

Dear Parents,

**AGBU CENTRAL BOARD DIRECTOR - DR YERVANT ZORIAN**

On Monday, a member of the AGBU Central Board of Directors, Dr Yervant Zorian and his wife Dr Rita were our guests of honour. The Zorians were accompanied by the Chairman of AGBU Sydney Chapter Mr Mihran Lepedjian and committee members. They were warmly welcomed by the members of the School Board, staff and students.

Our guests were given an introduction and their initial tour of the school. As they were welcomed into the classrooms, they engaged in warm dialogue with students and teachers. The founding president of AGBU's 'Armenian Virtual College', Dr Zorian was particularly interested in the way technology was used in the classrooms and the level of student collaboration. The teachers also had the opportunity to discuss in detail how they can integrate the AVC in their language studies, as an additional teaching tool. More about this innovative program will be revealed in the coming months.

During morning tea, through a slide presentation, the guests were further informed about the general life of the school and the role it plays in our community. In response, our guests stated that they were impressed on the quality of the school, thanks to the hard work of students and staff. Therefore, it was no surprise that Dr Zorian recorded the following thoughts in the Visitor's Book: *'It was a most impressive experience! Witnessing the outcome of your efforts was fulfilling. Our nation needs many similar educational institutions. I wish you the best success in the decades to come. Your exemplary effort will feed our nation with its future leaders. Thank you for what you diligently do.'*



**N.A.P.L.A.N. NEXT WEEK**

We have the compulsory National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3 and 5 next week, with the 'Language Conventions and Writing' tests on **Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> May**. The 'Reading' test on **Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> May** and the 'Numeracy' test will be held on **Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> May**.

These tests can be stressful for the children. The best preparation is good rest during the week of the test, a calm, unrushed morning and a good breakfast before the test. Keep up the home reading each night so that your child does not find the reading part of the test too difficult. There is always a great deal of reading in these tests, except for the Writing. Even the Maths tends to have quite a bit of reading to get through.

Mrs Dernee is available to answer any concerns or questions you have in relation to these tests.

**WINTER UNIFORM**

The school will change into its Winter Uniform starting next week. Please make sure your children are wearing the correct uniform as outlined in the uniform policy. Thank you for your cooperation.

**HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY ~ ՇՆՈՐՀԱՒՈՐ ՄԱՅՐԵՐՈՒՆԻ ՕՐ**

## MOTHERS' DAY ASSEMBLY

It was gratifying to see so many of our mothers and grandmothers at our special Mothers' Day Assembly yesterday afternoon. It certainly brought a sparkle to the eyes of all the students as they performed to one of the most important person in our lives - our mothers!

The Gemjian Hall came to life with the colourful displays and the projections on the big screen as each class presented what they had prepared for their mother. It was evident that the children enjoyed the beautiful songs. Their reciting of great poetry and expressions of love showed their affection towards their mothers. We were fulfilled by their performances thanks to the guidance of our wonderful teachers who had prepared them so well, in a short period of time.

Thank you to the P&C and all the parents who contributed to the afternoon tea. Once again thank you to all who came along to enjoy the occasion and in turn congratulated all our Mothers for their untiring work and support.



## HOUSE POINTS TERM 2

*Uniform, Playground, Charity  
& Awards*



**ARARAT** - 20 points

**MASIS** - 23 points



## TEACHERS' AWARD

**TERM 2 - WEEK 2**

Year 5: Isabella

Year 4: Sargis, Berj

Year 3: Martin

Year 2: Alex, Peter

Year 1: Dzila

Kindergarten: Harout, Ava

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- 14/05 NAP - Language & Writing Assessments
- 15/05 NAP - Reading Assessment
- 16/05 NAP - Numeracy Assessment
- 18/05 Family Fun Night - Organised by P&C
- 10/06 Queen's Birthday - Public Holiday
- 04/07 Student Half Yearly Reports - Sent Out
- 05/07 Last Day Term 2 - Mufti Day
- 22/07 School Development Day (Pupil Free)
- 23/07 First Day Term 3 - Students Return
- 27/10 Armenian Cultural Day - TBC
- 08/12 Christmas Concert & Graduation

## ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

### WEEKLY REPORT: Term 2 Week 2

8 Points – **Ararat** ..... \$6.90

6 Points – **Masis** ..... \$6.30

**TOTAL:** ..... **\$13.40**

**ACCUMULATED:** ..... **\$178.35**

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



### 'Start Smart' Program

During the last week of term the students participated in the **Start Smart** program which is designed to change the way students learn about money. Research indicates that it is crucial to develop financial literacy skills from an early age. This program teaches these skills in a way that students can understand and enjoy.

The students in **Prep & K** learn about money as a concept – what it's worth, and how to keep it safe. Guided by Captain Cash, students were excited about becoming superheroes with their money. By challenging them to 'Speed to Their Needs' and 'Wait for Their Wants', they were able to distinguish between their needs and wants, and prioritise spending accordingly. Using fun rhymes, hands-on activities and colourful characters, the workshop was able to put students on a lifelong path of practising solid financial habits.



