

From the Principal's Desk

2014 Diary Dates...

8-18 Sep: Prep-Yr3
Swimming
16 Sep: Cultural
Evening
19 Sep: Last Day of
Term 3
6 Oct: Public Holiday
7 Oct: Term 4
Resumes
7-26 Oct: Eisteddod
8-10 Oct: Yr 5 Camp
20 Oct: Student Free
Day
20 Oct: Prep Open
Day
31 Oct: Day for Daniel
13 Nov: Spectacular

We are having a focus on Mathematics this week with staff and parents attending workshops and teachers visiting classes during maths lessons. This activity, in part, will assist us as teachers in improving the learning outcomes for our students.

Thank you to Mrs Tierney Kennedy, Maths Educational Consultant for facilitating the week for us.

Good management to our students who have their number facts tested this week for the Fact-a-thon. Results go home with the students before the end of term for the collection of sponsorship money, due on 17th October.

Two recent performances the Big Sing and the Cultural Night have enabled the students in the choirs to showcase their talents to the community, well done girls and boys.

The Cultural Night held last night was an enjoyable night with the choirs as well as instrumentalists and drama students performing, well done girls and boys for your display of talents.

The value "A Fair Go" is being highlighted in our school at present, *'Pursue and protect the common good where all people are treated fairly for a just society.'* Our sets of values for the school are taken from "The Values for Australian Schooling." This is one of nine values that we share with each other at school.

Our year 6C ICT students arrived home from Townsville University last week after a memorable and positive learning experience at the NQ Young ICT Explorers Competition. The students were able to display their designs to the community with local media and business interest. Well done to the students, Mrs Stuart, support staff and parents.

With the holidays coming up, enjoy and be safe students, the start date for term four is Tuesday, 7th October.

The School Watch number is 131 788.

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

2014 Wakakirri Photos – Aladdin – Regional Winners



YICTE

On Saturday 6th September, 6C and our devoted parents and teachers, travelled to Townsville to participate in the Young ICT Explorers Day. Our class who were shortlisted for all nine projects took part in this inaugural event at the James Cook University where the Keynote Speaker spoke about the importance to “Dream Big” and that the students sitting in front of him were the future in Digital Technologies and that we can only imagine future possibilities.

Last Thursday, we held “Fitzzy’s Young ICT Explorer’s Showcase Event” where each of the Year 5 and 6 classes came into the hall to participate and view the interactive projects designed, created and programmed by the students.

We would like to congratulate our Townsville winners in the Year 6 & 7 Category:

2nd Place: Fitzgerald State School with Super Sports Balls and Website (by Ella Sippel, Sienna Bachmann and Jana Bassan)

3rd Place: Fitzgerald State School with Robot Hockey (by Ben Allen, Griffin Ward, Dylan Ashford and Aaron Lawn)

Merit: Fitzgerald State School with Mr Word’s Letters (by Annerique Goussard and Bianca Little)



Student Choice Winners: Fitzgerald State School with Robot Hockey (by Ben Allen, Griffin Ward, Dylan Ashford and Aaron Lawn)

Finally, as a class, we would all like to congratulate and sincerely thank our magnificent Intern Teacher, Miss Wood, for the incredible experiences, fantastic lessons and special moments she has shared with our class. Miss Wood officially completes her teaching degree this Friday, which will also be her final day as a teacher within our classroom. We wish you the

very best of luck in your chosen career as a classroom teacher. **6C**

Swimming Lessons



Our Prep Children have been improving their skills and confidence in the water. Each day they have been kicking, using big arms, diving, floating

and breathing under water at the Pat Wright Swim Centre. All students are enjoying their swimming lessons.

Learning Literacy

‘Help Make Maths Fun’ by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum



“Maths can be fun!” says visiting mathematical consultant, Tierney Kennedy, who is working with Fitzgerald State School’s teachers, teacher aides and students all this week. On Monday evening Tierney led a workshop that provided suggestions for things that families can do at home to make maths fun and a part of everyday life in order to improve their child’s mathematical reasoning and understanding. Have a read of Tierney’s information sheet for parents and carers included in this week’s newsletter. And visit her Parent’s Portal on the ‘Back-to-Front Maths’ website

<http://www.backtofrontmaths.com.au/free-resources-and-information/parents-portal>

‘Fitz Blitz Reading Buddies’ by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum

Each morning of this term students from 6C have been visiting 1B and students from 4B have been visiting 1C to help their little buddies with their reading. During the probationary training period the big buddies had to demonstrate that they were reliable, punctual and supportive of their developing readers using the Pause-Prompt-Praise and the Reading Star strategies. Year 1C teacher, Alice Collard said, “My year one students are improving every day, thanks to the 4B Fitz Blitz Reading Buddies. I can’t thank them enough.” Year 1B teacher, Jaana Aaltonen said, “My class is really enjoying having 6C as their Reading Buddies. They are great role models for the little ones.”

