

From the Principal's Desk

2013 Diary Dates...

Aug 12-16: Science Week

Aug 18-24: Book Week

Aug 22: Wakakirri

Aug 25: Optiminds

Aug 26: Spellathon forms go home

Aug 27-30: Year 7 Camp

Sept 2: Musica Viva Performance

Sept 2-4: Year 4 Bike Ed

Sept 9-20: Swimming Prep-Yr3

Sept 11-13: Year 5 Camp

Sept 18: Cultural Evening

Nov14: Spectacular

Well done to the students who have made a deposit to the Courtesy Bank this term, continue to be courteous to other girls and boys. Chaplain Nic commented on parade that year one have the most deposits at this stage.

The School Dance was a colourful and enjoyable event for three hundred and sixty of our students. Thank you to our P&C members and staff who assisted with the dance.

Parents who have children eligible for Prep next year are able to contact the school office for enrolment details. There is an information session planned for the morning of Monday 22nd October.

The Spell-a-thon sponsorship forms will be sent home at the end of this month. Please support this fundraiser for the school as well as encouraging students to learn their spelling.

Many of our students are preparing for two events, Wakakirri 22nd August and Opti-Minds 25th August, enjoy the learning experiences girls and boys. Further information on these events is included in this newsletter.

Science Week is being celebrated in our school this week with a number of activities planned and guest speakers invited for the students. Thank you to Mrs Spillman for co-ordinating this event.

Nette Hilton, highly acclaimed author is in residence this week to inspire our students to write. Nette was introduced to our students on the Monday Assembly. We welcome Nette to our school.

Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson

Principal.

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.

Staff Profile – Lisa Hunt 6A

Hello to all. My name is Lisa Hunt and I am teaching the students of Year 6A and am enjoying working with the great Year 6 team this year. Previously, I have taught Year 6 or 7 for many years as well as having teaching roles in the areas of Learning Support, LOTE and ICT in both rural and city schools. I've met some delightful students and am looking forward to all the things a "big school" offers after many years of being in a smaller school.

Foyer News – PC & PD

PD - We love Maths,

Yes we do.

Time, shape and patterns too.

We solve problems and count in two's.

We love Maths,

Yes we do!

PC – Prep C are the most amazing writers! We can write stories, letters and poems. We use full stops, finger spaces and capital letters. We sound out our words and use sight words as well and we mustn't forget the most important thing of all, we re-read our writing to make sure it makes sense. Writing is fun. It's where we can share our fabulous ideas with the world.

From the Classrooms –

5B and 5C - This term Year 5B and 5C have been learning about poetry and completed an in depth study of Australia's National Anthem. As part of this they have created a school anthem.

Fitzgerald Primary School

Fitzgerald, all let us be friends,

We are a Primary School.

In North Mackay, up on the hill,

The children shine like jewels.

Our School is ri-ch, in the Arts,

Spec-tac-u-lar it is.

We sing and dance up on the stage,

Fitzgerald Primary School.

We learn, are safe and happy too,

Fitzgerald Primary School.

Year 1 Excursion – Greenmount Homestead

On the 1st day of August our class 1D went to Greenmount on a big colourful school bus. First we looked at the beautiful landscape. Next we went in the nice old house. I liked the dining room because the white day bed

made me want a rest. Then we went to the museum which was filled with history, like old people from the 20's, 30's, 40's and 50's. We went to Greenmount because we were learning history. I liked the backyard.

Aiden Kean 1D

Wakakirri -

Next Thursday 22nd August, our Fitzgerald Wakakirri team consisting of 76 Year 5, Year 6 and Year 7 students will be competing in the National Story Dance competition at the Mackay Entertainment Centre.

This year, our item has been adapted from the book, "The

Tuckshop Kid" which tells the story of an extremely overweight girl (The Tuckshop Kid) who spends a lot of time playing the x-box and eating takeaway food because her Mum is a workaholic. Mum also leaves early for work and usually gives the girl some money to buy tuckshop. While the tuckshop kid is popular with most children, there are a group of bullies who are always teasing her. One day, in her PE lesson she collapses and comes to the realisation that she needs to make some changes in her life...like making some healthier food choices!

