

Merdinian

News

Pursue Excellence

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ՄՇԱԿՈՅԹԻ ԱՄԻՍԸ՝ ՄԵՐՏԻՆԵԱՆ ՎԱՐԺԱՐԱՆԷՆ ՆԵՐՍ

Աշխեն ԽԱՔԷՆՅԱՆ

«Զօրութիւնդ ու Լոյսդ Անպակաս, Սուրբ Մտերոպ»

Նախորդ տարիներուն Գման, այս տարի եւս Մերտինեանէն Գերս Հոկտեմբերը լի էր զանազան գործունէութիւններով, բոլորն ալ նուիրուած Հայ Մշակոյթին, անոր սերը աւելի արմատացնելու համար հայ աշակերտին սրտին ու մտքին մէջ:

Հոկտեմբեր 17-ին, Touch of Art հաստատութիւնը նկարեց մեծ թիով աշակերտներ՝ հայկական տարազներով:

Հոկտեմբեր 24-ին, Ա.-էն Ը. կարգերու աշակերտները նախ լսեցին հայկական ծիրանին եւ հայութիւնը խորհրդանշող այլ պտուղներու մասին, ապա դիտեցին “Apricot, The Blessed Tree of Armenia” վաւերագրական ժապաւէնը:

Հոկտեմբեր 25 - 28-ին տեղի ունեցաւ հայերէն գիրքերու եւ յուշանուէրներու ցուցահանդէս - վաճառք: Զեռնարկը մեծ հետաքրքրութիւն եւ խանդավառութիւն առաջացուց աշակերտներուն եւ անոնց ծնողաց մօտ:

ամէն կողմ եռագոյն կը տեսնուէր՝ հագուստ, շապիկ, մազկապ, վզկապ, զարդեղէններ, դրօշակներ, եւ այլն:

Հոկտեմբեր 28-ի կէսօրին, աշակերտներ, ծնողներ, ուսուցիչներ միասնաբար ճաշակեցին հայկական համեղ խորովածը, իսկ ճաշէն ետք ծախուեցան հայկական ճաշեր. այս բոլորը պատրաստուած էր Ծնողա-Ուսուցչական մարմնի տիկիներուն կողմէ:

Նոյն օրը, կէսօրէ ետք, Ե. կարգի աշակերտները ներկաներուն հրամցուցին Հայ Մշակոյթին նուիրուած կոկիկ յայտագիր մը՝ ուր տեղ գտած էին երգեր, արտասանութիւններ եւ թատերգութիւն մը՝ Թումանեանի «Չարին Վերջը»: Բացման խօսքը, Յովհաննէս Թումանեանի ծանօթացումը եւ յայտագրի ներկայացումը կատարեցին Ը. կարգի աշակերտները:

Շաբաթ, Հոկտեմբեր 29-ի առաւօտուն, տեղի ունեցաւ մանկական երգահանդէս մը, կատարողութեամբ մանուկներու շատ սիրելի երգչուհի՝ Թալինի:

Վարձքը կատար՝ բոլոր անսակարկ ծառայող ծնողներուն, երկար արեւ՝ անձնուրաց ուսուցիչներուն եւ վերջապէս, հազար ապրիւն բոլոր այն աշակերտները՝ որոնք Հոկտեմբեր ամսուան ընթացքին նոր բան մը սորվեցան իրենց մշակութային ժառանգութեան մասին եւ աստիճան մը աւելի Հայ զգացին իրենք-զիրենք:



Merdinian Participates in the 170th Anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Church

ARMINE NALBANTIAN

On October 2, a group of our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students participated in the wonderful program at UACC commemorating the 170th anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Church. Thank you to all the students who participated, Mrs. Lena Ekmekjian, and Mrs. Alice Derkevorkian for their hard work!

Character Builder's Club

ARMINE NALBANTIAN

October is Bullying Prevention Month. On October 5, our Character Builder's Club students, led by the school counselor, Mrs. Nora Chitilian, presented a skit during chapel time. They stressed the importance of being kind and emphasized that bullying can happen in different ways. The club also gave students stickers to wear with the message, "Be a Buddy, not a Bully!" Thank you Character Builder's Club and our counselor, Mrs. Nora!



Earthquake Drill

ARMINE NALBANTIAN

On October 20, Merdinian students and faculty practiced emergency earthquake procedures as part of the National Earthquake Drill.

Book Donation

Aline Bezdikian-Shirajian

The big family of Merdinian thanks the Atikian family for their generous gift to our students.

Two hundred forty copies of *Armig and Sayat Nova* were donated to our school. Each student received a copy of the book, written by late author Katie Atikian and illustrated by Allison Atikian.

The book was published in 2003 and it tells the story of an eleven-year-old shepherd who conquers his shyness and learns to stand up for his beliefs.

WASC Preparation

ARMINE NALBANTIAN

Our faculty and staff participated in an in-service, to work on the upcoming WASC accreditation, on October 14, which was a Pupil Free Day.

