ZILLMERE NEWS

Principal’s News:
Teaching and Learning Audit
At the end of the last term Zillmere participated in a Teaching and Learning Audit. This is the second time Zillmere has been involved with this. Zillmere’s last audit was conducted in 2010 – over 2 years ago - and did not give a true reflection of the great work that has been done here by our new staff and administration team in 2011, 2012 and 2013. After our audit at the end of last term I am proud to announce that Zillmere has improved significantly. As quoted by the auditor, Zillmere is a high performing school. Please refer to the table below for an overview of our 2013 audit. A full copy of the results has been uploaded to the school webpage for your perusal. Attached to this newsletter is a parent fact sheet that provides information about the audit process. This excellent result highlights that we are providing the best education to your child. If you would like any further information regarding the audit please contact me on 3863 8333.

Comparison of results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparison of results</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2013 improvement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An Explicit Improvement Agenda</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High with some elements of Outstanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis and Discussion of Data</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High with some elements of Outstanding</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Culture that Promotes Learning</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>High with some elements of Outstanding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Targeted Use of School Resources</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>An Expert Teaching Team</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Systematic Curriculum Delivery</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Differentiated Classroom Learning</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effective Teaching Practices</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
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Grading system: Outstanding, High, Medium and Low

NAPLAN testing time again
Our students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will soon participate in the annual National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) to assess their skills and understanding in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The tests will be conducted in all state and non-state schools across the country from 14–16 May. An individual NAPLAN report for each child will be sent home later this year. Results provide additional feedback for parents, carers and teachers on how students are progressing in key curriculum areas.

Please contact the school if you have any questions about your child participating in NAPLAN testing. Further information is available on the ACARA website. (http://www.nap.edu.au/)
Project GOAL (Great Opportunity for Advanced Learning)
Earlier in the week a group of children from Year 1-7 received a letter informing parents that they were selected to participate in Project GOAL. Project GOAL is a new initiative around advanced learners which will place children in a cluster group based on their age. Students will be placed together to maximise exposure to peers with similar abilities. Once students are placed they will be re-evaluated at the end of each term to determine their continual placement.
The 'goal' of the enrichment program is:
- Students will have an enriched learning experience where ‘their’ learning needs are extended.
- Students will engage in activities that provide enriching activities to develop complex cognitive skills.
- Students will participate in activities designed to stimulate and improve critical thinking skills.
The children will be working alongside a number of teachers focussing on specific skills in Numeracy and Literacy. Sue Hillas the learning support teacher will coordinate the program and will report on student's performance at the end of each term.
Due to its success last year we are continuing the program in 2013 as it is a very exciting opportunity for our students. I look forward to sharing their achievements in our newsletter over the coming months.

Year 6/7 LOTE
Some students in Year 6/7 are undertaking LOTE (Languages other than English) this year. They are studying Indonesian and enjoying the challenges of learning new numbers and greetings. They are being taught through Distant Education, using the computer to talk with their teacher Miss Rosita. The children are enjoying the interactive games and communicating via technology devices.

Fun Run/Cross Country
Last Thursday our school conducted our annual school Fun Run. We had a great turn out by our parents and although very wet the children had a great day with many participating strongly and giving their best. I would like to congratulate our winners on the day. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work by our groundsman Burt Jeffery, our Chaplain Wal Greentree and Fun Run coordinator Lorraine Timperley for making the event run so successfully on the day. In the coming weeks a Bramble Bay District Cross Country team will be selected from our 9,10,11,12 year age group.

Our Reading Tips Continued: Tip 3 – Read Every Day
Children love routine, and reading is something that you and your child can look forward to every day. By taking the time to read with your child, you show him or her that reading is important and fun to do.
Try to read with your child as often as possible. It's the best thing you can do to help him or her learn at school! It also allows you to spend time together in an enjoyable way and to build a strong and healthy relationship.
- Start reading with your child when he or she is very young.
- Set aside a special time each day when you can give your full attention to reading with your child.
- Choose a comfortable spot to read, where you can be close to your child. Make it your "reading place"!
- Set aside a special shelf in that area for your child's books.
- Choose a variety of books.
- Vary the length of reading time according to your child's age and interests. For young children, several short sessions (of 10 minutes each) may be better than one long session (of 30 minutes).
- Read slowly so that your child can form a mental picture of what is happening in the story.
- Praise your child for his or her ideas and participation!
- When you and your child are away from home, take along books, magazines, and books-on-tape for your child to read and listen to.

Keep reading to your child even after he or she has learned to read. By reading stories that will interest your child but that are above his or her reading level, you can stretch your child's understanding and keep alive the magic of shared reading.

Have a good week!
Damien Greig
Anzac Day
Zillmere State School marked Anzac Day 2013 with a special commemoration on Wednesday 24th April. Past servicemen from the local Geebung RSL joined the school to mark the occasion and spoke a few words to the children and helped lay wreaths at the school memorial.
Lest We Forget.

VOLUNTEER REQUIRED

Do you love the fresh outdoors?
Do you have a green thumb?
Looking for something to do a few hours per week?

The school is looking for a volunteer who can assist our groundsmen on a weekly basis.

We are blessed at Zillmere State School with lots of grass for the children to run around and beautiful gardens, but unfortunately not enough funds to sustain the beautifully kept grounds. If you would like to help, please contact the school office on 3863 8333 for more information. Thanks!
Hi! It’s been very busy but very rewarding start to the term. Zillmere State School offers so many opportunities for students to learn and experience new things. Reading is an important learning theme for the school, can I encourage you to read with your child – it is so rewarding. It is a proven fact that the more parental support is given to children, the more well adjusted they are and able to learn better at school.

