

Dear Parents,

WHAT QUALITIES MAKE FOR AN IDEAL SCHOOL?

I have recently come across some readings that have prompted me to think more about what it means to create an ideal school environment. One reading is from an article that appeared in 'Education Matters - Primary', entitled 'What makes a good school? What makes a good teacher?'. The other is from a paper, titled: 'Qualities that parents value in choosing a school', published by the AIS NSW Institute to review national and international research and explore whether the features parents value most in a school actually lead to better education outcomes. The later, examined the following features:

*Good teachers / A supportive and caring environment / Good facilities - Educational excellence /
Orderly and safe environment / Class size / Reinforcement of moral values*

From the findings we can confirm that establishing a healthy school climate and culture are probably the most important areas for school leaders to focus on. I also believe that almost every other element of a successful school, such as good teachers, a supportive and caring environment and high academic and behavioural standards is highly dependent upon the climate and culture that are in place. In addition, staff and students who feel valued, empowered and supported will respond positively to such an environment and this is usually reflected in student outcomes and achievement.



As school leaders, we need to have good radars to detect and receive what parents expect from their child's school and know how to deliver on those expectations. Without this sense, it will be a struggle to make a difference and this impacts on achievements and reputation.

According to David Zyngier, the author of the article in *Education Matters*, "A good school is an aggregation of good classrooms in which effective teaching and learning are taking place." In these schools, learning is seen as the central purpose and takes precedence over everything else. High expectations are set for student learning with a deep belief in the ability of every student to learn and to achieve high standards. In these ideal schools, teachers encourage students to accept responsibility for their own learning and teach them how to continue learning throughout life. The teaching and interactions with students reflect the needs of each, with the understanding of each as individuals.

Once again, Dr Zyngier identifies good schools by outstanding school cultures. Most importantly by the fact that students want to be there! Effective schools have a warm climate, where students feel welcome and know that the staff cares about them. Although there is pressure to perform, it comes in a way that promotes learning, with an expectation that students will excel and the support is provided to make it happen. In these schools students have a sense of belonging and pride. They enjoy learning and are engaged and challenged. The school provides a physical and social setting that is safe, well organised and caring.

Finally, good schools are seen to have high levels of parent and community involvement. Parents are encouraged to take an active role in discussing, monitoring and supporting their children's learning. The school itself is seen as an important part of the local community and it often find ways to involve the community in the work of the school, as well as to establish partnerships with other agencies and businesses to advance school goals. Not all parents have the same expectations of schools and parents often have different priorities for their children. But research suggests that parents have a shared interest in seeing schools promote values such as respect for others, honesty, tolerance, fairness and the pursuit of excellence.

21st June, 2019

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN

Green & Gold Day!

We Cheered for the Matildas!

On Friday, our students turned out magnificently in Green and Gold to cheer on the Matildas for their final 16 match against Norway and for the proud effort they have displayed so far in the Women's World Cup Finals. They all looked cheerful and bright. It was evident that a lot of care and consideration was put into turning out in the National Colours... even the pancakes in the canteen were Green & Gold! The students had signs in support of the Matildas... while the cheering was loud and clear, all the way to France! Well done everyone for a splendid effort!



HOUSE POINTS TERM 2

*Uniform, Playground, Charity
& Awards*



ARARAT - 84 points

MASIS - 92 points



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

TEACHERS' AWARD

TERM 2 – WEEK 8

Remember 10 Encouragement Awards = Teacher's Award

Year 2: Kris
Sirag

Year 1: Lara

Will your name appear here next?



DATES TO REMEMBER

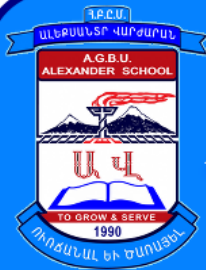
- 28/06 Student Half Yearly Reports
- 04/07 Asia Studies Day & Assembly
- 05/07 Last Day Term 2 - Mufti Day
- 22/07 School Development Day (Pupil Free)
- 23/07 First Day Term 3 - Students Return
- 01/08 School Registration - Inspection Day
- 27/09 Last Day Term 3 - Mufti Day
- 27/10 Armenian Cultural Day
- 08/12 Christmas Concert & Graduation

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

WEEKLY REPORT: Term 2 Week 8

8 Points – Ararat	\$12.00
6 Points – Masis	\$8.40
TOTAL:	\$20.40
ACCUMULATED:	\$289.70

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ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION ALEXANDER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Prep to Year 6

ORIENTATION & OPEN DAYS *Preparatory & Kindergarten*

TUESDAYS 30 JULY | 13 AUGUST | 27 AUGUST
10 SEPTEMBER & 24 SEPTEMBER 2019



ENROLLING
for
2020

*Come along and see how we nurture your child in our
unique environment and caring community.*

AGBU Alexander Primary School caters for students from **Preparatory (Prep) to Year 6**. Enrolment is open to all children of primary school age and applications are accepted for entry at all year levels.

The age requirement for students entering **Preparatory** is **4 years by 31st July** (3½ years at the start of the school year), while for **Kindergarten** it is **5 years by 31st July** of the enrolment year.

www.alexander.nsw.edu.au

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LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

AGBU BASKETBALL GALA DAY 2019

Come along for a fun-filled
day of basketball!

**SUNDAY 14 JULY 9AM - 5PM, RYDE
COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE
ELS HALL PARK
109 KENT ROAD, NORTH RYDE**

Lunch will be sold on the day

AGBU



Visit us on
Facebook

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