



**As-salāmu ‘alaykum wa
rahmatullāhi wa barakātuh**

I hope this message finds you all in the best of Islamic spirit.

Alḥamdulillāh, Term 3 has been a highly exciting and busy time for everyone at Zayed College for Girls.

Last week we celebrated Māori Language Week and provided our school community with the opportunity to acknowledge te reo Māori as a taonga and promote its use. It is a time to engage in learning and activities that strengthen our commitment to revitalising the language.

Students have enjoyed a variety of education outside the classroom experiences through different trips this term. They have also been working extremely hard in preparation for their CAA Literacy and Numeracy exams. Currently, our seniors are sitting their derived grade exams, while juniors are focusing on preparing for the e-Asttle assessments.

A special congratulations goes to our two Year 12 scholars, **Yusra Halane** and **Salma Yusufee**, who recently represented Zayed College for Girls alongside **Ustada Suriyya** at the Waipuna Conference Centre. They attended the **Emerging Ethnic Leaders Breakfast**, an event that recognises students from diverse ethnic backgrounds who demonstrate exceptional leadership and service in their schools or communities. This initiative also builds stronger partnerships between students, teachers, schools, and local and central government to help nurture our future leaders.

Our **Spoken Word team** also deserves heartfelt congratulations for their outstanding recent performance. They proudly emerged as **second-place winners**, showcasing their exceptional talent and skills. *Ka pai! Alḥamdulillāh for this great success.*

We are also grateful for the support of **Dr Pennie Togatama**, our Educational Advisor, who has been working closely with staff by providing valuable PLD sessions unpacking the professional teaching standards. Teachers have thoroughly enjoyed these workshops,

which will further strengthen our pedagogical practices. She has also collaborated with a select group of teachers to build collective efficacy in the *Arohimi Leadership space*.

Despite the challenges of the recent partial strike rollouts, we have continued to carry out our work effectively. I encourage all students to use the holiday break to rest, rejuvenate, and also dedicate time to reflect, revise, and review their learning in preparation for the upcoming Term 4 exams.

I would also like to sincerely thank our **Commissioner, Ustada Linley Myers**, the **SLL Team (Ustadas Pennie, Nahla, and Nafisah)**, our dedicated **teachers**, and all **support staff** for their tireless commitment. Your hard work while upholding the school's vision, does not go unnoticed.

May Allah Subhana wa Ta'Ála bless you all and keep you under His care and protection always. Ameen.

As we reflect on the term gone by, let us remember to thank Allah Subhana wa Ta'Ála for His countless blessings. In the Qur'an, Allah reminds us of two essential qualities that shape a believer's life: kindness and gratitude. In **Surah An-Nahl (16:90)**, He commands us to live with justice, goodness, and compassion, forbidding harshness and oppression. At the same time, in **Surah Ibrahim (14:7)**, He promises that if we are grateful, He will increase His blessings upon us.

Together, these verses remind us that true success lies in showing kindness to one another and remaining grateful to Allah Subhana wa Ta'Ála. By practicing these values, we bring harmony to our relationships and barakah into our lives.

Wishing you all restful and blessed holidays. I look forward to connecting with you again in Term 4, in shā' Allāh.

Wa-salāmu ‘alaykum wa rahmatullāhi wa barakātuh
Nga Mihi Nui

Ust Nazmeen Ahmed
Acting Principal



IMPORTANT DATES

- Mon 6 Oct School starts
- Tue 7 Oct Student leader voting begins
- Mon 13 Oct ERO visit**
Wellbeing Week
- Fri 17 Oct Seniors last day - Leavers Assembly
- Mon 20 Oct Year 7 & 8 Trip to Botanical Gardens
- Thu 23,24 Oct Barista Course (selected Year 11)
- Mon 27 Oct Labour Day - Public Holiday
- Fri 31 Oct Year 13 Graduation Dinner
- Sat 1, 2 Nov HALAL EXPO - we will be there!**
Come along and support us!
- Tue 4 Nov NZQA Exams begin
- Mon 17-21 Nov Junior exams/assessments begin
- Tue 25, 26 Nov Book Week Activities
- Fri 28 Nov Teacher Only Day - no school**
- Mon 1 Dec Junior School Trip to Tree Adventures
- Thu 4 Dec Poetry Day
- Tue 9 Dec Prizegiving
- Wed 10 Dec Last day of school
- Fri 12 Dec School Office closes for 2025

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Who’s been showing up, shining bright, and smashing their goals?

We believe that every day counts, and we’re proud to celebrate those who are making the most of their learning opportunities through outstanding attendance.

So let’s give a HUGE round of applause to the Form classes who’ve achieved **over 90% average attendance** for term 3.

This is a fantastic achievement that reflects a strong commitment to learning, routine, and school life — and it deserves to be celebrated!

Pizza Party Time!

Because hard work deserves a slice (or three).

- 7NHD – 93.09%** **10SJA – 91.10%**
- 11SNK – 91.84%** **8ASK – 90.15%**

Thanks for showing up, showing commitment and setting the standard for our school.

