Dear Parents,

**HOLIDAY FUN AND SANITY**

I hope that all our children will have productive holidays, full of rest and interesting activities. They have been seriously encouraged to read during the holidays and some time every day can be gainfully spent this way. Reading before bed is a calming way to finish the day. Practice is the best way to improve. Working on reading good literature and stories will pay off eventually with increased skill and enjoyment. Remember, you can’t expect children to love reading if you show no interest yourself. Don’t forget to visit your local library during the holidays. Our children love poring over books of all types. All libraries have story-telling sessions for young children, as well as other events run by your local council. Whilst enjoying a break from formal learning, remember that children, especially the very young, need to keep learning through holidays so that progress is maintained.

It is a good time to make use of the great educational software that the school and students subscribe to. All students have access to *Reading Eggs* or *Reading Eggspress*, *MathsOnline* and *StudyLadder* which they can join from the **Links** tab on the school website.

To keep children gainfully occupied during this unstructured time, it is best to plan some time and leave plenty of free time. During the free time, encourage engaging activities that can lead to hobbies and interests. For older children (Year 2 on), the following are some suggestions that I feel would be beneficial:

- Discuss the children’s school reports carefully and with a positive attitude, with them. If you know they can do better, suggest ways that this can be brought about. Make a plan for Term 3.
- Get involved in big jigsaw puzzles – 500 pieces at least.
- Play games that take time – Monopoly, Chess, with time out for a drink before getting into it again.
- Get both boys and girls into making things with their hands – knitting, sewing, electronics, gardening, experimenting, real construction.
- Teach them to cook simple items or meals.
- Get them to write messages and lists.
- Involve them in counting costs or change given at the checkout.
- Children should be able to read for long periods of time. If your Year 3 or Year 5 student cannot sit down and read a good book for 50 minutes, they cannot hope to do well in major tests which involve concerted reading effort and comprehension for that length of time.
- Encourage children to write a chapter book – you may have a budding J. K. Rowling or Hovhaness Toumanian in the family! Buy them an exercise book to fill with writing and drawing.

I also hope Mums and Dads have a happy holiday. For this I suggest:

- Meditate lots, breathe deeply and often.
- Drink chamomile tea – it’s very calming.
- Count the days until 15th July. We’ll take them back again! 😊

*Have a great holiday, doing lots of happy, healthy things with the whole family. Be safe.*

27th June, 2014

**MANOUG DEMIRJIAN**
Healthy Kids Association is a not-for-profit, non-government, health promotion organisation based in Sydney, Australia. The aim of the organisation is to promote and influence healthy food choices for children.

For more information go to: https://healthy-kids.com.au/

DATES TO REMEMBER
28/06 Teddy Bear’s Picnic - 10am-12pm
04/07 P&K Play Date - School Holidays
14/07 School Development Day - Pupil Free CPR & Emergency Care - Training
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
12/08 I.C.A.S. - Mathematics Assessment
13/08 Interschool Debating Comp. # 5
24/08 Sports Carnival 2014 - Terrey Hills Oval
27/08 Interschool Debating Comp. # Final
31/08 Fathers’ Day Picnic - Lane Cove River Park
15/09 Start of Year 5/6 Canberra Excursion

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND
WEEKLY REPORT: Term 2 Week 9

8 Points – SEVAN ............. $8.15
6 Points – YEREVAN ............. $6.50
TOTAL: ................... $14.65
ACCUMULATED: ............. $356.70

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

ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION
ALEXANDER PRIMARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL REPORT 2013
Includes: Academic Performance, Teacher Standards, School Policies on Enrolment, Discipline, Safe & Supportive Environment, Improvement Targets, Summary of Financial Information and a lot more!

Grab a copy from the school office.
Also available on the school website.

FUNDRAISING FOR CANBERRA TRIP

TERM 2 – WEEK 9
Kindergarten: Sonya
Preparatory: Berj

HOUSE POINTS TERM 2
Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards

SEVAN - 166 points
YEREVAN - 147 points

TEACHERS’ AWARD

DOÑATIONS TO ALEXANDER SCHOOL
Armenian ‘Nor Serount’ Cultural Association $300
Mr Toros Boghossian $100

In Memoriam for the Late Mary Khohararian
40th Day of Her Demise
Mrs Haigouhi Soghomonian $30

YEAR 5/6

Spend $8.15 and $6.50
TOTAL: $14.65
ACCUMULATED: $356.70
Debating News...

