The Importance of reading

Since the start of 2012 Zillmere State School made reading a priority learning area. We have completely revised our approach to reading in the classroom and it is expected that every child will complete at least 30 min of reading each day. We have incorporated 1-1 reading sessions with our teacher aides for all children in Prep to year 2 and have developed a school wide intensive reading session for children in Year 3-7.

The school also adopted a home reading program for all students in Prep to Year 3 where students take a book home to read to you each night and swap it over the following day. We have done this based on the fact that reading is the single most important skill necessary for a happy, productive and successful education and life. A child that is an excellent reader is a confident child, has a high level of self-esteem and is able to easily make the transition from learning to read to reading to learn.

It is instructive to think of the importance of reading by listing the consequences of being a poor reader.

- For children with reading difficulties, reading aloud is a painful experience. They stop and start frequently, mispronouncing some words and skipping others.
- The first casualty for poor readers is self-esteem. They grow ashamed as they struggle with a skill their classmates seem to master easily.
- Poor readers are prevented from making the transition from learning to read to reading to learn which keeps them from exploring science, history, literature, mathematics and the wealth of information that is presented in print.
- Of the 10 million children with reading difficulties, 10 to 15 percent eventually drop out of high school.
- In today's globalized, flat, Internet-information-driven world, children that cannot read well will not be able to readily access the wealth of print information available on the Internet on just about any subject of interest.

From reviewing the above list of the potential consequences of poor reading, it is clear that learning to read well is an essential life skill that each parent must ensure that their child acquires.

At Zillmere State School we set very high expectations for reading and the table on the next page outlines what we expect from your child by the end of the year.
How can you help your child reach their targets?

As a parent, you are your child's first and most important teacher. When you help your child learn to read, you are opening the door to a world of books and learning.

Reading aloud to children is the best way to get them interested in reading. Before long they will grow to love stories and books. Eventually they will want to read on their own.

With the help of parents, children can learn how to read and can practise reading until they can read for their own enjoyment. Then they will have a whole world of information and knowledge at their fingertips!

Reading can be a family activity. Spending time with word games, stories, and books will help your child to:

- gather information and learn about the world
- learn how stories and books work – that they have beginnings, endings, characters, and themes
- build a rich vocabulary by reading and talking about new words
- learn how to listen and how to think
- learn the sounds of language and language patterns
- fall in love with books

Not all children develop reading skills at the same pace. What's important is that you are aware of your child's reading level so that you can choose books and activities that will help him or her improve. Throughout the upcoming newsletter many tips for reading will be provided. Work with us to improve your child's reading skills so that they can have many opportunities in their future.
Tip 1 – Talk to Your Child

Oral language is the foundation for reading. Listening and speaking are a child's first introduction to language. Talking and singing teach your child the sounds of language, making it easier for him or her to learn how to read.

Here are some things you can do to help your child build an appreciation for words and language:

- Tell family stories about yourself, your child's grandparents, and other relatives.
- Talk to your child as much as possible about things you are doing and thinking.
- Ask your child lots of questions.
- Encourage your child to tell you what he or she thinks or feels.
- Ask your child to tell you about his or her day – about activities and games played.
- Be patient! Give your child time to find the words he or she wants to use.
- Sing songs, such as the alphabet song, and recite nursery rhymes, encouraging your child to join in.
- Play rhyming and riddle games.

Warm regards

Damien Greig
Principal
It has been extremely busy for year 6/7 both in the classroom and out so far this term! We have had lots of different opportunities to develop and display many different leadership qualities through the participation in the Leadership Camp Program, Aspley High Arts Excellence Day, Interschool Sport as well as the Deadly Sports Expo. All these activities were enjoyed by everyone and a big thank-you to all those involved! We also, created a video about why we are effective school leaders on assembly this week; you can view this on the school’s website.

In **English** we have been analysing advertisements in the media! We are currently in the process of creating our very own persuasive advertisement about a holiday destination.

In **Maths** year 6/7 are learning about prime and composite numbers and equivalent fractions. We are also looking at different strategies in problem solving. Class 6/7 have a times table champion each week – Well done to

In **Science** we have been exploring the importance of water, substances and mixtures and separation techniques. Lots of fun experiments happening!

In **History** we are discovering the important events and people involved in the development of Australia.
Students Name:  
Class:  

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**Payment Options**
- Cash  
- Cheque – payable to Zillmere State School P & C
- Total of Order: $__________
- Deposit: $__________
- Outstanding balance: $__________

**Office use only**
- Payment Received: $__________
- Date: ________________
- Receipt Number/s: ________________
- Uniforms collected: ________________
- Authorised by: ________________
  (signature)
Ishaan, Chaise, Sanyah, Clare, Lianna & Jade

Obang, Lianna, Sandreas, Laylanee & Leigh

Leela, Repaio, Taryn, Eden, Alkira, Theo & Mikaela

**School Awards**

**Interschool Sport**

Touch footy results. Senior boys 4-5 and 4-1 win, Junior boys 5-0 and 4-1 wins, Girls team had a close loss 1-2 and a loss. Encouragement awards: Jasmine McLeod-Roberts, Mike Temo and Jonathan Christopher.

Wal Greentree
Zillmere State School Chaplain
Ph. 0409494225
After School Program at Jabiru Kids Club
(Zillmere State School)

Have you thought about your children participating in Outside Hours School Care at Zillmere State School?

Outside School Hours Care (Jabiru) at the Zillmere State School. Jabiru works around the current Framework set by the QCAN.

Our focus is the following FIVE OUTCOMES:

CHILDREN HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF IDENTITY
CHILDREN ARE CONNECTED TO AND CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR WORLD
CHILDREN HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF WELL BEING
CHILDREN ARE CONFIDENT AND INVOLVED LEARNERS
CHILDREN ARE EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATORS

Children build positive relationships with their peers, qualified early childhood staff and other role models throughout their community. Older children work as buddies helping the little ones which build a strong sense of belonging and connection to their school community. Children also get the opportunity to interact with a mixed age group of children which helps in developing responsible behavior and tolerance as well as leadership qualities.

So many great activities take place for example every Thursday, a group of volunteers from ST Josephs Nudgee College come and play and facilitate activities with the children at Jabiru. This program has been running successfully for almost a year. This is the fourth term of this venture which has been appreciated by the parents and children as well as the Nudgee staff and the volunteering high school students.

Come and have a chat with Neelu the Project Site Manager on any afternoon through the week if you have any questions.
Spaces are limited so please book in advance.

Just a reminder our cross country is on Tuesday 25th March at 9.00am - 11.00 followed by a sausage sizzle. All parents welcome to come and cheer along our students.
Karate Classes for Kids

Do you want your child to learn valuable skills while having fun?

Karate gives children of all ages, the chance to learn quality defence techniques, while getting fit and strong.

Classes are structured for children to participate in a range of activities to help develop advanced motor and coordination skills, strength and overall fitness. Children also learn about self-esteem, motivation and discipline.

Classes are run by experienced black belt instructors all personally taught traditional Japanese Karate by Chief Instructor, Sóchó Barraud (Seventh Dan) who has over 40 years experience in Karate.

Instructors are: N. Fichera (Third Dan), J. Bebbington (Third Dan), L. Bohan (Second Dan), K. Henning (First Dan).

All school age children are welcome. Good individual and family rates available.

Where: Geebung State School Activities Hall

When: Tuesday and Thursday

Time: Juniors: 6.30pm  Seniors: 7.30pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION PHONE 0422817150 OR 0438838445
If you would like to be part of our Community Advertising please contact Zillmere State School on 3863 8333.