

ISSUE NO 3

www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au

2016 Diary Dates...

8 Mar: P&C AGM
9 Mar: Arts Council – It's a Mad World
11 Mar: Cross Country
11 Mar: School Disco
15 Mar – 23 Mar: Parent/Teacher Interviews
19 Mar: Election BBQ
24 Mar: Easter Hat Parade
24 Mar: Last day of School Term 1
25 Mar: Good Friday
11 Apr: First day of School Term 2
25 Apr: Anzac Day
16 June: Junior Sports Day
17 June: Senior Sports Day
10 Nov: Spectacular

Student Absence Line:

49656360

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

2 March 2016

From the Principal's Desk

Thirty-two of our students were presented with their leaders and monitors badges at a special parade held on Monday.

Special guests Ms Julieanne Gilbert, Member of Mackay, Mr Frank Gilbert, Mackay Regional Councillor and Constable Tonia Bradford, Adopt-a-Cop, were able to assist us with the presentation of badges.



The school captains Eva-Jane Newsome and Baiden Papavasiliou presented their pledges to the school community with Hayley Shaxson responding on behalf of the student body, congratulations to all student leaders.

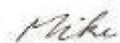
We have our first dance of the year planned for Friday, 11th March. Details will come home this week, please indicate if you are able to assist for a couple of hours at this popular school event.

The parent - teacher interviews are scheduled for the last two weeks of this term. This is a good opportunity for us to discuss your child's learning intentions for the year. The interview time schedules will be sent home over the coming fortnight.

It is timely that we ask parents to assist us in reminding our students of the 'Fitz High 5'. High 5 is a useful strategy to describe how to solve problems between students in 5 possible ways. The strategy is included in this newsletter.

Our P&C AGM will be held on Tuesday 8th March 5:30pm in the staffroom. You are most welcome to attend.

Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson
Principal.



Staff Profile

Dear Parents and Families,
I'm Jessica Trounson and I'm teaching in 5B this year. I'm fairly new to Mackay and have moved here from New Zealand. Prior to that, I was teaching in England and I'm now enjoying living in tropical Queensland. I'm excited to be a part of the Fitzgerald School community and I look forward to a busy and productive year ahead!

Foyer Display – 1A & 1B



“Deep in the water where the fish hang out. Lives a glum gloomy swimmer. With an ever-present pout.”

The year one students have been exploring emotions in picture books this unit. The Pout-Pout

Fish by Deborah Diesen is an adventure of Mr Fish who learns to turn his frown upside down with the help of his underwater friends and a smooch from a bright and brilliant swimmer. The students have created their own fish as well as delivering a spoken presentation about a chosen character from the text. In the end, the now kiss-kiss fish spreads cheery-cheeries all over the place.

From the Guidance Officer - Triple P Parenting –

Special guest Professor Matt Sanders, world –renowned author, researcher, and founder of Triple P is visiting Mackay to deliver his power of positive parenting seminar. Come along and hear his simple, practical tips to help make raising kids easier and more enjoyable.

When – Wednesday March 2

Time – 6:30pm

Where – Mackay North State High School, Valley Street, North Mackay

Proudly hosted by MP Julieanne Gilbert, come early for tea and coffee.

Attendance - Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement. Additionally, attending school every day helps children to build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience.

The class receiving the attendance awards for Weeks 4 and 5 were 5B and 3D. Well done also to 5C, 6A, 6C and 6D who all had 2 days of 100% attendance in week 4 and 5A who continue to have an excellent attendance record with 3 days of 100% attendance in Week 5. **Mrs Tracey Adams, Deputy Principal.**

Office News – Bank Deposit Received 23/02/2016

A deposit was received to the schools bank account on 23/02/2016 from an unidentified source. If you have recently made a deposit of your student's school fees with a reference of “**jc school fees**” please bring in your deposit receipt so the amount can be taken off your students fees. Just a friendly reminder to please use your student name as a reference. Thank you.

Are Your Contact Details up to date? -

At times, the office will need to contact you regarding your student, can you please ensure that all contact

phone numbers, address, emergency contacts and student medical details are up to date. Parents can call into the office at any time to update their details.

Lost Property – At the end of each Term, the lost property box is emptied and students are asked to check the box if any property is theirs, any items left over will be donated to a charity. Please ensure your student's items are labelled.

Student Resource Scheme – Participation Agreement Form

The above forms were sent home last week. You do not need to have paid your fees to send this form back, we just require it back as part of our audit process. Thank you to those families who have already sent it back. If you have misplaced your form additional copies can be sourced from 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, REPORT.



'You're invited! To the Parent and Caregivers'

Learning Café' each Monday Afternoon 2.30-3.00pm

by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher

'Robotics and Computer Coding' is the topic of the next Learning Café on Monday 7 March. Come and play with some of the newest devices that are making learning fun, as Fitz introduces the new Digital Technologies curriculum from Prep to Year 6. And its back-to-basics on Monday 14 March, when the Learning Café looks at 'The Reading Star and Pause-Prompt-Praise: Strategies to help your developing reader at home'. Come and share a cuppa with school staff in the library from 2.30-3.00pm. Send an email to Sue Hamilton-Smith shami40@eq.edu.au if you need to know more, or if you have any suggestions for future 'Learning Café' topics.

