

## ISSUE NO 12

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

### 2015 Diary Dates...

ICAS – Maths

**August 12:** Year 3

Excursion

**August 10-13:** Year 4 Bike Education

**August 14:** School Disco

**August 17:** Book Week and Science Week

**August 17-20:** Year 4 Bike Education

**August 26:** Year 1

Excursion

**August 27:** Prep Excursion

**August 31-Sept 2:** Year 4 Camp

**Sept 7 – 17<sup>th</sup>:** Prep – Yr 3 swimming

**September 18:** Last day of term

### Student Absence Line:

**49656360**

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

## 12 August 2015

### From the Principal's Desk

Congratulations to our Wakakirri students who presented a creditable performance at the Entertainment Centre last week. Also a big well done to our sports representatives who have gained higher honours recently. See the Wakakirri photographs and sports report in this newsletter.

Please support our spell-a-thon which commenced this week. This should be a motivation for our students to learn their spelling and help raise funds for classroom resources.

Don't forget the school dance is on Friday night, if you could help out let us know at the office.

Years 3 and 5 students have received their national test result reports. Our school performance overall is similar to the national mean in the five areas, Numeracy, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, Reading and Writing. Well done to the students who have improved their results or attained good results. Thank you to the staff, parents and students for your efforts.

Our student councillors Amber Vella and Jacinta Harris introduced the value Honesty and Trustworthiness at the school assembly this week. Their summary is included in this newsletter.

We have a free dress day on this Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> to support the chaplaincy service, a gold coin donation thank you and sensible and safe clothing is expected.

Just a reminder to students to be at school before the commencement time, 8.30am is suitable to arrive for class preparation time.

Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson

Principal.

## **Foyer Display**

This term in Visual Art Year 5 is learning how to draw portraits. The first piece of art we have completed is a 'Symmetrical Portrait'.



Students were given half of a magazine portrait and asked to draw the missing half of the image using correct facial proportions. Once completed, realistic colour was added using pencils. The students did a wonderful job and are eager to continue creating portraits using a variety of techniques. Students from 5B were given a magazine portrait which had been cut in half. They were required to look at facial lines, features and shading to replicate the other side of the face.

## **School Opinion Survey**

It is not too late to complete the annual on-line survey for Education Queensland. The closing date is extended to the close of business Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> August.

## **Years 3 and 5 NAPLAN Reports - Update**

The reports were sent home last Friday with the students.

## **Earn and Learn Rewards**

It is great to see so many stickers coming in from the Earn and Learn program, please keep them coming in. The program finishes 8<sup>th</sup> September. We have bins located at Canelands, Andergrove, Mount Pleasant, and Rural View Woolworths. Stickers can also be dropped off here at the office.



**School Value – Honesty and Trustworthiness** School Representatives of the Student Council presented their understanding of the value Honesty and Trustworthiness on school parade. Honesty is to tell the truth and not lie. Honesty is when someone can believe you when you say something. You can practice honesty by telling someone the truth and admitting mistakes even when you know someone might be angry or disappointed. Being honest means that you don't pretend to be something you are not. When you are honest, others can believe you.

Being trustworthy is easy, just be honest, reliable, loyal to friends and family. Always do the right thing, never lie, cheat or steal and you will be the best person you can be. By Amber Vella and Jacinta Harris.

## **From the Guidance Officer**

### **Who's chatting to your kids?**

The internet has brought the world to our children's fingertips, providing access to vast resources of information and the opportunity to communicate with people from around the world.

Smart devices and social media have become part of our children's lives and they have strongly influenced how our children create, share and exchange information with others.

Unfortunately these same devices and applications have been embraced by sex offenders, who have proven to be exceptionally skilled at using them to gain access to children.

As parents and caregivers it is imperative you have basic understanding of these technologies to enable you to guide, assist and supervise your children.

Children might not safeguard their personal details on the internet like they would in the real world. Therefore it is just as important to educate our children about 'chatting' to people online as it is meeting new people in the real world.

The "Who's Chatting to Your Kids?" e-brochure is available online. There is also a family internet agreement which is useful as a discussion with your child or a contract they can sign. Both are available at [www.police.qld.gov.website](http://www.police.qld.gov.website).

Did you know the age restriction for the following applications or sites is **13 YEARS?**

Snapchat

Instagram

Ask.fm

Kik Messenger (kik) (some features restricted to 17 years+)

Facebook

More information on these and other sites can be found at [www.thinkuknow.org.au](http://www.thinkuknow.org.au)

**ATSI family Homework Support!** By Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher

Parents and caregivers of indigenous students are invited to accompany their children, bring along any homework questions or concerns and have a cuppa with school staff each Tuesday afternoon of Term 3 (with the exception of Week 10) from 3.00-4.00pm in the mini computer lab beside the 3E. Pictured here is Hanni Steindl with her son, Taj Steindl -Corrie.



