

The Zwink Link

High Expectations...High Support!

Fall 2015 News

We're Dazzling! Zwink Elementary Receives State Distinctions Third Year in a Row!

We have reason to celebrate again! In the accountability system created by the Texas Education Agency, every school in Texas is ranked and evaluated by comparison to 40 other comparable schools across the state of Texas. For three years in a row, we are thrilled we have ranked in the top percentages of the accountability system created by the Texas Education Agency. Additionally, Zwink has received distinctions for performance in Closing the Achievement Gap and Student Progress. Locally, our fifth graders were again one of the top performing groups of all elementary schools in our KISD middle school feeder patterns! We are so proud of the outstanding work being done by the Zwink team--our fabulous zebra students, staff, and families! When we all work together to ensure *high expectations and high support for every student, every day* great things happen!

October Attendance Challenge

Attendance plays a major role in ensuring that your child achieves educational excellence. It is our hope and desire that your child gets the most of their educational experience. By attending school every day each child is a step closer to obtaining that goal! We understand that extenuating circumstances or illness are inevitable and ask that upon your child's return to school, you promptly send in a medical note or parent notification. In order to document the excused absence we must receive a note within 5 days from the child's return to school.

Students who are present every day from October 2nd through October 21st are eligible to win one of ten \$20 gift certificates to Zwink's Book Fair. We will hold the drawing on October 22nd and announce the winners! Stay tuned for information about our next attendance challenge for the months of November and December!

Mark Your Calendars...Important Zwink Dates

October

- 16 End of 1st Nine Weeks Grading Period
- 20 Spirit Night at McDonalds, 5-8 p.m.
- 22 Donuts for Dads, 6:45-7:45 a.m.
- 22 Zwink Book Fair Opens
- 23 Dazzle Day: Reports cards go home, Wear crazy hats!
- 26-30 Red Ribbon Week—Fun Dress-up Days All Week!
- 29 Prime Time: 2nd grade Musical Performance, Fall Festival 6-7:30 p.m.

November

- 4 Cookie Dough Delivery, 3:30-6 p.m.
- 11 Veteran's Day Program, 6:30 p.m.
- 23-27 Thanksgiving Break, no school

Zwink Zebras Celebrated Friendship Week!

During the month of September, our dazzling Zwink Zebras celebrated Friendship Week as a kick off to our No Place for Hate initiative this school year. Friendship Week incorporated various activities to promote respect, tolerance and cooperation. Upper grade students participated in a team work challenge where they worked together to build the tallest tower out of pipe cleaners with a few challenges along the way to build their level of cooperation. Lower grade students designed friendship bracelets to exchange with a buddy in their classroom. All classes viewed the motivational video by Kid President titled "20 Things We Should Say More Often" and as a class brainstormed words and phrases that should be said more often in the classroom. Our Character Crew decorated posters for the week detailing the dress up theme for each day and included messages of anti-bullying and friendship. It was a great week to celebrate friendship!

Zwink Parent Core Values Spotlight: Intentional Loyalty

*We will protect the unity of our campus as we model personal integrity.
We will value one another, protect reputations, honor commitments, and destroy gossip.*

This month, we're focusing on Intentional Loyalty. This core value is about choosing to keep our school culture positive by protecting the unity of the Zwink community. Intentional Loyalty means: we celebrate and focus on what we see going well; we don't gossip about people or problems but rather we work together to find solutions; if a problem arises we go directly to the person involved to work through things together; we do what we say we are going to do; and we consistently model the behaviors we want our children to imitate. Thanks for showing your Intentional Loyalty in all you do and say! We are so thankful for our dazzling parents at Zwink Elementary!