

Dear Parents,

### PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

Our **Parent Information Evening** will be held on **Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> February** starting at **7.00pm**. The evening will give parents the opportunity to gain further understanding of how the classes are arranged and find out what will be going on in your child's classroom and school this year.

**We expect to see all families represented at the Parent Information Evening.** This is the opportunity you have to find out exactly what is happening on a day to day basis in your child's classroom and what our expectations are of students and parents. Parents will also be briefed and updated on some of the major programs in place and will hear about the various ways they can contribute to the school community. The education of children is a huge task. We all need to pitch in and play a supporting role - teachers supporting parents, parents supporting teachers, the school Board and school programs.

Please be reminded that this is not a time to talk about your child's progress specifically. By all means, make an appointment to meet your child's teacher if you need to do so. Teachers will also brief and update parents on occasions. Children who attend the evening because there is no one else at home are to remain in close vicinity of the school hall and not go out to play in the playground.

### COURTESY IS THE WORD AND THE ACTION!

As a virtue, you can't beat *courtesy* to make all those about you feel special and appreciated. The students are being encouraged to adopt *courtesy* as a virtue to be practised and expected from others.

How to be courteous?

- Say *please* and *thank you* whenever asking for anything.
- Give way at doorways, open the door for other people.
- Offer to carry things for adults who have a lot to carry.
- Look at people to whom you are speaking.
- Offer help to your classmates when they are in difficulty.
- Show you appreciate what others do for you.

Please reinforce this **virtue** in your home and help us to bring up well mannered children for the future good of our community.



### THE NEWSLETTER IS FOR YOU

On a final note, may I urge parents to make special time each weekend to read through the pages of the school Newsletter with your child/ren. A great deal of time and effort is poured into producing this publication. It is compiled for the benefit of keeping you informed with what's happening at your child's school. Shared reading time will keep you up to date and will model positive attitudes toward school and learning.

10<sup>th</sup> February, 2017

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN



## PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

**Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> February @ 7:00p.m. sharp! - School Hall**

*We hope to see every family represented to hear important information on what is happening in your child's school and classroom.*



## SCHOOL DISCIPLINE POLICY

The school “**Discipline Policy - Parent Handout**” is enclosed with today’s Newsletter. Parents should read this document carefully to familiarise themselves with the strategies implemented at AGBU Alexander Primary School to encourage positive attitude and behaviour.

The school has expectations of its students to maintain standards which will promote personal achievement and school pride. It is the tone of our school to be positive, encouraging and motivational. Children need this same encouragement from parents in order to succeed. Students achieve highest when parents take an **active** interest and role in their education and school life.



### School Standards on Homework:

- ⇒ It is expected that students will complete set tasks to the **best of their ability** - untidy work will not be accepted.
- ⇒ Parents should check each set of homework to make sure its completed at the accepted standard.
- ⇒ Homework should be made a **priority** when students arrive home of an afternoon. However, teachers understand that students may have extra-curricular after school activities. If homework is unable to be completed, please write a note to the teacher stating reason.
- ⇒ If your child has difficulty with set homework, please advise your child’s teacher in writing the following day. If the situation persists, please make an appointment to meet with your child’s teacher.



### School Standards on Uniform:

- ⇒ Students are expected to wear **correct** uniform at all times.
- ⇒ Students wearing incorrect uniform (any part) should provide a note to the class teacher stating reason.
- ⇒ Students are allowed to bring sports shoes to school for play. They are allowed to leave a second pair of sports shoes (predominantly white) at school to change at lunchtime for play then change back.
- ⇒ Students must have school hats at school daily. “**NO HAT, NO PLAY**”
- ⇒ Jewellery, nail polish and make-up not permitted. Only one pair, plain stud / sleeper earrings permitted.
- ⇒ Random uniform checks are conducted and students receive House points for correct uniform standards.
- ⇒ Students who lose an article of uniform (eg hat or jumper) will have a week’s grace after which time the article must be replaced.
- ⇒ Students who repeatedly forget sports shoes / hats will have records of misbehaviour sent home.

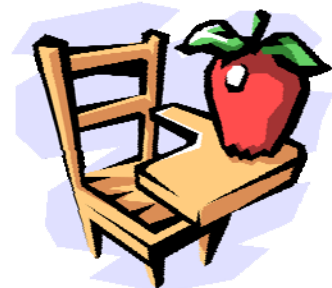
## Our School Rules are...

- ☺ We use our common sense.
- ☺ We keep ourselves safe.
- ☺ We respect other people, property and the environment.
- ☺ We strive to do our best.

