

MESSAGE FROM THE AGBU ALEXANDER PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD

Dear parents, students, staff and friends of AGBU Alexander Primary School,

On behalf of the AGBU Alexander Primary School Board I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2017 school year. Members of the Board would like to extend a warm welcome to all of the new faces at the school this year, alongside the familiar faces that we know and love.

We are excited to begin our 'Year of Service' with such a wonderfully diverse group of parents and students. Members of the Board look forward to spending the year getting to know our new parents and continuing the great work we already do in service to the school and the Armenian community of Sydney.

Our School Board is comprised of current and past parents, former students and dedicated members of AGBU Sydney who oversee the operation of the school. The Board is principally focussed on maintaining the high quality delivery of New South Wales curriculum, as well as providing students with specialised knowledge and experience of the Armenian language and culture.

The Board would also like to take this opportunity to thank the teaching staff who make all of the wonderful educational and cultural endeavours of the school possible. We have such dedicated teachers here at AGBU Alexander Primary School, who have been with us for such a long time. In fact some staff, such as Mr Manoug Demirjian & Mrs Seta Keoshgerian have been with the school so long that they taught me when I was a student at the school, with Mrs Vicky Dernee joining only shortly after this.

This year we have a wonderful new addition to the school with Miss Charlotte Holloway joining the team. The Board extends its warm welcome to Miss Holloway, who has already been doing great things with the students since the start of Term 1.

In the coming year we will endeavour to continue and extend the good work of the school in the formal education, and in instilling in its students the qualities of service to the community that is such a central part of our proud mission to 'Grow and Serve'.

Yours Sincerely,



George Dertadian
Secretary



If you like to contact members of the School Board please check the Newsletter for details.

AGBU ALEXANDER PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD

- CONTACT DETAILS -

The AGBU Alexander Primary School Board meets officially on the last Thursday of every month. Meeting dates are published on the school calendar. Request for contact with any Board member can be arranged from the school office or via email:

Board@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Emails to the above address are automatically forwarded to all Board members.

Alternatively, Board members can be contacted individually using the following emails:

Sossie Giragosian - Chairperson

Sossie@alexander.nsw.edu.au

George Dertadian - Secretary

George@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Ari Zorlu - Treasurer

Ari@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Serop Aslanian

Serop@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Karis Khatchadourian

Karis@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Vahe Boyadjian - Public Officer

Vahe@alexander.nsw.edu.au

**Sarkis Manoukian - AGBU Sydney Chapter
Executive Director**

Sarkis@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 9486 3266

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK

Happy Holiday Birthday to...

Adelin

Happy Birthday to...

Sargis

DATES TO REMEMBER

20/03	Volunteer Contribution Choices due
23/02	Holy Communion at Church - St Vartan
02/04	Easter Concert & Picnic
07/04	Last Day Term 1 - <i>Mufti Day</i>
14/04	<i>Good Friday - Public Holiday</i>
15/04	<i>Easter Saturday - Public Holiday</i> A.G.B.U. Foundation Anniversary
16/04	<i>Easter Sunday</i>
17/04	<i>Easter Monday - Public Holiday</i>
24/04	<i>Armenian Genocide Commemoration</i>
10/12	Christmas Concert and Graduation

Cancer Council recommends
you protect yourself in 5 ways:



SLIP on clothing that covers your arms and legs

SLAP on a broad brimmed or legionnaires hat

SLOP on 30+, broad-spectrum sunscreen

SEEK shade

SLIDE on wrap around sunglasses



ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 3

8 Points – **Masis** \$13.65

6 Points – **Ararat** \$13.40

TOTAL: **\$27.05**

ACCUMULATED: **\$27.05**

SPONSOR A CHILD IN ARMENIA THROUGH THE
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
www.armenianchurchsydney.org.au

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

On Wednesday, we held our annual 'Parent Information Evening'. We would like to thank all the parents for coming and showing their support in their children's education and demonstrating interest in their school life. We believe, the commitment of the parent body plays an important role in the life of a school. Therefore, continue with your important effort to get right behind your children and play a supporting role, because your children are the ones who benefit.

