Dear Parents,

HALF YEARLY REPORTS

The Half Yearly Reports were distributed today. I hope you find them helpful in understanding your child’s progress at school so far this year.

If on reading this report, you wish to address aspects of your child’s learning, to help with any issues they might have, the teacher concerned will assist you with specifics.

As you know, the forwarding of reports before the end of term helps facilitate parents arrange for an appointment before the holidays. Should you need to speak to your child’s teachers, please fill in the form in this newsletter and they will call you back or arrange an interview.

Parents of ‘Prep’ students will also receive a special progress report.

With the reports out, I would like to remind parents that providing support and encouragement towards your child’s learning is the most important way you can help them succeed. Remember, parents are the children’s first teachers and helping your child to learn can be simple. Reading to them and encouraging them to tell you the same story in their words, or asking them to talk about something that interests them are just a few examples. We can help children learn almost any way which suits us, because many of the every day things we do at home help our children learn. Things like writing a shopping list or placing a lunch order, cooking and following a recipe together, planning a party and writing invitations together or even getting your child to teach you about using a computer or how to play their favourite App game!

ASIA STUDIES DAY & ASSEMBLY

On Thursday, during our assembly we will see the culmination of our Asian Studies for the Term in HSIE. We will have a special ‘Asia Studies Day Assembly’ and hope to share all the various things learnt by Prep-Kindergarten about China, by Years 1-2 about India and by Years 4-6 about Japan.

I would like to take this opportunity and welcome our parents to the assembly, which will start after the children are served delicious Asian food during lunch time. Parents are welcome to join from 1pm.

Invitation: Special Asia Studies Day Assembly - Thursday 25 June, 2015 from 1pm.

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN

19th June, 2015
ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

WEEKLY REPORT: Term 2 Week 9

8 Points –  ARARAT ............  $9.75
6 Points –  MASI ............  $7.30
TOTAL: ............  $17.05
ACCUMULATED: ............  $316.00

Sponsor a child in Armenia through the Armenian Apostolic Church
www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au

DATES TO REMEMBER
25/6 Asia Studies Day & Assembly
26/06 Last Day Term 2 - Multi Day
13/07 School Development Day - Pupil Free
14/07 First day Term 3 - Students Return
17/07 EnviroMentors Workshop
28/07 ICAS - English Test Years 2-6
05/08 Interschool Debating Comp. # 4
11/08 ICAS - Mathematics Test Years 2-6
19/08 Interschool Debating Comp. # 5
21/08 Sports Carnival 2015
24/08 Start of Book Week and Book Fair
06/09 Fathers’ Day Event - Details coming soon
13/12 Presentation and Graduation Concert

The Bible says:
Thank YOU, Lord, for the precious gift of this child. Because Your Word says that every good gift comes from You, I know that You have given him/her to me to care for and raise. Help me to do that. Amen.

HOUSE POINTS TERM 2
Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards
ARARAT - 174 points
MASIS - 156 points

LIBRARY BAGS
Congratulations to all the students who remembered to bring their library bags for borrowing this week. If you forgot to bring yours in, try to remember next week.

LIBRARY DAY IS FRIDAY COMING SOON...

COMING SOON...
ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION
ALEXANDER PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL REPORT
2014

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.

www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au
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Keeping kids safe online

Here are eight easy ways to help your kids stay out of trouble in cyberspace.

1. **Keep computers out in the open** - Your child may think twice about looking at inappropriate websites and won’t be able to chat to their friends all night while you think they are doing their homework.

2. **Mind your business** - Remind your child to keep information such as their name, address, phone number, school and even your credit card number to themselves. When signing up make sure passwords are not easy to figure out. If your child is going to put photos on the internet, ensure they are not the type that would attract unwanted attention from strangers.

3. **Just because it’s on the internet, it doesn’t mean it’s true** - Make sure your child uses multiple sources for research, and is careful not to plagiarise.

4. **Stranger danger is online, too** - Ensure your child never organises to meet up with any strangers they have met online. Remind your children to also be wary opening emails from strangers. They could contain spam (online junk mail), a virus (which will harm your computer), or be from a stranger looking for trouble.

5. **Get a filter** - Internet filters can help block inappropriate sites for children. None are completely reliable and it’s best if you talk about what websites are appropriate with your child so they understand and make the right choice on their own.

6. **Encourage your child to talk with you about their online experiences: good and bad** - This will make it easier for them if they see something inappropriate or are emailed something unsuitable. If they are embarrassed to tell you, persuade them to at least tell a teacher or another trusted adult.

7. **Good manners also exist online** - Talk about this with your child and it may lead to a decline in bullying behaviour, not to mention the many disagreements that children have with each other.

8. **Forever is a long time** - A lot of blogs and websites maintain information as part of cyberspace forever. By publishing without thinking of the future, your child’s innocent work online may be something that comes up later on and may negatively impact their career and personal life.

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**ASIA DAY ASSEMBLY**

Thursday 25th June, 2015 - From 1:00pm

As a culmination of our Asia studies, come along to celebrate.

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**REPORTS: TEACHER CONTACT REQUESTED**

I would like ................................................................. (teacher/s name) to call me

on...........................................(phone no.) to discuss..................................................’s school report.

A suitable time is ........................................(time) on.............................................day.

PARENT’S NAME: ________________________________    SIGNATURE: ____________________________
HEARING

HEARING IN THE VERY YOUNG

We can protect our children’s hearing even before they are born, by immunisation.

- **Rubella** (German Measles) is quite a mild disease in most but if contacted by a mother in the first few weeks of her pregnancy can cause the infant to be born deaf.
- **Measles**, if caught at any age may leave you with a permanent hearing loss. The M.M.R. vaccine is given at 12 months to protect your infant against Measles, Mumps and Rubella.
- **H.I.B.** Vaccine. This is now part of the Triple Antigen Program commenced during the first few months of life. This devastating disease (meningitis) may leave your infant deaf.

![Diagram of the ear](image)

**HEARING IN THE SCHOOL AGE CHILD**

Sound waves are collected by the outer ear, they are funnelled down the ear canal to the eardrum. These waves vibrate the eardrum, and the 3 small bones of the middle ear. The vibrations are then transferred to the cochlear and sent to the brain as nerve impulses.

**Glue ear** can occur when there is a collection of fluid in the middle ear, which is left untreated. This fluid may become thick, sticky and glue like. The Eustachian - tube allows air into the middle ear cavity and may become blocked. This blockage can be caused by coughs, colds, allergies, post viral infection or even a baby lying down to soon following a milk feed. The ear drum and the 3 small bones in the middle ear cannot vibrate when glue ear is present. Sound then becomes very muffled and it is difficult to hear. It is like trying to listen to the radio just off the station, the sound is distorted and the volume decreased.

Speech may be effected, if words are not heard clearly, they can not be reproduced correctly. Children may have difficulty learning if they have a hearing loss and distortion of speech. With added background classroom noise, it becomes increasingly frustrating for them, poor behaviour and deteriorating schoolwork may follow:

**To help identify possible hearing problems these are some signs to look for;**

- Speech delay or deteriorating speech.
- Doesn’t hear in background noise.
- Hates sudden noise.
- Forgets instructions.
- Poor concentration.
- Distracted.
- Have two attacks of earache in short time, that require antibiotics.

Although glue ear is a serious condition, and causes a fluctuating hearing loss it does respond to treatment. For information and/or access to hearing test facilities, please contact your local Early Childhood Health Centre. To obtain the telephone number of your nearest centre please contact the school office.