

From the Principal's Desk

2014 Diary Dates...

18-22 Aug: Science Week
18-22 Aug: Yr4 Bike Education
25-29 Aug: Yr4 Bike Education
29 Aug: Real Men Read Event
8-11 Sep: Prep-Yr3 Swimming
9-11 Sep: Regional Big Sing
11 Sep: YICTE Day – Yr 6C Showcase
15-18 Sep: Prep-Yr3 Swimming
16 Sep: Tierney Kennedy Maths PD
16 Sep: Cultural Evening
19 Sep: Last Day of Term 3
6 Oct: Public Holiday
7 Oct: Term 4 Resumes
2-26 Oct: Eisteddod
8-10 Oct: Yr 5 Camp
20 Oct: Student Free Day
20 Oct: Prep Open Day
13 Nov: Spectacular

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.

Two recent cultural performances from our students are worthy of note, the strings, woodwind, brass and percussion instrumentalists at the Mackay Orchestra and Bands Competition, gaining silver and gold awards and the Wakakirri team production "Aladdin" at the Mackay Regional Competition, Regional Winners.

Thank you to our staff and students for their quality work and parents for their support.

The school dance on Friday proved to be an enjoyable occasion for the three hundred and eighty students who attended. Thank you to our P&C members, staff and student councillors who assisted with the dance.

Parents, coming home in the next week with the students will be sponsorship forms and a mathematics facts sheet for the Fact-a-thon. Please support this school fundraiser by collecting sponsors and having the children learn the facts.

Our student councillors Terah Hope and Edward Westcott introduced the value Honesty and Trustworthiness at our school assembly this week by discussing with us the ways that we can demonstrate this value to the school community.

Two special weeks are being celebrated this week, Book Week and Science Week to highlight the importance of good literature and science in our lives. Read more about these special weeks in this newsletter.

Students in years 3, 5 and 7 will be taking home their 2014 N.A.P.L.A.N. reports this week. Please notify us at the school if you require further information about this test.

Our next P&C Meeting will be held on 9th September, at 5:30 in the staffroom. You are most welcome to attend.

Enjoy your week.



Michael Anderson
Principal

Foyer News



Prep A and B are learning about the concepts of print and reading behaviours. We are looking at how to compose rhyming words using both nonsense and real words. The children are learning to understand the importance of word order in simple sentences and how to identify rhyme, repetition and syllables in simple rhyme. We are looking at how to use our knowledge of a sentence and the features of rhyme to construct new verses for a song or rhyme. The children in Prep A and B are working very hard and are having fun making their own nonsense rhymes.

Regional Wakakirri Champions



Recently our school performed at the Regional Wakakirri Finals. Our story dance item was "Aladdin" and included 71 students from Years 5, 6 and 7. Our students did an amazing job and received the following awards:

CATEGORY AWARDS

- Combination of Dancing and Acting
- Overall Costumes
- Individual Costume
- Well-Rehearsed Performance

MAJOR AWARDS

- Best Story Award
- Best Blockbuster Story Award

Many thanks to Trina Saunders for costuming, Debbie Hunt for props and sets and Danielle Hargreaves for event organization. Thanks to all parents for their support and our wonderful students for a great performance and for being an excellent team. We are now eligible to be selected for State and National Awards.

Great work everyone!

Jill Green and Samantha Scott-Girgenti (Supervising Teachers)

Musica Viva Visits Our School



Last Wednesday our school was fortunate to receive a performance by visiting Musica Viva group – 'The Chambermaids'. The group is one of Australia's most well-known and highly

acclaimed chamber ensemble groups. The wind quintet impressed the students with their musical expertise on instruments from the brass and woodwind families. Students from Prep to Year 7 had been introduced to the music over several weeks in their classroom music lessons with the concert being a culminating event. Musica Viva is a wonderful way to introduce students to different genres of music and expose them to live performances with professional musicians!

Mackay Orchestra And Bands 2014

Our concert band and string ensemble performed at the annual Mackay Orchestra and Bands Competition at MCC last Sunday afternoon. Our students played to a really high standard and were also able to listen to other ensembles play. Our concert band received a gold award and trophy and our string ensemble received a silver award with trophy, many thanks to parents for their support in getting students to the performance venue. Excellent effort everyone!

Father's Day Cards



Father's Day is fast approaching and this year we have a variety of handmade cards to choose from. If you would like to view or purchase a card please come to the office.

They are selling for \$2 to \$3.

Science Week Activities - (16 - 24 August)



The theme for Science Week this year is '**Food for our Future: Science Feeding the World.**' All students will be engaged in raising their awareness of how Science plays an important role in producing food for the world, and students will learn about food choices, food production and food security.

Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a **Whole School Science Competition** which involves designing and creating a **SEED MOSAIC**, of their choice. There will be ONE winner from EACH Year Level, with prizes and certificates distributed. These

mosaics will be displayed either in the foyer or the library for everyone to see.

Thank you to all students and teachers who will be supporting Science Week this year and making it a success.

Chris Spillman Yr 7 Science Coordinator

Book Week – Connect to reading!

This week is Book Week around Australia. The theme this year resonates with our policy of To, With and By as it encourages us all to connect to reading in some way. What better way to finish the day could there be, then to curl up with your child and read to them.



All books in the competition are on display in the Library and the junior students have been reading the categories of Early Childhood and Picture Books in order to make up their own minds as to which story they believe to be 'the best!' Needless to say the students do not necessarily agree with the judges!

August 19 is also Reading Hour Day. Please take the time during this week especially, but always, to read To your child, With your child and listen to reading By your child.

Year 4 Bike Education

Our year 4 students are participating in the Mackay PCYC Bike Education Program over the course of 2 weeks. This program consists of 12 hours of bicycle education for children. The program will enable children to participate in enjoyable learning experiences and encourage them to develop responsible attitudes and behaviours for the safe use of their bicycles.

There is a high rate of bicycle related injuries among Mackay children (as measured by injury surveillance data collection by the Emergency Department at the Mackay Base Hospital). The ultimate goal of the bike education program is for children to become safe and competent riders.

The program consists of work activities conducted in class and cycling activities done outdoors at the Mackay PCYC bicycle education track. All of these activities will be supervised and children will be transported by bus to the Mackay PCYC.

Rotary Donates Microscopes to Fitzgerald State School

On Tuesday afternoon Fitzgerald State School was



honoured to receive a class set of mini Microscopes donated to the school by the Rotary Club of Australia. The microscopes will be kept as a class set to be used across the

school as needed by classes. The benefit will be for students in being able to conduct hands on experiments using this learning tool.

Learning Literacy

NLW 2014 at Fitzgerald State School by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum. Next week is National Literacy and Numeracy Week (NLNW) and



Fitzgerald is celebrating by holding a 'Fitz Blitz - Real Men READ' school community event. All are invited to join a class on the quadrangle at 2.30pm on Friday 29 August. Fathers and grandfathers, participate in this whole of school event and be a role model to a young reader. Let a classroom teacher know, or contact Sue Hamilton-Smith and nominate to be a Real Men READ! Ambassador. 8 shami40@eq.edu.au) 49656306. Visit the national website for news of NLNW activities.

<http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/>

Sports Notices

Capricornia Athletics

Congratulations to Riley Whitestyles and Brooke Vella who recently competed at the Capricornia Athletics carnival in Emerald. Extra congratulations to Brooke who won the 100m event for the 10 year old girls and will now compete in the State Championships in Brisbane. Best of luck Brooke!

Primary School Tennis Competition

Congratulations to Joel Smith, Jackson Pain, Skye Plumley, Tiani Drew, Emma Woodward and Elijah Williams who represented Fitzgerald at the Primary School Tennis Competition. Joel, Jackson, Skye and Tiani's team finished 5th on the day, with Emma and Elijah's team winning 3 of their games throughout the day. Well done to all competitors.

Tuckshop Talk

Play water will no longer be available. We have a limited amount of blackcurrant and raspberry left so once they are sold we will be selling LOL 99% fizzy fruit juice cans.

Flavours are:

Tropical – apple, pineapple and passion fruit

Blackcurrant – apple and blackcurrant

Raspberry – apple and raspberry

Price will be \$2.50.

Milo is still available until the end of Term 3.

ROSTER

Thurs 21st – Robyn Adams, Shiren Arkther

Fri 22nd – **HELP NEEDED**

Tues 26th – Robyn Adams

Wed 27th – Robyn Adams

Thurs 28th – Robyn Adams, Shiren Arkther

Fri 29th – Ray Sellings, **HELP NEEDED**

Tues 2nd September – Robyn Adams

Wed 3rd – Robyn Adams

Community Notices

Car Boot Sale – Bring your loot and sell you're your boot. Mackay Central State School, Saturday 23rd August, 8am – 12pm. For more information contact Sarah-Jane Scott on 0432 543 172 or email s.scott2012@y7mail.com

Preparing for Prep – Find out how to enrol your child for Prep. Starting Prep can be a challenging time for your child. There's a lot you can do to make it easier and more enjoyable. To find out more visit Queensland Government Early Years Website

<http://www.qld.gov.au/education/childcare/prep/>