



MESSAGE FROM THE AGBU ALEXANDER PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD

Dear parents, students, staff and friends of AGBU Alexander Primary School,

On behalf of the AGBU Alexander Primary School Board I would like to welcome you all to the 2016 school year. Members of the Board would like to wish a particularly warm welcome to the many new families who have joined the school this year. We are excited to have so many new face in our AGBU school family and are enthusiastic about getting to know you all over the course of the year.

Our School Board is comprised of current and past parents, former graduates and dedicated members of AGBU Sydney who oversee the operation of the school. The Board is principally focused on the goals of maintaining the high standard of English education as well as providing students with specialised knowledge about and experience of Armenian language and culture.

The quality of our teaching staff is something the Board is particularly proud of. Last year long standing staff member Mrs Vicky Dernee advanced to the final stages of the Australian Scholarship Group's National Excellence in Teaching Awards, placing in the top 11 teachers in the Primary category. It is achievements such as this that demonstrate the quality of education that our teachers strive for and our students receive.

Plans are also already under way for many of our annual traditions, such as our Easter Celebrations and Armenian Cultural Day. These events are always an exciting opportunity for the students to showcase all of the wonderful things they learnt about Armenian culture. New and returning parents, former and current students alike are brought together to celebrate the good work of our school.

This is the 'Year of Growth' for our school and the AGBU community. Former students and graduates of the school have never been more involved in the AGBU community, demonstrating that the school motto 'To Grow and Serve' is alive and well. The Board plans to work closely with the AGBU community in order to provide a wide range of activities that students can be involved with. Students will not only have access to the first class education provided by our intimate teaching environment, they will also have ample opportunity to play sport with fellow Armenians and learn about Armenian culture through the newly formed kids program as part of the AGBU Tamzara dance group.

In the coming year we will continue to 'Celebrate 25 years of Education' at our school and are looking forward to a bright future. The Board is eager to commence another exciting year of educational and cultural development.

Yours Sincerely,

George Dertadian
Secretary



EASTER CELEBRATIONS – Palm Sunday, 20th March



Just over three weeks to go before our annual Palm Sunday Celebrations with a concert and picnic day. Students have started with their rehearsals for the concert and the P&C will soon be busy finalising arrangements for the picnic.

We hope all families will bring extended family members and friends to celebrate this day with us. A reminder that it is **compulsory for all students to attend**. Teachers put much effort into organising concerts and preparing each student for their individual part.

How you can help make the day a success?

- ⇒ Encourage other family members and friends to come along.
- ⇒ Bake cake or sweets for the Cake Stall. (*See below*)
- ⇒ Assist the P&C with their roster of manning one of the stalls for the afternoon.
- ⇒ Send in your Easter Hamper contributions to the school office as soon as possible.



Easter Eggs for Raffle



Our annual Easter Raffle is always very popular due to the exciting and abundant hampers on offer as prizes. It is the generosity of school families which enable us to prepare such wonderful baskets. We would like to call upon families to donate **Easter chocolates** again this year. A variety of chocolates would be appreciated – little sized eggs, medium sized eggs, large-sized eggs, bunnies, chicks, hollow eggs, cream-filled eggs – whatever. Chocolates with minimal packaging are best suited as they will be rearranged in large baskets. We also use excess chocolate eggs/bunnies as prizes for egg & spoon races. Please send your contribution to the school office as soon as possible and no later than **Monday, 14th March**. Also, if you have any **unwanted baskets** lying around at home, we would happily use them for the hampers.

Easter Cake Stall

The P&C committee has made a special request for all families to contribute cakes or sweets and make the Easter Cake Stall the best ever! Home-made fare, in particular traditional Armenian choreg, are always best sellers and fetch good prices. Some ideas for traditional Armenian sweets – choreg, kata, mahmoul, kaghka, kounafa, khourabyeh, baklava... Another popular selling item is homemade cake – uncut and sold whole.



WORKING BEE - SUNDAY 6th MARCH

From 9am

Thank you to the following families who have volunteered to help.

Ananyan, Demirjian, Dixon, Khachatourian, Khatchadourian (Christopher), Khatchadourian (Harry & Stephen), Khoudair, Sevazlian, Shamaon, Tomassian, Topouzian & Urriola. Please let us know if you can also join us on the day.

