

## ISSUE NO 9

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

**14 June:** Senior Sports Day Field Events only  
**16 June:** Junior Sports Day  
**17 June:** Senior Sports Day  
**19 – 22 June:** Instrumental Camp  
**20 June:** P&C Meeting 5:30pm Staffroom  
**20 June:** Instrumental Music Camp  
**22 June:** Report cards to go home  
**23 June:** Show Holiday  
**24 June:** Under 10 Rugby League Carnival  
**24 June:** Sports Gala Day Years 4 – 6  
**24 June:** BOB day activities  
**24 June:** Last day of school  
**18 July:** Grandparent's Morning Tea  
**21 July:** Kup Murri NAIDOC Celebrations  
**15 – 17 August:** Year 4 Camp

### 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.

15 June 2016

## From the Principal's Desk

We look forward to having our students participate in the annual Inter-house Athletics Days on this Thursday for the years prep to two and Friday for the years three to six. A notice concerning lunch arrangements for these days was sent home last week. Briefly, for Thursday, students order tuckshop as usual and for Friday, students can buy direct from the catering tent. Tuckshop is closed on Friday. Go Brolga, Kingfisher, Jabiru and Eagle competitors!

It was pleasing to get positive reports concerning the performance effort and behaviour of our students at the Fanfare, Twilight Concert, Rugby League, Year 6 camp and the Author Workshop. A big well done girls and boys. Special mention of the organisation and assistance provided by the staff and parents for these events.

The School Annual Report for 2015 will be found on the school website [www.fitzgerass.com.au](http://www.fitzgerass.com.au) from the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016. A copy of this report will be available at the school office for your perusal from the commencement of semester two.

School report cards will be released on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Interviews for this semester can be arranged by parent or teacher request.

Congratulations to the students who will participate in their end of term B.O.B Days. These students have demonstrated good behaviour on a consistent basis this term.

Don't forget our monthly P&C Meeting to be held on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> June at 5:30pm. You are most welcome to attend.

We have the Mackay Show public holiday coming up on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June with the final day of term on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> June.

The term three commencement date is Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> July. To our community have a happy and safe holiday. Please contact School Watch on 131 788 for security breaches to our school.

Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson  
Principal.



**Foyer Display**—What an exciting foyer display Prep C and D have for you to view. We have been trialling age appropriate lessons within our classrooms that are more child centred. From a teacher's perspective we

have noticed greater student participation. Students are taking more ownership of their work and are evidently proud of what they are achieving.

**From the office**—Invoices have been sent home to students in 6C as the second instalment for their laptops is due by the first week of Term 3. Please feel free to call the office if you have any queries regarding this invoice or any other matters relating to fees.

**ATSI Family Homework Support by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher**—Fitzgerald's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island (ATSI) Homework support afternoons begin again on Tuesday 26 July. Parents and caregivers of students who identify as ATSI are invited to accompany their children to the weekly sessions, held in the mini computer lab beside 4E. Contact Toni Mooney [tmoo38@eq.edu.au](mailto:tmoo38@eq.edu.au) for more information.

**The Premier's Reading Challenge 2016 by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher**—Reading is once again a key academic priority at Fitzgerald State School for 2016. This is because reading

opens up a world of educational opportunities for young people, providing the foundation for learning for the rest of their life. Fitzgerald is aiming for 100% participation in the Premier's Reading Challenge again this year. The Queensland Premier is challenging every student from Prep to Year 4 to read or experience 20 books and Years 5 and 6 to read 15 books by Friday 26 August 2016. Children who take up the challenge and read the required number of books will receive a signed certificate from the Premier. Some students have so far managed to successfully complete the challenge since its inception several years ago. Through the Premier's Reading Challenge, students are given an opportunity to further develop their appreciation of the English language and are encouraged to read more and read more widely for pleasure and learning. Every student at this school has been given a copy of the required Reading Record Form from their teacher. A big part of the challenge is managing its record-keeping requirements. So, please help your reader to achieve success. Further information, including booklists for all ages can be found on the website.



