Dear Parents,

**LEST WE FORGET**

Tuesday 24th April, the day students returned to commence Term 2, saw them heading off to the city with members of staff to pay their respects to all those who fell victim during the ‘First Genocide of the 20th Century’.

Our initial visit was to the NSW Parliament House and to the rooftop garden, where the Armenian Genocide Commemorative ‘Khachkar’ (Cross-stone) is located. Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP, NSW Transport Minister and Member for Willoughby welcomed and escorted us to the unique location where a wreath laying ceremony was held. School Captain Sonya Boyadjian outlined the purpose of our visit, which was followed by a response from the honourable minister, stressing the importance of remembering and honouring those who have made great sacrifices.

The students had the opportunity to have a brief tour of the Parliament before heading off to the Botanical Gardens where they increased their understanding and appreciation of plants and the environment. There was plenty for them to see and discuss, including the thousands of fruit bats that had invaded the gardens, creating much excitement amongst the students.

The final destination was a walk down to Martin Place. There they joined the congregation from the Armenian Apostolic Church and members of the Armenian community who work in the city centre and had come to pay their respect at the Cenotaph on the eve of ANZAC day.

Following the laying of wreath and the special prayer service, students spent time going around reading and identifying the wreaths that had been placed there during the day. On our way back, there was a general feeling of pride and honour.

**CHANGES TO THE AFTERNOON CHATSWOOD BUS ROUTE**

Starting Monday 30th April, there will be changes to the afternoon bus route of the Forest Coach Lines to Chatswood. For over ten years, the students had to catch the afternoon bus to Chatswood or Cammeray from the Sydney Japanese School. As a result, they were asked to disembark and wait for a transfer at that location under the supervision of our teachers. This had been an ongoing concern of the school for many years and I am glad to state that after consultation with the Forest Coach Lines we have been able to find a more suitable alternative. The new bus route will eliminate the need for a transfer and the students will have a direct route from the school to their destinations. We hope the minor changes do not inconvenience some of the parents. Please check the Newsletter for further details about the changes.

I would like to take this opportunity and say a huge Thank You to all the teachers who for many years volunteered for the afternoon supervision at the Sydney Japanese School.

27th April 2012

**MANOUG DEMIRJIAN**
Hungry kids are irritable kids!
Also, students often find it difficult to concentrate for long periods of time.
That is why we have Crunch&Slp break everyday to break up the lesson.
Crunch&Slp allows students to refuel with fruit & vegetables & rehydrate with water.

Coming Up...
Stay tuned for changes to further enhance our Crunch&Slp program.

Mothers’ Day
Children’s Stall

Friday 11th May, 2012

School shopping for Mothers’ Day

Students will have the opportunity to buy gifts for their mum on Friday, 11th May.
The gifts will be provided by the P&C up to the cost of $10 each.
If there are extra gifts students can also buy for grandmothers, aunties etc. as long as they have enough money... so come prepared!

~ Needed ~
Please help the P&C by sending in wrapping paper required for the Mothers’ Day Stall.

Note: Mothers’ Day Luncheon - 20/5/12

RESUMES NEXT WEEK!

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

Weekly Report: Term 2 Week 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>ARMENIA</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Yerevan</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sevan</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $0.00
Accumulated: $190.75

Sponsor a child in Armenia through the Armenian Apostolic Church
www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au
INTERSCHOOL DEBATING COMPETITION - Years 5 - 6

The Forest District Debating Competition for Years 5 and 6 will get under way early next term. There will be a Debating Workshop to teach debating skills and formats to all students of the four* schools on 9th May. This will be held at the Sydney Japanese School. Debating rounds will commence soon after with our first debate on Wed. 23rd May at Galstaun College. The competition will comprise of four rounds of debates with the final being held on 15th August 2012. * For the first time in the competition the German International school will also join in as an observer.

Below is a schedule of debating venues and we ask parents to sign-off on all venues to grant permission for your child to attend. Travel to and from venues will be private cars of school staff and parent volunteers. Our students will be accompanied to debating sessions by Miss Knudsen.

Please return signed form to school by Friday, 4th May.

FOREST DISTRICT INTERSCHOOL DEBATING COMPETITION - Years 5 - 6

I grant permission for my child/ren __________________________ to attend the debates as outlined below. I understand s/he will travel to and from school by private car of school staff and parent volunteers and be accompanied by Miss Knudsen.

