



# THE LION'S ROAR

Sahag-Mesrob Armenian Christian School Newsletter

2ND QUARTER, 2015 - 2016

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the Christmas Spirit!  
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## SMACS 8th Graders Sharing the CHRISTMAS Spirit!

SMACS 8th graders sharing the Glory, the Wonder, the Miracle of Christmas with Christmas carols and by delivering toys to PAPAC (Pasadena Armenian Police Advisory Council)'s 20th annual Christmas Toy Drive.



# Why Do We Celebrate Christmas?



## *Written by 8th Grade Girls*

Christmas is a joyous holiday, that young children especially like, mainly because of all the presents and Santa. Sure, that's all fun, but Christmas is a serious holiday, it's about the birth of Jesus Christ.

It's called Christmas, because Christ was born on Christmas day, hence the name. We should be celebrating the birth of Christ, not just exchanging gifts and waiting for Santa. We are Christians after all, and if we focus on presents the whole time, the true meaning of Christmas will disappear.

Christmas has been commercialized, and children need to understand what an important day Christmas is. Jesus was born, who then died on the cross and was treated like a criminal, all for our sake. That's why we celebrate Christmas.

*By Mireille Minassian*

According to the Webster's New World Dictionary, Christmas means the celebration of Jesus's birth; December 25.

Jesus died on the cross for our sins, so we can have eternal life in heaven. Jesus healed the sick and the injured. He was kind, loving and helpful to all. Jesus is beyond great, He is perfect. God decided that he will send his Son Jesus to earth. When Jesus was born, everyone knew he was great, He was the King of Kings. The word Christmas has the word Christ in it. Christmas isn't

about Santa or gifts. Santa didn't heal people or die for them, Jesus did, that's why we celebrate our wonderful King of King's birth!

*By Isabelle Mazmanian*

Everyone should be thankful and happy on Christmas day, because Jesus our savior was born. Jesus is the reason we can go to heaven and live forever. Everyone forgets the meaning of Christmas. It's not about people giving gifts to each other or Santa. Today people call Christmas X-mas, they are taking Christ out. This world has become a place where they want you to forget the true meaning of Christmas.

For me, getting together with family and celebrating the birth of Jesus is fun, because Jesus is our gift, and because of him we can spend eternity with Him. Jesus loved us so much that he died on the cross for us.

*By Susan Kazarian*

We celebrate Christmas, because Jesus was born on that day. It is basically Christ's birthday. We celebrate the life of Jesus, because if he wasn't born we wouldn't be here right now. If he wasn't born, we would be full of sin. He grew up and got wiser and helped a lot of people. Because Jesus was such a humble person and gave so much, we do the same by giving presents on Christmas day.

We get together with friends and family and remember that very special day when Christ was born in Bethlehem.

*By Tatiana Hamparsomian*

Christmas is often mistaken for a simple holiday. Christmas is often celebrated as a season about santa and presents.

Christmas is made up of one word, and that is Christ. Christmas day is a day to celebrate and honor the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. This coming December 25<sup>th</sup>, remember the true meaning of Christmas. Next time you tell someone Merry Christmas, think about what it cost our savior to become a human being.

“For God so loved the world, That he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him, shall not perish, but have eternal life.” John 3:16.

*By Sabrina Pelenghian*

Christmas is every child's favorite holiday, and even some adult's too. When most people hear the word Christmas, they think of gifts and santa. Most don't think of how Christmas literally has the word Christ, and that's a sad fact.

When Christmas time is here, I usually make a list of what I want and so does every other person in the world, that's the normal thing to do, but it doesn't make it the right thing to do. It doesn't even cross my mind that it's Christ's Birthday. Santa and presents, Christmas trees, decorations, all of these things are taking away the focus from God's Birthday.

In conclusion, Christmas in my opinion is an amazing holiday, but sometimes we forget the whole point of Christmas. Without Christ there wouldn't even be Christmas.