**Year 11 Students Caring for our Preppies!** By Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher

Year 11 North High students studying a Child Care subject as a part of their Wave Well-Being Program, are currently visiting Fitzgerald for an hour



each Wednesday morning to help our Prep students with their literacy and numeracy rotational activities. Thank-you to Mackay North State High School teacher, Laura McCubbin for coordinating this initiative.

**The Premier's Reading Challenge 2015** by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher

Well done to Mrs Meg Collins and 1A for being the first class at Fitzgerald State School to achieve the Premier's Reading Challenge for 2015. Prep to Year 4 need to read or experience 20 books and Years 5 and 6 to read 15 books by Friday 28 August 2015. Children who take up the challenge and read the required number of books will receive a signed certificate from the Premier. The school office has spare forms. Further information, including booklists for all ages can be found on the website.

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

**Opti-MINDS** is a 6 week Challenge process held in term 3 each year. Participants work in a team and select 1 of 3 Challenges to solve and present their most creative solution in a 10 minute dramatic performance, to a panel of Judges at the Regional Event. Students will present on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August, in front of a panel of judges at Northern Beaches High School

Opti Minds Team – Josh Wilson, Toby Jones, Jack Wicks (6D), Maddason Smith, Damon Randell (6A), Brooke Vella and Khataya Miller-Wilson. Good luck team members.

### **Sports Notices**

#### **Mackay Track and Field Trials**

Congratulations to all of our recent participants in the Mackay and District Track and Field Trials. Extra congratulations to Jhett Bates, Brooke Vella, Ebony Wellby, Jaala Grant, Rachel Kavana and Riley Whitestyles who were selected in the Mackay team. These students will now participate in the upcoming Track and Field trials in Rockhampton.

### **Library Notice**

#### **Visiting Author Brian Falkner**

Last week we were privileged to have author Brian Falkner visit Fitzgerald. He is a highly sought-after speaker in schools, at literary festivals and conferences. His infectious enthusiasm, humour and energy make every appearance a popular and memorable one.

His talks covered everything from tips for budding writers, to inspiration for reluctant readers, to small drops of wisdom on life, the universe and everything in between, in a visual, irreverent and highly entertaining way.

The highlight of his visit was Story Sports. Six teams of 4 students from years 5 and 6 competed for the highest points with tasks such as finishing stories, describing characters and best of all; completing a rap. All students, competitors and audience, thoroughly enjoyed the activities. Unfortunately only one team could win; that team was Fitzy Gang, consisting of Rachel Harold, Leila Dunne, Sara Taylor and Mia Selling.

Additionally the team with the best rap was rewarded. That team was Cool Kids with members from Year 5 Fletcher Klein (rapper), Sophia Sticklan, Kelsey Higgins and Alyssa Muller.

Congratulations to all teams for a very entertaining event!

Janelle Stuart and Laurel Shaw  
**P & C Notices. – School**

### **Dance**

Date: Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August

Venue: School Hall

Time: Prep to Year 2 – 5.30pm– 7.00pm

Year 3 to Year 6 – 7.15pm – 8.45pm

Cost: \$5.00 per child for dance entry

Theme: Book week – ‘Books light up our world.’

Science week – ‘Making waves – The science of light.’

Hall canteen opens at 5.15pm. Admission is to be pre-paid. Sausage on bread \$2.00 and drinks \$2.00. Any help cooking the bbq and working in the canteen would be greatly appreciated.

### **Tuckshop Talk**

#### **Roster:**

Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Aug – Robyn Adams, Tamika Cook

Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Aug – Alma Hawdon, Tamika Cook

Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Aug – Robyn Adams

Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Aug – Robyn Adams, Tamika Cook

Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Aug – Robyn Adams, Tamika Cook

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Aug – Tamika Cook, Help Needed

### **Safety Notices**

**Students after school** are often quite distressed at not knowing their pick-up arrangements. Parents if this could be discussed with them before school.

**The hospital** across the road from the school requires their **carpark** for their patients who are often quite ill, please respect their privacy.



**Our wonderful cast performing their production of “Shrek” to an excited audience of students.**

### **Community Notices**

**Northern Suburbs Cricket Club Mackay** are having a sign-on day for 2015/2016 season.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 10am-1pm at Wanderers Football Ground Ben Nevis Street. All players from 8 to 80 are welcome, boys and girls welcome. Season starts in October with 8-11 year old playing on Friday nights. Further details – Phone Suellen Rasmussen 0427 590 251 or [rassyrobsue@bigpond.com](mailto:rassyrobsue@bigpond.com)

**Our newsletter can now be viewed on the school website** [www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au](http://www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au)