Captain Cash returned in the **Year 1-2** workshop, to request help from students in preparation for a mission to 'space school'. Students were challenged to use addition and subtraction to aid our superhero with his Space School supplies, during their visit to the Space Shopping Centre. They covered concepts of counting Australian notes and coins, exploring the connection between addition and subtraction while addressing complex needs and wants.



**Year 3-6** students were introduced to Coach Cash, the personal money trainer. Through a range of activities, students were inspired to become 'cashletes', who develop their money muscles through making savvy spending decisions. By encouraging them to 'See It, Earn It, Save It', students were taught how we can earn money and excited about making their savings goals a reality. By encouraging creativity and smart saving, students were empowered to start looking after their money both short and long term.





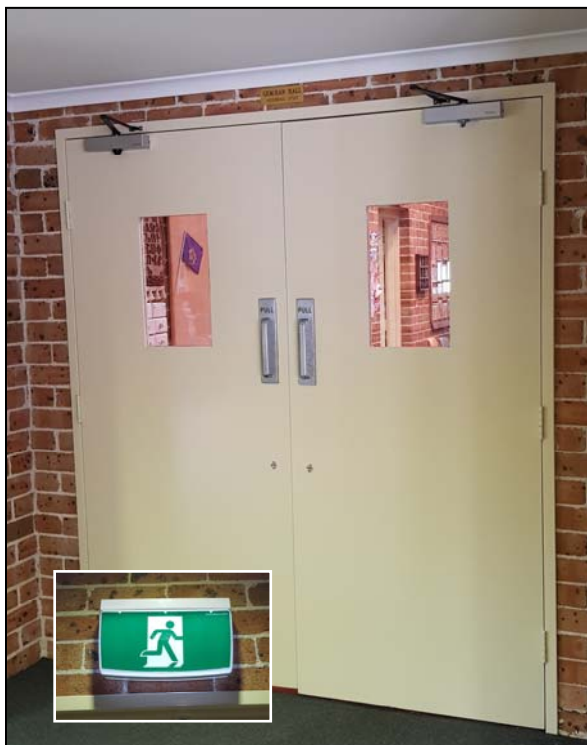
## *Maintenance & Upgrade*

### Painting ~ Emergency Equipment ~ Vegetation

Since the start of the year, the School Board has taken the task of maintaining and upgrading the school grounds. As part of this process, all the doors and frames of the administration building have been painted.

At the same time, all the emergency lighting in the hall, including the 'Exit' lights, were replaced with the support of our graduate electrician Mr Garen Manoukian. The annual inspection of all our fire extinguishers also required replacement, to ensure compliance and a pass in their safety test.

There has also been a major maintenance of the trees and vegetation along the school's extensive fence line. A large number of dead and dangerous trees have been pruned or removed. The clearing of the overgrown vegetation is the first part of the upcoming project, to install new security fencing around the school.





## News from the Classroom...

### Traditional Armenian Lent Food

We celebrated 'Traditional Armenian Easter' during our Easter Concert. As a result, the students described and presented traditional Armenian meals that are consumed during the period of Lent. Thanks to the support of parents and teachers, the students were also lucky to have the opportunity to taste these wonderful meals at school, during the final week of Lent.





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)





**SATURDAY 18TH MAY 6PM**

**AGBU Alexander  
Primary P & C Presents**

**An evening filled with fun, food and entertainment  
for the WHOLE family**

**Ararat Cultural Centre, 3 Grattan Cres, Frenchs Forest**



**ALL WELCOME**

Adults \$50  
Kids (under 12) \$25  
Kids (under 4) Free

**Ticket Sales:**  
Sonia Panikian: 0415462177  
School Office: 94863266



## News from the Classroom...

### Easter Planting and Egg Cracking!

As part of our Easter Celebrations, the students had fun planting grass seeds in stockings, that were then placed in cups to supply the water for the plant to grow. As a result, the students were able to turn their live creation into interesting characters... these pants were taken home and we wonder what they look like now. Please share your photos with your class teacher.

In addition, Easter was celebrated with a traditional Egg Cracking challenge. The students had collected and coloured the eggs from our chicken coop to prepare them for this fun activity. Once again thanks to the support of parents and teachers, the students thought this was eggcellent!







## We Remember & We Demand! Armenian Genocide 24 April 1915 ~ 2019

Alexander School student representatives joined the Divine Liturgy at the Armenian Apostolic Church of Holy Resurrection on 24 April, the 104 Anniversary Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide. They also took part in the community procession to the Armenian Genocide Memorial, Khachkar and in the wreath laying ceremony.





## AGBU Central Board Director's Visit



## UNIFORM REMINDER

### Winter Uniform Starting Next Week

Alexander school will change into its Winter Uniform starting next week.

Please make sure your son/daughter has their **name clearly marked on every piece of uniform item**. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

