Dear Parents,

**MAKING CONNECTIONS FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

Since the start of the year our communications with our ‘sister school’ in Etchmiadzin, Armenia has been progressing well. We have received correspondence and letters of reply from the students of Eurnekian School who are keen to learn more about our school and share their stories. Some of their letters appear in the newsletter today and we hope to keep you updated on a regular bases.

This term Year 4-6 received a request to become ‘pen-pals’ with the students of Camelford Primary School in Cornwall, England. Their current Year 5 class is studying a topic called ‘Awesome Australia’ and the students were eager to find some friends in Australia to correspond with. Camelford is in North Cornwall, which is a county in the south-west of England. Camelford Primary School has just over 300 pupils from 3-11 years, including an ARB (Area Resource Base) for children with additional needs. The Year 5 class we are writing to has 33 students, so Year 4-6 is enthusiastically and busily responding to the students of Camelford, who not only want to find out about them but about Australia as well. Our students are keen to get to know these students and to share their knowledge of Australia with them.

**HEALTHY BREAKFAST @ ALEXANDER SCHOOL**

Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) is an annual, national event when all primary school children are encouraged to walk and commute safely to school. It is a community event seeking to promote Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment.

The event was held all around Australia today with the support and participation of our school. While walking to school is not an option to all our students, the objectives of the day also include promotion of public transport, reducing the level of air pollution created by motor vehicles and reducing the level of traffic congestion. In addition it reinforces safe pedestrian behaviour, develops the vital road-crossing skills children will need as they become mature pedestrians and ensures that children up to 10 years old hold an adult’s hand when crossing the road. Finally, by encouraging schools to ‘Host a Healthy Breakfast’ it promotes a healthy diet in conjunction with regular physical activity.

Good nutrition is essential for good health and a good breakfast is vitally important to start the day well. Breakfast gets the metabolism going and helps prevent a slump in concentration during the late morning hours. Studies also show that those who eat a healthy breakfast eat less junk food later in the day and have a lower intake of saturated fat and a higher intake of essential nutrients and dietary fibre for the whole day.

Thanks to the effort of students and teachers, we were able to organise a very successful, healthy and incredibly delicious breakfast this morning for all the students. The menu varied from fruit salad to yogurt with fruit berry or muesli toppings. Others had oregano (manaeesh) or scrambled eggs and washed it down with a cup of strawberry or banana smoothie.

We understand that sometimes children miss the opportunity of having a good wholesome breakfast during the morning rush. For this reason we hope today’s breakfast at school demonstrated how simple, quick and easy it was to prepare and enjoy a good healthy breakfast.

22nd May, 2015

**AUSSIE OF THE MONTH - MAY 2015**

Talia

For being a Kind and Considerate Student
Debating News...

Another Victorious Debate!

On Wednesday, May 20 the Sydney Japanese School hosted the second debate for the Interschool Debating Competition. The topic was “We should all buy Australian grown food”. Alexander Primary was the negative and our opponents were the John Colet School as the affirmative.

The negative team consisted of Taniel as first speaker, Tzolare as second speaker, Matthew as third and Talia was fourth speakers.

Taniel started his case by defining the topic and putting forward a strong case line that “We should have the choice to decide”. He used strong arguments as to why we need to import food and outlined many reasons from economic to availability of the product and very simply for having the freedom of choice.

Second speaker Tzolare was there ready to rebut many of the points that the affirmative team put forward and she did this with ease. She went on to inform us about the benefits of imports and the negative environmental effects of farming and grazing in Australia. She argued that international trade is responsible for much of the development and prosperity of the modern world. By also stating that trade increases competition and lowers world prices she deduced quality of foods is likely to increase as competition encourages us to make our products better.

Matthew, our third speaker came out strong and was able to rebut everything the opposition had said and summed up his team’s case. Talia was our fourth speaker. Her role was to help with any rebuts if needed and to thank the other team for a very challenging debate.

Both teams had strong speakers and had researched the topic well to present excellent arguments. It was very closely fought, with our team coming up with the win in the end. Well done debaters!
Greetings from Armenia
Eurnekian School, Etchmiadzin

Sister School...
Letters of Reply

Sister School...
Dear Friends and Supporters,

AGBU Youth was officially launched on August 23rd, 2014. On that night, we announced our intention to expand our activities with the purpose of keeping more young Armenians together, and to preserve and nurture our culture.

It is therefore with great pleasure that we write to you today to invite you to the launch of the Tamzara Armenian Folk Dancing Group.

This dance group will be under the artistic direction of Nazarena Anush Arabean. Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, she is a professional dancer who studied in the National Dance School.

In 2004, the School of Contemporary Dance of San Martin Theatre selected her. She danced in the Armenian Folk Dance Company Kaiane for 17 years, and was the main soloist in many dances like Aram Khachaturian’s Sabre Dance. In 2000, whilst with the same company, she went on an artistic tour to Armenia dancing in the Opera Theatre of Yerevan, Dilijan, Kharapagh and Gyumri. In 2007 she founded Health Studio, which merged Pilates with Dance.

She also volunteered at the Museum of Modern Arts in Gyumri with Birthright sponsorship. After that experience, she began a six-month journey through Asia, the Middle East and Europe, taking courses on Dances, Pilates and other body technics.

Our launch will be held on Saturday May 23rd, 2015 at the AGBU community centre, 2 Yeo St, Neutral Bay, at 7pm. There will be a short presentation where Nazarena will share with you, her vision to cultivate our rich Armenian culture and inspire the youth of Sydney.

We hope you are able to accept this invitation and we look forward to seeing you on the night.

Kind Regards,

Minas Dertadian
AGBU Youth Chairman

Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP by the 16th May, 2015 by calling Nazareena (0438 971 720),
Doreen (0404 001 214) or email us at tamzara.dancegroup@gmail.com
TAMZARA
ARMENIAN FOLK DANCE GROUP

SATURDAY 23RD MAY AT 7:00 PM
2 YEO ST, NEUTRAL BAY

We invite you to take part in and shape the development of the Tamzara Armenian Folk Dancing Group by attending our launch. Come by and show support for and express interest in performing with a new group of enthusiastic dancers who are keen to celebrate and maintain Armenian heritage.