

## From the Principal's Desk

### 2014 Diary Dates...

**31 Oct:** Day for Daniel

**31 Oct:** World Teachers' Day

**3-14 Nov:** Prep Interviews

**11 Nov:** Remembrance Day

**11 Nov:** Spectacular Practice – Yr 7

**11 Nov:** P&C Meeting

**12 Nov:** Spectacular Practice – Whole School

**13 Nov:** Spectacular

**17-21 Nov:** Book Week

**19-21 Nov:** Book Fair

**28 Nov:** Free Dress Day for Chaplaincy

**8 Dec:** Yr 6

Graduation Evening

**9 Dec:** Awards Night

**9 Dec:** Final P&C Meeting

**10 Dec:** Yr 7

Graduation Evening

**11 Dec:** Yr 6 Excursion and Yr 7 Excursion

**12 Dec:** Last Day of School

Congratulations to our students who performed at the Mackay Eisteddfod. Thank you to our teachers who prepared the students for this competition and to the parents for your support. A report of section achievements is included in this newsletter.

Our Prep parents for 2015 are having their interviews over the coming weeks. If you know of other families wanting to enrol in years Prep to 6 at our school for 2015 remind them to contact the school office to arrange an interview.

Parents if you have some information concerning your child's educational or social needs that might assist us when planning class placements for 2015 please contact the Principal in writing by Friday by 7<sup>th</sup> November. Place this information in a sealed envelope marked 'Class Placement'. Please note this is not to be a request for a particular teacher.

This Friday we celebrate World Teachers' Day, it is an opportunity to acknowledge our teachers for the tremendous job that they do with our children, thank you teachers.

Our P&C continue to contribute to our school ground improvement plan with the completion of the front fence near the hall and the planned erection of a shade shelter for Prep. You are invited to attend the next meeting on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 5:30pm.

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



This semester year 7 students had to write a persuasive argument based on whether they thought Ned Kelly was a hero, villain or victim. They also had to write an imaginative recount of a major event during the reign of the Kelly Gang from the point of view of a character who witnessed the event.

While students studied ancient Egypt in History last term, they also had to create an artefact in Technology. A portfolio was kept outlining the steps of investigation, ideation, production, evaluation and reflection.

Lino prints were the end result of the process of designing a pattern, then re-creating the pattern on lino, carefully cutting out the print using carving tools, then printing on paper. Students thoroughly enjoyed this activity for Art as they were only limited by their imagination.

### 2014 Japanese Speech Contest

On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, Sofia Garcia, Jessica Tilbrook, Stephanie Dowe, Anisha Goonewardane and Imogene Griffin participated in the annual Japanese Speech Contest, held at Central Queensland University. Years 6, 7, 8 and 9 from around 18 schools



took part in their Year Level groups. It was a fantastic turn out and our 'Fitzzy Crew' did extremely well. The Year 7 group was a particularly large group, so it was great to see Sofia and Anisha being the 2 out of 5 who made it to the final rounds. It is always a great opportunity to mix with other schools and to

see such awesome young language speakers. Well Done Fitzzy Crew!!

### Eisteddfod

Congratulations to all the students who performed in the 2014 Eisteddfod. Once again our school was well represented and gave successful performances in all sections.

The results are as follows:

String Ensemble – Highly Commended

Recorder Ensemble – 3<sup>rd</sup>

Concert Band – 2nd

Year 3 Choir – Silver Award

Year 4 and Year 3 – Silver Award

5/6/7 Senior Choir – Gold Award

Drama Group – 3rd

Thank you to all staff and parents for their support in the Arts at Fitzgerald.

### Book Fair

## BOOK FAIR GARDEN

Catch the reading bug!



Book Fair

November 19 – 21

Library Annex

8.00am-9.00am and 3.00pm-4.00pm.

Remember! Early Bird Sales

Tuesday 18 November

5.00pm – 7.00pm!



### Learning Literacy

'Critical Number Concepts' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum.

