Dear Parents,

**SCHOOLS CLEAN UP DAY**

We cleaned up our little corner of Australia on Monday. As a result of the bad weather on Friday, we could not conduct the Schools Clean Up Day. Students and teachers with their special gloves and garbage bags ventured out around the perimeters of the school and cleaned up litter and rubbish that had found its way back since last year’s Clean Up Day. A few of the Year 5 and 6 ventured a little further down Namba Road and cleaned the roadside.

Since 1992, children all around Australia have turned out in their hundreds of thousands to help Clean Up Australia. Schools’ Clean Up Day was specifically designed to allow students to participate in Clean Up Australia as part of a school activity. It’s a great way for students of all ages to learn about how to reduce the impact of waste on our environment and make a real difference in their local community.

Last Sunday, all of Australia cleaned up the roadsides, highways, harbour-sides, riversides, creek-sides, fields and parks. The amount of garbage collected was huge, but if we didn’t have these annual cleanups, there would be much more. An estimated 591,400 volunteers removed a staggering 16,199 tonnes of rubbish from 7363 Clean Up Sites across the country. Ian Kiernan and Clean Up Australia would like to thank the hard working volunteers who have made the 22nd Clean Up Australia Day a successful one.

**‘LIKE’ US ON FACEBOOK**

As we discussed during the ‘Parent Information Evening’ at the start of the year, since November 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.

Since the end of last year the school has also created 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 and join us on our wonderful journey...
**EASTER CELEBRATIONS – Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> April**

Only three weeks to go before our annual Easter concert and picnic day. Students have started with their rehearsals for the concert and the P&C will soon be busy finalising arrangements for the picnic.

We hope all families will bring extended family members and friends to celebrate this day with us. A reminder that it is **compulsory for all students** to attend. Teachers put much effort into organising concerts and preparing each student for their individual part.

**How you can help make the day a success?**

⇒ Encourage other family members and friends to come along.
⇒ Bake cake or sweets for the Cake Stall. *(See below)*
⇒ Offer your assistance to help man one of the stalls for part of the afternoon.
⇒ Send in your Easter Hamper contributions to the school office as soon as possible.

**Easter Eggs for Raffle**

Our annual Easter Raffle is always very popular due to the exciting and abundant hampers on offer as prizes. It is the generosity of school families which enable us to prepare such wonderful baskets. We would like to call upon families to donate **Easter chocolates** again this year. 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. Please send your contribution to the school office as soon as possible and no later than **Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March**. Also, if you have any **unwanted baskets** lying around at home, we would happily use them for the hampers.

**Easter Cake Stall**

The organising committee has made a special request for all families to contribute cakes or sweets and make the Easter Cake Stall the best ever! Home-made fare, in particular traditional Armenian choreg, are always best sellers and fetch good prices. Some ideas for traditional Armenian sweets – choreg, kata, mahmoul, kaghka, kounafa, khourabyeh, baklava… Another popular selling item is homemade cake – uncut and sold whole.

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**REMEMBER!**

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

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**ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND**

**WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 6**

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**Sponsor a child in Armenia through the Armenian Apostolic Church**

www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au
SCHOOL CHOCOLATE DRIVE - INFORMATION
We are commencing an Easter chocolate drive using ‘Cadbury Fundraiser’.

- This is a great school fundraiser but it can’t be successful without your assistance and we really appreciate your support. Starting from today each participating student will receive one carry-pack to take home and sell. Each carry-pack contains 12 Block & 10 Easter Egg chocolate packs, with each selling for $2.50 & $4.00 respectively. Total value of carry-pack is $70.
- If everyone can sell one carry-pack we hope to raise enough funds that can be used towards new equipment and resources to benefit the school and all of our students.
- As there is a time limit on our chocolate drive we must have all money and any unsold chocolate returned no later than Monday, 2nd April.
- If you can resist eating them all yourself try selling them to friends, relatives or Mum and Dad can even take them to work…they are usually very welcome around morning teatime or as an afternoon pick-me-up!
- If you have any queries, need to return money, unsold chocolate/s or if you would like another carry-pack to sell please see the office personnel, as they will be co-ordinating the drive.

