

## ISSUE NO 11

[www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au](http://www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au)

### 2016 Diary Dates...

**2<sup>nd</sup> August:** ICAS Test – English

**3<sup>rd</sup> August:** Wakakirri School Performance.

**4<sup>th</sup> August:** Spectacular Auditions **Year 6 Only**, 3:15 – 4:30pm

**8<sup>th</sup> August** – Spell-a-thon commences

**8<sup>th</sup> August:** Wakakirri Performance -MECC

**12<sup>th</sup> August:** School Disco

**15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> August:** Year 4 Camp

**15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> August:** Science Week

**16<sup>th</sup> August:** ICAS Test – Maths

**19<sup>th</sup> August:** Yr1

Greenmount Excursion

**31<sup>st</sup> Aug – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept:** Big Sing

**5<sup>th</sup> Sept – 9<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Spell – a – thon testing testing.

**5<sup>th</sup> Sept – 15<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Swimming Prep – Year 3

**13<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Cultural Evening

**16<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Last day of school

### Student Absence Line:

**49656360**

This service is available for parents rating their children's absence from school. Please clearly state their name, class and reason for absence. All absences are recorded for teachers.

## 03 August 2016

### From the Principal's Desk

It is pleasing to see the support from our staff and parents for the many and varied academic, sporting and cultural student pursuits planned for this term.

A flyer advertising the 12<sup>th</sup> August School Dance went home last week, if you could return the permission slip by the 9<sup>th</sup> August. Volunteers are required for both dances, thank you for your support.

Our spell-a-thon commences on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August. Students will receive their spelling list and sponsorship form on the 8<sup>th</sup> with the test to be conducted in the week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> September. We ask that you support us as this can be a good motivation for students to learn their spelling and an excellent fundraiser for the school.

The Wakakirri production of Goldilocks Down Under will be performed by our talented student on Monday night, 8<sup>th</sup> August at the Mackay Entertainment Centre. To our students, "break a leg", and thank you to our cultural team for another quality production.

Parents who have children eligible for Prep next year, born 01/07/2011 – 30/06/2012 are able to contact the school office for enrolments details. There is an information session planned for the morning of Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> October for new prep parents to our school.

Congratulations to our Athletics Team, aggregate winners for 2016 at the Northern Suburbs Carnival.

Our monthly P&C meeting is to be held on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> August at 5:30pm. You are most welcome to attend.

Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson

Principal.

## Foyer Display



Did you know that the Aboriginal peoples have the longest continuous cultural histories on Earth? That is a very special fact! As part of our NAIDOC activities, Year 1C and 1D read Dreamtime stories. Dreaming stories pass on important Aboriginal cultural values and belief systems to later generations. Come and look at the Foyer Display and read our retells of *'The Two Wallabies' A Dreaming Story belonging to the Warlpiri people.*

**News from the Library** - Come and be caught "Reading!" We have several budding photographers from Year 6D who are catching people reading in our library and during Book Week and National Literacy and Numeracy Week we will be placing their photographs in our Library reading net. Each day next week we will turn off the lights in the library and read and play by torch light and experiment with what it was like before we enjoyed the luxury of electricity. Please come, unwrap and read a book from our lucky dip box from next Monday during your lunch time. You will also notice a new face in our Library: Mrs ALLEN will be filling in for the lovely Mrs Ross for the next few weeks, please come in and say Hi!

We are also looking forward to Science and Book Week which is rapidly approaching. It's all about droids, drones and robots and our beautiful country Australia. We have been lucky enough to have Mrs Jill Allen and her family draw us a large map of Australia, our story our country which we will be painting over the next few weeks in preparation for our book Week celebrations. This year we will be holding activities each day in the library and thanks to Ms Shannon Croston for securing a grant for Science week, our activities will be amazing. Remember your teacher will be looking for wonderful workers to select to be a part of these activities - 2 students from each class will be selected each day for a fortnight. So remember to follow our school motto!

