Dear Parents,

**IT’S A FACT – WISDOM IS BETTER THAN STRENGTH!**

It was an incredibly joyous time for the students in Years 5 and 6 when their debating team achieved a decisive victory against John Colet School in the final of the ‘Forest District Interschool Debating Competition’ this week. Sonya Boyadjian, Garo Betchakjian, Ani Manoukian and Levon Kehyayan proudly represented their school in a nail-biting conclusion.

The topic was ‘Wisdom is better than Strength’ and we argued the affirmative, saying that ‘having intelligence will allow you to be far more successful in life financially, emotionally and socially’. The Opposition argued that ‘wisdom is useless without strength of character’.

After a tough battle, with excellent presentation, arguments, rebuttals and repairs on both sides, the decision went to AGBU Alexander Primary School. The team was supported in class by other class members and all students have had some part in producing the other wins for the season. I am justly proud of their efforts and congratulate them on their researching of the topics, their presentation and delivery skills. They have learned a great deal.

It is now a proven historical fact that by consistently producing excellent debaters and strong or confident public speakers over the many years, Alexander Primary School has become the dominant team in the interschool challenge. This was the eighth win for our school, in a competition that has been running for sixteen years. I’m sure you all agree that the win has been made possible thanks to the support and guidance provided by Mrs Meaghan Terrey. All credit to her and a big thank you on behalf of the students and parents.

**LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!**

In 2009, we became a Certified school running the ‘Crunch&Sip’ program which is now an integral part of our school life. As a good example of having implemented Crunch&Sip, our school was recently invited by the Healthy Kids Association to appear in a DVD about the program. It will be shown to teachers at Live Life Well @ School workshops and distributed to schools in NSW that register interest in the program for them to share with staff, parents and students. It is expected that up to 2000 copies will be produced for distribution around NSW, providing some well-deserved recognition for our school and encouraging others to start Crunch&Sip.

Participation requires half a day’s filming at the school on Thursday 25th October, with filming of students participating in Crunch&Sip. There will also be filming of interviews with school staff and parents talking about the program. As a result, I would like to invite one of our parents to participate in the task if they are willing and available next Thursday. Questions to be asked will be provided in advance. Please contact the school office early next week to indicate your interest.

Release forms for this task have been provided with today’s newsletter and need to be completed by teachers and parents to allow Healthy Kids Association to use the content filmed. If you have any questions about this, don’t hesitate to contact me.

*Working Bee is on this Sunday. Hope to see you then.*

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN

19th October 2012
AUSSIE OF THE MONTH - SEPTEMBER 2012
Lara Kachichian
For Doing Her Best & Being Understanding of Others

SWIMMING LESSONS - Reminder
Please remember that our Friday school timetable has changed to accommodate our afternoon swimming lessons. To ensure students do not swim on a full stomach, Lunch is eaten at morning tea time, and Recess is eaten during a shorter lunch time.

A few points that parents can help with:
✓ Make sure your child has a comfortable fitting swimming cap. We have a small supply of caps at school to be used in the case of an emergency only (for instance, if a cap rips).
✓ Girls with long hair should have it tied up in a bun to fit under the cap.
✓ Swimming goggles are a must. Otherwise, your child may not be allowed to swim.
✓ Parents should supply all swimming articles in a small Swimming Bag, so wet articles are kept separate from school bag items. Please remember to also label every item of school uniform.

HOUSE POINTS TERM 4
Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards

SEVAN - 32 points
YEREVAN - 40 points

DATES TO REMEMBER
21/10 Working Bee - Spring clean
22/10 Book Club Issue 7 Orders Due
23/10 P&C Meeting @ The Ranch - 7pm
25/10 Crunch&Sip Film Crew on site!
18/11 Armenian Cultural Day & Fair 2012
20/11 New Prep class Information Day
29/11 2013 Captain Speeches & Election
07/12 Armenia’s Earthquake Remembrance Day
09/12 Christmas Concert and Graduation
12/12 Last Day Term 4 for students

Check ‘Coming up’ on our website for the latest.
News from the Classroom...

Winners of the Debating Competition!

On Wednesday 17th October 2012, AGBU Alexander Primary School competed in the finals of the ‘Forest District Interschool Debating Competition’. The students Sonya Boyadjian, Garo Betchakjian, Ani Manoukian and Levon Kehyayan were our team. They were challenged with the topic ‘Wisdom is better than Strength’. We the affirmative, stated that ‘having intelligence will allow you to be far more successful in life financially, emotionally and socially’.

