

ISSUE NO 5

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20 April 2016

From the Principal's Desk

2016 Diary Dates...

25 Apr: Anzac Day
March/Public Holiday
2 May: Labour Day Holiday
3 – 6 May: Year 4 Bike
Education.
10 May: P&C Meeting
5:30pm
10 May: Internet Usage
Information Session 7:00pm
10 – 12 May: NAPLAN
Year 3 / 5.
16 – 20 May: Book Fair
19 – 20 May: School Photos
23 – 26 May: Year 4 Bike
Education.
1 – 3 June: Year 6 Camp.
14 June: Twilight Concert
15 June: Sports Day Field
Events only
16 June: Junior Sports Day
17 June: Senior Sports Day
20 June: Instrumental
Music Camp
23 June: Show Holiday
24 June: Last day of Term

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.

Our students have settled back to the routines of school life with their involvement in the academic, cultural and sporting pursuits on offer. A special welcome to the new families to our school, we anticipate that your time with us will be productive for you and your children.

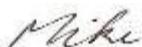
Our school community will observe the Anzac Tradition with the involvement in school and town events. Included in this newsletter is an ANZAC story from the Prep classes involving them with Meghan Malone a student from North Mackay High. Our school parade will be held on Friday, 22nd at 9:00am in the school hall with Mr Les Palmer, a Vietnam War Veteran as our guest.

Details for the Town Parade on the Monday have been sent home this week.

The popular information session for parents on the internet usage by our children is being presented by Sergeant Nigel Dalton, Mackay Police on Tuesday, 10th May at 7:00pm in the library. The year six students were involved in a session with Sergeant Dalton on Monday. If you are interested in the parent session please complete the form at the end of the newsletter and return to the office.

At our next P&C Meeting on Tuesday 10th May, at 5:30pm a discussion will be held to change the monthly meeting to the 2nd Monday. You are most welcome to attend this meeting.

Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson

Principal.

Foyer Display



In Science during Term 1, Year 5 investigated how the structural and behavioural adaptations of animals help them to survive in Australian environments. Dioramas were made as part of the

Science and Technology assessments. Each child chose an Australian environment ie a wetland, rainforest, temperate forest, grassland or desert. They then designed and made a habitat within that environment which had to contain a water and food source and shelter. Animals that could survive the conditions of their chosen environment were designed, created and placed in their new home. The students of 5C and 5D had a lot of fun completing the tasks and the results are SPECTACULAR!

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.

Invoices – Student invoices will be sent home in the next few weeks. Please note that 50% of the Student Resource Hire Scheme should be paid at this stage unless other arrangements have been made.

With the winter months slowly coming up, please label all clothing and to help with any accidents, please ensure students have a spare change of clothes in their bags.

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. Congratulations to 3B/3C for their outstanding attendance in Week 1 Term 2. Both classes achieved 99% attendance for the week. **Mrs Tracey Adams, Deputy Principal.**

News from the Library - Our school's first Book Fair for 2016 is quickly approaching – please mark in your diaries that our School Book Fair's Grand Opening is on Tuesday 17th May from 3pm – 6pm. It will continue to remain open each morning and afternoon for the remainder of the week. This year we have catalogues available for you to look at the wonderful purchases that will be available. Please come and collect these brochures from the library. All students will have the opportunity to peruse the selection on Monday 16th May. We all look forward to seeing you at our Book Fair which is a major part of our Library's fundraising.

We are also requesting for any old or no longer used Lego to be brought into our library as a part of our lunch time activities and our participation in the Young ICT Explorer's competition. If you are willing to donate any Lego that you may have laying around, we will give it a new home here in our library. Thank you in advance for your support.

Remember May is National Family Reading Month: if you would like to send in a photo of your family reading to be displayed in our library. Each entry will receive a small Certificate and prize to congratulate your family on reading more in May.

Digital Technology - The Year 6 students at Fitzgerald are budding with enthusiasm as they are about to embark on competing in this year's annual Young ICT Explorer's Competition. The projects range from plasma balls, disco lights, alarm clocks, Apps for the visually impaired and games to keep you fit with so many more. These students are using their knowledge of coding to make their projects come to life.

The Year 3, 4 and 5 students are busily refining their coding skills using BeeBots (small beetle like robots) and the software program Scratch to support their learning within the Humanities and Social Sciences, English and Health subject areas. We are lucky to have several expert Year 4 students: Dakota, Jarvis, Hayden and Julie who have been able to solve one of our coding questions by successfully measuring the distance BeeBots travel. Year 5 students are embarking on using Paint.Net to create their own individual sprite as a part of their Forest of Silence Tour. Our major goal this Semester is to establish a culture of fearlessness, exploration and peer collaboration when using Digital Technologies.

'The Nine Values for Australian Schooling – Freedom' by Nick Ayre, School Chaplain

The Fitzgerald Years 5 and 6 Drama Group will be presenting their interpretation of the Nine Values for Australian Schooling on parade throughout the year. This week they presented the value of Freedom. They began with a definition, "Freedom allows you to be who you want to be, to stay true to yourself and to stand up for the rights of others." They enacted a scenario that demonstrated the value of freedom in the school playground and used verbal collage to further explore what the value means to our community.

In life we have the freedom to make choices. Sometimes the choices we make help ourselves and the people we are closest to. This is great because we should be the kind of people who make choices that will bring joy and peace to others. On the other hand we are also free to make wrong choices. The problem with choosing to do the wrong thing means that we not only suffer the consequences but we can often bring pain and misery to those who are closest to us. So I encourage you to always choose to use the freedom you have to be helpful and kind to others. Look for ways that you can choose to do something like mow the lawn, be a good friend or wash the dishes.

