Dear Families and Friends

We are now at the end of Week 5 and over half way through Term 1. Students have settled into routines and are following Zillmere’s Aim High Expectations: Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be a Learner.

We have a busy four weeks planned until the Easter Holidays commence.

Raising the BAR - Better Attendance Rates

Teachers at Zillmere State School are working diligently to improve our students’ achievement standards. In reality, this is a difficult task when students are away on a regular basis.

The education of your child is important to us at Zillmere, and regular attendance is essential for your child to achieve their educational best. We aim to work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of our students. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier, information is retained and your child will have a greater chance of building and maintaining meaningful relationships with other children.

Parents and caregivers must send their children to school every school day unless there is an acceptable reason, such as an illness. Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays where possible. We often hear that students are away from school for reasons such as birthdays, shopping or visiting family or friends. This is not considered reasonable or acceptable at any State School in Queensland.

Establishing good routines around school can assist with regular school attendance.

These include:
- have a set time to go to bed
- have a set time to get out of bed
- have uniform and school bag ready the night before
- have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast
- set a time for daily homework activities
- speak about school positively
- send your child every school day including their birthday and the last day of term.

We ask that you advise the school of the reason for their absence if your child is going to be away. If you are experiencing difficulty in sending your child to school, please contact us for advice about how we can help.

Celebration of Behaviour and Attendance

In Week 9 Zillmere State School will be holding our Celebration of Attendance and Behaviour. We set high expectations for students to attend school every day, and whilst at school to uphold the standards detailed in our Responsible Behaviour Plan. Attendance and positive behaviour choices are vital to maximise academic success.

This term, your child’s reward for at least 95% attendance and being a responsible, respectful learner will be to participate in a variety of activities concluding with a special tasty treat. We would appreciate you speaking with your child about this and supporting them to achieve their targets.
Safe and Active School Travel from PCYC!

In November last year, our Active School Travellers joined our Adopt-a-Cop, Constable Jason Jowett, to actively travel to Zillmere State School. We’re doing it again!

On Wednesday 9th March Zillmere’s Active School Travellers are invited to walk or wheel from PCYC on Zillmere Road to Zillmere State School. We will meet at PCYC at 8am and then travel together.

The format for the morning:
8:00am – Students, parents & teachers meet at PCYC on Zillmere Road and walk, ride or scoot to school. Remember your helmet!
8:20am – Students who have actively travelled to school will receive a healthy treat when they arrive at school.

Week 8 Parent - Teacher - Student Interviews

In Week 8 we will be conducting Parent - Teacher - Student Interviews. This is an integral part of our reporting process. It is beneficial for the student to be present at this meeting because we will be discussing their progress, future goal setting and strategies to achieve these goals.

Interviews will be 10 minutes on this occasion. If requested, a longer meeting may be arranged at a time mutually convenient. Within the next couple of days an interview time preferences list will be sent home for you to compete. We look forward to meeting with you and sharing your child’s successes.

Parent Afternoon Workshop at Zillmere

Due to requests, we are holding another Reading Workshop for Parents at Zillmere State School on Thursday afternoon, 3rd March. Mr Glen Veale, our Specialist Literacy and Numeracy Teacher, will be sharing ideas about how you can help your child to develop the skills they need to read well. The session will commence at 3:15pm in the library and afternoon tea will be provided.

Reading Comprehension - Check for Understanding

Even as an adult reader, there are times when we are reading a story, get lost and are not sure what has happened. Fortunately, when this happens, we have strategies to help us understand the story. The same thing happens when children read. However, children often keep reading and do not realise they lost comprehension until the end of the story. They are too concerned with reading the words accurately, and forget to take the time to think about what they are reading. How can we help them understand/comprehend that they are reading?

We can teach them the strategy: Check for Understanding because good readers stop frequently to ask “who?” and “what?”

How Can You Help Your Child with this Strategy at Home?

1. When reading to your child, stop and say, “Let’s see if we remember what we just read. Think about who the story was about and what happened.” Do this 3 or 4 times throughout the story.
2. When reading to your child, stop and ask them to check for understanding by saying, “I heard you say... What did that mean?”
3. Ask your child the following questions:
   • Who did you just read about?
   • What just happened?
   • Was your brain talking to you while you read?
   • Do you understand what was read?
   • What do you do if you don’t remember?