<http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/readingchallenge/>

**Fanfare Competition** Our strings ensemble and senior brass and woodwind band received silver awards at the recent regional Fanfare competition. Well done to the students for their performance and thank you to the teachers David Bayliss and Sue Mora.

**District Instrumental Music Camp**—Twelve of our instrumental music students have the opportunity to attend a music camp with 100 students from across Mackay and District Schools at Seaforth on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. The camp culminates with a concert at the Fitzgerald school on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 in the hall. The fortunate students attending are Penny Zhang, Baiden Papavasiliou, Ethan Ashford, Neah Rodgers, Alicia

Flor, Emily Laird, Jackson Cross, Dylan McCubben, Emma Young, Eva-Jane Newsome and Athalia Garcia.

Twilight Concert—On Thursday evening the Fitzgerald State School Twilight Concert was held in the school

hall. It was an excellent evening of entertainment featuring approximately 200 students who



performed in various cultural groups including Recorder Ensemble, Beginning Strings, Senior String Ensemble, Beginning Brass, Woodwind and Percussion, Senior Concert Band, Junior and Senior Choirs. Many thanks go to our Music and Instrumental Staff including Sue Mora (Strings), David Bayliss and Cameron Matthews (Brass, Woodwind and Percussion) and Margaret Chalmers, accompanist for the choirs. Also many thanks to Danielle Hargreaves, Sue Hamilton-Smith and Sam Scott-Girgenti for assisting with supervision, Trina Saunders and administrative staff for assisting with the organisation of the cultural uniforms and other aspects of the night. Many thanks to parents and students for a wonderful evening. Thanks for your support for Music and the Arts at Fitzgerald State School.

**Jill Green – Music Teacher.**

**Prep Excursion** - Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of June saw 93 very excited Prep students explore all of the living and nonliving things lurking within the Botanical Gardens. The children explored the Shade Garden where we found a giant spider. A walk with Maya amazed the students when they discovered Jewel Bugs, giant Zodiac Moths, fat caterpillars and tiny butterfly eggs. A sculpture walk led us to find hidden creatures that were nonliving such as frogs and platypus made from metal, this walk led children to the lookout deck where this watery habitat had many small water creatures to be found. The



meeting room had lots to see and read about, including living creatures and nonliving objects. The students enjoyed exploring each container and drawing what they saw. Thank you to all parents who

attended, your participation allowed the excursion to be successful.

Archer said "He liked it when we went past the spider." Letiara said "She liked climbing the big stairs." George and Tyson said "The bus ride was the best." Koby and Mackayla said "Going to the Shade Garden and looking at the little tiny pool was great."

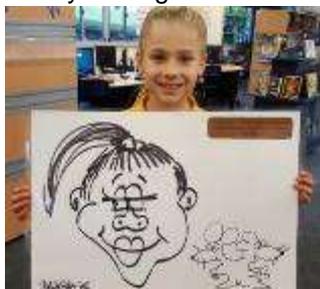
**Year 6 Camp**—Camp was an amazing experience for all year 6 students as we learnt the meaning of teamwork, participation, communication and respect. People triumphed in events despite great challenges, and conquered their fears. The students made a splash in the dam as they went Biscuiting and played Iron Man. We also did other activities such as the Giant Swing, Archery, Jaffle Making, Bike Olympics,



High Ropes and Catapults, as well as afternoon activities and Night Orienteering. Wednesday night, the rivalry was high, as Queensland defeated New South Wales 6-4 in the State of Origin. We would like to again thank the teachers, parents and Kinchant Dam staff for all the help and time you put in.

Baiden Papavasiliou and Eva-Jane Newsome, School Captains.

**News from the Library**-We have several extremely lucky students who were lucky enough to have their caricature drawn by our visiting author Mr Michael Salmon last week. Each child received their laminated caricature with another of Michael's sketches during his sessions as a thank you for standing up in front of a large audience which can be extremely daunting. During Michael's visit, he shared his expertise of creating a story and we are in the process of completing Fitzgerald's very own book which we hope to publish as an eBook titled *The Monster Who Ate Mackay!* With a little luck, we hope to finish our book early in Term 3.



