

## ISSUE NO 7

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

### 2016 Diary Dates...

**16 – 20 May:** Book Fair  
**19 – 20 May:** School Photos  
**23 – 26 May:** Year 4 Bike Education.  
**24 May:** McDonald's Maths Competition  
**30 May:** Forensics- Arts Council Year 4-6 only  
**31 May – 3 June:** Year 6 Camp.  
**1 June:** Swag of Tales- Arts Council Prep -3 only  
**6 – 7 June –** Author visit Michael Salmon  
**9 June:** Twilight Concert  
**10 June:** Free dress day  
**14 June:** Sports Day Field Events only  
**16 June:** Junior Sports Day  
**17 June:** Senior Sports Day  
**20 June:** P&C Meeting 5:30pm Staffroom  
**20 June:** Instrumental Music Camp  
**23 June:** Show Holiday  
**24 June:** BOB day activities

### 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.

18 May 2016

## From the Principal's Desk

Congratulations to all students who are participating so well in planned activities. Recent activities include Under 8's, Bike Education, McDonald's Maths, and Sports Competitions, Wakakirri and Fanfare practice sessions.

A reminder that for winter wear the jackets and tracksuits are to be royal blue in colour and clearly labelled.

Our average daily attendance for the year to date is 94.3%, a 1% improvement from this time last year. A pleasing result, continue the effort students.

A reminder that the monthly P&C Meeting has been changed to the third Monday of the month. Our next meeting is to be held on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> June at 5:30 in the staffroom. We welcome Mrs Shelley Fisher to the P&C Executive Position, Treasurer.

School Photographs will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May for prep to year 6 students. The daily wear school uniform (not the sports house uniform) is to be worn for the school photographs. As in previous years sibling photo packages and Year 6 leader packages are available and an envelope can be obtained from the school office to order these. Students are required to bring their envelope to school on photo day to hand directly to the photographer. No money is to be handed to the school office or teachers.

A free dress day is planned for Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June. The gold coin donations will go to a World Vision sponsored student and the Chaplaincy program. Students are reminded that their dress is to be sensible and safe for a school day.

Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson

Principal.

**Foyer Display - 4A and 4B** have been very busy this year, developing new ideas and expanding our knowledge of the world to help improve our writing. We have been participating in writing groups, discussing, planning, sharing, writing, editing and publishing many different writing pieces. We are putting many of these samples into class folders, so feel free to come in and have a read.



We have also been learning about primary, secondary and tertiary colours and line design and putting all of these elements together to create some striking artwork. More is on display in our rooms for your viewing pleasure.

**News from the Office –** For those parents who are interested, QSchools app is available for all Fitzgerald families to receive up to date information on happenings and events at our school. Our website is also accessible [www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au](http://www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au).

**Attendance -** We have had some fantastic attendance rates so far this term due to the efforts of parents and students.

Congratulations to the following classes who have received the Year 3 – 6 Attendance Awards this term.

Week	Class / Classes	Attendance Percentage
1	3B & 3C	99.2%
2	5A	98.46%
3	4B	98.44%
4	3B	99.32%
5	6D	98.848

**Mrs Tracey Adams – Deputy Principal**

**Drop Off and Pick Up -** We are aware that drop off and pick up areas around the school are very hectic in the morning and after school. Please exercise patience when using these areas. Do not park and walk away from your car in this area.

Our students' safety is our major concern and if everyone practises care and patience, hopefully we will have no incidents. These are council car parks and we are extremely lucky to have them. As part of our TravelSmart initiative we would encourage parents to use the football field car parks as a great drop off/pick up point. This would ease congestion around the school and would be a great form of exercise for the students. A reminder that the top carpark is not available for parent parking before or after school.

**'Whitsunday Voices short story competition' -by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher.** Talented narrative writers from Year 3 upwards are encouraged to enter the Whitsunday Voices short story competition. The due date at 3pm on Friday 27 May. Entry forms are available from the Fitzgerald SS Office or visit <http://www.whitsundayvoices.com.au/>

**'Critical and Creative Thinkers' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher.**

This group of Year 6 students have just graduated from the UNIFY Critical Thinking course, delivered by the Brisbane School of Distance Education, supervised at Fitzgerald by Mrs Sue Hamilton-Smith.



