



ZWAANSWYK ACADEMY

338 MAIN ROAD

RETREAT 7945

E-MAIL: secretary@zwaanswyk.net



TEL.: (021) 712 2051

FAX: (021) 7121047

27 FEBRUARY 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians

OUR TEACHERS ARE STRUGGLING...

Our teachers are struggling. Not because of the overwhelming weight of expectation and delivering the curriculum in a way that confirms excellence, but because there is a distinct sense that parental support and cooperation are not always visible. Teachers are constantly disrupted by learners arriving late, by lunch and homework drop-offs, by claims that clothes have been "stolen" (only to be found at lost and found), that homework is not supervised or books signed, and so much more. Teachers are also struggling, especially in the inception grades, with learners not being respectful, not being able to wait

their turn, not listening to instructions. We are struggling because a parent feels it's ok to block off an access road to drop off children. Or to tell the school to make travel arrangements for a child because that child has to stay for Friday detention because of not doing homework for 6 days!

These may seem relatively petty things, but, multiplied, they become very big things.

The school is not the place where manners are taught. That is done at home and enhanced at school. The school is not the place where respect is taught. That is done at home, and enhanced at school. The correct upbringing of any child is the role of Parent, of home. Not of school. Backchatting and disrespect are not cute. Getting everything you want

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when you want it is not learning respect or manners. Not having to look up from the cellphone when parent is talking to you is not teaching respect. Allowing 6-year-olds to watch videos or movies intended for mature audiences is not good parenting.

Thank you to the vast majority of Parents who are really very mindful of how they raise their children. Let us all look at our current practice, evaluate, and change where needed. We can be punctual. We can make sure that everything is packed in. We can teach the child responsibility by not running after him or her – with lunch, with homework, with anything. We can demonstrate respect and compassion. We can.

Our teachers are struggling...



FLAG BEARERS: 20 Feb 2026

(assembly prepared done and presented by Student Council)

Learner	GR	Citation
LEVI HOFFMAN	4	For making it to the second round in athletics. Your teachers say they are very proud of you!
CONNOR PETERSEN BLAINE ABRAHAMS BENAYA NGOMA PRESLEY TSIMUENA	5	These four learners are acknowledged and congratulated for their outstanding achievement in qualifying for the District Championships. We wish you the very best and we are extremely proud of you.
AZAARAH DEMAS	6	For always working well, giving of her best, taking pride in her work, and for always being willing to help.

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Peyton-Leigh Smith	7	For showing courage and strength. Her positive attitude and bright smile reminded us all that even when things are hard, we can choose hope, kindness, and strength
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Well done to the Student Council for presenting a very good assembly!!

SOME MORE HISTORY: THE 5 ZWAANSWYK PRINCIPALS



Zwaanswyk Academy has had 5 principals since 1976. The first principal of the "new" Laerskool Zwaanswyk in 1976 was **Mr Ambro**

Hayward (whom we hope to have at our celebrations later in the year). Mr Hayward was succeeded by the late **Ms**

Breggie Nel (many will remember her from the speech choir eisteddfod). The library was named after her. **Mr Wilhelm Dreyer** (whom we also hope to have present) was the third principal. When he retired in 2006, the late **Mr Godfried Olivier**, a retired principal at the time, was appointed in a caretaker capacity. The fifth and current principal, **Mr Anthony Adams**, was appointed in January 2007.

Some more trivia:

The longest serving educator at the school is **Mrs Helen Steyn**, who started in 2000. She was appointed as Deputy Principal in 2010.

Tannie Sandra Koen, head of the Aftercare, also started in 2000.

Mr Robert Dullaart is the second longest serving Zwaanswyk Academy educator

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– one day longer than the current principal!

Mrs Steyn is an SA sprinter!

Mr Africa is a qualified lawyer!

Mr Mathys played rugby for the Maties!

Miss Van played action netball for WP!

Mr Francis is a WP sprinter!

