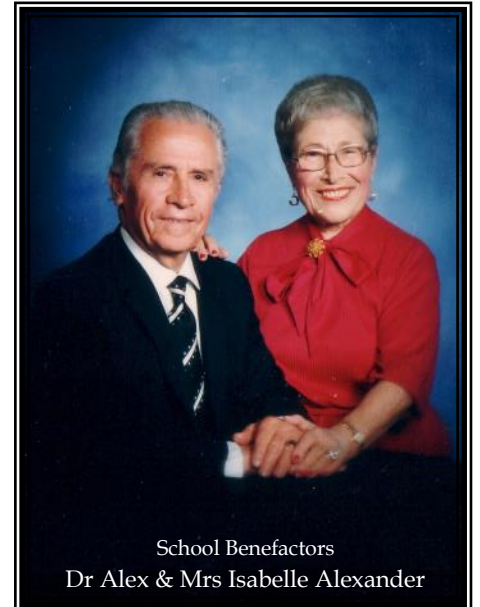


2 Namba Road, Duffys Forest NSW 2084 | ☎ 9486 3266 | ✉ Office@alexander.nsw.edu.au

Dear Parents,

30 years ago, as a result of many years of hard and dedicated work by members of the Armenian General Benevolent Union Sydney Chapter, AGBU Alexander Primary School opened its doors for the first time to the Armenian community of Sydney. During the initial year, classes were located at Belrose public school, as the school ground was still being built thanks to our beloved benefactors Dr Alex and Mrs Isabelle Alexander. Their vision to preserve the Armenian language, culture and identity was made possible thanks to the support of the AGBU Central Board and the great generosity of its Honorary Life President Mr Alex Manoogian.

Today, as we welcome students for the 30th time, we reflect on our past achievements, successes and challenges and look forward with renewed commitment to our service to the community. Service that has stayed focused on its mission and proudly produced many fine, well rounded and well educated youngsters. It is even more gratifying to see these graduates, now as young adults, are taking an active role in the community. In the true sense of our motto 'To Grow & Serve' - they have grown and are ready to serve the larger Australian community as well as being ambassadors for their Armenian heritage.



School Benefactors
Dr Alex & Mrs Isabelle Alexander

Over the past three decades AGBU Alexander Primary School has set the foundation in educating future leaders. This is not only evident in the community but also in the current School Board where two of its graduates have already taken leadership and are ready to direct their school to the next generation. With your continued support and dedication, their task and that of the School Board, is to ensure that this magnificent educational institution is able to serve the needs of the Armenian community for the next 30 years.

On behalf of everyone, I would like to wish them the best of success in their endeavours, as we get ready in
Celebrating 30 Years of Educational Excellence!

WELCOME BACK!

A warm welcome to all members of the Alexander school family for another exciting year! A special welcome to our new students. They have settled in well and seem quite comfortable with their new found friends and environment. For the rest of the students, it took no time for them to resume their routines looking relaxed and eager to learn after a long break. It's an excellent start to the new school year!

During the Thursday morning assembly, Father Avetis Hambardzumyan welcomed everyone and led a special prayer, officially marking the start of the school's 30th Academic Year. The students recited the Lord's Prayer and after receiving personal blessings, moved to kiss the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord Jesus, we ask for Your help as we begin this new Academic Year of Celebration. Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us. Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings. Open our heart and mind to new friends and new teachers. Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and courage to accept new opportunities. Help us to be attentive to one another and let us experience Your presence in our new friends. Jesus, inspire us to do our best this year! Amen

31st January, 2020

MANOUG DEMIRJIAN

SCHOOL ROUTINE NOTICES

Homework &/or Home Reading will be assigned by the teachers for Years K-6 as from next week. Please refer to the “**Homework Policy - Parent Handout**” (available next week) to familiarise yourself with the school’s expectations on home study.



