



Zayed College for Girls

# ZAYED COLLEGE FOR GIRLS

EDUCATE A WOMAN, EDUCATE A NATION

## NEWSLETTER

10 APRIL

2026

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Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu, Kia ora koutou katoa Allah Subhana wa TaÁla reminds us in the Qur'an:

"If you are grateful, I will surely increase you." (Surah Ibrahim 14:7)

As we conclude what has been an exceptionally productive and enriching term, I am pleased to reflect on the many achievements and milestones our school community has celebrated together.

This term has seen a strong and intentional focus on junior literacy and numeracy, with the implementation of e-asTTle and DIBELS assessments. These tools have enabled us to gain valuable insights into student progress, identify learning gaps, and plan targeted next steps. Alongside this, our emphasis on goal setting has empowered students to take ownership of Programme was also implemented in the junior school to enable students to work on their gaps and uplift their achievement.

A highlight of the term was our Parent-Teacher-Student Meetings, which provided a meaningful platform for open dialogue, collaboration, and shared commitment to student success. We sincerely appreciate the continued support from our families in strengthening this important partnership.

Spiritually and culturally, the term was deeply enriched through our observance of Ramadhan. Our Iftaar evening was a beautiful gathering that brought our community together in unity and reflection, followed by joyful Eid celebrations that were filled with gratitude and festivity. As Allah reminds us in the Qur'an: "And He found you lost and guided [you]" (Surah Ad-Duha 93:7). This verse resonates with our mission to guide and nurture our students in both knowledge and faith.

Our students also engaged in a wide range of Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) experiences across several departments, enhancing their learning beyond the classroom walls. Our Year 9–13 students

participated in a memorable and adventurous camp at Hunua Falls, where they demonstrated outstanding resilience, teamwork and enthusiasm. Meanwhile, our Years 7 and 8 students engaged in a series of dynamic adventure sessions, alongside enriching activities such as the development of their Learner Walls, fostering reflection, creativity and a strong sense of ownership over their learning.

Behind the scenes, our dedicated staff have participated in intensive Professional Learning and Development (PLD) sessions and Teacher Only Days (TODs), working diligently to navigate the demands of the new curriculum while continuing to deliver high-quality teaching and robust assessment practices. Their commitment ensures that every student's needs are identified and addressed with care and precision.

We were also pleased to conclude the term with an ERO review, an important opportunity to reflect on our progress and reaffirm our commitment to excellence in education.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue this momentum into Term 2 and beyond. Preparations are already underway for the [Radio Apna 990 Ramadhan Awards Night](#), which will be held in our school auditorium on 2nd May at 6:00pm to acknowledge all the Under 15 International Oratory Winners. We warmly invite all members of our community to attend this prestigious event and celebrate their remarkable achievements. Your presence will be highly appreciated.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to our students, staff, and families for their continued dedication and support. I would also like to acknowledge, with sincere appreciation, our Commissioner Ustada Linley, our proprietors and the Senior Management Team for their unwavering guidance, commitment, and hard work. Wishing you all a restful, safe, and rejuvenating break.

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu  
Nazmeen Ahmad  
Principal

## MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER



In New Zealand, Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) exists to provide students with hands-on, real-world learning that cannot easily be replicated within a traditional classroom.

It is considered a vital part of the New Zealand Curriculum and I understand that 97% of school principals across the country see it as an important part of their school life.

I am delighted that Ustada Nazmeen and her team developed such a well planned and organised series of programmes for our girls in the last week of term. My sincere thanks and gratitude for the wonderful work that has been done.

I watched the Year 7 and 8 girls in school programme and was so pleased to see the high level of engagement in their work and the pleasure they were getting from it. They were working together respectfully and positively and having the chance to engage with other students who they may not necessarily work with every day. It was team building, leadership and collaboration in action!

The girls in Years 9 through to 13 who did not attend camp were also working together and making good choices about the work they believed needed to be prioritised. They, like the younger students, were engaged and happy and there was a sense of camaraderie as they worked alongside and learned from students that they may not often work with.

