



ZWAANSWYK ACADEMY

338 MAIN ROAD

RETREAT 7945

E-MAIL: secretary@zwaanswyk.net



TEL.: (021) 712 2051

FAX: (021) 7121047

30 JANUARY 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians

HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY, ZWAANSWYK



Our first history throwback is a reflection.

Our school's name "Zwaanswyk" comes from

the name of the first farm (1682) in the area, "Zwaanswyck aan den Steenberg" which had been given to Catharina Ras by Simon van der Stel. This farm eventually became Steenberg Estate.

When the school first opened in the current building (it was previously a combine High and Primary school in what is now the DP Marais Hospital and called Retreat Skool) on 30 June 1976, at the height of the apartheid unrest,

known then as Laerskool Zwaanswyk, it was intended to serve the local Afrikaans-speaking community during a time of significant growth in the Southern Suburbs. The motto of the school was "ex cultu vires", translated to "uit kultuur kom krag".

The badge, still in use to this day, was designed by the first principal, Dr H.M. Daleboudt. His stated desire was that "the white swan upon the blue waters will remain a symbol of purity and pride".

The first principal in our current building, Mr A. R. Hayward, will be invited to some of our birthday celebrations.

Next week we'll explore briefly how we became Zwaanswyk Academy.

See you at the picnic tomorrow!!

Zwaanswyk Academy
The Home of Purpose-Driven Educational Excellence

TO INFINITY AND BEYOND

EXCELLENCE FAIRNESS INCLUSION FRIENDSHIP HONESTY RESPECT
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INTER – HOUSE ATHLETICS

The inter-house athletics meet yesterday was again both a competitive and fun event! Thank you to the many Parents and Grandparents who were able to be present.

Final results

1 st	BLUE	492
2 nd	RED	383
3 rd	YELLOW	373
4 th	GREEN	337

PICNIC TIME! 31 JAN @ 3PM

We kick off our birthday celebrations with a **Family and Alumni Picnic** for both current learners and alumni (and past parents, learners, teachers, everybody!!)

We have some exciting musicians lined up for the event, alongside our own

musicians. Look out for Matthew Mentor (see him on the music circuit, and a host of home-grown talent).

Games, fun, face-painting, and just relaxing while spending quality time with family and meeting up with friends. It's going to be epic!!

There is no charge, but there will be food on sale from vendors.



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GRADE 1 AND SIBLING PHOTOGRAPHS

The Grade 1 and Sibling photographs will be taken on Tuesday 03 February 2026. Parents are asked to ensure that the correct and full uniform is worn.

Parents are asked to check with drivers whether they have valid PDP's. As Parent who entrusts your child to a driver, this is the responsible thing to do.

TRANSPORT OPERATORS MEETING



The Transport Meeting was well attended and proved very fruitful and insightful.

Thank you to those who attended. There were no apologies tables, and so transporters who did not attend will not be issued with an admission disk next week.

It is important to note that any person driving children to and from school for financial gain must, regardless of the type of vehicle used, be in possession of the requisite PDP.



It is painfully sad that there are still many people who find it too much effort to turn in the designated area,

making very dangerous U-TURNS. This puts themselves and many others in danger, and is a huge inconvenience to Parents who are mindful of others. This morning a Parent making a U-Turn drove into one of the poles!

We have had two reports this week of near-accidents in the Main Road because of Zwaanswyk Academy

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Parents doing U-turns. Incredibly dangerous.

It is worth noting that two motorcyclists lost their lives in separate accidents just outside the school because of U-Turns.

The Traffic Department will be on duty, at our request, to monitor the driving behaviour outside our school.

PLEASE LIMIT THE DROP-OFFS



A heartfelt appeal to Parents to please limit the number of drop-offs. Every drop-off

has a ripple effect, and we ask (again) that these be kept to a minimum. Thank you so much for your cooperation in this regard.

LIFE MATTERS NEED YOU!

The Life Matters Foundation, is an educational Non-Profit Organisation operating in the Southern Suburbs. Our Mission is to provide holistic support in the form of academic (Literacy and Numeracy) and life skills intervention, so that all children are intellectually, emotionally and socially equipped to reach their full potential and become active citizens.

<https://lifemattersfoundation.org>

We rely on volunteers to do one-on-one tutoring with struggling Grade 2 learners in our seven underprivileged beneficiary schools. Our Numeracy programme is in need of volunteers and so we're appealing to you to please place an advert in your next newsletter, calling for additional volunteers to offer 1-3 hours per week, on a regular basis, between

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9am and 12pm from Monday to Thursday. Tutors will help build BASIC (Grade 1 and 2) numeracy skills.

IN PRAISE OF GOD



OLD MIRRORS!!



What to do with old or unwanted or unused mirrors?

Donate them to Zwaanswyk Academy where they will be recycled and transformed into an exciting, inspirational display. Thank you so very much.

GLORY GLORY MAN U . . . D



I am aware that there are many who, after a weekend of spectacular football (we'll ignore midweek games) will expect me to say something about two spectacular wins against two top sides. I will, however, not say anything about the two matches that Manchester United won against two top sides!!