*By Lara Gendal*

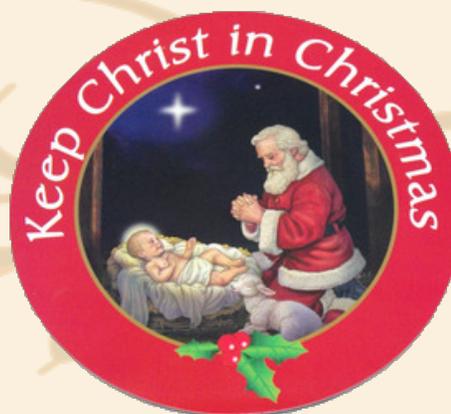
We celebrate Christmas, because that's the day, Jesus, our savior was born. If he wasn't born then most of us would not be here, and even if we were here, everything would be completely different. Our values and our status quo would be the opposite of what it is now. Christmas was the day that Christ was born in Bethlehem, in a manger. We celebrate Christmas, because we are Christians.

*By Shoghik Gasparyan*

I think the reason we celebrate Christmas is, because Jesus was born on that day. We need to remember that the real reason for Christmas is so much greater than what the world views it's meaning to be.

Christmas doesn't mean Santa Claus, or a 3 week break from school, and getting more gifts. Christmas is about getting together with family and realizing the worth of faith. It's about going to Church on Sundays and listening to the pastor speak about the birth of Christ. It's a time to remember and learn more about how great our God is.

*By Marianne Sahagian*



# Kindergarten Activities



Showing off our Indian Hats for our Thanksgiving day lunch!



Taking a picture by our beautiful Christmas tree and candy house!



Having fun decorating our pumpkins!



Enjoying a sunny day in our playground!



We thank our police officers and guard dogs for taking care of us!



Having a groovy day on our 50th day of school!



# 1st Grade Elves!

*What would you do if you were an elf living in the North Pole?*



Hello my name is Vache Elf! I can help Santa with gifts. I can make gifts. I can wrap the gifts.



Hello my name is Natalia Elf. I can make toys. I can drink milk. I will play with snow.



Hello my name is Laurene Elf. I can make a gift. I will play in the snow. I will help Santa wrap the gifts. Then I will take a break.



Hello my name is Haylee Elf. I can help wrap the gifts with Santa. I can walk the reindeer. I can sit with Santa and drink milk.



Hello my name is Lorance Elf. I will help Santa by wrapping presents. I will help Santa clean. I will help feed the reindeer.



Hello my name is Sako Elf. I can wrap a gift. I will drink milk. I can play in the snow.



Hello my name is Nicholas Elf. I would look at the naughty list. I would wrap presents. I would take the reindeer for a walk.



Hello my name is Isabella Elf. I will play with the reindeer. I will drink milk. I will slide on the sleigh.



Hello my name is Michael Elf. I will make toys. I can take a break. I will help Santa with the gifts.

# 2nd Grade

*Second grade is time when readers blossom and become independent. It is with pleasure that I watch students pick up books in class and enjoy the various genres independently, in pairs, or in bigger groups. There is always time allocated for reading each day. It is a time students look forward to and a time I believe that provides them with a chance to let their imaginations roam freely. But once a month a break from the usual routine takes place when a surprise reader whom we call the Mystery Reader pops in to share a book with us. The morning of the visit I announce to the class that we will have a mystery reader. Cheers usually follow. Welcome banners and signs get hung on our door and our excitement grows as the time approaches for the mystery guest. We have been entertained by older siblings and moms alike who have read to us once a month since September. After each reading we've had meaningful discussions and question and answer sessions....And yes, we've even been pampered with snacks or small gifts by each mystery reader too! Mrs. Aylin*

Here is what second grader, **Luca Youssefian**, has to say about the Mystery Reader:

Once a month my teacher, Mrs. Aylin, asks our moms if they can come to our class and be a mystery reader. It is always a surprise. A mom shows up and reads a story to our class. Last week, my mom surprised me by being our mystery reader. She read a story called The Legend of the Candy Cane. It was about the meaning of candy canes. It was really cool to have my mom come and read to my class. She did a good job and my friends and I liked the story a lot. She even passed out candy canes at the end. But a bigger surprise was that she also brought Krispy Kreme donuts and surprised me for my birthday too. She even had hats chocolate and vanilla milk for everyone. It was the best surprise ever!