Coffee with Parents

ARMINE NALBANTIAN

The traditional "Coffee with Parents" was held for pre-school parents on October 12 in the Aram & Anahis D. Boolghoorjian Hall and it was hosted by our PTO. Over twenty parents had the opportunity to meet each other as well as share ideas and suggestions.

After School Activities

Aline Bezdikian-Shirajian

Merdinian students have the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities after school, including Lego Robotics, Martial Art, Dance, Spanish, and Art Classes. Many students are also part of the sport teams including basketball, volleyball, soccer, table tennis as well as track and

field. The number of students in our sport teams increased recently after the enthusiasm created by our mascot the lion, especially when he visited the classrooms, and the pep rally which took place on Friday, October 21.

One hundred and fifty nine students in total participate in these activities.

Sports Life

ARMINE NALBANTIAN

KAHAM games have started. Track and Field athletes were ready to represent our school at this year's games. They participated in a Track and Field event on October 22 and 23. We congratulate our winners: Krtotyan Elisa, Krtotyan Emily, Migranyan Sarkis, Krtotyan Ara, and Karajayan Ani.



Student News

Aline Bezdikian-Shirajian

- The second grade students had an interesting and educational fun activity with a "Show and Tell" during their Armenian class in October on the occasion of Armenian Cultural Month. Per their teacher, Mrs. Lena Ekmekjian's request, the students brought to school a variety of objects and pictures



representing Armenian culture. Among the items were lavash, the Bible, a forget-me-not flower, Armenian books, crosses, the Aypoupen, the Armenian tri-color flag, pictures of Armenian churches, khachkars, and Armenian themed T-shirts.

As part of the Armenian Cultural Month activities, October 26 was a spirit Day. Students came to school wearing Armenian-themed T-shirts and accessories.

The third grade students practiced their journalistic skills by publishing a newsletter of their own, *The Monarch Kids*. The newsletter had an interview with our principal, a survey, quotes on Thanksgiving, an article on our mascot and on lions in general, poems written by the students, and a funny corner.



Merdinian Attends Armenia's Independence Celebration

Aline Bezdikian-Shirajian

Merdinian School was among the invitees at the 25th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Armenia. Mrs. Aline Bezdikian attended the event on behalf of our school. The event took place on October 25 at the Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills. The reception was part of a series of events to commemorate Armenia's 25th independence.

Preschool "Career Day"

Aline Bezdikian-Shirajian

As it has become a tradition over the years, the Preschool had its "Career Day" on October 31. The students came to school wearing different costumes of different careers. Four parents, a businessman, a pharmacist, a baker, and a mechanic gave presentations to the preschoolers about their careers.



Congratulations!

Lina Arslanian

Andrew Manikyan and Lark Kabakian from 8th grade were awarded High Honors for being among the highest scoring participants in the 2016 International Talent Search, which recognizes excellence in mathematical, verbal, and spatial abilities! We are proud of our students and congratulate them, their teachers, and their parents.



PTO ANNUAL GALA



TO HEAL A HEART

Merdinian Mom & Dad share a story from the heart for every person who cares about our school and our Merdinian Kids . . . our entire "Merdinian Family."

We are writing this to congratulate the school and express our highest level of satisfaction and praise. Our youngest daughter has some minor special needs and in our quest to coordinate all the services from a number of sources and providers, we have had very big concerns. As parents we had to be certain that the school would be perfectly equipped to handle our situation.

We want to spread the word and make it known that our Merdinian team met the challenge! Not only did Mrs. Lina Arslanian, the staff and the teachers open their doors to us – they embraced our family and reached out to help. They opened their ears. They opened their hearts.

Recently, we were reminded again why we chose Merdinian to help us raise good kids and ultimately fine young women and a fine young man. Our youngest girl was crying after dance class because her little ballerina outfit got left in the classroom but nobody understood when she tried to explain that something was wrong. When this Merdinian Dad arrived and saw a broken heart he knew right away what was missing and ran to get the ballerina outfit. The instructor Miss Narine Patrosyan, dance director at Heritage Dance Company (heritagedancestudio.com), realized what had happened, and it was obvious that it was nobody's fault. However, it was not too late to fix it. The crying was replaced with squeals of joy as the two little sisters flew off to get the littlest sister dressed the way her ballerina heart had wished for so much.

They ran back to the empty stage and pranced around. Magically, the instructor Miss Narine, out of the goodness of her heart appeared and danced and played song after song just for the littlest dancer. Because . . . *that was the way to heal a heart.*

Merdinian Armenian Evangelical School stepped up when we needed a special dimension of support and foundation and a little bit of heart. We are proud of our family of instructors, parents, administrators and teachers.

Anonymous Merdinian Mom & Dad

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**CHARLOTTE AND ELISE MERDINIAN
ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL SCHOOL**

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