Dear Parents,

**HOLY COMMUNION**

In school tradition, students, parents and teachers attended the Armenian Church of Holy Resurrection last Sunday, to receive blessings and Holy Communion for the start of the new school year.

During the sermon, His Grace Bishop Haigazoun Najarian reflected on the liturgical calendar of the past week, as the church had come to celebrate the Feasts of St Vartan, St Ghevont and Presentation of Our Lord to the Temple (Diarentarach). Like the heroes of Vartananst, the students received Holy Communion and parents presented their children to the church just as our Lord was presented on the fortieth day of His birth. Congratulations to all the children who displayed exemplary behaviour both during and after the church service. They took part with the congregation by praying, singing the hymns and by following the Divine Liturgy. Thank you to the parents for your assistance and cooperation.

**PARENT INFORMATION EVENING - REVIEW**

On Tuesday, we held a successful Parent Information Evening. Thank you to all the parents who came to show their support for their children’s education and demonstrated interest in their school life. In fact, the commitment of the parent body plays an important role in the life of a school. Therefore, continue with your effort to get right behind your children and play a supporting role, because your children are the ones who benefit.

At the start of the evening, the teachers had the opportunity to explain to their parents the special features of teaching and learning which pertain to their classes. On returning to the school hall, parents were given an outline of the major functions planned for the year, they were also briefed and updated on the progress of the capital projects. The policies in relation to discipline, homework, welfare and uniform were reviewed and the academic programs discussed - including the Armenian Language and Student Welfare programs. After a number of important reminders and discussion about the proposed changes of the volunteer scheme, the parents were introduced to the online learning software utilised at Alexander school. Mrs Dernee briefed parents on the main online tools and demonstrated how the software the students are subscribed to are used in the teaching and learning process. Most students have received information in relation to their home access to these sites and if you have any questions please speak to your child’s teacher.

**OPEN DAY - THURSDAY 21ST FEBRUARY**

On Thursday, 21st February, during our Open Day program, the new Primate of the Armenian Apostolic Church of Australia and New Zealand, His Grace Bishop Haigazoun Najarian will be welcomed to the school for the first time. The Open Day is between 11am - 1pm.

As part of our Open Day program and special welcome, the students will provide a brief presentation and concert followed by a reception. I welcome parents, family, friends and all members of the community to come along and experience a day at Alexander school.

15th February 2013

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN
Kids Basketball Training!

U12’s basketball competitions will start in early April! In preparation for this comp, we will be training every Sunday morning at Willoughby Leisure Centre (outdoor courts) from 10am - 11am!

Kids of all ages/skill levels are welcome to come down and train with us!

For more information please email us at agbuyouth@gmail.com or contact Talar on 0425 209 471

We look forward to meeting you all very soon!

GIVE IT A GO!! WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO LOSE??!

BOOK CLUB - ISSUE 1
Order Forms/Money Due by Tuesday 19th February, 2013
Orders after this date cannot be processed. Please place your orders in clearly marked envelopes.

BOOK COVERS
All children should by now have covered all school books with clear plastic. Thank you parents for supporting your children in getting this annual chore out of the way.

HOUSE POINTS TERM 1
Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards
ARARAT - 44 points
MASIS - 40 points

DATES TO REMEMBER
18/02 ‘The World Needs Music’ - Slips & $ Due
19/02 Book Club - Issue 1 Orders Due
20/02 ‘The World Needs Music’ @ SJS from 1pm
21/02 His Grace Bishop Haigazoun Najarian Welcomed at Alexander School ~ Open Day ~
07/03 School Photos
17/03 Working Bee
19/03 StartSmart Financial Literacy Program
24/03 Palm Sunday Concert & Picnic
15/12 Christmas Concert and Graduation
Please also check the electronic calendar in the ‘News & Events’ section of the school’s web site.

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND
WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 3

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SPONSOR A CHILD IN ARMENIA THROUGH THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au
BACK TO SCHOOL
DON’T FORGET ABOUT YOUR CHILD’S ASTHMA!

Early February, just after school goes back, is the time of year when children are most likely to have a flare-up of their asthma, so it is important that parents keep an eye on their children’s asthma, ensure they take their prescribed preventer medication regularly, and that they always carry their reliever medication with them. It is vital that asthma in children is properly managed in order to avoid asthma emergencies.