December was Acts of Kindness Month in second grade. Here are some of the many ways students "lit up" each other's hearts:

**Lim:** My friend Harout lit up my heart by cheering me up and by being a good friend!

**Ara:** Luca, Troi, Harout, and Cristapor lit up my heart by helping me up when I fell down. They wanted to make sure I was fine.



**Paulena:** My friend Anna lit up my heart by playing with me and being my friend.

**Harout:** My friend Cristapor lit up my heart by helping me up when I fell.

**Tina:** My friend Paulena lit up my heart by sharing some of her food with me last Friday.

**Anna:** Nicole B. lit up my heart by listening to me. She helps me whenever I fall or when I am sad.

**Luca:** Mirey lit up my heart by getting my water bottle and giving it to me when I forgot it.

**Cristapor:** Luca lit up my heart by being kind to me and helping me when I fell down.

**Christy:** Mirey lit up my heart by helping me learn my Bible verse and helping me get up when I fell.

**Nicole T:** Nicole B. lit up my heart by being very nice and not leaving me alone. She is very sweet and never ever hurts my feelings.

**Milya:** Christy and Lim lit up my heart by helping me to the office when I was injured!

**Troi:** Cristapor and Luca lit up my heart because they helped me up when I fell during soccer.

**Nicole B:** Anna lit up my heart by staying a good friend no matter what. We will be friends forever and ever!

**Mirey:** My friend Nicole T. lit up my heart by trying to always make me happy. I also want to say that Jesus is our savior. He brought peace to the world. December is the month we celebrate our savior's birthday. Joy to the world, The Lord has come!

*Merry Christmas!*



1st Grade's Acrostic Poem with the help of "REINDEER!"

**R**eindeer help pull Santa's sleigh  
**E**veryone gets presents  
**I**n Bethlehem, Jesus was born  
**N**orth Pole is Santa's home  
**D**ecorations on our tress  
**E**lves help Santa wrap presents  
**E**at cookies and candy canes  
**R**emember it's Jesus' birthday



# Merry Christmas

By 3rd Grade

## Merry Christmas



**C**hrist is born on Christmas Day.  
**H**e is here to save the day.  
**R**emember His birth everyday,  
**I**ncredible is the word to describe Him.  
**S**avior died on the cross for us,  
**T**o cleanse our sins.  
**M**ary and Joseph were told by  
**A**ngeles that a  
**S**avior will be born and He will be the light of the world.

By: Lily Balian, Emily Arabyan, Silva Basmadjyan, Sophia Panossian, & Emma Deravedissian

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## Merry Christmas



**C**hrist was born to give us  
**H**ope, forgiveness, and faith. He will also show us the  
**R**ight path to heaven! His power is  
**I**ncredible! He is also our  
**S**avior.  
**T**hinking about Him on Christmas Day brings  
**M**y heart joy  
**A**nd  
**S**atisfaction!

By: Alex Babayan, Narod Ekmekjian, Alex Karamanoukian, Michael Sahagian, Isabelle Kizirian, Sarkis Kiledjian, and Alex Muradian

## Merry Christmas



**C**hrist is our shield  
**H**aving Him in your heart; makes us  
**R**ealize how blessed we are,  
**I**nteracting with Him with prayer  
**S**atisfies our hearts.  
**T**ogether we stand to praise the day  
**M**aking spirits bright!  
**A**s a  
**S**ignal for our love to Christ.

By: Andre Abdollahian, Brianna Balian, David Avanesyan, and Patil Tajerian

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## Merry Christmas

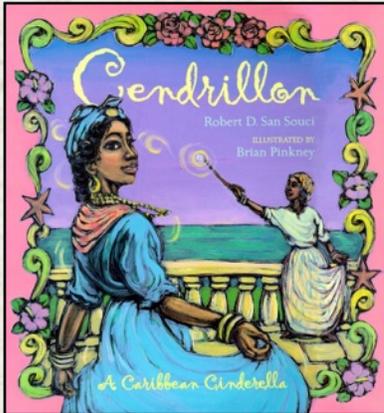


**C**hrist is born on Christmas Day  
**H**e covers the world with  
**R**ighteousness! Having Him in our hearts is an  
**I**ncredible feeling.  
**S**tanding  
**T**ogether on this special day.  
**M**emories are made for us to  
**A**ppreciate on this  
**S**pecial day.

