Dear Parents,

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING - REVIEW

On Wednesday, we held a very successful Parent Information Evening. Once again, we were very pleased with the attendance where almost every school family was represented. Thank you for coming and showing your support for your children’s education and demonstrating your interest in their school life. We believe, the commitment of the parent body plays an important role in the life of a school. Therefore, continue with your great effort to get right behind your children and play a supporting role, because your children are the ones who benefit.

During the evening, parents were given an outline of the major functions planned for the year. They were also briefed about the school’s ‘Registration’ process, which is due to be renewed by the end of the year. Parents were encouraged to share the Google Calendar from the school’s web site and informed how with just a few clicks of the mouse, they can incorporate it in the personal calendars of their smart phones. The policies in relation to discipline, homework and welfare were reviewed and the academic programs discussed. These included the Armenian Language, Chaplaincy and the new K-6 Syllabuses (English, Mathematics, Science and History), incorporating the agreed National Curriculum content.

During the plenary session, Curriculum Coordinator Mrs Vicky Dernee also discussed the NSW Board of Studies publication, *Parents’ Guide to the NSW Primary Syllabus*. Please find enclosed in the newsletter copies of the updated guide. The guide aims to help parents better understand their child’s progress through primary school and to support positive parent-teacher discussions about classroom activities and outcomes. The guide provides examples of the kinds of things children can learn in each stage of primary school. There is also information about the indicative hours for each subject, how achievement is graded, integrated units and where parents can go for more information.

The parents were also updated about the school’s web site and social media. A general school overview and demonstration of the Google Apps for Education was presented and explained to all parents. After a number of important reminders, the proposed change to the volunteer scheme was introduced.

Finally, parents were directed to the classrooms, where the teachers had the opportunity to explain to their parents the special features of teaching and learning which pertain to their classes.

SCHOOL FAMILY VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION SCHEME

As discussed during the Parent Information Evening, we would like to see the volunteer tasks for the school spread evenly across the parental body. This year the points system is back and we are asking parents to indicate their choice and consider what they can do to assist in the running of the school. Further details about the updated and improved scheme is provided elsewhere in the newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity and indicate that the P&C meetings are a good forum to bring your ideas or suggestions for the everyday running needs of our school. If you have any suggestions please approach P&C members to discuss and to include them on the Agenda for the following meeting. As you know the P&C plays an important role in running the canteen and catering special events. They are also responsible in organising a number of in-school events and providing general feedback and assistance in areas of need.

I understand that it’s not possible for all families to get involved in all aspect of the P&C, however I encourage you to have your say. I will also be attending these meetings and would like to receive feedback as to how we can improve the services being provided to students and guests. The P&C Committee will have its first meeting next week, please check the newsletter for details.

Please fill in the ‘2014 Volunteer Contribution Choices’ form and return it to school by Monday to kick-start the committees.

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN

14th February, 2014
**MEETING NOTICE**

**COUNCIL OF PARENTS & CITIZENS**

The first P & C meeting for the year will be held on

**Thursday 20th February**

**Venue**: North Ryde RSL
Cnr Pittwater Road and Magdala Roads,

**Time**: 8.00pm

To Confirm Attendance - Contact:
School office - 9486 3266

P&C Office Bearers are expected to attend to form the new committee.

P&C Assistants are also welcome.

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**DATE TO REMEMBER**

19/02  Book Club - Issue 1 Orders Due
20/02  P&C Meeting @ North Ryde RSL - 8pm
02/03  Holy Communion at Church on Sunday
23/03  Working Bee
06/04  Easter Concert & Picnic
11/04  Last Day Term 1

You can also check the electronic calendar in the ‘News & Events’ section of the school’s web site.

The electronic calendar can be shared on your phone. Contact the school to find out how.

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**BOOK CLUB - ISSUE 1**

Order Forms/Money Due by

**Wednesday 19th February, 2014**

Orders after this date cannot be processed. Please place your orders in clearly marked envelopes.

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**LIBRARY BAGS**

Congratulations to all the students who remembered to bring their library bags for borrowing this week. If you forgot to bring yours in, try to remember next week.

**LIBRARY DAY IS FRIDAY**

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**BOOK COVERS**

All children should by now have covered all school books with clear plastic. Thank you parents for supporting your children in getting this annual chore out of the way.

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**ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND**

**WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 3**

8 Points – **SEVAN** .......... $9.90
6 Points – **YEREVAN** .......... $8.25

**TOTAL:** .......... **$18.15**

**ACCUMULATED:** .......... **$18.15**

**SPONSOR A CHILD IN ARMENIA THROUGH THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH**

www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au
Environmentally Friendly Snack Foods

Choose an apple, mandarin, orange, pear, banana, plum, mangoes, pieces of melons, nectarines, peaches or other fresh seasonal fruit for a quick, easy, environmentally-friendly snack.

