Principals Report

Welcome Back

We have had a great start to the 2016 school year. The children have returned to school refreshed and ready for another year of learning. All classes have established their routines and students are already displaying a great attitude and application to class tasks.

Well done boys and girls!

2016 will see the continuation of our established programs and we will continue to focus on developing our students as 21st Century Learners.

The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program has commenced with students cooking this week, the music program will commence next week with Mrs Smith returning and the Literacy Class has commenced providing students with intensive support and extension opportunities.

It is going to be an exciting year at Zig Zag Public School.

Our class structure is as follows:
K/1 – with Mrs Gillmore
2/3 – with Mrs Savath
4/5 – with Mrs Corney
5/6 – with Mrs Ellery

I’d like to extend a warm welcome to our new students:
We have 10 Kindergarten children beginning “Big School”. They are: Tilly, Ginjer, Cheri, Tahlia, Isolde, Josh, Alexander, Eli, Lucas and Junior.

We also have quite a few new faces, these are: Ari, Kaiden, Codey, Morgan, Laura, Charlotte, Harley, Lilli, James and Caleb.

It is so lovely to see how caring and nurturing our students are with the younger children and with new students. Zig Zag Public School is a very special place.

Homework Survey

Staff will be reviewing our Homework Policy and we are asking for parent input to assist us to determine the homework procedures for 2016.

A homework survey is attached to this newsletter. Please complete and return to the office by Thursday 11th February.

Backpack Fitting

The Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA) warns that an overloaded or incorrectly worn backpack can cause shoulder, neck and back pain. When stress is put on the spine, children may lean too far forward, rolling their shoulders and causing a more rounded upper back. When choosing a backpack for school age children the APA recommends the following:

- Wide shoulder straps that are comfortable and sit well on the shoulder
- Waist straps to help transfer some of the load
- A padded back support that allows the backpack to fit snugly on the back.

Reminders

Morning arrivals

We have noticed that some students are arriving very early and are being left before there are any teachers present. Teachers arrive at school at 8.30 am and we ask that parents DO NOT leave their children in the playground until a teacher has arrived. On some days, the General Assistant or workmen may be on site early- however, they are not teaching staff and are NOT responsible for student supervision.

Thank you for your assistance with this child safety issue.

Canteen

Our canteen is up and running again on Wednesdays. Could you please try to send in as close to the correct
There is a current need for more foster carers in the Blue Mountains area.

Wesley Dalmar has a long history of supporting carers who provide care to foster children of all ages. We are a service of Wesley Mission who recruit and support diverse people to become foster carers.

We invite you to work with us and welcome your expression of interest to chat further about what you can do to make a difference.

Contact us today for an information package:
P: 45874200
E: dalmaroohcenquiries@wesleymission.org.au
W: www.wesleymission.org.au/dalmaroohc

**Community News**

**Lithgow City Rangers F.C.** will be holding their 2016 registration days / muster days at the Marjorie Jackson Soccer Complex on Thursday 18th & 25th February from 4:00pm till 5:30pm. Also every Tuesday of February at Rangers Football complex Lidsdale (Castlereagh Hwy next to Wang power station) from 5:30pm to 6:30pm.

Any further information please contact Nigal Lloyd on 0409676019 or 63512697

**Week 3**

- Wed 10/2/16 Music starts
- Fri 12/2/16 District Swimming @ Portland

**Week 4**

- Wed 17/2/16 School Photos

**Week 6**

- Fri 4/3/16 Clean Up Australia Day

**Week 9**

- Fri 25/3/16 Good Friday

**Week 10**

- Mon 28/3/16 Easter Monday
- Fri 1/4/16 Aquarium Excursion

**Make a Difference: Become a Foster Carer Today**

Foster carers make a difference to the future of vulnerable children by providing safe, consistent and loving homes.