DATES TO REMEMBER

06/03	Working Bee
20/03	Palm Sunday Picnic & Concert
24/03	School Development Day (Pupil Free)
25/03	Good Friday - <i>Public Holiday</i>
26/03	Easter Saturday - <i>Public Holiday</i>
27/03	Easter Sunday
28/03	Easter Monday - <i>Public Holiday</i>
31/03	Mothers Dinner Outing - <i>Organised by P&C</i>
06/04	Parent/Teacher Interviews & Portfolios
07/04	P&C Meeting @ 7.00pm
08/04	Last Day Term 1
15/04	<i>A.G.B.U. Foundation Anniversary</i>
24/04	<i>Armenian Genocide Commemoration</i>

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 5

8 Points – SEVAN	\$12.20
6 Points – YEREVAN	\$8.20
TOTAL:	\$20.40
ACCUMULATED:	\$45.35

SPONSOR A CHILD IN ARMENIA THROUGH THE
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au

AGBU ALEXANDER PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD

- CONTACT DETAILS -

The AGBU Alexander Primary School Board meets officially on the last Thursday of every month. Meeting dates are published on the school calendar. Request for contact with any Board member can be arranged from the school office or via email:

Board@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Emails to the above address are automatically forwarded to all Board members.

Alternatively, Board members can be contacted individually using the following emails:

Sossie Giragosian - Chairperson

Sossie@alexander.nsw.edu.au

George Dertadian - Secretary

George@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Ari Zorlu - Treasurer

Ari@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Serop Aslanian

Serop@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Karis Khatchadourian

Karis@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Vahe Boyadjian - Public Officer

Vahe@alexander.nsw.edu.au

**Sarkis Manoukian - AGBU Sydney Chapter
Executive Director**

Sarkis@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 9486 3266

HOUSE POINTS TERM 1

*Uniform, Playground, Charity
& Awards*



SEVAN - 25 points

YEREVAN - 20 points



Support your House Team and earn points by having the correct uniform, by following the playground rules and by being generous.

TEACHERS' AWARD

Congratulations to our first recipients of the year.

Let your teacher know when you are ready to collect your Teacher's Award and be included in this weekly honour list.

Remember 10 Encouragement Awards = Teacher's Award

TERM 1 - WEEK 5

Year 5: Anita, Lilit

Lara

Will your name appear here next?



EASTER CAKE STALL - CONTRIBUTION

The P&C would like to ask **all families** if they can please indicate the type of sweet they will be making/bringing for the Easter Cake Stall. Some ideas for traditional Armenian sweets – choreg, kata, mahmoul, kaghka, kounafa, khourabyeh, baklava or homemade cake (uncut and sold whole). Please return slip to the school office early next week to help us organise the event. **Once again, Thank You for your support.**

✓ YES, I will be contributing to the Easter Cake Stall and I will be making...

Type of Sweet: _____ Quantity: _____

NAME OF STUDENT/S: _____

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____



TERM 1 SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

Term 1 School Accounts will be sent home with your Newsletter next Friday. Payment of fees will be due by *Monday, 4th April*. We would appreciate prompt payment so that our trade terms with suppliers are met. If you believe there may be an error in your Tax Invoice please contact the school Office. Fees may be paid by cash, cheque or direct deposit.

Parents are reminded that **Building Fund** contributions are **tax deductible** and special receipts will be issued in order to claim a deduction.

Payment may be sent through the post or paid directly to the school Office. Students delivering money to school should hand fees to the school office immediately on arrival to school. The school cannot be held responsible for lost money in transit.



STUDENT ATTENDANCE: For K - 6 Students

In response to the national agenda and changes to the *NSW Education Act* resulting from the Wood Royal Commission and the new School Leaving Age, there are significant changes required to school processes and practices around student attendance. Under the *Education Act*, schools are required to ensure that individual students meet certain attendance standards. This includes mandatory attendance for students under 17 years of age unless exemptions are applicable.

