

Dear Parents,

HOMework ROUTINE

Homework has been around as long as schools have and over the years considerable research has been conducted regarding the efficacy of homework practices. While the results are not uniform, most experts on the topic have drawn some common conclusions. At Alexander School we believe that assigning homework offers other benefits besides contributing to school achievement. Homework teaches children how to take responsibility for tasks and how to work independently. That is, homework helps children develop habits of mind that will serve them well as they proceed through school and indeed through life. Specifically, homework helps children learn how to plan and organise tasks, manage time, make choices and problem solve, all skills that contribute to effective functioning in the adult world of work and families.

There are two key strategies parents can draw on to reduce homework hassles. The first is to establish clear routines around homework, including when and where homework gets done and setting up daily schedules for homework. The second is to build in rewards or incentives to use with children for whom 'good marks' is not a sufficient reward for doing homework.

HOW TO SET UP A HOMEWORK ROUTINE:

1. Get a calendar - Use the calendar to schedule events and activities that might interrupt homework time.
2. Pick an area that is quiet, well-lit and has all the supplies your child will need to complete their homework.
3. Set a time for your child to start doing homework. This could be as soon as they get home, they could have a snack and start afterwards, or you can let them watch a TV program, have a snack, then get down to business. Whatever you decide, make sure you stick to this time every day.
4. Help them while they're working on homework. Stay in the same room and work on something quiet yourself, that way your child knows that it's quiet time and if they need help they will not wander around getting distracted while they are trying to find you.
5. Check their homework. After they have finished the homework, go over it, then have them put it in their folder or bags. Make sure they do this before the next day when school starts.
6. Reward them. If they complete their homework every day of the week, give them a special treat at the end, or let them pick something to do.
7. Remember to do the same routine everyday.



Since homework starts at Kindergarten, it's a good idea to get children into a rhythm of great homework habits as soon as possible. From ways to help your children get more organised to giving them ways to minimise and eliminate homework stress, here are some extra tips for good homework habits that work:

- Divide and Conquer - Kids can often feel overwhelmed when they look over their list of tasks for the week. Help your child manage their tasks by planning out their work. For example, with homework due on Friday, you can try scheduling several minutes for different subject such as reading, math problems or spelling words. Or you may want to have them spend Monday doing English and reserve Tuesday for Mathematics and so on.
- Some kids can experience more stress over homework and schoolwork than other children. If you see signs of stress in your child or your child is experiencing difficulty with the workload find out what the problem may be and schedule some time to meet with your child's teacher. Talk to your child's teacher about any problems and get on the same page about the teacher's expectations for the school year. Ask what you can do to help your child with homework. By working together, you and your child's teacher can find ways to identify and handle any homework problems that may be creating stress for your child.



DONATIONS TO ALEXANDER SCHOOL

At the 2015 Australia Day function
Mr Hovhanness Kouyoumdjian
 was nominated as the
'AGBU Australian Of The Year'.

Mr Kouyoumdjian requested that all donations made on this occasion be directed to the Alexander School fund.



Mr & Mrs Dikran and Seta Dikranian	\$100
Mr & Mrs Serop and Magie Mikaelian	\$100
Mr & Mrs Manoug and Laura Demirjian	\$100
Mr & Mrs Haig and Maro Boyadjian	\$100
Mr & Mrs Ara and Maro Khoharian	\$100
Mr & Mrs Matios and Rosig Mazlounian	\$100
Mr & Mrs Maher and Sonia Chamia	\$100
Mr & Mrs John and Taleen Marcarian	\$100
Mr & Mrs Sarkis and Lucy Aroyan	\$100
Marie and Annie Ohanian	\$100
Ovsan & Angele Aroyan sisters	\$100
Annie & Nayrie Janoian sisters	\$100
Mrs Eugenie Keshishian	\$100
Anonymous	\$100
Mr & Mrs Vahig and Clara Haroutouian	\$50
Mr & Mrs Vahe and Martha Khatchadourian	\$50
Mr & Mrs Boghos & Hermine Mazlounian	\$50
Mrs Zaruhi Simonian	\$50

Thank You for supporting Alexander School.

Mr & Mrs Varouj and Sona Tchetchenian	\$1,000
Mr & Mrs Hovhanness and Mary Kouyoumdjian	\$500
Mr & Mrs Craig and Sylvia Costello	\$250
Dr & Mrs Artin and Maro Jebedjian	\$250
Mr & Mrs Varoujan and Sylvia Iskenderian	\$200
Mr Neshan Basmajian	\$200

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.

