

# Zahra Grammar School Newsletter

— Term 1 – Issue 1 | 2026 —



## Principal's Message

*Dr Gulzar Khan*

Dear Parents and Carers,  
Assalāmu 'Alaikum Wa Rahmatullāhi Wa Barakātuh,

It is my great pleasure to welcome all students, parents, staff and members of the Zahra Grammar School community to Term 1 of the 2026 academic year. As we begin another year of learning and growth, we remain committed to providing an educational environment that nurtures academic excellence, strong character and Islamic values. With the continued support of our families and the dedication of our staff, we look forward to another productive and successful year for our school community.

### **Staff Development and Leadership**

One of our key priorities for 2026 is strengthening our staff structure and supporting professional development. I am pleased to share that many of our teachers have now achieved Proficient Teacher accreditation, reflecting their commitment to maintaining high professional standards and delivering quality teaching and

learning experiences for our students. We have also welcomed several highly dedicated new teachers who bring valuable expertise and enthusiasm to our school. At the same time, we have recognised the hard work and dedication of our existing staff members by assigning them new leadership and curriculum responsibilities. These developments will help further strengthen our academic programs and support the continued growth of our students.

### **Transition to Subject-Based Teaching**

This year marks an important step in the academic development of our school. For years 5 and 6, we are gradually moving from classroom-based teaching towards subject-based teaching. This approach will help prepare our students for secondary education and provide them with a learning experience that more closely reflects the structure of high school education.

This transition is part of our broader vision of establishing our high school program next year, Inshā'Allah.

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Address: 44-48 Westmoreland Rd, Minto NSW 2566

## **High School Expansion**

For the first time, Zahra Grammar School has formally informed the NSW Department of Education of our intention to commence secondary schooling. Our plan is to begin with Year 7 in 2027 and then expand the program by adding one year level each year until we offer a full high school program. This development represents an important milestone for our school and reflects the long-term vision we have for the growth of Zahra Grammar School.

## **Update on the New Campus**

Many parents have asked about the progress of our new campus project, and I am pleased to provide an update.

Due to the scale of the development, which is expected to exceed twenty million dollars, we have pursued the State Significant Development Application pathway through the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure. This process requires extensive consultation, technical reports and compliance with multiple regulatory requirements.

After working with a number of consultants over several years, we reached the final stage of submission. However, shortly before submission, Fire and Rescue NSW released new bushfire mapping which placed the project close to non-compliance with bushfire safety requirements. As a result, we were required to redesign elements of the architectural plans, which caused additional delays.

Alhamdulillah, all required work has now been completed and the project is ready for submission. We are hopeful that development consent will be granted before the end of 2026.

Once approval is received, our plan is to install demountable classrooms on the new site so that we can begin operating from there, Inshā'Allah.

As the construction of the permanent buildings will require significant funding, we may operate from portable facilities for some time while the funding for the full development is arranged.

In the long term, our current campus will continue to operate and is expected to become the co-educational high school campus.

## **Ramadan Community Iftar**

During the blessed month of Ramadan, the school hosted a community Iftar dinner which was very well attended by parents, staff, students and members of the wider community. The evening provided a wonderful opportunity for families and staff to come together and strengthen our sense of community.

I would like to sincerely thank everyone who worked hard to organise this event. We received very positive feedback from parents and we hope to continue this as a regular feature of our school calendar during Ramadan in the coming years, Inshā'Allah.

## **Student and Staff Wellbeing**

At Zahra Grammar School we recognise that student success is closely connected to wellbeing. For this reason, we will be placing greater emphasis this year on supporting the mental health and wellbeing of both our students and staff.

As part of this initiative, the school is planning to engage a qualified school counsellor who will be able to provide professional support and guidance where required. Our aim is to ensure that our school continues to be a supportive and caring environment where every student feels safe and valued.

Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Education  
Education is rapidly evolving as new technologies become part of everyday learning. Across Australia, schools are increasingly exploring how artificial intelligence can support teaching,

***"Our goal is to nurture students who are academically capable, morally responsible and prepared to contribute positively to society."***



*“With the continued support of our families and the dedication of our staff, we look forward to another successful year.”*

learning and school administration. The challenge for schools today is not whether to adopt AI, but how to use it responsibly and effectively to enhance learning outcomes.

At Zahra Grammar School we recognise that AI can assist teachers in planning lessons, supporting differentiated learning and improving communication systems within the school. At the same time, it is important that students continue to develop independent thinking, creativity and strong academic integrity.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we begin the new academic year, we remain committed to providing high quality education within a strong Islamic framework. Our goal is to nurture students who are academically capable, morally responsible and prepared to contribute positively to society.

