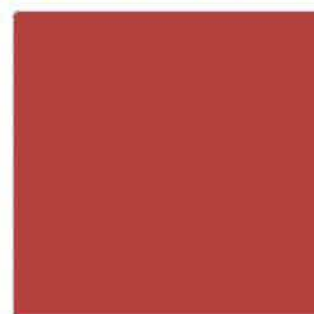
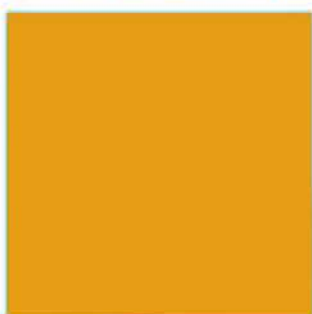


NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO.10 - JULY 2026



Educating generations for 75 years





A Message from the Principal

Like a long and meaningful journey traced across changing seasons, another academic year now gently comes to its close. We began it with hope, walked through it with determination, and today we stand at its end with gratitude in our hearts. This year was not an ordinary one for us—it carried the weight of history and the light of celebration, as we proudly marked the 75th Anniversary of our school. Seventy-five years of learning, service, resilience, and identity—woven together by generations who believed in the power of education.

This milestone reminded us that a school is far more than walls and classrooms. It is memory and mission. It is the echo of past voices and the promise of future ones. Throughout this anniversary year, we did not merely celebrate—we reaffirmed who we are and why we continue.

Yet, this academic year also unfolded under the shadow of difficult regional realities. The ongoing uncertainties and the presence of conflict in our wider environment inevitably touched the lives of our community. In such times, education becomes more than instruction—it becomes stability, continuity, and hope. I am deeply proud of how our students, teachers, and parents carried themselves with resilience, dignity, and unity in the face of such challenges. We continued our mission not because circumstances were easy, but because it was necessary.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our distinguished benefactors Mr. and Mrs. Sam and Sylva Simonian, whose steadfast generosity and belief in our mission have been a pillar of strength, enabling our school not only to sustain its work but to continue growing with dignity and purpose.

As summer begins, I wish all our students and families a peaceful, safe, and restorative holiday. May this break bring rest to the mind, warmth to the heart, and renewed strength for the journey ahead.

And as we look toward the next academic year, we do so with quiet confidence and humility—because a school that has stood for 75 years does not simply endure time; it grows through it.

With heartfelt wishes for a peaceful summer and a brighter tomorrow, but more importantly peace for our beloved Lebanon.

Sevana Semerdjian Darakjian
Principal

Highlights of our School programs and activities

Academic Activities

Character Education

Friendship



Discipline



Lecture about Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

On April 27, 2026, Vahan Tekeyan S School hosted Mrs. Sossi Shahinian-Shaghrian, author of three children's books. She met with Elementary Grades 5 and 6 students and presented her book "The Goals of the Three Sisters," highlighting the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Lecture about Road Safety

On April 29, 2026 our students were divided into two groups to attend an engaging and informative lecture on road safety, organized by Kunhadi in collaboration with Fabriano. The session aimed to raise awareness among students about responsible road use, emphasizing safe practices for pedestrians, passengers, and future drivers.



Earth Day



Voices for Peace:

During Arabic language class, students of Grades 7, 8, and 9 participated in an activity centered on the instructional style, with the aim of enhancing their written expression skills.

This activity provided students with a wonderful opportunity to develop their imagination and freely express their ideas on cardboard posters **featuring slogans and messages calling for peace and safety, especially for our Lebanon.**



KG 3 Orientation:

Preparing for the next step in their educational journey, our KG 3 students visited the Grade 1 classroom on June 2, 2026, allowing them to explore their future learning environment and meet new expectations with confidence.



Students Project Exhibition:



Cultural Activities

Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide:

On April 14, 2026 we commemorated the 111th year of Armenian Genocide, with our guest speaker Mr. Berge Arabian, deputy chair of the school board.



Educational and cultural excursions:

A Visit to the Armenian Catholicosate of Cilicia

Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide

On April 23, 2026, our Intermediate students accompanied by their teachers, attended the student gathering marking the 111th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, held at the Armenian Church Catholicosate of Cilicia in Antelias. On behalf of the school, a wreath was laid in front of the eternal flame.

On Thursday evening, April 23, 2026, and on Friday morning, April 24, 2026 a group of intermediate students from our school participated in an intercommunity youth commemoration marking the 111th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, held at the Armenian Church Catholicosate of Cilicia in Antelias.



Visits to Der Melkonian Theater:

TCA “Krikor Degrmenjian” Children’s Theater Group

On April 17, students from Grade 1 to Grade 9 attended the play “Թումանյան Հինգ”, performed by the TCA Krikor Degrmenjian Children’s Theater Group, with participation from 8 of their classmates.



