

## From the Principal's Desk

### 2013 Diary Dates...

**Nov 5:**

Melbourne Cup Day

**Nov 11:**

Remembrance Day

**Nov 12:**

P&C Meeting

**Nov14:**

Spectacular

**Nov 20-22:**

Book Fair

**Dec 3:**

MNHS Yr7

Orientation Day

**Dec 10:**

Awards Night

**Dec 11:**

Report Cards go home

**Dec 12:**

Year 7 Dinner

Dance

**Dec 13:**

Last day of 2013  
school year

Congratulations to our instrumental, choir and drama students who performed creditably at the Mackay Eisteddfod, a big thank you to the staff who prepared our students for the competition and to the parents for their support. A report of achievements is included in this newsletter.

Parents, if you have some information concerning your child's educational, emotional or social needs that might assist us when planning class placements for 2014, please contact the Principal in writing by Friday 8 November. Place this information in a sealed envelope marked 'Class Placement'. Please note that this is not to be a request for a particular teacher.

Our Prep parents for 2014 have their interviews over the coming fortnight. If you know of other parents wanting to enrol their children at our school for 2014 have them contact us at the school office to arrange an interview.

A reminder that the school hat is a royal blue hat with a broad brim at least 7.5cm in width, this ensures that the face is well shaded. Other coloured hats with brand names and slogans on them are not a part of the uniform. This is a timely reminder for those parents who are preparing to purchase for next year.

Last Friday was World Teachers' Day where communities were able to recognise the valuable contribution that our teachers make to the lives of the children they teach. Our school captains, Pratibha and Nic were able to recite an appropriate poem reminding us of the importance that we, as teachers can have to their lives.

The front garden to the hall continues to be developed, thank you to our P&C for donating funds for this project and Dave and Les our grounds staff for their tremendous efforts. The next P&C meeting is planned for Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 5:30pm. You are most welcome to attend. Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson

Principal.

### Student Absence

**Line: 49656360**

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

## Eisteddfod Results

Congratulations to all the students who performed in the 2013 Eisteddfod. Once again our school was well represented and gave successful performances.

**String Ensemble – 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Well done to the Concert Band and Recorder Ensemble for fine performances.**

**4/5 Junior Choir – Gold Award**

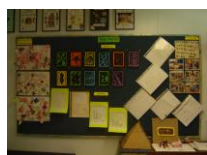
**6/7 Senior Choir – Gold Award and Adjudicator's Trophy**

Well done to the Drama Group for an excellent performance as well.

Miss Green was also awarded the adjudicator's award for the most outstanding conductor at the 2013 Eisteddfod.

Thank you to all staff and parents for their support in the Arts at Fitzgerald.

## Foyer News – 7A and 7B



Currently in Maths we are studying Statistics which includes creating and analysing graphs. Students have enjoyed learning how to create the various graphs manually

and electronically.

In Visual Arts, we explored negative and positive images through lino cuts and the art of Paul Klee.

In Technology last term, students investigated, designed, produced and evaluated ancient Egyptian artefacts such as Pyramids of Giza, Sphinx, Scarabs and Hieroglyphs.

## Young ICT Explorers

On Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of September, 6B held their Young ICT Explorers Day. Our special day in the school hall displayed our projects and all of the Year 5 classes and Year 6 students of Eimeo State School participated in our interactive activities.

Mr Anderson and Mr Geoff Fleming judged each of the projects and prizes were awarded to the following groups.

High Achiever	Houses and Colours Website
Educator Innovation	Robina - Robotics
Most Creative	Loo Locator - App
Commendable (Judge's Choice)	Infinity Tanker – Game Maker
Commendable (People's Choice)	Add Bot - Robotics
People's Choice 1 <sup>st</sup>	Dream Green – Paint.Net
People's Choice 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Stop Motion Animation
People's Choice 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Putt Putt Pro - Robotics

**By Georgia Park**

## SES & Water Rescue

Last week, Year 6 was fortunate to be able to listen to



two guest speakers Mr Justin Englert of the SES -State Emergency Service and Mr Mark Ashford from Swift Water Rescue. Mr Englert spoke to us regarding



preparing for a cyclone, how to protect yourself and home during and after a natural disaster as a part of our SOSE Unit of Work. He also showed us the protective gear worn during various

scenarios and talked to us about what his job as a SES worker is about and the fantastic work the SES volunteers do to help in our community. It was extremely interesting to listen and watch the footage he showed on a mudslide that occurred in Mirani not too far from Mackay.

Mr Ashford spoke to us about the important role the Swift Water Rescue Team play in an effort to keep people safe or to rescue them in life threatening situations. Mr Ashford who is also a Fireman reminded us that it is our 'responsibility' to keep ourselves safe and to avoid situations where we may need to be rescued, for example in a flooded creek, drain or should we be caught unprepared in a storm surge.

We all learnt a great deal from the two men who came to our school and shared their knowledge with us. We are all now creating our own Personal Cyclone Safety Survival Plan as part of our assessment so that we too can help at home during the next cyclone season.