HOUSE POINTS TERM 1

Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards



ARARAT - 74 points

MASIS - 66 points



TEACHERS' AWARD

TERM 1 – WEEK 5

Year 4: Lilit

Will your name appear here next?



DATES TO REMEMBER

- 08/03 Working Bee
- 14/03 Armenian Genocide Centenary
A Historic - Cultural Evening
- 29/03 Palm Sunday Picnic & Concert
- 31/03 Chocolate Fundraising Money Due
- 02/04 Last Day Term 1
- 03/04 Good Friday - Public Holiday
- 04/04 Easter Saturday - Public Holiday
- 05/04 Easter Sunday - Public Holiday
- 06/04 Easter Monday - Public Holiday

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 5

8 Points – ARARAT	\$12.20
6 Points – MASIS	\$4.35
TOTAL:	\$16.55
ACCUMULATED:	\$55.35

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

SCHOOL CHOCOLATE DRIVE - INFORMATION

We are commencing our annual Easter chocolate drive:

- This is a great school fundraiser but it can't be successful without your assistance and we really appreciate your support. Starting from today each participating student will receive one carry-pack to take home and sell. Each pack contains **20 Block (Easter Egg Mix)** chocolate packs, which sell for **\$4 each**. Total value of the carry-pack is **\$80**.
- If everyone can sell one carry-pack we hope to raise enough funds that can be used towards new equipment and resources to benefit the school and all of our students.
- As there is a time limit on our chocolate drive we must have all money and any unsold chocolate returned no later than **Tuesday, 31st March**.
- If you can resist eating them all yourself try selling them to friends, relatives or mum and dad can even take them to work...they are usually very welcome around morning teatime or as an afternoon pick-me-up!
- If you have any queries, need to return money, unsold chocolate/s or if you would like another carry-pack to sell please see the office personnel, as they will be co-ordinating the drive.



PRIZES: For each carry-pack sold the P&C will place one ticket in the lucky dip draw for your chance to win the following thank you prizes. **Lucky-Dip Prizes: 3 x Lunch Special Vouchers.**

WORKING BEE **SUNDAY - 8th MARCH 2015**
From 9am... Further details coming soon.

Canteen Notice

LUNCH SPECIAL CHANGES

Friday 6/3/15

Lunch Special - Hamburger

also...

Friday 13/3/15

Lunch Special - Spaghetti Bolognaise

Canteen lunch special days are subject to change without notice. Parents are requested to check the calendar on the school's website for the latest specials.

FOLLOW NORMAL ORDERING PROCEDURES

Staff Notice

CHANGES TO OFFICE STAFF

Please note the following changes to office and bus supervision

Mrs Marguerite Boyadjian

Monday | Tuesday | Thursday

...

Mrs Sonia Apanian

Wednesday | Friday

Water is the best drink for kids

Crunch&Sip®

Students are able to keep a bottle of plain water to drink during the day. When students don't drink enough water, they can become dehydrated, which causes headaches, irritability and restlessness in the classroom.

Plain tap water is the best thirst-quencher as it has no added sugars, and contains a mineral that helps strengthen teeth and bones. Soft drinks, cordials, sports drinks and flavoured mineral waters contain 6 teaspoons of sugar in every 250ml glass, which means they contain a large amount of energy. This can contribute to dental caries and decay and an excess energy intake (which can lead to overweight and obesity). So make sure you encourage your child to drink plain tap water at school by sending a bottle in their school bag. Children often enjoy cold water, so why not freeze a bottle to send in the lunchbox?

Also, try making water readily available at home. Have a jug of cold water in the fridge and place a jug of water on the table at meal times. Or make jugs of water more appealing by adding a slice of lemon or ice cubes made in novelty shaped trays.

Sending water to school will help prevent dehydration and help your child work and play all day long.



AGBU Youth



WHO?
Ages 5 - 12 years

WHAT?

BASKETBALL TRAINING

WHEN?
SUNDAYS, 10AM - 11AM

WHERE?
**Alexander Primary School
2 Namba Rd, Duffy's Forest
(Temporary Location)**

WHY?
STRICTLY FOR FUN!

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agbuyouth@gmail.com

f Find us on Facebook
