Dear Parents,

**WORKING BEE - THANK YOU!**

Many thanks to all the families who attended our Working Bee last Sunday, as we cleaned up our little corner of Australia on what was also ‘Clean Up Australia Day’. Thanks to everyone’s effort, we managed to remove the weeds from the gardens. The driveway and playground edges were cleaned and weeded out for a much tidier look. Gutters were cleaned, including the stormwater pits and the walkways around the school were pressure washed. The canteen stove-ovens also received good attention and were thoroughly cleaned and polished, while the storage area was sorted and organised. Another area that received similar attention not just on the day but also the Saturday before, was the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA). A group of teachers and parents had organised the storage area the day before, allowing it to be washed and set up for the annual Palm Sunday picnic and concert. As usual, the children also worked very hard and provided help were needed.

Morning tea was organised with the support of the P&C members, while lunch tasted delicious thanks to the services of Mr & Mrs Greg and Sonia Panikian. It was a long hard day of work with positive results. There is always a great feeling of community and a sense of satisfaction when our families get together, enjoy each others company and work for the good of the school in such a willing way. Well done everybody and Thank You - heaps!!

**EASTER CELEBRATIONS & OPEN DAY - SUNDAY 20th MARCH**

We are all looking forward to our annual Palm Sunday concert and picnic. Once again the children have prepared a great programme and we extend a special invitation to all members of the community to join us in our celebration. The day has also been set as an Open Day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have and are working hard to help make the day a success. They include members of the P&C, parents, teachers and students. So come and enjoy the fresh air, the delicious food, the colourful hat parade, the great entertainment and wonderful atmosphere!

A list of student reminders is included in the Newsletter. A roster has been attached to help spread the tasks evenly across all families.

**‘LIKE’ US ON FACEBOOK**

As we discussed during the ‘Parent Information Evening’ at the start of the year, since the end of 2007 the school has been running a Facebook ‘Group’ called: AGBU Alexander Primary School - Sydney, Australia. It is a ‘closed’ group for graduates, ex-students and members of the school community. This means that members need to be approved before they can join. It also limits all postings on the page to group members only. It is a great way for graduates to be in contact with their school and classmates.

The school also has a Facebook ‘Page’. This is open to Facebook users and acts like a web page. The Page is called: AGBU Alexander Primary School. Those who select the ‘Like’ button on the page become ‘friends’ and start receiving newsfeeds. It is a great way to promote the school and the activities to the community. I encourage our parents and members of the community to ‘Like’ the page, comment on any of the postings and join us on our wonderful journey...

11th March, 2016

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN
**REMINDER…**

We would like to remind those families who so far have not sent in their contribution for the Easter Raffle hampers, if they could donate Easter chocolates by **Thursday 17/3/16**.

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.

We also like to know the type and quantity of sweet/s you will be able to supply for the Easter cake stall. Please complete and return the slip from the Week 5 Newsletter. Thank you for your support!

Finally, the P&C would like to request the assistance of our parents to help clean the Canteen. While the storage area and ovens were cleaned during the Working Bee, there is still some areas that need attention. It will be greatly appreciated if you can lend a hand next Thursday (17/3/16).

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**REMEMBER!**

Design and make your fancy hat for the Easter Hat Parade!

Happy Birthday to...

Kevork

Mr Manoug

---

**BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK**

**Happy Birthday to…**

Kevork

Mr Manoug

---

**TEACHERS’ AWARD**

**TERM 1 – WEEK 7**

Year 3: Zabel

Asbed

Kinder: Lilian

Peter

Adelin, Martin

Prep: Kris, Lucas

*Will your name appear here next?*

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**HOUSE POINTS TERM 1**

*Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards*

- **SEVAN** - 53 points

- **YEREVAN** - 60 points

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- **20/03** Palm Sunday Picnic & Concert
- **24/03** School Development Day (Pupil Free)
- **25/03** Good Friday - *Public Holiday*
- **26/03** Easter Saturday - *Public Holiday*
- **27/03** Easter Sunday
- **28/03** Easter Monday - *Public Holiday*
- **31/03** Mothers Dinner Outing - *Organised by P&C*
- **06/04** Parent/Teacher Interviews & Portfolios
- **07/04** P&C Meeting @ 7.00pm
- **08/04** Last Day Term 1
- **15/04** A.G.B.U. Foundation Anniversary
- **24/04** Armenian Genocide Commemoration
- **30/10** Armenian Cultural Day

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**ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND**

**WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 7**

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**SPONSOR A CHILD IN ARMENIA THROUGH THE ARmenian Apostolic Church**

www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au
Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) specialises in large-scale assessment and measurement programs including the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). ICAS are conducted annually in Australia and over 20 countries globally. EAA is an education group of UNSW Global Pty Limited, a not-for-profit provider of education, training and advisory services and a wholly owned enterprise of the University of New South Wales (UNSW).

