Dear Parents,

**COLES JUNIOR LANDCARE GARDEN GRANT**

As part of the *Live Life Well @ School Action Plan* the school will establish a ‘Vegetable & Herb Garden’ thanks to the support of the ‘Coles Junior Landcare Garden Grants’. For many years Coles has been providing grants of up to $1,000 to schools and youth groups to help create gardens in their grounds or community, such as bush tucker gardens, water wise gardens or veggie gardens.

Alexander school has been successful in receiving the $1,000 grant and plans are well underway for our big or should we say ‘dig’ day. There is a great deal of excitement in the classrooms, in particular the Year 5/6 who have taken on the task of setting up and maintaining the garden. It comes at the right time of the year and will mark the start of a wonderful ongoing learning experience for all the students in the school.

The garden will be set up in two stages.

**STAGE 1:** Construct a new high quality, fully enclosed greenhouse with the support of the LLW@S funds on the existing garden bed to the west of the school grounds. This will ensure that our herbivore friends (possums and rabbits) stay out while the plants grow nice and green inside!

**STAGE 2:** Redevelop and enhance the large garden bed for a no-dig garden. Prepare, plant and harvest!

**Aim:** Set up a Vegetable and Herb Garden for the students to experience - planting, learn about plant lifecycles, vegetable types, correct ways of caring for plants, healthy foods, eating the food that they have produced.

**Process:** The students will be involved in the actual setting up of the garden - preparation of the soil, selecting the vegetables that they want to grow, planting the seeds, caring for the plants as they grow. After the vegetables and herbs have grown the students will use them to make healthy lunches and snacks for the canteen. The students will also be involved in setting up a worm farm and using the resources from the worm farm and the compost heap to sustain the vegetable garden.

**Environmental Sustainability:** In caring for the worm farm the students will learn the importance of fertile soil when growing plants. Students will be involved in hands on experiences in the garden that will teach them the proper care of soil and plants. Students will recycle their food scrap waste and become aware of the sustainability of natural resources.

**Environmental Education Outcomes:** The school will incorporate the vegetable and herb garden into many areas of the curriculum. In Science, the students will gain an insight into the living and non-living component of the environment and describe the structural features of living things. In Literacy, each class will create a plant diary that records their observations and reflections of the process. In Mathematics, students will plot the data they collect into tables and graphs to track growth and changes in the vegetable garden. The gardens will also be used in the PDHPE for the topic ‘personal wellbeing’, in which they will learn about healthy eating.

The project will not only care for the soil but will also enhance its quality. The worm farm and compost heap will avoid food wastage. It will also educate the children to become more environmentally aware.

*Coming Up... Regular updates and photos.*
DATES TO REMEMBER
16/06 I.C.A.S. - Writing Assessment, Years 3-6
18/06 Interschool Debating Comp. # 3
20/06 Green & Gold Day! - Sports Mufti
          Half Yearly Reports
27/06 Last day Term 2
28/06 ‘Teddy Bear’s Picnic’ - Pre-schoolers
14/07 School Development Day - Pupil Free
15/07 First day Term 3 - Students Return
29/07 I.C.A.S. - English Assessment, Years 3-6
30/07 Interschool Debating Comp. # 4
14/12 Presentation and Graduation Concert

HOUSE POINTS TERM 2
Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards
SEVAN - 132 points
YEREVAN - 115 points

TEACHERS’ AWARD
TERM 2 – WEEK 7
Year 4: Noah
Kindergarten:
Sara
Stephen
Elizabeth

BIRTHDAY OF THE WEEK
Happy Birthday to...
Mrs Zela Margossian-Gaspar

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND
WEEKLY REPORT: Term 2 Week 7

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Sponsor a Child in Armenia Through the Armenian Apostolic Church
www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au

GO SOCCEROOS!
Alexander School Green & Gold Day!

Friday, 20 June 2014
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 Canberra Excursion.

School Banking
Banking Day: Thursday
Students need to have their bank deposit books in order to make a deposit into their account.

ACCUMULATED: $321.75
Alexander Primary School
P&C Committee
Invite parents and children aged 0-5 to a

Teddy Bear's Picnic

Pre-Schooler Morning Tea
Saturday, 28 June 2014
10am - 12pm

Bring along your favourite teddy and a picnic snack to enjoy!

2 Namba Road, Duffys Forest NSW 2084

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