'What animal makes the best pet?' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher

'North of the Pioneer - What animal makes the best pet?' Years 3 to 6 Student Persuasive Writing Competition. Each state school north of the Pioneer River is invited to submit their top two entries, in each year level, these students will each receive Highly Commended certificates. A Writer Prize Pack and a certificate will be awarded to each final winner and runner up in each year level category. There is no entry form, but students should ensure that their entry has a Title and add their Name, School, Grade (or ICP year level) on the By-line of their writing piece. No handwritten entries. Quality of ideas, creativity and language use will be considered as more important than word count. Pick up a competition flyer from your child's teacher or from the school office. Entries to Sue Hamilton-Smith by 4pm Friday 22 April 2016.

Sports Notices - Cross Country

- The school cross country race is being held on Friday 11th March (Grades 3-6). Only those students who have filled out their permission forms and have been attending training will be permitted to trial. Approximate race times are as follows: 8 Years (2008) 8:15am; 9 Years (2007) 8:35am; 10 Years (2006) 8:55am; 11 Years (2005) 9:15am; 12 Years (2004) 9:30am. A presentation will be held shortly after the race.

Library News - To celebrate the launch of the smash hit *Cats on the Run* in Scholastic Book Club, we are running a competition where your students could win **\$500 in Booktopia Vouchers** for your School Library. On top of winning \$500 for their school library, the winning student will also receive a **\$200 Booktopia book voucher** for her / himself, and because *Cats on the Run* follows the side-splitting adventures of two rescue cats, we will make a **\$300 donation to an animal shelter** near the winning school! For further information and competition details – pop in and see Mrs Stuart in the library!

Prep D discovered their way to the library today as a part of a treasure hunt learning about the letter P! Our library is full of pirates and princess treasures! I wonder if you too, can find a secret treasure in our Kingdom of Books.

Remember to visit World Book

Online! Username: fitzlib Password: fitz1883

P & C Notices - Fitzgerald State School P&C AGM is being held on Tuesday 8th March 2016, in the school staffroom at 5:30pm. All parents are welcome to attend. All positions for the Executive of the P&C will become vacant at the AGM and nominations are requested for the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasure and Tuckshop Treasurer.

There will be a number of key issues discussed, including:

- * Voting for executive positions
- * Presentation of 2015 financials
- * Revision of the school sports uniform
- * Support of chaplaincy at Fitzgerald
- * Viability of Mother's Day stall

Also a reminder that our first **school disco** for the year will be held on Friday the 11th of March in the hall. The theme is 'Favourite Sports Person' and the disco as always will be a fun night out for the children. Thank you for your support of this event. Please contact Jai (0429 852 949, jaianthonywright@gmail.com) if you are able to help out either in the week before collating forms or on the night.

Safety Circus

Year 3 all went to the Safety Circus Show. We learnt about the '5 Safety Network' and how to keep yourself safe. We learnt what to do if someone is being bullied. It was so much fun dancing and singing with the characters in the Safety Circus. The characters were the three clowns, Lola the acrobat, Monty the magician, Sergeant Nigel, Ringmaster Sam and Jesse. Year 3 loved the show!! By 3B



Tuckshop Talk

Please do not staple tuckshop bags together. We can no longer get BBQ chips. We are now stocking aqua fruits quench drinks in place of aqua hero flavoured water. The quench drinks are bubbly spring water with 10% fruit juice. Flavours are apple/raspberry, orange and blue heaven, cost is \$2.50

ROSTER:

Wed 2nd March – Robyn Adams, Tamika Cook

Thurs 3rd – Roby Adams, Tamika Cook

Fri 4th – Alma Hawdon, Tamika Cook,

Tues 8th – Robyn Adams

Wed 9th – Robyn Adams, Tamika Cook

Thurs 10th – Robyn Adams, Tamika Cook

Fri 11th – Tamika Cook, Maisie Greaves

Tues 15th Robyn Adams

Thanks – Antoinette & Daneal

Casual Position Vacant

A casual position exists for a School Crossing Supervisor at Fitzgerald State School.

The School Crossing Supervisor **may** be required to work five days per week in all *weather conditions*. The hours of work for School Crossing Supervisors are 1.5 hours a day and usually comprise of 45 minutes in the morning and 45 minutes in the afternoon. Commencement date to be advised. A pay rate of \$28.18 per hour.

The successful applicants will be dependent on:

The suitable outcome of a health assessment carried out by a GP of your choice according to the guidelines in the "Notes for Medical Practitioner" on the School Crossing Supervisor Scheme – Health Assessment Form; (this is paid by the Department).

A Positive Blue Card Notice (This is also paid by the Department and means you do not need to have a blue card to apply for the position).

If you are interested in the position please collect an application form from the School administration or contact Karen Cantoni (Road Safety officer) on 49518331. The School Crossing Supervisors Application is to be returned to School for the School Principal's recommendation.

Our newsletter can now be viewed on the school website www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au

Council Election B.B.Q Fundraiser

On Saturday 19th March the Fitzgerald State School P&C is conducting a local council election fundraising B.B.Q, from 7:30 – 2:00pm. All proceeds will be going to help support our school chaplaincy service. **If you are able to help please write your name and tick the box indicating the time you would be available to cook or serve at the B.B.Q and hand the form into the school office.** We appreciate that your time is valuable so even if you can help for one hour please write in. Also we will be selling cakes and slices at the election stall. If you are able to donate cakes, this would be most appreciated. Please bring your cakes to the school office on Friday 18th March. Please return the bottom slip by Monday 14th March. Please call the school office on 49 656 333 or Mr Nick Ayre on 0422 885 204 if you have any questions.

Election BBQ

Name: _____ Phone _____

Time: 7:30am – 11:00 am

Time: 11:00am – 2:00 pm

Other time available _____

Yes, I can bring cakes on Friday 18th March.