Uniform Please note the correct school uniform in the School Diary or in your Enrolment Package. Also refer to the “**Uniform Policy - Parent Handout**” included with the Newsletter today to understand the school’s policy on this. Girls should come to school wearing their sports briefs and are not allowed to wear coloured long boxer type shorts under their summer uniform. Students are also not allowed to wear coloured T-shirt under their summer and/or sports uniform. Plain **stud earrings or sleepers** are allowed for girls. Dark blue hair ribbons, clips and scrunchies should be worn.

Absences By law student absences from school must be explained with a **written note** from parents. Notes can be in English or Armenian and should be sent on the day the student returns to school following an absence. Notes are legal records and must be **written in pen** and signed by a parent. Notes are to be addressed to your child’s **classroom teacher**. Please ensure the following information is provided in a note: *Student’s name, date/s of absence, reason for absence, parent’s signature, date when note is written*. As a new initiative, parents can now also use the **School App** to send a Form with the above information to the school office.



Library borrowing will commence next week. Library day is **Monday**. Students must have library bags to borrow books. A library rule is **no library bag, no borrowing**. Students are rewarded for remembering to bring in their bags. Library bags are simply drawstring bags with dimensions of approximately 30cm wide and 38cm long. Any fabric may be used but please ensure its durability.

Sports Day will be on **Thursdays**. All students must wear complete summer sports uniform as obtained from school. Please note **predominantly white coloured** sports shoes and **all white socks** (not anklets) are required. Summer sports uniform is worn in Terms 1 & 4, and winter sports uniform in Terms 2 & 3.



Students not participating in a sports session must bring a signed note from parents with a full explanation.

Sports Shoes 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 (eg soccer) then change back.



School Hats must be at school daily. One of our school rules is ...“**No Hat, No Play**”. Students without hats will not be able to use the playground area during play time. They are to sit down in the shade, read a book by themselves and not play.

Students who do not have a hat break the school Uniform Code and will receive a cross in the Red Book.

Paint Shirts All students must have a paint shirt for art and craft lessons. Shirts should be of **thick** fabric to prevent staining of uniforms. Shirts should also have long sleeves with elastic through the wrist band so that long-sleeved shirts and jumper (in winter) are fully covered.



Prep/Kindergarten students should have a change of underwear and socks in their school bag daily.

Sunscreen Parents are reminded that application of sunscreen on children in the morning is essential. It is recommended that students carry sunscreen (roll-on types only) in school bags to reapply. An SPF factor of 15+ (or greater) broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is recommended.

Healthy Lunches Our school health policy insists that only nutritional foods – low fat, low sugar – are consumed at school. We are very proud of the quality of food our canteen provides. We remind all parents to support our policy by continuing to send only healthy type foods in lunch boxes. We expect only one snack type of food for Morning Tea. **Definitely no sweets, chips, chocolates, jam, nutella and “junk” food are permitted.**



Fresh fruit and vegetables are essential foods for children.

Occasionally and in moderation, the school canteen will treat students with a cake stall. The school Newsletter will advise parents of these days.

Information Update Forms



“**Student Information Update**” forms for each student will be sent home early next week. The Student Information forms are replaced in our school filing system at the beginning of each year. Therefore, it is important for the school to identify any changes to student details including telephone numbers, address or health risks (e.g. asthma and/or allergy development). Please remember, signatures of both parents in residence are required.

Parents are requested to have completed/updated forms returned to school as soon as possible.

Label Clothing All removable clothing including jumpers, hats, track suit tops and pants, must be clearly marked with your child's name. This will assist the school with lost clothing.

Birthdays **Prep - K students only** are welcome to celebrate their birthdays at school with a cake. Cakes should be as plain as possible with only a small quantity of icing. Parents should notify the school office or class teacher one day in advance if they plan to celebrate at school with a birthday cake. Please do not provide “Party/Lolly Bags” as part of the celebration.



Plastic Newsletter Folders are to be returned to school after correspondence is sent home, preferably on the following school day. Folders are collected from classrooms daily for redistribution.