The negative side of the debate was presented by John Colet School. After much research and preparation of arguments, our team listened intently to the negative sides arguments and were able to write rebuttals to their ideas on the spot. It was an extremely tough and interesting debate with our team winning in the end.

Sydney Japanese School and Galstaun College participated in a second debate ‘We have never had it so good’. Again this was a very interesting debate with Sydney Japanese School taking the win.

We would like to congratulate all the students in Year 5 & 6. Throughout the debating season, all the students had a hand in our success. Each week, a new topic was presented and all students were able to come up with arguments and rebutts for and against the topic so that we were prepared for what the opposition might say. We are proud of their efforts and the way they have represented our school.

This is the eighth win for Alexander Primary School, in a competition that has been running for sixteen years.

Mrs Terrey
Debating Coordinator

SOCCER TOURNAMENT

The German International School Sydney in Terrey Hills is having its annual Novemberfest on Saturday 3rd November from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

They have invited our school to join in their international soccer tournament for different age groups. This football tournament will be held from approximately 10:00 am - 2:00 pm (depending on the number of registering teams) in the gym of the German International School as a part of the Novemberfest.

They are planning to offer two different tournaments for the following age groups:
Year 3 / 4 tournament and Year 5 / 6 tournament.

Each participating team will have 5 players and some subs. Each winner of a tournament will receive a prize. Last year they had their German teams competing against Australian and French teams.

As it is a new gym, the children need to bring clean “non marking” sports shoes.

Please let the school office know early next week if your children are interested in joining the competition with a team from Alexander school. If there are any further questions don’t hesitate to contact the school on 94863266.
For Sale...

“And Seven Apples Fell From The Sky…”
Seven Stories and Seven Songs

The School Shop has for sale the latest high quality Armenian production that combines storytelling, songs and mini storybook into one. The CD covers seven great stories and songs with an accompanying storybook. It is a great gift idea… For more information and to purchase a copy please contact the office - 9486 3266.

WORKING BEE
SUNDAY 21st OCTOBER

From 9am
We need as many volunteers as possible to help clean up before the Cultural Day

JOBS TO DO

✿ Weeding
✿ Shrub and tree trimming
✿ Cleaning the gutters
✿ Soft fall raking
✿ Mulching
✿ General cleaning

EXTRA PHOTO ORDER
SCHOOL PHOTO

If you are interested in ordering a whole school photo, then please contact the school office on 9486 3266 and ask for the special order form and the payment envelope from ‘Academy Photography’. Alternatively, fill the order form when you have viewed a sample copy near the office.

GRADUATE’S PHOTO

This year, there is also the opportunity to purchase a Graduate’s photo with staff. Once again a sample copy is available for viewing near the office.

$20
$15

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News from the Classroom…

Junior First Aid

Tuesday 16th October saw the Year 3 -6 participate in Junior First Aid presented by Surf Lifesaving NSW. The course was very interactive and hands on which allowed the students to fully understand the theory of helping someone that might be hurt.

Students were quizzed if they knew the emergency services numbers: 000 from a landline and 112 from a mobile. Did they know their home address, telephone number and nearest cross street to their home?

Next came the hands on activities. Students had to re-enact an emergency situation using the CPR mannequins. The D.R.S.A.B.C.D procedure was followed. Danger, Response, Send for an ambulance, Airways, Breathing, CPR, Defibrillation. We know that when performing CPR we need to do 30 compressions and then 2 breaths, continuing until the ambulance arrives or the person begins breathing. We learnt the difference between a big accident (car accident, broken bones) and a small accident (nose bleed, grazing a knee).

The students were able to bandage each other helping to stop bleeding and put each other into slings as if they had broken a bone.

Overall, the students learnt a great deal about how to help someone that is injured or what to do in an emergency situation.

By Mrs Terrey, Taniel Betchakjian, Silvy Giragosian and Tzolare Giragosian
ARmenian CULTURAL DAY & FAIR

Celebrating

500 YEARS

OF

ARmenian PRINTING

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500 ԱՐՄԵՆԻԱՆ

Sunday 18 November* 2012, 10am-4pm
Ԫնկարիչ 18 նոյեմբեր 2012, օպեր 10հա-4հա

* New postponed date in respect of His Eminence Archbishop Aghas Baliozian