

Merdinian

News

Pursue Excellence

FEBRUARY 2018 • NUMBER 6

ՎԱՍՆ ՅԻՍՈՒՄԻ, ՎԱՍՆ ՀԱՅՐԵՆԵԱՑ

Մերտիներան Վարժարանի աշակերտները, նախորդ տարիներու նման, պատրաստած էին Վարդանանց Ճակատամարտը յիշատակող յայտագիր մը , որ տեղի ունեցաւ Փետրուար 8-ին, կէսօրէ ետք ժամը 2:10-ին, վարժարանի սրահին մէջ:

Հինգերորդ դասարանի աշակերտները ստանձնած էին Վարդանանց հանդիսութեան իրագործումը: Անոնք, Տիկ. Ալիս Տերգերգեանի ղեկավարութեամբ երգեցին եւ Տիկ. Մարգարիտ Մեղրոյեանի ջանքերուն շնորհիւ արտասանեցին եւ բեմադրութեամբ մը ներկայացուցին Վարդան Մամիկոնեանը եւ Վարդանանց պատերազմը: Մենք հպարտութեամբ կրկին յիշեցինք մեր «Կարմիր» Վարդանի «Վասն Յիսուսի եւ Վասն Հայրենեաց» նահատակութիւնը: Ան քաջաբար մեռաւ, որ մենք մնանք հայ եւ քրիստոնիստ անոր ոգիով զօրացած:

Յայտագրին վերջին խօսք առնողը եղաւ վարժարանի տնօրէնուհի՝ Տիկին Լինա Արսլանեանը, որ շնորհաւորեց տաղանդաւոր դերակատարները եւ անոնց լաւագոյնին համար աշխատող

ուսուցիչները : Ան նաեւ յատուկ շնորհակալութիւն յայտնեց ծնողներուն, որոնք իրենց առաւելագոյնը կրնեն վարժարանիս համար:

Լիբօլ Թիլքեան
Ը. Կարգ



"PAREGENTAN" CELEBRATION

Our faculty and staff welcomed Paregentan with a delicious potluck lunch on February 12. Students from grades KR, KY, 1st, 2R, and 2Y led by Mrs. Mariam also participated in Paregentan activities by making masks, eating delicious appetizers, walking around campus singing songs, and visiting the teacher's lounge and the principal! Teachers and students had a great time honoring our great traditions and culture!



WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CORNER

Valentine's Day Luncheon was held at Pheonicia Restaurant on February 17 organized by Merdinian's Women's Auxiliary. Around 40 guests attended the luncheon. The attendees played Valentine Trivia and other fun games while enjoying the delicious food and raising funds for our school.

FACULTY CORNER

- Our teachers, Mrs. Ninel Iranosian, Mrs. Mayda Baboomian, and Mrs. Naira Nalbandyan attended a workshop on February 7 at The Frostig Center in Pasadena. The workshop centered around practical classroom strategies for addressing challenging behaviors in a classroom. These teachers were presented helpful approaches when having to deal with behavior challenges. "The workshop was very informative and engaging," said Mrs. Naira. The teachers received certificates for completing twelve hours of professional development.
- Our principal attended a webinar on February 8 entitled, "Facilitating Authentic Professional Learning Communities."
- Our faculty celebrates the lent season with delicious lent food on every Wednesday.



BAKE SALE

The second grade Bake Sale took place on February 13. The families of our second graders provided loads of sweet goodies to be sold to students and families. A few parents volunteered to help with the sale. It is greatly appreciated! The sale was a great opportunity for our school to raise funds for classroom needs.



PTO

- Another Parent Breakfast, hosted by the PTO, took place on February 2. The attendees had the opportunity to share ideas and give inputs for the remainder of the year's activities. The highlights of this month's meeting were the Michink and Movie Night. Thank you PTO for a delicious breakfast!



- Paris, The City of Lights, was transported to Metropol Banquet Hall in Glendale on February 3 for the 36th Annual Gala of Merdinian School. It was organized and hosted by the school's PTO. The lavish dinner-dance attracted more than 200 guests including parents, teachers, staff, board members, and friends of Merdinian. The graduating class of 2018 was among the attendees. The evening's program started with PTO's chairlady Mrs. Azniv Ghazanian's welcoming remarks. In addition to the upbeat music played by the Dj, the evening was highlighted by the performance of our after-school violin teacher Ruben Aghiyian along with pianist Shushan Hakobyan on the keyboard, the 8th grade poetry recitations in Armenian and English, the delicious food, the lavish dessert and fruit table, the silent auction gift tables, and the photo booth. They all created an atmosphere of a luxury celebration worthy of our school.



ARMENIAN CULTURE CORNER

Easter is around the corner. As Armenians, traditions celebrating this important religious holiday include dying eggs and baking choreg. For years it has been a tradition for our 8th grade class to bake choreg with Mrs. Ashken Ispenjian. The choregs were sold during the Easter Bake Sale organized by the PTO.

