

ISSUE NO 12

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17 August 2016

From the Principal's Desk

2016 Diary Dates...

15th – 19th August: Year 4

Camp

15th – 19th August: Science Week

16th August: ICAS Test – Maths

19th August: Yr1

Greenmount Excursion

22nd– 26th August: Book Week

24th August: Walk to School Day

31st Aug – 2nd Sept: Big Sing

29th Aug – 2nd Sept:

Father's Day Stall

5th Sept – 9th Sept: Spell – a – thon testing.

5th Sept – 15th Sept:

Swimming Prep – Year 3

13th Sept: Cultural Evening

16th Sept: Last day of school

Congratulations to all students, staff and parents involved with the Wakakirri production "Goldilocks", a State Award for the Best Entertainment Story, the fifth year in a row.

Special mention of our concert band and string ensemble gaining a silver and gold award respectively at the Mackay Orchestra and Bands Competition on the weekend.

Three hundred and fifty students along with parents and staff attended a successful school dance on Friday night. Once again a big thank you to the parents and staff for your assistance.

Thirty-six of our year six students travel to Townsville this weekend to compete in the Young I.C.T Explorer's Challenge with staff and parents. Good luck students, we look forward to hearing of your experiences with your team technology projects.

The Book Week and Science Week celebrations commenced on Monday with a range of enjoyable and educational activities planned for the students over the fortnight.

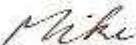
Our year four students attend Camp Kinchant this week as part of the school excursion and camp program. Thank you to our parent volunteers and staff for attending the camp.

Students, how are we going with the learning of our words and the gaining of sponsors for our Spell-a-thon? This is week two of the four week learning period.

Congratulations to the following students who gained credit and distinction awards in the I.C.A.S. Science competition, Jackson Cross – Distinction, Penny Zhang and Xander Insch – Credits.

On a personal note, I have leave for the last three weeks of this term. Mrs Tracey Adams is the acting Principal for this period.

Enjoy your week.


Mike Anderson

Principal.

As Father's Day is coming up on the 4th September, it has been decided this year to hold a Father's Day Stall. There will be quality presents for Dad as well as Grandpa at prices ranging from \$1 to \$12. The stall will be in the week prior 29th August – 2nd September. Notices will be sent home prior to this date. There will be a raffle with tickets selling for \$1 each. 1st prize - Cowboys shirt, pants and hat. 2nd prize - Cowboys towel and thongs. 3rd prize - BBQ set, cooler bag and apron.

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.



Foyer Display

Portraits and Poetry. 5A and 5B have been exploring different forms of poetry, verb poems, cinquains and acrostic poems. The students have also been creating different

types of portraits through using various forms of mediums.

'UNIFY Booster Numeracy' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher. A group of Year 5 students have just graduated from the 'UNiversity for You Booster Numeracy' online course, delivered by the Brisbane School of Distance Education and supervised at Fitzgerald by Mrs Christina Sam. These students were chosen to participate in this extension initiative because of their ability and interest in mathematics: Taylor Goodhew, Krista Harris, Kirra Anderson, Lachlan Burgess, Ethan Banks, Xander Insch, Keeva Mohan, Bailey Van Helmond, Lucy Williams, Brianna Jackson, Damian Lawn, Hayley Shaxson and Kirra Tower. The group will be receiving their certificates at the senior parade on Monday 22 August.

