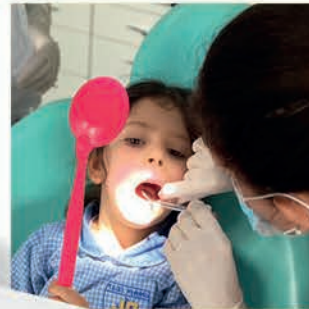
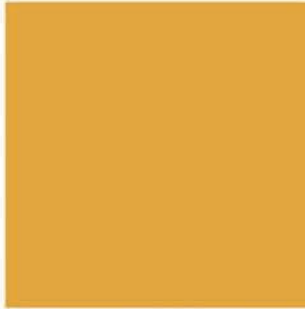


NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO.4 - JULY 2023



Educating generations for over 70 years



A Message from the Principal



Greetings to all,

I hope this message finds you all in good health.

It has been tremendously fruitful year for our students. At all levels we saw great improvement in learning, and representing how effective we all worked together to support our students. I would also commend all the new students who have joined this year as they adjusted so well with their peers and the surroundings. Beyond our school goals, students were able to excel outside the classroom as well.

We provide our best support to help every student attain the set learning outcomes, develop appropriate skills, and discover the value of determination, and a "can do" attitude. Furthermore, at Vahan Tekeyan School, we ensure that students feel a sense of belonging and safely develop in a nurturing environment. A student with a sense of belonging takes risks in their learning, leading to academic success. At Vahan Tekeyan School, we open doors to opportunities for all our students.

In addition to promoting academic success, creativity, and critical thinking, a quality education extends to teaching and modeling the values of honesty, integrity, perseverance and respect.

As educators, we come together as a team to prepare our future leaders. We empower our students by implementing knowledge and skills that nurture the roles each will play in making our world better.

We are proud to announce that our KG department will be upgraded and renovated. The official inauguration ceremony of the "Sam and Sylva Simonian Model Kindergarten" will be celebrated during the beginning of 2023-24 academic year.

Looking forward with hope and courage for another fruitful year!

Warmest wishes,
Sevana Semerdjian Darakjian
Principal



Highlights of our School programs and Activities

Academic Activities

Character Education



Patience



Self-Discipline



Tolerance





Multiplication Masters

After months of learning the multiplication table, students from Grade 2 received certificates for mastering the multiplication challenges! Heartfelt gratitude to our Mathematics teacher Ms. Seta Bakkalian.



KG 3 Orientation

In order to ease the transition period for our kindergarten students, our KG 3 students had the chance to visit Grade 1 classroom.



Inter-Students Gathering of Lebanese-Armenian Schools

On April 4, 2023 our Grade 9 students participated in an inter-student gathering of Lebanese Armenian Schools organized by The School Unity Conference of the Mekhitarist Fathers' School in Rawda, in the presence of the Ambassador of Armenia to Lebanon, H. E. Mr. Vahakn Arapekian.





Health Fair Day

On March 7, 2023 we hosted professional doctors and nurses from Howard Karagheusian Foundation for a thorough medial check up to all our students.



Teacher Development

SEL Training

On March 10, 2023 our KG, Cycle 1 and Cycle 2 homeroom teachers headed to SEL hub for a training about Social Emotional Learning. We extend our sincere gratitude to Dr. Mary Ghazarian- Gurunlian for her effective presentation.



Project Based Language Learning Seminar

On April 11- 12, 2023, the AGBU Lebanon Schools organized a two-day workshop for Armenian language teachers in all Armenian schools led by Dr. Anke al-Bat- aineh about project-based language learning (PBLL). Mr. Avedis Diban, Mrs. Rita Tamougian and Ms. Talar Kevorkian participated in this effective seminar.





Educational and Cultural Excursions

A Visit to MIM Mineral Museum

A museum exhibits cultural, scientific, artistic or historical facts. Thus, visiting museums help to teach, and inspire. On March 29, 2023, our students from Grade 1 till Grade 4 visited MIM Museum at Saint- Joseph University. They were introduced to a wide variety of minerals, fossils, and gemstones.



