



Term 4 – Week 7

Thursday 21st November, 2013

Principal's Report

Education Reforms

As I mentioned in last week's newsletter there are many reforms currently being introduced to improve all aspects of Education for our children.

Below is a flyer from the Department of Education and Communities "A fairer way" which will explain the new RAM funding model which is beginning to be rolled out next year.

It is now more important than ever for parents to keep the school updated with current family and personal information such as address changes, parent employment, health issues and any other changes that may have occurred since enrolling your child.

Families can advise of any changes to this information either by:

- Telephoning the office
- Sending in a short note to the office
- Email any changes to the school email address zig-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

The funding our school receives is based in the information in the school's administration system which is why it is important for us to keep this information as accurate as possible.

The new Resource Allocation Model (RAM)

As part of the Government's Local Schools, Local Decisions Reform a new Resource Allocation Model (RAM) has been developed. The RAM is designed to achieve a simpler, fairer and more transparent distribution of government school funding and change the way resources (Staff and Finances) are managed in our school system.

The RAM provides benefits to schools by:

- * Allocating most funding on a per student basis
- * Ensuring funding is provided to schools is based on the characteristics of those schools and the students within them. This will result in additional schools receiving funding to support students with identified needs. In addition, schools identified as having students with the highest need will be funded at a higher rate.
- * Reducing big changes in a school's resources, e.g. losing a teacher or admin staff member, which is a result of small changes in enrolments. Under the current system, a small change in student numbers can mean a school drops out of a program

and loses a significant amount, or a whole teacher or school executive position.

* Providing increased funding that goes directly to schools. This will make school planning easier from year to year.

* Shifting from the current funding model where schools manage 10% of the total public school education budget to more than 70% being managed by schools.

* Allowing for more flexibility, innovation and decision-making in schools to meet student needs.

Lithgow High School Band Visit

Yesterday a group of very talented musicians visited our school to perform for us.

We were all mesmerised by how talented the students were at singing, playing and setting up the equipment so efficiently.

Thank you to Mrs Burton for bringing the band out to Zig Zag School. We loved singing and dancing along with the music.



Word Mania

The three weeks of the Word Mania competition have drawn to a close. Out of 2600 schools Zig Zag came 114th. A great effort from Blake Brown-Butterworth whose individual score was in excess of 100,000 points! A notable achievement Blake!

Year 6 Fruit Salad Fundraiser

What a great idea Fruit Salad is as a fundraiser. Yummy, healthy and fun! Students enjoyed eating their fruit salad and Year 6 raised over \$90! Year 6 would like to thank you for your support.

School Hats

We are encouraging all students to wear their school hats rather than the "trendy" skate hats or caps. It has been great to see so many hats emerge from the bedroom cupboards.

Students definitely look smart in complete Zig Zag School uniform and it also has a positive impact on student behaviour and the way students play and interact with one another.

Well done everyone.

Reminders

Paint Shirts

Please send in any old shirts for the children to use as paint shirts.

Book Club

Book club orders and money are due **tomorrow, Friday 22nd November**

Lost Property

Don't forget to ask your child to check the lost property before the end of term.

Stewart House

Stewart House bags need to be at school by Wednesday 27th November.

Vicki Gillmore

Relieving Principal

CALENDAR

Term 4

Week 8

Tues 26/11/13

P&C Meeting 1.00pm

Fri 29/11/13

SAKG Dinner

Week 9

Swimming School

Week 10

Swimming School

Mon 11/12/13

Helpers Morning Tea

Week 11

Mon 16/12/13

Carols 5.30pm

Tues 17/12/13

Presentation Day

10.30am

Wed 18/12/13

Kids Party – Last Day of School for Students

Thurs 19/12/13

Staff Development Day

Fri 20/12/13

Staff Development Day

P&C News

This time of the school year is always a very busy one for the P&C.

2014 Calendars Today order forms will be going home for 2014 calendars. This year calendars will feature **either** original student artwork or a whole school photo. They are A4 in size and are month to a view and have space to add all of your family events.

Zig Zag Carols Evening Our carols will be held on the Monday 16th December from 5.30 – 8.30pm in the school grounds.

P&C Meeting we will be having another meeting on Tuesday 26th November at 1.00pm