We appreciate your continued support at home to help develop successful readers!

Lyn 😊

P&C News

Tuckshop
We would love to have mums or dads come and join our tuckshop team. If you are interested, please see the office and leave your name. Thank you to those who have already come on board. 😊

Uniforms
Our uniform shop is open every Monday from 2pm—3pm at the office.
IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

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<tr>
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<th>Event</th>
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<td>3 March 2016</td>
<td>Reading Workshop for Parents 3:15pm in the library Zillmere</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 March 2016</td>
<td>Zillmere Zoomers Playgroup 9am-10:30am D Block</td>
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<td>7 March 2016</td>
<td>School Banking Account Opening Day 2:30pm</td>
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<td>9 March 2016</td>
<td>Active Travel to School from PCYC</td>
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<td>14-18 March 2016</td>
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<td>16 March 2016</td>
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<td>24 March 2016</td>
<td>Aspley Eagles Challenge Cup — Last day of Term 1</td>
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<td>11 April 2016</td>
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<td>21 April 2016</td>
<td>Cross Country/Fun Run</td>
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Keep up to date with what’s happening at Zillmere State School by liking our Facebook page today!
Wow half way through Term 1 already! Hopefully we see some cooler weather soon. We have some new editions to our Prep class who you may have heard about. Kevin the Cockatoo has come to stay and learn how to be in Prep. He has been very loved so far and loves resting on Mrs Tukuafu's chair at night. We also have two resident hermit crabs who we have been observing to see how they adjust to their new home. In Science we are learning about living things so please discuss with your child the needs of living things, such as water, food, shelter, fresh air.

A special thank you to Jo and Noreena who have offered to help in the class working with students. If you would like to come and join us, feel free at any time. There is always something you can do, even if it is at home. At the moment we are madly laminating and cutting out two new oral language programs that will start in Prep as soon as the resources are made.

Don’t worry if your child has not brought home a library book, we have been busy with Sing and Grow and other programs so we have not been for the last two weeks. We will start to go the library on Fridays for the rest of the term.

😊 Michelle Tukuafu

This week we are learning about addition and subtraction and preparing for our book talk that we will be doing in front of the class on the story Koala Lou. Last week our vocab word was frightened. This week our word is longed. Have a chat to your child about what these words mean, put them into a sentence or act out in a play.

Homework went out this week. It will go out every Monday and is due every Friday. Homework is a revision of the concepts we are learning about in class. Spelling words are also part of the homework and are meant to be practised almost every night so students are ready for their test on Friday. Discuss the sound/s they are learning that week, write or say them in a sentence, spell the words out loud, write them out in colours, chalk, sand, soap or anything you can think of.

Remember to keep practising your sight words and reading every night! 😊

Leslie Slovick
Year 2

We have just finished our English poetry unit. The students recreated a familiar poem and reflected on the poetic features. I was very impressed with their imagination.

Please remember to return homework and library books on Friday. Fill in the reading log at the back of the homework book to be invited to the Reading Party!

We are on the search for recycled materials to make lunch boxes in a science experiment. We need plastic, aluminium foil, sticky tape, masking tape, magazines, and old boxes from biscuits/cereal boxes etc.

Thank you in advance 😊

Veronica Evans

Year 3/4

Next week we will start our Science unit on heat. Our Technology unit later in the term and early next term will require the students to design and construct something to keep a water bottle cool. They need to start collecting and storing at home some of the following materials to use in their construction: bubble wrap, fabric, paper (any type), styrofoam, tea towels, aluminium foil, cotton wool, cardboard, towels or plastic.

We are now past the halfway point in the term. How many times has your child submitted their completed homework on a Friday? Too few children are demonstrating this responsibility.

A broad vocabulary strengthens reading, writing and comprehension skills. This term we have focused on these words: sprouted, terrifically and bristles. Encourage their use at home. Now we have our routine established you can expect more frequent vocabulary words. Don’t be afraid to add to them at home.

