

Dear Parents,

### ESTABLISHING A PREDICTABLE ROUTINE

Home or after school work is a common expectation for most primary aged children. Parents can help children develop sound study habits from a young age which include establishing a predictable routine, encouraging effective use of time and helping them to be organised.

AGBU Alexander Primary School has a clear 'Homework Policy' that is reviewed at the start of every year and parents are updated during our 'Parent Information Evening'. Our policy states that homework is set for all children in Kindergarten to Year 6. It is work set by a teacher to be completed outside the classroom environment and is assigned to help develop home-study techniques in students. Students who develop disciplined and positive home-study habits in the primary years are more likely to be able to continue with these home-study habits in the secondary school and during tertiary education when homework is less structured and a student is expected to develop their own individual home-study timetable. Positive home-study habits will enhance student success.

Homework can also be a means of giving students an opportunity for further practice and consolidation of skills and knowledge taught during class units of work. It can be used to extend the more capable student and to reinforce programs run by the school. It is also accepted that homework should be challenging, interesting and relevant to classroom activities. Homework should not be too difficult or unfamiliar. Students need to succeed with homework: it should not be frustrating either for them or their parents. Accordingly, homework should not introduce new, unknown activities.



At Alexander school there is an underlying expectation by parents that homework will be set by the class teachers in both English and Armenian. Homework helps to inform parents of what their children are doing at school and it provides an opportunity for parents to assist in their learning. To help parents in this process here are a number of ideas:

- ♦ Establish a predictable routine. If homework is done at the same time each night (make sure this is not left too late or near bedtime), getting started is usually less of an issue.
- ♦ Establish a good working environment. Make sure they have a quiet area away from distractions that is well lit and with good ventilation. A table or a desk makes a good workspace, although don't be surprised if they spread their work out all over the kitchen table. Some children just love to be around others. However, homework should not be done while watching television.
- ♦ Encourage children to work reasonably quickly and efficiently. Have a set time limit which they should stick to. A little work each night is more productive than packing it all into one weekly session.
- ♦ Encourage children to become organised by planning homework around their extra-curricular activities. A weekly planner or diary will help older students to organise themselves.
- ♦ Be realistic and don't expect to solve all homework difficulties. When in doubt send a note to your child's teacher letting them know the problem. They will appreciate being informed.

### GYMNASTICS PROGRAM

Our gymnastics program for the term has so far been excellent thanks to 'Be Skilled Be Fit'. The students are making wonderful progress with the weekly sessions. The program is well structured and caters for outcomes set out in the curriculum. In this week's session the students gained experience in Bars & Beam. The instructors have also made positive comments in terms of the goals set and targets achieved by students. We are all pleased with the results. The photos published in today's Newsletter give a better view of all the fun and action!

8<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN



INTRODUCING

# Hye Stories

Armenian Children's books,  
written and printed in  
Sydney, Australia  
with a transliteration system  
and English translation.

Now available for purchase in  
both Eastern and Western  
Armenian dialects from  
AGBU Alexander Primary School.


Price: \$10 per book.

To view the complete series, please visit:  
[www.hyestories.com.au](http://www.hyestories.com.au)




## HOUSE POINTS TERM 1

*Uniform, Playground, Charity  
& Awards*



**ARARAT** - 25 points

**MASIS** - 27 points



*Support your House Team and earn points by  
having the correct uniform, by following the  
playground rules and by being generous.*

## TEACHERS' AWARD

*Remember 10 Encouragement Awards = Teacher's Award*

### TERM 1 – WEEK 6

Year 6: Asbed, Albert

Year 5: Isabella, Elizabeth  
Alina

Year 3: Khloe, Adelin

Year 2: Lio

### DATES TO REMEMBER

14/03	Responsible Pet Education Program (P-2)
16/03	Working Bee (To Be Confirmed)
19/03	'Smart Start' Program - School Visit
01/04	Start of Vegetable Week
04/04	'Big Vegie Crunch'
07/04	Easter Concert & Picnic
12/04	Last Day Term 1
14/04	<i>Palm Sunday</i>
19/03	<i>Good Friday - Public Holiday</i>
20/03	<i>Holy Saturday - Public Holiday</i>
21/04	<i>Easter Sunday - Public Holiday</i>
22/04	<i>Easter Monday - Public Holiday</i>

### ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

#### WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 6

8 Points – <b>Ararat</b>	.....	\$11.00
6 Points – <b>Masis</b>	.....	\$8.20
<b>TOTAL:</b>	.....	<b>\$19.20</b>
<b>ACCUMULATED:</b>	.....	<b>\$59.00</b>

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

## Parents & Community - Welcome

The term is off to a flying start! P&C held its first meeting for the year on Tuesday evening at Governor Hotel. It was a very productive and well attended meeting with many exciting events and important issues discussed.