Mrs Whiskey was head girl at Elswood High School

Mr Timm was head boy at Mondale High School

experiencing any challenge with vision, please inform the teacher via the diary.

THANK YOU FOR LOOKING AFTER OUR TEXTBOOKS

Thank you, Parents and Learners, for looking after our textbooks. In January we issued **3118** textbooks, each covered with firm plastic and in good condition. We trust that all of these will be returned at the end of each term.

THE OPTOMETRIST VISITS



We were informed this afternoon that an optometrist will be visiting on Monday to test our childrens' vision. If your child is

SENSORY SAVVY WORKSHOP: 03 March 2026

In our quest to better serve our learners, teachers will be trained in how best to support the diverse needs of learners.

Learners will be **dismissed at 1.30pm on Tuesday 03 March 2026** to allow

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teachers to attend this 2 ½ hour workshop presented by Beacon LSEN (Learners with special educational needs) School.

OUTREACH VIST TO ZERILDA PARK PRIMARY

Last year, Zwaanswyk Academy launched a meaningful initiative to collect stationery and toiletry items in order to create 160 ZWA Care Packs for learners in need. This project would not have been possible without the incredible generosity and compassion of our school community.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to our parents, learners, and staff who donated so willingly and generously to this cause. Your kindness truly reflects the spirit of service and unity that defines Zwaanswyk Academy.

On 19 February, a group of our learners and teachers had the privilege of visiting Zerilda Park Primary School.

During this visit, they were able to engage with, encourage, and personally hand over 160 care packs to the Grade 3 learners. The experience was both humbling and deeply moving.

Seeing the joy on the children's faces and sharing moments of connection reminded us how powerful small acts of kindness can be. It also gave our learners an opportunity to understand the importance of gratitude, empathy, and giving back to others.

We returned to Zwaanswyk Academy with grateful hearts and a renewed appreciation for all that we have. This outreach not only blessed the learners of Zerilda Park Primary School but also enriched our own learners in ways that will remain with them for a long time.

Thank you once again to our amazing school community for making this project a success. Together, we are shaping learners who care, who serve, and who make a difference.

Regards,

D. Timm and Committee

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LOIS HENDRICKS' (5C) (unedited)

REPORT ON THE ZERILDA PARK VISIT

On Thursday 19 February I was privileged to experience handing out stationery and toiletry packs to kids that don't have these basic needs. I was shocked to see the number of kids in one classroom which were +-40 kids. We have grass to play on and so much space, but they have to play in a quad because of the shooting that happens during the day. The kids were respectful and their uniforms were neat and tidy.

I am grateful to be a learner at Zwaanswyk Academy and appreciate the efforts from the teachers and Mr Adams that are put in to make sure us as learners have the proper foundation to move forward in life.

I will never take things for granted anymore after my experience I had yesterday.

Thank you.

Lois Hendricks (5C)

THANK YOU, Grade 4 Parents

A big THANK YOU to the Grade 4 parents for attending our Parent – Teacher meeting this week. It was an insightful meeting, with Parents and Teachers hearing and listening to concerns from Parents and Teachers.

ASSESSMENT WEEK – no extra-murals

Our first term test series starts on Monday 02 March 2026. Parents are encouraged to ensure that learners prepare optimally for the week.

To allow for total focus, there will be no extra-mural activities for the week. The extra-mural programme will resume on 09 March.

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Learners will be dismissed at the normal times for the week (except for Tuesday 03 March at 1.30pm)



SGB BI-ELECTION: 12 March 2026

The bi-election to elect three members to the Zwaanswyk Academy School Governing Body is scheduled for 12 March 2026.

We are fortunate to have three nominees. According to the rules governing the elections, there is now no need for an election to take place. The Electoral Officer will communicate the process further.

OPEN DAY: TUESDAY 03 MARCH 2026

Our annual OPEN DAY for Parents and Guardians who are looking to place learners in schools in 2027, will be held on Tuesday 03 March 2027 at 9am. All welcome.