Dental Van Visit – Child and Adolescent Oral Health Services Mackay are now offering services at Fitzgerald. Medical/Consent forms will be sent home and need to be fully completed and returned to the school office by **6th May 2016**. Further enquires please phone 49514 241.

'Sight Word Fun' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher -Literacy and Numeracy support teacher, Bev Croton, talked about Sight Words at this week's Parent and Caregivers' Learning Café. Sight Words occur with high frequency in the English language, so are generally learnt through lots and lots of reading. They are often the oldest words of the language, with unusual sound/letter patterns, so a reader must learn to recognise these common words instantly, 'by sight'. These sight words are often structural words, like *The* or *An*, they help to build sentences, but lack their own meaning, which can make them difficult for a reader to remember. It's a great idea to play games that keep the learning of Sight Words a fun and enjoyable time for you and your child. Keep it short and stress free. It is

easier to learn a few new words at a time than to try to learn many at once. And keep reading to your child, with your child and encourage them to read by themselves. The next Learning Café topic is 'NAPLAN Testing', 2.30-3.00pm on Monday 9 May in the school library. Toddlers are welcome. I hope to see you there!

'Persuasive Writing Competition' - 'North of the Pioneer - What animal makes the best pet?' Years 3 to 6 Student Persuasive Writing Competition entries are due 4pm, Friday 22 April 2016. Pick up a competition form from the school office.

'ATSI Family Homework Support' - The ATSI Family Homework Support afternoon has to have a break for two weeks, but will restart on Tuesday 10 May. Parents and caregivers of Fitzgerald's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island (ATSI) students 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 for more information.

Sports Notice – School Rugby League

Congratulations to the school rugby league for playing extremely well in their first game against St Mary's/St John's. The game ended up in an 18-18 draw. William Delaney was the standout player with a huge defensive effort of over 40 tackles for the game. Well done all players!

Northern Suburbs Touch Football - Congratulations to the following students who were recently selected in the Northern Suburbs touch football team: Teesha Edwards, Summah Page-Brennan, Dakota Williams, Keely Pitt, Elijah Williams, Ryan Clews, Cody Vassallo, Jaidyn Lauga, Caleb Owens and Baiden Papavasiliou. We wish these students all the best at the Mackay trials.

Tuckshop News- Two bags are required if ordering for both breaks. No bags at home, don't worry we have bags for sale – 10c. Please order the correct tuckshop for the correct days. We no longer sell Aqua Hero drinks, it is replaced by Quench which is spring water with 10% fruit juice. Flavours are blue heaven, orange citrus, apple/raspberry. Price - \$2.50 per bottle. Gelato ice cream will no longer be available once stock runs out, we have limited bubble-gum and caramel.

ROSTER:

Thurs 21st April – Robyn Adams, Jenny Higginson,
Tamika Cook

Frid 22nd – Maisie Greaves, Tamika Cook

Tues 26th – Robyn Adams

Wed 27th – Robyn Adams, Tamika Cook

Thurs 28th – Robyn Adams, Tamika Cook,
Jenny Higginson

Frid 29th – Tamika Cook

Tues 3rd May – Robyn Adams

Wed 4th May – Robyn Adams, Tamika Cook

Mackay North State High student Meghan Malone is spreading the Anzac spirit across the region through children's books. Meghan recently received an academic achievement grant with the Qld RSL Youth Development Program in collaboration with Bond University and is using this money to buy a range of picture books for young students throughout Mackay. On Wednesday 13th April, and again on Wednesday 20th April, Meghan visited the Prep classes and presented an interactive PowerPoint based on the ANZAC values of Humour, Courage, Mateship, Ingenuity and Endurance. She also read a picture book to the students about marching on ANZAC Day and presented the classes with four more

ANZAC based story books and their very own ANZAC Trooper Bear. The students enjoyed some ANZAC biscuits with their healthy snack and discussed a possible name for their Trooper Bear.

School Chaplaincy Fundraiser –

Parents your children might be wanting to donate their 5c coins to assist the School Chaplain Program. The classes are challenging each other to be the class with the most 5c pieces at the end of term. Chaplain Nic has promised this class a pizza party as a prize.



P & C Election BBQ – Thank you to all who donated cakes and supported our Election BBQ. We raised \$458 for the school Chaplaincy Program.

Mother's Day Stall Raffle

This year we have a beautiful handmade quilt donated by one of our clever mums as the raffle prize.



Tickets are \$1-00 each or 6 for \$5-00 and can be purchased from the stall or the office. Thank you for your generous support of this stall each year.

If you would like to purchase a few tickets at home we will be sending notes out shortly. Details on our

Mother's Day Stall is included in our newsletter.

Community Notices – Mackay Northern Beaches High School Enrolment Information Evening for Year 7 Students for 2017.

Wednesday, 18th May 2016

5:30pm to 6:30pm – Lecture Theatre

Register attendance: Ph. – 48 421 333 or email enrolments@macknorthbeachesshs.eq.edu.au.

Cyber Safety Information Session - On 10th May from 7 pm, there will be a Cyber Safety presentation by Sgt Nigel Dalton, Head of Crime Prevention, Mackay, to be held in the laptop space, a part of the library. This presentation will follow the P & C Meeting and is for parents and caregivers only as the content is aimed at adults. A "child friendly" version of the Cyber Safety presentation was presented to the Year 6 students last Monday.

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: 10 May 2016
Time: 7:00pm-8:00pm
Where: Fitzgerald State School Library
Audience: Parents and Staff only, no children.

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Who is Chatting to your Kids?
Name _____
Numbers Attending _____

R.S.V.P. by 10 May 2016 Thank you.