The teachers certainly dedicated a great deal of time to making meaningful and engaging activities for the girls. I kept in touch with the staff to ensure the camp was going well. Ustada Nazmeen headed out to camp to see for herself the range of activities that the girls were involved in. I know from experience that they had an exciting and challenging time and from the photos and feedback I received, they certainly did!

EOTC "brings the curriculum alive" by allowing students to apply theory to authentic contexts and I am very supportive of it. I would like to thank all of you for considering the benefits of the programme and am hopeful there will be an even bigger uptake in 2027.

Thanks again to you all for your support and a very big vote of thanks to our very dedicated staff for the huge amount of work they have done and for the careful planning and consideration that has gone into making the three days such a big success.

Have a safe and happy holiday.

Linley Myers  
Commissioner.

## PRODUCT DESIGN - YEAR 7

Year 7 students made pendants and keychains in product designs this term. They enjoyed making products for authentic stakeholders. ~Ust Nazia



## UPDATE ON VECTOR ROADWORKS

Work has begun at the northern end of Westney Road (**entry only from Kirkbride Road onto Westney Road**) and is expected to continue until early May 2026. Plans are to work through the school holidays to reduce disruption.

Traffic changes during this period:

- One-way detour on Westney Road between Kirkbride Road and the Jet Park Hotel
- Two-way traffic will remain between the Jet Park Hotel and Montgomerie / Timberly Road.
- **There is no right turn from our school driveway, exit via George Bolt Memorial Drive.**

## CLASS PHOTOS

Our annual School Photo Day took place on Wednesday 11 March.

Keycodes were emailed to families by Photolife on the 31st March and you have until Sunday 26th April to order and enjoy free delivery back to school.

If you have any questions or if you have not received a keycode yet, please check your spam first before contacting [admin@zayedcollege.school.nz](mailto:admin@zayedcollege.school.nz).

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

20 Apr	Term 2 starts
26 Apr	Last day to order class photos for free delivery
27 Apr	Anzac Day Observation - public holiday

## END OF TERM ONE –

### ATTENDANCE FOCUS

Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuh, As we come to the end of Term One, we take a moment to reflect on our attendance journey so far. Attendance remains one of our key priorities in 2026, as it directly impacts student learning, wellbeing and success.

#### Our 2026 Attendance Goal

Target: 75% Regular Attendance

Term One Result: 58% Regular Attendance

While we are not yet at our target, this is a strong starting point and gives us clear direction for improvement moving into Term Two.

#### Attendance by Year Level

Year 7: 88.9%      Year 11: 87.4%

Year 8: 83.3%      Year 12: 72.5%

Year 9: 76.9%      Year 13: 76.5%

Year 10: 73.1%

Special acknowledgement to Year 7 and Year 11 for leading the school with strong attendance rates.

#### Attendance by Form Class

7NJN: 94.1%      9MNO: 85.9%      12SNK: 85.1%

8ASK: 92%      10SJA: 83.6%      12GBW: 81.6%

9NHD: 89.4%      11RAI: 93.1%      13MIL: 86.6%

Top Performing Class: 7NJN (94.1%) and strong performances also from 11RAI and 8ASK.

#### Ramadan & Eid Reflection

During Term One, our attendance was impacted by the blessed month of Ramadan and the celebration of Eid — a time that is deeply meaningful for our students and families. We recognise that changes in routine, fasting and late nights can naturally affect attendance and energy levels.

Now that Ramadan and Eid have passed, we look ahead with renewed focus. This is an important opportunity for our students to reset routines, rebuild consistency and prioritise being present at school every day.

Let us carry forward the discipline, patience and commitment developed during Ramadan into our daily school life — striving for excellence in both learning and attendance.