I would like to sincerely thank our parents and carers for their continued support and partnership. With the dedication of our staff and the enthusiasm of our students, we look forward to another year of growth and achievement for Zahra Grammar School.

May Allah bless our efforts and grant success to all our students.

Wassalāmu ‘Alaikum Wa Rahmatullāhi Wa Barakātuh.

Dr Gulzar Khan

Principal

Zahra Grammar School

## **Head of Policy & Compliance**

ASLKM and Ramadan Mubarak,

I am honoured to introduce myself as the Head of Policy and Compliance at Zahra Grammar School. For the past 37 years, I have worked in education as a high school teacher, Coordinator, High School Deputy Principal, and Head of Policy and Compliance.

I have been passionate about education for many years and am eager to build upon the incredible work that this school community has already accomplished.

In my role, I oversee the

implementation of school policies and procedures and ensure an ongoing compliance with NESAs requirements and other regulatory bodies for registration and accreditation.

My mission is to ensure that our school remains compliant with all policies and procedures, and this cannot be achieved without your support. I kindly request that all parents follow the school procedures regarding student attendance. Regular attendance at school is essential for your child’s success, and there is a clear connection between consistent attendance and positive learning outcomes.

Ensuring that students attend school and actively engage in learning is a shared responsibility. As parents, you play a vital role in making sure your child attends school every day.

I am also currently working towards the establishment of the secondary school. Insha’Allah, we will provide further updates in future newsletter editions.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Ms Sameema Ali

Head of Policy and Compliance

# Ramadan School Community Iftar

## Ramadan School Community Iftar

On Wednesday 4th March, Zahra Grammar School had the pleasure of hosting a special School Community Iftar, bringing together families, students and staff to share in the blessings of Ramadan.

The evening was a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together in a warm and welcoming environment. Parents, students and staff gathered to break their fast, enjoy a meal together and spend time connecting with one another.



***“Our school community came together to share the blessings of Ramadan and strengthen our sense of unity.”***

It was lovely to see so many members of our community attend and share in the spirit of Ramadan. Events like these help strengthen the sense of unity and belonging within our school, and provide a meaningful opportunity for families to connect outside of the classroom.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and contributed to making the evening such a memorable and enjoyable event for our Zahra Grammar School community. May this Ramadan continue to bring blessings, reflection and togetherness to all.



# Kindergarten

*Mrs Hamdash & Mrs Zaarour*

Dear Parents,

It has been a wonderful start to the year in Kindergarten! The students have settled into school routines beautifully, and it has been lovely to see their excitement and enthusiasm for learning each day.

In English, we have been developing phonemic awareness by recognising syllables and practising blending and segmenting sounds. The students have also been working hard on their writing, focusing on sentence structure, capital letters, finger spaces, and full stops. Mrs Zaarour and I are very proud of the effort they are showing.

In Maths, students have been exploring different concepts using whiteboards and hands-on materials. They have enjoyed



working both independently and in small groups, and it has been wonderful to see their confidence grow.

It has also been lovely to watch the children build friendships and feel comfortable in our classroom environment. We look forward to continuing this learning journey together and seeing even more growth throughout the year, inshaAllah.

Mrs Hamdash & Mrs Zaarour



***“It has been a wonderful start to the year as our Kindergarten students settle into school routines and grow in confidence each day.”***



# Year 1

Mrs Kay

This term, our Year 1 students have been learning archery and soccer skills in sport. They have really enjoyed trying these new activities and have been working hard to aim for the target in archery and practise their soccer skills. Throughout the term, students have been building confidence while developing coordination, focus, and teamwork.

A big part of our lessons has been learning about safety and the correct techniques for each sport. Our fantastic coaches have been guiding the students and helping them improve their skills while making the sessions fun and engaging. The students have had a wonderful time and are very excited to continue developing their skills in the coming weeks.



# Year 2

*Mrs Mohamad & Mrs El Baj*

Year 2 students explored how natural materials can be used to create useful items and learned that different materials have properties that make them suitable for particular purposes. They also discovered how First Nations Peoples of Australia use natural materials and traditional weaving techniques to make everyday utensils.