Impression by our students:

On March 29, 2023 we paid a visit to the MIM Museum. It was an amazing experience. We saw beautiful and shiny crystals, fossils, and different types of stones. The guide provided us with details about the benefits of those stones and minerals. After that, we watched a documentary about sea animals and how people discovered those precious stones. Finally, we came back to school having gained extra knowledge.

*Kevin Ghazarian
Grade 2*

Our Armenian and English teachers always talk to us about the fact that a museum exhibits important cultural, scientific and historical artifacts. I was so excited to visit the MIM museum on March 29, 2023. We observed more than 1800 minerals from over 70 countries. I was truly amazed when I saw those wonderful items and the shape of the stones. We also saw on the map that each country produces different kinds of stones. I want to thank my school for giving us this opportunity to expand our scientific knowledge.

*Hovan Mardirossian
Grade 3*



On the 29th of March 2023, it was a special day for all of us at Vahan Tekeyan School, since we were going to visit the MIM museum, well known for its fossils, crystals and gemstones. The museum displayed more than 1800 minerals from all over the world. We were interested to witness mesmerizing pieces of valuable stones and rocks. We would like to thank our school for this unforgettable and amazing day.

*Celena Al Khoury
Grade 4*

Weaving Kilim

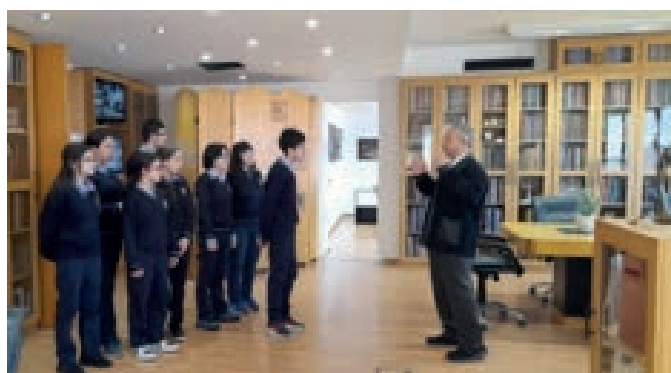
Our Grade 8 students participated in a 10-day-long workshop launched by Haigazian University in collaboration with the Hovhannes Sharambeyan Folk Arts Museum of Armenia. The kilims woven by the students were exhibited at the end of the workshop and the participating students were awarded certificates.





A Visit to KOHAR Library

On April 3, 2023 our students from Grades 8 and 9 visited KOHAR library accompanied by the Principal and Mr. Avedis Diban. We extend our sincere thankfulness to Mr. Harout Khachadourian for his warm welcome and to Mr. Garo Derounian. It was an insightful experience!





Impression by our students:

It was a beautiful day when we visited KOHAR library, where we saw various kinds of books. Everything was special, and unique. It was a new experience for all of us to be present there and make our own diary books with the help of the professional mentors. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to our school for granting us such a golden opportunity.

Maria Boranian
Grade 8

Our visit to KOHAR library was exceptional. We were introduced to a variety of new information about different kinds of books. What caught my attention was the book binding section! I thank our Principal and the School Board for granting us such an opportunity.

Hagop Azilazian
Grade 9

A Visit to Aram Bezikian Museum

On April 26, 2023, our students from Grade 5 to Grade 9, along with the Principal and the teachers visited Aram Bezikian Museum in Byblos. They placed a wreath on the tomb of the “mother” of the orphans, Maria Jacobson, after which they entered the museum, where the director of the museum, Mr. Krikor Alozian, gave detailed information to our students. Then, heading to the historical garden of the museum, our students presented a brief performance to honor the memory of the canonized martyrs of the Armenian Genocide. The students later expressed their gratitude to the school for organizing this unique experience. They were very impressed by the great project undertaken by the benefactors Alecco & Annie Bezikian who dedicated this special museum to Mr. Alecco’s father, Mr. Aram Bezikian – one of the orphans.





