

## From the Principal's Desk

### 2014 Diary Dates...

**23-26 June:** Year 7  
Camp

**25 June:** Report Cards  
go home

**27 June:** Final Day of  
Term 2

**14 July:** Term 3  
Resumes

**21-22 July:** Northern  
Suburbs Athletics  
Carnival

**29 July:** ICAS English  
Competition

**8 Aug:** Wakakirri  
Performance

**18-22 Aug:** Science  
Week

The recent Athletics Carnivals for both the Junior and Senior parts of our school saw students not only facing the varying events and records that had previously been set, but also the varying elements of a North Queensland Winter. Congratulations to everyone involved for your participation and support of these days. Thanks also goes to Tim Campbell and staff for your efforts.

Tina Ryan has been our lower school Deputy Principal for the past 6 months and I wish to take this opportunity to thank her for her enthusiasm, passion, dedication and commitment to the students, staff and parents of our community. We wish her well as she returns to Mackay North High School next semester. Mr Peter Robinson has been appointed to Fitzgerald commencing next term. We welcome Peter, who, previous to this appointment has been the Principal of Conningsby State School.

The School Annual Report for 2013 will be found on the school website [www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au](http://www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au) from the 30<sup>th</sup> June. A copy of this report will be available at the school office for your perusal from the commencement of Semester Two.

With school report cards going home today, a reminder that there is a correlation between school attendance and academic achievement. It is an expectation from our school that all students will attend school through to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of June.

Congratulations to all students who have been recognized for their effort and/or achievement this semester. To this date, students have received a total of 186 gold cards or Student of the Week Awards for the month of June. This is a daily average of 10 per day. Well done!

Our next P&C meeting is to be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August at 5:30pm in the staffroom. You are most welcome to attend.

The Term Three commencement date is Monday 14<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.



Tracey Adams  
Acting 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.

## Foyer News

**“The limits of my language are the limits of my world.” –Ludwig Wittgenstein**



The Year 6 students have been using their Japanese Language skills to describe people. Their mission was to help Takeshi – a new boy from Japan,

on an errand to find a particular teacher in the school. With a little artistic licence granted, they drew a picture of the Sensei, with a description written in Japanese. An outstanding overall result! Well done Year 6!

## Teddy Bear Hospital



In Week 8 our Prep classes were visited by four medical students from James Cook University. The trainee doctors spoke to the students about the importance of having a healthy



lifestyle in order to keep their bodies healthy. The students rotated through several activities which informed them about healthy eating, dental hygiene, keeping our heart and lungs healthy, sun safety and hospital procedures such as taking blood pressure and getting a needle. The students

with their teddy bear as patients enjoyed the interactive visit.

## A Farewell from Mrs Ryan



It is with real sadness that I leave Fitzgerald to return to Mackay North High where once again, I will be teaching Science and Maths to students who are in their final years of schooling. While my time here has been short, it has been a wonderful experience and one of the highlights of my 30 plus years of teaching.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have made my time at Fitz so memorable.

Firstly, thank you to the parents, especially those in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2, who greeted me with a smile each morning, stopped me for a quick chat and allowed me to share a little of their child's educational journey.

I would also like to thank the staff who welcomed me so warmly and who taught me so much. I feel incredibly fortunate to have been part of a staff whose professionalism, dedication, talent and creativity are outstanding and who make Fitzgerald the great school that it is.

Finally, thank you students. Your enthusiasm and delight in learning have made coming to school each day a real joy. I look forward to seeing many of you again in the future when you make the transition to high school. I wish you all the best,  
Tina Ryan.

## Learning Literacy

**'Push to Add Drama' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum**

Members of the Years 6 & 7 Drama Group have been meeting each Wednesday lunch time, under the direction of teachers Jill Green, Sheryl McAuley and Sue Hamilton-Smith. This year's theme of 'Push to Add Drama' has been inspired by a popular YouTube clip and throughout the year students have been busy learning stage craft as they workshop ideas and write script to match the theme of a staged dramatic event. Drama Group members will have the opportunity to further refine their performance piece by working with a renowned visiting writer and actor, Sydney-based, Angela Betzien. Angela is a founding member of independent theatre company, Real TV. In 2011 Angela received the Sydney Theatre Award for Best New Australian work, in 2012 the Queensland Literary Award for Drama, the 2012 Kit Denton Disfellowship and the 2008 Richard Wherrett Award for Excellence in Playwriting. Years 6 & 7 Drama Group members need to ensure that they are up to date with classroom tasks, bring a water bottle and wear their school uniform dressed for active participation from 1.00pm – 3.00 on Wednesday 16 July in the Fitzgerald State School Music Room.

**'The Art and Science of Teaching' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum**

Robert Marzano considers teaching to be both Science and Art. To prepare the current end of semester report cards, our teachers have been necessarily scientific. Their judgments have been made through the purposeful, systematic and ongoing collection of assessment evidence. They moderate student work across their year level and use the standards and work samples of the Australian Curriculum to make evidence-based judgments about the quality and depth of the learning of each student. If your child receives a 'C' achievement standard on their Semester One report card, you can be assured that they have met the criteria for a learner, they are doing what is required, their academic development is where it needs to be at their year level, not just at Fitzgerald State School, but across Australia. The curriculum that is taught and the classroom instruction strategies that are utilised at Fitzgerald State School have been based on sound research. However, knowing when to teach the curriculum, with what strategies and with whom is more of an art. Every day teachers balance the necessity of using research-based data with the equally vital need to understand the needs of individual students. Our teachers aim to

create a supportive learning environment and present a rigorous, differentiated curriculum in ways that will motivate and engage their students. Effective classrooms are a busy, dynamic, complex fusion of art and science, resulting in exceptional teaching and outstanding student achievement.

### **Library News**

#### **Readers Cup competition**

Last Tuesday five students from Fitzgerald, Cian McLaughlin, Reilly Kurtz, Jessica Tilbrook, Caitie Kean and Shakiera Williams took part in the local Readers Cup competition. The students were given a list of five books to read and were quizzed on their knowledge of these books on the day. The competition was fierce and unfortunately our team did not get a place. Well done to these students!

#### **Under 8's Day display in the Library**

Everyone is invited to visit the Library over the next few days to look at the display of photos taken on Under 8's Day. The smiles are wide and everyone had a great time!

### **Sports Notices**

#### **Sports Day**

Congratulations to all students who participated in the sports days held in Week 9 across various days, whether it being junior sports day, field events or senior sports day. The participation levels were fantastic across all three days and all participants did themselves proud. The major awards were:

9 Years Boy Champion- Jaxon Purdue  
9 Years Girl Champion- Teesha Edwards  
10 Year Boys Champion- Coby Arthur  
10 Years Girl Champion- Brooke Vella  
11 Years Boy Champion- Riley Whitestyles  
11 Years Girl Champion- Takiah Buchanan  
12 years Boy Champion- Logan Clark  
12 Years Girl Champion- Maygan Fitzgerald  
13 Years Boy Champion- Tyler Forbes  
13 Years Boy Champion- Bridget Donovan  
Overall Boy Champion- Tyler Forbers  
Overall Girl Champion- Brooke Vella  
800m Boy Champion- Tyler Forbes  
800m Girl Champion- Kaitlyn Scott  
Brest Presented House- Kingfisher  
Overall Champion House- Brolga

Some selected students will now have the opportunity to represent Fitzgerald School at the upcoming Northern Suburbs Athletics Carnival to be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of July next term. These students will be notified in the near future.

### **Tuckshop Talk**

The tuckshop will operate on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July. Hope you all have a safe holiday and we will see you back on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July.

### **ROSTER**

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams, **HELP NEEDED**  
Fri 27<sup>th</sup> – Bec Benson, **HELP NEEDED**  
Tues 15<sup>th</sup> July – Robyn Adams  
Wed 16<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams  
Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams, **HELP NEEDED**  
Fri 18<sup>th</sup> – Sandi Dunn, **HELP NEEDED**

Thank you to everyone that baked on both sports days and also to the volunteers that took the time out to help, it was greatly appreciated.

### **Lost Property**

The lost property box in the office is full! If your child is missing jumpers, lunchboxes, shoes or anything else then come and look to see if any of it belongs to them. It will all be donated to a charity if not collected.

### **Community Notices**

**St Joseph's Catholic Parish of North Mackay & Northern Beaches Sacramental Program** – Preparation for Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist, Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2014, St Joseph's School Hall, Canberra St, North Mackay, 7pm. For further details, contact Parish Office – 4957 4855.

**The retune is coming to Mackay and surrounds on 3 July** - As the final step in Australia's successful move to digital-only TV, the ABC, 7QLD and WIN in Mackay and surrounds will change frequencies on 3 July. After the channels have moved, viewers will need to retune their digital TV, set-top box or digital TV recorder.

For more information you can call the Digital Ready Information Line on 1800 20 10 13, 8am to 10pm (AEST), 7 days or visit the Digital Ready [website](#).

**Mackay Children's Contact Service Incorporated** – Assists families who have been through Separation or Divorce and are having difficulty managing their Parenting arrangements. For more information contact 4944 1733, email – [admin@mackayccs.net.au](mailto:admin@mackayccs.net.au) or view our website – [www.mackayccs.org.au](http://www.mackayccs.org.au)

**MADEC** – MADEC Training Services is delivering Certificate III in Business Administration & Certificate III in Disability. For further information, contact MADEC Training Services to discuss your eligibility and options available to you on 4951 1233 or email – [training@madec.org.au](mailto:training@madec.org.au)

**Softball** – Free come and try day, girls & boys 10/11/12 & 13 years, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July, 9:30am – 12pm & 1pm – 3:30pm. Free sausage sizzle lunch provided, Softball Fields, Beaconsfield Road.  
Dragons – Maxine – 0439 376 887  
Angels – Chubb – 0416 432 988  
Hawks – Cheryl – 0428 182 248