### Easter Concert: Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April

With only one month to go this traditional event has a well established precedent that P&C will be generally following this year. As a major school event all families will be asked to help on the day and draft roster of tasks will be shared next week to help everyone prepare for their part.

In the past we've had a huge number of Easter chocolates for the raffle prizes. This year we'd like to prepare more varied hampers for the raffle prizes. *We ask that families contribute items such as homemade biscuits/sweets, wine, coloured eggs and Easter themed decorations to assist with the preparation of more interesting and attractive prizes.*

For the cake stall on the day the P&C is also requesting for all families to contribute cakes or sweets and make the Easter Cake Stall the best ever! Home-made fare, in particular traditional Armenian choreg, are always best sellers. Some ideas for traditional sweets include – choreg, kata, mahmoul, kaghka, kounafa, khourabyeh, baklava... Another popular selling item is homemade cake – uncut and sold whole.

Further information and details regarding the Concert day will be available in the coming weeks.

### Future events

The P&C is currently researching various possible events for the remainder of the calendar year. If you have any specific suggestions or ideas please feel free to share it with the P&C.

### Canteen

The P&C has been asked to change the way lunches are being served at the canteen. To enable the children to spend their lunch times eating and playing rather than waiting in line the new process will be that orders are prepared and put into the classroom baskets to be collected and taken to the classrooms before the lunch bell and teachers will distribute the orders. This will also enable the teachers to better monitor children eating their lunches and assist the younger children with their meals.

Soon parents will be sent updated canteen menus with more information about what each lunch option includes so that parents can mark each child's order bag with their requests (eg no tomato, no sauce etc). Please make sure that you indicate if your child has special preferences when you send in orders. We are also asking contributing parents to consider lunch meals that can be eaten easily by hand by the children (e.g. sandwiches, wraps, burgers) rather than cooked meals which albeit nutritious can be difficult particularly for the younger children to manage when eating the school playground.

### Communicate with Us

The P&C would like to encourage the school community to get in touch and bring forward any concerns, queries, suggestions or ideas. You can reach the whole group via [PC@alexander.nsw.edu.au](mailto:PC@alexander.nsw.edu.au) or better still join us! Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at Governor Hotel Macquarie Park. If parents would like to join these meetings, they are welcome to confirm their attendance by contacting the P&C.

In addition to email we've now started using WhatsApp groups for more informal quick communication between different groups. The Mum's Chat has been a great way for busy mum's to check in with what's happening and seek help for issues their children might be facing. Just a reminder that these are not decision making forums but for informal communications to help keep the school families more connected.

*We ask that if you are using the WhatsApp groups that you ensure questions / comments are posted to the correct group eg Mums Chat for general questions/info sharing/chitchat, Canteen for those parents involved in the Canteen lunches/morning teas, P&C for issues related to the committee. If you would like to join the Mum's Chat or the Canteen groups please send us an email and we'll get that sorted.*

Looking forward to a very productive and fruitful 2019!

**Sonia Panikian** - On behalf of the 2019 P&C



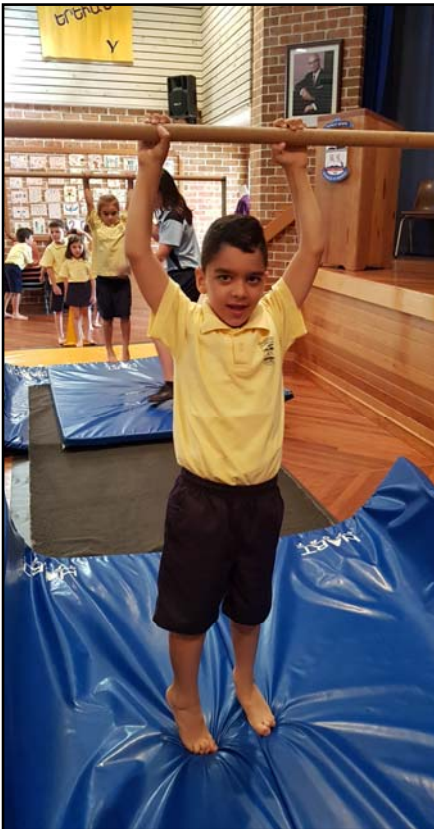


*Sports Day...*

## Gymnastics Program

**BE SKILLED  
BE FIT**

PE, SPORT & GYMNASTICS PROGRAMS



Visit us on  
Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/AlexanderSchool>