Tim Young
In Year 4/5 we have been finishing up our healthy eating advertisements and finalising our persuasive writing pieces, ready to start our quest novel *Deltora Quest* by Emily Rodda next week. We have been having fun increasing our vocabulary and using our Strive words. It will be exciting to see these being used in our writing tasks. One of the Strive words we have learnt this week is *phenomenal*. Ask your child to use it in a sentence at home (Maybe you will get a really good compliment about your cooking 😊).

In maths we have been looking at equivalent fractions. Maybe consolidate this skill with your child by having an impromptu cooking session over the weekend.

**A quick reminder:** Homework goes out on a Friday and is due back the following Thursday. Students are expected to do 10-20 minutes of reading each night. Please help them with their comprehension by asking them a few questions about books being read.

Jess Aldis

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Our class have been busy learning about the comprehension strategies of *Finding the Main Idea* and details to support the main idea. Students are encouraged to practise these skills when they do their nightly reading and homework. Our STRIVE word has been 'dearth'. We are also working on problem solving strategies in Maths.

**REMINDERS**

- Cross country training Thursday morning - please bring a training shirt to run in and then change in to your clean school shirt afterwards!
- Swim kit for Thursday.

Jill Gardiner
Year 6 Leadership Camp

On Thursday the 11th and Friday the 12th of February the Year 6 leaders went on their leadership camp to Camp Warrawee. When we arrived there, full of excitement, we started heading to our cabins. Then we had a big walk around the campus. When we got back, we played some games to get us thinking before we had lunch. Soon after lunch our Instructor came and took us to our first activity. The first activity we had was raft building. We celebrated Kaden's birthday with a song and some homemade cake for afternoon tea. Then we did some Leadership Initiatives and soon after that we had dinner. The next day we had Low Ropes and the Flying Fox. All the year 6 leaders had a great time, not only because it was fun, but because each activity helped us to learn more leadership qualities, such as, to give things a go, perseverance and communication.

Liana’s highlights from camp
When we went to school camp we had lots of fun and we had fun activities, such as the Flying Fox, Low Ropes and Rafting. We got to stay the night in bunk rooms. For breakfast we had bacon, eggs, and cereal.

Reece’s highlights from camp
The Year 6s went to the leadership camp with Ms. Gardiner and Wal, and our first activity was Rafting, where we put poles and ropes together to make a raft. There we separated into groups. One group made a triangular raft while the other team made a squared shaped one, which took a lot of teamwork and communication. When they put their raft on the water, they paddled into the middle of the lake where it fell apart, but they were still able to get back on to dry land safely.

Manu’s highlights from camp
On the first day of camp, my favourite thing was when we went for a big walk to see where the rafts were going to be built and that the food was really good. I liked all the activities even though I got hurt several times. We also learnt different leadership skills.
Zillmere Zoomers

Welcome to all the parents and children who came to our first playgroup last week. It is nice to see new faces from the community in our school. Zillmere Zoomers will continue to meet every Friday at 9am to 10.30am for the rest of the term. We are looking for any donations of toys, books or anything that children under four would use for our playgroup. Please ensure items are clean and in good working order. If you would like to donate anything please drop it into the Prep room. We look forward to seeing you and your little one at Zillmere Zoomers soon. 😊

SCHOOL BANKING
Account Opening Day
Monday 7 March 2016
2:30pm-3:00pm
Requirements: Parents photo ID, child’s birth certificate

Please name all of your child/ren’s uniforms, swimming togs, towel, swim cap, hats and lunchboxes. Lost items cannot be returned when they are not named.
Hi! As we approach the end of first term there is still lots of special events coming up for you and the students to be involved in.

We are fortunate at Zillmere State School to have great staff. Teachers that I know put in many hours of preparation to ensure your child has the opportunity to learn. It is so important that students are at school every day to maximise their learning potential.

Also RESPECT is important and is something that can be taught and encouraged at home. Teaching your child to respect themselves and others. The golden rule is “treat others how you would like to be treated yourself.”

Coming events:

**Fridays 4th & 18th March:** The Salvation Army at Taigum holds youth events at 5.30pm – 7pm for children in grades 3-6.

**Saturday 12th March:** I am holding a fundraiser at the Salvation Army to raise money for school chaplaincy and I need your help! If you have anything that I could sell please drop it in to school before Thursday 10th March.