«Չէորէկ»ի Բաղաստրատոմս



Ա.Հալեցնել 1lb. առանց աղի կարագ, 1/2 lb. առանց աղի margarine եւ 1 շերտի crisco shortening.

Բ.Մեծ ամանի մը մէջ դնել պտղունց մը աղ, 3-3.5 գաւաթ շաքար եւ հալած իւղը խառնել մինչեւ շաքարը հալի. աւելցնել 1.5 գաւաթ բուսական ձէթ, 1 փոքր թիթեղ evaporated milk, 3 ապուրի դգալ mahleb եւ մէկական ապուրի դգալ vanilla extract, կասիայի փոշի, մեխակ եւ 6 թէյի դգալ baking powder. Լաւ մը խառնել մինչեւ բաւական պաղի: Առանցին ամանի մէջ լաւ գարնել 9-10 հաւկիթ եւ խառնել վերի բաղադրութեան:

Գ.Ուրիշ ամանի մը մէջ խառնել 3 փաթեթ Rapid Rise Yeast powder, Իթէյի դգալ շաքար եւ 1 գաւաթ քաղց ջուր: Երբ թթխմորը հալի, հանգիստ ձգել, մինչեւ որ ուռի եւ երեսը պղպշակներ երեւին:

Դ.Թթխմորը խառնել բաղադրութեան հետ եւ աւելցնել 7-8 lb. ալիւր եւ շաղկէ վերջ 15-20 վայրկեան ձգել, որ հանգչի եւ ուռի(թթուի):

Ե.Պատրաստ խմորը ձեւակերպել, վրան հաւկիթ քսել եւ 375 աստիճան փուռի մէջ եփել: Անուշ ըլլայ...

ARMENIAN RECITATION CONTEST

Works of Hovhannes Shiraz, Hratchia Hovsepian, Antranig Dzarougian and many others were recited on our campus when students from Southern California came together on February 24 for a recitation contest on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Armenia's first independence. Our school, along with sister Armenian schools, participated in the contest, which was divided into 3 categories based on grade level, Elementary, Middle, and High school levels. Merdinian was presented by four students, Daniella Bandari, Vahe Snapien, Sarine Boghossian from Middle School and Nare Khechian from Elementary school. All those who took part in the contest received a certificate of participation, a sports bag with the symbol of Armenia's Coat of Arm, and Nersig Ispirian's CD from the organizing body, The Board of Regents of Prelacy Armenian Schools. They also received a certificate of appreciation from Mrs. Hranoush Hakopian, Armenia's Minister of Diaspora. For hosting the event, our school received a beautiful artwork.



POWER OF ONE ASSEMBLY

On February 12, K-8th students gathered in the hall in two sessions to attend an assembly called "The Power of One; Anti Bullying." It was a series of skits presented by actors who demonstrated what bullying is, what can be done about it; and how every child has the power to speak up by telling his/her teacher or parents when bullying occurs. Some of our students volunteered to participate in the assembly. They were engaged and acted enthusiastically on stage.



"STAR CARD"

Our students have been showing kindness, being helpful, displaying sportsmanship, and keeping our school clean to earn Merdinian Star cards. The following students were picked by lottery to receive In-N-Out coupons for the month of January:

- Hovan Boyajian, 7th
- Alek Ghazanian, 7th
- Sarine Boyajian, 5th
- Jason Bustani, 2Y
- Joseph Asmerian, 2Y

SCIENCE FAIR

Students participated and created amazing projects for the Merdinian Annual Science Fair on February 15. The winners received their medals on February 28.



6th grade:

1st place: Samvel Krboyan
2nd place: Alexa Bouchakian
3rd place: Nayiri Karadjian



7th grade:

1st place: Alek Ghazanian
1st place: Vahe Snapyan
2nd place: Anahid Topchyan
3rd place: Alex Aywazian
3rd place: Lena Gyulbekyan



8th grade:

1st place: Robert Dergharapetian
1st place: Ani Karajayan
2nd place: Nicole Khoukaz
3rd place: Ani Alin Kosoyan
Honorable Mention: Marianna Dzhuryan
Honorable Mention: Natalie Khoukaz
Honorable Mention: Nicole Til kian



We thank the Armenian Engineers and Scientists of America (AESA) for their assistance in judging the projects.

Ani Karajayan, 8th grade, was invited by the AESA (Armenian Engineers and Scientists of America) to give an interview on Armenian channel AMGA on February 16. She shared her science fair experiences. Karajayan has won several medals with her science fair projects in school, county fairs, and AESA Science Olympiad.



FIELD TRIP SERVICE PROJECT TO CHILDREN'S HUNGER FUND

Psalm 100:2 says: Serve the Lord with gladness.