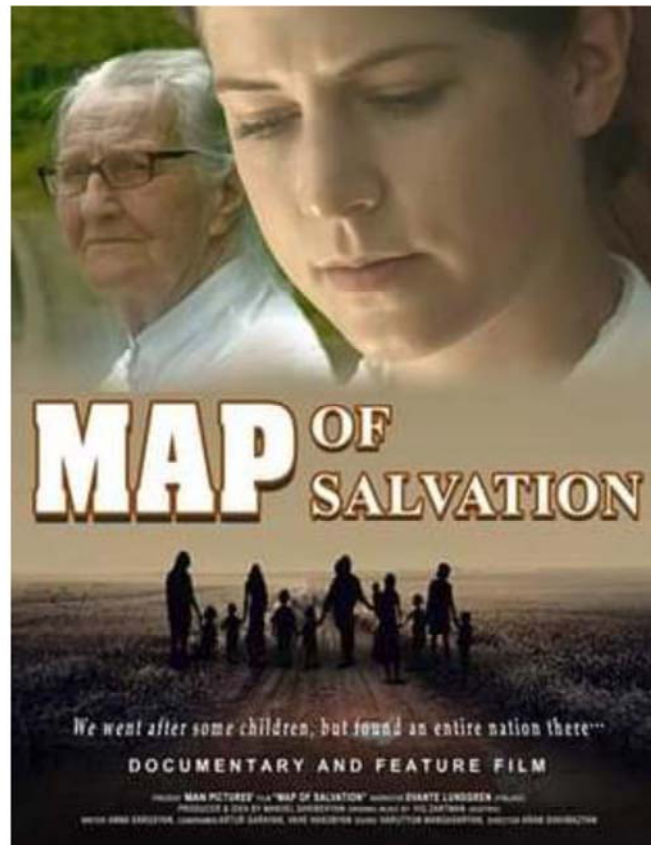




## ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA



### *Screens the Documentary*



Finnish historian and genocide scholar Svante Lundgren tells about the humanist movement that emerged as a wave of protest and resistance during human tragedies in the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, especially the Armenian Genocide. The film is built on the basis of actual events. The heroes of the film are humanists known to history, real people, who have witnessed the massacres of the Armenians. They are five, European, humanist women: Maria Jakobsen (Denmark) and missionaries Karen Eppe (Denmark), Bodil Bjorn (Norway), Alma Johansson (Sweden) and Hedwig Bul (Estonia). They are witnesses of the Armenian Genocide and the founders of shelters for Armenian children and women who barely escaped death.

**Tuesday 26 March 7:30 pm**  
**St. Andrew's Uniting Church War Memorial Hall**  
**47A Kenneth St. Longueville**  
**Free Admission**

*For any enquiries and more information please contact:*

**Lina Bomoushakian: 0414 928 327 or lbomoush@gmail.com**  
**Marie Soghomonian: 0413 834 849 or vicmarie@bigpond.net.au**  
**Apraham Ishkhanian: 0414 755 855 or abe@hslegal.com.au**  
**Movses Injejikian: 0412 786 976 or movses.injejikian@hotmail.com**  
**Mobile: 0418 417 411 email: amaaus@gmail.com**



Celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the  
**AGBU International Games**  
 Under the Auspices of His Eminence,  
 Archbishop Haygazoun Najarian  
 Primate of Australia & New Zealand



**AGBU**  
 ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION  
 SYDNEY  
 PRESENTS  
**FIRST TIME IN  
 SYDNEY!**

# SARINA CROSS

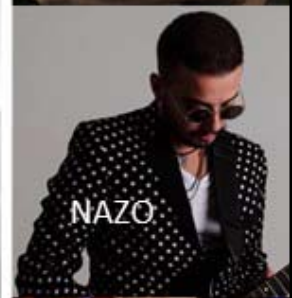
*with Live Band*



STEVE



VAZKEN



NAZO



SAKO



SAKO

## DINNER/DANCE

Saturday, 6 April – 7:00pm

**Miramare Gardens**  
 48 Myoora Rd, Terrey Hills NSW  
 Donations: \$150 (adult)  
 \$100 (under 12)

## CONCERT

Sunday, 7 April – 6:00pm

**Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club**  
 117 Ryedale Rd, West Ryde NSW  
 Donations: \$60 (adult)  
 \$35 (under 12)

### Information/Bookings contact:

Lucy Aroyan – 0412 216 307

Sylvia Aghabekian – 0422 377 305

[Office@agbu.org.au](mailto:Office@agbu.org.au)

Hovhannes Kouyoumdjian – 0408 283 826

Talar Bedikian – 0412 336 202