

ISSUE NO 8

www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au

27 May 2015

From the Principal's Desk

2015 Diary Dates...

27-29 May: Drama Artist in Residence – Carmel

Harrison

June 3: ICAS Science Test Years 4-6

June 8: Queen's Birthday Holiday

June 9: P&C Meeting 5:30pm

June 10: Twilight Concert

June 16 – 19: Year 6 Camp

June 22: Athletics Field Events Only

June 23: Junior Sports Day 9 – 11.45am

June 23: Report Cards to go home

June 24: Athletics Carnival Yrs. 3-6

June 25: Mackay Show Holiday

July 13: Day 1 of Term 3

Mathematics was the focus curriculum area at our school last week with Tierney Kennedy an education consultant working with our teachers and parents to assist us to improve student learning outcomes. Our students had the opportunity to participate in the "Fun with Maths" activities that required a range of strategies to solve them.

Good luck to our two teams of years five and six students who will compete in the area McDonald's Maths Competition this week. The students representing our school are Bryon Ashfield - Smith, Riley Brown, Jackson Cross, Joseph Garcia, Matthew Marrs, Charlotte Meads, Damon Randell, Jessica Recker, Ryley Smith and Penny Zhang.

We welcome our artist- in- residence Carmel Harrison to our school for the week and look forward to seeing how Drama can be integrated with other learning areas through Carmel's work with our students. Further information on the visit is provided in this newsletter.

Further information is provided from the "Who is Chatting to your Kids?" presentation that might be useful to you as a parent. The website www.thinkuknow.org.au will assist you to learn about the internet, understand how young people use the internet, recognize any suspicious or inappropriate behaviour, and to talk with your child about their online activities. Fact sheets are available on this website for the applications, Snapchat, Instagram, Kik and Ask.fm. These applications are being used by some of the children in the community.

Our next P&C meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 9 June at 5:30pm. You are most welcome to attend.

Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson

Principal.

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.

Foyer Display – Year 4A & 4B



During our History unit, we explored Australia's colonial history. We learned about the early traders, indigenous life and the huge changes that

occurred in Australia after Europeans arrived. Part of this unit involved placing ourselves in the role of a convict and retelling the story of their journey from their point of view.

In our Geography unit we are learning about mapping. We are starting to identify continents, lines of latitude, oceans and some countries. We are also learning that maps and atlases use keys, scale, coordinates and orientation to help us locate and identify important information.

A Note from your School Photographer -

Recently on photo day we took the following special group photos:

- School Captains
- Sports Captains
- Student Council
- Systems Monitors
- Sports Monitors

These presentations are a group photo presentation with the children standing together with their individual portraits below.

You have until **Monday 15th June 2015** to purchase at this price (orders placed after **Friday 12th June 2015** will incur a \$20 search fee as the images will then be archived).

These special group photo presentations are available for purchase for only \$27 each by collecting a special group envelope from the school office.

News from the Library

Many thanks to all families who, once again, have proven that reading is important in their busy lives. Our Book Fair was a huge success. The Library and all Fitzgerald teachers and students now have resources to the value of almost \$2500 to use!



Sports Notices

Capricornia Touch Football

Congratulations to Takiah Buchanan for her recent selection in the Capricornia Touch Football team. She will now compete in the State Trials in Toowoomba. All the best Takiah.

Mackay Cross Country

Congratulations to all of our recent Fitzgerald competitors at the recent Mackay Cross Country trials, which were held in Sarina. Extra congratulations to Jhett Bates who was the age champion for the 12 years boys and will now compete in the Capricornia trials in Rockhampton.

Rugby League

Congratulations to the school Rugby League team, who recorded their first victory against Victoria Park State School 18-8. It was a fantastic team performance and the team is improving from game to game. Keep up the great effort boys!!!

Sports Day Nominations

Students from years 3-6 will be participating in athletics trials over the next two weeks in preparation for our school's sports day and field events finals to be held in week 10.

Safety Alert – Parents picking up students'

Parents if you are wanting to take your children from school during the day, please report direct to the office so that arrangements can be made to have your children come to you. This is important for your child's safety.

Super Speed Monopoly and Resilience Snakes and Ladders

by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher. Thank-you to those parents who participated in a 'How to help your child master maths facts through games' workshop held recently at the school, led by visiting mathematics educational consultant, Tierney Kennedy. During the workshop, Tierney demonstrated how available resources can be modified to help reinforce school learning in a fun way.