Symptoms in young children may include wheezing, persistent coughing or shortness of breath. If these symptoms do not respond to the child’s reliever medication, or if reliever medication is needed every day, we are encouraging parents to take their children immediately to a doctor.

Parents also need to ensure that the school their child attends is fully aware he or she has asthma so the school can support the child’s health needs.

Although asthma is mild in most children, it can be serious and even life-threatening if it is not properly managed, so it is important that anyone with asthma sees their doctor regularly and develops an asthma action plan so they know what to do when their symptoms worsen.

There is so much to think about when returning to school. It’s often difficult to remember everything. Make sure it’s not managing your child’s asthma appropriately that you forget! Ensure that you see your GP for an update on your child’s asthma and be sure to supply your school with an updated Asthma Action Plan.

If parents have any questions, they should call the Asthma Information Line on 1800 645 130 or speak with their doctor.

Asthma Foundation NSW  ☎ 1800 645 130  🌐 www.asthmansw.org.au

REMEMBER: Don’t Forget the Fruit!

Each class has a Crunch&Sip break each day for students to refuel on fruit and vegetables and rehydrate on water.

Please make sure your son or daughter has an extra piece of fruit or vegetable for Crunch&Sip each day.

YOUNG AUSTRALIA WORKSHOP - 20th February, 2013

The school has been invited to join a special performance called ‘The World Needs Music’ at the Sydney Japanese School. The show will take us on a journey into musical styles from across the globe in this compelling multi instrumental interactive performance. Playing the 21 stringed African harp (kora), guitar as well as West African xylophone it will explore the rich and culturally diverse musical traditions of West Africa, Latin America, South India and the Middle East.

Students will be accompanied by their classroom teachers and will be transported in teacher and volunteer parent cars to the venue. The cost is $5 per child. Please fill in the permission slip below and return with your payment to the school office by Monday 18th February.

I grant permission for my child/ren to attend the Young Australia Workshop at the Sydney Japanese School on Wednesday 20th February. I understand he/she will travel from school by private cars of teachers and volunteers being accompanied and supervised by class teachers.

NAME OF STUDENT/S: _____________________________________________  DATE:  __________________

PARENT’S SIGNATURE: ________________________  MONEY ENCLOSED: $_______  ($5.00 per child)

TERM 1 - WEEK 3  🌐 www.alexander.nsw.edu.au  3
Capital Works in the ‘Year of Achievements’

Just before the start of the school year and the weekend of continuous rain Warringah Council sent a team of workers with heavy machinery and equipment to clean out the dam area where the storm water pipes flow out. As you are aware, the replacement of our stormwater pipe from the school grounds to the dam early last year, required a important maintenance follow up with the Council. With all credit to them, for over three days, half a dozen workers did a major clean up of the area which should resolve the flooding issues for a very long time. This was in fact proven over the following weeks with the downpour of heavy rain. As a result of the clean up it is now possible to set up the area for study purposes, as a sensitive ecological site with protected long-neck turtles and other wetland wildlife.
Welcoming the Newly Appointed Primate of the Diocese

On Saturday 5 January, a welcoming Procession (Hrashapar) and Prayer Service was held in the Armenian Apostolic Church of Holy Resurrection to welcome the newly appointed Primate of the Diocese of Australia and New Zealand, His Grace Bishop Haigazoun Najarian.

On the joyful occasion of welcoming the new Primate, AGBU Alexander Primary School students took part in the guard of honour to greet His Grace and later had the opportunity to receive his blessings.

Exhibition in the City of Ryde Library...

Celebrating 500 Years of Armenian Printing

Since the start of the year, part of Alexander school’s exhibition has been on display in the Ryde Library. The display has been placed at two locations in the Library. Take a look next time you’re there!
Open Day
Thursday
21st February
11am - 1pm

Discover what makes our
students shine!

Come along and see how we nurture your child
in our unique environment and caring community.

☎ 9486 3266

www.alexander.nsw.edu.au

2 Namba Road, Duffys Forest NSW 2086

Winners of 2012 Forest District Interschool Debating Competition