Students watched a short video showing traditional weaving and discussed how the material used helps the utensil work effectively. To connect their learning to sustainability, students reused paper to weave their own paper baskets, showing how materials can be repurposed to create something useful



# Year 3

Mrs Mev

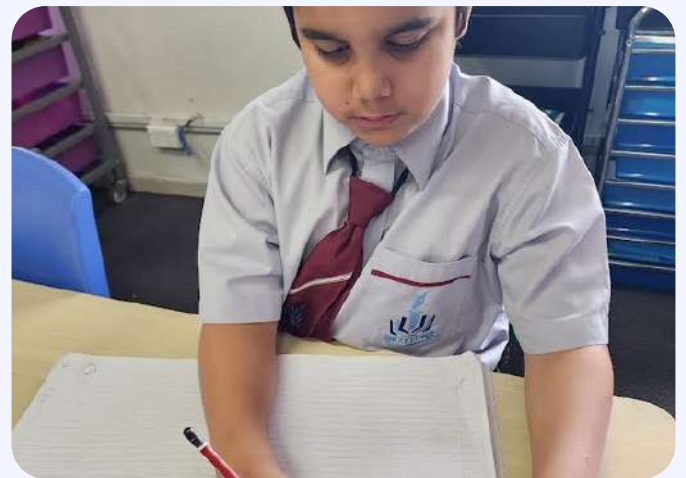
## English

Year 3 students have been learning how to write engaging narratives by using their imagination and creativity. In their writing lessons, students are exploring the structure of a narrative, including the orientation, where they introduce the characters and setting, the complication, where a problem occurs, and the resolution, where the problem is solved. Students are also focusing on using correct punctuation, such as capital letters and full stops, to make their writing clear and meaningful. Some students have even gone the extra step by choosing to include characters from the class mentor text in their own narratives. Through this learning, students are developing confidence in creating interesting and well-structured stories.



## Maths

Year 3 students have been learning a range of important topics in Mathematics, including multiplication, length and place value. Throughout these lessons, students have been participating in hands on activities to help consolidate their understanding of each concept. In the picture below, students can be seen practising their multiplication and using place value blocks to better grasp the concept of numbers. These practical activities help students visualise their learning and build confidence in solving mathematical problems. Year 3 students have been highly engaged during maths lessons and continue to show curiosity and enthusiasm when working through different challenges.



# Year 4

Mrs Fida

Year 4 students have been developing their literacy skills through learning about Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary, biographies, historical fiction, and strengthening their grammar knowledge. During a recent literacy lesson, students explored how word patterns and repetition can strengthen meaning, create rhythm, and emphasise important messages in texts. Students then applied this understanding by writing their own Ramadan poems. Their wonderful poems are proudly displayed in the classroom, celebrating their creativity, effort, and hard work.

In Mathematics, students have been learning about fractions, rounding numbers, analogue and digital time, addition and subtraction without trading, area and perimeter, and transformations such as flip, slide, and turn. Students particularly enjoyed exploring fractions, time, and area and perimeter when connected to real-life examples. It has also been fantastic to see students demonstrating leadership skills, with fast finishers supporting their peers and engaging in extension activities to further develop their problem-solving and thinking skills.

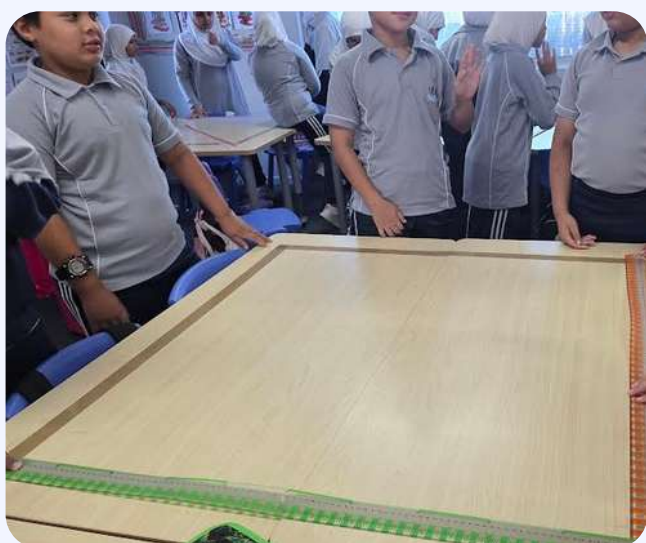
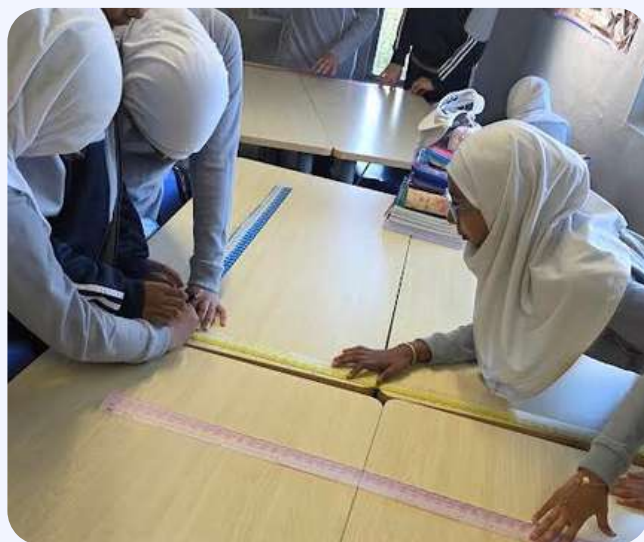