On February 1, our 6th graders headed to Children's Hunger Fund at Sylmar, in order to serve the less fortunate. Here is some of their feedback after their service trip!

Nayiri:
"We packed food, candies, and

sanitary supplies. We organized all the donated items! God has taught us to help the people who are in poverty!"

Grace:

"God gave us this amazing service opportunity for a reason. I am grateful!"

Hovsep:

"By serving the poor, I felt like I am being God's channel of service and help!"

Alexa:

"The field trip was a very humbling experience! I was happy to help the children who need help. With this opportunity to serve, I could give back to others and I can appreciate how much I have!"

Arman:

"I enjoyed serving the needy alongside my friends!"

Angelina:

"I hope the needy children will smile when they get the donated items!"

Sam:

"Children Hunger Fund is a great organization, which gave us the opportunity to aid the children in need!"

Karen:

"I am thankful to Grace's dad for offering us a luxurious transportation bus to go to CHF and offer our service."

Furthermore, besides our service, we plan to collect donations to buy meals for the poor. Each 25 cents feeds the hungry person with one whole meal through the Children's Hunger Fund organization. We look forward to spread God's love and care with our charitable acts.



POETRY CONTEST WINNERS:

Appelley Publishing organized by Scholastic

6th Grade

Alexa Bouchakian
Nayiri Karadjian
Sam Krboyan

7th Grade

Daniella Bandari
Hovan Boyajian
Emily Sayadian
Lena Gyulbekyan
Anthony Tokatlian
Vahe Snapyan

8th Grade

Robert Dergharapetian
Marianna Dzhuryan
Ani Karajayan
Natalie Khoukaz
Nicole Khoukaz
Ani Kosoyan
Anthony Seradarian
Sophia Seradarian

Anthology of Young Poets

6th Grade

Alexa Bouchakian

7th Grade

Alex Aywazian
Daniella Bandari
Hovan Boyajian
Tatiana Kaljian
Nare Karatepyan
Vahe Snapyan

8th Grade

Marianna Dzhuryan
Ani Karajayan
Natalie Khoukaz
Nicole Khoukaz
Ani Kosoyan
Nicole Tilkian



"THE BREADWINNER" FIELD TRIP

The students from 6th through 8th grade, along with students from Hovsepien and Sahag Mesrob schools had a field trip to watch the Breadwinner." The movie is about the story of a girl who must risk herself so her mother and sisters can survive life under harsh conditions in Afghanistan. The students also had the opportunity to participate in a Q & A session with one of the screen writers.

DOOR CONTEST WINNER

The 8th grade class was the winner of the February door decoration contest. The students from the winning class were rewarded! The theme of February was Valentine's Day and the criteria were originality, students' work, and creativity. Great job 8th grade and to all the classes for having school spirit!

PRESCHOOL CORNER

Busy preschoolers decorated their classroom with Valentine's decorations, learned poems and songs, and finally had a special breakfast with their friends and teachers. That's how the preschoolers celebrated their Valentine's Day.



Preschoolers also celebrated Vartanants Day by role playing and creating arts and crafts projects during Armenian classes.



ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENT

Andrew Manikyan, Class of 2017, was the recipient of the Highest Honor Award at Bellarmine Jefferson High School. Congratulations! We are proud of our alumni!

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 17
Michink by PTO

March 18
KAHAM Closing Ceremonies

March 23
Easter Assembly PTO Bake Sale

March 26-April 2
School Closed

April 3
School reopens

ALUMNI CORNER

Lori Harer (Darakjian) came to Merdinian Armenian Evangelical School in 1988 as a shy sixth-grader who had recently immigrated with her family from Beirut, Lebanon. She found a second home in Merdinian, where she made lifelong friends and nourished not only her mind, but also her faith.

After completing ninth grade in 1992, Lori attended Taft High School, where she graduated in the top 1% of her class. Lori then received a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychobiology with a Minor in Education from UCLA, graduating with honors.

Lori is a 2007 graduate of Pepperdine School of Law, where she earned a Juris

Doctor degree and obtained a Certificate in Dispute Resolution from the Straus Institute of Dispute Resolution.

While working for eight years at the highest rated and well-regarded family law firms in Los Angeles, Lori's clientele ranged from entertainers and sports celebrities to professionals, entrepreneurs, business owners, and homemakers. In 2016, Lori opened the doors to her own family law practice, where she combines her extensive experience and education in both psychology and law to provide outstanding legal services in family law including: divorce/dissolution; child custody; child support; spousal support; characterization, valuation, and division of property; domestic violence; reloca-

tion; pre- and post-nuptial agreements; and international custody disputes. Lori is filled with gratitude for the teachers at Merdinian who put a shy girl on stage to act in plays, recite poetry, and sing hymns and cultural songs. She is forever thankful to Merdinian for nurturing her love for her culture and her faith and for guiding her to always seek justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly.



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