

## ISSUE NO 6

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

### 2015 Diary Dates...

**12 – 14 May:** NAPLAN

Testing Yrs 3/5

**12 May:** P & C Meeting

5:00 PM

**12 May:** Internet Usage

Information Session 6:00PM

**15 May:** Under 8s day

**18 – 22 May:** Fun with

Maths Class visits

**21 -22 May:** School Photos

**25 May:** Pizza Day (P&C

Fundraiser)

**27-29 May:** Drama Artist in

Residence – Carmel

Harrison

### 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.

## 29 April 2015

### From the Principal's Desk

Our school community observed the significance of the Anzac Tradition by participating in a number of school and community events.

One hundred and fifty students and staff attended the Town Ceremony on Saturday. Mr Les Palmer, a Vietnam War Veteran was our special guest at the School Parade on Friday and student and staff representatives attended the Poppy Planting Ceremony on the Council Lawns to commemorate the district World War One volunteers.



Mr Les Palmer with Student Leaders

Our school has received a funding boost of \$248 000 through the State Government 'Great Results Guarantee'. Under this guarantee additional support to our students will be provided in the areas of reading, writing and numeracy. The Guarantee can be found on the school website [www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au/supportandresources/documents](http://www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au/supportandresources/documents).

Our years 3 and 5 students are preparing for the National Literacy and Numeracy Tests which will be held from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May. Leading up to the tests, students are reminded to get adequate sleep, 8 to 9 hours each night, eat healthy meals including breakfast and exercise regularly.

A useful and popular information session for parents on the what and how of internet usage by our children is being presented by Sergeant Nigel Dalton, Mackay Police on Tuesday 12 May at 6:00p.m. This session is helpful as it is a follow – on from the annual talk conducted with our senior students. Further information is provided in this newsletter. Please notify the school office of your attendance with the form provided at the end of this newsletter.

Please note that the monthly **P & C Meeting time is 5:00 p.m.** followed by the parent session at 6:00 p.m. The position of Treasurer is vacant, if you are interested in taking on this position contact us at the school office.

Enjoy your week.

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

Mike Anderson  
Principal.



### **Staff Profile**

Hi, my name is Sharon Roi and I have recently transferred from a nearby state school to join the teaching team here at Fitzgerald. I teach special education and I am looking forward to assisting our students with additional learning needs to reach their full potential,

as they travel through their primary school years. I have been impressed by the friendly and welcoming community of staff, students and families at Fitz, and I am excited to be part of such a vibrant learning environment.



### **Foyer Display**

In Term 1 the year 6 unit was 'States of Matter'. We learnt about 3 states of matter and how they can be affected by energy, heat or freezing

temperatures. We have done many experiments including discovering the fastest way to melt an ice cube, studying if changes were irreversible or reversible, watching if the shape and state of the goo-like substance changed as it is moved around. We burnt pancakes and mixed solutions, hypothesized observed and recorded. We even got to be the molecules in a state of matter.

**Vanuata Project – Thank you** A big thank you to those of us who sent in reading materials for the schools in Vanuata.

**School Photos** You will receive photo information on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Photo envelopes to be returned directly to the Photographer on 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

### **Bullying. No Way!**

It doesn't matter whether it's physical, psychological or even cyber. Bullying is a concern that our school takes very seriously and is working to address.

If you suspect your child is being bullied, you should talk with your child and make an appointment with the teacher or school administration to discuss your concerns. It is also important to encourage your child to report bullying behaviours to a trusted adult at school as quickly as possible after an incident of bullying. Bullying thrives in a culture of secrecy, so telling the school is very important.

Help protect your child from harassment and cyber bullying by closely monitoring internet use and installing free internet filters.

For more information and ideas to understand and deal with bullying, visit the *Bullying No way!* website [www.bullyingnoway.com.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au)

### **Mackay North High Enrolment Information For 2016**

The first step to enrolling at MNSHS is to complete a "Preliminary Enrolment Form" and return it to the MNSHS office where it will be date stamped. The school will contact you to complete all remaining enrolment forms. Scholarships are awarded each year to Year 7 students entering the school in the areas of Academic, Cultural and Sporting Excellence. Further details and application forms are available

from the MNSH website and must be completed and delivered to the Fitzgerald school office by the 31/8/2015.

**School Tours:** 20/5/2015 5pm (Junior Secondary Precinct – on the deck) 17/6/2015 4pm (Junior Secondary Precinct – on the deck)

### **News from the Library**

#### **100 Years of ANZAC**

On the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015, Paige Penola, Jacinta Harris, Amber Vella and Charlotte Meads attended the ANZAC Ceremony and planted poppies in honour of our fallen soldiers. At the Ceremony they planted 120 red poppies with the names of the heroes of Australians who gave their lives for our freedom. Eleven different schools across Mackay participated in the Ceremony. 1 592 volunteer soldiers from Mackay and district who served, risked their lives for their home country (Australia) from 1914 to 1918.

All 11 schools including representatives from Fitzgerald State School, showed their respect for the soldiers



who fought in the war, World War 1. Lest we forget our fallen heroes. Thank you to Mrs Stuart and Mrs Shaw for your help.

**'Teachers as Researchers'** by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher.

Congratulations to four of our teachers, Bev Croton, Alice Collard, Jaana Aaltonen and Simon Kochevatkin, who have been chosen as teacher researchers in a prestigious collaborative research project between Education Queensland and the CQ University. The focus of this project is early years reading instruction. During the year these teachers will collect work samples, photographs and video footage as they work with students. Assets collected will be used for teacher professional development purposes. If any parent or guardian has any objections to the collecting of these assets, please contact the Fitzgerald State School Principal, Mr Mike Anderson.