Pictured Back L to R: Cirel Sanchez, Kane Steenhauer, Tara MacDonald, Danika Falzon, Camryn Stott, Emma Young, Emily Laird; Front L to R: Gillian Taylor, Lucie Sippel, Ryan Clews, Dakota Seed, Shandyn Bentley (away). These students were chosen because of their great work ethic, interest and ability in persuasive thinking and writing. And starting soon, a group of high performing Year 5 maths students has been invited to participate in 'UNIFY Booster Numeracy'.

**'Parent Learning Café – Spelling Rules' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher. -** *Why is spelling so tricky for some? Are spelling rules still taught? Is phonics the answer? How important is vocabulary?* Support Teacher Bev Croton will join the Learning Café for the next two weeks to help explore the topics of useful spelling rules, phonics, word study and vocabulary development. Mondays in the school library from 2.30-3.00pm. All invited!

**Sports Notices - Sports Day** Students from years three to six will be involved in their sports day trials for the next two weeks. 11 and 12 year olds are holding their trials on Monday afternoons and 9 and 10 year olds Friday afternoon. Times and measurements from physical education lessons will be used to determine 8 year old nominations.

**Field Events (Date Change):** New date- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

Junior Sports (Prep- Year 2): Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June

Senior Sports Day (Year 3- Year 6): Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June

**Mackay Rugby Union Trials** -Congratulations to Mark Reedman on his recent selection in the Mackay Rugby Union team. We wish him the best at the Capricornia trials.

**School Rugby League** -The team's most recent game was against Emmanuel. Unfortunately it resulted in a loss of 22-20 after a great second half comeback. The team played extremely well and showed great improvement from previous weeks. This week our game will be against Victoria Park State School. Good luck boys!

**Library News -** This week sees our Book Fair in full swing! We opened to a smashing success yesterday afternoon and sold out of the highlighter iPhone gadgets. Don't worry though we have more on order which should arrive no later than Thursday (fingers crossed). Please note if you have seen a book in the catalogue or during your time at the Book viewing session – we are able to order these books in for you. Please remember our Book Fair will remain open each morning and afternoon for the remainder of the week until our final opening times on Friday when our fair closes at 9am. We would love for you to pop in, browse and purchase some of the wonderful titles we have at this year's fair.

Our library's next adventure will be taking place Monday and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> June – Fitzgerald will be hosting celebrated author and illustrator Michael Salmon.

Michael has written and illustrated over 80 children's books and is the creator of Alexander Bunyip, who featured in a long-running ABC television series, and has designed sets and costumes for many theatre productions. During Michael's visit he will demonstrate cartooning, chat to the students motivating them to develop their artistic talents in writing and art.

Michael has asked for us as a school to extend an invitation for parents to come along to the sessions that will be running on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June! He will have books for sale and is more than happy to remain at our school to personally sign your book purchase.

As a school, we are extremely excited and anticipate his upcoming visit in the upcoming weeks. We will provide more details as this exciting event draws closer.

### **Under 8's Day**

Under 8's Day was a fabulous celebration of the importance of play in our children's lives. It was great to welcome Pioneer Kindergarten to Under 8's day. The children became brilliant bubble blowers, super heroes and princesses with painted faces. We had Picassos painting, perfect puppets and students adorned with noodle necklaces. The children climbed, jumped, rolled, skipped and raced around obstacle courses and water challenges. We even had two very special guest appearances by none other than the fabulous Mickey and Minnie Mouse, who of course were a big hit with kids, parents and teachers. It was a fabulous day and we look forward to Under 8's 2017!

A big thank you to all parents, grandparents, teachers and school staff who helped to ensure the day ran smoothly. Also to our wonderful Year 6 volunteers who assisted in the running of our activities. It was a wonderful opportunity for the kids to share their fun experiences with their school and community.

**Cybersafety-** Last Tuesday evening, Sgt Nigel Dalton presented to the school community an informative and thought-provoking session on Cybersafety. Following is an excerpt from his presentation:

**How to Report Cyberbullying** - If your child (under 18 year old) is being "Cyberbullied" you can now make a report to the eSafet Commissioner.