Please Note: The school requires parent volunteers to help with the transportation. If you are available and can assist, please let us know by selecting the appropriate box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEBATE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>TRAVEL</th>
<th>PARENT’S SIGNATURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>Wednesday 9th May</td>
<td>Sydney Japanese School</td>
<td>Private cars of staff &amp; parents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># 1</td>
<td>Wednesday 23rd May</td>
<td>Hamazkaine A&amp;S Galstaun College</td>
<td>Private cars of staff &amp; parents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># 2</td>
<td>Wednesday 6th June</td>
<td>John Colet School</td>
<td>Private cars of staff &amp; parents</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td># 3</td>
<td>Wednesday 20th June</td>
<td>Sydney Japanese School</td>
<td>Private cars of staff &amp; parents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># 4</td>
<td>Wednesday 1st August</td>
<td>AGBU Alexander Primary School</td>
<td>Private cars of staff &amp; parents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>Wednesday 15th August</td>
<td>Hamazkaine A&amp;S Galstaun College</td>
<td>Private cars of staff &amp; parents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please Note: The school requires parent volunteers to help with the transportation. If you are available and can assist, please let us know by selecting the appropriate box.

I am able to assist with transportation

YES ☐ NO ☐

I grant permission for my child/ren to attend the debates at the following venues:

SIGNATURE: ______________________ DATE: ______________________

* For the first time in the competition the German International school will also join in as an observer.
Sun protection and skin cancer myths

**Answer true or false:**

1. You don’t get sunburnt on cloudy days.  
2. I don’t need to use sunscreen because my foundation / moisturiser has some sunscreen in it.  
3. People with olive skin are not at risk of skin cancer.  
4. Sunbeds (solariums) are not a safe way to tan.  
5. You need to spend lots of time in the sun to get your daily dose of vitamin D.  
6. Fake tan protects your skin from the sun.  
7. It takes less than half an hour to get sunburnt.  
8. You don’t have to be concerned about skin cancer because, if it happens, it’s easy to see and easy to treat.  
10. You can get burnt through a car window.

For further myth-busting information, go to:  

**Answers:**  
1. False  
2. False  
3. False  
4. True  
5. False  
6. False  
7. True  
8. False  
9. False  
10. True

Who will be the new Dollarmite?

As part of the Commonwealth Bank’s centenary celebrations we want to find Australia’s best School Banking Saver! As such between 16 April and 30 June 2012, we are running a fun and exciting School Banking competition with the winning child being transformed into their very own Dollarmite character.

Being part of the competition is easy. A student simply needs to make 5 deposits at school during the competition period and then provide us with their best savings tip.

The winning school/class will receive 25 iPads and a $1500 excursion! For the winning student, as well as being ‘Dollarmized’, they will receive an annual movie pass for their family.

There also 50 runner up prize packs that include iPads, excursions, movie tickets and thousands of Dollarmites consolations prizes for the students.

A flyer with all competition details is issued with the today’s Newsletter.
ON THE 97th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Speech by School Captain - Sonya Boyadjian

Hon. Gladys Berejiklian - NSW Minister for Transport and Member for Willoughby, Teachers, Parents, fellow students and friends,

We are gathered here today to remember and honour the memory of all the Armenians who died 97 years ago, during the First Genocide of the 20th Century.

The Armenian Genocide was carried out by the "Young Turk" government of the Ottoman Empire (present day Turkey) during 1915-1918. One and a half million Armenians were killed, out of a total of two and a half million Armenians in the Ottoman Empire.

Most Armenians in Australia are children or grandchildren of the survivors, although there are still very few survivors left amongst us.

Armenians all over the world commemorate this great tragedy on April 24, because it was on that day in 1915 when 300 Armenian leaders, writers, thinkers and professionals in Constantinople (present day Istanbul) were rounded up, deported and killed. Also on that day in Constantinople, 5,000 of the poorest Armenians were killed in the streets and in their homes.

The Armenian Genocide was planned by the Central Committee of the Young Turk Party. It occurred in a systematic fashion, which proves that it was directed by the government.

First the Armenians in the army were disarmed, placed into labour battalions, and then killed. Then the Armenian political and intellectual leaders were rounded up on April 24, 1915, and then killed.

Finally, the remaining Armenians were called from their homes, told they would be relocated, and then marched off to concentration camps to the desert of Deir ez-Zor where they would starve and thirst to death in the burning sun. On the march, often they would be denied food and water, and many were treated roughly and killed by their "guards".

The Turkish government today denies that there was an Armenian genocide and claims that Armenians were only removed from the eastern "war zone." The Armenian Genocide, however, occurred all over present-day Turkey and not just in the so-called "war zone."

The Armenian Genocide was condemned at the time by representatives of the British, French, Russian, German, and Austrian governments - namely all the major Powers.

A number of Governments around the world have recognised the Armenian Genocide, including the unanimous motion passed by NSW Parliament in April, 1997. A year later the government decided to establish this Memorial, which was unveiled in March, 1999.

We are grateful that our leaders in Parliament recognise and condemn this horrific crime and hope that by remembering and learning from the past that it will never happen again to any group of people, anywhere in the world.

Today, we join with Armenians around the world to not only remember but to also state that we are a nation of survivors, with over 3000 year old history and culture. As the famous Armenian writer William Saroyan states, no matter what is done to destroy this proud nation… “For when two of them meet anywhere in the world, see if they will not create a New Armenia”.

Thank you. 24 April 2012