

## From the Principal's Desk

### 2013 Diary Dates...

#### Nov14:

Spectacular

#### Nov 27-29

New Date for Book Fair

#### Dec 3:

MNHS Yr7 Orientation Day

#### Dec4:

Pioneer SHS Yr7 Orientation Day

#### Dec 10:

Awards Night

#### Dec 11:

Report Cards go home

#### Dec 12:

Year 7 End of Year Excursion  
Graduation Dinner  
Dance

#### Dec 13:

Last day of 2013 school year

#### Jan 28:

2014 School Year Begins

We are looking forward to the Spectacular 'Ghost Camp'. 'Ghost Camp' is based on a group of students going on a school camp. The camp venue is situated on prime real estate, so the developers set about trying to ambush the camp by having a ghost appearing to scare the students. Along the way, there are many funny scenes and comic "one liners". Like all previous year 7 productions, it showcases our school's vast array of talent. It's a must-see for all!!

#### **Concert One:** Commences at **6.00pm**.

**Prep, Year One, Year Two and Year Three** students should assemble in the **undercover walkway** located between the Entertainment Centre and the City Library at 5:30pm.

**END OF ITEMS:** Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 will exit the stage to either their parents in the audience or to the Theatre Entry near Door 3 at 6.20pm and 6.30pm respectively, if in the audience please abide by the instructions of the stage crew.

Children in Year 3 will exit via backstage and assemble in the grassed area for collection by parents at the conclusion of the first show.

We anticipate Concert One will conclude by about 7.00pm

**End of Concert One You Must Vacate the Theatre.**

#### **Concert Two:** Commences at **7.30pm**.

**Years 4 to 6 students** should assemble in the Entertainment Centre Grounds **near the Fountain at 7:00pm**. Students in Years 5 and 6 will be escorted to their seats at the rear of the theatre after their performances. Year 4 students should have a ticket to sit with parents after their performance or they will be collected by parents.

**Year 5 and 6 students** who are not staying for the rest of the show after their class item must be collected by parents' immediately in the foyer area when their children have completed their commitments. Teachers will be unable to wait with children due to other performance duties so we ask parents to be prompt in this matter.

**Year 7 Students who are performing in the first half of Concert 2 and/or the Year 7 production are required to go straight to the Space where they will be supervised.**

### **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.



Mike Anderson

Principal.

## Foyer News – Prep B



Prep B are studying Cultures of the World. So far we have explored Australia, China, Japan and Italy. Children in Prep B have written a small sentence about people who live in China.

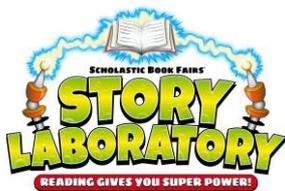
## Spectacular Update

The Spectacular update has been sent home with students. This update contains details for the full school rehearsal on Wednesday 13 November and other valuable information. Please keep this information close at hand over the coming days to help you to stay informed.

**Spectacular Programs for sale at the office for \$1 each. There will be no programs sold at the Theatre.**

## News from the Library

### Stop Press!! Change of date!



Our final Book Fair for 2013 will be held in the LIBRARY ANNEX on Wednesday November 27, Thursday November 28 and Friday

November 29.

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!

## Our Very Clever Pinecone People!



As we mentioned in our last newsletter article, we have been working on a sustainability project to create or beautify something in our school. Our group, choose to beautify our school rainforest. Shelly from Bunnings came in and helped us out. She suggested for



us to make people made of chicken wire and stuff them with pinecones to hang in the trees. We have made a great success completing this project with the help of our fellow classmates. Dave and Les helped us to wire the forest people onto the trees to look like they are climbing.

From Layla Beckingham and Lily Pringle

## 6B's Pro-Bags



This week, the whole of Year 6B created a bag that contains their school profiles. The dedicated teacher of this class worked long hours creating the basic design of these Pro-bags (profile bag). Each student decorated and blanket-stitched their Pro-bag in a Christmas theme.

The students commenced their masterpiece on Remembrance Day and finished late this afternoon. Many students received help from their peers. We used fabric paint, fabric glue, glittery glitter, shiny stars made of plastic, fabric pens and an assortment of other things. Although it took the class about ten minutes to clean up each time, we worked (to a certain degree) well. These bags will be used as a Christmas present to our parents. Everyone in Year 6B thoroughly enjoyed this activity and would happily do it again.

