Dear Parents,

ALL WELCOME ON PALM SUNDAY, 20 MARCH - OPEN DAY

We are all looking forward to our annual Palm Sunday Easter 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. An updated roster with minor changes and adjustments has also been attached to help spread the tasks evenly across all families.

LENT... A TIME FOR REFLECTION

During last week’s Culture lesson with our senior students, I reflected on one of the important periods in the Christian calendar - Lent. Lent being a season of 40 days before Easter, is a time for us to stop and reflect on the attitudes of our hearts, priorities and spiritual life as we prepare for Easter. There are special services held in churches during Lent, special times of prayer and special readings from the Bible.

From the early period there were also strict Lenten laws to help with this ‘spiritual clean’. It was suggested that to abstain from all meat and animal products was a helpful discipline. All the body needed was a very simple snack in the evening. Today, many Christians still consider it helpful in giving something up during Lent, as a reminder of sacrifices Jesus made, the temptations He resisted during His time in the desert and that they are reflecting on the important things in life. Many continue with the tradition, while others only give up eating certain foods or watching TV or playing computer games... Others try to make more time in the day to think about God and pray.

This season of Lent might therefore be a good time for all of us to attempt a ‘spiritual cleansing’ of our lives. There may be attitudes that need to be dusted down, habits that need a deep clean or behaviours to be given up.

During class, one of the things we all agreed to give up on was use of the words ‘I’m bored!’. Instead, we thought about being grateful for having a creative mind to entertain ourselves, for having the chance to be educated and for every opportunity to learn.

The period of Lent also leads us to be more aware, of ourselves, of others, of the world around us, and of the Divine who is at the heart of life. The discipline of self-examination, prayer, stillness, reflection can offer us a way of being in tune with who we are and how we relate to the world around. Growing in awareness of our place in the world, and our reaction to all that we experience in life can help us in getting to grips with all that we might encounter.

1) Become aware of God’s presence. | 2) Review the day with gratitude. | 3) Pay attention to your emotions. | 4) Choose one feature of the day and pray from it. | 5) Look toward tomorrow.

18th March, 2016

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN
REMININDERS…
Easter Concert
Palm Sunday 20/3/16

- Students -

✦ All students are expected to be at school by 1:00pm, wearing the White Polo shirts (provided by the school), their summer sports shorts/skirts & their white sports shoes & socks.

✦ You are asked to take fancy hats to the classrooms and place them on desks, ready for the Hat Parade.

✦ Make sure you have taken time to eat and drink before the concert.

✦ Hat Parade, followed by the Palm Sunday Concert. Starting at 2:00pm.

✦ Raffle draw after the performance. Note: Egg & Spoon races for all students will be held next week.

✦ Remember School Rules and do not go out of bounds without an adult. Be polite to all our visitors, smile and make sure you enjoy the day!

- Parents -

✦ Please deliver your sweets for the Cake Stall to the stall (Mrs Bianca Zorlu) as you arrive.

✦ Food will be served from 12.00pm. Rolls (Falafel & Chicken) $8.

✦ Please help out as much as possible. Check your roster.

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
30/03 Chocolate Fundraising Money Due
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

TEACHERS’ AWARD
TERM 1 – WEEK 8
Year 6: Talia
Samuel
Year 5: Christopher
Year 3: Samson
Year 2: Isabella
Stephen
Lara
Harry
Elizabeth
Sara
Year 1: Berj
Prep: Alexander

Will your name appear here next?

HOWE POINTS TERM 1
Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards

SEVAN - 68 points
YEREVAN - 71 points

School Banking
Banking Day: Thursday
Students need to have their bank deposit books in order to make a deposit into their account.

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND
WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 8

8 Points – SEVAN .......... $11.00
6 Points – YEREVAN .......... $9.00

TOTAL: ............ $20.00
ACCUMULATED: ............ $118.55

Sponsor a child in Armenia through the Armenian Apostolic Church
www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au
**DID YOU KNOW?**

The final week of Lent is called the Holy Week. Holy Week recalls the events leading to Jesus’ death and resurrection.

- **Palm Sunday (Զիվածածայիր)** is the first day of Holy Week. It celebrates Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem.
- **Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday (Նայց Նիսաբուր)** recalls Jesus’ last meal, washing of His disciples’ feet, and His arrest and imprisonment.
- **Good Friday (Նայց Ադամահ)** observes the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross.
- **Holy Saturday (Նայց Աարբուս)** is chiefly a day of solemn vigil.

**Easter Sunday (Արաբուս)** celebrates the glorious Resurrection of Jesus - the Son of God.

**ARmenian General Benevolent Union**

**ALEXANDER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**ENROLLING NOW FOR 2016**

Do you have a child who is ready to start school?
Are you still undecided about the choice of school that best serves the needs of your child?
Would you like to see them in class, experiencing the real school environment before you make your final decision on the school of your choice?

Contact us to arrange for up to a week long school experience for your child - 9486 3266

AGBU Alexander Primary School caters for students from Preparatory (Prep) to Year 6. Enrolment is open to all children of primary school age and applications are accepted for entry at all year levels. The age requirement for students entering Kindergarten is 5 years by 31st July of the enrolment year, while for Prep it is one year prior to Kindergarten enrolment.

---

**MEETING NOTICE**

COUNCIL OF PARENTS & CITIZENS

The next P&C meeting will be held on

**Thursday 7th April**

**Venue:** Armenian Church - Hall
10 Macquarie Street, Chatswood

**Time:** 7.00pm

To Confirm Attendance - Contact:
Hasmik Hambardzumyan 0421 854 709
School office - 9486 3266
PC@alexander.nsw.edu.au

All parents are welcome!

---

**Cancer Council recommends you protect yourself in 5 ways:**

- **SLIP** on clothing that covers your arms and legs
- **SLOP** on 30+, broad-spectrum sunscreen
- **SLAP** on a broad brimmed or legionnaires hat
- **SEEK** shade
- **SLIDE** on wrap around sunglasses

---

**Protec**t yourself in five ways from skin cancer
**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.

---

**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

---

**Armenian General Benevolent Union**

Sydney Chapter

2 Yeo Street, Neutral Bay NSW 2089

Postal address: PO Box 778, Willoughby NSW 2068

Phone: Office - 9908 3911  Mob - 0418 288 731

Email - office@agbu.org.au

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

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

Mr Sarkis Manoukian
AGBU Executive Director

---

**Easter Celebrations**

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
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
OF HOLY RESURRECTION

Celebrating
Children’s Day

SUNDAY 20 MARCH 2016

The children of our Community are warmly invited to attend Church on this day when we celebrate the glorious entry into Jerusalem of our Lord Jesus Christ at the start of Holy Week.

Join the traditional Children’s Procession following the Divine Liturgy.

For more information contact the Church office on 9419-8056.

SPECIAL EASTER TREATS FOR THE CHILDREN
AGBU Alexander Primary School caters for students from **Preparatory (Prep) to Year 6.** Enrolment is open to all children of primary school age and applications are accepted for entry at all year levels.

The age requirement for students entering **Preparatory is 4 years by 31st July** (3½ years at the start of the school year), while for **Kindergarten it is 5 years by 31st July** of the enrolment year.