From the Principal’s Desk

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

Mike Anderson
Principal.
This year, our item has been adapted from the book, "The
at the Mackay Entertainment Centre.

Team consisting of 76 Year 5, Year 6 and Year 7 students
was filled with history, like old people from the 20’s, 30’s,
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

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.

Fitzy Fitzgerald Primary School
Fitzy 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 Spillman Yr7, 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 Topi-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.