Students Impression:

On Friday, April 17, our school visited the Der Melkonian Theater to watch our friends and classmates perform on stage. The play was both entertaining and inspiring, featuring five different stories by the renowned Armenian writer and poet Hovhannes Toumanian.

It was a wonderful experience to see our friends bring these stories to life with confidence and enthusiasm. Knowing that it was their first time performing on stage made their achievement even more impressive. Their talent, dedication, and teamwork were evident throughout the performance, and they truly captivated the audience.

Melissa Kurkjian– Grade 8

Hamazkayin “Areg” Children’s Theater Group

On May 26, Grade 5 and Grade 6 students attended the student theatrical performance “Hey Jan Ghapama” presented by the “Areg” Children’s Theater Group of Hamazkayin.



Different Celebrations:

Teachers' Day

On March 19, 2026 Grade 9 students, led by their teacher Miss Suzan Tazian, celebrated Teachers' Day in a special and symbolic way in the elementary teachers' room.

Also, on March 26, members from RAG Shushan Varteni Club, headed by Dr. Ani Ghazelian, visited the school's teaching staff to honor and congratulate them on Teachers' Day.



Easter Celebration:

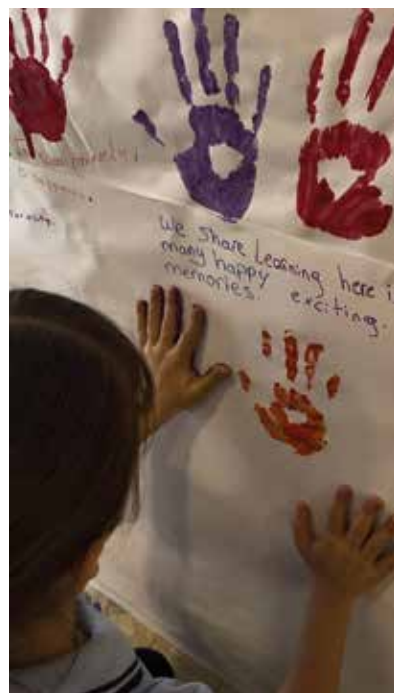
On April 1, 2026, Easter Celebration: The event featured singing, dancing, games, and the distribution of breakfast and Easter treats, kindly provided by the Avakian family.





Commemorating 75 Years with Student Activities





Students Impression:

Celebrating our school's 75th Anniversary was a truly special experience. Throughout the year, we took part in many meaningful activities that brought us closer together and helped us appreciate our school's rich history and traditions. We are proud to belong to a school with such a remarkable legacy, and we will always treasure the memories of celebrating this important milestone together.

Elay El Bekassini – Grade 8

Last Bell

A memorable Last Bell Ceremony was held on June 4, 2026 to celebrate our Grade 9 graduates and bid a heartfelt farewell to our Sam and Sylva Simonian KG 3 students as they take their next step toward elementary school.



Sports Day

On Friday, June 5, 2026, our school campus hosted a Sports Day celebrating the school's 75th anniversary, with students receiving specially designed commemorative T-shirts and caps as gifts .

The event was further enriched by the presence of our special guest, former Tekeyan alumnus Kevork Kevork, who continues to bring pride to his alma mater through his outstanding athletic achievements.





Students Impression:

Our school's 75th Anniversary Sports Day was an unforgettable experience filled with excitement, teamwork, and happiness. We had so much fun participating in the different sports activities and cheering for our classmates. The atmosphere was full of energy, laughter, and school spirit.

Mairy Ghazarian –Grade 9

I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to our school for organizing such a wonderful celebration. We were especially grateful to receive the beautiful 75th Anniversary T-shirts and caps, which made us feel united and proud to be part of this special milestone. They will always remind us of this memorable day.

David Kombejian – Grade 8

Special Events:

“Nature’s Delicious Gifts” Event by Sam and Sylva Simonian Kindergarten Students:

On April 16, 2026, Sam and Sylva Simonian Kindergarten students presented a successful event titled “Nature’s Delicious Gifts” which was a very successful one.



Mothers' Day Event:

On May 19, 2026, the Vahan Tekeyan School, under the patronage of the School Board and with the support of the hardworking mothers of the Parents' Committee, organized a breakfast on the occasion of "Mother's Day". The day's guest of Honor was Mrs. Alice Avakian. The atmosphere was warm, festive, and filled with joy and appreciation.





Contests:

Fabriano Art Competition:

On March 31, 2026, Jean Claude Nahhas, director of Fabriano Art Workshop, visited the school to present prizes and certificates to the winners of the 2025 drawing competition: Sharbel Salameh Al Baresh and Marisella Ashdjian.

Congratulations to the winning students and to their art teacher, Ms. Sarine Garabedian, for this achievement.