# Year 5/6

Mrs Khan

Over the past five weeks, our stage 3 students have been busy exploring a range of exciting Maths topics. In Year 5, students have been developing their understanding of place value, decimals, measurements, percentages and fractions, using hands-on activities and fun digital games to make learning meaningful. Year 6 students have been revising multiplication, division, and working with large numbers; developing spatial understanding; and exploring angles. Students have enjoyed working together in groups, sharing strategies, and using technology to support their learning.

Throughout this time, students have also reflected on their own learning, checking their progress against the success criteria and thinking about areas they feel confident in and areas they want to improve. By combining hands-on activities, problem-solving, and ICT tools, students have strengthened their number skills, improved their problem-solving strategies, and built confidence in applying what they know. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and growth as young mathematicians over the last few weeks.



# Year 5/6

Ms Fatemah

This term I have been teaching the Year 5 and Year 6 classes History, Science and PDHPE. In Science, the Year 6 students have been learning about electricity and different forms of energy, while the Year 5 students have been exploring forces and how they affect the way objects move. It has been a wonderful term so far, Alhamdulillah.

In Year 6 Science, students explored how energy can be transferred and transformed, and how electricity is generated, transferred and used in everyday life. They investigated electrical circuits through hands-on experiments and discussed the importance of electricity in daily life, including how electricity is used in different parts of the world. Students also applied their learning in a technology task where they designed, tested and evaluated a model house with a working electrical circuit.

In Year 5 Science, students learned about different types of forces, including applied force, gravity, air resistance, tension and elastic force. Through a range of investigations, they explored how forces act as pushes and pulls and how they influence the movement of objects. Students also applied their scientific skills through practical activities such as building and launching model rockets and constructing simple catapults to observe how forces work in real-life situations. The students have been very engaged in their learning, and it has been a wonderful term so far, Alhamdulillah.

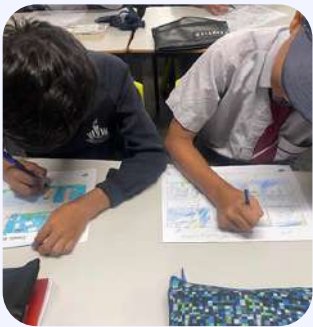
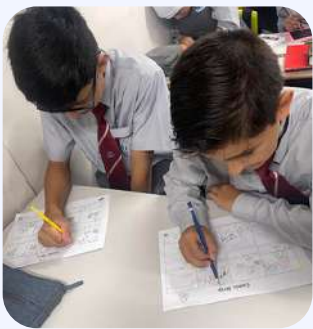


# Year 5/6

Mrs Faiza

In Term 1, Year 6 students explored the exciting world of comic strips in English. They learned about the different features that help bring comics to life, including thought bubbles, speech marks, captions and sound effects. Students also practised how these elements help readers understand characters' thoughts, conversations and actions in a fun and engaging way.

Students then planned and created their own comic strips, using their creativity and imagination to tell short and entertaining stories. It was wonderful to see them experimenting with expressive dialogue, creative captions and lively sound effects such as "Bang!", "Crash!" and "Whoosh!" to make their comics more dynamic. I am proud to share that the students' comic strips are now displayed in the classroom, showcasing their hard work and artistic storytelling.



# Year 5/6

Mrs Bhalla

This term, Year 6 have been diving into the colourful and creative world of Pablo Picasso, one of the most influential artists of the 20th century. Our students have been exploring his series of work – his musical-instrument artworks. Picasso was fascinated by the shapes, curves, and textures of instruments like guitars, violins, and mandolins. Instead of painting them realistically, he broke them into geometric shapes, rearranged their parts, and showed them from several angles at once. This style, known as Cubism, encourages viewers to look at everyday objects in new and imaginative ways.

In class, students explored how Picasso used collage materials like newspaper, cardboard, and patterned paper to create lively, layered artworks inspired by musical instruments. They noticed how his overlapping shapes and bold lines suggested movement, rhythm, and even sound.