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FOR YOUR 1st TERM DIARY

JANUARY	
VALUE	LEADERSHIP
	Birthday: Ms C. Assur
07 Jan	Birthday: Ms L. v d Meulen
12 Jan	School starts for Staff Induction of new teachers Phase meeting 1—3pm
13 Jan	Birthday: Ms I Abrahams Assistants Meeting @ 9am Gr 4 Orientation @ 11am—12.30pm Staff Meeting @ 1pm
14 Jan	School starts for Learners Dismissal: FP @ 1pm & ISP @ 1.30pm Committees meet @ 1.30pm
15 Jan	Dismissal: FP @ 1pm & ISP @ 1.30pm SMT @ 1.30pm
16 Jan	Dismissal: FP @ 12.30pm & ISP @ 10pm Staff Meeting

17 Jan	Gr 1 Parent Meeting 9—11am
19 Jan	Sport & Culture Sign-up
21 Jan	Parent Meeting: Grade R Parent Meetings: Grades 5—7 @ 6.30pm
24 Jan	Gr 2 Parent meeting @ 9-11am
26 Jan	Sport & Culture Programme starts
27 Jan	Birthday: Ms A Crowster Gr R Individual + siblings Photos 10 Day Survey
28 Jan	Transporters Meeting @ 8.15am
29 Jan	Inter House Athletics (all welcome)
30 Jan	Gr 7 Workshop
31 Jan	Gr 3 Parent Meeting @ 9am L1 Netball Coaching Course
VALUE	COMPASSION
01 Feb	L 1 Netball Coaching Course
02 Feb	Book Bus Visit

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03 Feb	Gr 1 Individual & sibling photos Book Bus Visit
04 Feb	WORLD READ ALOUD DAY METRO visit
05 Feb	Gr 2-4 Individual & sibling photos Staff Photo METRO visit
06 Feb	Student Council Braai Inspection Day
10 Feb	Birthday: Mrs J Kirby Gr 5 HPV inoculations
13 Feb	Birthday: Ms Van Deventer Student Council Event
14 Feb	Pre Level Netball Coaching Course Student Council Camp Valentines Day
19 Feb	METRO visit
20 Feb	Student Council Assembly
27 Feb	Bathroom Civvies @ R10
28 Feb	Birthday: Mr G Prins (29 th Feb)
VALUE	HONESTY

02 March	Start of Test series Textbook retrieval
03 March	OPEN DAY Music Concert @ 6.30pm
04 March	METRO Visit
05 March	Birthday: Ms J Elliott METRO Visit
06 March	Gr 4 Assembly
10 March	Birthday: Ms Timmie School Admission Applications Open
13 March	COLOUR ASSEMBLY Finalise textbook retrieval
14 March	L1 & L2 Netball Umpires Course
18 March	METRO Visit
19 March	METRO Visit
20 March	Eid ul Fitr
21 March	Public Holiday: Human Rights Day
24 March	SURF WALK
25 March	Parent/Teacher meetings & Report Issue
27 March	End of Term 1
31 March	Birthday: Ms T Overmeyer

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Just because you haven't found your
talent yet doesn't mean you don't
have one.

Kermit the Frog



**CALLING ALL
FORMER ZWA
SCHOLARS &
STAFF (1976–2026)!**

Were you a learner or
teacher at ZWA between
1976 and 2025?

Then we're looking for YOU to be part
of something special!

As we prepare to celebrate 50 YEARS
OF ZWA, we are building our official
Alumni Network and would love for
you to be part of it.

- ✓ Like our Facebook page
- ✓ Fill in the Google Form to join
the ZWA Alumni community

Let's reconnect, celebrate our legacy,
and make history – together.

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TRANSPORTERS MEETING

Held 28 JANUARY 2026 @ 08.15am

1. All vehicles to be road worthy, free of rust, safe, etc.
2. All vehicles to be fully compliant with the requirements for the transporting of learners.
3. All drivers to be properly licensed, with PDP. Even drivers with "ordinary" vehicles.
4. All drivers to obey the traffic laws at all times.
5. No overcrowding of vehicles allowed.
6. Learners should not travel in the boot (luggage compartment) of vehicles, whether cars, kombi's or bakkies, etc.
7. No loud music at any time. You are the image of our school. Music should have a calming rather than excitable effect.
8. Should a driver be late for whatever reason, please accompany the learners to the secretary's office to sign them in.
9. The vehicle is an extension of the school.
10. No Cell phone usage in vehicles.
11. Learners to be picked up timeously.
12. Drivers are not to interfere with class or extra-mural times and routines.
13. Learners to cross at pedestrian crossing. Drivers to be out of vehicle to escort learners.
14. Drivers to collect learners on pavement when collecting, and guide learners across pedestrian.
15. Drivers are to ensure that all learners are on board before leaving.
16. Drivers are not disciplinarians. Any incidents involving learners other than those you're transporting, should be reported to the school.

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17. Drivers must drop-and-go. The school ground is not a meeting place.
18. Entry and exit through the school gate.
19. No driving under the influence of alcohol or any other intoxicating substance, as per prevailing law.
20. Drivers are not to engage in conversation critical of the school.
21. Any issues should be addressed directly with the school.
22. Only transporters with a valid 2026 school issue disc will be allowed on to the campus. Vehicles not displaying the disc will not be allowed in.
23. Transporting of learners to and from school is an essential service. Thank you for doing this in a responsible and caring way.
24. It is the responsibility of the parents to inform drivers of any change in the school programme, although we will include registered drivers in our communication.
25. No U-turns.



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