§ § §

## Մեր Դպրոցի Կանոններն են...

- ☺ Ճիշդ պետք է դաստենք:
- ☺ Մենք մեզ կ’ապահովենք:
- ☺ Կը յարգենք ուրիշները, ուրիշներու սեփականութիւնը եւ միջավայրը:
- ☺ Կը ճգնինք ընելու մեր լաւագոյնը:



### DATES TO REMEMBER

- 13/02 Student Information Update forms due
- 15/02 Parent Information Evening - School Hall  
Book Club - Issue 1 Orders Due
- 17/02 Life Education Van Visit (Healthy Harold)
- 23/02 Holy Communion at Church - St Vartan
- 02/04 Easter Concert & Picnic
- 10/12 Christmas Concert and Graduation

*Please mark these important days in your calendar & check this box regularly for updates. You can also check the electronic calendar in the 'News & Events' section of the school's web site. The electronic calendar can be shared on your phone. Contact the school to find out how.*

### ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

#### WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 2

8 Points – **Masis** ..... \$0.00

6 Points – **Ararat** ..... \$0.00

**TOTAL** ..... **\$00.00**

**ACCUMULATED:** ..... **\$00.00**

SPONSOR A CHILD IN ARMENIA THROUGH THE  
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
[www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au](http://www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au)

### CANTEEN OPENS NEXT WEEK

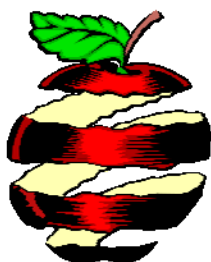
Thank you to the families who responded to our call for canteen duty. The **Canteen Calendar** for the first term will soon be provided. **The calendar will be subject to change and it is important that parents also check the school website to confirm the latest menu or canteen days.**

We are always keen to have new mums join the team. If you have not yet signed up for canteen duty, but would like to take an active role, please contact the school Office. Should we have sufficient volunteers, full canteen facilities will be available on additional days.

*Children love to see their parents actively involved in their school... even if it's only once a term. The positive effect of your support will reward your child, your school and you.*



### STUDENT LUNCHBOXES



We are generally very happy with the contents of our students' lunchboxes. Our school would rate fairly well with all the attention given to ensure school lunchboxes contain mostly foods with good nutritional value. Whilst children may complain about lack of variety, try being inventive with the way you serve foods. Please continue to help us with this school program - keep up with the practice of providing low-fat, low-salt, low-sugar foods.

***Fruit size can make all the difference between "fruit eaten" and "fruit wasted".*** Please buy small sized fruit for small mouths to chomp around, otherwise send cut fruit to school. Many of the younger children (P-2) could be wasting good fruit because it is just too hard to eat.

## **THE SCHOOL LUNCH BOX**

Parents are instrumental in the success of our school's healthy food program as providers of good, nutrition-filled lunch boxes.

To help parents with the confusing task of deciding on suitable snack foods, below is a list of what we consider to be appropriate.



**ONE ONLY - Snack Food** which includes any one of the following: baked biscuits or snacks such as BBQ shapes; yoghurt or other dairy dessert such as Yogo or Petie Miam; slice of plain cake, fruit muffin or fruit toast; fruit straps/bars; breakfast/muesli bars, plain pop corn.

**SNACKS WHICH DO NOT QUALIFY:** All chips, roll-ups, LCM's, chocolate muffins, cream biscuits and wafers.

**UNLIMITED AMOUNTS OF - Fresh Fruit & Vegetables ...** fruit bars and fruit yoghurt are no replacement for fresh fruit.

**AT LEAST ONE SERVE OF - Bread ... sandwiches**

Sandwiches are the most ideal lunch food but we do understand that children need some variety and often have home-cooked meals to replace sandwiches.

**SUITABLE LUNCH DRINKS FOR SCHOOL -** fruit juice, milk, water.



## TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2017

**Class Teachers:** Years 3-6 Mrs Vicky Dernee | Years 1-2 Mr Manoug Demirjian | P-K Miss Charlotte Holloway.

**Armenian Language & Culture:** Armenian Language lessons for Years P-6 are with Mrs Seta Keoshgerian | Armenian History, Religion and Culture (Culture) lessons for Years 1-6 are with Mr Manoug Demirjian and Prep with Mrs Seta Keoshgerian.

**Eastern Armenian:** The lessons are taught with the assistance of Yerekin Hasmik Hambardzumyan. She joins the Armenian classroom every *Wednesday* to deliver these lessons.

**Scripture:** The scripture instruction program will continue to be implemented across the whole year. Mrs Cynthia Tomassian has once again volunteered to join the weekly Culture classes on *Fridays* to assist with the teaching of scripture during Terms 1 and 4.

**Music:** The lessons are taught with the assistance of Mrs Zela Margossian-Gaspar on *Tuesdays*. She also provides private piano lessons on *Monday & Tuesdays*. Please contact the school office if you want to enrol your child. Lessons have commenced and we would like to remind students to have their piano books in their bags.

**Library:** Mrs Armine Sevazlian has volunteered to continue her role as Library Coordinator. Library borrowing days and lessons are on *Mondays*. The Library will also be open during recess and lunch.

**Office:** The office is managed by Mrs Margueritte Boyadjian. She also travels on the **Ryde bus** providing supervision and support. Mrs Boyadjian also assists with the running of the school canteen.

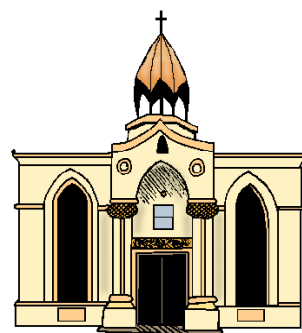
Miss Christine Apanian is our volunteer classroom and office assistant.