During the first session of the evening, parents were directed to the classrooms. Teachers of each grade had the opportunity to explain to their parents the special features of teaching and learning which pertain to their classes. Following a short break, the second session was held in the school hall where parents were given an outline of the major functions planned for the year. They were also encouraged to share the *Calendar* from the school's web site and incorporate it into their smart phones. The policies in relation to discipline, homework and welfare were reviewed and the academic programs discussed. These included the Armenian Language, Chaplaincy and the new K-6 Syllabuses, incorporating the agreed National Curriculum content. Parents were also informed that soft copies of all School Policies are shared and made available on the students' Google Drive.



The parents were also updated about the school's web site and social media. They were reminded that the website includes a 'Library' section and a link that allows student online access. In addition to the current access to the Library's *Oliver* management system via the school intranet, students and parents are able to login from home to check and search the library catalogue and their account.

Following a number of important reminders and a general discussion about the Volunteer Scheme and proposed activities or excursions, the parents were also encouraged to support and join the P&C.

We like to take this opportunity and thank Kevork Dertadian for joining us during the evening. He welcomed everyone on behalf of the School Board and outlined the role of the Board and the AGBU community in support of the school. He also explained how parents can contact the Board and have an input in running the school. These details have been published in today's Newsletter.

P&C COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEER SCHEME

As discussed during the Parent Information Evening, we would like to see the volunteer tasks for the school spread evenly across the parental body. This year the points system is back and we are asking parents to indicate their choice and consider what they can do to assist in the running of the school. Further details about the updated and improved scheme is provided elsewhere in the newsletter.

We would like to take this opportunity and indicate that the P&C meetings are a good forum to bring your ideas or suggestions for the everyday running needs of our school. If you have any suggestions please approach P&C members to discuss and to include them on the Agenda for the following meeting. As you know the P&C plays an important role in running the canteen and catering special events. They are also responsible in organising a number of in-school events and providing general feedback and assistance in areas of need.

We understand that it's not possible for all families to get involved in all aspect of the P&C or school life, however we encourage you to have your say. We would like to receive feedback as to how we can improve the services being provided to students and guests. For more information and to see how you can contribute to the Committee please contact the school Office - 9486 3266

Please fill in the '2017 Volunteer Contribution Choices' form and return it to school by *Monday* to kick-start the committees.

**AGBU Alexander Primary School**
Internet Web Site www.alexander.nsw.edu.au

**School Banking**
Banking Day: Thursday
Students need to have their bank deposit books in order to make a deposit into their account.






LIBRARY BAGS
Congratulations to all the students who remembered to bring their library bags for borrowing this week. If you forgot to bring yours in, try to remember next week.
LIBRARY DAY IS MONDAY

ALEXANDER SCHOOL LIBRARY

AGBU Alexander Primary School has a modern Library, which supports the educational program and curriculum of the School through providing relevant and useful materials, resources and teaching programs. The Library has over 5,000 resources including junior and senior fiction, non-fiction, reference materials, teaching resources, audio-visual materials, catalogues, and much more. The Library Automation System operates the *Oliver Junior* software, a web based library and information management solution, especially designed for schools. The Library Management System helps to catalogue and circulate books as well as giving the students and teaching staff easy access to the system to locate and use library resources online effectively through its OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) system. It allows the students and the teaching staff to access the system online from anywhere and anytime.



The objectives of the Library are:

-  to provide the students and teaching staff with resources useful and relevant to the academic needs and teaching curriculum;
-  to educate the students to effectively and efficiently utilise online and offline library resources;
-  to develop students' interest in and commitment to books and reading;
-  to help students undertake research on a specific project.
-  to support students and teaching staff in library related activities and programs.

What makes a difference for our Library is its bilingual nature, which allows the students to be exposed to a variety of materials and resources both in Armenian and English. The *Oliver Junior* library software also allows us to have a bilingual resource database in which we can search for resources in both English and Armenian.

Library Opening Hours

The Library is open on **Mondays** from 9:00am to 3:00pm. On Mondays the Library will be open for students to have an opportunity to familiarise themselves with new books obtained by the school, search for books of their choice to read in the library during the recesses or do research related to a specific homework or assignments. Students who have their Library bags can also borrow new books and return the ones they've read.

