

ISSUE NO 16

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2016 Diary Dates...

10th Nov – Spectacular Performance
14- 18th Nov- Book Fair
7th Dec – Report cards to go home
8th Dec – Year 6 Graduation Dinner Dance
9th Dec – Last day of school.

26 October 2016

From the Principal's Desk

Our students performed with credit at the recent Mackay Eisteddfod. A list of awards is included in this newsletter. Thank you to all staff, volunteers and parents who prepared our students for this event.

Parents, if you have information concerning your child's educational or social needs that might assist us when planning class placements for 2017, please contact the Principal in writing by Friday 4th 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.

As part of State Education Week which is being celebrated this week, we recognise our volunteers who do a terrific job in supporting our staff. Certificates of Appreciation will be sent home on Friday.

World Teachers' Day is celebrated this Friday. Please take the opportunity to acknowledge our teachers for the tremendous work that they do with our children. Congratulations teachers!

Interviews for the Prep cohort for 2017 are being conducted at present. If you are aware of families interested in enrolling their children at Fitzgerald for next year from Prep to year six, remind them to contact us to arrange an interview.

Don't forget our next P&C Meeting will be held on Monday 7th November at 5:30pm in the staffroom. You are most welcome to attend.

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.



Foyer Display

Year 4 experienced different types of outdoor challenge activities on our Year 4 camp to Kinchant Dam. We were split into different groups with students from

all classes. We made new friendships and shared adventures and stories.

School Confidence – Parent Survey

The recent statewide School Opinion Survey indicated that 100% of the parent respondents agreed that students received a good education at our school. It is pleasing to see this show of confidence from our parent group. A big well done to our staff and students.

Attendance Award

Year 3A had a 100% attendance record for week two of this term. Excellent attendance year 3A students, well done. The class received their class certificate on the Monday assembly.

Instrumental Music Selection 2017

The instrumental music selection process is now underway for 2017. We will be selecting students from Year 2 for Strings and from Year 3 for Woodwind, Brass and Percussion. The selection process is very stringent and involves input from classroom teachers, the music teacher and from the administration. Student selection is based upon behaviour, parent and home support and musical ability. If your child has been selected they will receive a letter of invitation to attend a parent meeting on Wednesday 23rd November. The meeting attendance is noted as a sign of your commitment and support for your child to participate in the instrumental music program. If you are unable to be present at this meeting it is vital that you contact the school regarding this matter.

If your child does not receive an invitation and you wish to discuss the possibilities of them joining the instrumental music program please come to see me- Jill Green - Music Teacher

Eisteddfod



We have been preparing for the Eisteddfod over the past few months with all of our ensembles performing at a very successful Cultural Evening at the end of last term. Thank you

to all parents who attended and supported their children. Great preparation has been rewarded with great results and once again our school was well represented at the Mackay Eisteddfod and gave great performances. Congratulations to all the students who performed so well.

Results for the 2016 Mackay Eisteddfod are as follows:

- String Ensemble – 1st Place and Adjudicator's Choice for the Most Enjoyable Performance in the Primary Schools Instrumental Section
- Recorder Ensemble – 1st Place
- Senior Concert Band – Commendable Performance
- Junior Concert Band – 2nd Place
- Year 3 Choir – Gold Award
- Year 4 Choir – Gold Award
- Year 5/6 Senior Choir – Gold Award and Adjudicator's Choice for Best Performance
- Drama Group – 2nd Place

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

Musica Viva Visits our school!

Yesterday our school was fortunate to receive a performance by visiting Musica Viva group – 'Pastance'. The group is one of Australia's most well-known and highly acclaimed celtic folk groups. The folk trio impressed the students with their musical expertise on instruments from the Baroque and Renaissance period and Ireland and Scotland. Students from Prep to Year 6 have been introduced to the music over several weeks in their classroom music lessons with the concert being a culminating event. Musica Viva is a wonderful way to introduce students to different genres of music and expose them to live performances with professional musicians!

Thanks for your support

Jill Green

Music Teacher.

News from the Library

Save the Date! "Christmas in Australia Book Fair" will be held from the Monday afternoon 14th November to Friday morning 18th November! What a fantastic opportunity to get all of your Christmas shopping done all at the one place, with fantastic presents for the whole family. This year we will have a wish basket for the students to place one book that they would like to see in our school library, this is an opportunity for the students to select books and make our library their own. This season's Book Fair will be an exciting celebration full of fun activities and hundreds of books kids want to read. If you have some time to help us plan or conduct our next Book Fair, please pop into the library or drop me an email (jstua19@eq.edu.au) identifying where you would like to help out.

Digital Technology News

Prep B connected their learning of shapes in Maths with Digital Technologies this week by drawing a shape using our 3D printer pen! It was a little tricky making sure that we had the speed and direction of the pen correct, ensuring we wore gloves to protect our fingers from the hot point of the pen and choosing our filament colour. As we progress through using the 3D pen our creations will become even better!

