Dear Parents,

**AUSTRALIAN EARLY DEVELOPMENT CENSUS**

Between May and July this year, schools around Australia took part in a nation-wide program called the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC). Our school also participated in this national collection of information on young children’s development.

The aim of the AEDI is to look at how young children are developing in the years before they begin school. As part of the AEDC, schools around Australia collected information on children in their first year of school - Kindergarten.

The AEDC was a checklist of over 100 questions looking at five areas of child development:

- Physical health and wellbeing
- Social competence
- Emotional maturity
- Language and cognitive skills (school-based)
- Communication skills and general knowledge.

The aims of collecting the information are to:

- help communities to understand how their children are developing by the time they reach school age.
- help schools, local agencies and early childhood professionals to work together to improve the outcomes for all children in the community.

The program involved teachers completing an online 'check list' - like a survey or questionnaire - for every child in their class. Summary results of the AEDC checklists will be available for communities based on whole groups of children in a way that means no one will be able to identify individual children.

In 2009, the AEDC (formerly known as the Australian Early Development Index or AEDI) was conducted nationally for the first time, with a second national collection in 2012. More that 95 per cent of schools with eligible children participated in each collection.

I would like to take this opportunity and thank Mrs Seta Keoshgerian for completing the questionnaire. You can find out more about the AEDC at [www.aedc.gov.au](http://www.aedc.gov.au)

**CHILD SAFETY HANDBOOK**

Going home with the Newsletter this week is a copy of the NSW Police Legacy Child Safety Handbook. It has been produced by NSW Police Legacy, in consultation with The Protective Behaviours Consultancy Group of NSW. It aims to raise awareness about the risks to children and the steps that can be taken to protect them and keep them safe.

The Handbook was launched at Government House by the NSW Governor, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, the Patron of NSW Police Legacy. Royalties from its production are donated to NSW Police Legacy to support their work with the bereaved families of deceased NSW Police officers.

**COMING UP… BOOK WEEK**

This year, the Children’s Book Week is to be held between 24th -28th August and the Theme is ‘Books light up our world!’ We will have a Young Australia Workshop titled ‘Tiddalik The Frog’ on Wednesday 26th August and a special Book Week Assembly on Thursday, 26th August. The Book Fair will also be running that week and children will be able to purchase their favourite books. More information will be coming for these events. Watch the Newsletter pages in coming weeks.

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN

31st July, 2015
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLING IN AUSTRALIA - SNAPSHOT 2015

Enclosed with today’s Newsletter you will find a copy of ‘Snapshot 2015 - Independent Schooling in Australia’. Produced by the Independent Schools Council of Australia (ISCA). The publication provides up-to-date statistics and information about independent schools and the sector as a whole, including data on enrolments and funding.

Snapshot 2015 is a useful and easy to follow guide to understand more about independent schooling. The independent schools sector has continued to grow in Australia. It now holds 14.4% of student enrolment, with the Catholic and Government sectors respectively serving 20.6% and 65.1% of students.

It is also important to note that 85% of all independent schools have a religious affiliation, with Alexander school being one of the listed five schools in the category ‘Other Orthodox’.

With frequent media coverage about school funding, it is important that as a community we are better informed to help us combat the general misinformation and the inaccurate claims made about independent schools.

REMEMBER: Don’t Forget the Fruit!

The school has a Crunch&Sip break at the start and also the end of each day, for students to refuel on fruit and vegetables and rehydrate on water. Please make sure your son or daughter has an extra piece of fruit or vegetable for Crunch&Sip each day.

EXTRA PHOTO ORDER

SCHOOL PHOTO

If you are interested in ordering a whole school photo, then please contact the school office on 9486 3266 and request the special order form and payment envelope from ‘Academy Photography’. Alternatively, complete the order form when you have viewed the sample copy near the office.

HOUSE POINTS TERM 3

Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards

**ARARAT** - 72 points

**MASIS** - 63 points

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 05/08 Interschool Debating Comp. # 4
- 06/08 Start Smart Workshop
- 07/08 Excursion to Glen Street Theatre ‘The Eggscellent adventures of Stripey the Emu Chick!’
- 09/08 Armenian Cultural Evening @ The Concourse
- 11/08 ICAS - Mathematics Test Years 2-6
- 15/08 & 16/08 Fashion Show - Kevork Shadoyan
- 19/08 Interschool Debating Comp. # 5
- 24/08 Start of Book Week and Book Fair
- 31/08 Sports Carnival 2015 - New Date!
- 06/09 Fathers’ Day Cruise - Organised by P&C

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

**WEEKLY REPORT: Term 3 Week 3**

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<th><strong>MASIS</strong></th>
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**SPONSOR A CHILD IN ARMENIA THROUGH THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH**

[www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au](http://www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au)
School Banking

Banking Day: Thursday

Students need to have their bank deposit books in order to make a deposit into their account.

Please make sure the slips are filled and completed, with the correct amount enclosed, to help with the transaction.

Year 5&6

FUNDRAISING FOR BATHURST TRIP

Sausage Sizzle ~ $4.00

TOTAL $000.00

TARGET... $360 $360.00 LEFT TO GO!
Come and enjoy a 4 hour cruise on beautiful Sydney Harbour. Everyone is welcome. Cruise includes welcome drinks and canapes on arrival, buffet lunch and soft drinks. There will also be entertainment for the children.

Cruise leaves dock at 1pm sharp.
Tickets $65 Adults, $35 Children. CHILDREN AGED 4 AND UNDER FREE.
For ticketing purchases please contact Natalie Uriola on 0430 33 66 96 or contact the school.