Finally, we would like to acknowledge and congratulate all of the Year 6 students who entered the Young ICT Explorers challenge. All teams who entered a report were lucky enough to be shortlisted and invited to attend the competition in Townsville on 20th August at the James Cook University. With parent support, 14 teams will be travelling up to Townsville to participate in this digital technology challenge. All of this could not be achieved without the support and dedication of our Admin team, Year 6 teachers, Year 6 Parents and the students who have spent many hours preparing their projects. Congratulations on a job well done so far and Good Luck! Cheers **Janelle Stuart Teacher.**

**News from the Office - Finance News from the Office** Current statements for school fees were sent home this week. All levies are payable by the end of term 3, so accounts should be almost settled in full. Swimming for Years Prep to 3 is in the last 2 weeks of this term and payment for this is due by 29 August.

**Lost Property** - There is a significant amount of lost property in the box, please check to see if your child has anything in there, all unnamed items are eventually donated to Vinnies.

**Walk Safely To School Day – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> August** - Fitzgerald State School will be participating in the annual National Walk Safely to School Day event on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> August when all Primary School children will be encouraged to walk and commute safely to school. It is a Community Event seeking to promote Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment.

Walk Safely to School Day is an opportunity for parents and carers of primary school aged children to promote safe pedestrian behavior. The program encourages parents and carers that they need to closely supervise their young children, particularly those under 10 years of age, in all road environments, holding hands when near or crossing the road. The program also promotes the significant physical, mental and social health benefits which can be achieved through regular walking. Parents are encouraged to park their car at the Touch Football grounds off Norris Road and then walk to school with their children. School staff will also assist with supervision of children on the walk to school which will include two groups dependent on the time of arrival at the touch fields. The first walk will leave the Touch fields at 8:00am. Any children who arrive at the fields after 8:20 will need to be supervised by their parents for the walk to school. Children who participate in either of the two arranged walks will be provided with a poppa fruit drink and muesli bar from the tuckshop upon arrival at school.

## **School Attendance**

The safety and wellbeing of students are the highest priorities for Fitzgerald State School and for the Department of Education and Training. Congratulations to the children who received certificates this week recognising very high attendance for Term 2. Fitzgerald SS encourages all children to attend school every day as higher student attendance is associated with higher student achievement. In total across Prep to Year 6, 272 children attended school for at least 97% of the school term. Unfortunately a total of 95 children also attended school for less than 85% of the school term.

Please note that it is important that the school is notified on the day of your child's absence. Please phone 49 656 360. If you are experiencing difficulty in sending your child to school, please contact the classroom teacher or deputy principal for advice and support.

## **Sports Notices**

### **Northern Suburbs Track & Field**

Congratulations to all of Fitzgerald's athletes who recently participated in the Northern Suburbs Track and Field trials. Fitzgerald State School were awarded the champion school trophy with the highest aggregate points. Extra congratulations to Taj Steindl-Corrie, Ava Wheeler and Krystal Miller-Wilson who were awarded age champion medallions. Also well done to all those selected in the Northern Suburbs Team.

### **Mackay Track & Field**

Well done to all of Fitzgerald's athletes who recently participated in the Mackay Track and Field trials. Extra congratulations to Ava Wheeler, Riley Pompey and Rachel Kavana who were selected in the Mackay team. They will now travel to Rockhampton in August to the Capricornia trials. Best of luck!

### **Capricornia Trials**

Congratulations to Teesha Edwards, Skye Howarth-Mathers and Tailor-Lee Dillon who recently represented Mackay at the Capricornia Girl's rugby league trials.

Well done to Keeva Mohan who recently represented Mackay at the Capricornia Softball trials.

**Read to Me! Read with Me! by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher**

Parents, grandparents, guardians, caregivers and early year's educators are invited to attend a free 'Read to Me! Read with Me!' workshop session. This workshop aims to assist adults in helping any child with their reading development in the early years, at home and at school. Come and learn about the reading process, how children learn to read, how to help ensure a great reading start in life and how to best support children to become independent, expert readers. The workshop will introduce the Support-a-Reader approach and some key reading instruction strategies used by the teaching staff at Fitzgerald State School. Tea/Coffee from 9.15am and Workshop session 9.30am - 11.00am on Monday 8 August, at the Fitzgerald State School's Hall Foyer. The workshop is free, but please register your interest by leaving your name and contact details at the Fitzgerald SS office, or email Sue Hamilton-Smith [shami40@eq.edu.au](mailto:shami40@eq.edu.au)

**Seven Steps to Writing Success – 'Show Don't Tell' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher**

Students and teachers have recently been learning how to create better organised and more interesting writing using the Seven Steps to Writing Success resources. Here's an example by Malaney Hamilton of 4E, using Step 5, the 'Show Don't Tell' writing technique, to describe with detail and emotion. Melaney helped to 'paint the picture in the reader's mind' by changing a simple sentence into something spectacularly descriptive. Well done, Melaney!

