

From the Principal's Desk

2014 Diary Dates...

21-25 Jul: NAIDOC Week

28-29 Jul: Mackay District Athletics

29 Jul: ICAS English Competition

4-6 Aug: Visiting Author, Peter Carnavas

8 Aug: Wakakirri Performance

12 Aug: ICAS Maths Competition

12 Aug: P&C Meeting 5:30pm

13 Aug: Musica Viva

15 Aug: Disco

18 Aug: Fact-a-thon

18-22 Aug: Science Week

18-22 Aug: Yr4 Bike Education

25-29 Aug: Yr4 Bike Education

30 Aug: Real Men Read Event

8-11 Sep: Prep-Yr3 Swimming

11-13 Sep: Yr 5 Camp

15-18 Sep: Prep-Yr3 Swimming

19 Sep: Last Day of Term 3

6 Oct: Public Holiday

7 Oct: Term 4 Resumes

20 Oct: Student Free Day

20 Oct: Prep Open Day

13 Nov: Spectacular

Welcome back to term three everyone, a special welcome to the new families and our deputy principal Mr Peter Robinson. The importance of good communication between parents and staff is recognised by our community for improved students learning outcomes.

The value for this term is Understanding, Tolerance and Inclusion. This value will be discussed with our students, in order to share a common understanding of practices that demonstrate the value. The value will be further highlighted as we recognise the history and culture of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through our NAIDOC activities.

Two activities that promote our goals in literacy, the author in residence Peter Carnavas, August 4, 5, 6 and the Real Men Reading event August 30, please support these activities. Details are included in this newsletter.

The annual School Opinion Survey starts this week. All families, school staff and a representative sample of students will be invited to take part. We encourage you to take this opportunity to have your say about what our school does well, and how our school can improve.

Access details for the Parent/Caregiver Survey are being sent home with students this week, and parents/caregivers are welcome to complete their survey online at the school this week. School computers will be available at the office. Survey queries or requests for translations can be directed to Tracey Adams on telephone 49656333 or email tadams54@eq.edu.au

It is important that our students are at school before the class commencement. An increasing number of students are reporting to the office, after 8:50am, for being late arrivals. If the students are at school at 8:30am this gives them enough time to prepare for school assemblies and the first lesson.

Congratulations to our Athletics Team, aggregate and average winners for 2014 at the Northern Suburbs Carnival.

Enjoy your week.



Michael 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.

Foyer News



NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate 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 and to support your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

This year's NAIDOC theme honours all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have fought in defence of country. From our warriors in the Frontier Wars to our warriors who have served with honour and pride in Australia's military conflicts and engagements across the globe.

We proudly highlight and recognise the role they have played in shaping our identity and pause to reflect on their sacrifice. We celebrate and honour their priceless contribution to our nation.

Our students this year will be looking at a variety of indigenous art works and will be producing composite class artworks. Students also have the opportunity to undertake some art and craft activities with Mrs Lenore Davis during lunch hours.

Staff Profile



I am very pleased to have been appointed to the position of Deputy Principal at Fitzgerald SS, working with a very dedicated, professional team. Prior to my appointment I was Principal of Coningsby SS, a much smaller school with an enrolment of only

61 students. While I knew all of the students at Coningsby, it will certainly be quite a challenge getting to know the students in this school with an enrolment of 740 students! I have worked at quite a few local schools in a variety of roles however my appointment to Fitzgerald is actually a return to the school for me, as I taught Year 7 here, several years ago. I have many fond memories of my time at Fitz and I am certainly looking forward to working with your children to support their learning needs into the future.

Show Handwriting

Fitzgerald students were invited to write a passage demonstrating their handwriting skills for entry in the Mackay Show. Two boys and two girls from each year level were chosen to represent the school totalling 21 entries. Congratulations to the following winners,

Year 1 – Olivia Clews – First
Dean Nelson – Third
Year 2 - Makayla Harrison – First
Jardine Kennell – Second
Luke Fisler – Third
Year 4 - Ebony Welby – Third
Year 7 - Sofia Garcia – First

Sofia has won first prize handwriting every year since Year 2. She does have beautiful neat writing. Well done.

ICAS Science Competition Results

Congratulations to all of our students who competed in the ICAS Science competition. Those students who received Distinctions and Credits:

Distinctions – Tyler Forbes, Joe Fortescue, Reilly Kurtz

Credit – Jackson Cross, Penny Zhang, Jack McCubben, Ella Sippel, Carlton Rees

Well Done!

Chess Club

If you are interested in joining the Chess Club, then come along to Mrs Bobby's Room in 7A, 1pm Wednesday's. The Interschool Chess Competition will be coming up early in the term at Victoria Park State School.

Learning Literacy

The Premier's Reading Challenge Continues by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum

Although the reading period does not finish until Friday 5 September, some students are telling me that they have already completed the Premier's Reading Challenge. Congratulations! Well done! This is a mighty effort! It's not that the Challenge is difficult. After all, reading continues to be our



#1 priority at Fitzgerald State School. We know the importance of learning to read. We know that readers increase their life choices and chances. Teachers and parents are reading TO, sharing WITH and encouraging children to read fiction and non-fiction material independently BY themselves, at home and at school. Successfully completing the Challenge requires that students in Prep to Year 2 read or experience 20 books, Years 3 and 4 read 20 books and Years 5 to 7 read 15 books by the end of the period. A reading log is kept and entries are verified by an adult. This Challenge is more than just a test of how many books a child can read; it is a test of goal setting, perseverance and record keeping. We have all known bright, talented individuals who begin, but struggle to complete evidence of their real potential. A Challenge over such a long period is a test of determination and organisation. If your child has mislaid the Reading Record Sheet, we have spares, or download the form from the Premier's Reading Challenge website. The website also provides booklists to

help guide the selection of appropriate reading material. Time to get reading!
<http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/readingchallenge/>

Works Matters

Recent facility improvements to our school include a new fence enclosure to the tennis court and cricket practice net and painting to the covered links.

Sports Notices

National Netball Trials

Congratulations to Zali Mooney who was selected in a National Indigenous Netball team to take part in the National Trials on the Gold Coast. This is a fantastic achievement Zali. Well done!

Touch Football

Mackay Junior Touch Football: Sign-On Friday Sunday 26th July 9.00am - 3.00pm. For all information and nomination forms please go to the Mackay Touch website www.mackaytouch.com.au or call Dean Cheetham 0428926797 Junior Coordinator.

Northern Suburbs Athletics

Congratulations to all of our Fitzgerald representatives who participated in the Northern Suburbs Athletics Carnival this week. Fitzgerald performed extremely well as a school and won both the "Highest Average Points" and the "Highest Aggregate Points" trophies. Congratulations to the following students who have been selected in the Northern Suburbs team to participate in the Mackay trials: Wylie Pearson, Ty Jenkins, Wade Jackson, Jaala Grant, Brooke Vella, Breearna Craig, Daniel Mills, Clayton Jenkins, Riley Whitestyles, Koby Allen, Lily Kay, Ebony Columb, Tanika Willcocks, Takiah Buchanan, Kye Sleeman, Shameus Edwards, Logan Clark, Callum Rebetzke, Kaitlin Scott, Rebecca Flor, Tyler Forbes, Ian Galapon, Lachlan Jung, Tamaryn Hutson, Bridget Donovan and Britney Vella. Extra congratulations to Brooke Vella, Ebony Columb and Tyler Forbes who were also age champions.

Tuckshop Talk

Welcome back to another term of school. Enclosed in this newsletter is our winter menu.

Savoury mince rolls, Baked Potato, Chicken and gravy rolls, Gelato, Custard cups.

Please ensure you order on the correct days.

ROSTER

Thurs 24th – Robyn Adams, Shiran Akther

Fri 25th – **HELP NEEDED**

Tue 29th – Robyn Adams

Wed 30th – Robyn Adams

Thurs 31st – Robyn Adams, Shiran Akther

Fri 1st August – Bec Benson, Cath Kean **HELP NEEDED**

Tue 5th – Robyn Adams

Wed 6th – Robyn Adams

Thurs 7th – Robyn Adams

Fri 8th – **HELP NEEDED**

Community Notices

St Joseph's Catholic Parish of North Mackay & Northern Beaches Sacramental Program –

Preparation for Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist, Tuesday 29th July 2014, St Joseph's School Hall, Canberra St, North Mackay, 7pm. For further details, contact Parish Office – 4957 4855.

Mackay Junior Touch Football - Sign-On Friday Sunday 26th July 9.00am - 3.00pm in conjunction with Mackay Touch Association attempting a Guinness World Record attempt with the longest game of touch and raising money for Breast Cancer and Prostate Cancer. For all information and nomination forms please go to the Mackay Touch website www.mackaytouch.com.au or call Dean Cheetham 0428926797 Junior Coordinator.

Mackay Touch are also holding a Foundation (Level 1) Coach Course on 26th July. Nominate at www.mackaytouch.com.au under courses.

Host Families Needed In January 2015 Experience Another Culture, Make New Friends Improve Your Language Studies At Home -

In January 2015 we will be receiving exchange students from Europe (Germany, Italy, Denmark, Finland and France), South America (Argentina) and Japan. Our new arrivals will live with a host family and attend a local school for 2 or 10 months. As we plan for their arrival, we are keen to hear from suitable families who might be interested to host a student. For more information visit www.studentexchange.org.au or call our office on 1300 135 331.

Mackay North State High School Enrolments -

For those wishing to enrol at our school for 2015 enrolments forms can be collected at our front office or found live on our website: <https://macknortshs.eq.edu.au/Enrolments/Pages/Enrolments>

Please complete the applications and return to the front office as soon as possible.

Parent Seminar – From Sandpit to Adulthood, Maggie Dent, Friday 15th August, 6pm-8pm, Mackay Christian College JNR campus, \$10 per person, for bookings contact Christien at mackayrg@ecta.org.au or 0417 915 355.

50th Anniversary Celebration and School Reunion

You are invited to register to participate in the 50th Anniversary Celebration and School Reunion for Mackay North High to be held at the school from Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th August 2014. Please download an electronic copy of the registration form from the following link. [50th anniversary registration form \(pdf\)](#) You may email to 50thanniversary@macknortshs.eq.edu.au or phone the school to discuss any details or to send any information, phone 4963 1666.