

## ISSUE NO 3

[www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au](http://www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au)

### 2017 Diary Dates...

**7<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Men's Group  
Yarning Circle 12:45-  
1:30pm

**10<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Cross Country

**14<sup>th</sup> Mar – 30<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Life  
Education

**20<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Choral Festival

**24<sup>th</sup> Mar** – School disco

**27<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Year 6 Cyber  
safety talk

**31<sup>st</sup> Mar** – Easter Hat  
Parade

**31<sup>st</sup> Mar** – Last day of  
Semester

1<sup>st</sup> March 2017

## From the Principal's Desk

We look forward to the student leader induction parade on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 9:00am. Twenty-nine of our students will be presented with their leader and monitor badges by invited guests, Ms Julieanne Gilbert, State Member for Mackay, Mr George Christensen, Federal Member for Dawson and Constable Tonia Braford, our Adopt-a Cop.

Our students continue to be reminded of the 'Fitz High 5', which is a useful strategy to describe how to solve problems between them. The strategy is included in this newsletter. Parents if you could discuss the 5 possible ways with your children to assist us at school.

At times as a parent you will want to make contact with us about a decision made or an action taken here at school. You are most welcome to talk to a teacher, or a member of administration and state your concern calmly, clearly and courteously. Being aggressive will not help resolve any issue.

The class 5D received the attendance award on parade for a perfect 100% attendance recorded last week. A big congratulations girls and boys.

Our P&C AGM will be held on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> March at 5:30pm in the staffroom. You are most welcome to attend.



Year 5D celebrate 100%  
Attendance

### 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.

Enjoy your week.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike".

Mike Anderson

Principal

## Staff Profile



Dear Parents and Families,  
I'm Kathryn Cook and I'm teaching 5E this year. This will be my second year in Mackay, and I find the cooler climate and greener pastures a welcoming

change from my previous home of Townsville. Although I miss my previous school, I have found a warm welcome among the community of Fitzgerald State School. The children in 5E are working hard, and will continue to grow in leaps and bounds throughout the year.



### Foyer Display

Students in Year 1 have been studying the emotions of characters in picture books. One of the books they read is called The Pout-Pout Fish. This fish was a glum and gloomy swimmer,

until he found his true purpose in life. The students from 1A and 1B shared their favourite part of the story and created a Pout-Pout fish to accompany it.

### From the Office –

Student account statements will be sent home this week, we apologise for how late these are being received this year. If you could please make payment as soon as possible it would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to make regular payments into our account to cover these costs please contact us and we will make note of this. There is the option of having payments deducted automatically from your Centrelink account, please contact us if you require more information about implementing this. We can complete this in the office without you having to visit Centrelink. If your child is in the year 6 laptop class you will need to make full or part payment for this device before they can take it home. Life Education will be visiting out school starting on March 14, this amazing educational experience is available to all students and has been added into your fee schedule, this payment will need to be made for your child to attend.

If there are any questions regarding your statement or fee structure please call or visit the office.

### Fitz High 5 - What is Fitz High 5?

'Fitz High 5' is a whole school approach to build social skills and develop resilience. It is an integral part of the Values Program and shapes the School Code of Behaviour. This 5 step problem solving strategy can be used in the classroom and in the playground to diffuse potential conflict situations. IGNORE, TALK FRIENDLY, WALK AWAY, TALK FIRMLY, AND REPORT.



**Religious Instruction -** We are currently seeking volunteers to teach Religious Instruction in the following year levels:

Year 4 – 4 classes

Year 5 – 5 classes

Interested people are to be approved by their minister to teach Religious Instruction and must have a Working with Children check (Blue Card). Please contact Tracey Adams as soon as possible on 49656333.

## Road safety Alert

Don't forget to use the supervised crossing before and after school. Let us not put students at risk by walking across Norris Road at the front of the school.