BEFORE: *Mrs Twit was happy.*

AFTER: *Mrs Twit was smiling, there were dimples showing on her face and her eyes sparkled shinier than all the stars in the sky. She laughed the laugh of a joyful child. She danced and twirled and danced, and hummed her way to the dark gloomy garden of evil and trickery, and began working on her plan of tricks!*

**'The Premier's Reading Challenge 2016' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher**

Well done to all of those students who have already completed the Premier's Reading Challenge, have their recording sheet signed and have submitted to their teacher. This year's challenge is for Prep to Year 4 to read or experience 20 books and Years 5 and 6 to read 15 books by the due date. Ice blocks will be provided to any class who has 100% participation by Friday 26 August 2016. Further information, including booklists for all ages can be found on the website.

<http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/readingchallenge/>

**'The Nine Values for Australian Schooling – Care and Compassion' by Nick Ayre, School Chaplain**

The Fitzgerald Years 5 and 6 Drama Group continue to present their interpretation of the Nine Values for Australian Schooling on parade throughout the year. This week they presented the value of Care and Compassion. They began by using a 'Conscience Alley' technique to highlight that this value goes beyond just looking out for yourself and your own family and friends. They provided a definition, "To care is to look after someone or something in need. Compassion is a when you understand the feelings of others." With dialogue, movement and sound they created a Care and Compassion Machine to further explore what the value means to our community. Drama Group meets each

Wednesday lunchtime, under the direction of teachers Jill Green, Alex Jesshope and Sue Hamilton-Smith.

**Safety – Picking up children** Parents please ensure that your children know the arrangements for after school pick-ups. A reminder that up to 3.30pm is recognized as being a reasonable time for students to be collected from the school of an afternoon. If there is an emergency situation where you are unable to get to the school contact the school office, so that plans can be discussed for the situation.

**Prep Enrolment Ages**

Prep is the first year of school and provides the foundation for your child's education. Children must be 5 by 30 June in the year they enrol. Check the table below to see when your child can start Prep.

	2017	2018	2019
Child born 1/07/11 to 30/06/12	Prep		
Child born 1/07/12 to 30/06/13		Prep	
Child born 1/07/13 to 30/06/14			Prep

**P & C Notices**

**School Dance**

Date: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016

Venue: School Hall

Time: Prep to Year 2 – 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Year 3 to Year 6 – 7:15pm – 8:30pm

Cost: \$5-00 per child for dance entry (to be paid by Tuesday, 9 August)

Theme: Heroes and Villains. A contact if you can assist at the dance is Jai Wright 0429 852 949 or email [jaianthonywright@gmail.com](mailto:jaianthonywright@gmail.com)

**Tuckshop Talk**

Please make sure tuckshop is ordered on the correct date, no foreign coins. Brown bags are available for sale for 10c. Ensure you have the correct money for orders or your child may not get all that is ordered.

**Roster:**

Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams \ Help Needed

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> – Tamika Cook \ Help Needed

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> – Help Needed

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> – Tamika Cook, Alma Hawden

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams \ Help Needed

**Community Notices**

**Rugby Union St George Rookies 2 Reds-**

Place – Fitzgerald State School Oval

Time – 3:00 – 4:00pm

When – Wednesdays after school August 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> August. September 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>.

Ages – 5 yrs. – 11 yrs.

Information – Ph. 1300 753 733 or [rookies2reds.com.au](http://rookies2reds.com.au)

**Northern Suburbs Cricket Club** sign on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>

August 10am -1pm @ Wanderers Football Ground

Ben Nevis Street for the 2016/2017 Season. We are

looking for players of all ages from 8 to 80. Season starts in October with 8-11 year old playing on Friday nights. If you would like further details please contact the following person Karen Penfold 0408737951 or

[penfold\\_rk\\_88@iprimus.com.au](mailto:penfold_rk_88@iprimus.com.au)

**Our newsletter can now be viewed on the school**

**website** [www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au](http://www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au)