No matter the result next Thursday, we are proud of the students and wish them the best of luck!

The Wakakirri Team.

ICAS Competition – Media Release

Local students commended for their academic performance in the International Competitions and Assessments for the Schools (ICAS) this year. Students from Fitzgerald State School achieved outstanding results when they participated in ICAS this year. Those students whose achievements were outstanding were rewarded with Certificates of Credit, Distinction and High Distinction.

The International Competitions and Assessments for the Schools (ICAS) are independent evaluations of students' skills and knowledge in core learning areas and provide insight into students' understanding. We would like to recognise the participation of students from Fitzgerald State School and congratulate them on their efforts and achievements.

Year 4 Students

Daniel Counsell – Distinction

Tom Daniel - Credit

Rohan Murray – High Distinction

Saurav Raut – Credit

Year 5 Students

Callum Chester-Master – Credit

Brianna Edgar – Credit

Rebecca Flor – Credit

Callum Peterson – Credit

Ella Sippel – Credit

Alicia West – Credit

Year 6 Students

Lily Tarlinton – Credit

Tyler Forbes – High Distinction

Joe Fortescue – High Distinction

Anisha Goonewardane – Credit

Alexander Jesser – Credit

Reilly Kurtz – High Distinction

Carlton Rees – Distinction

Jessica Tilbrook – Credit

Year 7 Students

Benjamin Davies – Credit

Trinity Robinson – Credit

May-lee Wilson - Credit

Science Week Activities (12-16 August) -

The theme for Science Week this year is *A Century of Australian Science*. Guest speakers, who have accepted an invitation to speak to students, include Bryan Lavarack, a Senior Technologist from Mackay Sugar, and Sergeant Tania Spiteri, who works in Forensics at Mackay Police Station. Both guests will speak to students from Years 3 – 7 about their roles as Scientists in their particular fields of work. Students have also been given the opportunity to participate in a Whole School Science Competition which involves researching an Australian Scientist or inventor, coming dressed as this Scientist, and orally presenting



some information about this Scientist to their class. Year Level winners will receive prizes. The main purpose is to engage all students in raising their awareness of what Australian Scientists have contributed to our society over the last 100 years, and perhaps inspire them to become a scientist in the next 100 years.

Thank-you to all students, teachers and Guest Speakers who will be supporting Science Week this year and making it a success.

Chris SpillmanYr7, Science Coordinator.

Opti-Minds Challenge 2013 -

On Sunday 25 August, a team of seven Year 7 students will compete in the Regional Opti-Minds final at Whitsunday Anglican School. They will compete in the Science and Engineering Division, which involves them designing and constructing a 'Topi-Topi Tower and Pendulum' which belonged to the Topi-Topi tribe. Their presentation has to include: A portrayal of the events surrounding the discovery of the Top-topi Tower and Pendulum; a demonstration of their Tower's capacity to withstand the impact of up to 3 direct strikes from the Pendulum; reveal what the Top-Topi tribe used the tower for and the purpose of the attached Pendulum; and an explanation of why the Tower was built on rickety supports (4 empty aluminium cans.)The challenge requires the students to work together on their Long Term Challenge for 6 weeks without assistance from anyone outside the team. Students then present the product of their ideas - their Challenge solution - to a panel of judges and an audience on Challenge Day. They have 10 minutes in which to present in a 3 x 3 metre performance area. The team will also participate in an unseen Spontaneous Challenge. This Challenge requires rapid interchange of ideas, the ability to think effectively, creatively, and well-developed group cooperation skills. With less than 2 weeks to go, the students are working enthusiastically and cooperatively, giving up a lot of their own time, including a "Make Day" last Sunday. GOOD LUCK to the team, which includes: Nicolas Morokutti, Hayley Berck, Lillian Harold, Molly Bristow, Bethany Pratt, Pratibha Raut and Dana Costigan.