ZWAANSWYK
ACADEMY

**ZWAANSWYK
ACADEMY
OPEN DAY 2026**

Zwaanswyk Academy welcomes prospective parents seeking to enroll their child for the 2027 Academic Year to our Annual Open Day.

3 MARCH 2026

9AM TILL 10:30AM

Call Us
021 712 2051

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WE NEED COACHES!



the school.

We need (qualified) coaches for our netball, rugby and cricket teams. If you know of a capable coach able to add meaningfully to our sports programme, please contact

the most lists to school!! The learner will be collected at home and driven to school!!

EISTEDDFOD MATTERS



It's time to get ready for

participation in the annual Afrikaans Eisteddfod! Please look out for the letter and entry forms. Zwaanswyk Academy has a proud history of participation which is part of our efforts to get learners to improve Afrikaans.

FARM, FIT & FUN FEST: 23 March

Our Surf Walk has, sadly, had to be replaced because of construction at Muizenberg Beach. The replacement, though, is the wonderfully named **Farm, Fit & Fun Fest**, a day filled with absolute fun!!

In addition to the normal prizes, **Kia Diep**



River has offered to chauffeur the learner who returns

SAVE THE DATE! 24 APRIL 2026:

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS CONTINUED!

As part of our birthday celebrations, we will have a **Karaoke Party** on 24 April 2026. This promises to be great fun as

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we invite all alumni to be present. R100 per ticket. Birthday paraphernalia will be on sale.



On 06 May 2026 we will host a tea for Zwaanswyk

Academy/Laerskool Zwaanswyk Primary School Alumni. If you know of anyone who has been part of the history of the school, please inform us.

CONGRATULATIONS, MRS WHISKEY

Please join us in congratulating Miss Assur who got married last weekend! All the very best, Mrs Whiskey. May the cup of happiness overflow in your union.

BEST WISHES

We wish our Christian families a blessed Lenten season, and our Muslim families a blessed month of Ramadan.



SANITISING

With "the bug" being prevalent all over Cape Town, and with many of our learners and staff being affected, we thought it best to sanitise the whole school. The sanitising will happen this afternoon.



Parents are urged to keep learners who are showing symptoms of not being well, at home. This will help prevent further cross infection.

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U – TURNS: Please do not do this.



U-Turns – still happening (sad face), causing traffic flow to be halted.

PLEASE LIMIT THE DROP-OFFS



There has been a remarkable decline in the number of drop-offs. Thank you so very much. This is really appreciated. *(If only we could say the same about the U-turns! (sad face))*

SPORT

• ATHLETICS

Last Saturday 16 of our qualifying athletes competed proudly in the South District Athletics

Championships in Blue Downs. We are very happy to report that **Kacey Solomons**, 1200m, **Presley Tshimana**, HJ, **Kenyah Frank**, discuss & SP, and **Blaine Abrahams**, LJ, all qualified for selection to the Metro South District Team to compete in the inter district competition this weekend! Well done!!

• CHESS

We are also extremely proud of **Tristan Felix**, **Dinah Barron**, **Ethan Willard**, **Liam Madamombe** and **Kieran van Wyk** who qualified to represent Metro South District in Chess. Well done!!

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CRICKET RESULTS

Date	17.02.2026		
AGE GROUP	U12		
HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM		
ZWA	Simon vd Stel		
Runs	57	Runs	54
Wkts	1	Wkts	4
Result: ZWA won by 9 wkts			
Top batsman: Luca Davies, 29			
Top bowler: Luca Davies			
POM: Luca Davies			

Date	18.02.2026		
AGE GROUP	U11		
HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM		
ZWA	BAY PRIMARY		
Runs	44	Runs	40
Wkts	2	Wkts	3
Result: ZWA won by 8 wkts			
Top batsman: Sithasolwazi Makasi			
Top bowler: Mason Daniels			
POM: Mason Daniels			
Date	25.02.2026		
AGE GROUP	U11		
HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM		
MITCHELLS PLAIN HUB	ZWA		
Runs	10 5	Runs	32
Wkts	3	Wkts	1
Result: MPH won by 73 runs			
Top batsman: Sithasolwazi Makasi			
Top bowler: Presley Tshimuena			
POM: Sithasolwazi Makasi			