Impressions by our students inspired by the visit

On Wednesday, April 26, 2023, we headed to Aram Bezikian museum in Byblos. Once we arrived there, Mr. Krikor Alozian guided us and gave us interesting information about the museum. I extend my gratitude to the school for giving us the opportunity to explore and gain knowledge.

*Lory Arakelian
Grade 5*

On April 26, 2023 we visited "Aram Bezikian" museum in Byblos. We placed a flower wreath on the shrine of Maria Jacobson In honor of her sacred work. We also sang songs and recited poems on the occasion of Armenian genocide and had a memorable experience after touring around the museum. Thus, it was an emotional and useful visit seeing all those orphans' footprints because of the hot sand. We owe a huge thankfulness to our dearest school for this great opportunity.

*Aghassy Papazian
Grade 6*



On April 26,2023, the students visited "Aram Bezikian" museum in Byblos for the commemoration of the Armenian genocide. Mr. Krikor Alozian guided us and showed us everything in details. It was very touching to hear all those stories and to see all those heartbreaking photos. Moreover, we sang and recited poems related to Armenian genocide in the nature, outside the orphanage. Thus, we owe a huge thankfulness to our school for granting us such an emotional yet breath-taking experience!

*Vanessa Abou Nadr
Grade 7*

On April 26,2023, we visited "Aram Bezikian" museum in Byblos. We placed a flower wreath on the shrine of Maria Jacobson; the "mother" of all the orphans whom she took care of. Moreover, Mr. Krikor Alozian guided us in the museum and gave us a thorough explanation about Armenian genocide. It was a fruitful and memorable experience.

*Robert Kardanakian
Grade 8*

It was April 23, 2023 when we headed to "Aram Bezikian" museum with our friends and teachers. We gained a lot of knowledge about the tragedy that our ancestors have passed through. Moreover, we saw the photos of our Armenian writers and intellectuals who have survived the genocide. What caught my attention was the bell at the entrance of the museum that didn't ring. It symbolizes the unheard voices of our ancestors. It was a great educational experience!

*Serly Sdepan
Grade 9*

A Visit to the Armenian Catholicosate of Cilicia

Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide

On April 2023 ,25 students' commemoration of the 108th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide took place in the perimeter of the Armenian Catholicosate of Cilicia, with the participation of students from other Lebanese Armenian schools. Our school also participated in this solemn event.





A Visit to Dr. Jenny's Natural Smile Clinic

On May 12, 2023 our KG 2 and KG 3 students were given the opportunity to visit "Dr. Jenny's Natural Smile Clinic". Their teeth were checked and they learned the importance of taking good care of their teeth.



A Visit to Fire Station

On May 18, 2023 our KG 1, KG 2 and KG 3 students visited Bourj Hammoud's Fire Station and saw a demonstration of a fire drill.





A Visit to Dr. Varoujan Margossian's Clinic

On May 24, 2023 our KG 1 students visited Dr. Varoujan Margossian's clinic. He gave them a friendly check-up and explained the importance of good health.



Fund Raising

The disastrous earthquake in Aleppo had its negative impact on our Armenian brothers and sisters in Aleppo. Our students having learned closely about the sad disaster and its psychological impact on Tekeyan's committee in Aleppo, and despite the economic crisis prevailing in Lebanon, organized a fund raising activity. The students of our school participated willingly, sympathizing with their Tekeyan brothers and sisters, and sent the money they collected to Aleppo.

Our students also participated in another fund raising activity for Zvartnots, the special needs school for Armenian children.

Impression by a student:

There are many ways in which we can help people, especially those who have passed through traumas or even those who have mental or physical disabilities, and make them feel like there is nothing wrong with them. Therefore, our school allowed us to support "Zvartnots" and our Syrian brothers and sisters who were affected by the earthquake. This is the least we can do to let them know that we are always here for them.

Sonia Kelkhacherian
Grade 4



Different Celebrations

Teachers' Day:

On March 8, 2023 we celebrated teachers' day and appreciated their dedication.



First Day of Spring

On March 21, 2023 our students celebrated first day of Spring. The atmosphere was joyous!





Easter Celebration

On April 5, 2023 our students celebrated Easter at the school.