EAA’s main product is the annual International Competitions & Assessments for Schools (ICAS). Over 1.7 million students from across Australia, N.Z. and the Pacific region participate in ICAS each year, with an additional 700,000 entries internationally from other countries. A University of New South Wales medal is awarded in each subject when a top score in each year level in each locale is judged to be sufficiently meritorious. Other high performing students receive certificates of high distinction, distinction and credit. All students who participate receive a UNSW Certificate acknowledging their achievement.

Our school will again offer these tests for Years 2-6*, which will take place between May and August. The school is offering all subject areas: Digital Technologies (Previously know as Computer Skills), Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Mathematics. Writing is marked by hand, not by computer, hence the cost difference.

As you know, they recently extended the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) to Australian students in Year 2. This exciting development brings the well-known benefits of ICAS forward to Year 2, creating an extra 12 months for teachers to diagnose students’ strengths and weaknesses in the subjects of English literacy, Mathematics and Science.

Benefits of Year 2 ICAS:
A rigorous independent assessment of students’ English literacy strengths and weaknesses. A rigorous independent assessment of students’ numeracy strengths and weaknesses. First independent chance to understand your students’ ability and performance – a whole year in advance of the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). Gives Year 2 students an opportunity to experience external assessments in the core curriculum areas of English, Mathematics and Science prior to Year 3.

The school needs to register the number of students sitting each of the tests. Parents who would like to have their child/ren participate in any one or all of the tests are asked to complete and return the form below. Closing date for applications and payment for all tests is Thursday, 31st March 2016. Please do not be late.

Indicate your choice of tests by placing a tick in the appropriate box/es. Provision has been made for families with more than one child at the school. Please return form with payment to the office by Thursday, 31st March.
News from the Classroom: Years Prep-2

Living Safely with Dogs

The Responsible Pet Ownership Education Program visited the school on Thursday 10 March. A Pet Educator and their dog attended our school to facilitate education sessions on all facets of responsible pet ownership, safety around animals and minimising the risks from dog bites/attacks. The program helped to teach how to be safe around dogs and how to say ‘hello’ to a dog with their owners!

Primary age children remain highly over represented in the dog bite/attack statistics. Ongoing education of children and their families in relation to living safely with dogs is vitally important, if we are to continue to reduce the number of dog attacks in the home and community.
Photo Gallery...

Working Bee

Many thanks to the following families who attended our Working Bee last Sunday (& Saturday). **Abedjian** (Garbis), **Ananyan** (Aram, Ani, Elizabeth & Martin) **Anoshian** (Kegham, Sona & Asbed), **Bedrossian** (Kevork), **Demirjian** (Manoug), **Dixon** (Gareth, Sarah & Lucas), **Keoshgerian** (Seta), **Khachatourian** (Greg, Svetlana, Alexander, David & Victoria!), **Khatchadourian** (Victor, Karis, Harry & Stephen), **Khatchadourian** (Victor & Christopher), **Khoudair** (Emil, Natalie, Lara & Anthony), **Panikian** (Greg, Sonia, Zabel & Samson), **Tomassian** (Vahe, Cynthia, Albert, Berj & Peter) and **Urriola** (Natalie) were all here to help maintain the school grounds.
**REMINDER: 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.

**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

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**uCA Armenian Evangelical Church**

Presents

**Do You Want To Live?**

A Christian Play in Armenian

Jesus said, “For what shall it profit a man, if he gains the whole world, and lose his soul” (Matt. 16.26). Unfortunately, many are seeking to gain the world, but as a result are losing their souls. This play asks the vital question, “Do you want to live?” It will help you ponder upon life’s most essential question, “What am I doing with my life?” Are you losing it for the world or gaining it in Jesus?

**March 12, 2016 @ 7pm**

**AT GLEN STREET THEATRE, BELROSE**

BOOKING 9975 1455  glenstreet.com.au

9958 2989