As we are drawing close to our mid-year holiday break, we would like to encourage all students in Years 3-5 to return their Home Reading Log to be able to receive their Gold Card for 20 nights of reading or an ice block for completing a total of 38 nights of reading this term, which is a terrific achievement during such a busy term. Please also return all of your library books in readiness for borrowing your three holiday titles next week – remember this will help you to also complete your Premier's Reading Challenge.

**Digital Technologies**-Years 3-5 are nearing the completion of the familiarisation phase in Digital Technologies and students will be emailed their completed projects finalised as a short movie to enable them to share it with you at home. Each child is



able to also save their own projects by saving their work onto a USB or external hard drive by logging onto a computer within our school. We would like to congratulate all of our Year 3 – 6 teachers for the dedication and professionalism demonstrated in undertaking this new learning area, your child benefits immensely by being taught by highly skilled and enthusiastic classroom teachers. ICT's and Digital Technologies have their challenges but all students successfully navigated and overcame these trials to successfully complete a set task which was connected to a curriculum area within their year level. Next term, students in Prep, Year 1 and 2 will be using, manipulating and discovering all about ICT's and Digital Technologies.

#### **From the Guidance Officer-CYBER BULLYING**

It seems that on a daily basis we hear about bullying in the community in one form or another. Bullying of any kind has the potential to cause great damage to all concerned – including the perpetrator. As parents, there are steps we can take to protect our children. Following are some good websites which contain tips, strategies

and real life stories of incidents that have occurred to children and teenagers. Please take an opportunity to check out these websites and discuss this important issue with your children. This holiday time might be a good time to discuss the issues with your child.

<http://www.netalert.gov.au/advice.html>

<http://www.wiseuptoit.com.au/>

<http://www.netalert.gov.au/> (for free content filters)

<http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au>

#### **Sports Notices-**

**Mackay Softball**-Congratulations to Keeva Mohan for her recent selection in the girls' Mackay softball team. We wish her all the best at the Capricornia trials.

**NRL Development Cup**-Big congratulations to a successful season to the open Rugby League team. Last Friday, the team travelled to Moranbah to play St Patrick's Emerald in the final for the NRL Development Cup. The team played extremely well and played to the best of their ability against a much larger team. Unfortunately the team lost 28-10, but certainly did themselves proud. Well done to all the boys for their efforts throughout the year.

**Sports Day**-Well done so far to all participants in the field events held so far. A reminder that Junior Sports day is held this Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June from 9.00am to 12.00pm. Senior Sports day will run all day Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June.

**Tuckshop Talk**-Please remember tuckshop will not be open this Friday due to sports day. We are still chasing helpers for the tent Thursday and Friday. Please consider helping for an hour or two, especially over the lunch period on Friday. Thank you to those who have already put their names down. As we approach the end of term we will be depleting stock but we will endeavour to substitute where possible for lunches. From Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July, hot milo and raisin bread toasted will be available for purchase from the Canteen. These items will only be served from 8:00am until 8:30am Tuesday to Friday until the end of August. Payment is made directly to the canteen.

☛ Cup of hot Milo \$2.00

☛ Slice of Raisin Bread Toasted \$1.00

☛ Deal - Cup of Milo & 1 slice Raisin Toast \$2.50

Have a safe holiday. Tuckshop will reopen

12<sup>th</sup> July. Thank you Antoinette & Daneal.

**Free Dress Day** The student council wish to thank you for your support last Friday. We raised \$628 for our sponsored student and the school chaplaincy program.

**What is NAIDOC Week?**-NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC is celebrated not only in indigenous communities but by Australians from all walks of life. The week is a great opportunity to participate in a range of activities.

NAIDOC originally stood for "National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee". The committee was once responsible for organising national activities during NAIDOC Week and its acronym has since become the name of the week itself.

#### **Community Notices**

##### **Junior Touch Sign On**

Mackay Junior Touch sign on is accepting junior team nominations for the 2016 season which will start in July-November. You can register online now at

[www.mackaytouch.com.au](http://www.mackaytouch.com.au) or email

[juniortouch@mackaytouch.com.au](mailto:juniortouch@mackaytouch.com.au)