Chris Spillman (Team Facilitator) and Laurel Shaw (School Coordinator)

Learning Literacy –

2013 Explicit Instruction by Sue Hamilton-Smith, NP Pedagogy Coach

Our teachers utilise a range of strategies to deliver curriculum, engage their students, maximise learning, provide support and cater for individual need. Explicit Instruction is a strategy valued by the teachers at Fitzgerald State School. In the words of educational expert, Anita Archer, "*One of the greatest tools available to educators is explicit instruction, instruction that is systematic, direct, engaging and success oriented and has been shown to promote achievement for all students.*" Explicit Instruction sits well with our existing TO-WITH-BY educational philosophy. Explicit Instruction begins with a teacher choosing critical curriculum content and ensuring that the lesson learning goal and success criteria are made clear to their students. In the 'I Do' lesson phase a teacher shows the new curriculum material to their students and models the processes and the thinking required to master the content. In the 'We Do' lesson phase, a teacher guides student learning, provides examples and opportunities to work together to gain understanding. In the 'You Do' lesson phase, a teacher checks student understanding and

gives them multiple chances to practice and apply their newly learned skills. A teacher provides feedback and opportunities for review and reflection as they lead their students towards independence, mastery and long term retention of learning.

Complete Learning Initiative

Inside the newsletter today you have received a flyer advertising a great deal on educational material for your household. The programs for sale – at a greatly reduced price – are the programs that teachers have access to in the classroom at Fitzgerald. If you would like to purchase these products please fill in the order form and send it to: EdAlive, P.O. Box 658, Armidale NSW 2350.

P&C News –

Musical Instruments

Our Association has contributed to the successful Instrumental Program with a donation of \$11 000 for a range of bigger instruments.

Polling Day B.B.Q.

If you could volunteer your time to assist on the B.B.Q for an hour or two on Saturday 7th September please contact one of the P&C executive members or the school office.

Sports Notices –

Capricornia Track and Field

Congratulations to Clayton Jenkins, Lockey Rigby, Callum Rebetzke, Logan Clark, Bailee Dunshea, Chloe Miller and Paige Steindl-Corrie who are representing Mackay at the upcoming Capricornia Track and Field trials. We wish these athletes the best of luck.

Secondary Schools Track and Field

We wish Carmen Jooste and Reece Del Simone the best of luck at the upcoming Mackay Secondary School Track and Field trials.

School Tennis Teams Competition

Well done to our tennis players who recently participated in the Mackay Primary Schools Tennis Competition. Team 1 (Kade Allinson, Jacob Flor, Nicolas Morokutti and Ben Davies) finished in 5th place. Team 2 (Jackson Pain, Cameron Harmer and Bridget Donovan) finished in 10th place. Team 3 (Ryan Donovan and Sheridan Donovan) finished in 16th place. Congratulations to all teams.

Northern Suburbs Cricket

Congratulations to Riley James, Jacob Werder and Wesley Dyer who have been selected in the Northern Suburbs Cricket team. We wish these boys the best of luck at the Mackay Trials.

Tuckshop Talk – Roster –

Thurs 15/08 Robyn Adams, Nikki Poa **Fri 16/08** Cath Kean, Geri Nolan **Tues 20/08** Robyn Adams **Wed 21/08** Robyn Adams **Thurs 22/08** Robyn Adams **Fri 23/08** Jean Kelleher, Cath Kean **Tues 27/08** Robyn Adams **Wed 28/08** Robyn Adams

Thank you,

Daneal and Antoinette.

Community Notices –

Mackay Junior Rugby Union

Get ready for our 2013 Season!!! The sign on is on 5pm til 6pm on 21st and 28th August at Quarry Hill.

Contact the club at secretary.mdjru@gmail.com

Mackay Evangelical Church (MAKE)

Mackay Evangelical Church (MAKE) Housewarming Service, 4pm Sunday 25th August at Fitzgerald State School Hall. All welcome!! Free BBQ, Kids Program and kicking off a new series on 'The Relevance of Christianity'. Contact Jai 0429 852 949.