

Dear Parents,

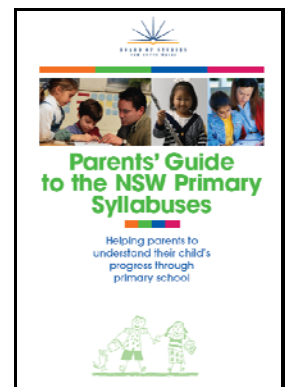
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING - REVIEW

On Wednesday, we held a very successful Parent Information Evening. As always, we were very pleased with the attendance where almost every school family was represented. Thank you for coming and showing your support for your children's education and demonstrating your 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 great effort to get right behind your children and play a supporting role, because your children are the ones who benefit.

During the evening, parents were informed of the major functions planned for the year. They were also briefed about the school's Registration process due to end at the end of the year. After a number of general reminders, there was a review of student bus and travel safety issues. A special presentation, made available by the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority, reinforced general travel issues in relation to children. A special RTA pack is enclosed to all parents with today's newsletter.

During the plenary session I also discussed the NSW Board of Studies publication, *Parents' Guide to the NSW Primary Syllabus*. Please find enclosed in the newsletter copies of the guide. The guide aims to help parents better understand their child's progress through primary school and to support positive parent-teacher discussions about classroom activities and outcomes.

The guide provides examples of the kinds of things children can learn in each stage of primary school. There is also information about the indicative hours for each subject, how achievement is graded, integrated units and where parents can go for more information.



The parents were also updated about the school's web site. Finally, an overview of the new internet site 'Scootle' was presented and explained to all parents. Class teachers later had the opportunity to explain the special features of teaching and learning which pertain to their classes.

SCHOOL VOLUNTEER 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 donate 200 points of time and effort to school tasks. Please consider what you can do to assist the running and fundraising for the school.

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



CHURCH VISIT - CHANGE OF DATE

The annual visit to the Armenian Apostolic Church of Holy Resurrection on St Vartanantz Day has been rescheduled for **Tuesday** next week. The church will be holding a special mass on that day which is in fact St Gevontatz Day.

Please check later in the newsletter for more details.

TERM 1 SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

Term 1 School Accounts will be sent home with your child by Tuesday. Payment of fees will be due by *Wednesday, 4th March*. We would appreciate prompt payment so that our trade terms with suppliers are met. If you believe there may be an error in your Tax Invoice please contact the school Office. Fees may be paid by cash, cheque or money order.



Parents are reminded that **Building Fund** contributions are **tax deductible** and special receipts will be issued in order to claim a deduction.

If paying by cheque or money order, please make sure that your payment is as follows:

Building Fund contributions to: **A.G.B.U. SCHOOL BUILDING FUND**
 School Fees to: **A.G.B.U. ALEXANDER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Payment may be sent through the post or paid directly to the school Office. Students delivering money to school should hand fees to the school office immediately on arrival to school. The school cannot be held responsible for lost money in transit.

CANTEEN NOW OPEN DAILY - NO LUNCH PACKS

A canteen menu is included with today's Newsletter. Thank you to the families who responded to our call for canteen duty. The roster for full canteen days will be made available shortly. At this stage only **limited canteen facilities** will be made available on a **daily** basis. This includes snacks, treats and drinks only. Children should continue to have their lunch prepared at home as there will be no canteen orders or sandwiches. Remember to keep your canteen lists in a handy spot.



Support your canteen, support your school!

BOOK CLUB - ISSUE 1
 Order Forms/Money Due by
Monday
16th February, 2009
 Orders after this date cannot be processed.
 Please place your orders in clearly marked envelopes.

BIRTHDAY OF THE WEEK
 Happy Birthday to...
Nina Kehyayan

HOUSE POINTS TERM 1
 Uniform, Playground, Charity & Awards

MASIS - 16 points 
ARARAT - 12 points 

BOOK COVERS
 All children should by now have covered all school books with clear plastic. Thank you parents for supporting your children in getting this annual chore out of the way.

DATES TO REMEMBER

14/02	First Aid & CPR Training forms due Book Club - Issue 1 Order Due
17/02	Vartanank - Change of date
10/03	First Aid & CPR Training - Parents & Staff
26/03	Parent Teacher Interviews Student Portfolios
05/04	Palm Sunday Concert & Picnic
09/04	Last Day Term 1
10/04	Good Friday - <i>Public Holiday</i>
11/04	Easter Saturday - <i>Public Holiday</i>
12/04	Easter Monday - <i>Public Holiday</i>
15/04	<i>A.G.B.U. Foundation Anniversary</i>
24/04	<i>Armenian Genocide Commemoration</i>

ARMENIAN STUDENT FUND

WEEKLY REPORT: Term 1 Week 3

8 Points – MASIS	\$10.40
6 Points – ARARAT	\$9.45
TOTAL:	\$19.85
ACCUMULATED:	\$41.90

SPONSOR A CHILD IN ARMENIA THROUGH THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
 For details call: Setrak Kassabian - (02) 9419 8056

VARTANANK: Holy Communion - Thursday, 19th Tuesday 17th February 2009



In school tradition, all students and staff will attend the Armenian Apostolic Church of Holy Resurrection, Chatswood on **Tuesday, 17th February 2009**, to receive blessings and Holy Communion for the start of the new school year. Parents are invited to share the morning with the children.