Even though you’ve hit over 90% — don’t stop now! Consistency is the key to success. Let’s keep the momentum going into next term!

We also want to acknowledge the efforts of other classes who are close behind – your commitment has not gone unnoticed, and we’re confident you’ll be joining this list next term!

Next term is a fresh start!

With the seniors wrapping up their year, it’s time for the Junior School to lead the way. That means you can set the example with strong attendance, great attitudes and positive behaviour.

Let’s Keep It Up!

Whether you’re in the top group or working to improve, we encourage all students and families to make regular attendance a priority. Let’s aim to finish the year strong.

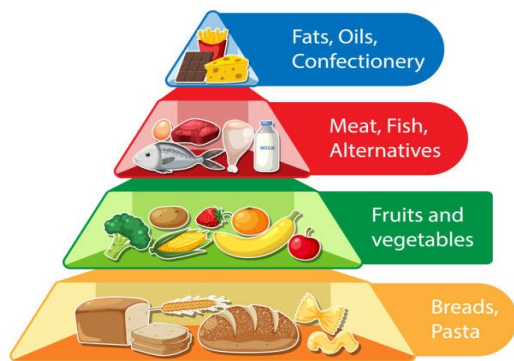
Thank you and thank you to our parents for your continued support in making attendance a shared goal.

JazakumAllah Khayran

Ust Lina Toi

Attendance Officer





PROMOTING A HEALTHY FOOD AND DRINK ENVIRONMENT

We would like to remind you of our Healthy Eating and Nutrition Policy, which outlines expectations around the types of food and drink that support student wellbeing.

You can view the full policy here:

<https://zayedcollege.schooldocs.co.nz/> :Username: zayedcollege / Password: zayed
[Healthy-Food-and-Drink-Guidance-SCHOOLS.pdf](#)

What We Encourage

- Healthy, balanced food and drink options aligned with the Healthy Food and Drink Guidance for Schools.
- Water as the main drink, especially during physical activity.
- Nutritious snacks that support energy and focus.
- Staff modelling healthy eating and drinking habits.
- Respect for cultural, religious, ethical, and special dietary needs.

What We Don't Allow

- Instant noodles, fizzy drinks, energy drinks, chewing gum, lollies, and other high-sugar items.
- Hot drinks/ water, as they are a potential safety hazard. The school does not supply hot water for food.
- Selling of any food or drink items without prior approval through the school's fundraising process

These guidelines also apply to all food and drink provided or consumed during school activities, including class rewards, fundraising events, student prizes, school camps and celebrations.

We appreciate your support in reinforcing these values at home and helping us maintain a positive, health-focused environment for all students.



KAITIAKI SESSIONS FOR YEAR 7 AND 8

Our Kaitiaki sessions for Year 7 and 8 students have been running every Thursday during form period to build strong relationships between students and teachers, helping students feel safe and supported not only within their own groups but also around other classes.

Each term, we engage in activities that bring students closer together and encourage them to care for one another across the school. This term, the focus was on origami, where students learned new skills and showcased their creative work in a display at the end of the term. These sessions have successfully strengthened teamwork, connection, and pride within our school community.

~Ust Asgari Shaikh



FAMILY BONDING

- some thoughts from the Counsellor

Now we are in the school holidays, it's essential to enjoy quality time with our loved ones. In today's busy world, it's easy to fall into repeated patterns of behaviour, but focussing on strengthening family bonding is crucial for our emotional well-being and relationships.

This holiday season, consider planning activities that promote connection and togetherness. Here are some ideas:

- Have a family game night or movie night with popcorn and pizza
- Plan a picnic or outdoor adventure in beautiful nature
- Cook a meal together and enjoy it as a family
- Start a new tradition or ritual
- Go to the Mall together for coffee/hot chocolate/ juice and cake
- Take a trip to the Museum
- Go cycling along the waterfront
- Have meaningful conversations and share gratitude for the many blessings in our lives

By focusing on family, we can:

- Strengthen relationships and build lasting memories
- Create a sense of belonging and support
- Reduce stress and increase feelings of joy

Let's make the most of this opportunity to create a positive, loving environment in which our young people will not only rest and recover from a term of hard work, but also return to school with happy memories of time spent well with family and friends.

~Ust Sandy O'Brien



FAITH IN ACTION

The term ended with a very exciting trip to George Cox Reserve, where our students took part in a community service project to clean the park.

With great enthusiasm, they worked together to collect litter, tidy pathways, and restore the natural beauty of the reserve. The students were all excited to contribute and proud of the positive impact they made.

This trip reflected the Islamic teaching that "removing harmful things from the road is an act of charity" (Sahih Bukhari, Sahih Muslim), as well as the Māori principle of kaitiakitanga — guardianship and care for Papatūānuku (the Earth).

Through this special experience, our students lived the values of service, responsibility, and respect for creation.

~ Ust Asgari Shaikh



20 FORGOTTEN SUNNAH DAILY PRACTICES

Rasulullah ﷺ said, "Whoever holds steadfast to my Sunnah at the time of corruption in my Ummah, will receive the reward of a hundred martyrs."

