Dear Parents,

**MAKING MUSIC FROM WASTE & PROMOTING RECYCLING FOR LOCAL COUNCIL**

Alexander school students have recently been featured in a promotional video clip produced by Warringah Council to support the benefits of ‘Rethinking, Reducing, Reusing and Recycling’.

‘Making Music from Waste’ was filmed at the Kimbriki Resource Recovery Centre where our students participated in a ‘Drumbeat’ workshop. They reused plastic and metal objects that would normally be thrown in the bin to create amazing musical instruments. Materials that would normally be viewed as garbage produced incredible musical rhythms and beats in an impromptu orchestra.

The school strongly supports and promotes the messages of ‘recycling, reducing, reusing and rethinking’ in ways we can help look after the environment. The clip can be viewed on our YouTube or Facebook pages.

It is also available on the Council’s website. The direct link to the clip is: [https://youtu.be/-LDQtudA5f4](https://youtu.be/-LDQtudA5f4)

**GARDENING WORKSHOP WITH VREJ JEBIAN**

Last Friday, Mr Vrej Jebian from ‘Balcony in Bloom’ garden centre at Brookvale visited our school to provide a special gardening workshop for our students. After helping to clear our new greenhouse from the previous crops and weeds, Mr Jebian explained and demonstrated the best way one can prepare a garden bed before planting the winter crop.

In groups, students were instructed on how to plant a seed in seedling boxes, or how to remove a seedling that is ready to be planted. Everyone had an opportunity to plant some lettuce, rocket, beans, leek, carrots or strawberries... to name a few! Students also assisted in spreading some mulch around the new plants to keep the moister in the nutrient rich soil and help stimulate growth.

Classes were then given the responsibility to help with the daily maintenance and upkeep of the garden. It won’t be long before more planting will take place as the seedlings take shape. So... more opportunities to join in the fun and joy of gardening... not to mention the pleasure of eating the fruits of our labour!

We like to say a huge thank you to Mr Vrej Jebian for volunteering to dedicate his precious time and effort, in order to give our students the opportunity to learn about gardening.

Manoug Demirjian

15th May, 2015
Cancer Council recommends you protect yourself in 5 ways:

**SLIP** on clothing that covers your arms and legs

**SLOP** on 30+, broad-spectrum sunscreen

**SLAP** on a broad brimmed or legionnaires hat

**SEEK** shade

**SLIDE** on wrap around sunglasses

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**HOUSE POINTS TERM 2**

*Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards*

**ARARAT** - 65 points

**MASIS** - 61 points

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- **19/05** ICAS - Digital Technologies Test Years 3-6
- **20/05** Interschool Debating Comp. # 2
- **22/05** Healthy Breakfast @ School - $2 Donation
- **03/06** ICAS - Science Test Years 2-6
- **08/06** Queen’s Birthday - Public Holiday
- **15/06** ICAS - Writing Test Years 3-6
- **16/06** ICAS - Spelling Test Years 3-6
- **17/06** Interschool Debating Comp. # 3
- **19/06** Student Half Yearly Reports - Sent Out
- **26/06** Last Day Term 2 - Mufti Day
- **13/07** School Development Day - Pupil Free
- **14/07** First day Term 3 - Students Return
- **13/12** Presentation and Graduation Concert

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**ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND**

**WEEKLY REPORT: Term 2 Week 4**

8 Points – **MASIS** .......... $16.20

6 Points – **ARARAT** .......... $14.80

**TOTAL:** .......... $31.00

**ACCUMULATED:** .......... $232.30

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**SPONSOR A CHILD IN ARMENIA THROUGH THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH**

www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au

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**BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK**

Happy Birthday to...

- Tzolare
- Matthew
- Alina

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**TEACHERS’ AWARD**

**TERM 2 – WEEK 4**

Year 1: Sonya Isabella Lara Elizabeth Alina Vanessa Sara

Kindergarten: Berj Preparatory: Hugo, Khloe Martin

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Alexander school will ‘Host a Healthy Breakfast’ for all students to promote a healthy diet in conjunction with regular physical activity as part of the annual Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD).

WSTSD is a community event promoting Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment. It is an opportunity for parents and carers of primary school aged children to promote safe pedestrian behaviour, the benefits of walking and the value of a healthy breakfast.

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Defending Champions off to a Great Start!

The debating season is again upon us. On Wednesday, May 6 our school hosted the first debate. In this competition we will be competing against Year 6 students from The German International School, Sydney Japanese School, John Colet and Galstaun College for the Interschool Debating Trophy.

In our first debate we opposed Galstaun College. The topic was ‘Sports Stars should not be role models’ and we were on the negative team. The negative team consisted of Taniel as first speaker, Tzolare as second speaker, Nina as third speaker and Matthew was fourth speaker. Samuel took care of the time keeping and Talia was the chairperson.

Our team was able to use strong arguments and well thought out rebuts. We spoke clearly and were able to convince the adjudicators that we presented the stronger case. It was a great round one result!

Our next debate is on the 20th of May. Our opponent is the John Colet School and the host is the Sydney Japanese School. Our topic is ‘We should all buy Australian grown food’. Again we are the negative team.
Photo Gallery... Gardening Workshop

http://www.facebook.com/AlexanderSchool
2014-2015 Family Energy Rebate

Apply before Midnight
16 June 2015

WHAT IS THE FAMILY ENERGY REBATE?
The Family Energy Rebate helps to cover the cost of energy bills for NSW households with dependent children. In 2014-2015 the rebate gives:

- Up to $150 credit on electricity bills for eligible applicants who hold an account with an electricity retailer
- Up to $165 direct payment to nominated bank accounts for eligible applicants who live in a residential community (caravan or mobile home park) and receive electricity from the park operator.

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE REBATE?
To be eligible you MUST:

- Be a NSW resident; and
- Have been assessed by the Federal Department of Human Services (DHS) as being eligible for the Family Tax Benefit (FTB) A or B at any time during the 2013-2014 financial year, and have received an FTB payment in respect of that eligibility; and
- Be an account holder of an electricity retailer, or a long-term resident of a residential community (caravan or mobile home park), whose name appears on the electricity account for supply to her or his principal place of residence.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO BEFORE I APPLY?
Before you apply, here’s a quick checklist. Have you:

- Lodged your tax return for 2013-2014 with the Australian Taxation Office or informed the Department of Human Services (DHS) if you are not required to lodge a tax return?
- Received confirmation from DHS as to your eligibility for Family Tax Benefit A or B for 2013-2014?

HOW TO APPLY

- ONLINE – it takes just two minutes to submit an application. Processing starts immediately.
- PAPER – download a form from the website, complete and submit by email, fax or post. Use this form if you receive your electricity from the operator of the residential community where you live.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE
PHONE Service NSW 13 77 88
EMAIL fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au
PHOTO EXHIBITION
When Australia Helped Save A Nation
THURSDAY 21 MAY 10AM - 2PM
FRIDAY 22 MAY 10AM - 2PM
SATURDAY 23 MAY 10AM - 6PM

ST STEPHEN’S UNITING CHURCH
197 MACQUARIE STREET
SYDNEY

Australasian Orphanage, Antelias, Lebanon, 1923

ECUMENICAL SERVICE
Saturday 23 May 2015 at 3.00 p.m.
In thanksgiving to all those Australians who helped save the Armenian people from extinction

ORGANISED BY THE DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND IN COLLABORATION WITH THE NSW ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE