

ISSUE NO 1

www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au

4 February 2015

From the Principal's Desk

Our Prep classes for 2015

2015 Diary Dates...

9-13 Feb: Parent Information Sessions
10 Feb: P&C Meeting
23 Feb-6 Mar: Life Education Session
10 Mar: P&C Meeting
16 Mar: Arts Council-Resistance
20 Mar: Cross Country
21 Mar: Harmony Day
30-31 Mar: Anti-Smoking Workshops-Yrs 5&6
23-31 Mar: Parent/Teacher Interviews
1-2 Apr: Parent/Teacher Interviews
1-2 Apr: Anti-Smoking Workshops-Yrs 5&6
2 Apr: Easter Hat Parade
3 Apr: Good Friday
20 Apr: Term 2 Commences
25 Apr: Anzac Day



Our students have settled nicely into the new school year. We have enrolled 720 students including 92 Prep students in 29 classrooms.

To our new families and staff a special welcome to our school. The new staff are, Sharon Roi – Special Needs, Alexia Wotherspoon – Guidance Officer, Leanne Penshorn – PC, Lucy Wood – 1B, Angela Hardgrave – 3C, Tracy Perfrement – 4D and Melina Frangos – 5B. Watch out for their profile feature in each newsletter.

Our year 6 students commence their campaigns for the 2015 leadership positions this week. The investiture parade for the leaders will take place on Monday 2nd March.

The Parent Teacher information sessions commence next week. This is a good opportunity for you to meet your teachers and find out more about the classroom and the school. We look forward to seeing you at your child's session. The timetable for the sessions is included in this newsletter.

Our new Prep students have the opportunity to play under a permanent shade shelter constructed over the holiday period. Thank you to our Parents' and Citizens' Association for providing the funds for this project.

Don't forget to support our school by getting involved. The parents on P & C would appreciate your attendance at the first meeting which will be held on Tuesday, 10th February at 5:30pm in the staffroom.

Enjoy your week.

Mike Anderson
Principal.

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.

Staff Profile



Hello my name is Lucy Wood and I am the new year 1B teacher. I am so excited to be joining the Fitzzy family after carrying out my final teaching internship at this school last year.

I was lucky enough to gain a contract for fourth term in year 2 and now, my dreams have come true to have a class of my own. I look forward to meeting many of you and to a wonderful year ahead!

Parent Information Sessions

Monday 2 Feb	Tuesday 3 Feb	Wednesday 4 Feb	Thursday 5 Feb	Friday 6 Feb

Monday 9 Feb	Tuesday 10 Feb	Wednesday 11 Feb	Thursday 12 Feb	Friday 13 Feb
		Year 6 – 4.30pm	Year 2 – 4.30pm	
		Year 4 – 5pm	Year 3 – 5pm	
	No meetings available from 5pm due to P&C Meeting	Year 5 – 4pm	Year 1 – 5.30pm	
		Prep – 5pm		

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TERM 1

WEEK 1:

- Contracts, Information and Beginning Quickstart Timetables sent home to parents.
- Contracts and Instrumental Levies due back to school by Friday 6th February.

WEEK 2:

- Quick start Beginners' Lessons begin this week.
- Brass, Woodwind and Percussion – Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Strings – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
- First evening session for Brass and Woodwind Parents on Wednesday 4th Feb starting at 7pm.
- Percussion and Bass Guitar Lessons on Friday ONLY during Quickstart Week.
- Term One Timetables for all students issued.

WEEK 3:

- Lessons start for all students.
- Strings – Monday – Mrs Mora
- Beginning BWP students – Wednesday – Mr Matthews
- Continuing BWP students – Thursday – Mr Bayliss

WEEK 4:

- Ensembles begin for continuing students.
- String Ensemble – Monday – 7.45am

- Concert Band – Thursday – 8am

Please see Miss Green if you have any questions or problems regarding instrumental music.

2015 School Term Dates For Students

Term	Dates	Length
Term 1	Tuesday 27 January - Thursday 2 April	10 weeks
Term 2	Monday 20 April - Friday 26 June	10 weeks
Term 3	Monday 13 July - Friday 18 September	10 weeks
Term 4	Tuesday 6 October - Friday 11 December	10 weeks

For more information the 2015 school calendar can be downloaded at

www.education.qld.gov.au/public_media/calendar/holidays.html

Student Resource Form For 2015

This form is now due at the office. The collection of this form for each student is an audit requirement. Extra copies are available at the office if you require one.

Life Education

Our first performance of the year will start in week 5, February 23. The cost for this is \$6.00 and is due now. This amount is included in Curricular Activities for 2015. If you have paid your Resource Hire/Curricular Activities for 2015 this amount will be covered.

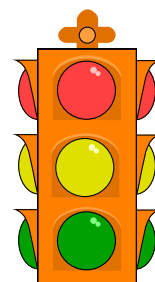
Religious Education

We are currently in need of volunteers to provide Religious Education in our lower school Years 1 to 3. If you are able to help with this please contact Tracey Adams via the school office.

Learning Literacy

'TO, WITH & BY' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Master Teacher

Reading instruction remains the No.1 academic priority at Fitzgerald State School again this year. A set of traffic lights helps to describe a balanced approach of reading instruction in all the classrooms of Fitzgerald State School. The TO, WITH & BY traffic lights can also be used a guide for parents and caregivers aiming to lead their children towards independent reading of increasingly complex text.



- Red Light - Read **TO** me! Show me how to be a reader. Make it fun. Give me your time and attention; read me fiction and non-fiction text. Talk to me. Tell me what you know about the world. Model what a good reader looks like. Let me see you read. Share your enthusiasm for reading and learning.
- Orange Light - Read **WITH** me! Help me to be a better reader. Before I start reading, ask me to predict what will happen. Help me to connect with the text. During reading, check my understanding by asking me questions. Support me to work it out on my own. Pause – Prompt – Praise. After I read ask me to confirm my predictions and to retell the story. Ask me the meanings of words. Ask me questions

about the text. Ask me to re-read to improve my fluency and accuracy.

- Green Light - Encourage me to read **BY** myself! Let me practise my skills. Make sure that I read in bed. Ensure that I have books to read. Give me books for presents. Check that I'm reading a balance of fiction and non-fiction. Help me to find a favourite author. Take me to the library. Wide, varied and self-selected reading creates fluent and resourceful readers.

Legislation-Smoking Around Schools

Smoking is banned at all Queensland state and non-state schools and for 5 metres beyond their boundaries. This is a 5 metre no-smoking area around the perimeter of the school, beyond the school land boundary.

Road Safety Reminders – The School Crossing

Use the crossing provided and follow the supervisors' instructions. Listen out for the whistle to cross the road.

Parking – Please do not park in the hospital grounds situated across from the bottom school car park, this is private property.

If motorists are leaving the bottom car park, could you please turn left and travel up to the roundabout rather than attempting to turn right onto Norris Road. This will help alleviate traffic congestion at peak times.

North Mackay Private Hospital Car Park

Parents and Guardians of children at Fitzgerald State School are being advised that North Mackay Private Hospital car park is for patients only. You are no longer allowed to park on these premises as such parking on the hospital grounds is reserved for patients, families, clients and visitors of North Mackay Private Hospital and their Consulting Suites only. Could parents and guardians dropping off and collecting children from Fitzgerald State School please make alternative parking arrangements. Cars that are parked in this area will be towed away. **Contributed**

School newsletters are distributed fortnightly to all school families. The youngest child has the responsibility to deliver this to your household. Please take time to peruse the newsletter. We endeavour to keep every family informed about school life at Fitzgerald. Newsletters usually come home every second Wednesday.

Student Dress Code

Students are being reminded of aspects of the Dress Code. Improvements are expected from some of our students in the areas, the wearing of, appropriate footwear, jewellery, hairstyles and no makeup or hair dye. Students are able to wear their school district, state, regional or sports uniforms on Fridays only.

Newsletter Advertisers

Once again we thank the business organisations that continue to sponsor the newsletter copy. Your continuing support is appreciated.

Works Matters

Shade Shelter

We had two shade shelters constructed and re-modelled over the holiday break. The children are already getting good use from these shelters.

News from the Library

Welcome to 2015. We hope that you will make your way to the Library and find some wonderful reading there for your children.

This year Mrs Laurel Shaw is in the Library from Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Janelle Stuart Thursday and Friday. Please come in and say 'Hello'.

Library opens every day at 8.20 am and is open after school until 3.20pm and students are encouraged to change their Library books as soon as they have finished.

Sports Notices

Cross Country

The school Cross Country race will be held on Friday the 20th of March. All students in years 3-6 have the option of participating in the race. To prepare for the race, training will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 3.00-3.30pm. Training starts this week. In order to participate in the race all permission and medical forms need to be filled in and handed back into school.

Tuckshop Talk

Welcome back to a new year and term. A new menu was sent out last week. Please look over it as there has been some price increases. If incorrect money is put into the bag we will try to supply lunch, but your child may miss out if we can't supply all of it. Tuckshop bags are sold for 10c each. We need volunteers so please come and put your name down even if it's for an hour or two. There is no roster done up yet, but we do need help for Friday 6th and 13th February.

Icy Cups

Icy cups will be available for sale starting this Friday afternoon in the Prep area from 2.45, the cost is 50c. Please support as this is a fundraiser for the P&C and a great way to cool off on a Friday afternoon!

If anyone would like to help make or sell icy cups please call Belinda on 0421 248 763.

Community Notices

Foster Carer - Could you be one? - Churches of Christ Care Pathways support their carers with training, advice and access to local resources to enable them to provide the best home environment for the children and young people in their care. Contact us for a foster care information pack on 4953 5097 or carepathwaysqld.com.au.

Mackay Wanderers Football Club Sign On - Mackay Wanderers are currently seeking new players in all age groups both Junior and Senior ranks, in particular, Colts and Women. Sign on now ONLINE. For more information go to www.myfootballclub.com.au

Experience The Magic Of Hosting - Enrich your home with an exchange student in July 2015. Request student profiles now to find out more, www.wep.org.au or 1300 884 733 or info@wep.org.au

Mackay Athletics Club - Sign-on and information day, Saturday 21st February 2015, 10am-2pm, Mackay State High School, Via English or Penn St, Ages from 5 to Masters. First club day, Saturday 28th February. Trial Period only \$10 for two weeks. For more information call James on 0431 973 129 or www.mackayathletics.com.au. New members to bring a copy of Birth Certificate for sighting.

Mackay Evangelical Church (MAKE) - meets 4pm Sundays at Fitzgerald State School Hall. Kids church runs during service. All welcome! Contact Jai on 0429 852 949 or visit make.church.

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