily Eyefinger @ Glen Street Theatre

Based on the books by Duncan Ball

With the objective of enhancing the theatrical experience of our students, the school will visit the Glen Street Theatre in Belrose to watch the magical production of ‘Emily Eyefinger’.

The enchanting and extremely popular show will take place on Thursday, 8th August.

The students will leave the school at 9.30am and are expected to return by 11.30am.

Emily Eyefinger is the story of adventurous heroine, Emily, who was born with an extraordinary gift, an eye on the end of her finger. But Emily has a dilemma. “Am I Emily because of my eyefinger or am I Emily because of me?”

Emily struggles with being different, and confiding in her best friend Malcolm, begins to contemplate life without her eyefinger, even considering surgical removal! Meanwhile, Emily embarks on her biggest adventure yet. With her Great Aunt Olympia, Emily heads into a deepest darkest jungle where she foils a kidnapping attempt by the evil Arthur Crim and solves the mystery of the Ancient Caves of Tutenkamouse.

With the help of those around her, Emily eventually finds pride in her ‘bit of difference’ and acknowledges that sometimes it’s better to leave things just as they are.

A light-hearted joyous work with resonating themes of identity, respect and friendship.

For a sneak peak check out the video at www.glenstreet.com.au/kidsplay

The special student price is $16.00 each. Please fill in the permission slip below and return with your payment to the school office by Friday 2nd August.

EXCURSION TO THE THEATRE

‘Emily Eyefinger’ – P-6

I grant permission for my child/ren to attend the theatrical production of ‘Emily Eyefinger’ at the Glen Street Theatre in Belrose, on Thursday, 8th August. I understand he/she will travel from school by private cars of teachers and volunteer parents, being accompanied and supervised by teachers.

NAME OF STUDENT/S: _____________________________________________  DATE:  _________________

PARENT’S SIGNATURE: _____________________________   MONEY ENCLOSED: $______  ($16.00 per child)