The type of complaints they deal with are ones that deal with material that is: • Seriously threatening, seriously intimidating, seriously harassing, seriously humiliating. You can complain about material posted on social networking sites, posted on apps with messaging or comment functions, posted on chat services, sent via phone-based text messages and MMS pictures, sent via email, video sharing and instant messaging, in the form of data, speech, music, photographs and visual images and in an online game where users can play with others online. There are several steps to take to report matters of concern. 1. Report the matter to the social media site. Keep a record of this report. 2. Record the information that is causing the concern (Screen shots etc.) 3. Report the matter to the Children Safety Commissioner through the online process, follow this link: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/complaints-and-reporting/cyberbullying-complaints/lodge-a-cyberbullying-complaint>, block or unfriend the person who is bullying the child, seek advice and support from someone like Kids Helpline. 1800 55 1800 or

<https://www.kidshelpline.com.au/kids/get-help/web-counselling/> More information can be found at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/about-the-office>

**Tuckshop Talk** – Please do not staple bags together. Two bags are required if ordering both breaks.

### **ROSTER:**

Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> – Tamika Cook  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – Melissa Sterling  
Tues 24<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams  
Wed 25<sup>th</sup> – Geraldine Schofield  
Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – Alma Hawdon  
Tues 31<sup>st</sup> – Help needed  
Wed 1<sup>st</sup> June – Help needed  
Thankyou Antoinette & Daneal

**P & C Notices** -The Mother's Day stall and raffle was a great success with an excellent range of gifts provided for our children. A big thank you to Cindy Lawn for organising the stall and Debbie Kearnes who donated the wonderful quilt for the raffle. To all the ladies who helped, Lucy Johnson, Wendy Scheers, Tracey Davison, Debbie Kearns, Julie Erezuma, Kylie Dunn, Katrina Oschatz, Janet Young and Caroline Deguara. Thank you also to all who supported the stall. Overall, almost \$4,000 dollars was raised from the stall and over \$1,000 from the raffle.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Sharon MacDonald

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Danette Trueman

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Lucy Manning

Shelley Fisher is now P&C treasurer. We are thankful to have Shelley filling this important role.

The **P&C meeting** day has now changed so that more people can attend the meeting. From now on it will be held on the third Monday of the month. So the next meeting will be held on Monday 20th June at 5:30pm.

At the last meeting Mark Faulkner from North News Agency was present to receive feedback about back to school packs and also to present the P&C with a cheque for \$1,380 from last year's packs. Thank you to all who supported this P&C initiative.

A message from us the Mums who received Bath Salts and Bath Bombs from the Mother's Day Stall - Hope you have had a good soak!!!

**PayPal Phishing Scam – Branded as "MSP Photography"**-Leading up to your school photo day you may have received an email about a PayPal charge branded as being from MSP Photography. **This is a scam.**

In the event that you have received this email please **do not click on any links in that email.**

Contact the MSP Photography office on 4921 3355.

### **Community Notices**



**Mackay North State High 2017 Year 7 Enrolments** - 18/04/16 – 06/05/16

MNSHS staff visit feeder schools and deliver Preliminary Enrolments Forms

09/05/16 First day for school to receive Preliminary Enrolment forms

18/05/16 School Tour 5:30 pm (Junior Secondary Precinct – on the deck)

10/06/16 First round of Enrolment confirmations sent to parents

14/06/16 School Tour 6pm (Junior Secondary Precinct – on the deck)

More information about key Term 3 and 4 2016 dates for Year 7 enrolments (2017) is available on this website under *Enrolments/Open days*.

**PIONEER**  
**State High School**  
Pride | Honesty | Success

**Pioneer High 2017 Year 7 Enrolments** -

Students interested in attending Pioneer State High School in 2017 are invited to download an enrolment form from our

website. We will be visiting Fitzgerald State School early in Term 3 to show what our school has to offer in terms of academic, sporting and cultural programs. For further information, contact Pioneer State High School on 4955 9222.

**Our newsletter can now be viewed on the school website [www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au](http://www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au).**