Dear Parents,

**WORKING BEE - THIS SUNDAY!**
Thank you to all those wonderful people who have volunteered to join our Working Bee to help clean and tidy the gardens and grounds. It’s on this Sunday, and we have plenty to do... Please join us from 9am.

**ALL WELCOME ON PALM SUNDAY, 24 MARCH - OPEN DAY**
We are all looking forward to our annual Palm Sunday concert and picnic. Once again the children have prepared a great programme and we extend a special invitation to all members of the community to join us in our celebration. The day has also been set as our second Open Day for the year.

It is an opportunity for current and future friends and families to visit the school and view our activities. So come and enjoy the fresh air, the delicious food, the colourful hat parade, the great entertainment and wonderful atmosphere!

**WE GREW A GIANT PUMPKIN!**
Towards the end of last year the students planted a pumpkin seed in the school’s Vegetable Garden. On our return from the holidays a pumpkin had grown and continued to grow day by day... into a Giant Pumpkin! The enormous pumpkin was harvested few weeks ago and last Friday the students of Years 3/4 baked some pumpkin scones and sweet zucchini cupcakes for morning tea!

Special thank you to the Year 3/4 class and Ms Smith for once again bringing food from the garden to the kitchen. We can still taste the baked pumpkin scones that were served with maple syrup and butter. Not to mention the cupcakes made from the sweet zucchini, grown in our garden. They were so delicious that it was hard to tell that they were in fact made from zucchini!

*Did you know?… The pumpkin weight was a whopping 11 kilograms!*
REMINDER...

We would like to remind those families who so far have not sent in their contribution for the Easter Raffle hampers, if they could donate Easter chocolates by **Thursday 21/3/13**.

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.

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**BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK**

*Happy Birthday to...*

- Kevork
- Mr Manoug

**REMEMBER!**

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

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**HOUSE POINTS TERM 1**

*Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards*

- **ARARAT** - 122 points
- **MASIS** - 121 points

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- 17/03 Working Bee
- 19/03 StartSmart Financial Literacy Program
- 24/03 Palm Sunday Concert & Picnic
- 29/03 Good Friday - Public Holiday
- 30/03 Easter Saturday - Public Holiday
- 31/03 Easter Sunday
- 01/04 Easter Monday - Public Holiday
- 11/04 Parent/Teacher Interviews & Portfolios
- 12/04 Last Day Term 1
- 15/04 A.G.B.U. Foundation Anniversary
- 15/12 Christmas Concert and Graduation

*Please also check the electronic calendar in the ‘News & Events’ section of the school’s web site.*

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**WORKING BEE**

**SUNDAY 17th MARCH**

From 9am

- **JOBS TO DO**
  - Weeding
  - Shrub and tree trimming
  - Cleaning the gutters & playground

- **THINGS TO BRING**
  - Strong gloves
  - Weeding implements
  - Whipper snipper / Chainsaw

Thank for your support! See you Sunday.

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**TEACHERS’ AWARD**

**TERM 1 – WEEK 6**

- Year 6: Kevork, Christine Jessics
- Year 5: Serly, Stella Silvy
- Year 3: Noak, Samuel

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**ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND**

**WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 7**

8 Points – **MASIS** .......... $13.10

6 Points – **ARARAT** .......... $12.50

**TOTAL:** .......... **$25.60**

**ACCUMULATED:** .......... **$159.05**

*Sponsor a child in Armenia through the Armenian Apostolic Church*  
www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au
Sincere Condolences
To
Mrs Sonia Topouzian
Mr & Mrs Donik Topouzian & Family
Mr & Mrs Avedis Topouzian & Family
Mr & Mrs Hagop Topouzian & Family
Mr & Mrs Vatche Topouzian & Family

Upon the passing of their Husband, father and grandfather

Mr Artin Topouzian

who passed away on 2nd March 2013.

From the School Board, Parents, Staff and Students of AGBU Alexander Primary School.

Year of Achievements...

Capital Works - Maintenance

At the start of the year, a number of maintenance works were carried out at the school. New carpets were laid in two of the classrooms. Plumbing works were done, with half a dozen toilet cistern and taps replaced. As a result, the toilet block adjacent to the Prep/K classroom was back in operation and is now used exclusively by the junior students.

Special thanks to Garo Parizian of ‘Down Right Plumbing’ for providing great and reliable service.

DONATIONS TO ALEXANDER SCHOOL

In Memoriam for the Late Ousanna Ashjian

Mr & Mrs Nerses Menendjian $50

May Her Soul Rest In Peace

The very competitive fees at Alexander Primary School often prompt school families to make financial donations to the school to further support school projects. The school welcomes your donation and those of our community members. Donations can also be made in lieu of gift-giving occasions or for memorials.

All donations to the School Building Fund are tax deductible.

EASTER CAKE STALL - CONTRIBUTION

The P&C would like to ask all families if they can please indicate the type of sweet they will be making/bringing for the Easter Cake Stall. Some ideas for traditional Armenian sweets – choreg, kata, mahmoul, kaghka, kounafa, khourabyeh, baklava or homemade cake (uncut and sold whole). Please return slip to the school office early next week to help us organise the event. Once again, Thank You for your support.

✔ YES, I will be contributing to the Easter Cake Stall and I will be making…

Type of Sweet: ____________________________ Quantity: _____________

NAME OF STUDENT/S: ___________________________________________

PARENT’S SIGNATURE: _________________________________________ DATE: ___________________

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Type of Sweet: ____________________________ Quantity: _____________

NAME OF STUDENT/S: ___________________________________________

PARENT’S SIGNATURE: _________________________________________ DATE: ___________________
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
OF HOLY RESURRECTION

Celebrating
Children’s Day

SUNDAY 24 MARCH 2013

The children of our Community are warmly invited to attend Church on this day when we celebrate the glorious entry into Jerusalem of our Lord Jesus Christ at the start of Holy Week

Join the traditional Children’s Procession following the Divine Liturgy

SPECIAL EASTER TREATS FOR THE CHILDREN

For more information contact the Church office on 9419-8056
National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy 2013
Letter to Parents

In May 2013 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The tests will be conducted across Australia for all students from 14-16 May 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 14 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 15 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 16 MAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy (Number; Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and Space)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 17 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:

- they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom will be provided. Large print, Braille and black and white versions of the test are available for students with vision impairment.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school Principal, and a parent or carer consent form must be signed. Students may be withdraw from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests you must sign a parent / carer consent form. Consent forms are available at your child’s school.

Please make an appointment with the school Principal if you would like further information about your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at: http://www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html
Winners of 2012 Forest District Interschool Debating Competition

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

http://www.facebook.com/AlexanderSchool