Dear Parents,

**GREAT START TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR**

On behalf of the School Board, staff and parents I would like to give a warm welcome to our new students who have settled in well. For the rest of the students, it took no time for them to resume their routines. They began the job of learning enthusiastically, making a great start to a new school year.

**TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2012**

Years 5 - 6 are taught by Miss Meaghan Knudsen. They go to Mrs Seta Keoshgerian for Armenian on a daily basis and Armenian History, Religion and Culture (Culture) lessons with me once a week.

Years 3 - 4 are taught by Ms Martine Smith. Miss Knudsen shares the class several periods a week for literacy support. They go to Mrs Seta for Armenian and I have them for Culture lessons.

Kindergarten - Year 2 students are taught by Mrs Vicky Dernee. Miss Knudsen joins the class several times to provide numeracy support. They go to Mrs Seta for Armenian and come to me for Culture lesson. Miss Christine Apanian is the K-2 class and office assistant.

Computer Lessons will be with me on a weekly basis. We aim to implement a new and improved program to further advance the computer literacy and skills of all students.

Eastern Armenian Lessons will continue to be implemented this year. The lessons are taught with the assistance of Mrs Gayane Topouzian. She joins the Armenian classroom every Thursdays to deliver these lessons.

Music Lessons are taught with the assistance of Mrs Zela Margossian-Gaspar. She also provides private piano lessons during Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please contact the school office if you want to enrol your child. Lessons have commenced and we would like to remind students to have their books on those days.

School Office is managed by our two office personnel, Mrs Margueritte Boyadjian and Mrs Sonia Apanian. Mrs Boyadjian will generally be in the office on Mondays and Tuesdays and Mrs Apanian on Thursdays and Fridays. They are in the office on Wednesdays on an alternate basis. They will continue their travel on the Ryde bus providing supervision and support. They also help with the running of the school canteen.

**PARENT INFORMATION EVENING**

Our Parent Information Evening will be held on Tuesday. The evening will give parents the opportunity to gain further understanding of how the classes are arranged and find out what will be going on in your child’s classroom and school this year.

We expect to see all families represented at the Parent Information Evening. This is the opportunity you have to find out exactly what is happening on a day to day basis in your child’s classroom and what our expectations are of you. Parents will also be briefed and updated on the major programs and plans in place by the School Board. They will hear about the various ways they can contribute to the school community. As you know the education of children is a huge task. We all need to pitch in and play a supporting role - teachers supporting parents, parents supporting teachers, the school Board and school programs.

As you know from previous years, this is not a time to talk about your child’s progress specifically. By all means, make an appointment to meet your child’s teacher if you need to do so. Teachers will also brief and update parents on occasions. Children who attend the evening because there is no one else at home are to remain in the close vicinity of the school hall and not go out to play in the playground.

3rd February 2012

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN
SCHOOL DISCIPLINE POLICY

A school “Discipline Policy - Parent Handout” is enclosed with today’s Newsletter. Parents should read this document carefully to familiarise themselves with the strategies implemented at AGBU Alexander Primary School to encourage positive attitude and behaviour.

The school has expectations of its students to maintain standards which will promote personal achievement and school pride. It is the tone of our school to be positive, encouraging and motivational. Children need this same encouragement from parents in order to succeed. Students achieve highest when parents take an active interest and role in their education and school life.

School Standards on Homework:
⇒ It is expected that students will complete set tasks to the best of their ability - untidy work will not be accepted.
⇒ Parents should check and sign each set of homework and/or Diaries of Years 3-6 students.
⇒ Homework should be made a priority when students arrive home of an afternoon. However, teachers understand that students may have extra-curricular after school activities. If homework is unable to be completed, please write a note to the teacher stating reason.
⇒ If your child has difficulty with set homework, please advise your child’s teacher in writing the following day. If the situation persists, please make an appointment to meet with your child’s teacher.

School Standards on Uniform:
⇒ Students are expected to wear correct uniform at all times.
⇒ Students wearing incorrect uniform (any part) should provide a note to the class teacher stating reason.
⇒ Students in Years 3-6 should have sports shoes at school to change into for fitness sessions each Monday and Wednesday.
⇒ Students must have school hats at school daily. “NO HAT, NO PLAY”
⇒ Jewellery, nail polish and make-up not permitted. Only one pair, plain stud / sleeper earrings permitted.
⇒ Random uniform checks are conducted and students receive House points for correct uniform standards.
⇒ Students who lose an article of uniform (eg hat or jumper) will have a week’s grace after which time the article must be replaced.
⇒ Students who repeatedly forget sports shoes / hats will have records of misbehaviour sent home.

Our School Rules are...

☺ We use our common sense.
☺ We keep ourselves safe.
☺ We respect other people, property and the environment.
☺ We strive to do our best.

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Մարզադաշտային վարություններ... 