By: Garo Poladian, Victoria Postajian, Tiana Tatikian, and Johnny Jemelian

# Cendrillon

by 4th Grade



4th grade students read "Cendrillon" and learned about various ballroom dances. After, they created notecards for the dance they liked the most:

"I liked the waltz, because it was a nice dance and it was calm too." - Natalia

"I liked the waltz, because they all memorized it and danced delicately." - Daniella

"I liked the tango the best, because it is fast and we still dance it today." - Nareh

"I liked the waltz, because I like circles." - Brandon

"I like the tango, because they were turning fast." - Aren

"I like the tango, because it is the most energetic, exciting, and fun." - Aram

"I liked the waltz, because it was fun." - Arsen

"I liked the rumba, because they danced quickly and I like quick dances." - Alique

"I like the tango, because they move very quickly." - Njteh

"I like the tango, because you move around fast." - Vicken

"I liked the tango, because they moved a lot." - Claudine

"I liked the minuet, because the people were focused and dancing carefully with each other." - Bella

"I liked the tango, because I know how to do it best." - Roubeena

"I liked the rumba, because on the dress there were jewels." - Andreas

# "I Wish..." Poems

by 5th Grade

*I wish I could fly*

*I wish I can talk*

*I wish I will cry*

*I wish I can walk*

- Natel

*I wish I could fly*

*I wish I could touch the sky*

*I wish I could fly very high*

*I wish I could cry.*

- Chris

*I wish I could fly*

*I wish I could lie*

*I wish I could feel bore*

*I wish I could feel a little more*

- Christina

*I wish I could go to Seattle*

*I wish I had a caramel apple*

*I wish I had a bigger boat*

*I wish I had some more hope*

- Shant

*I wish I could cook*

*I wish I would look*

*I wish I could walk*

*I wish I could talk*

- Alik

*I wish I could sew,*

*I wish I could climb,*

*I wish I had a bow,*

*I wish I was a lime.*

- Angela

## Քաչարշալի Օր

Օր մը, Մալխսին մէջ, մեր ուսուցիչը մեր դասարանը կ'ուզէր տանիլ լեռներուն մէջ քաչարշալի: Մենք հասանք մեր նպատակին եւ սկսանք քալել: Օդը պաղեցաւ եւ ալ չէինք գիտեր թէ ու՞ր էինք: Ծառերուն մէջ էինք եւ արդէն մշուշը կը շատնար: Նայեցանք մեր շուրջը եւ ծիածան մը տեսանք:

Ծիածանին հետեւեցանք եւ վերջապէս հասանք այս սքանչելի տեսարանով վայրը: Մեր դիմաց ջուր կը հոսէր, ամէն տեղ կանաչներ ու ծառեր էին: Նստարան մը կար եւ թռչունները ծառերէն վեր կը խոյանային: Այս տեսարանը ճիշդ դրախտ էր: Հով էր եւ շատ գեղեցիկ օդ եւ գունաւոր ծաղիկներ կ'աճէին: Զուկերը ջուրին մէջ կը լողային եւ թիթեռնիկները կը թռչէին: Ամէն տեսակ պտուղներու ծառեր կ'աճէին: Բոլորս զարմացած եւ շշմած կը նայէինք: Բոլորին բերանները բաց մնացած էին: Նստեցանք խոտին վրայ եւ տեսարանը վայելցինք: Արդէն կը մթթննար եւ խումբ-խումբ բաժնուեցանք եւ ինքնաշարժով վերադարձանք դպրոց:

Ալէքս Ածիլածեան

Է. Կարգ

## Բնութեան Մէջ Օր Մը

Պայծառ օր մըն էր: Երկինքը կապոյտ էր եւ արեւը կը շողար: Ծնողքս որոշեց, որ ընտանիքով տեղ մը երթանք եւ միասին ժամանակ անցնենք: Պատրաստուեցանք եւ ինքնաշարժ մտանք:

Վերջապէս հասանք: Ծատ գեղեցիկ տեղ մըն էր: Կարծես կը նայէի գեղեցիկ բնութեան պատկերի մը: Ծառերը եւ խոտերը դալարագեղ էին: Գեղեցիկ եւ գունաւոր ծաղիկներ կային: Լիճին ջուրը մաքուր էր եւ երբ նայիս, դուն քեզ կը տեսնես, կարծես հայելիի մը կը նայիս: Թըռ-չուններուն գեղեցիկ ճւճոցը կը լսուէր: Նաեւ սրճագոյն տախտակէ նստարան մը կար: Հայրս եւ եղբայրս ձուկ կ'որսային, իսկ ես եւ մայրս

նստարանին վրայ նստած էինք: Յետոյ, ես եւ եղբայրս միասին  
խաղցանք: Ծնողքս ըսին մեզի, որ տուն պէտք է վերադառնանք:  
Ես շատ հաճելի ժամանակ մը ունեցայ ընտանիքիս հետ: Մանաւանդ երբ  
որ հանդարտ եւ գեղեցիկ բնութեան մէջ ուրախ ժամանակ անցուցի:

Սօսէ Մինասեան

Է. Կարգ

### Անտառի Դրախտը

Ես եւ իմ ընկերս անտառներուն մէջ կը խաղայինք, երբ յանկարծ  
տեսանք կանաչ տեսարան մը: Մօտեցանք հիացած: Ծատ գեղեցիկ տեղ  
մըն էր: Ծառերը եւ խոտը փայլուն կանաչ էին, ծաղիկները՝ գոյնզգոյն:  
Գետ մը կը հոսէր ծառերուն մէջէն: Արեւոտ օր մըն էր, եւ արեւը  
տեսարանը աւելի գեղեցիկ կը դարձնէր: Ընկերս եւ ես խաղաղութեան  
մէջ էինք:

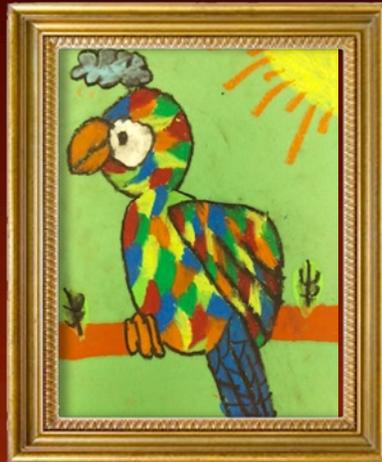
Նստեցանք եւ լսեցինք ջուրին գլգլոցը եւ թռչուններուն ճնուցը:  
Ծառերուն տերեւները կանաչ էին: Ծատ գեղեցիկ էր կապոյտ երկինքը:  
Աւելի ներքեւ գացինք անտառին խորը եւ տեսանք գեղեցիկ աղբիւր մը:  
Աւելի գեղեցիկ էր տեսարանը այստեղէն, գունաւոր ձուկերը կը լողային եւ  
կը ցատկէին լիճին մէջ: Ընկերս եւ ես շատ ուրախ էինք, որ այս  
«Անտառի Դրախտը» տեսանք: Երբ ընկերս տուն տարի եւ ես տուն  
գացի, մտածեցի այդ օրուան մասին: Խաղաղութեան մէջ էի անտառին  
մէջ, եւ այդ գիշեր հանգիստ քնացայ:

