

BibleLands

.....Overseas Partner Fact Sheet..... Armenian Evangelical (Shamlan Tatikian) School

How it all started

This school is in a poor suburb in the north-east of Beirut. It was founded in 1934 for refugee children whose families had fled the massacres in Turkey in 1915 and 1922. It has about 320 pupils in its kindergarten, primary and secondary classes, from the local area.

Key facts

Founded: 1930
Location: Beirut, Lebanon
BibleLands' Grant: £30,852

Current Activities

The school teaches all the usual lessons, in Armenian, Arabic and English. Even the kindergarten pupils practise their letters in the three totally different alphabets. Students in the secondary classes are also taught French. There is a special emphasis on Armenian history, language and culture.

All the students study the Bible, and older students are also taught Church history, including the history of the Armenian Church. School starts at 7.30am with daily assembly. The younger children go to Sunday School and all pupils attend Sunday services once a month.

The physical health of the children is also very important, and a local dispensary provides medical and dental treatment to the children. A local organisation also provides free eye care to the children.

Other resources include a large, well-used library and a well-equipped Science laboratory. In sport, the school does well in competitions and is open on Saturdays for football, basketball, running and table tennis. Students can also join the Armenian Folk Dance Team, which gives public performances each year.

Lebanon's recent history has been deeply unsettled. Just as the country was emerging from a 15-year civil war, she was plunged into renewed turmoil by the assassination of Prime Minister Hariri in 2005 and war with Israel in 2006. However, successful parliamentary elections in 2009 led to the formation of a coalition government which, it is hoped, will usher in a period of stability, unity and co-operation. The latest news, prayer points, and other information are available from BibleLands.

Contact us:

BibleLands

PO Box 50, High Wycombe, Bucks HP15 7QU
phone: 01494 897950 fax: 01494 897951
email: info@biblelands.org.uk
www.biblelands.org.uk