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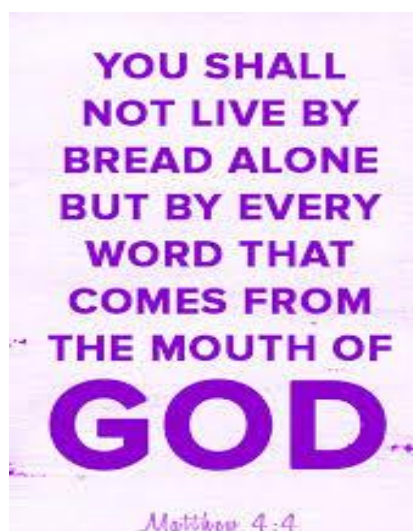
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Date	26.02.2026		
AGE GROUP	U13		
HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM		
ZWA	Heathfield		
Runs	33	Runs	37
Wkts	8	Wkts	0
Result : SAH won by 9 wkts			
Top batsman: Dorian Barron,6			
Top bowler: Connor Brown (2overs,14runs,0wkts)			
POM: Christian Chaola			

Date	17.02.2026		
AGE GROUP	U12		
HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM		
ZWA	Simon vd Stel		
Runs	57	Runs	54
Wkts	1	Wkts	4
Result: ZWA won by 9 wkts			
Top batsman: Luca Davis, 29			
Top bowler: Luca Davis			
POM: Luca Davis			

IN PRAISE OF GOD



Date	24.02.2026		
AGE GROUP	U12		
HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM		
ZWA	St Augustine Hub		
Runs	66	Runs	67
Wkts	3	Wkts	3
Result : SAH won by 9 wkts			
Top batsman: Luca Davis (18runs,3x4s,1x6)			
Top bowler bowlers: Evan Small (1over,3runs,1wkt)			
POM: Luca Davis			

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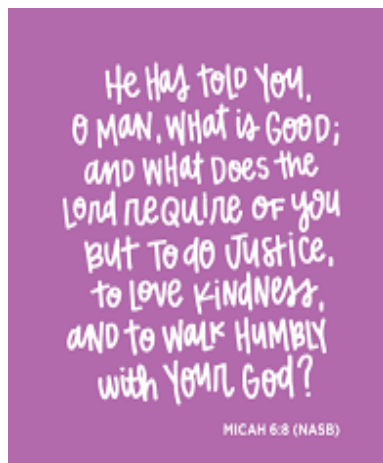
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FOR YOUR 1st TERM DIARY

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

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VALUE	COMPASSION
01 Feb	L1 Netball Coaching Course
02 Feb	Book Bus Visit
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 Valentines Day Event
14 Feb	Pre-Level Netball Coaching Course
19 Feb	METRO visit
20 Feb	Student Council Assembly
27 Feb	Bathroom Civvies @ R10
29 Feb	Birthday: Mr G Prins (29th Feb)

VALUE	HONESTY
02 March	Start of Test series Textbook retrieval No Extra-murals this week
03 March	OPEN DAY Sensory Savvy Workshop for Educators No Extra-murals this week Dismissal at 1.30pm
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 Music Concert @ 6.30pm
13 March	Grade 4 ASSEMBLY Finalise textbook retrieval
14 March	L1 & L2 Netball Umpires Course

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18 March	METRO Visit
19 March	METRO Visit
20 March	Eid ul Fitr Colour Assembly
21 March	Public Holiday: Human Rights Day
23 March	Farm, Fit & Fun Fest
24 March	SURF WALK – unable to go ahead because of construction on Muizenberg beach
25 March	Parent/Teacher meetings & Report Issue

27 March	End of Term 1
31 March	Birthday: Ms T Overmeyer

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

Kermit the Frog

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**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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