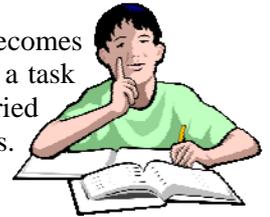


Dear Parents,

FOSTERING INDEPENDENT LEARNING

The next few weeks are test and assessment weeks for all students, prior to the teachers writing Half Yearly Reports. It is during this time that we make note of those children who can and will work independently, ie without adult support or help.

In general, teachers notice that some students cannot keep on a task as soon as it becomes difficult. These students have a poorly developed sense of the benefits of trying to do a task themselves. They fear failure without support. They ask for guidance before they have tried and failed. They take no risks and therefore do not learn many new things for themselves. These children will need support increasingly if it is given to them too easily.



Keep Trying

Telling these children to keep trying is not much help either. They need to be taught how to try. As adults, we can show them some strategies, eg 'Work out an answer and then ask to see if you are on the right track', or 'Ask for a little clue to start you off'.

There are some children who tend to ask that a parent sit beside them whilst they are finishing homework, and that correction of the homework takes place before it comes back to school. This is not the aim of homework. Teachers would rather see incorrect work that has been done by the child's own efforts, than corrected work where parents have had too much input. Most work sent home should be able to be done by the child and if they have too much difficulty, they should refer to their class teacher for assistance, not parents. They should have given it a really good try before either option is taken.



Encourage!

If encouraged and expected to do so, most children can manage their work on their own. Reward *efforts* in the learning phase, not always results. You will notice that most of our school awards are for trying, not necessarily for achieving the highest scores. Teachers know who to sit beside during their class to give assistance, but many want the attention and give up far too easily. There are even instances where, if the work is difficult and likely to present less than perfection in the outcome, children refuse to complete the work. This is absolutely not acceptable. Don't let 'perfectionism' take hold!



Guidance is needed now

Please do everything you can to encourage your child to be independent at everything involving school tasks, from getting dressed in the morning, to packing their bag, bringing in notes, bringing back the plastic sleeve, looking after their clothes and their belongings, their rooms and their free time. The work for the adults will be less. Remember, when they are 18 and going out to work or University, it is too late to blame them for having poor work habits and poor rate of success. We have to guide them towards this goal of independent learning from the earliest age.



Every parent wants their children to lead a happy life. When we dream about the future, parents have hopes that their children will be part of a community, have friends, live independently, and enjoy health and well-being. We already know that the skills and behaviours children develop early in life lay a strong foundation for their adolescence and adulthood. For this reason, we need to think about how we can begin early to promote lifelong independence for our children.

HAVE A WARM, RELAXING AND SAFE LONG WEEKEND EVERYONE!
See you back refreshed on Tuesday!



8th June, 2018

Debating - Round One Are You Losing All The Arguments At Home?

If the upper primary student in your home is winning all the arguments at your house, take heart. They are also winning them in the Interschool Debating Competition as well!

On Wednesday afternoon, AGBU Alexander Primary School hosted the first round of debates for this year's competition. Zabel, Asbed, Samson and Albert represented Alexander school against the Sydney Japanese International School debating that 'Technology (ipads, laptops, internet based devices) in primary classrooms should be banned.'

Our debaters were very nervous as it was their first debate but they all overcame their fears and spoke clearly and confidently as they presented excellent arguments. The students from the Japanese school had also researched the topic well and made fine adversaries. As the Affirmative teams, Alexander students managed to bring up more solid points than their opposition and these points were not 'shot down' or rebutted by the Negative team. By contrast, our speakers rebutted several points made by the Negative Team and managed to come away with the win.



Earlier, the students were entertained by the Italian Bilingual School and the German International School who debated that 'Primary school students should not play competitive team sports.' This was another interesting debate, with the Italian school achieving a win in their first year of this competition.

The debating competition is expected to produce excellent opportunities for all students to gain the very valuable and important public speaking skills that they will use for the rest of their lives.

HOUSE POINTS TERM 2

Uniform, Playground, Charity
& Awards



YEREVAN - 54 points

SEVAN - 59 points



TEACHERS' AWARD

TERM 2 - WEEK 6

Year 5: Zabel
Year 4: Sera, Elizabeth, Isabella
Year 3: Berj
Year 2: Martin
Year 1: Razmik, Kris
Prep: Luca, Zareh, Lara E.



