

MARCH  
2024

# THE CHRONICLES

## VALUE OF THE MONTH: PEACE

This month, our new value has been **peace**: why it is important and how we can help achieve it. Working towards peace can take many forms: conflict resolution with friends, living in peace with our neighbors, or environmental peace. Students were given tools and strategies to strive towards peace. This month was also the start of a new program: Eco Eagles. We believe that instilling a sense of environmental responsibility in our students is one way for our students to help our world achieve peace.



Through our new EcoEagles program, our students and families can be involved in work that is meaningful and purposeful. Some of the initiatives include properly sorting and disposing of recyclable materials at home and at school. We are asking our families to collect plastic bottles and bring them to school every Monday for recycling where they will be taken to a recycling center weekly. Students will also reduce energy consumption, conserve water, and minimize waste on campus. These initiatives will be integrated into our daily life at school to educate our students about the environmental impact of their actions. Lastly, we ask our families to collect and save your bottle caps, and bring them to the classroom.

In May, we will be embarking on an exciting mural art project that will be repurposing the bottle caps into a collective art piece that will be displayed in our school.

### UPCOMING DATES

APRIL 23 6:30 PM | COMMUNITY-WIDE  
GENOCIDE COMMEMORATION EVENT

APRIL 24 | NO SCHOOL-OBSERVED FOR  
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY

# READING

March was full of fun & educational activities to promote strong readers. From dress-up days to door decorating contests, visits from Armenian authors to the Cat in the Hat, reading with buddies, Ms. Anna the librarian, and parent volunteers -- the list just goes on! Continue reading to see more from this year's reading month!





# WHAT'S UP WITH THE EAGLES?

## READING MONTH SPECIAL

### CRAZY SOCK DAY



### READER'S OATH



### READING WITH PARENTS



### READING BUDDIES



### CRAZY HAT & HAIR DAY



### READING PICNIC



### WITH CAT IN THE HAT



### CHARACTER DRESS UP



### DOOR DECORATING CONTEST



### WEAR GREEN!



**AUTHORS' CORNER**

**READING MONTH SPECIAL**

**TALAR KEOSEYAN**

AGM students met Talar Keoseyan, author of *Tigran's Song* and *Our Tigran*. During the 2020 Artsakh war, Talar had seen a video of Tigran Harutyunyan, an Armenian soldier singing a song he dedicated to his mother. Unfortunately, Tigran was martyred shortly after releasing that video, but Talar and Tigran's family wanted to ensure that Tigran's legacy would live on. Talar shared his story with us and we even had the privilege to be able to video call with Tigran's sister, Anna. Some students also had an opportunity to win one of the books to take home! *Our Tigran*, and *Tigran's Song* feature collected stories from Tigran's family and friends that paint a picture of who Tigran was and helps the reader connect to one of our nation's heroes.



**NORA BAIRAMIAN**

Nora Bairamian, co-author of the *Great Armenians for Kids* books visited our school to talk about her latest book about Khrimyan Hayrik and all his contributions to the Armenian nation including the famous speech, Երկաթե Շերեփ (Iron Ladle). The lower elementary students, after learning about Khrimyan Hayrik, created a portrait of him using colorful paper. The older elementary students had a fruitful discussion regarding what the Iron Ladle might look like for Armenia today.



**MEGHRI DERVARTANIAN**

To share her experience climbing Mount Ararat and to present her new book *Դէպի Արարատ Լեռ*, Meghri Der Vartanian visited our school all the way from the East Coast! In her book, Nate and Haig are determined to measure the height of Mount Ararat and come up with creative ways to figure it out. After the book reading, the younger students were engaged in a game that uses movement and imagination to climb Mount Ararat. The older students got to see a first look into what it takes to climb Mount Ararat and how they can be prepared to one day do it themselves! Students also learned new songs, poems, and valuable lessons about being proud to be Armenian, something that they will cherish forever!



**TAMAR KASSARAJIAN**

Tamar Kassarajian is a Florida native, and as part of her spring book tour, chose AGM to be one of her first stops! Her first publication, *The Secret Language Method* is based on her own life experiences about how being able to speak Armenian is like a secret super power! She encourages young Armenians to always use their mother tongue when speaking and writing, and one day they too can publish their own stories!





