Dear Parents,

WORKING BEE THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the families and friends who attended our Working Bee last Sunday. With our combined effort, we managed to remove the weeds and trim the plants in garden. The driveway and playground edges were cleaned and weeded out for a much tidier look. Trees were trimmed and dead ones along the edge of the property removed. Gutters were cleaned including the stormwater pits. It was also a good opportunity to fix the broken or cracked windows. As usual, the children provided help were needed. The grounds, in front of the classrooms and under the veranda were cleaned with pressure wash, including the aluminium seating and tables in the quadrangle. The covered area was also cleaned and the stage was setup, ready for our Easter concert.

There is always a great feeling of community and a sense of satisfaction when our families get together, enjoy each others company and work for the good of the school in such a willing way. A note of thanks to Mr Garbis Abedjian, a former parent, who has been attending our Working Bees over the last few years and dedicating his special skills and volunteer time over numerous school projects. Thank You - heaps!!

PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent/Teacher Interviews will take place on Wednesday 9th April. Please make sure the appointment form is completed and returned by Tuesday. Confirmation of your appointment time will be sent back on Friday.

As you all know, interview ‘peak-times’ are usually right after school or late in the evening. I understand that most of our parents have to travel long distances and sometimes like to have the interviews done just as they are picking up their children from school. However I’m sure you also understand that this isn’t always possible.

We will do our best to accommodate your special requests in relation to appointment times. I’m sure with the three given time slots we will have fewer disappointments, as parents should be prepared to accept any time within the slots provided. If you have a problem with the confirmed appointment time, please contact the office to arrange for an alternative. Please note, Mrs Seta will be available for interviews about the Armenian classes prior to or after your scheduled interview on a first come first serve basis.

Please try to be on time for your appointment, as late-comers put others out. Also please be aware that there is only time for a ten minute interview. If an interview looks like it will go for longer, for instance, if a new discussion point has arisen, another time will have to be scheduled as someone else will be waiting for their time. Please note that student portfolios will also be given out on the day and we hope parents check, sign and return these by early next Term.

Children may attend interviews if you, they and the teacher are comfortable. If they come along with you, they are expected to stay quietly in one place, preferably with you as much as possible. Before and after interviews - roaming about the school will not be allowed.

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN

28th March, 2014
PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS - Forms Due Tuesday, 1st April

Parent/Teacher interviews will be conducted over one afternoon. Interviews with parents for all students will be held on Wednesday, 9th April.

If you would like to make an appointment with Mr Manoug on general school matters, please make a note so that a suitable time or date can be arranged.

Interviews will be of 10 minute duration with your child’s class teacher. Please note, Mrs Seta will be available for interviews about the Armenian classes prior to or after your scheduled interview on a first come first serve basis. Children are not expected to attend this evening. If they come along with you, they are expected to stay quietly in one place, preferably with you as much as possible. Before and after interviews - roaming about the school will not be allowed.

Parents are requested to complete the form below by ticking preferred time slots. Please be prepared to accept any session within that time slot. All effort will be made to ensured preferred appointment times. A confirmation notice will be sent next week.

Please return the completed form to the school Office by Tuesday, 1st April.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS - 9th April 2014

STUDENT/S NAME/S: ………………………………………………………………………..

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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PREP / K MR MANOUG &amp; MRS SETA</th>
<th>YEARS 1 - 4 MRS DERNEE</th>
<th>YEARS 5 &amp; 6 MS SMITH</th>
<th>I would like to also meet with MRS SETA (Armenian)</th>
<th>I would like to also meet with MR MANOUG (General)</th>
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INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS & ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS - Years 2-6

Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) specialises in large-scale assessment and measurement programs including the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). ICAS are conducted annually in Australia and over 20 countries globally. EAA is an education group of UNSW Global Pty Limited, a not-for-profit provider of education, training and advisory services and a wholly owned enterprise of the University of New South Wales (UNSW).