PRIZES: For each carry-pack sold the P&C will place one ticket in the lucky dip draw for your chance to win the following thank you prizes. **Lucky-Dip Prizes: 3x $5 Canteen Vouchers.**

**HOUSE POINTS TERM 1**

**Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards**

**Sevan** - 82 points

**Yerevan** - 72 points

**BOOK CLUB - ISSUE 2**

Order Forms/Money Due by Wednesday 21st March, 2012

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

**BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK**

Happy Birthday to...

 Kevork Demirjian
 Mr Manoug Demirjian

**TEACHERS’ AWARD**

TERM 1 – WEEK 7

Year 5: Samuel Tateossian
 Christine Boyadjian
 Jonathan Amirzaian

Year 2: Talia Shamaon

Year 1: Kevork Demirjian
 Lilit Topozian
 Lara Kachichian
 Jessica Misislian
 Christopher Khatatchourian

Will your name be appearing here next?

**WORKING BEE**

SUNDAY - 25th MARCH 2012

From 10am... Further details next week...

Cancer Council recommends you protect yourself in 5 ways:

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

Protect yourself in five ways from skin cancer

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WHAT MAKES A GOOD STUDENT?

A GOOD STUDENT

- Arrives on time
- Pays attention to lesson
- Brings equipment needed for the lesson
- Able to work independently
- Able to work in groups
- Willing to help fellow students
- Completes all homework and assigned tasks
- Listens to others
- Polite
- Friendly
- Motivated
- Happy
- Observes school rules
- Listens to others
- Good communication verbal/written
- Respect for others
- Studies for assessment tasks
- Always tries his/her best
- Keeps up to date with current affairs

GREAT SUBJECT!

- Is well organised
- Accepts responsibility for his/her actions
- Pays attention to lesson
- Brings equipment needed for the lesson
- Able to work independently
- Able to work in groups
- Willing to help fellow students
- Completes all homework and assigned tasks
- Contributes to classroom discussion
- Revises work regularly

AUSSIE OF THE MONTH - MARCH 2012
Lilit Topouzian
For being a Responsible student

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 (Φασιλιστήρια) is the first day of Holy Week. It celebrates Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday (Χριστιανή Παρακολούθηση) recalls Jesus’ last meal, washing of His disciples’ feet, and His arrest and imprisonment.

Good Friday (Χριστιανή Παρακολούθηση) observes the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross.

Holy Saturday (Χριστιανή Παρακολούθηση) is chiefly a day of solemn vigil.

Easter Sunday (Χριστιανή Παρακολούθηση) celebrates the glorious Resurrection of Jesus - the Son of God.
Cent Smart & Samba Experience!

What a busy day the school encountered on Wednesday. All the students got money smart and became performing members of Brazilian rhythms and instruments.

K-2 were guided by Captain Super Cents to distinguish between needs and wants and to recognise the dangers posed by Gobbles the Wallet Monster (all those temptations to spend money needlessly).

Years 3 and 4 had their own personal financial fitness trainer - Coach Cash who taught them about earning, saving and spending money. She trained them to become elite athletes at managing their finances.

Year 5 and 6 learnt important financial literacy skills through a range of scenarios that related directly to their daily lives. They learnt about how they can earn money, earning responsibly, setting a budget, interest, and comparing prices when shopping.

These ‘Start Smart’ educational sessions are established and facilitated by the Commonwealth Bank Foundation to communicate with young people in a way they understand.

After becoming cent smart all the students got to participate in the Samba Experience. The K-2 students got to play Surdos – big bass drums, Tambourims – high pitched hand held drums, Ganzas – Latin shakers and Agogos – pitched bells. The rhythms that the students played were challenging, lively and produced a powerful groove. The workshop taught the students the benefits of teamwork, cooperation and how sections function in a larger group. There was no watching from the sidelines in these workshops. The students of Years 3-6 got to use musical triggers to enhance their listening skills and aural interpretation. They were able to explore language, movement, body percussion, singing and drumming. This fully resourced, innovative and unique workshop was lead by Tom Harding, an energetic and enthusiastic musician who supported the students throughout their musical experiences.

Mrs Vicky Dernee
Curriculum Coordinator
A.G.B.U. Alexander Primary School

Easter Celebrations

Palm Sunday - 1st April, 2012
from lunchtime

Join in the festivities of this special day
as we uncover the symbols of Easter.

A delicious lunch will be served. A day filled with enjoyable activities!
For your comfort, please bring your own picnic tables.