Principals Report

Happy Holidays Everyone

It’s hard to believe it is April and we are at the end of Term 1. It has been another busy and very enjoyable term at Zig Zag Public School.

The primary students are continuing to make us hungry with the delicious smells wafting from the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen lessons.

The garden scarecrows have had a face lift. Mrs. Corney’s class has had wonderful term learning about frogs. They are very proud of their projects and dioramas.

Mrs. Ellery’s class are becoming very clever with their technology skills and are in the process of emailing project responses, not to mention creative design to represent the germs of the “cold and ‘flu” season!

K/1 continues to produce amazing artwork. Have you seen their Picasso paintings, boat reflections and hand drawn kangaroos?? They continue to love math’s lessons, reinforcing skills through games and fun lessons when learning about “length”.

Term 2 promises to be another busy and productive time for Zig Zag. Sporting events such as the Cross Country and Athletics carnivals will be taking place. Our netball team and hockey group have been training for their up and coming games and all students have been working on their sporting skills.

Life Education Van will be visiting and we are also looking forward to the excursion to commemorate the Bi-centenary of the crossing of the Blue Mountains.

I’d like to wish families a safe and happy holiday. Safe travelling and safe holiday activities everyone (I’ll see you back at school on the 1st of May, don’t forget school photos on this day).

School Photos

Don’t forget to return the school photo order envelopes for this year’s photos.
Stewart House fundraiser

Thank you to those students who have purchased a Stewart House handball. We still have a few balls left that are available from the office.

There will be a collection of used clothing later in the year which also helps to raise valuable funds for Stewart House.

Congratulations to William Cohen who is the Reader of the Month for BOOST and Support. Keep up the great work William!

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests? NAPLAN is measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians have the literacy and numeracy skills that provide the critical foundation for other learning and for their productive and rewarding participation in the community.

The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and which areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

The 2013 NAPLAN tests will be held from 14-16 May.

- Tuesday 14 May – Language Conventions (Spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- Wednesday 15 May – Writing
- Thursday 16 May – Numeracy
- Friday 17 May – Catch up day for any students who were away on any of the other test days.

Hand Foot and Mouth Disease

We have had one suspected case of hand foot and mouth disease recently in the school community. It is important to remember that despite the name there is no connection between the Foot and Mouth virus that affects cattle.

The following information regarding Hand Foot and Mouth disease comes from NSW Health and further information can be obtained by visiting http://www0.health.nsw.gov.au/factsheets/infectious/handfootmouth.html

What is hand, foot and mouth disease?

- It is usually not a serious illness and occurs mainly in children under 10 years of age but can occur in older children and adults.

- Blisters that start as red dots and later become ulcers. Blisters appear inside the cheeks, gums and on the sides of the tongue as well as on the hands and feet.

- Sometimes children can have a low fever, irritability, sore throat, tiredness, feel off colour and have a loss of appetite for a day or two.

- Very rarely the virus can affect the lining of the brain and spinal cord (known as viral meningitis).

How can it be prevented?

- Good hygiene; washing hands with soap and water after going to the toilet, before eating, after wiping noses.
Avoid sharing cups, eating utensils, towels, toothbrushes and clothing (especially socks and shoes).

Cough and sneeze into a tissue or your elbow (rather than your hands). If you use a tissue put it in the bin straight away.

**Tissue donations**

We are asking for donations of boxes of tissues for our classrooms in preparation for the “cold and ‘flu” season. Mrs. Ellery’s class can fill us in on the correct way to use tissues and the advantages of their use! We would greatly appreciate it if each family could donate a box or two of tissues for their classroom.

**Our website has been updated**

The annual school report for 2012 is now available on our website for parents interested in reading an account of Zig Zag’s performance last year.

Mrs. Savath has updated the photos on our school website, make sure that check out the new folders of photos under the **Galleries** tab they are excellent.

Don’t forget that the newsletter can be found on our school website [www.zigzag-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.zigzag-p.schools.nsw.edu.au) under the Newsletter tab. If you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you each week please send an email to elizabeth.morgan13@det.nsw.edu.au and you will be added to the email list.

**Vicki Gillmore**

**Relieving Principal**

**P&C News**

**Thank you**

The P&C have received a lovely donation of 2 gift boxes of handmade scented candles and burners from Chris Marsland. This wonderful gift will be used as a raffle for Mother’s Day.

**CALENDAR**

**Week 11**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 12/4/13</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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**Term 2**

**Week 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 29/4/13</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 30/4/13</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<td>Wed 1/5/13</td>
<td>Student first day Term 2</td>
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**School Photo Day**

**Community News**

**Holiday Tennis Clinic**

**Venue:** Lithgow Tennis Centre

**Dates:** Mon 15th and Tues 16th April

**Time:** 9am to 12pm

**Cost:** $30 one day $50 both days

Presentation BBQ included on Tuesday 12pm to 1pm. Parents and children welcome to attend from both days. Bring your own racquet, if you don’t have one there will be racquets available to use.

Further enquiries and bookings please contact

Stuart Thompson 0415 655 121
Sue Metcalf 0428 348 376 or 02 6351 2422