## VARTANANK: Holy Communion - Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017



In school tradition, all students and staff will attend the Armenian Apostolic Church of Holy Resurrection, Chatswood on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017, to receive blessings and Holy Communion for the start of the new school year and on the occasion of St Vartan.

Once again, we have received an invitation from His Grace Bishop Haigazoun Najarian (Primate of the Armenian Church of Australia & New Zealand) to join in the special Mass on St Vartan's day.



On this special occasion, the students will reflect on the importance of the 'Battle of Vartanank' and its significance to the survival of Armenians as Christians. The invitation has also been extended to other Armenian schools and **parents are invited to share the event with us.**

Light refreshments will be served following the church service.

We expect to arrive at the Armenian Apostolic Church by 10.30am to join the Church Service & Communion. Students are expected to arrive back at school by 2.30pm. Full summer school uniform must be worn. Girls will need school hats. Students will travel to and from school by a charter bus.

Please return permission slip below to class teachers by *Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> February*.



## VARTANANK - HOLY COMMUNION

I grant permission for my child/ren to attend the Armenian Apostolic Church of Holy Resurrection in Chatswood on **Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017** on the occasion of Vartanank to receive Holy Communion and/or blessing.

I understand students will be accompanied by class teachers and travel to and from school by a charter bus.

STUDENT/S NAME/S: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## LIFE EDUCATION NEW SOUTH WALES VISIT - Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2017



New South Wales  
FOR A SAFER, SMARTER LIFE

Life Education NSW mobile classroom will be visiting our school on Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.

Life Education provides a positive health based education program for students in P/K to Year 6 and helps them gain an appreciation and respect for the human body. The aim of Life Education is to reduce drug abuse and the older students discuss the effects of drugs on the body.

The Life Education programs are progressive and each year students participate in a different program building on the knowledge gained in previous years. Programs also help to develop life skills enabling students to make informed choices concerning their health and to be confident in politely informing their friends and peers of their decisions concerning drugs and other issues. The programs are a fully integrated part of the curriculum. Specially designed teachers' manuals and children's work sheets provide ongoing class material to further develop skills and knowledge.



### HAROLD MERCHANDISE



Life Education NSW is a not for profit community-based organization that relies heavily on the raising of funds within the community to assist in meeting the shortfall left after receiving minimal assistance from Government funding.

The sale of Harold merchandise to the children whilst the program is visiting each school supports the fundraising activities of local committees and all proceeds support Life Education within each local area. These products help to remind children about the messages delivered to them during their Life Education session and have either a picture of Harold or the Life Education logo on them.

The educator will provide the opportunity for children to purchase these products during the school visit. Please provide the **correct money** in an envelope with the item written on the face of the envelope along with your child's name and class. This allows the educator to process orders efficiently and accurately. Orders will be returned by the conclusion of the visit.



| Healthy Harold<br>Product Description | Price<br>Including GST |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Tattoo                                | \$0.50                 |
| Harold Sticky Note Pad                | \$1.50                 |
| Harold Activity Bag                   | \$3.00                 |
| Harold Key Ring                       | \$3.00                 |

| Healthy Harold<br>Product Description | Price<br>Including GST |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Harold Hand Ball                      | \$3.00                 |
| Harold Stationary Set                 | \$3.00                 |
| Small Harold Soft Toy                 | \$8.00                 |
| Large Harold Soft Toy                 | \$15.00                |

NB - Harold Products are subject to availability

*Students may bring money to buy these listed Happy Harold products directly from the Life Education Van.*

Please return permission slip and money to the office by **Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February**.



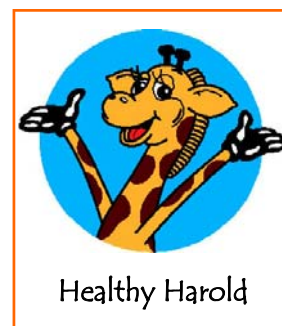
## LIFE EDUCATION NSW VISIT - P-6

I give permission for my child/ren to attend the Life Education NSW mobile classroom which will visit AGBU Alexander Primary School on **Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017**.

STUDENT/S NAME/S: .....

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: ..... DATE: .....

MONEY ENCLOSED: \$ ..... (\$10.00 per student)





## AGBU Sydney Chapter proudly presents A Book Event

7.00 pm

Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> of March 2017

AGBU Centre – 2 Yeo Street, Neutral Bay NSW

Presented with detailed explanations by the author himself  
Sassoon Grigorian. Q. & A. will follow

# Smart Nation

*A Blueprint for Modern Armenia*

In *Smart Nation*, S. Grigorian, with a professional background in technology sector, discusses Armenia's potential for development in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He also refers to other successful small nation states which have tackled similar challenges in terms of technological developments, good governance and security.

This book is a guiding reference for Armenia's leaders and consider practical public policy recommendations outlined by the author.



Sassoon Grigorian

Admission: Free  
Light refreshments  
will be served

For Information  
Please contact  
AGBU Office: 9908 3911