# THE SCHOOL-WIDE SCOOP

# Զատիկ

Զատիկը անենամեծ տօնն է Հայ Քրիստոնեայի համար: Յիսուս մեր մեղքերը իր վրայ առնելով խաչը ելաւ որպէսզի փրկէ մեղաւորները: Մենք մեր վարժարանին մէջ կը տօնենք եւ կը սորվեցնենք Ս. Զատիկին իմաստը: Աշակերտները առիթը կ'ունենան եկեղեցի երթալու եւ հաղորդուելու, եւ անշուշտ աւանդութիւն դարձած հաւկթախաղը որ բնաւ չի մոռցուիր:

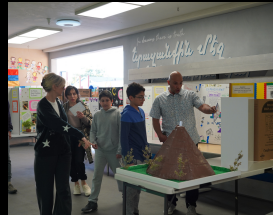
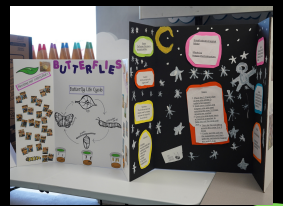
Վասնզի Աստուած այնպէս սիրեց աշխարհը մինչեւ իր միաժին որդին տուաւ, որպէսզի ամէն ան որ անոր հաւատայ, չի կորսուի հապա յաիտենական կեանք ունենայ:

**FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD,  
THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON,  
THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM,  
SHALL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.  
JOHN 3:16**



# OPEN HOUSE

One of our favorite nights of the year: Open House! Take a glimpse at some of the magic that happens inside the doors of AGM— something you won't see anywhere else!





TEACHER  
SPOTLIGHTORIORT TSOLAIRE  
TAMOUKIANWHAT IS YOUR OVERALL APPROACH TO  
TEACHING PRESCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN?

I love to work with preschool-aged children not only because it's fun and they are just the best humans on earth, but also because I get to instill all the things they learn in their early stages of life and teach them what they need to learn to move on to Kindergarten. The best part of being a teacher is when I see that they have learned something new and, they tell me or show me! Best thing ever for a teacher!

CAN YOU SHARE SOME WAYS OF  
HOW YOU INTEGRATE ACADEMIC  
SKILLS (IN ARMENIAN AND ENGLISH)  
INTO EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES?

In Preschool, I do every lesson in Armenian and English. I want to be sure children are ready for Kindergarten! We read books, write our names, and do activities both in Armenian and English. Before they leave my class, children are counting, recognizing letters and sounds, and are ready socially to head on over to Kindergarten.

HOW DO YOU INVOLVE  
PARENTS IN THEIR CHILD'S  
LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT?

I always like to involve parents by communicating and giving the kids homework assignments to practice at home too. For example, if we are learning letter sounds, I have them practice at home too, or if we are talking about kindness, practice ways of being kind at home. School and home should be on the same page for the child to grow and flourish!

## ORANGE CLASS

WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE BIGGEST STRENGTHS  
OF THE AGM PRESCHOOL?

AGM preschoolers are very lucky to have a preschool where teachers are the sweetest and love doing what they do and it shows in their work! AGM is like home away from home. We are one big happy Armenian family, and we love all the children in our care. Our strengths are we value our culture and want to instill all that we can into our young Eagles.

WHAT STRATEGIES DO YOU USE TO PROMOTE SOCIAL-  
EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AMONG YOUR PRESCHOOLERS?

Some strategies that I use to help with social-emotional development in our class is being a positive role model and showing kindness to the kids throughout the day. We talk about everything! I always use examples of how we might feel when someone does something hurtful to us or treats us in a way we don't like. We use art to express our feelings, we talk to one another if we don't like what the other person did or said to us, and different activities to show how we feel.

HOW DO YOU BALANCE  
STRUCTURED ACTIVITIES AND FREE  
EXPLORATION IN THE CLASSROOM?

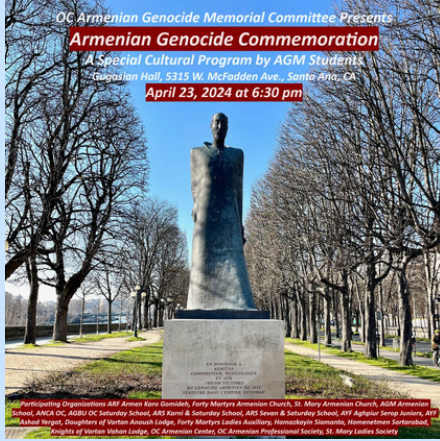
Our daily routine is structured where we have time to learn during circle time and time to learn during free play. We have 2 different times of learning: one is circle time when the child learns to sit, listen to the teacher, listen to other students, read books, learn our letters and numbers, and the second is when we have free play we learn during different types of play.





**BE ON THE  
LOOKOUT!**

**COMMUNITY  
WIDE EVENT**



**APRIL 23RD,  
TUESDAY | 6:30 PM**

Orange County's Armenian Genocide Commemoration Event with a cultural program from AGM students

**DAD'S NIGHT  
OUT**



**MAY 4TH,  
SATURDAY | 6PM**

All dads are welcome!  
For more information,  
contact Koko at  
(714) 900-1309

**MOTHER'S DAY  
BRUNCH**



**MAY 2ND,  
THURSDAY | 9AM**

Tickets will go on sale Friday, April 12th on [Givebutter.com](https://www.givebutter.com)

[Click here for tickets!](#)