**Shameus Edwards**

## Visit from Bunnings



If you go out into the woods shortly, you will get a big surprise! This year Shelley from Bunnings Warehouse has been diligently working with 6B as part of our Sustainability Projects. Bunnings have been

providing help with all six projects. We have almost completed several of our projects, which is a great achievement. The beautification of the Rainforest Walk is complete with three very interesting characters who will keep you entertained on your next Cross Country run; the area between the Year 3 and 6 classrooms is a picture of colour!

Unfortunately, due to the Mackay Region now declared in drought, we have had to postpone the work on our vegetable and herb gardens for the moment, as it is not sustainable to continue to water them. We were lucky enough to be able to share

some of our cherry tomatoes with the teachers over the last few months.

**Wesley Dyer**

### **Adopt-a-Cop**

We welcome Constable Alana Davis from Mackay Police as the Adopt-a-Cop to our school. We are looking forward to having Constable Davis work with our classes and staff. Constable Davis will be introduced to our students at a school assembly in the coming weeks.

### **KidsMatter**

KidsMatter Primary is a mental health and wellbeing framework for primary schools and is proven to make a positive difference to the lives of Australian children.

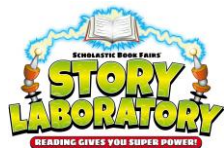
KidsMatter Primary provides the proven methods, tools and support to help schools work with parents and carers, health services and the wider community, to nurture happy, balanced kids. This program has been running at Fitzgerald with staff receiving professional development opportunities throughout the past year.

KidsMatter provides families with a range of information sheets to help them support children's mental health and wellbeing, and to recognise if and when professional help is needed.

They contain practical information, tips, and strategies across a range of common childhood issues, and were prepared by professionals experienced in the area of children's mental health and development.

To access the website, please go to <http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/>

### **News from the Library**



Our final Book Fair for 2013 will be held in the LIBRARY ANNEX on Wednesday November 20, Thursday November 21 and

Friday November 22.

Opening hours: 8.00-9.00am and 3.00-4.00pm on Wednesday and Thursday BUT 8.00-9.00am on Friday only!

Remember we will have our EARLY BIRD SALES on Tuesday evening – 5.00-7.00pm!

All sales from Book Fair directly help our Library!

### **Learning Literacy**

'Connect with the Text' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Pedagogy Coach

Effective readers connect with a text before, during and after reading. A text is easier to read and understand when a reader can tap into their prior knowledge and make connections about a topic,

theme, author or text type. As readers read more, learn more words and find out more about the world, they become better readers. Readers relate what they read to personal experiences (text-to-self), to information from other texts (text-to-text) and to information about the world (text-to-world) in order to enhance their understanding as they move from the known to the new. We shouldn't underestimate the power of the information in our heads when reading difficult text. So, encourage your developing reader to access relevant prior knowledge and make connections with a text when reading.

♥ Text-to-Self: *I know about this. I've done this. I've been there. It's a part of my story. I've experienced this. It's personal.*

📖 Text-to-Text: *I've read about this. I've learnt about this. I've seen it on TV. I've seen a movie. I've visited a website. I saw this on a poster.*

🌐 Text-to-World: *This is like when... This reminds me of... The issue is... A parallel is... The beyond the text message is... This is similar to...*

### **Sports Notices**

#### **State Track and Field Trials**

Congratulations to our three Capricornia representatives who recently participated in the State Track and Field Trials in Brisbane. Logan Clark, Chloe Miller and Paige Steindl-Corrie all performed strongly at the trials and achieved some great results up against the state's best athletes. Congratulations to our three athletes.

### **Tuckshop Roster**

Thurs – 31/10 – Robyn Adams, Nikki Pao

Fri – 1/11 – Cath Kean

Tues – 5/11 – Cath Kean, Robyn Adams

Wed – 6/11 – Robyn Adams

Thurs – 7/11 – HELP NEEDED

Fri – 8/11 – Julie Dowe, Cath Kean

Tues – 12/11 – Robyn Adams

Wed – 13/11 - Robyn Adams

### **Community Notices**

**Cyclone Saturday** – Learn how to prepare yourself, your family and your property for natural disasters. Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 9am to 3pm at Caneland Central or visit [www.mackay.qld.gov.au/emergency](http://www.mackay.qld.gov.au/emergency)

#### **Have you heard about eKindy**

What is eKindy? A flexible 'at home' kindergarten program, with online support from qualified teachers, equivalent to a centre-based program.

What does it cost? There are no fees for families who meet the eligibility criteria.

Is my child eligible? You can register for eKindy if:

Your child turns 4 by June 30 in their kindy year.

You fit one of the following categories: Distance, Medical, Travelling/itinerant lifestyle.

To find out more contact the Brisbane School of Distance Education on 07 3727 2421 or visit

<http://brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/wcms/index.php/ekindy>