Since January 2012, all NSW schools are required to use the state attendance codes to record student attendance on the attendance register or roll. The NSW Minister for Education has approved changes to the use of the Attendance Register codes in 2015. The changes implement the *ACARA National Standards for Student Attendance Data Reporting*. ACARA developed the National Standards to establish nationally consistent parameters for the collection and reporting of student attendance data.

As part of the implementation of the National Standards, **it is important to note that holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods will now be included as absences. A Certificate of Exemption can no longer be granted for this purpose.** Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacations. If travel during school term is necessary the following considerations apply:

- If the Principal **accepts** the reason for the absence, the absence will be marked as "L".
- If the Principal does not believe the absence is in the student's best interests and **does not accept** the reason, the absence is unjustified and will be recorded as "A".

As outlined during our *Parent Information Evening*, a note of reminder to all parents that reasonable or justified explanation of all student absence needs to be reported. This includes partial absences or leaves for an extended period. The new coding reflects these changes and teachers need to **legally report** all absences accordingly.

Alexander School Mums' Dinner Outing!

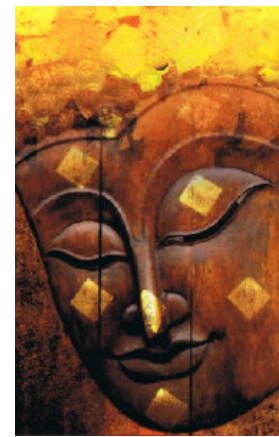
To welcome and introduce the new school mums to the rest of the Alexander school community, an outing has been organised by the P&C Committee.

Thursday, 31st March 2016
@ 7.30pm

Thai Naan
RESTAURANT

230 Victoria Avenue, Chatswood

Banquet \$45 - Four Course Meal



Please call the Office on 94863266 to reserve your seats Or email: PC@alexander.nsw.edu.au

News from our Graduates

When a parent enrolls their child at Alexander school, one of the questions they ask is how the student finds the transition into high school. The following article that appeared in the Holy Cross College Ryde's newsletter this week, answers that question. It's wonderful to see that our 2015 Captain and Graduate Taniel Betchakjian has already been selected as the 'Star of the Week'. Well done!

STAR OF THE WEEK - TANIEL BETCHAKJIAN

This week's recipient of the Star of the Week is 7 Phelan HCT student Taniel Betchakjian. Taniel comes to Holy Cross College from AGBU Alexander Primary School in Terry Hills. Taniel has settled into high school at Holy Cross extremely well. He is a respectful and conscientious student who enjoys ACE, Mathematics and Science. He particularly enjoys writing interesting narratives and challenging Maths problems. Taniel places great importance on his connection to his peers. He has met many new friends both in the classroom and whilst on the Year 7 camp. Taniel's interests include cycling and running. Taniel is most looking forward to improving his academic results in all subjects whilst at Holy Cross. Congratulations Taniel on being recognised as this week's Star of the Week.



Armenian General Benevolent Union
Sydney Chapter

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PO Box 778, Willoughby NSW 2068

Phone:
Office. 9908 3911 Mob. 0418 288 731

Office hours:
Monday - Friday between 10am - 6pm

For any enquiries, information, assistance,
correspondence, please contact:

Mr Sarkis Manoukian
AGBU Executive Director

ORAL HEALTH SERVICES
FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS

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Northern Sydney
Local Health District

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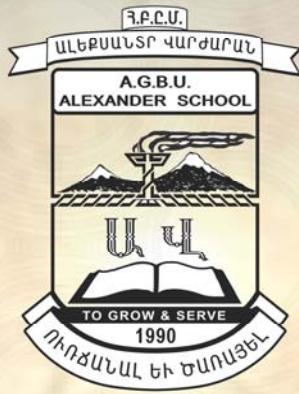


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TODAY

Dental treatment for
children under 18 years
of age is free at NSW Public
Dental Health Clinics.

Clinic Locations:

HORNSBY | TOP RYDE | ROYAL NORTH SHORE | DEE WHY
PHONE 1300 732 503



Easter Celebrations

ՉատկուԼայ Տօնակատարութիւն



A delicious lunch will be served followed by student Easter Hat Parade and Concert.

From midday
Palm Sunday, 20 March
2 Namba Road, Duffys Forest
AGBU Alexander Primary School



Visit us on
Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/AlexanderSchool>