We expect to arrive at the Armenian Apostolic Church by **11.00am**. We will join in the Mass and the children will receive Communion. Students are expected to arrive back at school by 1.15. Full school uniform must be worn. Girls will need school hats. Students will travel to and from school by Forest Coach Lines.



		www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au
	The Association of Independent Schools of New South Wales	www.aisnsw.edu.au



2009 VOLUNTEER'S CHOICES

Family: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Working Bee March - 50 points per adult	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200 Donation - 200 points
<input type="checkbox"/> Working Bee October - 50 points per adult	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Donation - 100 points
<input type="checkbox"/> Canteen Coordinator - 100 points	<input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Assist - 10 points for two times
<input type="checkbox"/> Canteen Worker - 20 points per day on Canteen	<input type="checkbox"/> Book Covering - 20 points for 10 books
<input type="checkbox"/> Board Representatives - 100 points	<input type="checkbox"/> Driver - 30 points for two trips
<input type="checkbox"/> P & C Office Bearers - 50 points	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional maintenance work - 50-100 points
<input type="checkbox"/> P & C Assistants - 25 points per event	<input type="checkbox"/> Organise School Projects - 50 points
<input type="checkbox"/> Event Coordination: Easter - 25 points	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: Please specify below - points as agreed
<input type="checkbox"/> Event Coordinator: Mothers' Day - 25 points	
<input type="checkbox"/> Event Coordinator: Christmas Concert - 25 points	
<i>Please check the boxes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for the jobs you choose.</i>	TOTAL: <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I will earn 200 or more points.</i>

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

Signed: _____

Date: _____

BACK TO SCHOOL DON'T FORGET ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S ASTHMA!

Early February, just after school goes back, is the time of year when children are most likely to have a flare-up of their asthma, so it is important that parents keep an eye on their children's asthma, ensure they take their prescribed preventer medication regularly, and that they always carry their reliever medication with them. It is vital that asthma in children is properly managed in order to avoid asthma emergencies.

Symptoms in young children may include wheezing, persistent coughing or shortness of breath. If these symptoms do not respond to the child's reliever medication, or if reliever medication is needed every day, we are encouraging parents to take their children immediately to a doctor.

Parents also need to ensure that the school their child attends is fully aware he or she has asthma so the school can support the child's health needs.

Although asthma is mild in most children, it can be serious and even life-threatening if it is not properly managed, so it is important that anyone with asthma sees their doctor regularly and develops an asthma action plan so they know what to do when their symptoms worsen.

There is so much to think about when returning to school. It's often difficult to remember everything. Make sure it's not managing your child's asthma appropriately that you forget! Ensure that you see your GP for an update on your child's asthma and be sure to supply your school with an updated Asthma Action Plan.

If parents have any questions, they should call the Asthma Information Line on 1800 645 130 or speak with their doctor.



Asthma Foundation NSW ☎ 1800 645 130 🌐 www.asthmansw.org.au

PARENTS AND TEACHERS WARNED OF BACK-TO-SCHOOL ASTHMA SPIKE

The Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Ageing, Senator Jan McLucas, last week urged parents and teachers of children with asthma to ensure they have an up-to-date Asthma Action Plan as students begin a new school year.

The Australian Government has allocated \$5.4 million to the Asthma Management Program (AMP) in 2008-09 to produce best practice treatment, encourage proactive management and reduce the personal, social and economic impact of asthma. An important component of the AMP is the Asthma Friendly Schools Program. This program, which will receive around \$1.4 million in Australian Government funding in 2008-09, provides training for teachers and asthma management guidelines for schools.

Senator McLucas said that an Asthma Action Plan could prevent serious attacks by helping people with asthma recognise worsening asthma symptoms and giving them clear instructions on what to do in response. "In February each year, we see a dramatic increase in the number of school-age students being hospitalised and attending Accident and Emergency departments due to asthma-related illnesses," Senator McLucas said. "People with asthma, particularly children, are more vulnerable to the extreme temperature changes and respiratory viruses which students can be exposed to when they return to school. I urge parents and teachers of children with asthma to reduce their risk of having asthma attacks by ensuring they have an up-to-date Asthma Action Plan."

Developing a written Asthma Action Plan with your GP is an integral part of asthma management. It is a must for every child with asthma to have a current plan. Eighty-five per cent of schools across Australia are involved in the Asthma Friendly Schools Program, which provides training and support for staff to deal effectively with asthma.

Further information on asthma management is available through Asthma Foundations Australia (www.asthmaaustralia.org.au) and the National Asthma Council Australia (www.nationalasthma.org.au).

**AGBU Alexander
Primary School**
is recognised as an