Հայրօ Ապաճեան

Է. Կարգ



Alexandra Karamanoukian  
Q-tip Fall Tree  
3rd Grade



Lily Balian  
Pastel Parrot  
3rd Grade



Brianna Balian  
Q-tip Fall Trees  
3rd Grade



Angela Babayan  
Nighttime Pastel Owl  
5th Grade



Nareh Kiledjian  
Hot Air Balloons  
4th Grade



Alik Mardiros  
Nighttime Pastel Owl  
5th Grade

# SMACS Art Gallery

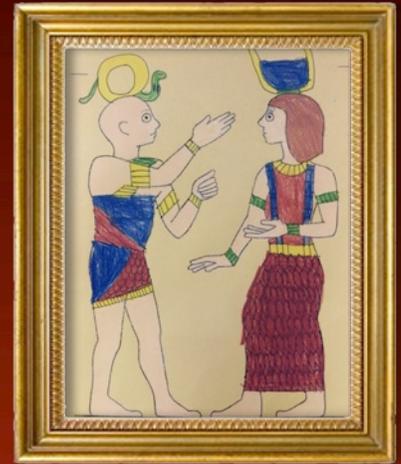
*Beautiful and creative artwork, created by our amazing artists.*



Kristina Agojian  
Egyptian Profiles  
6th Grade



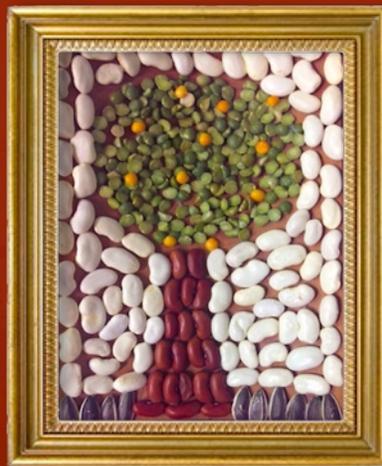
Susan Kazarian  
Typography Art  
8th Grade



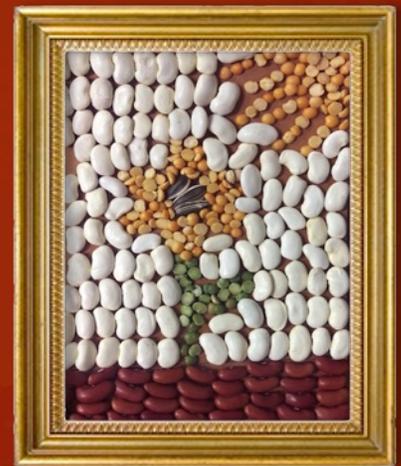
Athena Baghdassarian  
Egyptian Profiles  
6th Grade



Hrag Ekmekjian  
Seed and Bean Mosaic  
7th Grade



David Chepeian  
Seed and Bean Mosaic  
7th Grade



Sosse Minassian  
Seed and Bean Mosaic  
7th Grade

“Art is not what you see, but what you make others see.”

- Edgar Degas

**Kindergarten**

Alina Agojian  
 Sebastian Astourian  
 Tyler Gordon  
 Vana Hovagimian  
 Jonathan Kazanjian  
 Avo Klahejian  
 Steven Kouladjian  
 Alexander Lambajian  
 Chloe Lambajian  
 Adriney Mardirosian  
 Connor Matossian

**1st Grade**

Nicholas Azilazian  
 Michael Kizirian  
 Laurene Kouladjian  
 Vache Muradian  
 Lorance Tatikian  
 Isabella Zovigian  
 Natalia Zovigian

**2nd Grade**

Nicole Bajakejian  
 Lim Kalemkarian  
 Anna Khroian  
 Paulena Kojoglanian  
 Harout Mitilian  
 Ara Rastguelenian  
 Nicole Titizian  
 Luca Youssefian

**3rd Grade**

Andre Abdollahian  
 Emily Arabyan  
 David Avanesyan  
 Alexandra Babayan  
 Brianna Balian  
 Lily Balian  
 Silva Basmadjyan  
 Emma Deravedissian

Narod Ekmekjian  
 Johnny Jemelian  
 Alexandra Karamanoukian  
 Sarkis Kiledjian  
 Isabelle Kizirian  
 Alex Muradian  
 Garo Poladian  
 Sophia Panossian  
 Victoria Postajian  
 Michael Sahagian  
 Patil Tajerian  
 Tiana Tatikian

**4th Grade**

Natalia Abadjian  
 Daniella Agojian  
 Roubeena Akmakjian  
 Claudine Azilazian  
 Njteh Girichian  
 Nareh Kiledjian  
 Alique Klahejian  
 Vicken Kouladjian  
 Aren Minassian  
 Arsen Rastguelenian  
 Bella Youssefian