**Wednesday 16th March:** Sports expo at the PCYC for senior students.

**Monday 21st March:** Harmony Day. We want to celebrate our cultural diversity at Z.S.S. This will be an opportunity for children to either wear something orange or their national costume to school. Also we would like children to bring some national food to share. Do you have a flag or something special from your country that we could put on display? There will be more information to come.

**Thursday 24th March:** Aspley Eagles Cup is a soccer competition for year 6 students at Aspley High School

**Thursday 21st April:** School cross country and fun run. The students will have opportunity to raise funds for the PCYC and gain a prize. Sponsorship booklets will be out soon.

In closing life is about making choices. Encourage your child to make good choices.

God bless

Wal Greentree (School Chaplain)
Ph: 0409 494 225 Email: walg@chappy.org.au
Car Boot Sale
The Salvation Army North Brisbane Church,
Corner of Handford & Roghan Roads, Taigum

Thrift Shop will be open for all bargains
Community Markets
Coffee & Cake
Morning Melodies
Sausage Sizzle
Jumping Castle for the kids!

Summer Clean Out • Great Bargains • Lots to see
$10 per site 12 March 2016 6.30am to 11.30am
Annie on annie.senden@gmail.com or FB for more info
RSVP 5 March 2016

www.facebook.com/SalvationArmyNorthBrisbaneChurch
COMMUNITY NEWS

Asley Devils Netball Club
Est. 1975

Who are we?
We are a long-standing family netball club established in 1975. Each season we have teams ranging from 8 years to seniors (19 years and above).

Our club dedicates itself as a community for netballers, their families and friends. We endeavour to provide an outlet for all netballers, coaches and volunteers to excel at every level of competition and standard.

Why choose us?
We promote, support and develop our members' skills in a fun, safe and family-oriented environment. Our approach promotes self-esteem, pride, loyalty and team spirit.

We offer a community that encourages, supports and provides the platform for all ages to develop personally through the game of netball.

What you need to know:
• We train at the Craiglea State High School netball courts at Chermside West.
• We compete each Saturday at Downey Park Netball Association Windsor.
• We are a ‘Get Started’ club.
• We are devoted to player and coaching development.
• We accept players from 8 years to adults.
• We are a NetSetGO provider.

For more information call 0468 454 NET (638)
www.asleydevilsnetball.com.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

Zillmere Library

We would like to remind everyone about our Homework Help Program. Any students needing help with reading, writing, assignments or school work are welcome to join us in the library for this FREE service for primary and high school students throughout the school term.

Homework Help is available every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon from 3:30-4:45pm at Zillmere Library. If any staff or parents need any more information please call us on 3403 1455.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Healthy Families

Want to get your kids active and eating well?
The FREE PEACH* program can help.

PEACH will be running in your local community in Term 1 - 2015.
The program covers:
• Nutrition - lunchbox and snack ideas, reading labels and ingredient, dealing with fussy eaters and tips on planning ahead.
• Physical activity – the benefits of exercise, how to be more active as a family, physical activity recommendations for children and how to reduce screen time.
• Parenting – setting boundaries, planning for change, managing resistance to change, risk modelling and how to be balanced and consistent.

PEACH runs weekly within a school term and after school hours.

Sessions are 90 minutes. Parents meet with a trained parent facilitator to discuss topics while children enjoy fun active play run by a trained child facilitator.

ENROL NOW - BY PHONE OR ONLINE.

Free call 1800 263 819 or visit www.peach4kids.com.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

HOMEWORK HELP PROGRAM
ZILLMERE LIBRARY

A CELEBRATION OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY
Saturday 12th March 2016, 10am – 3pm
Zillmere Community Centre
54 Handford Road, Zillmere
Phone 3865 2880

ACTIVITIES:
• Morning tea
• Fun activities for the kids
• Entertainment
• Multicultural Food
• Varning
• Stall
• Raffles

Zillmere Community Centre presents

COMMUNITY NEWS

HOMEWORK HELP PROGRAM
ZILLMERE LIBRARY

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If you would like to be part of our Community Advertising please contact Zillmere State School on 3863 8333.