



LEVON & HASMIK TAVLIAN PRESCHOOL

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## GARGACH Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2011

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2011/2012 school year! We are looking forward to an exciting and academically successful year. We would like to thank you for entrusting your child to the care of Tavlian Preschool and Kindergarten.

We are fortunate to have strong, committed relationships with both parents and members of the community. It is through these relationships that we are able to provide an amazing educational environment geared toward our students.



### School Communication and Email Blasts

The school's administration is very interested in making you aware of what is happening at YOUR child's school. Please open the school's email messages at least twice per week. You will receive valuable information regularly...all you have to do is read it! In addition, signage will be posted reminding you as to when the PTSC meetings will be held, when tuition is due and other important announcements.



### Opening Ceremony

On Friday August 26<sup>th</sup>, our official "Opening Ceremony" began. Unfortunately, due to excessive heat, the celebratory ceremony was kept short with an introduction to the school and a blessing from Rev. Father Nareg Pehlivanian. Children and teachers were not physically active due to the heat. Honorable guests from the community were also present for the opening ceremony.

The Opening Ceremony will be televised on Horizon Armenian TV on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.



### Back to School Night/Teachers' WISH Lists

The majority of our parents came to our "Back to School Night" on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup>. Parents were informed about the curriculum, classroom policies and procedures, school's budget and justification for fundraising. Parent presence was encouraging and was proof of their interest and concern.

- We thank and appreciate those **parents who donated** educational and manipulative games and furniture (wish list items).
- We would also like to especially thank **Dr. Ani Gharabegian MSW** for her informative presentation regarding "child neglect".
- And lastly, special thanks to **School Board members Siran Marselian and Armig Marganian** who came to show support and discuss fundraising reasoning and opportunities with the parents. Siran went into great detail about the loss of a grant that the Lincy Foundation provided annually to Armenian schools.

### World's Finest Chocolate Sale

Our annual chocolate fundraiser is taking place in September. We are selling World's Finest Chocolate to raise money for programs and activities for our students. The success of this program depends on everyone's participation. Each family is given a box of chocolate bars to sell. Extra boxes of chocolate are available in



the school's office. Any additional boxes that you can sell would be extremely helpful to the school. The deadline for the chocolate sale is September 20<sup>th</sup>. Prizes will be awarded to the top three sellers! Thank you in advance for your much-needed support!



### **Suzan & Kids: Talking about the American Flag**

Our beloved volunteer Ms. Suzan (our adopted grandmother) will visit our school and read books to our students in September. We applaud her dedication to our school and students! The school will distribute American flags to all students!



### **Fire Department Demonstration**

The Pasadena Fire Department will visit our school on Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup>. They will demonstrate firefighter safety gear, and will provide our students an up-close-and-personal look at a fire truck. Our children will see first hand all of the tools firefighters use to fight a blaze.



### **Talking about the Armenian Flag**

Armig Marganian, a very special guest of Tavlian Preschool, will visit the school on Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. She will talk to the students about the significance of the Armenian Flag.



### **Neighborhood Block Party**

Tavlian Preschool & Kindergarten will once again participate in the "Sinloa Avenue's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Neighborhood Block Party." This fun event will take place on Saturday September 17 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. as a way for our school's administration and parents/kids to meet and greet the business neighbors and residents. This is a way for the school to appease the neighbors due to additional traffic and limited parking our school creates for the neighborhood.

Neighborhood Watch- Tavlian Preschool hosts all neighborhood watch meetings in order to help maintain a good relationship with our neighbors. Once again, we would appreciate the cooperation of parents by respecting the parking rules, specifically **NOT PARKING IN THE BUSINESS PARKING LOT ACROSS THE STREET, AND NOT MOVING OR TOUCHING THE NEIGHBORS' TRASH CANS.**



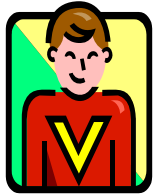
### Yearbook

The Tavlian yearbook for the 2010-2011 school year will be distributed in the beginning of September! If you don't receive your yearbook from last year, please see the school office.



### Parent Involvement

Consistent communication between home and school is essential to promote the best interests of your child. We encourage you to become involved and to contact your child's teacher or office if you have any questions/comments throughout the year.



### Volunteer Services

Volunteering at events will help maintain and improve the environment where our children spend many of their waking hours learning the academic and social skills that will be the foundation of their future. We would like to encourage parents to participate in their children's activities. This year, each family will have a minimum of 20 PIP hours to complete. Please be patient with the school as the system is streamlined.

We strongly encourage Dads to get involved and join the Dad's club and for grandparents to feel welcome to volunteer anytime (whether it's to read a story to a group of children or to join the PTSC).

We would like to encourage the families of our school to play an active role in the Parent Teacher Support Committee. Our school is only as outstanding as we make it. We are always in need of volunteers and urge parents to become involved in the PTSC and our School. The PTSC sponsors numerous functions throughout the year that require volunteers; you can join a committee or just to provide an hour of your time. The PTSC contributes to the wonderful environment our children experience at Tavlian and also keeps our tuition costs down. Know that the time and effort we all put in benefits OUR children and OUR school.

### New Parent Teacher Support Committee Officers for the 2011-2012 School Year

We welcome the incoming PTSC Executive Board Officers for the 2011- 2012 school year. Board was elected at the June PTSC mtg.