Students created their own Cubist instrument artworks taking inspiration from Picasso's Musical Instruments, while some drew the still life composition displayed in front of them. They also explored some musical instruments such as guitar, tambourine, triangle etc. in their arts lesson and how they are played. Through this, they discovered that art and music share similar qualities such as rhythm, pattern, and expression.

This unit encouraged Year 6 to think creatively, take risks, and explore how artists can show sound and emotion visually – just as Picasso did.



# 2026

## Year 6 Leadership Team

Year 6 Leadership Team		
<b>Captains</b>	Samira Liya Hossain	Muhammedh Iyaadh Ilham
<b>Vice Captains</b>	Syahrzaad Abdul Ghafur	Ayaan Musa Jan
<b>Prefects</b>	Tahmin Rahman & Amara Chaar	Ali Rachid & Adam Pavisic

## Term 1 - 2026

### Class Captains

	Term 1	
<b>Kindergarten</b>	Huzaifa Ibn Hassan	Halima Hafza
<b>Year 1</b>	Muhammad Memon	Aasiyah Rahman
<b>Year 2</b>	Mohammad Siddiq Ayaan	Rihanna Naderi
<b>Year 3</b>	Jamal Chaar	Safeeya Rahman
<b>Year 4</b>	Adam Habeeb	Hamda Zainab
<b>5 Green</b>	Jibrael Awais	Rukayyah Ahmed
<b>5 Blue</b>	Ali Naderi	Zarifah Al-Mamun

# Student of the Week

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Kindergarten	Samya Farid	Eesa Celik	Abdulrahman Tamer	Zariyat Nawsher	Iftekhar Tajwar
Year 1	Omar alsmadi	Zarah	Umar Abdullah	Gia Zuaiter	Ayaan Mehdi
Year 2	Aya Fareh	Hussian Asad	Maryam Amatuallah	Surah Hai	Sara Khan
Year 3	Sidratul Sarak	Safeeya Rahman	Mohammed Ayesb	Khadijah Suthar	Zakeria Khan
Year 4	Adam Habeeb	Nusaybah Celik	Asad Dadu	Yousaf Khan	Nouraya Tamer
Year 5 Green	Mihran Amir	Rukayyah Ahmed	Mirvat Rachid	Jibraeel Awais	Ayana Luzain Reza
Year 5 Blue	Khaled Alsamadi	Raina Mahreen	Samreen Jan	Fatima Dawood	Muhammad Alyaan
Year 6	Adam Pavisic	Suad Islam	Zeewana Insha Ahmed	Mohammed Ibrahim Aayan	Talbia Memon

## Important Dates



**What:** Ramadan Competition Assembly

**When:** Thursday 19th March

**What:** Eid Holiday

**When:** Friday 20th March & Monday 23rd March

**What:** Assessment Week

**When:** Tuesday 24th March

# School Uniform

## Boys

### Winter Uniform



Grey or black socks



Cap



Summer Shirt



Black leather shoes



3/4 Summershorts

## Girls

### Summer shirt (K-3)



White hijab and cap (Y4-Y6)



### Winter Uniform

Bucket Hat (K-3)



Visor (Y4-Y6)



Black leather shoes



Grey or black socks



Greyleggings

(shade asclosetodresscolouras possible)

## Unisex



Winter Jacket



Winter Jumper



Beanie

Students are required to attend school in the summer uniform during Terms 1 and 4, and the winter uniform during Terms 2 and 3. Please refer to the items above to ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform.

If a student arrives at school without the correct uniform, a uniform slip will be issued. After receiving three uniform slips for the same item, the student will be sent home to change into the correct uniform and will not be able to return to class until the matter has been resolved.

**FAZ Uniform will be selling uniform at the school's front office every Monday from 2.30pm until 4pm.**

# Attendance

## Absences / Leaves

### Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



We ask parents to avoid taking leave during the learning semesters. Every day missed, accumulates to vital learning time which is eventually lost and unable to be compensated. No more than a total of 10 days of leave will be approved without an urgent or acceptable reason.

## Late School Arrivals

Arriving to school late regularly, means that your child misses out on significant morning routines and ROTE learning which may severely affect their learning. This also disrupts the class and teacher's morning structure.

Students who arrive late three times consecutively in one week, will receive a warning notice. Three Late Arrival notices will escalate so that parents meet with Executives, and may lead to the termination of your child's enrolment.

By ensuring your child arrives to school on time, you are working with us to build up skills where they learn to be punctual and responsible for their choices and time control.