#### Working Together

We thank our families for their ongoing support. To help



The poster is for the 'Radio APNA 990 AM Ramadan Awards Nite 2026'. It features a dark background with a crescent moon, a star, and hanging lanterns. The text is in gold and white. At the top, it says 'apna 990 Am' and 'RADIO APNA'. Below that, 'RAMADHAN AWARDS NITE 2026' is written in large, bold letters, followed by 'Celebrating Excellence & Achievement'. The central focus is 'HONORING APNA U15 International Oratory Winner Zayed College for Girls - Zarghuna Syed'. To the right is a red shield with a white laurel wreath and the motto 'Educate a Woman Educate a Nation'. Below the name, it says 'Hosted by Zayed College for Girls'. Event details include: Date: Saturday, 2nd May 2026; Time: 6:00 PM; Venue: Zayed College Auditorium; Address: 44 Westney Road, Māngere, Auckland. At the bottom, it says 'Your presence will be highly appreciated'.

improve attendance in Term Two, we ask that:

- Absences are communicated by 9:00am via Skool Loop, email, or phone
- Students attend every day unless genuinely unwell
- Appointments are scheduled outside school hours where possible
- Students arrive on time and remain at school for the full day.

If your child is experiencing barriers to attendance, please contact the school — we are here to support you.

Feel free to email me at [linat@zayedcollege.school.nz](mailto:linat@zayedcollege.school.nz) if you have any queries about your daughters attendance or any questions you might have about attendance in general.

Have a great holiday, stay safe and we hope to see you all in Term 2. May Allah Subhana wa Ta'Ala place barakah in our efforts and grant our students success in both their learning and character, Ameen.

~ Ust Lina



## After Ramadan: Carrying the Light Forward

Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu,

As we move beyond Ramadan and the joy of Eid, we take a moment to reflect on a month that softened hearts, strengthened habits, and brought us closer to Allah Subhana wa Ta'Ala.

Ramadan was never just about a set period of time — it was a training ground for the soul. It taught us discipline, patience, gratitude and sincerity. It reminded us that even the smallest acts, when done for the sake of Allah, carry immense weight.

Now comes the most important question of tarbiyah: What remains after Ramadan?

The true success of Ramadan is not only in how we performed during the month, but in what we continue afterwards. The prayers we held onto, the Qur'an we connected with, the kindness we showed and the dua we made — these are the seeds we have planted. Tarbiyah is about nurturing those seeds so they continue to grow.

For our students and families, this is a gentle reminder that consistency matters more than intensity. A small daily habit — a short dua, a few verses of Qur'an, an act of kindness — can keep the spirit of Ramadan alive throughout the year.

Eid was our moment of joy and gratitude — a reminder that after effort comes reward. But the journey of becoming better, of drawing closer to Allah, continues beyond it.

Choose one small habit to hold onto after Ramadan as a family — whether it is reading Qur'an together once a week, making du'a before bed or sharing something you are grateful for each day.

May Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala accept our fasting, prayers and dua. May He allow the light of Ramadan to remain in our hearts and may He grant us the ability to continue growing in faith and character throughout the year.

Ameen.

## QURAN COMPETITION - TERM 2

The annual Quran competition will be held in week 3 and week 4 of term 2. Kindly refer to the posters below.

Also we want to encourage students to participate in either Speech or Calligraphy competitions. Although these activities are for next term, students taking part in the competition need to start preparing from now and

**Zayed College**  
**Quran Competition**

Term 2 2026  
Semi Final: Thursday 7 May - week 3  
Final: Wednesday 13 May - week 4  
Venue: School Gym

1. Beginner hifth - Ad Dhuha to An Naas
2. Intermediate hifth - Surah As Sajdah
3. Advanced hifth - Al Baqarah: 142-190
4. Tilaawah - Surah Yaasin

**Quran Competition Activities**

In conjunction with the 2026 Quran Competition we are organising two activities

<p><b>Speech Competition</b></p> <p>Theme: Characters of Prophet Muhammad s.a.w as our role model</p> <p>4-5 minutes</p> <p>Due date: 13 May</p>	<p><b>Calligraphy Competition</b></p> <p>بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ</p> <p>Due date: 11 May</p>
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**Exciting prizes to be won!**