EAA’s main product is the annual International Competitions & Assessments for Schools (ICAS). Over 1.7 million students from across Australia, N.Z. and the Pacific region participate in ICAS each year, with an additional 700,000 entries internationally from other countries. A University of New South Wales medal is awarded in each subject when a top score in each year level in each locale is judged to be sufficiently meritorious. Other high performing students receive certificates of high distinction, distinction and credit. All students who participate receive a UNSW Certificate acknowledging their achievement.

Our school will again offer these tests for Years 2-6*, which will take place between May and August. The school is offering Computer Skills, Science, Writing, English and Mathematics, while Spelling at this stage is not being recommended. Writing is marked by hand, not by computer, hence the cost difference.

As you know, last year they extended the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) to Australian students in Year 2. This exciting development brings the well-known benefits of ICAS forward to Year 2, creating an extra 12 months for teachers to diagnose students’ strengths and weaknesses in the subjects of English literacy and Mathematics.

Benefits of Year 2 ICAS:
A rigorous independent assessment of students’ English literacy strengths and weaknesses. A rigorous independent assessment of students’ numeracy strengths and weaknesses. First independent chance to understand your students’ ability and performance – a whole year in advance of the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). Gives Year 2 students an opportunity to experience external assessments in the core curriculum areas of English and Mathematics prior to Year 3.

The school needs to register the number of students sitting each of the tests. Parents who would like to have their child/ren participate in any one or all of the tests are asked to complete and return the form below. Closing date for applications and payment for all tests is Wednesday, 9th April 2014. Please do not be late.

Indicate your choice of tests by placing a tick in the appropriate box/es. Provision has been made for families with more than one child at the school. Please return form with payment to the office by Wednesday, 9th April.
Photo Gallery...

Working Bee

Many thanks to the following families who attended our Working Bee last Sunday. Abedjian Garbis, Bozikian Souren, Demirjian Manoug, Kachichian Harout and Kevork, Khatchadourian Victor, Stephen and friend, Khoudair Emil, Natalie, Lara and Anthony, Sevazlian Vartan, Smith Martine, Tomassian Vahe, Cynthia, Albert, Berj & Peter, Topouzian Vatche and Narek were all here to help maintain the school grounds.
Musica Viva...
Creation Stories from North-East Arnhem Land

On Wednesday (26 March, 2014) the students of AGBU Alexander primary School visited the neighbouring Kinma School to be entertained by ‘Datiwuy Dreaming’.

This group of performers presented traditional Aboriginal stories to the students through song and dance. The students were able to join with the group, singing and moving to the stories and songs. This program entertained the students while introducing them to the life and culture of Yolngu people of North-East Arnhem Land.

After the performance the students joined the students from Kinma School, The German School and Yanginanook Christian School for a delicious morning tea provided by Kinma School and our Alexander school parents. The students then played together until it was time to return to school.

Thank you to the Mrs Angela Khatchadourian, Mrs Jeanette Misisilian and Mrs Karis Khatchadourian, who provided the transport and wonderful morning tea for the day.

Notice... Coming up!
School ‘Easter Show’ Excursion
Transport Details and Permission Note to be sent home early next week.
An evening of Music and Literature

Dedicated

To the 145th Anniversary of Komitas Vartabed

Presented by the Ministry of Diaspora

Under the Auspices of his Grace Bishop Haigazoun Najarian

Primate of the Diocese of Australia & New Zealand.

Organised by Hayastan-Spyurk Australian Cooperative Committee

With the participation of internationally renowned merited artist of the Republic of Armenia - recipient of Komitas Medal Sarkis Najaryan

Opera Singers, Roza Hovsepyan & Lilit Grigoryan

Piano accompaniment Chris Nazarian

Friday 11th April, 2014  at 8pm

At the Armenian Apostolic Church of Holy Resurrection

10 Macquarie Street Chatswood

Donation $30

For tickets please contact:  Vardoui Lepedjian 0414 697 290 | Alla Darbinyan 0416 194 531