Welcome
Welcome to all of our new families. I hope to meet you in the coming months, if I haven’t done so already. Welcome back to all of our families returning from 2013. It is now the end of the second week of the school year and I am happy to report that our school is settled and running smoothly. The 2013 school year has seen the arrival of a number of prep students and quite a number of new students across the other year levels. Lots of new faces to recognise and names to learn!

Although many schools did not open at the start of the new school year due to the weather we were spared any major damage allowing the school to open on time. I want to acknowledge the hard work of Julie Robinson who worked tirelessly to ensure this was the case. The school was in a mess with a huge amount of debris scattered across all walkways and driveways throughout the school. Julie was able to clear away all of this in time for student and parent arrival on the first day of the year. A few items are currently being repaired with the most obvious being the shade sail at the front the school. This should be re-installed within the week.

Class changes
The following notice has already been sent home with your child/ren informing parents if their child is required to change classes.

Extract from letter sent home today (11.02.2013). Enrolments today reached 105, which is an increase from the end of last year. This is two years in a row that the school has seen significant growth in numbers. Due to this, the school has been allocated a new teacher taking our learning spaces to 5 teachers. This will mean significant classroom restructuring and a number of children will be required to move from their current class. It is hoped this transition will be as smooth as possible to ensure no disruption to student learning. In the past, the school has adopted a Junior 1 and 2 and Senior 1 and 2. As there is now a new classroom the classrooms will be titled; P-1, 1-2, 2-3, 4-5, and 6-7. The classroom teachers for each class are as follows:
P-1 – Michelle Tukuafu
1-2 – Helena Mahan
2-3 – Amelia Robin
4-5 – Sue McVey & to be advised
6-7 – Graeme Clough

The growth in numbers highlights the great work that our staff is doing and motivates us to work even harder to provide the best education for your child/ren. I appreciate your understanding during this restructuring and if you have any questions or concerns please contact me on 3863 8333.

Curriculum focus
I have prioritised the teaching of Literacy and Numeracy at Zillmere State School to ensure we get the best learning outcomes for all of our students. This does not take away from our belief that schools develop the whole child. There is much more to learning then being able to read and write. As a school we are committed to maximising student learning outcomes and ensuring we provide the best learning environment for all of our students. Our motto is, “Aim High” and I can confidently say that all the staff at Zillmere State School want to achieve this for all students.
Staffing

I would like to acknowledge a number of new staff members to Zillmere State School for the 2013 school year. It is great to have them join our community and be part of our wonderful school. Christine Aidney is filling in for Joy Bolton in the administration office while Mrs Bolton is on long service leave. Lorraine Templeton is filling in for Ray Hill as teacher aide who is also on long service leave. I would also like to acknowledge the service of Wayne Robinson who finished up at the end of last week. His dedicated work for the last 5 and half years as groundsman has been appreciated. I would like to welcome Burt Jeffery as our new groundsman to our school.

Arrival at School

I ask that parents endeavour to have their children at school before the first bell at 8.50am. Late arrivals are very disruptive to teaching and learning and the first part of the school day is very important in preparing the children for a successful day. By having all children present when the day kicks off we are maximising learning time.

P&C

I wish to commend the school’s hardworking P&C who have been an enormous asset to the school since we first met last year. The P&C are instrumental in providing so much to our school and we invite all interested parents to be a part of this team. The P&C is seeking parents to fill the great work that our departing parents have done over the last number of years. Our long serving members no longer have children at the school and therefore are no longer able to serve on the committee. Without your support the P&C is likely to fold meaning the funds and important decisions around the improvement of your child’s school will not occur. I ask all parents to consider this as a positive opportunity to make a real difference. The P&C meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month in the school’s staffroom from 3:30pm. The first meeting to be held before the annual general meeting will be on Tuesday 19th February. If you require any further information about being part of the P&C please contact me via the office.

Newsletter

The school newsletter is published fortnightly on a Friday. Paper copies of the newsletter will no longer occur. We ask all parents to provide their email address so that the newsletter can be sent digitally. This will provide a far better viewing of the newsletter as it will be a colour copy. If any parents would prefer a paper copy it is essential that you contact the office so that a newsletter can be printed. Additionally, the newsletter is also uploaded onto the school’s website each Friday following its distribution. The website address is www.zillmeress.com.au

Facilities

In the school holidays, the pool was finally emptied and refurbished. We have waited a long time for this to occur and it has totally enhanced the pool area. The work has been completed to the highest quality. A new pool cover and pump will be installed in the coming months.

Thank you for the manner in which you have prepared your children for school with a full school uniform and hat. It really makes a difference to successful learning when parents support the school as you do. All parents have already been invoiced for your child’s book pack. The book pack in 2013 is $80 making it one of the most affordable book packs in a QLD State School system. I congratulate the P&C who fundraise extensively to ensure the book packs are so affordable.

I look forward to a wonderful and exciting year ahead for Zillmere State School working alongside so many parents and continuing to provide the best education for your child/ren.

Kind Regards

Damien Greig
Principal
Chappy’s News

Hi! My name is Wal Greentree and I have the privilege of being the school chaplain here at Zillmere State School. My main role is to be a friend and support to the students as well as another person they can talk too. I also run positive fun activities for the children. I am also available to help students build self esteem and resilience to help them reach their potential. I love being involved in the school community and I visit classes and help with swimming and sport.

I am also available to offer support to families and the wider community.

You will find me at school Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. My contact details are mobile: 0409494225 and email: walg@chappy.org.au

Next Thursday on Valentine’s Day we will be selling biscuits for 50c and cupcakes and muffins for $1 each. Proceeds will go to the chaplaincy service.

God bless you, Wal

Channel 7 Helicopter School Visit

Wednesday 27th February

Hi Parents,

You are invited to this special event. The Channel 7 helicopter will be landing on our oval between 9.30 am—10.00 am. John Schluter the Channel 7 Weatherman will be a special guest and will talk to some students about being a weather presenter on the tv.

We need your help to make a giant Z.S.S on the oval, come along and be part of the Zillmere State School community - you might even see yourself on tv that night!

Hope to see you on the 13th.

Many thanks,

Wal Greentree

Please note:

Students will need to be in full SCHOOL uniform.
Tuesday 5 February 2013

Years 3 and 4 singing for the school on our first assembly of the year, accompanied by JJ on guitar.

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BOOK PACKS

Invoices were sent home last week with regards to payment of your child’s book packs for 2013. For a one-off payment of $80 your child receives all writing implements, books, craft materials, headphones, photocopy paper and stationery items for the school year. Thank you to the families that have already paid for their children’s book packs. Part payments are also appreciated with statements sent home every 2 weeks. Zillmere State School has one of the cheapest book packs available for students, we hope we can continue to deliver these subsidized cost to you next year through payments made for 2013. Thank you.
Every Tuesday afternoon between 3:15 – 4:45pm during term, a fun and exciting program will be running for kids in year 5-7 at Mulbeam Park, Boondall.

The sessions will have a range of different activities each week, including sport, games, music, and arts & crafts. There will be some afternoon tea available and the program is completely FREE!

Come along and join in the fun!

WHO: Students in years 5 - 7

WHEN: Every Tuesday during term time 3:15pm – 4:45pm

WHERE: Mulbeam Park, Cnr Muller and Beams road Boondall