**5th Grade**

Christopher Atme  
 Angela Babayan  
 Shant Bashian  
 Alik Mardiros  
 Christina Sahagian  
 Natel Titizian

**6th Grade**

Kristina Agojian  
 Athena Baghdassarian  
 Jeffrey Balian  
 Liana Chiranian  
 Sonia Darakjian  
 Astghik Gasparyan  
 Melana Gendal  
 Emma Haroutonian  
 Angie Mitilian  
 Tatyana Sevajian  
 Sarine Vartabedian

**7th Grade**

Heiko Abadjian  
 Tigran Arabyan  
 Alexander Azilazian  
 David Chepeian  
 Hrag Ekmekjian  
 Lori Kenderian  
 Sevan Krikorian  
 Sosse Minassian

**8th Grade**

Joseph Atme  
 Shoghik Gasparyan  
 Lara Gendal  
 Tatiana Hamparsomian  
 Vicken Jemelian  
 Susan Kazarian  
 Isabelle Mazmanian  
 Mireille Minassian  
 Sabrina Pelenghian  
 Michael Raad  
 Marianne Sahagian

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**Kindergarten**

Sebastian Astourian  
Tyler Gordon  
Ariana Haytaian  
Serlee Hzor  
Patil Kludjian  
Alexander Lambajian  
Chloe Lambajian  
Connor Matossian

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

Nicholas Azilazian  
Michael Kizirian  
Laurene Kouladjian  
Vache Muradian  
Sako Setragian  
Lorance Tatikian  
Isabella Zovigian  
Natalia Zovigian

**2nd Grade**

Nicole Bajakejian  
Christy Basmadjyan  
Tina Garabedian  
Paulena Kojoglanian  
Mirey Mahserejian  
Nicole Titizian  
Luca Youssefian (2)

**3rd Grade**

Brianna Balian  
Silva Basmadjyan  
Johnny Jemelian  
Alexandra Karamanoukian  
Isabelle Kizirian  
Michael Sahagian  
Patil Tajerian  
Tiana Tatikian

**4th Grade**

Daniella Agojian  
Roubeena Akmakjian (2)  
Claudine Azilazian  
Njteh Girichian  
Alique Klahejian  
Vicken Kouladjian  
Aren Minassian

**5th Grade**

Christopher Atme  
Angela Babayan  
Angelina Khatchikian  
Christina Sahagian  
Natel Titizian

**6th Grade**

Kristina Agojian  
Silva Avakian  
Melana Gendal  
Angie Mitilian  
Tatyana Sevajian  
Sarine Vartabedian  
Alex Vartanian  
Shant Yepremian

**7th Grade**

Heiko Abadjian (2)  
Avedis Akhian  
Alexander Azilazian (2)  
Hrag Ekmekjian  
Sosse Minassian (2)

**8th Grade**

Andrew Dabbaghian  
Shoghik Gasparyan  
Alec Haroutonian  
Susan Kazarian  
Isabelle Mazmanian  
Sabrina Pelenghian

...

**TEACHER'S CORNER**



**Name:** Lucy Abadjian

**Occupation:** Teacher

**Birthplace:** Lebanon

**Hobbies:** Reading, knitting, and exercise.

**Dislikes:** Insects, and poor manners

**3 items I can't live without:** God, my family, and chocolate.

**Favorite Color:** Red

**Favorite Books:** *Jane Eyre*, *The Bible*.

**Favorite Movies:** *Pride and Prejudice*, *The 6th Hour*.

**Favorite Animal:** *A puppy!*

**What have your students taught you?** To take one day at a time, and to take life seriously, but not myself. To laugh more and have a childlike faith.

**What is your favorite part about teaching?** Since I'm the Bible teacher, the moment when my students are excited about Jesus dying for them on the cross, to redeem them from sin.

**Message to Students:** God helps those who help themselves! I love you!



**Sahag-Mesrob Armenian Christian School Newsletter**

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