Covering Books Teachers will send home textbooks and exercise books over the next week or so. Please cover textbooks, diaries and exercise books with **clear contact only**. Some book covers for exercise books will be made by students and/or supplied by the school before contact is applied. Clear contact must be used as teachers will group books into subject areas based on the colours of book covers. This assists with easy sorting and classifying.

School Supplies All supplies for **Years P-2** are provided by the school. Please note: Textas and erasers are not permitted for P/K students.

Students in upper grades need to purchase the following personal stationery supplies:

Years 3-6: Two pencil cases that need to remain at school for classroom use only. One is to be left in the English and the other in the Armenian classroom. Each pencil case should have a packet of lead (HB) pencils (**No Pacers**), eraser, sharpener, 30cm ruler (wooden or plastic, not metal), glue stick, scissors, highlighter, two red pens (medium point), coloured pencils and textas. Please note that **correction fluid (liquid paper or whiteout) is banned**. They also require two blue pens and a geometry set, a USB, headphones for their laptops and a mouse. Dictionary and Atlas at home with a collection of the above for home study use only.



Toys are not permitted at school. P-K class teachers will advise parents with a note, when and if toys are permitted for “News” sessions. Toys will be confiscated. *(Please note: Nintendo DS, PSP and iPods are permitted during bus travel only, and responsibility for safekeeping rests with students)*



Bus Passes The students are expected to use their Opal Cards from last year. New students need to apply or lost ones need to be replaced by an online application. Students are permitted to travel without a card only until the end of February. Opal Cards must be presented or tapped on and off thereafter otherwise students are required to pay fare. Please check your child/ren's card to ensure details are correct. Contact the school office immediately should there be any errors.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

Monday, 10th February 2020

Time: 7:00pm sharp!

School's Gemjian Hall



We expect to see every family represented to hear

important information on what is happening in your child's school and classroom.



ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

The Armenian Student Fund program continues this year at AGBU Alexander Primary School and we hope to raise enough money to continue sponsoring two children in Armenia. We know our small effort makes a real difference to these families in need.



This service was incepted in our school program in 1994. Today, Alexander school students continue to sponsor two young Armenians - **Arpine Nersissian & Garik Kasbaryan** through the Armenian Apostolic Church child sponsorship program.

How do we raise money for this program?

Students are requested to make a regular donation of a silver or gold coin each week. It is a good idea to have the children donate money from weekly pocket money or earnings regardless how small the donation. The learning experience to share and give selflessly, is a valuable one.

Collection is taken during Recess on Thursdays and students earn points for their House Teams. A weekly report on collections is given during the weekly Assemble and in the Newsletter.

BOOK CLUB - Coming Soon!

Scholastic Book Clubs - *bringing children and books together.*



Books are a very important part of children's growth and development, and research suggests that the ability to read is critical to independence, success and personal fulfilment. It is said that, *kids who read succeed!*

Scholastic Book Clubs offer a good variety of age-appropriate books from Australia and the world at prices below recommended retail prices. Students purchasing from Book Clubs also help in earning *Reading Reward Points for our school*. These points are used to redeem valuable learning resources for the library and classrooms.



Pamphlets will be sent home regularly throughout the year, with 8 issues all in all. The school distributes book club pamphlets which are recommended as age specific for your child(ren), however, should you wish to receive upper levels, please contact the school Office.

All book club orders must be placed using the order form in the pamphlet. Money and completed order form (including your child's name) should be placed in an envelope clearly marked "BOOK CLUB ORDER". Students should place envelopes in *green* classroom baskets for collection to the school Office.





School Banking

Please contact the School Office
if you are interested in opening a
Commonwealth Bank Dollarmite

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 06/02 Sports Day - Start of Gymnastics
- 10/02 Life Education Van Visit (Healthy Harold)
Parent Information Evening - School Hall
- 20/02 Holy Communion at Church - St Vartan
- 29/03 Easter Concert & Picnic

TERM DATES FOR STUDENTS - 2020

- TERM 1:** 30/01/2020 to 09/04/2020
- TERM 2:** 28/04/2020 to 03/07/2020
- TERM 3:** 21/07/2020 to 25/09/2020
- TERM 4:** 12/10/2020 to 10/12/2020



BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK

Happy Holiday Birthdays to...