### **School Bus assistance for lower income families.**

The safety net scheme was developed by the State Government to assist students who do not receive other forms of School Transport Assistance and are members of lower income families. Application forms and further details are available by calling Translink Division 4951 8673.

### **School Attendance**

The safety and wellbeing of students are the highest priorities for Fitzgerald State School and for the Department of Education and Training. Fitzgerald State School encourages all children to attend school every day as higher student attendance is associated with higher student achievement. If your child is absent from school it is important that the school is notified on the day of your child's absence. Please phone the school absence line on 49 656 360. If the school does not receive notification, an SMS will be sent notifying the parent of the absence. Please follow the SMS prompts to provide an explanation for the absence.

If you are experiencing difficulty in sending your child to school, please contact the classroom teacher or deputy principal, Mr Peter Robinson for advice and support.

### **News from the Library -**

We have an exciting competition available to our school at the moment. "Take a photo of your library – outside or inside – and send it to [marketing@hachette.com.au](mailto:marketing@hachette.com.au) for your chance to win. Also be sure to tell the publisher in twenty-five words or less which book you would borrow again and again." See the poster on our Library door for more information.

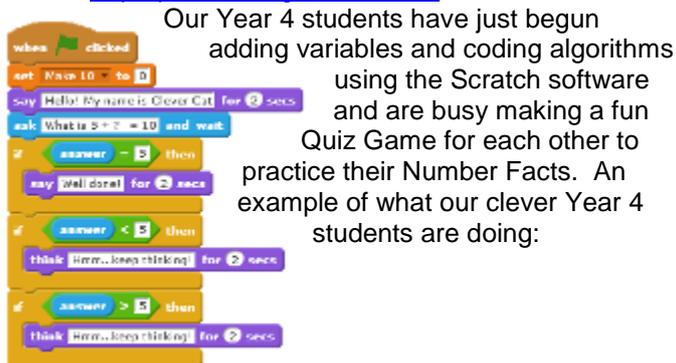


This competition is to promote Natalie Jane Prior's new book illustrated by Cheryl Orsini, called *Lucy's Book*. It is a great celebration of a child's love for a particular book, shared with her friends so the book is virtually loved to death. Entries close 30.6.17. It is just being covered by the lovely Mrs Ross as we speak. On the week of the 20<sup>th</sup> March we will be celebrating Harmony Day in our Library with a week full of fun and interactive activities. We will have badge making, dragon cups, African masks, paint pot decorating and so much more during this week. We will share photographs and stories following our Harmony Week Celebrations. Please come and see us in the Library if you would like to help out in any way. We would also like to congratulate our Reader's Cup entrants from 6B & 6D for 2017 who are about to embark on a great reading journey and we wish them well in their reading and questions.

### **Digital Technology News**

To promote our work on cyber safety for our Year 6 students, we are about to embark on the Webonauts Internet Academy program. It provides students with an opportunity to have some fun while exploring what it means to be a citizen in a web-infused, information-rich world. It is a great site to promote conversations about media literacy and citizenship in the 21st Century. In taking on the role of a Webonaut and completing a series of missions, players confront issues central to good citizenship: identity, privacy, credibility and web safety. Game scenarios take place in both online and

offline encounters because good citizenship spans both. <http://pbskids.org/webonauts/>



Our Year 4 students have just begun adding variables and coding algorithms using the Scratch software and are busy making a fun Quiz Game for each other to practice their Number Facts. An example of what our clever Year 4 students are doing:

## Sports Notices

### Cross Country

The school Cross Country race will be held on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Only those students who have returned their permission slips will be allowed to participate.

Approximate race times will be: 8 Years (2009) 8.15am; 9 Years (2008) 8.35am; 10 Years (2007) 8.55am; 11 Years (2006) 9.15am; 12 Years (2005) 9.30am. There will be a short presentation at the conclusion of the last race. We ask that participants are on the oval at 8.00am for marshalling. A picture of the course map can be found on the school website.