Poetry Competition:

On May 9, 2026 an interschool poetry competition was held at AGBU Ahramjian Center, organized by the “Khosnak” Cultural Committee with the participation of Grade 5 and Grade 6 students from Lebanese-Armenian schools. Representing our school were Grade 5 student Marissa Fatfout and Grade 6 student Rita-Maria Bashekdjian, who beautifully recited poems by Hampig Mardirossian.

We are pleased to announce that Marissa Fatfout was awarded third prize. We congratulate our students and wish them continued success.



Spelling Bee:

Our Grade 7 student, Matthew Ishkhanian, received the third prize in the final round of the “Spelling Bee” competition organized by Radio Voice of Van.



Sam and Sylva Simonian Kindergarten's End-of-Year Graduation Ceremony

Honoring Our School's 75th Anniversary

On Saturday June 13, 2026 at 6:00 p.m., we had our Sam and Sylva Simonian's Kindergarten's end of year graduation ceremony at "Hagop Barsamian" Hall, which included all the KG students and graduates. Our students presented a creative and vibrant program, delivered speeches in Armenian, Arabic, and English, and then the graduates were awarded their first diplomas.





End-of-Year Graduation Ceremony

On Saturday, June 27, 2026, at 7:30 p.m., our school held its End-of-Year Graduation Ceremony at Vahan Tekeyan School's Playground. The ceremony brought together our Elementary, and Intermediate students, their families, faculty, and distinguished guests for an evening of celebration.

Dedicated to our school's 75th Anniversary, the program honored our rich legacy under the theme "A Glorious Past, A Bright Future". Our students presented a creative and vibrant program featuring music, dance, and inspiring performances in Armenian, Arabic, and English, reflecting both the spirit of the occasion and the values of our school. Speeches were also delivered in the three languages.



The evening concluded with the graduation ceremony, during which our graduates proudly received their diplomas and awards, marking the successful completion of another academic year and celebrating a memorable milestone in our school's history.





ՈՒՍՈՒՄԸ երբեք չի դադարի

Դասերը չափազանց ամենաբարդ ժամանակներում, երբ անորոշությունը կը շրջապատեր մեզ և խոչընդոտերը անսահման կը թուլին, մեր վարժարանը անսասան ժառանգորդ ամբարձրեց մեզ:

Հավասար թույլտվություններ, մեկ ապահովեցինք, որ ուսումը երբեք չդադարի շարունակելով մեր դասերը առցանց, որովհետև խորապես կը հաւատանք, որ կրթությունը շրջադարձն է մեր աշակերտների համար: Դա չէ, այլ անհրաժեշտություն է մանաւանդ ճգնաժամի պահերում:

Դասերը չափազանց ամենաբարդ ժամանակներում կու տայ



մեր աշակերտները: Ան կը զօրացնէ զանոսը, զոգտնի վերականգնել ներքին դիմապատկերները և պատրաստուի անկի ամուր ամպերի մէջ:



Միասին կը շարունակենք սորվիլ, աճիլ և յառաջանալ:



Մենք կանգնեցանք մեր աշակերտները կողքին առցանց

Երբ պայմանները թույլ տուին,

Մենք վերադարձանք մեր սենյակները:

Մենք վերականգնեցինք ներկայութեամբ ուսուցումը և նպատակները շարունակեցինք դասարանային ուսումը:



ԿԱՅՈՒՆՈՒԹԻՒՆ, ՅՈՅՍ, ԳԻՏԵԼԻՔ, ԱՊԱԳԱՅ



ԱՅՍՈՐ

Մեր դասարանները կենսական են ապրումով և կենսով լի: Երբ պայմանները թույլ տուին, մեր աշակերտները կրթութեան շարունակականութեան և որակին:



Մենք ՀՊԱՐՏ ԵՆՔ,

որ իրադրանքիդ փոխին միշտ որոշումներ կատարեցինք կանգնելով մեր աշակերտներին կողքին թէ առցանց և թէ դասարանային մէջ:



LEARNING Never Stops

During the most challenging times of war, when uncertainty surrounded us and obstacles seemed endless, our school remained steadfast in its mission.

Against all odds, we ensured that learning never stopped by continuing our classes online—because we firmly believe that education is not a luxury, but a necessity, especially in times of crisis.

Education during war provides



for our students. It empowers them to rise above the present hardships and prepares them for a stronger future.



Together, we learn, grow & move forward.



We stood by our students, online...

AND WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES ALLOWED, WE RETURNED—STRONGER THAN EVER!

As soon as circumstances allowed, we resumed physical attendance and have proudly continued in-person learning for quite some time now.



Together, we continue to learn, grow, and move forward.



TODAY,

our classrooms are vibrant, safe, and full of life—reflecting our commitment to both continuity and quality in education.



WE ARE PROUD

that we made the right decisions at every stage—standing by our students, whether online or in the classroom.



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