- President -** Sylva Khayalian (Hagop - KG class)
- Co Vice Presidents -** Lisa Derderian (mother of Vauna-KG, Krikor & Lori-Pre-K) Mirelle Mitilian (mother of Harout-Red)
- Treasurer -** Nairy Kasbarian (Lara's mom - Pre-K)
- Secretary -** Sossie Badjaksezian (Nicole's mom- Red)
- Field Trip Coordinator -** Armineh Azilizian (Tiffany-KG)
- Public Relations -** Clara Krajalian (Tanya-KG)
- PIP Coordinator -** Maral Arslanian (Lucine-Red)
- Gargach -** Courtney Maglio-Boyadjian (Rocco-KG and Nicholas-Red)



### NAEYC Reaccreditation

Tavlian Preschool & Kindergarten is proud to be an accredited program, recognized for our commitment to reaching the highest professional standards. We are the first Armenian Kindergarten to be accredited by National Association for the Education of Young Children. To earn the NAEYC's Accreditation, in 2009, we conducted a self-study to determine how well we are meeting the standards of developmentally appropriate practice in the areas of teacher-child interactions, curriculum planning, environmental set-ups, meals, professional development and health and safety. A validation visit was set, and we were observed in May 2009. The school was reaccredited in July 2009. This prestigious recognition was achieved by our dedicated staff and volunteers! This reaccreditation is valid for 5 years.



### Bake Sale Sponsors

We are seeking sponsors for our monthly Bake Sales. If you are interested in contributing, kindly inform the school's office.



### Box Tops For Education

The Tavlian PSC is excited to let you know about our participation in the "Box Tops for Education" fundraising program. Box Tops is a program that allows consumers to clip small coupons off of hundreds of food products and donate them to a school. Schools are then able to redeem them for 10 cents apiece. It's an excellent way for parents, grandparents, friends & neighbors to help contribute. Every little bit adds up to a HUGE difference. This program is one of the easiest, fun, and rewarding we have organized. Please start clipping and saving the box top coupons. Flyers with additional information will be sent home soon.

### Donations & Acknowledgements

We are truly blessed with the generosity of many special people. This spirit of generosity reflects the community support that is so critical to our school.

We are sincerely grateful to **Gyumri Meat Market** for their monthly donation of ground beef kebab for our entire student body.

Thank you to Maggie Ilanjian of **Garo's Basturma** for her generous monthly donation of eggs for the school.

**Vrej Pastry and Sarkis Pastry** donated 1 large tray of cookies each for our school's opening ceremony as well as back-to-school night.

**Maggie Toutelian**, a former teacher of our school graciously donated the large American and Armenian flags that fly above the school.

**Mr. & Mrs. Stepanian**, parents of Shant, Pre-K donated their cleaning services at the conclusion of last school year, and offered their services to the school for this year. We greatly appreciate your generosity!

Special thanks to **Mark Allen Cleaners** (family of former student) who continues to be generous with dry cleaning services for the school.

A debt of gratitude to **Oryort Ashkhen, Oryort Aida and Oryort Mary** for their dedication to the school. They did all the school painting, touch ups and clean up prior to the start of the school year.

Extra special thanks to **Jora Manoucherians** for his 15 years of devotion to our school by graciously volunteering his time and energy to design and maintain the website. **Mr. & Mrs. Stepanian** (Sophia-KG) recently re-designed the website because of their generosity and knowledge of web design. Now that Jora has retired, former teacher **Maral Kandoyan** has kindly accepted the responsibility of maintaining the website. Thank you all for helping our school remain technologically advanced.

Arslanian Family (Lucine-Red)	Pizza for Red class
Timour Family (Claire-Red)	Popsicles for Red class

We thank you all for your kindness and generosity. Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your donations!

**We are still in need of 3 fold paper towels** if anyone is interested in donating to the school.

### SEPTEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

#### **Parent Support Committee meeting**

-Thursday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m.

Please join us and learn more about the Tavlian community. The PSC will have its first regular meeting in the school's office. Meetings are generally 1-2 hours in length. Room mothers (parent helpers) will be selected at this meeting. In addition, the regular day of the meeting will be set, either Wednesdays or Thursdays. **We strongly encourage all parents to join and bring ideas and suggestions.**

-The regular meeting day will be decided upon at the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting and parents will be informed through the monthly calendar.



#### **Birthdays**

-Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup>

We will celebrate the birthdays of children born during the month of September on Thursday the 15th. The birthday kids will make special hats for their birthday. Parents are encouraged to view the festivities as the children sing "Happy Birthday" and eat their own cake made from scratch. Please ask your child's teacher for details.

### **Open Forum**

-Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (10-11 a.m. is in class observation of your child). We encourage your participation in the Open Forum. The agenda will be emailed to all parents and a flyer will be posted next to the sign in/out sheet in the classrooms.



### **Friday Sharing Days**

Students are allowed to bring a book to school on the first Friday of the month. The following Fridays they are allowed to bring either a book or an educational toy to share with their classmates. Please label your child's items.

### **No School**

Monday the 5<sup>th</sup>- Labor Day

Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> - Armenian Independence Day

### **Special Days**

11<sup>th</sup> - Grandparents Day and Remembrance of World Trade Center tragedy

23<sup>rd</sup>- First day of autumn

You can read the "Gargach Newsletter" online on our school's website:

<http://www.tavlianpreschool.org/>

We welcome your suggestions, feedback and questions.

You may send emails to [Director@TavlianPreschool.org](mailto:Director@TavlianPreschool.org)

Best wishes for a healthy, happy and safe year!

Courtney Maglio-Boyadjian (mother of Rocco - KG & Nicholas - Red)

Parent Teacher Support Committee