

Dear Parents,

CONNECTING WITH SINGAPORE!

Yesterday for the first time, students of Years 4-6 were introduced to a school in Singapore with a direct video call from their classroom. As the class organised itself in front of the camera and projected screen, they waited for the pre arranged time to make their connection and introduce themselves and our school to a group of students from 'Hillside World Academy' (formerly known as *Chinese International School*). For over thirty minutes they spoke, asked questions and heard how their newly introduced peers attend school. At one point, the conversation turned into Armenian as they started talking with student boarders, who have received scholarships to travel from Armenia to live and study in Singapore. It was interesting to find out that they not only learn English and Chinese, but also Armenian!

So how did this unique connection materialise? During October, we were visited by Mr Vahagn Vardanyan from Singapore. He was here to conduct interviews and do research on his doctoral thesis. Mr Vardanyan is a native of Armenia, who has been living in Singapore for many years. He is currently the Head of High School at the *Hillside World Academy* which also has over ten students from Armenia.

During his visit to our school, after exchanging information about our education institutions, I suggested the idea of linking the students and establishing communication or educational dialogue between us. Upon his return, Mr Vardanyan took up the idea with the school executive and I am happy to state that we have made our first successful contact. We hope to continue the communication next year and share many of our activities and projects.



VISIT TO THE WELFARE CENTRE

Today, students from Years 4-6 visited the Armenian Community Welfare Centre to entertain the elderly folk who had gathered in the Edgarian Hall of the Armenian Apostolic Church. Once again they did a magnificent job in brightening up everyone's day with wonderful dancing and singing of Christmas Carols. I would like to congratulate them and the teachers for putting together a great program.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

It's the Ho! Ho! Ho! time again. This means we are all going to get together again and sing and praise and enjoy good times with our friends and family. It's the time of giving and thanking and laughing and hugging. It's the time to tell old stories and hear new ones. It's the lovely time to reflect on the old year and plan for the new one. Hopefully it's a time to relax a little with family and rejuvenate after busy times.

At Alexander School we look forward to meeting you on Sunday evening to sing and kick up our heels in the traditional 'knees-up'. There'll be plenty of singing and laughing and hugging there, too. You could say it's also the NO! NO! NO! time of the year, too. This is when we let our Year 6 students go off to High School.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all parents and friends for your support of the school this year. May your Christmas Season be peaceful and happy, and may the New Year bring nothing but good news to you and your family!

11th December, 2015



SUNDAY - 13th DECEMBER, 2015
PRESENTATION EVENING & GRADUATION CONCERT - REMINDERS

- ⇒ All students are expected to arrive at **4:00pm** sharp!
- ⇒ Students need to wear **full summer uniform**. Make sure you have polished black shoes, pressed uniforms and tidy hair. Only **blue** hair accessories for girls, please!
 - Year 6 graduate will need graduation attire, on hanger.
- ⇒ The Presentation Evening & Graduation Concert will commence at **4:30pm** in the Gemjian hall.
- ⇒ During the interval **food and drinks** will be made available for purchase from the canteen. There will also be tea, coffee, sweets and cakes.
- ⇒ Year 4-5 students and their families will host a Graduation Party for Year 6 graduates and their families at the end. It is by **Invitation Only**.



More Details: See Newsletter - Week 9

REMINDERS & HAPPENINGS OF WEEK 11

Monday: Party Day & Honour Award Treat - Mufti

To say congratulations and thank you to all the students who have worked hard consistently right through the year, the school will be treating them with a picnic at 'Livvi's Place' at Yamble Reserve in Ryde.

Transport by parents and volunteers has been arranged to the venue where they will have a full day of structured play supervised by school staff.

Party Day is also a **Mufti Day** so students can wear fun, sensible party clothes.

Please remember, that our **Mufti Day Dress Code** will apply as usual. So **NO** open shoes, make-up, hair-spray, midrifts, inappropriate slogans on clothing or jewellery. Students will need a hat and an attitude for sensible fun!

PARENTS SHOULD REMEMBER TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH EXTRA CRUNCH & SIP AND MORNING TEA AS PARTY FOOD WILL NOT BE PROVIDED UNTIL LUNCHTIME.

Please send plastic carry bags (ideally the strong quality one) to school next week for school books and artwork which will be sent home with children.



Tuesday: Final Assembly - Prep & Kindergarten Graduation



You are invited to join us from 1.00 pm

During the Morning: Alexander Rest Home - Christmas Visit (Years 4 - 6)

Wednesday: Last Day - 2015

A fun-filled time of packing up & cleaning classrooms. Talent Show & Plays. Final farewells.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL CAPTAIN



Taniel Betchakjian

Another year has come to an end and it has been a pleasure to represent Alexander Primary. I have had the privilege of representing our school on many occasions and at numerous events, and I know that the new school captain shall do the same.

It was a great honour for me to be elected as school captain, a position of great importance and responsibility. I was proud and found it an honour to take on the responsibilities and duties of school captain. I felt confident that I could carry out this role because of the support that was given to me throughout my schooling.

We have had so many happy memories this year, one of which is our Bathurst excursion with the John Colet School. It was a wonderful experience, which not only support our learning in the classroom but also gave us the opportunity to make new friends and be excellent ambassadors for our school. One of our achievements this year was becoming runners up in the Forest debating competition, winning four out of five debates.

I have achieved more than I could have ever dreamed. I couldn't have done it without the support and guidance of the teachers and fellow students. Alexander Primary is a safe, supportive environment that is sensitive to each child's needs. It has encouraged me to succeed academically, socially and emotionally. This friendly environment has enabled me to reach my full potential.

AGBU Alexander Primary has provided many unique experiences that I could not get from other schools. I have been enriched by learning about our Armenian language and culture.

I thank all the teachers and friends who have helped me. You have taught many important lessons please don't forget me. I'm sure that in the coming years I will visit the school often. In the mean time let's enjoy the time that we have left.

From Taniel Betchakjian, 2015 Graduate and school captain of Alexander Primary, I would like to say, farewell.

Photo Gallery

Connecting with Singapore!



Visit to Welfare Centre



DATES TO REMEMBER

13/12 Presentation and Graduation Concert

14/12 Party Day Picnic (Honour Award Treat)

15/12 Alexander Rest Home - Christmas Visit
Final Assembly - Prep/Kindy Graduation

16/12 Last Day Term 4 for students

17/12 Staff Planning Day

27/01/16 Staff Return - Meeting and Planning

28/01/16 Staff Preparation Days

29/01/16 Students Start 2016 School Year

Check the online calendar for the latest updates.

Cancer Council recommends
you protect yourself in 5 ways:



SLIP on clothing that covers your arms and legs

SLAP on a broad brimmed or legionnaires hat

SLOP on 30+, broad-spectrum sunscreen

SEEK shade

SLIDE on wrap around sunglasses

Slip

Slop

Slap

Seek

Slide



Protect yourself in five ways from skin cancer