**Special events:**
**Monday 15th April:** The P&C had the opportunity to raise money doing a sausage sizzle at Bunning’s Carseldine. We raised $539.60 which will be used towards improving our great school. A huge thank you to the following parents who helped on the day: William Marsters who cooked on the BBQ all day and Leesa Marsters and Vanessa Mitchell. Also thank you to Courtney, Kristy, Laura and Rachel from Jabiru for supporting our school by helping on the day and staff member Miss Robyn.

**Thursday 18th April:** School Cross Country/Fun run. This is an important fundraiser for our school and 40 of our students raised $2220 what a great effort. Prizes will be available in a couple of weeks time. It was a great day and a huge vote of thanks to Mr. Greig, Mr. Jeffery and Miss Lorraine for all their work in making the day so successful and fun. A special mention to Mike who raised $300!!!

**Parent’s encouragement:**
**Ways to promote good mental health & well-being in kids**

> Model good mental health habits: If you, like many parents, live constantly with stress than consider ways to actively minimize it, such as getting regular exercise, plenty of sleep and doing relaxation. Not only will this improve your own mental health it will send a strong message to your kids. (Michael Grose [www.parentingideas.com.au](http://www.parentingideas.com.au))

*Quote: “Leadership is making a positive difference in the lives of others. Leading to self belief and motivation.”*

God bless you
Wal Greentree
School chaplain
Email: [walq@chappy.org.au](mailto:walq@chappy.org.au)
Ph. 0409494225

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**Awards**

**Aim High Award:** Jake

**Merit Award:** Yeshua

**Merit Awards:**
Ashton, Sanyah, Anthony

**Aim High Awards:**
TShinta, Akelo, Selwyn, Tazman & Lee-Jay
Dear Mr Greig,

I am a Psychologist and PhD candidate at the University of Queensland's Parenting and Family Support Centre and part of a research team headed by Prof. Matthew Sanders, founder of the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program. We are currently running a research project aiming to evaluate the effectiveness of a brief online parenting program.

The project is funded by the Australian Research Council and we are therefore able to offer participation in the program free of charge for 200 families. I am contacting you today to inform you of this opportunity and request your assistance in circulating the attached information among your parent community.

We know that parenting programs are an effective way to increase parents' confidence in their parenting role, prevent and treat child behaviour problems and improve family relationships. However, many parents do not access these programs. Limited program availability, inflexible delivery options and the costs associated with program participation, both financial and time, present barriers for many parents. Those barriers can be particularly pronounced for families facing additional stress e.g. low income, single parenthood or ethnic minority status. In an attempt to make parenting programs more accessible for everyone, researchers from the University of Queensland have developed a brief parenting program that can be accessed online. Triple P Solutions is an adaptation of the successful Triple P – Positive Parenting Program, offering practical ideas and support for parents of 2-9 year old children.

We would like to offer access to the program to parents of children attending your school. We are looking for parents of 2-9 year old children that have some concerns about their child’s behaviour. Parents will be asked to complete some questionnaires to assist with the evaluation of the program. A percentage of parents will also be required to attend a play task at the University of Queensland in St Lucia, Brisbane. Detailed information about the program and the research requirements can be found here: https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/solutions.

This project has been approved by the UQ Behavioural & Social Sciences Ethical Review Committee (UQ Clearance Number 2012000161). Please draw this opportunity to the attention of parents of your school, perhaps by including the attached notice in your newsletter or posting it on your Facebook page.

We are now currently conducting interviews for the 2014 intake of Year 8. Please contact the school to make a suitable time. Before the Interview date Enrolment packs are available for you to collect at the front office.

651 Zillmere Road
ASPLEY QLD 4034
3863 9222
www.aspleyshs.eq.edu.au

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As places are expected to fill quickly we would like to give priority to families from areas where access to parenting programs and services is limited, before opening up recruitment to other areas in the greater Brisbane region. Therefore I would greatly appreciate if you could please let me know if you are able to assist by **Monday, 22nd April 2013**.

Many thanks in advance for your assistance.
Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, concerns, or if I can provide further information.

Sincerely,

Sabine Baker
Project Coordinator Triple P Solutions
Registered Psychologist
PhD Candidate
Parenting and Family Support Centre
School of Psychology
The University of Queensland
Teaching and Learning Audits

As part of an initiative to improve student learning in Queensland state schools, Teaching and Learning Audits are conducted in every Queensland state school to provide quality feedback on how the school is performing and to inform school planning processes.

The audits are usually carried out every four years or following the appointment of a new school principal. A school community may request another audit within the four-year cycle, however no more than one audit will be conducted at the same school within a 12-month period.

During the audit, an independent, experienced school principal visits the school to collect a range of data and information about school practices, programs and procedures in the area of teaching and learning.

Interviews will also be conducted with staff, students and the P&C President to gather a range of perspectives on school strategies and practices.

The audit will usually take one to two days, depending on the school’s context and size. The school will receive the auditor’s report within 15 days and key findings will be discussed with the principal, the school’s leadership team and the school staff.

From this report, the executive summary and eight-page profile will be made available to parents and caregivers on the school’s web site. The principal will work with the school community to include any recommendations in the school’s forward planning.

For further information about Teaching and Learning Audits, please contact your child’s school or visit www.education.qld.gov.au/nationalpartnerships/teach-learn-audits.html.