[Bayhaqi]

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SITTING & DRINKING

Sayyiduna Anas Ibn Maalik reported that Rasulullah ﷺ prevented them from standing and drinking.

[Sahih Muslim]

MATHEX

Sixteen fabulous student mathematicians proudly represented ZCG, Wednesday 20 August and Thursday 21 August 2025 at the Mathex 2025 competition.

Congratulations to the following students who did not place but did extremely well participating against over 70 secondary schools.

Year 10	Year 9	Year 8`	Year 7
Zaynub Chida	Namira Rahman	Zarghuna Siddiqui	Yumna Yazeer
Arousha Ali	Nuha Ishaq	Shazana Siddiqui	Sarah Mussa
Safiyah Patel	Huda Iqbal	Azal Khan	Hanifah Amanullah
Yasmeen Mussa	Habeeba Ali	Minha Haq	Rania Ahmed

Mathex is a challenging mathematics contest where schools from across Auckland compete against each other in teams to answer questions as quickly as possible, with 20 questions completed in 30 minutes.

Upon completing the answer, the team 'runner' literally sprints to the judging table and waits for the 'thumbs up' for a correct answer. If the answer is incorrect, the runner frantically makes their way back to the team, who has to resolve the question. If the answer is correct, the runner brings back the next question to the team ... then runs the answer back to the judges. Making for a fun, frantic event!



TREETOP ADVENTURES - SENIOR STUDENTS

On 13th August, our senior students visited Tree Adventures, a thrilling high-wire adventure park nestled in the treetops of Woodhill Forest. For Year 12 and 13 PE students, this excursion doubled as part of their assessment, while for others it served as a well-deserved fun activity.

The experience was both exciting and rewarding, pushing students to challenge themselves as they navigated courses starting at 2 meters and building up to an impressive 15 meters above the forest floor. Each stage increased in difficulty, with obstacles becoming wobblier, longer, and more demanding, before ending in an exhilarating zip line ride back to the ground.

It was a day filled with teamwork, courage, and plenty of laughter — an unforgettable adventure for all involved!

~Ust Marliya Ismail



UNITED BY FAITH, ENRICHED BY DIVERSITY

A Resounding Success for Cultural Unity Day!

Last month, our school hall was alive with learning and sharing as we celebrated our annual Cultural Unity Day. This year's event was a beautiful testament to the diversity and talent within our student body, focusing on the rich histories and cultures of the Muslim world.

Our amazing students took centre stage, transforming into curators, historians, and chefs for the day. Each group dedicated themselves to creating an immersive experience:

Interactive Stalls showcasing beautiful cultural artefacts, traditional dress, and insightful displays.

Engaging Presentations through powerful speeches, captivating plays, and informative PowerPoints that explored their nation's history, including the significant story of how Islam was introduced and flourished.

A Delicious Feast of traditional foods that offered an authentic taste of home and heritage.

It provided a valuable platform for our students to deepen their understanding of their own roots, to educate their peers about the beauty and depth of their cultures, and to build bridges of respect and unity across our school community.

A heartfelt thank you to every student who poured their energy and creativity into making this day so special. Your dedication to sharing your stories with such pride and elegance is truly inspiring. Thank you also to our teachers and parents for your unwavering support.



A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS:

Year 10 Ethical Enterprise Day Raises Sadaqah and Smiles!

Our annual Market Day was transformed into a truly inspiring Ethical Enterprise Day last week, and what a phenomenal success it was! The school grounds were buzzing with positive energy as our Year 10 students joined forces with our Level 1 Business Studies class, collaborating as budding entrepreneurs. The Year 10 girls showcased their 'Hall of Culinary Delights', offering a wonderful array of delicious treats to the entire school community.

Beyond the incredible smells and flavours, the day was a beautiful lesson in putting our Islamic ethical values into practice. The girls embraced the challenge with honesty in their dealings, appreciation for their customers and teammates, politeness under pressure, and immense patience. Most importantly, they embodied the spirit of yielding to the will of Allah (SWT), understanding that true success lies in sincere effort and righteous intention.

We are thrilled to announce that this joyful and ethical enterprise raised an incredible over \$400 in Sadaqah. The students have collectively decided to contribute these funds towards a water well for Rohingya refugees, with the balance supporting other aid organisations. This means their hard work will provide lasting, life-changing benefits for communities in desperate need.

The day was a perfect example of how entrepreneurship can be a force for good, blending business expertise with faith-based principles to create a truly HAPPY day for all. Congratulations to our remarkable Year 10 students on their outstanding effort and generosity!

H.A.P.P.Y. - Honesty, Appreciation, Politeness, Patience, Yielding to Allah's Will.

~Ust Nasirah Cavaney



ART

Top left: still life, oil pastel ~ Fariza Faheem Year 9

Left: Imaginary tropical garden, Year 8 acrylic paint and black ink ~Nabaa Maqsood, Sabrina Rosath and Aasiyah Omidiji

Top and bottom right: Reduction woodcut Printmaking ~ Tayyibah Yeasin, Year 9

~Ust Glen-Anne Brayshaw

