

Dear Parents,

SMALL SCHOOL, MAKING A BIG DIFFERENCE

AGBU Alexander Primary School has been a small, independent, bilingual school that has served the Armenian community of Sydney for over twenty-four years. Service that has stayed focused on its mission and has proudly produced many fine, well rounded and well educated youngsters. These graduates, now as young adults, have taken an active role in the community in the true sense of our motto 'To Grow & Serve'.

For us, 'small' means every teacher knows every child; not just those in their own class or year group, which means every child feels important, safe and understood every minute of every day. Being 'small' enables us to be agile, imaginative, nurturing and personal.

I believe very strongly that it is our role as a school to both inspire our students and provide each of them with the opportunity to shine - be it in the classroom, on the sports field or on the stage. We promote a diverse and exciting co-curricular programme which encourages our students to be responsible and caring members of society. If a student has an interest, we help to foster that interest. We recognise the benefits in confidence building, encouraging individuality and feeling valued.



We have seen so many benefits to composite or mixed year groups. The expectation placed on children in single year groups, that all children should possess the same knowledge and skills at exactly the same time, can place enormous pressure on a child. With a wider age span it is easier to address each child as an individual and to champion their strengths and build upon the areas where they are less confident without the additional pressures of conforming to a peer group.



Our younger pupils benefit from the contributions of the older children which allows them to participate in far more complex activities than they would in year groups. They also go through their school life with the expectation that they too will become the nurturers when they reach the older end of the school. We strongly believe that a student should experience these nurturing contexts rather than just observing and imitating them.

As a result, Alexander school makes a 'big' difference to the students, who see themselves as progressive and successful learners. Our parents know this and have made their choice of schooling by visiting the school and seeing the nature of work being produced and the type of learning environment they were willing to place their children in. Not only our parents, but members of our community often describe us as a 'great' school. However, I do not want us to just be referred to as a 'great' school, but as an 'excellent' educational institution, striving towards excellence for each and every individual student. Above and beyond all, staying true to our mission statement:

AGBU Alexander Primary School is dedicated to excellence in education and the realisation of each student's potential, providing a balance curriculum encompassing academic, spiritual, cultural, physical and practical areas of learning.

SCHOOL FAMILY VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION SCHEME

As we all know, the commitment of the parent body plays an important role in the life of a school and in making a 'great' school into an 'excellent' one. Therefore, I would like to thank all the families who have returned their '2014 Volunteer Contribution Choices' form. Please continue with your great effort to get right behind your children and play a supporting role, because it is purely in their benefit.

I am pleased to state that last night we had our first and very productive P&C meeting for the year. A big welcome to all the new members and a great appreciation to all those who are continuing with their volunteer efforts. The new Office Bearers were formalised and with the Canteen Coordinator and Assistants I believe we have a very efficient and hard working team that are willing to support the school activities and the Alexander community.

Further details about the P&C and its activities will be made available next week.

COMING UP...


Holy Communion - Sunday, 2 March. Thank you to all the families who have responded promptly. Updated details will be made available next week.

Musica Viva - Wednesday, 26 March. We have a special music show that we will be attending at our neighbouring Kinma School. Further details next week.

Sydney Royal Easter Show - Thursday, 10 April. The school has decided to take part in the special 'Schools Program' at the start of the Easter Show this year. More information about the 'Engaged' program that is developed by the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW will be made available to parents over the coming weeks.


21st February, 2014

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN



School Banking
Banking Day: Thursday

HOUSE POINTS TERM 1
Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards

SEVAN - 43 points 
YEREVAN - 41 points

DONATIONS TO ALEXANDER SCHOOL

Dr & Mrs Artin and Maro Jebejian	\$250
Anonymous	\$200

Thank you for your support.

The very competitive fees at Alexander Primary School often prompt school families to make financial donations to the school to further support school projects. The school welcomes your donation and those of our community members. Donations can also be made in lieu of gift-giving occasions or for memorials.
All donations to the School Building Fund are tax deductible.

DATES TO REMEMBER

02/03	Holy Communion at Church on Sunday
23/03	Working Bee
26/03	Music Viva @ Kinma School
06/04	Easter Concert & Picnic
09/04	Parent/Teacher Interviews & Portfolios
10/04	School Excursion to the Easter Show
11/04	Last Day Term 1

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

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 4

8 Points – SEVAN	\$7.60
6 Points – YEREVAN	\$7.10
TOTAL:	\$14.70
ACCUMULATED:	\$32.85

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