Debating News ~ Round 3

Last week our school competed in the third round of the debating season. Round 2 was our bye and we went to the Sydney Japanese School to practise rebutts. The third round was held at the German School.

Serly’s mother helped with transport and Mrs Holman (Student Teacher) came along to watch. First up was the German school versus the Japanese school. Their topic was “Native animals need our care”. The negative team, the Japanese school won. Next up was our school against the John Colet School. The topic was “We should choose how active we need to be”. We were the negative team. Our team consisted of Stella as first speaker, Krikor as second speaker, Silvy as third speaker and Serly as fourth speaker.

We won that debate!! Two down and two to go. We have already started getting ready for the next debate with the topic “It is better to travel then arrive”. We are the negative team!!

By Krikor and Serly
Last Friday, Alexander school students turned out in Green & Gold to show support of the Socceroos and say thank you for their effort in the World Cup finals. The students also enjoyed a unique and very creative lunch, prepared by the Year 5/6 class and Ms Smith. Even the lunch ingredients had the mix of Green & Gold! From yellow coloured rice, corn cobs, capsicums and custard dessert... to green capsicum, celery, broccoli and peas! All topped off with a choice of sausages or kangaroo meat!

http://www.facebook.com/AlexanderSchool
Thank You... Greenhouse Project

This year Alexander Primary School has received approximately $5000 in school garden grants (LLW@S and Coles Junior Landcare). We plan to use it for garden projects, one of them being a “Greenhouse”.

We have had an area of land that was used as a “no dig garden”. We have tried to grow things there but it wasn’t enclosed so animals came in and ate our plants. To be able to use this area successfully we have decided to make it into a green house.

A team of former and current parents, Garbis Abedjian, Vatche Topouzian and Vartan Sevazlian have kindly been working on our greenhouse design and structure. They have already installed the roof, windows and a door in one term!! We have also begun preparing the soil and hope to plant our first crop in September.

So for this wonderful effort we, Alexander Primary School, would like to thank them for an amazing job!

By: Serly and Krikor

School Holiday Activity...

Play Date Prep / Kindy students & parents
Have a Coffee, Have a Play!

When: Friday 4 July, 2014
Time: From 10:30am
Where: Monkey Mania @ Top Ryde Shopping Centre
Admission: $14.50 per Child (socks must be worn)

RSVP: Rita Kalajian (Sonya’s mum) - 0450 123 107
INVITATION TO THE ARMENIAN COMMUNITY

Under the auspices of
His Grace Bishop Haigazoun Najarian,
the Diocese of the Armenian Church of Australia and New Zealand
and the 100th Anniversary Genocide Committee

Dr Judith Crispin presents

Recreating the Medieval Armenian Cemetery
at Djulfa, Nakhichevan (Azerbaijan)

A VIRTUAL HERITAGE PROJECT

Ram-shaped stone originally from Djulfa
photographed in the garden of Holy Etchmiadzin

FRIDAY 11 JULY 2014 at 7.00 P.M.

EDGARIAN HALL
Armenian Apostolic Church of Holy Resurrection
10 Macquarie Street, Chatswood

Judith Crispin and Dione McAlary from Manning Clark House will present a talk about their ongoing project to recreate the Djulfa cemetery from existing photographs as a virtual 3D projection.

The historic cemetery, west of the ruined city of Jugha held at its peak 10,000 khachkars. From 1998 the cemetery was subjected to systematic wilful destruction by military forces and by 2006 was definitively destroyed. Documentation submitted to UNESCO to condemn the destruction of the cultural site in 2006 noted “there are still the buried bodies of people whose memory the former khachkars had been erected, we suggest to transform this gross act of out-spoken hatred into a positive step towards confidence-building and reconciliation.”

It is in the spirit of such a positive transformation that Manning Clark House has begun this project to recover the now-destroyed Djulfa cemetery.