

From the Principal's Desk

2013 Diary Dates...

Nov 27-29

Book Fair

Dec 3:

MNHS Yr7 Orientation Day

Dec4:

Pioneer SHS Yr7 Orientation Day

Dec 10:

Awards Night

Dec 10:

P&C Meeting after 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 - Finish at 3pm

Jan20:

Office Re-opens

Jan 27:

Australia Day
Public Holiday

Jan 28:

2014 School Year Begins

Congratulations to all staff, support team and students who were able to make the Spectacular such an enjoyable occasion for us. The standard of performance never ceases to amaze, already we are looking with anticipation to next year's production.

The years 5 to 7 Awards Ceremony will be held on Tuesday 10th December at 6pm. This Ceremony recognises those students who have excelled in the Academic, Social, Sporting and Cultural areas for 2013. The students involved will receive a letter of invitation next week.

Just a reminder that our last P&C Meeting for the year will be held following the Award Ceremony on the 10th December. This meeting is expected to start at 7:30pm. This will be an opportunity to thank the small but willing group of parents who have provided the direction to enable us to plan and deliver on projects this year such as the front fence, hall gardens, reading book purchases, infant shelter and water bubblers. You are most welcome to this meeting.

The Best of the Bunch (B.O.B) activities are being organised for students who have exhibited good behaviour throughout the term. Arrangements for these activities will be sent home with the students over the coming fortnight.

The Semester Two Report Cards will be issued on Wednesday 11th December. Parent-Teacher interviews are on a request only basis from either the parent or class teacher.

In the annual Statewide Opinion Survey, 100% of the parent respondents agreed that their child is getting a good education at our school. This response indicates good support for our school staff, thank you for your continuing support.

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.

WELL DONE ON A SPECTACULAR SPECTACULAR 2013!!

Students from Prep to Year 7 excelled on stage at our school's annual Spectacular. Teachers continue to do a fantastic job of preparing their students, giving them the opportunity to perform in a real theatre experience. We enjoyed everything from weather warriors, monsters and folk tales to exploring the evolution of dance and the power of music to bring nations together in peace and harmony and our Year 7 students excelled in their humorous production of 'Ghost Camp.' A huge thankyou to everyone involved as it takes the efforts of everyone in the school to provide a spectacular production and such a rich experience for our students.



News from the Library

Many thanks to the families who have supported our Book Fair again! We are very appreciative of the support the Fitzgerald community gives to the Library every year. Through your support of Book Fair in particular we gain about \$5,000 worth of resources! Well done!

The end of the year is fast approaching and that means that we need all resources returned to the Library as soon as possible. **All students need to return Library books by Friday 29 November.**

The Library will then remain **CLOSED** for Library staff to complete the annual Stocktake. Students who have lost books will be asked to pay for the replacement of those books.

Leonie Ross and I would like to wish the Fitzgerald Community a safe and happy Christmas season and look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year!

Laurel Shaw – Teacher Librarian

Instrumental Music Selection 2014

Instrumental music selection process is now underway for 2014. 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 / student meeting details of which will be in the letter.

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

Learning Literacy

It's ALL important! By Sue Hamilton-Smith, Pedagogy Coach.

At Fitzgerald State School we take pride in ensuring that our students receive a well-rounded education. It is good practice to teach a wide range of facts and procedures through a balance of subjects, in a variety of ways, taking interests and different learning styles into account as they are taught. Our core business is the academic. We

strive to produce literate, numerate, knowledgeable problem-solvers. We develop readers, who read more and read more widely, fiction and non-fiction texts, for a variety of purposes. We value traditional and new technologies. We value diversity. We support those students whose first language is not English; we teach a second language to our upper primary classes. We provide students with opportunities to increase their world knowledge and understanding of the issues that are of concern to our society. We focus on social development and stress our core school values of Compassion, Courtesy and Communication. We aim high and expect students to work hard to achieve their best. We enlist your support, realising that positive home-school partnerships maximises student achievement. We know the worth of imagination. Last week's Arts Spectacular was a wonderful culmination and celebration of the creative offerings at the school. We teach the importance of good health. Physical Education is an integral part of the school routine. We see that exercise increases a students' cognitive control, their ability to pay attention – and also result in better academic achievement. We want it all: clever, caring, creative and healthy citizens, equipped with the motivation, knowledge and skills to take on an ever changing world. We want every student to look forward to their favourite time of their school week. It is all important to continued student engagement AND it's great literacy learning!

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.

Movember Support – Our Staff



To donate to the Fitzgerald Staff and help change the face of men's health visit <http://mobro.co/fitz.fuzz> or send a cheque to Movember Foundation, PO Box 60 EAST MELBOURNE, VIC, 8002.

Teachers – Tim Campbell, Matthew Doolan, Russell Hope, Dave Merritt, Simon Kochevatkin
Principal – Michael Anderson
Chaplain – Nic Ayre
Groundsmen – Dave Peut, Les Tselepy
Technical Support – Dominic Venables

Sports Notices

Sports Person of the Year Awards – State Primary

Recently, some of our students were recognised at the Mackay Sports Person of the Year Awards. Riley James received recognition for being a state representative in the sport of softball and also received an award for being the top softballer this year. Paige Steindl-Corrie received awards for both basketball and touch football and was awarded the top female touch football player award. Both Paige and Riley were selected in the top 7 Mackay sportspeople this year. Shameus Edwards was awarded with a touch football medallion and Declan Wheeler and Isaiah Kennel were awarded with boys soccer medallions to recognise them as being in the top 3 sportspeople in their sport. Congratulations to all our award recipients.

Tuckshop News

As there is only 3 weeks left of school the tuckshop will run low on some things on the menu. We will endeavour to fulfil all orders placed and substitute where we can. Please note, tuckshop will be closed Friday 13th December and reopen the second week back at school next year with a new menu. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers. Hope to see new faces next year as the tuckshop cannot run without your help, so please consider volunteering an hour or two of your time. We wish you all a merry Christmas and safe holidays. See you all in 2014.

Daneal and Antoinette.

Tuckshop Roster

Thurs – 28/11 – Robyn Adams, Nikki Poa
Fri - 29/11 – Cath Kean
Tues – 3/12 – Robyn Adams
Wed – 4/12 – Robyn Adams
Thurs – 5/12 – Robyn Adams, Nikki Poa
Fri – 6/12 – Cath Kean
Tues – 10/12 – Robyn Adams
Wed – 11/12 – Robyn Adams
Thurs – 12/12 – Robyn Adams, Nikki Poa
Fri - 13/12 - **Tuckshop CLOSED**