

2 Namba Road, Duffys Forest NSW 2084 | ☎ 9486 3266 | ✉ Office@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Dear Parents,

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

On Monday evening, we held our annual ‘Parent Information Evening’. We would like to thank all the parents for coming and showing their support in their children’s education and demonstrating interest in their school life. We believe, the commitment of the parent body plays an important role in the life of a school. Therefore, continue with your important effort to get right behind your children and play a supporting role, because your children are the ones who benefit.

The first session of the evening was held in the school hall, where parents were given an outline of the major functions planned for the year. They were also encouraged to share the *Calendar* from the school’s web site and incorporate it into their smart phones or via the new *School App*. The policies in relation to discipline, homework and welfare were reviewed and the academic programs discussed. These included the Armenian Language, Chaplaincy and the K-6 Syllabuses. Parents were also informed that soft copies of all School Policies are shared via an email link and made available on the students’ *Google Drive*. This is also available on the *School App*.



The parents were also updated about the school’s web site and social media. Following a number of important reminders and a general discussion about the Volunteer Scheme and proposed activities or excursions, the parents were also encouraged to support and join the P&C.

For the second session, parents were directed to the classrooms. Teachers of each grade had the opportunity to explain to their parents the special features of teaching and learning which pertain to their classes.

ST VARTAN’S DAY - BLESSING & HOLY COMMUNION



Yesterday, all students and staff joined the special ‘Vartanants Day’ service at the Armenian Apostolic Church of Holy Resurrection. In school tradition, they received blessings and Holy Communion for the start of the new school year and took part in the special schools’ program, following lunch in the church hall.

The afternoon program included a theatrical production with songs and poetry recitals dedicated to St Vartan, while the sermon by His Eminence Archbishop Haigazoun Najarian reflected on the importance of the ‘Battle of Vartanank’ in 451AD and its significance to the survival of Armenians as Christians. Once again the students displayed exemplary behaviour both during and after the church service. They took part in the congregation by praying, singing the hymns and by following the Divine Liturgy.

Congratulations to all the students who took part in the program. They were led by our Captain Sara Demirjian, who joined in the Reading from the Scriptures at the start of the church service and thanked His Eminence, the clergy and the church council for the invitation, at the conclusion of the student’s program. This special day highlighted the spirit of unity and the battles we continue to face as a nation and community.

I would like to thank all the teachers, in particular Mrs Seta Keoshgerian and Mrs Zela Margossian-Gaspar for putting together a wonderful program and preparing the students so well in such a short period of time.

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.

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.

P&C COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEER SCHEME

As discussed during the Parent Information Evening, we would like to see the volunteer tasks for the school spread evenly across the parental body. The points system will continue this year and we are asking parents to indicate their choice and consider what they can do to assist in the running of the school. Further details about the scheme will be emailed to parents with the Google Form.

We would like to take this opportunity and indicate that the P&C meetings are a good forum to bring your ideas or suggestions for the everyday running needs of our school. If you have any suggestions please approach P&C members to discuss and to include them on the Agenda for the following meeting. As you know the P&C plays an important role in running the canteen and catering special events. They are also responsible in organising a number of in-school events and providing general feedback and assistance in areas of need.

We understand that it's not possible for all families to get involved in all aspect of the P&C or school life, however we encourage you to have your say. We would like to receive feedback as to how we can improve the services being provided to students and guests. For more information and to see how you can contribute to the Committee please contact the school Office - 9486 3266

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DATES TO REMEMBER

24/02 Life Education Van Visit (Healthy Harold)
25/02 Life Education Van Visit (Day 2)
27/02 Sports Day - Gymnastics (Double Session)
29/03 Easter Concert & Picnic
09/04 Last Day Term 1

10/04 *Good Friday - Public Holiday*
11/04 *Holy Saturday - Public Holiday*
12/04 *Easter Sunday*

08/08 30th Anniversary Concert - TBC
15/08 30th Anniversary Dinner Dance - Miramare
20/09 Armenian Cultural Day

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 4

- Points – Sevan	\$0.00
- Points – Yerem	\$0.00
TOTAL:	\$0.00
ACCUMULATED:	\$28.40

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ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
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AGBU

Under The Auspices of His Eminence
Archbishop Haigazoun Najarian

V.TEKEYAN
Cultural Committee

First Time In Sydney
Eurovision 2016 Finalist

Iveta Mukuchyan

Private Cocktail Party

Saturday 28th March at 7:30pm
Café Birkenhead at 19 Roseby St,
Drummoyne NSW, Admission: \$100

Concert

Sunday 29th March at 6:00pm
North Sydney Leagues Club,
Admission: \$75

Information/Bookings contact: office@agbu.org.au

Haig Lepejian: 0410 597 290 | Zara Harutyunyan: 0414 697 290 | Talar Bedikian: 0412 336 202
Hovhanness Kouyoumdjian: 0408 283 826 | Natalie Urriola: 0430 336 696

For Online Booking <http://Trybooking.com>



2020 Breakfast for Brain Cancer Celebrating International Women's Day

hosted by Bank of Sydney and White Pearl Foundation

HONOURING WOMEN DEDICATED TO THE TREATMENT OF BRAIN CANCER

Join us for High Tea Breakfast with friends and colleagues and hear from an esteemed panel of brain cancer specialists from The Brain Cancer Group, Care2Cure.

Take the opportunity to purchase beautiful donated prizes in the knowledge that 100% of funds will go directly to brain cancer research.

Tuesday 3rd March 2020

10.30am – 1.30pm

Le Montage – Marquee Room

38 Frazer St, Lilyfield

(complimentary on-site parking)



Funding Brain Cancer Research



supporting



care2cure
The Brain Cancer Group

Tickets \$100 per person

TICKETS/BOOKINGS:

www.whitepearlfoundation.org or suzane@whitepearlfoundation.org

TRY BOOKING – www.trybooking.com/BHJPL

To host your own Breakfast for Brain Cancer please call Suzane on 0418 238 723

ACNC: 14749710276

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