4B Fitz Blitz Reading Buddies FRONT L to R: Eva Jane Newsome, Hannah Chester-Master, Athalia Garcia, Chloe Stackman, Penny Zhang. BACK L to R: Fletcher Klein, Jessica Recker, Tara MacDonald, Tarni Squires, Jackson Cross, Ethan Broadstock, Zachary Norris.

6C Fitz Blitz Reading Buddies FRONT L to R: Kiara Purdue, Sienna Bachmann, Ella Sippel, Jana Bassan, Mikayla Vassallo. BACK L to R: Ashleigh Boyd, Hannah Flor, Bianca Little, Alicia West, Mykaila Pyke, Chloe Wilson, Claire Condren.



'The Premier's Reading Challenge 2014' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum

Well done to all students who completed this year's Premier's Reading Challenge. And a big thank-you to those teachers and parents who encouraged the students along the way. A huge congratulations to 5/6E and 6C for achieving 100% success! These classes received ice-blocks from the tuckshop. This Challenge is more than just a list 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 projects, who become distracted and fail to provide evidence of their real potential. A Challenge over such a long period is a test of determination and organisation. These are great qualities for life. The certificates will arrive from the Premier of Queensland next term.

P & C Facilities Update

The front fencing to the top of our grounds will be completed during the school holidays.

Vinyl floor covering in Administration, Teaching Block 2 and Teaching Block 3 will be removed under the Asbestos Replacement Program during the Christmas holidays.

Safety – Gate Closure

The single gate off Nunkeri Drive will be locked as a result of the access to the school grounds from this gate deemed to be unsafe. School community members are requested to use alternative access points to the school.

Sports Notices

State Softball

Congratulations to Riley James who has been selected in the Queensland boys softball team. This is the second consecutive year that Riley has been selected in this team. He will now

participate in the National Championships in Toowoomba, all the best Riley.

GET in2CRICKET With Norths Cricket Club

Where: Wanderers Soccer Grounds Ben Nevis St

When: Each Wednesday afternoon, 4:00pm – 5:00pm starting on October 22nd and running for 6 weeks

Cost: \$20 per participant with an optional extra charge of \$65 for the participant pack.

What to bring: Hat, water bottle and closed in shoes

Want more information?

Please call Karen on 0418778828 or email kcarvolt@bigpond.net.au

Tuckshop Talk

Hot milo will finish this Thursday 18th September. The tuckshop will NOT be operating on the last day of school, Friday 19th September. We will re-open first Tuesday back at school 7th October. Have a safe holiday and see you all again next term. Please consider volunteering for the last term of school.

Community Notices

Host Families Needed In January 2015 -

Experience another culture, make new friends improve your language studies at home. Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students into their home Visit www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student or call 1300 135 331 for more information.

Mackay Gymsastics Holiday Fun –

Come and have fun in our new gym, 5 Snow Wright Court, Beaconsfield, Wednesday 24th September, Friday 26th September, Wednesday 1st October, Friday 2nd October – 9:30am to 11am, cost \$16.50 per day. For more information phone 4942 0032 or email admin@mackaygymnastics.org.au

Learn To Be A Confident Bike Rider –

The whole family can learn bike safety, basic bike maintenance and road rules at a free two hour PCYC facilitated school holiday bike education class. Bikes and helmets are provided or you can bring your own. Numbers are limited, reserve your spot now! Call PCYC Mackay on 4942 3296 to book. For further information visit mackay.qld.gov.au/activetowns

Enrol Now North High –

Mackay North State High School is finalising Years 7 & 8 enrolments for 2015, for further information phone 4963 1666. There is an information evening on Thursday 18th September at 5:15pm in the Senior Centre.

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