DATES TO REMEMBER

- 11/06 Queen's Birthday - Public Holiday
- 13/06 ICAS - Spelling Test Years 3-6
- 14/06 ICAS - Writing Test Years 3-6
- 15/06 Gardening Workshop
- 29/06 Student Half Yearly Reports - Sent Out
- 03/07 School Photos
- 06/07 Last Day Term 2 - Mufti Day

- 23/07 School Development Day (Pupil Free)
Emergency Care & CPR Staff Training
- 24/07 First Day Term 3 - Students Return
- 31/07 ICAS - English Test Years 2-6

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

WEEKLY REPORT: Term 2 Week 6

8 Points - Sevan	\$10.80
6 Points - Yerevan	\$8.85
TOTAL:	\$19.65
ACCUMULATED:	\$257.55

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

PUNISHMENT - vs - DISCIPLINE



What is the difference?

Punishment causes the offender to suffer. **Discipline** sets a system of rules for conduct.

How should we teach our children to behave?



Punishment has nothing to do with helping children learn to behave because punishment only teaches a child how to avoid being punished the next time through lying or manipulating. Punishment makes parents 'feel good' by believing they are in control.

Discipline teaches a child how to behave according to established rules. Discipline sets safe boundaries. Children need to feel safe and respond to defined boundaries. Parents need to create a safe, loving home environment with an acceptance to initiate discipline.

How can discipline be effective?

- Make sure rules are clear and simple.
- Spell out consequences of breaking rules.
- Communicate rules and consequences clearly.
- Parents need to be consistent in their management of discipline.



HYGIENE QUIZ

How do you rate with your friends?

Poor personal hygiene can be a maker or breaker of friendships, so take this quiz to check out what your friends may be thinking about you!

How often do you shower or bathe?

- Once a week
- Once a month
- Once a day



How long should it take you to brush your teeth?

- 3 minutes
- 30 seconds
- 30 minutes



Where should you apply deodorant?

- Under your feet
- Under your armpits
- Over your clothes



How often do you change your underwear?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Annually



School uniform should be washed ...

- At least twice a week
- At least twice a year
- When colour turns black



See how you rate by checking the correct answers. →

BOOK CLUB - ISSUE 4

Order Forms/Money Due by
Monday
18th June, 2018

Orders after this date cannot be processed.
Please place your orders in clearly marked envelopes.



How often do you shower or bathe?
 c. Once a day
 How long should it take you to brush your teeth?
 a. 3 minutes
 Where should you apply deodorant?
 b. Under your armpits
 How often do you change your underwear?
 a. Daily
 School uniform should be washed ...
 a. At least twice a week
 If you answered all of the above questions correctly, then you are unlikely to have any major concerns about hygiene. You can be sure your friends have no problem hanging out with you.
 If you answered any questions incorrectly, then you may wish to assess your personal habits and make some changes to your daily hygiene routine!

Answers to Hygiene Quiz

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

School photos are being taken on **Tuesday 3rd July**. Students are expected to wear their full **WINTER UNIFORM** on this day. Please make sure you return your order with the personalised envelopes that have been provided for each student. We would like to point out that the school is not associated with your order and you need to check and **follow all instructions** on the form and enclose the correct amount.

Envelopes should be returned to the school office by *Friday 29th June*.

IMPORTANT: Every student must return their envelope - Even if not purchasing photos.



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.

Crunch&Sip[®]



MANAGING YOUR CHILD'S ASTHMA

Six steps to managing your child's asthma. Ask your doctor to assist you to in managing your child's asthma according to the six-point plan below.

1. Know how severe your child's asthma is (ask your doctor).
2. Achieve best lung function - find out what to do, so that your child's lungs function at their best. The use of a peak flow meter or symptom score diary may help in determining the best lung function.
3. Maintain best lung function - avoid things, which trigger your child's asthma.
4. Optimize medication - use the lowest dose of medication possible to achieve the best lung function, without producing side effects.
5. Develop an asthma action plan with your doctor so that you know what to do during an attack of asthma.
6. Have your child's asthma checked regularly by your doctor, and learn as much as you can about the management of your child's asthma.

ASTHMA CYCLE OF CARE

If your child has:

- symptoms on most days or nights
- uses an asthma reliever puffer more than 3 times per week
- has been in hospital with an asthma attack
- missed school due to asthma

then see your GP to enrol in the Asthma Cycle of Care and get an Asthma Action Plan to help you take control of your asthma.

If you have any questions, or for further information contact Asthma Foundation NSW.

Asthma Foundation NSW ☎ **1800 645 130** 🌐 www.asthmansw.org.au