☺ Հերթաբից այցելեք դպրոցում:
☺ Շատ մարդիկ կանգնածենք:
☺ Կրթության, մշակույթի արագացմանը և մշակույթի:
☺ Կարծիքից քանի մեր համար:
DATES TO REMEMBER
07/02  Parent Information Evening - School Hall
08/02  Canteen Volunteer Workers forms due
09/02  Church visit - Slips due
10/02  Student Information Update forms due
19/02  Holy Communion at Church on Sunday
05/04  Last Day Term 1
09/12  Christmas Concert and Graduation

Please mark these important days in your calendar &
check this box regularly for updates.
You can also check the electronic Google calendar in
the 'Coming Up' section of the school’s web site.

ARmenian student fund
Weekly Report: Term 1 Week 2

0 Points –  sevan  $0.00
0 Points –  Yerevan  $0.00
Total:  $0.00
Accumulated:  $0.00

Sponsor A Child in Armenia Through the Armenian Apostolic Church
www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au

CanTeen opens next week - limited facilities

Thank you to the families who responded to our call for canteen duty. At this stage only limited canteen facilities will be made available on a daily basis. This includes snacks and treats only. Children should continue to have their lunch prepared at home as there will be no canteen orders or sandwiches. Once the roster and menu is finalised, we hope to have the canteen with full services open for a few days a week.

Please Note: The heating of lunch is no longer available at school.

We are always keen to have new mums join the team. If you have not yet signed up for canteen duty, but would like to take an active role, please contact the school Office. Should we have sufficient volunteers, full canteen facilities will be available on additional days.

Children love to see their parents actively involved in their school… even if it’s only once a term. The positive effect of your support will reward your child, your school and you.

Student lunchboxes

We are generally very happy with the contents of our students’ lunchboxes. Our school would rate fairly well with all the attention given to ensure school lunchboxes contain mostly foods with good nutritional value. Whilst children may complain about lack of variety, try being inventive with the way you serve foods. Please continue to help us with this school program - keep up with the practice of providing low-fat, low-salt, low-sugar foods.

Fruit size can make all the difference between “fruit eaten” and “fruit wasted”. Please buy small sized fruit for small mouths to chomp around, otherwise send cut fruit to school. Many of the younger children (K-2) could be wasting good fruit because it is just too hard to eat.

The school lunch box

Parents are instrumental in the success of our school’s healthy food program as providers of good, nutrition-filled lunch boxes.

To help parents with the confusing task of deciding on suitable snack foods, below is a list of what we consider to be appropriate.

One only - Snack Food which includes any one of the following: baked biscuits or snacks such as BBQ shapes; yoghurt or other dairy dessert such as Yogo or Petite Miam; slice of plain cake, muffin or fruit toast; fruit straps/bars; breakfast/muesli bars.

(Snacks Which Do Not Qualify: Dunkeroos, roll-ups, LCM’s, Incredibites chips, etc)

Unlimited amounts of - Fresh Fruit & Vegetables … fruit bars and fruit yoghurt are no replacement for fresh fruit.

At least one serve of - Bread … sandwiches

Sandwiches are the most ideal lunch food but we do understand that children need some variety and often have home-cooked meals to replace sandwiches.

Suitable lunch drinks for school - fruit juice, milk, water.
School Banking at Alexander school has developed and grown over the past few years. We now have a large percentage of students taking part in the savings program.

‘Equip your child for life - like you would for school’ - Youthsaver account opening kit is enclosed with today’s Newsletter for those students who have not yet joined or are new to the program. In the packaged envelope you will find all the required information and forms to start your child’s account.

Once the accounts are set up and ready to go, your child/ren will be able to take part in ‘School Banking Day’ now set for Thursdays. This is when students can bring their deposits to be banked through the School.

Parents who are interested in getting their children to join the savings program can contact the office for more information.

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Message from the Bank...

Dear Parent,

Teaching your child the all-important skills of money management and saving when they’re young can empower them for success in the future. Commonwealth Bank Student Banking is a special initiative designed to do just that. Through education and fun, we aim to help make your child a Super Saver.

Student Banking - teaching kids Super Saver powers.
The Commonwealth Bank Student Banking program runs within primary schools to help boost your child’s understanding of money and saving.

◆ Educational resources - We provide schools with fun resources to assist teaching of basic skills.
◆ Weekly banking - Your child can do their banking at school where it’s easy for them to make regular deposits. Student Banking coordinators often allocate a class banking day and a banking monitor to help teach children the responsibility of saving.
◆ Money for their school - When your child signs up for Student Banking or makes a deposit at school, the Bank will pay a commission to your school. This money can help buy new books, computers, sports equipment or whatever else the school may need.

Get your little Super Saver started now.
It’s easy to get your child involved with Student Banking. Just sign them up for a Youthsaver account. It’s packed with fun features your child will love.

School Banking accounts can now be opened at any Commonwealth Bank branch. You no longer need to complete application forms and return them to school. Just go into any branch and ask to open a Youthsaver account for School Banking.

Remember to take in identification for you and your child (such as drivers license and birth certificate), you will receive a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book on the spot and be able to start banking on the next business day – it is that easy!

If you are a Commonwealth Bank customer with NetBank you have the option to open the account online as well!

From January 2012 when children make their first deposit they will get their first token and our school will also receive $5 commission. Thank you for supporting our school and teaching your child good savings skills.

For more information on a Youthsaver account please call 13 2221, visit commbank.com.au/dollarmites or drop into any Commonwealth Bank Branch.