Mrs Armine Sevazlian
Library Coordinator



AGBU SCHOOLS' DANCE PROJECT

The AGBU Sydney Chapter in conjunction with the AGBU Tamzara Dance Group would like to include a dance performance by students in a combined AGBU schools' dance group. This special project is for their upcoming concert in May.

Please complete and return the slip below, indicating your interest in having your child being included in this group. For further information and questions don't hesitate to contact the school on 94863266.



AGBU SCHOOLS' DANCE PROJECT **Years 4 - 6 Students Only**

☐ YES - we are

☐ NO - we are not

Interested in having our child/ren join the combined AGBU schools' Armenian Dance Group for a performance in May. We understand the rehearsals over the next ten weeks will be held on Saturday afternoons in Chatswood.

NAME OF STUDENT/S: _____

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____



SCHOOL FAMILY VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION SCHEME

Once again, we would like to see the volunteer tasks for the school spread evenly across the parental body. For this to come about, a system of points is again in operation. As most of you know, the scheme is based on a family committing to volunteer 200 points of time and effort to school tasks. Please consider what you can do to assist in the running of the school.

Please fill in the form below to claim your tasks to the value of 200 points per family. Where there can only be a set number of volunteers for the job, eg Canteen Coordinator, decisions will be made on a 'first in first served' basis.

The major difference this year is that families will be asked to make a monetary contribution in advance. Families will have a separate charge of \$200 in their School Fees, split over two terms (\$100 in Term 2 & \$100 in Term 3). The monetary contribution will be fully refunded to the family towards the end of the year when it is established that all volunteer contributions have been fulfilled to the value of 200 points*.

While our aim is to involve all families in the school community, we trust the new improved scheme will be fairer and more transparent, thanks to your support and commitment.

Please fill in your choice/s below and return the form to the office by *Monday, 20th February*.



2017 VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION CHOICES

Family: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Working Bee March - 50 points per adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Driver - 20 points per event
<input type="checkbox"/> Working Bee July - 50 points per adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Garden Maintenance - 20 points per hour
<input type="checkbox"/> Working Bee October - 50 points per adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional maintenance work - 50-100 points
<input type="checkbox"/> Canteen Coordinator - 100 points	<input type="checkbox"/> Organise School Projects - 50-100 points
<input type="checkbox"/> Canteen Volunteer - 20 points per day	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Donation - 100 points*
<input type="checkbox"/> P & C Office Bearers - 100 points	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200 Donation - 200 points*
<input type="checkbox"/> P & C Assistant - 20 points per event	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: Please specify below - points as agreed
<input type="checkbox"/> Library Coordinator - 100 points	
<i>Please check the boxes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for the tasks you choose.</i>	TOTAL: <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I will earn 200 or more points.</i>

** While we prefer your non-monetary contribution, if you are unable to commit (or can only do so in a limited capacity) to any of the above tasks then the contribution charge will be passed on as a donation to the school.*

I wish to submit my choice of volunteer time for the school.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

WITH THE BLESSING OF HIS GRACE, BISHOP
HAIGAZOUN NAJARIAN, PRIMATE OF THE
DIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND, THE
AUSTRALIAN CHURCH YOUTH ASSOCIATION OF
SYDNEY PRESENTS



THE FEAST OF **SOORP SARKIS** **COCKTAIL PARTY**

**WHEN: 7:00PM SATURDAY
25TH FEBRUARY 2017**

**WHERE: THE ROOFTOP TERRACE
PYRMONT BRIDGE HOTEL
96 UNION STREET, PYRMONT NSW**

**DONATION: \$65 (PRE-PURCHASE) / \$70 (AT THE DOOR) PER PERSON
INCLUDES FOOD & DRINK**



A.C.Y.A
SYDNEY

**FOR TICKETS CONTACT
LUCY - 0414 242 322
TATIANA - 0411 146 303**

OR MESSAGE US THROUGH OUR FB PAGE ACYA SYDNEY