No packaging, full of nutrients and antioxidants, plus it tastes delicious!

Remember... We have our Crunch&Sip break before the start of school. Please make sure your son or daughter has an extra piece of fruit or vegetable.

Cancer Council recommends you protect yourself in 5 ways:

SLIP on clothing that covers your arms and legs
SLOP on 30+, broad-spectrum sunscreen
SLAP on a broad brimmed or legionnaires hat
SEEK shade
SLIDE on wrap around sunglasses

STAY COOL AT SCHOOL THIS SUMMER!
Complete 3 deposits into your Youthsaver account through School Banking between 28/01/2014 and 11/04/2014 to help your school have the chance to win a 3m x 3m Marquee. You will also go into the draw for a chance to win 1 of 2 $50.00 deposits into your School Banking account.

GREAT THINGS HAPPEN WHEN YOU SAVE!

Holy Communion: Church Visit - Sunday, 2nd March 2014

In school tradition, all students and staff will attend the Armenian Apostolic Church of Holy Resurrection, Chatswood on Sunday, 2nd March 2014, to receive blessings and Holy Communion for the start of the new school year.

Students are expected to arrive at the Armenian Apostolic Church by 10.30am to join the Church Service and receive Communion. Full school uniform must be worn. Girls will need school hats. Please indicate your response and return the slip by Friday, 21st February.

Holy Communion - Sunday 2nd March 2014

Student/s Name/s: ___________________________ Class: ___________________________

Please tick box and return form to school Office by Friday, 21st February.

☐ YES, my child/ren will be attending church to receive Holy Communion on Sunday 2nd March, 2014.

☐ NO, my child/ren will be unable to attend church to receive Holy Communion on Sunday 2nd March, 2014.

Parent’s Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________
Photo Gallery - Final Days of 2013...

http://www.facebook.com/AlexanderSchool
SCHOOL FAMILY VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION SCHEME

Once again, we would like to see the volunteer tasks for the school spread evenly across the parental body. For this to come about, a system of points is again in operation. As most of you know, the scheme is based on a family committing to volunteer 200 points of time and effort to school tasks. Please consider what you can do to assist in the running of the school.

Please fill in the form below to claim your tasks to the value of 200 points per family. Where there can only be a set number of volunteers for the job, eg Canteen Coordinator, decisions will be made on a ‘first in first served’ basis.

The major difference this year is that families will be asked to make a monetary contribution in advance. Families will have a separate charge of $200 in their School Fees, split over two terms ($100 in Term 1 and $100 in Term 2). The monetary contribution will be fully refunded to the family towards the end of the year when it is established that all volunteer contributions have been fulfilled to the value of 200 points*.

While our aim is to involve all families in the school community, I trust the new improved scheme will be fairer and more transparent, thanks to your support and commitment.

Please fill in your choice/s below and return the form to the office by Monday, 17th February.

Please check the boxes ☑️ for the tasks you choose.

TOTAL: ☐ I will earn 200 or more points.

* While we prefer your non-monetary contribution, if you are unable to commit (or can only do so in a limited capacity) to any of the above tasks then the contribution charge will be passed on as a donation to the school.

I wish to submit my choice of volunteer time for the school.

Signed: ____________________________________________________ Date: ____________________
COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

CALLING ON THE ARMENIAN YOUTH OF OUR COMMUNITY

The after-school study program facilitated by tutors will resume in 2014 for students from Years 6 to 12 providing assistance in English, Maths and Armenian.

Committed tutors will provide leadership, guidance, and academic support to facilitate educational skills and awareness of students.

When: Thursdays 4.30 to 7.00 p.m.
Where: Edgarian Hall - Armenian Apostolic Church
10 Macquarie Street, Chatswood
Contribution: $10/session (includes snacks & limited WiFi access)
One-off annual registration fee of $20
Students are welcome to arrive from 4.00 p.m.

To register or receive more information contact:
Aptar (04) 07587680
Ida (04) 12750850

www.alexander.nsw.edu.au

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

STAY COOL AT SCHOOL THIS SUMMER

Win a CommBank Marquee for your school and $50 for a student just by depositing to your CommBank School Banking account in Term 1.

The school with the highest percentage of active students at the end of Term 1 will win a marquee. Every student who completes a minimum of three school banking deposits in Term 1 will be in the running to win one of two $50 credits into their School Banking account.

For more information, simply contact your School Banking Specialist or the School Banking Helpdesk on 1800 674 466.

CAN

15 February 2014 at 7pm
Café Birkenhead
Birkenhead Point Outlet Cct, Drummoyne

SPECIAL YOUTH BLESSING SERVICE
on Sunday 16 February followed by a BBQ on the Church Lawn

Donation: $65
(Includes full cocktail menu with a range of premium beverages)

For tickets please call
Flora on (02) 573 770
Peter on (02) 574 51 717
Viv on (02) 9419 8056

www.alexander.nsw.edu.au