Janelle Stuart



Office News

Enrolment intention forms went home with the last newsletter, if you have not returned your form please ring or come into the office to let us know if you will be returning to Fitzgerald State School in 2017 so we can better plan our classes for next year.

Thanks to everyone who has already sent these forms back.

QParents

Last week all parents received an invitation email to register for QParents, if you did not receive this email please contact the school.



QParent tip: To record an absence or report an unexplained absence.

1. Choose Attendance from the Menu
2. Notify of upcoming absence
3. Select all day
4. Start date and end date
5. Please explain absence (**Please ensure reason is less than 100 characters**)
6. Submit
7. If absence is **unexplained** scroll down on the attendance menu and choose the absent day with the blue exclamation mark and submit your reason. (**Please ensure reason is less than 100 characters**)

'Super value' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher

Congratulations to Fitzgerald Years 5 & 6 Drama Group for receiving second place at this year's Mackay Eisteddfod. The adjudicator commented, "This was such a balanced production, imaginative, energised and carried the audience with its total participation of excellence." With dialogue, movement and sound, the group interpreted the *Nine Values for Australian Schooling* in their ten minute 'Supervalue' performance piece. The item begins with a dark world without values and a once superhero who has lost his powers to help. However, the group leads Supervalue (played by Jackson Cross of 6C) on a journey of discovery. Together they find people who still care, who show compassion, honesty, integrity and respect and who value the freedom and rights of others. Our superhero recovers his powers and the kids learn that being clever is a super strategy for dealing with even the toughest bullies. You are invited to watch the Drama Group perform 'Supervalue' at the Junior Assembly, this Friday 28 October and at the Senior Assembly on Monday 7 November. Thank-you to Drama Group teachers Jill Green, Alex Jesshope, Sam Scott-Girgenti and Sue Hamilton-Smith for meeting with the group each Wednesday lunchtime throughout 2016.

'Seven Steps to Writing Success' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher

Lily Boland of 2D has used Step 5 of the 'Seven Steps to Writing Success', the 'Show Don't Tell' writing technique, including a creative simile to describe the movement of the arms of an octopus.

Cramped in the tank he paddles along the floor, hoping for escape. His tentacles waving around like a crowd outside Justin Bieber's house. He sees his slimy body in the reflection of the glass.

Annabelle Hudson of 2C has used Step 6 of the 'Seven Steps to Writing Success', the 'Ban the Boring Bits' writing technique. Annabelle researched her topic well and included expanded noun groups and relative pronoun clauses to add detail to her factual animal report.

Wombats are a type of mammal called a marsupial. Wombats have a silky covering of thick and tough fur, which covers mostly all of their body. They are also solitary, which means they live on their own and look after themselves. Wombats have short, speedy legs that can run up to 35 kilometres an hour.

P & C Notices -

At the recent P&C meeting there was a discussion about proposed future P&C projects around the school and there will be a short survey going home in the next few weeks, inviting input from the school community on which project to pursue first. The Father's Day Stall and raffle at the end of last term raised over \$4,300 profit and the P&C looks forward to putting funds like these to good use on projects around the school. Special thanks to Cindy Lawn and her team for their efforts with the Father's Day Stall.

Tuckshop Survey and Positions

Thanks to all those parents who gave their feedback through the recent Tuckshop survey. There were over 160 responses, with some great feedback and results have now been compiled. We look forward to rolling out changes as we move into the New Year.

Also, applications for the two paid Tuckshop positions have closed. The P&C have been overwhelmed with responses. Interviews will be happening soon. Thanks to all those who have applied.

Spellathon:

Thanks to students and their parents for supporting the school Spellathon, with most of the money now in. Prizes will be calculated for presentation on parade, November 4th. Approximately \$4000 was raised.

Pizza Day:

Pizza money is due in by this Friday for Pizza day on Monday 31st October.

School Pack Orders:

These orders are due by 7 November 2016 (Monday week) for delivery back to parents by 1 December 2016.

Tuckshop Talk

Roster:

Thurs 27th – Robyn Adams & Tamika Cook

Frid 28th – Tamika Cook

Tues 1st Nov – Robyn Adams

Wed 2nd – Robyn Adams

Thurs 3rd – Robyn Adams & Debbie

Fri 4th - Maisie Greaves & Tamika Cook

Tues 8th – Robyn Adams

Wed 9th – Robyn Adams & Debbie

Thurs 10th – Robyn Adams & Tamika

Fri 11th – Mary Maloney & Tamika

*Please do not staple or use sticky tape on bags.

Correct order on correct day and correct money or students may not get all tuckshop ordered.

Community Notices: Churches of Christ – Foster Carers. We need your help please phone 4953 5097 for more information.