**'Three Sentence Narrative Writing Competition'** by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher.

Throughout Term One, students in years 4 and 5 took part in a twice-weekly online writing lesson with Mrs Hamilton-Smith and worked with their teachers and teacher aides to improve their narrative writing. Children's author Mark Svensden demonstrated 'show-don't-tell' creative writing on a recent visit to the school and generously donated some of his books to be awarded to the winners of a challenging Three Sentence Narrative Writing Competition. Congratulations to competition runner-up entries from Victoria Vella, Alyssa Muller, Penny Zhang, Baiden Papavasiliou, Danika Falzon and Eva-Jane Newsome.

Winner of the Year 4 competition is Ebony Wright with this entry.

*The ferocious, deadly Minotaur is on the loose! The Minotaur come to rule our happy country, who will defeat him!? "I will," said a young boy named Jai.*

Winner of the Year 5 competition is Mitali Penshorn with this entry.

*Chloe stood in the centre of the porch at the old abandoned orphanage as the whispering wind whipped her cheeks. The wind seemed to moan, "Beware", softer than the touch of silk. She grasped the doorknob and yanked open the resistant door and screamed as a pair of bony fingers pierced her skin and hot blood trickled from the wound.*

Students from Years 3 up are encouraged to enter the 2015 Whitsunday Voices Youth Literature Festival Short Story Competition. Entries are due on Friday 22 May and all the details are on the website. <http://www.whitsundayvoices.com.au/>



### **Sports Notices**

#### **Mackay Touch Football**

Congratulations to Brooke Vella, Takiah Buchannan and Teesha Edwards on their recent selection in the Mackay girls' touch football team. We wish these girls the best of luck at the Capricornia Trials.

#### **Mackay Basketball**

Well done to Jaala Grant for her recent selection in the Mackay basketball trials. We wish her and Tiana Pompey all the best at the Capricornia trials this week.

#### **Schoolboys Rugby League**

The team's first round game was against St Mary's. The boys played very well as a team, but unfortunately went down 22-12. Jaxon Purdue and Riley Whitestyles were the try scorers. Phillip Collins also put in a strong performance in the forwards. Well done to all players.

#### **From the Guidance Officer**

MACKAY YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICES

## Who's in Charge?

Does your child threaten, hurt or intimidate  
Do you feel you are losing  
Want to better handle

**Reclaim respect and calm in your family!**

The *Who's in Charge?* group is an 8 week program for parents or carers of young people (10 to 18) who are abusive, violent or defiant.

The group aims to:

- Provide a supportive environment to share experiences and ideas
- Reduce the guilt and shame which most parents feel
- Offer ideas to help you develop individual strategies for managing your child's behaviour
- Explore ways of increasing safety and well-being
- Help parents feel more in control and less stressed

**Starting:** Term 2: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 9.30am – 12.00pm  
Or Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 5.30pm – 7.30pm

**Place:** Mackay Youth Support Services  
Unit 2, 57 Wood St, (9<sup>th</sup> Lane) Mackay 4740.

**Cost:** \$5.00

**Contact:** Karen Ph 4953 2299  
Email [u-nite@myss.org.au](mailto:u-nite@myss.org.au)

If you would like to ask any questions regarding this service email myself directly ([awoth3@eq.edu.au](mailto:awoth3@eq.edu.au)).

### **Tuckshop Talk**

Welcome back to another term, hope you all enjoyed your Easter break. Please ensure money and order is correct as your child may miss out on what they ordered. If you do not have a 2015 menu you can go to the tuckshop or office to get one.

#### **ROSTER:**

Wed 29<sup>th</sup> April – Robyn Adams, Bez Benson

Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams, Help Needed

Fri 1<sup>st</sup> May – Claire

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams, Help Needed

Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> – Alma, Jean Kelleher

Tues 12<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams.

Antoinette & Daneal

#### **P & C Notices**

**Mother's Day Stall** The Mother's Day stall will be held from Tuesday May 5 – Friday May 8 in the Technology Building, up behind the Year 6 block. There will be gifts available from \$1 to \$10. There is also a raffle on offer with 3 prizes, cost of tickets 50 c each. Whilst we have plenty of gifts for the children to choose from, we are in need of parent help on the stalls. If you could possibly help us on the day, please call Belinda Watson on 0409 729 982. Any help would be greatly appreciated. A Mother's day stall timetable will be sent home with your child. Next P & C Meeting 12 th May at 5:00 P.M.

#### **Community Notices –**

**Mackay Aussie Hoops** is Back !! To register, please visit the Mackay Basketball website. For participants aged 6-9 yrs. Sessions at Mackay Basketball. Start Date –12/05/2015 running every Tuesday for 7 weeks. Boys 4-5pm Girls 5-6pm. \$100 per player (Includes pack) \$80 per returning player.

#### **Mackay North State School 100Yrs Centenary Luncheon 1915-2015**

Meet up with your old classmates after roll call.

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June– 12PM TO 2PM

Entertainment by children from Mackay North SS Arts Department. Only 150 tickets available - \$35.00 each. Monies to be paid to Mackay North SS Direct Payment to BSB 064-707 ACC NO – 00090722 or EFTPOS/Cheque at the Office

#### **Who is Chatting to your Kids?**

A Parent Information Session on:

- The dangers of the internet for our children.
- Predatory behaviour into your home and your child's life.
- Bullying /Cyberbullying.

Presenter: Sergeant Nigel Dalton, Mackay Police

When: 12 May 2015

Time: 6:00pm-7:00pm

Where: Fitzgerald State School Library

Audience: Parents and Staff only, no children.

#### **Who is Chatting to your Kids?**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Numbers Attending \_\_\_\_\_

**R.S.V.P. by 11 May 2015 Thank you.**