Lia G
David Kh
Lara Kh
Isabella B
Levon P
Adelin G
Mrs Seta

Slip

Slop

Slap

Seek

Slide





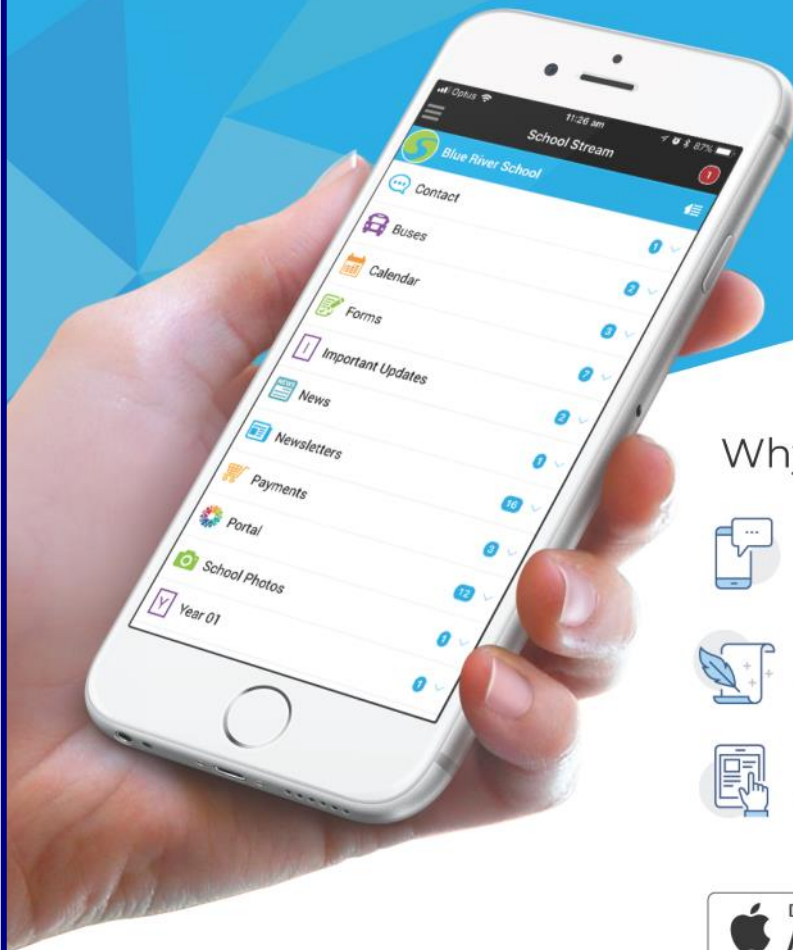






AGBUUnder The Auspices of His Eminence
Archbishop Haigazoun Najarian**V.TEKEYAN**
Cultural CommitteeFirst Time In Sydney
*Eurovision 2016 Finalist**Iveta
Mukuchyan***Private Cocktail Party**Saturday 28th March at 7:30pm
Café Birkenhead at 19 Roseby St,
Drummoyne NSW, Admission: \$100**Concert**Sunday 29th March at 6:00pm
North Sydney Leagues Club,
Admission: \$75**Information/Bookings contact:** office@agbu.org.auHaig Lepejian: 0410 597 290 | Zara Harutyunyan: 0414 697 290 | Talar Bedikian: 0412 336 202
Hovhanness Kouyoumdjian: 0408 283 826 | Natalie Urriola: 0430 336 696**For Online Booking** <http://Trybooking.com>

Download our school app for free!



Why download the app?



Receive instant notifications for important news.



Easily register absentees and excursions.



Keep up to date with events and set reminders.



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

Download instructions:

1. Go to the App Store and download "School Stream" to your phone.

2. Open the app and type the school's name into the search bar to load the school's profile.

3. Make sure you agree to Push Notifications when prompted.



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