'The Premier's Reading Challenge 2016' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher The Premier's Reading Challenge comes to a close next Friday, 26 August. Well done to all of those students who have already been successful. For those who have not yet completed the challenge, it is time to finalise, have their recording sheets signed by an adult and submitted to their teacher. Students from Prep to Year 4 need to have read or experienced 20 books and Years 5 and 6 need to have read 15 books during the reading period. Ice blocks will be provided to any class who has 100% participation. Further information, including booklists for all ages can be found on the website. <http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/readingchallenge/>

'Write4Fun Competition' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher Students from all year levels are encouraged to use their 'Seven Steps to Writing Success' skills and enter the 'Write4Fun' short story and poetry writing competition. A short story entry needs to be 500 words or less and a poetry writing entry should be 16 lines or less. The topic is open. First prize is \$500 for the writer and \$500 for their school, plus other prizes. Entries may be published in the Write4Fun anthology. Post or email entries by 31 August. All details can be found at <http://www.write4fun.net/>

'Seven Steps to Writing Success' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher - Here is an example of first draft 'Seven Steps to Writing Success – Step 3 Tightening Tension', produced by Alyssa Muller of 6B. Description was developed through drama, discussion and written language. Alyssa captured the emotion of the moment just before the soldiers on the shores of Gallipoli heard the order to climb over the trench wall and face the Turkish enemy fire.

'The ground was red with the blood of soldiers. My trembling hands shook with fear as I prepared for battle. Adrenalin rushed through my body as I loaded the gun that was beside me in the trench. I thought of my friends and family back home, knowing that as soon as I stepped onto the battlefield I would most certainly die and never see them again. Fear wracked my face as the whistle blew to attack.'

Library Notice - 'Imaginative, Ingenious, Inventive - Fortnight of Library Fun' It's National Science Week

and Fitzgerald State School is celebrating this year's theme of 'Drones, Droids and Robots' and next week's 'Australia - Story Country' Book Week theme with a fortnight of inspirational lunchtime library activities. A huge congratulations to Ms Shannon Croston, our Science Curriculum Leader and the Science and Library Committees for organising these hands-on and creative activities.

Over the next two weeks, we will be busily creating giant robots, making noisy robot chickens, using our school's first 3D printer pen and playing with a variety of drones, experimenting with old and new technology and participating in a colouring in competition to celebrate Australia – Story Country. All students are eligible to participate over the fortnight as a reward for their on-task and diligent behaviour in the classroom and are being selected by their teacher – so remember to smile nicely and work super hard! Next week, Mrs Shaw will be reading several of the shortlisted titles to the students from Prep to Year 4 and we will vote on their favourite story. We would not be able to achieve and organise these activities without the support and assistance from our Parents, Admin and Staff by giving up their lunch hour to help out.

Find out more about National Science Week at <http://www.scienceweek.net.au/schools/> and Book Week at <http://www.cbca.org.au/>

Digital Technologies News - We are on the home stretch Only a few more days until our shortlisted Year 6 students travel to Townsville to participate in the North Queensland Young ICT Explorer's Competition. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated Year 6 teachers Ms Shannon Croston, Miss Lisa Hunt and Mr Matt Doolan and Parents for the work and efforts undertaken for the students to be able to participate in such a worthwhile and exceptional learning opportunity. We are certain that each of the students involved will remember this opportunity for many years to come. We all wish each of our 18 groups the best of luck and know that you are already winners in our eyes. Good luck and safe travels to Townsville.

NAIDOC celebrations

Our Fitzgerald School performers this year brought NAIDOC theme "Songlines" to life as we revisited "Pearly Shells", Taba Naba by Christine Anu and Djapana by Yothu Yindi.

Some of these songs were common to our grandparents and sung by their grandparents. Our Indigenous children from Prep age to Year 6 participated and gave their play time to learn some of these dances. The highlight for the children was performing in front of an audience whether they were unsure, stage frightened, shy and all – however proudly performed in front of their school and families. The outcome of this group not only formed a bond of cooperation but self respect, pride and self esteem, learning to keep their culture alive.

Thank you to all the parents who allowed for their children to participate and also Mrs Mooney who organised the event. An immense thank you to Alma Hawdon and Rhonda Marriage who also gave their time to assist with dance practice at lunch times, this is just the beginning of our journey at Fitzgerald School for NAIDOC celebrations, we look forward to the 2017 event.

Alex Cowan

Music News - REGIONAL WAKAKIRRI CHAMPIONS!! GOLDILOCKS DOWN UNDER!

