Dear families,

We have only two weeks of school remaining before our Easter Holiday break. Our final newsletter for the term will be published on Thursday 2nd April.

As I am writing this newsletter, we have our 12 senior students on their leadership camp. This involves an overnight stay at school [they are all tucked into sleeping bags in the Year 1 classroom] and a day of team-building activities at Camp Warawee tomorrow. Parents of our seniors should be so proud to have raised such responsible young citizens who set an amazing standard for our younger Zillmere students to follow.

Reading and Comprehension is Zillmere’s Priority!

Reading and the ability to understand what is being read are important skills that all students need. At Zillmere State School we have a clear focus – Reading and Reading Comprehension.

Reading isn’t like learning to talk or walk. It doesn’t happen naturally and is not automatic! Teachers plan specific tasks of a reading program to develop skills that help students become capable readers. Parents can also work on these reading skills to support their child’s development.

Comprehension, an essential reading skill, is our understanding of what was read which is our whole purpose for reading. Parents can help by reading poetry, stories, signs, cartoons, packets, and recipes to their children. This will put new words and ideas “into their ears”. When reading, if we stop and ask ourselves two questions, that can help us check that we understand what we are reading. Ask: “Who is this about?” and “What is happening?” Expanding Vocabulary also assists with comprehension. When reading with your child, take the opportunity to talk about new and interesting words and what they mean.

Walking Wheeling Wednesday Active School Travel @ Zillmere!

This year, Zillmere State School has been selected as one of 16 new schools joining the Brisbane City Council’s Active School Travel program. Active School Travel promotes clean and green, active and healthy school travel modes such as walking, cycling, scootering, carpooling and public transport.

By leaving your car at home, at least one day a week on our active travel day, we can work towards reducing traffic congestion at the school gate, improving road safety, creating a cleaner environment and improving our health and fitness.

To help implement and promote the program we have established an Active School Travel committee. If you can help organise events or are interested in leading a walking group please contact our school.

To start the program off the Brisbane City Council’s Active School Travel performers Roadstar, Red and Green will visit our school assembly to explain the Active School Travel program on 24 March 2015 and get help get us ready for our first weekly Active Travel Day.

We will be launching, the first active travel day - Walking Wheeling Wednesday - on 25 March 2015. All students will receive an Active School Travel passport. Students who actively travel to school each Wednesday will collect stamps and earn lots of great rewards this year.
Walk: Leave the car at home and walk your children to school. If you live too far away, drive part of the way and walk the rest. We call that “Park and Stride”.

Ride: Ride a bike or scooter with your children to school. It’s legal to ride on the footpath and remember to always have your helmet secured.

Public Transport: Public transport is easy once you know how. For bus, train and ferry timetables, visit www.translink.com.au, or phone 13 12 30.

Carpool: Find a friend and carpool to school. It’s an easy way to save money and time. Talk to other parents at Zillmere State School to see who is going your way.

So get started on 25 March and remember that EVERY Wednesday is now Walking Wheeling Wednesday. If you would like more information on the program you can visit Council’s website www.brisbane.qld.gov.au or contact Council on 07 3403 8888.

Electronic Games, ipods, Mobile Phones and Toys: A Reminder

Please note that electronic games, mobile phones, ipods and other toys are not allowed to be used at school, including lunchtimes. We understand that your child may have need a mobile phone to contact you after school. It may be that your child will be bringing in a special toy or item for an oral presentation. However, once students have come through the school gate these items need to be put away and not be played with during the day. Children may check their items in to the office for safekeeping and collect them at 3pm. If your child chooses to keep these valuable items in their bag or desk then responsibility for the item being broken or lost passes to them. Once children leave the school grounds in the afternoon they are then able to use their equipment. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

☺ Lyn

LIBRARY NEWS

There are still a lot of students not borrowing books on Wednesdays Library Day! Students from Prep to Yr 3 require a Library Bag for borrowing, as long as it is a bag sturdy enough to keep the book safe from damage it is suitable. Reading is a very important part of a child’s education, please encourage your student to borrow and read a little each evening. Bedtime stories are always a favourite!!

Keeping to the theme of Reading is Important: The Cystic Fibrosis Bookshop at the end of Henchman Street in Nundah has really good quality children’s (and adults) books for sale at very reasonable prices, children’s books are usually $2.00 each.

BUT

From 28/3 – 1/4/15 they have a sale on where all books are half price i.e. Children’s books are $1.00. These books are very good quality, most are ex Brisbane CC library books. This is an opportunity to buy some great books at a great price to continue fostering a love of books and reading in your children.
Year 5/6 Excursion to Aspley State High School Arts Day

To begin the year 5/6 day we watched a performance by the Aspley Student band. They played really well. Then Zillmere students went and did some contemporary dance. In groups we were given a topic and we had to dance out the theme. It was so much fun! Our second activity, after break, was drama and we did different movement and expressions when we were acting. We played a few games which were really entertaining. After our second break we had art. Here we had to draw a ‘Google’ page title. We picked a topic like nature, sport or Minecraft and had to draw and colour the ‘Google’ logo. After a quick final visit to the hall to say thank you, we hopped back on the bus to school. My friends and I thought that the Aspley Arts Day was SO MUCH FUN!!

By Jonathan Woodhouse.
Aspley Eagles Challenge Cup

On Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} April 2015 students from years 5/6 will be given the opportunity to compete in a soccer challenge against teams from other local state schools. This will be played at Aspley State High School. Good luck to all our ZSS students participating.

Orders due every Wednesday
This Easter the ZSS P&C Association will be holding an Easter raffle. We could use any donations of Easter eggs, bunnies or other Easter items such as party ware, craft items or candies that could be included in Easter hampers. Mrs Aldis will be having a collection of these items from Thursday this week outside the staffroom. Any donations would be much appreciated and all funds raised will help to purchase some new resources for our Prep class. Every student who donates an item will get a ticket for a special prize drawn during the Easter hat parade.

Thank you in advance for your contribution,

ZSS P&C Association
Healthstream News

Healthstream would like to offer swimming lessons over Term 2 in the heated ZSS pool. Please call us on 3236 9059 to enrol. Lessons are $10 each.

Zillmere State School’s website is [www.zillmeress.eq.edu.au](http://www.zillmeress.eq.edu.au) so if you miss any up and coming events you can find that information on our school’s website.

Date Claimers

- March 19th & 20th
  Year 6 Leadership Camp
- March 20th
  Interschool Sport Touch Football Years 4-6
- March 31st
  Cross Country & Fun Run
- April 1st
  Whole School Easter Hat Parade
- April 2nd
  Celebration Day
- April 2nd
  Aspley Eagles Community Cup
  Soccer Day Aspley State High

Jabiru welcomes you all to another holiday program at Taigum. Attached is the program that describes the activities that will be undertaken during this period. The cost for Vacation Care varies from $0 to $49.80 depending on your CCB. Families with 100% CCB can avail two days free care EVERY WEEK.

For a free quote, please call 3269 0044 and speak to the friendly staff.

Alternately visit Neelu in the Jabiru room at Zillmere State School (next to the grade 1 classroom) and have a chat about your best options or ring 0438 542 655.

At Zillmere Jabiru, the highlight has been our Homework club! Every Tuesday, Tina (from Kurbingui) helps the kids with their homework and difficulties. The kids too have been really positive about this activity.

Have a safe holiday!
See you all in Term 2!!

A BIG THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR SCHOOL