### Mackay Basketball

Congratulations to Ava Wheeler on her recent selection in the Mackay School Basketball team. Ava will now travel to Rockhampton to compete in the Capricornia Regional trials. Best of luck Ava.

### Mackay AFL

Well done to Cohen Frith who was selected in the Mackay school AFL team. He will compete in the Capricornia trials in Port Curtis. Congratulations Cohen.

### Northern Suburbs Rugby League

Congratulations to the following students on their recent selection in the Northern Suburbs rugby league team: Taj Steindl-Corrie, Kayden Parter, Caleb Owens, Jayden Lauga and Jaxon Purdue.

### Rescue! Narrative Writing Competition by Sue

#### Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher

This is a short story competition for students of Years 3 to 6 from schools north of the Pioneer River, Mackay. Students are asked to respond imaginatively to the topic 'Rescue!' avoiding a factual recount-style. Quality of ideas, originality and creative language use are considered to be important. Entries should be no more than 500 words. Entries are to be submitted to the classroom teacher or Fitzgerald SS office by Friday 28 April. No entry form is necessary, but students should include a Story Title, their own Name, School and Grade on the by-line of their writing piece. The overall competition winner will receive a **Timezone Caneland Party Package for 10**, valued at \$250. A Writer Prize Pack and a certificate will also be awarded to each winner and runner up in each year level category.

### P&C News

The school P&C exists to enrich our school community through fundraising towards facilities and resources projects around the school and by providing a connection point between the school administration and parents and citizens. Thanks to all those parents who came along to our first P&C meeting for the year. Some of the items discussed are included below. Our next P&C meeting will also be our AGM, where all P&C positions will be declared vacant.

**New Sports Uniform** - There is a proposed design for the new school sports uniform which will be on display in the foyer of the school admin block. Please have a look and send any feedback to Cath ([cathk710@gmail.com](mailto:cathk710@gmail.com)).

**Parent Volunteer Forms** - As we work towards improving access and seating on the school oval as our key P&C project for the year, we are vitally dependent on parent helpers with our various fundraising activities. There is a form going home with your children this week, where you can indicate your interest in helping out. Thanks in advance!

**Disco** - The first school disco of the year will be held on Friday night the 24<sup>th</sup> of March and promises to be a fun night out for the kids. Please mark the date in your diary and look out for a note with further details in the next week.

### Tuckshop Talk -

Just another reminder **we do not accept foreign coins.** Also please ensure correct money is put into the bags for the correct food and day or the students may not get what they have ordered. Please be aware that if your child does not put their tuckshop in the boxes and they come up late they may not get what was ordered. In this case we will give them a sandwich if hot food is involved. We are still looking for volunteers if you can spare an hour or two it would be greatly appreciated.

### **ROSTER:**

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> March- Robyn Adams  
Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> – HELP NEEDED  
Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> – Melissa Sterling, Jacki Kennedy  
Tues 7<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams  
Wed 8<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams  
Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> – Alma Hawden  
Fri 10<sup>th</sup> – Jacki Kennedy, Mary Maloney  
Tues 14<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams  
Thankyou Antoinette and Jean

### Safety Circus –

Last Thursday, the year three students attended a presentation by the CQU students. The session was very informative and taught the students about personal and road safety.

The Safety Circus was great fun and I learnt lots. They gave the year 3's some strategies to use if someone tries to bully us. **By Chelsea Jenkins**

We learnt how to be safe on the road. The Ringmaster, Lola the acrobat, Monty the Magician and Buster, Bozo and Buddy the clowns explained that we must wear a helmet and safety pads when riding a skateboard, bike or scooter. **By Jarrah Mau**

The Safety Circus taught us about the five safety



networks. These are five people that can help us out if we are feeling nervous, scared or alone. Some of these people can be your teacher, mum and dad, a policeman, a dance teacher or a

neighbour. **By Holly Palmer**

I liked the magician the best because I like magic and he was a magic person. **By Angus Cahill**