We retold the famous fairy tale with an Aussie twist. When Goldilocks walks through the bush she discovers the home of the three 'bears' and gets more than she bargains for.

"A lot of hard work has gone into this amazingly enjoyable piece – well done!" – Andrew Fee (Panel Judge) PERFORMANCE AWARDS: Overall Set Design, Overall Costume Design, Storytelling, Artwork on Sets, Creative Use of Reusable Materials.

STATE AWARD: Best Entertainment Story

Many thanks to Trina Saunders for costuming, Debbie Hunt for props and sets, Danielle Hargreaves for event organization, Samantha Scott-Girgenti for choreography and Jill Green for music selection and editing and direction. Thanks to all parents for their support and our wonderful students for a great performance and for being an excellent team. We are now eligible to be selected for National Awards.

Great work everyone!



Wakakirri DVD Order Form – Order forms have been sent home with your student. DVD's are \$40.00, forms are due back no later than August 26th.

Mackay Orchestra and Bands 2016



Our concert band and string ensemble performed at the annual Mackay Orchestra and Bands Competition at Mackay Christian College last Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Our

students played to a really high standard and were also able to listen to other ensembles play. Our concert band received a silver award and trophy and our string ensemble received a gold award with trophy. Many thanks to the parents for their support in getting students to the performance venue. Excellent effort everyone!

Sports Notices

Mackay School Tennis Competition

Recently Fitzgerald had two teams compete in the Mackay School Tennis competition. Over 40 teams competed on the day. Our team consisting of Shan Sarathchandra, Amy Hook, Lily Shepherd and Harley Gorjup-Walters finished in 8th position, whilst our other team of Caiden Wood, Byron Wood, Sophia Sticklan and Ryan Donovan finished in 1st position. This team went through undefeated on the day and won against Mackay West in the grand final. Congratulations to all players on this fantastic result.

P & C Notices -Disco -Thanks to everyone who came along and supported the recent school disco, and especially to those staff and volunteer helpers who made this event possible. It was an enjoyable evening

and there were over 350 students in attendance across the two discos with \$3,730 raised towards projects for the school community.

Spell-a-thon - Thank you to parents for your support with this year's spell-a-thon which is currently underway. Students will be tested on their spell-a-thon words in week 9 of term 3. All students should have received sponsorship forms, which will need to be returned to the school with any money collected by the end of week 2 in term 4. Forms need to be returned regardless of whether sponsorship has been received or not.

P&C Meeting - The next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 17th October at 5:30pm (the September date falls in school holidays so there will be no meeting then).

Walk Safely To School Day – Wednesday 24th August

August Fitzgerald State School will be participating in the annual National Walk Safely to School Day event on Wednesday 24th 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.

Tuckshop Talk - We no longer sell Gelato cups. Please ensure correct money is put into bags or the children may not receive everything that they have ordered. If children forget lunches we endeavour to supply lunch for them so it would be appreciated if payment is made the next day.

ROSTER:

Thurs 18th – Debbie & Ryan Adams

Frid 19th – Tamika Cook, Maisie Greaves, Mary Maloney

Tues 23rd – Robyn Adams

Wed 24th – Robyn Adams

Thurs 25th – HELP NEEDED

Fri 26th – Melissa Sterling, Tamika Cook

Tues 30th – Robyn Adams

Wed 31st – HELP NEEDED

Thankyou Antoinette & Daneal

Community Notices



Mackay North State High School 2017 Year 7 enrolments and scholarships are now open. Enrolment forms, information and scholarship applications are available on our school website. A reminder that scholarship applications close on the 26th August. Our next school

tour will be held on Friday 9th September at 4pm. We encourage you to attend if you would like to find out more about our school and the wide range of academic, sporting and cultural opportunities available to students. Please refer to our school website for further information or contact the school on 4963 1666. Early enrolment will provide certainty for you and your student's high school education.

Our newsletter can now be viewed on the school website www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au.