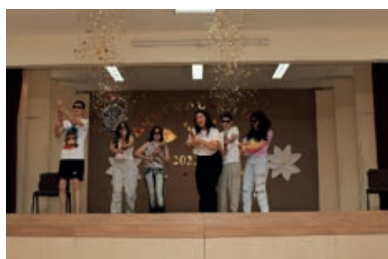
Our sincere gratitude to all the donors who were the reason for our students' happiness, especially to school alumna Ms. Ani and Ms. Taline Avakians.





Last Bell

On May 31, 2023 a magnificent ceremony was held at our school's Hagop Barsamian Hall to celebrate the last bell of the Intermediate graduates.



Sports Day

We had an amazing Sports Day on June 9, 2023. It was a day full of games and fun!





Events

"Hello Spring" Event

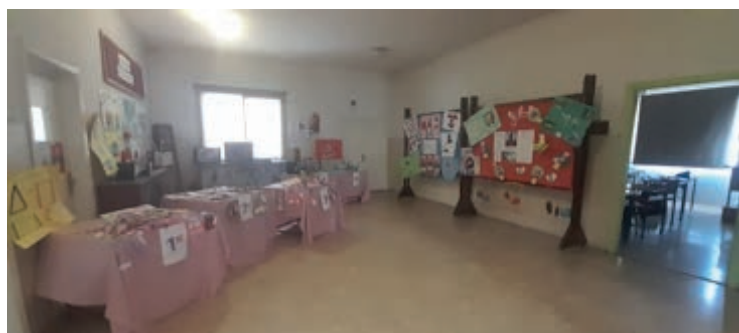
On March 29, 2023 our KG department organized a remarkable event under the title "Hello Spring."





Mothers' Day Event

On May 29, 2023, 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. Houry Ckekherdeman. The atmosphere was festive and happy specially when the students performed beautiful dances. All attendees had the opportunity to view the student projects exhibited on each floor.





After-School Activities



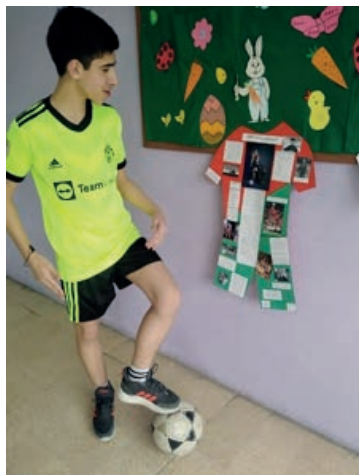
Chess by
Dr. George Gulesserian



Theater by
Garen Darakjian

Basketball by
Dikran Kalayjian

From our game-based learning activities





End of Year Graduation Ceremony

On Saturday July 1, 2023 at 5:00 p.m., we had our end of year graduation ceremony at “Hagop Barsamian” Hall, which included the KG, Elementary and Intermediate graduates. The dedication this year was to honor the memory of the late Edmond Azadian, prominent leader of the Tekeyan Cultural Association and a prolific writer and political analyst. Our graduates presented a creative and vibrant program and then they were given their diplomas and awards.







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- ★ Նկարագիրի Կերտման Ծրագիր
- ✓ **Կեանքի Հմտութիւններ**
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- ✓ **STEAM**
- ★ Հոգատար Միջավայր

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Մանկամսուր՝	Հոկտեմբեր 9



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THANK YOU!

Finally, it goes without saying that donors and supporters play a significant role in our success and sustainability.

On behalf of our school and the Administration, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude specially to the Tekeyan Cultural Association (TCA) Board of Trustees in Lebanon, the grand benefactors Mr. and Mrs. Sam and Sylva Simonian, Sohigian Foundation; TCA Committee of USA & Canada, Greater New York Chapter, West Coast Chapter, TCA Lebanon, AGBU, the Hayastan All Armenian Fund, the Armenian Liberal Democrats party, Howard Karaghuesian Commemorative Corporation, all other supporting organizations and individual donors or alumni for their ongoing support to Vahan Tekeyan School.

We couldn't do it without you all!

Thank you!

Tekeyan School Board and Administration





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