Written by Tyler Forbes

## 2014 School Term Dates

Queensland Term Dates:

Term 1 Tuesday 28 January – Friday 4 April

Term 2 Tuesday 22 April – Friday 27 June

Term 3 Monday 14 July – Friday 19 September

Term 4 Tuesday 7 October – Friday 12 December

For more information the 2014 school calendar can be downloaded at

[www.education.qld.gov.au/public\\_media/calender/holidays.html](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/public_media/calender/holidays.html)

## Learning Literacy

*Our Creative Beat!* by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Pedagogy Coach

Fitzgerald State School has a creative beat. Each year I am amazed at how our teachers think up innovative Spectacular items, drawing on current happenings, curriculum changes and literature for their inspiration. Members of the Fitzgerald School community are amazingly transformed into event coordinators, box office administrators, playwrights, choreographers, producers, directors, sound and light technicians, makeup and hair artists, program, prop, set and costume designers and backstage crew. We are master recyclers, our staff, parents and friends are old hands at mutating junk into treasure, castle walls into time machines, sails into table cloths. New sequins transform last year's vests, skirts and hats in order to match this year's theme and to ensure that the true stars of the show, our students, shine on

Spectacular night. And that's where all that effort is rewarded. As each year level takes to the stage, the confidence grows, the stagecraft becomes more refined, until the year sevens amaze us with their polished theatrical skills. This week's 'Spectacular' is a creative and collaborative effort, a showcase and celebration of the arts education at Fitzgerald State School. The benefits of an arts rich education are great. Studies show that students who engage in the arts demonstrate improved performance in academic grades, reading levels and attitudes concerning community. Participation in the arts broadens experience and access to meaning, caters for different learning styles and promotes divergent and creative thinking. This event promotes community – a shared purpose and team spirit. In the classroom this translates to students who have a sense of belonging, have developed positive relationships with those around them, who feel good about themselves. Students who feel good about themselves are ready to learn and to take on the world.

**The Premier's Reading Challenge** - Well done to those students who have received a Certificate of Achievement for completing this year's Premier's Reading Challenge, an initiative to support students to develop a love of reading. Premier Newman believes that whether it is to escape in a good book or to help them with their chosen career, the literacy skills students develop will help build a better future for Queensland. Congratulations to Miss Bankie's 5/6E and Mrs Stuart's 6B, entire classes who completed the challenge!

Break a leg this week Fitzgerald!

### **More readers reading more books in this year's Premier's Reading Challenge**

This year 84 000 Queensland state and non-state Prep to Year 7 students successfully completed the 8<sup>th</sup> Premier's Reading Challenge – up from 82 000 participants last year. During the challenge, participating students read more than 1.7 million books – 100 000 more books than last year.

This is a great outcome as reading, apart from being an enjoyable activity in its own right, is important for improving student literacy and learning outcomes.

Congratulations to our students who participated. Once again the participation rate from our school was high with students receiving recognition for their efforts on school parade.

### **Interviews for 2014 Enrolments**

Parents if you know of families interested in enrolling their children at our school for next year, have them contact the school as the administration team is conducting interviews over the next two weeks. If you

do not intend being at our school for next year, contact the office. Thank you.

### **Event arrangements for Year 6 in 2014**

As 2014 will be the last year of primary school for year 6, consideration has been given to this factor in planning events for next year. Following discussion at staff meetings and P&C meetings the following opportunities are planned –

1. Leadership – elected additional representatives for student council, captaincy positions and system monitors.
2. A Laptop classroom.
3. A Graduation Ceremony and shirt.
4. A combined Year 6 and 7 Spectacular Item.

Please note: Planned Year 7 opportunities remain the same as in previous years.

### **Spell-a-thon Thank you**

A big thank you to our community for its support of the recent school Spell-a-thon, we were able to raise \$7888. Already projects like water bubbler installations are planned for our school.

### **P & C News**

A number of projects were approved at our monthly meeting, 4 water bubblers at a cost of \$6000, one thousand readers to supplement our infant reading schemes at a cost of \$7200. The shelter over the infant fort at a cost of \$18000 will be constructed over the summer vacation. This is tremendous support from our P&C to provide resources for our students.

### **Lost Property**

The lost property box in the office is full! If your child is missing jumpers, lunchboxes, shoes or anything else then come and look to see if any of it belongs to them. It will all be donated to a charity if not collected.

### **Tuckshop News**

Please ensure when ordering tuckshop it is correct before handing in. Also please ensure that the correct money is placed into the bag as we will not be able to complete the order. If you require a menu please ask at the office for a copy. Thank you, Daneal and Antoinette.

### **Tuckshop Roster**

Wed – 13/11 – Robyn Adams  
Thurs – 14/11 – Robyn Adams, Nikki Pao  
Fri – 15/11 – Cath Kean  
Tues – 19/11 – Robyn Adams  
Wed – 20/11 – Robyn Adams  
Thurs – 21/11 – Robyn Adams, Nikki Pao  
Fri – 22/11 – Cath Kean  
Tues – 26/11 – Robyn Adams  
Wed – 27/11 – Robyn Adams