The group played standard card and board games with modified rules, like super speed Monopoly with two dice and the option of using either addition, subtraction, multiplication or division and a choice of direction to make a move. Resilience is needed for a version of Snakes and Ladders where the owner of the counter makes the first move with one die and their opposition moves the counter using the number rolled on a second die.

Tierney believes that parents and caregivers have an important role to play in helping to move classroom learning into long term memory. Workshops such as these help parents to know and understand the skills being taught at school and can very effectively reinforce the learning at home. When parents are an informed resource, work done at home can have a powerful effect on student outcomes.

Drama artist-in-residence Carmel Harrison by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher.

Fitzgerald State School believes in an arts-rich education.

Participation in the performing and visual arts encourages creativity and provides opportunities for self-expression and learning extension. At Fitzgerald, the Arts is integral to the education of the whole child. Over the next two weeks, each class will receive a 45 minute drama lesson in the school hall from visiting drama and literacy specialist teacher, Carmel Harrison.

During this artist-in-residence period, Carmel will use an imaginative text suggested by the teachers of each year level to demonstrate an active reading response through drama. Students will learn some basic drama skills while actively participating in text response, leading to engaged learning and deeper understanding. Carmel will also work with the Years 5 and 6 Drama Group to help refine this year's performance piece exploring the topic of animal rights.

Teachers will learn some essential drama skills and games during a professional development session led by Carmel and will receive advice for assessing and connecting drama to enrich the other learning areas.

Under 8's Day

Under 8's Day was a fabulous celebration of the importance of play in our children's lives. The children became brilliant bubble blowers, disco divas, superheroes 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 2016!

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.

Fun with Maths – Fun with Maths was interesting



because the activities were about problem solving in different ways and learning new things. We liked the chains and the haunted castle. By Faith & Cayley 3E

McDonald's Maths - McDonald's Maths is a maths competition where you have teams of 5 students from both Years 5 and 6 competing against other schools. There is a team challenge and a relay challenge with the points from both deciding the overall champion school. This year our school teams consisted are



Bryon Ashfield - Smith, Riley Brown, Jackson Cross, Joseph Garcia, Matthew Marrs, Charlotte



Meads, Damon Randell, Jessica Recker, Ryley Smith and Penny Zhang.

Works Matters – Toilet Upgrade – The middle and senior class toilets have had new metal louvers installed recently.

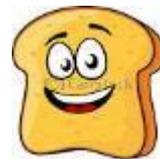
P & C Notices

Pizza Day was a great success, raising \$2800.

Thankyou to Cath Kean Jean Kelleher, Vicki Caffarella, Sarina Dodd and Justine Morley for your generous offer of time to help pack the large number of pizza orders.

Next P & C Meeting 9th June at 5:30 P.M.

Tuckshop Talk - from Wednesday May 27, 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**

Menu Change

LOL drinks are no longer available and have been replaced with Aqua Hero Play Water at a cost of \$2-00 each.

ROSTER:

Tues 26th May – Robyn Adams

Wed 27th – Robyn Adams

Thurs 28th – Robyn Adams, Margaret Smith

Friday 29th – Aretha Lyon, Nikki Best

Tues 2nd June – Robyn Adams

Wed 3rd – Robyn Adams

Thurs 4th – Robyn Adams, Help Needed

Fri 5th Alma, Help Needed

Community Notices

Mackay Scale Modellers Club 21st Display and Competition 6 -7 June. St Paul's Uniting Church Hall, Macalister Street. Adults - \$3, Children \$2, Family \$6. Viewing times – 11am to 6pm Sat. 9am – 3pm Sun. More Details – Greg Martin 0427 423 815

gmart364@bigpond.com

Care Pathways - are a non-profit organisation which is dedicated to providing care and support to families, the elderly and people in need. We are currently seeking to recruit foster carers. For more information please call Churches of Christ Care Pathways -

Ph. - 4953 5097 or carepathwaysqld.com.au

PCYC Monster Cent Sale – Sunday 31st May @ 10:30am. Lucky Door Prizes, Hundreds of \$ in prizes. Courtesy bus running to Breezes and Carlisle Gardens, phone now to book your seat. All monies raised on the day will go towards the 'Time 4 Kids' campaign.

For more information – Ph.: Mackay PCYC 4942 3296

Charity Movie Event - Birch Carroll and Coyle Cinemas have kindly offered to do a Charity Movie Screening of the MINIONS on Sunday June 21st at Mt Pleasant, with all proceeds being donated to Variety Queensland (The children's charity). The tickets must be pre-purchased from Kathryn – Ph.: 0406 689 017 or

Sandi - Ph.: 0406 07 8541for \$20 a ticket.

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