During Tierney's Kennedy's recent visit to Fitzgerald, she highlighted Five Critical Number Concepts that need to be understood to help build a strong mathematical foundation for the future. Our teachers and teacher aides are ensuring that these number concepts are taught well. There are also some easy activities that parents and caregivers can do to help support the number work that is happening in the classroom.

1. **Quantity** – Trusting the count, ability to total. Key question: What changes a number and what doesn't? *At home: Count mixed groups of objects, move them around and count them again. Play board games where the number of moves matches the number on the dice. Set the table with the right amount of items for all. Get the right amount of pegs to hang out clothing on the line.*

2. **Partitioning** – Ability to break numbers into smaller parts and put them together again. Key question: Can you show this number in another way? *At home: Play skittles (six plastic bottles works well), talk about how many were knocked down and how many are left to get. Make money values using different coins and notes. Play Snakes & Ladders with two dice. Play card games.*
3. **Place value** – Relative size, understanding of how big numbers are when compared to each other. Key questions: How are these numbers kind of the same? How are these numbers different? *At home: Compare and sort objects that are similar and different because of colour, shape and material. Play with sand or water using different sized cups. Learn the time on an analogue clock face. Talk about quantity, weight, volume and cost differences when shopping.*
4. **Arrays** – Multiplicative thinking, ability to picture multiplication in a two-dimensional structure (array or grid), rather than in a single dimension (additive). Key question: Can you show this number in rows? *At home: Look for arrays like eggs in an egg carton and windows on a high rise building. Cover a Lego 8 block with blocks of one, two and four. Learn number facts with spots placed in arrays.*
5. **Fractions** – Proportional reasoning, size of a part compared to the whole. Key question: What can you tell me about this part? *At home: Talk fractions when cutting up sandwiches, when sharing a plate of food, pizza or pie. Use measuring cups when in the kitchen.*

### **Sport News**

#### **QLD Track and Field Championships**

Congratulations to Brooke Vella who recently participated in the state Track and Field Championships. Brooke ran very well in the 100m event and her 4 x 100m relay team also made it to the finals and came 6<sup>th</sup>. Fantastic achievement Brooke.

#### **D for Daniel Day**

The Day for Daniel is a National Day of Action to raise awareness of child safety, protection and harm prevention. Students are asked to wear something red as an accessory to their uniform to promote this day of action on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

### **Fact-a-thon**

Thank you to our community for your support, approximately \$6000 was raised for school resources for student use. Student prize winners will be announced on a later assembly.

### **Use of School Facilities**

Parents are reminded if they wish to use the school facilities for after school sport etc, they need to call at the office to complete a “Long Term Use Agreement” form and have it approved by the Principal. This is a legal requirement by Education Queensland.

### **Tuckshop Talk**

As we are getting close to the end of the year please still ensure correct tuckshop is ordered on the correct day with no foreign coins. Please also remember that brown paper tuckshop bags are available for 10c.

### **Roster**

Thurs	30/10	Robyn Adams, Shiren Akther
Fri	31/1	HELP NEEDED
Tues	4/11	Robyn Adams
Wed	5/11	Robyn Adams
Thurs	6/11	Robyn Adams, Shiren Akther
Fri	7/11	Bec Benson, HELP NEEDED
Tues	11/11	Robyn Adams, Cath Kean
Wed	12/11	Robyn Adams
Thurs	13/11	Robyn Adams, Bec Benson, Shiren Akther
Fri	14/11	Cath Kean, Deb Jenkins, HELP NEEDED

### **Community Notices**

#### **Mackay Orchestra**

Would you like to play music with a group? Mackay Orchestra meets on Mondays 4.15 to 6pm and welcomes musicians of all abilities into either:

Con Brio - for developing musicians

Youth - for more established musicians

Jazz - Jazz ensemble musicians

Auditions will be held on 3rd and 10th November from 4.30 to approx 6pm, at Mackay Christian College where we meet on a Monday for rehearsals. You will be required to play one piece of music and some scales to establish which ensemble suits your current music level. If you would like to see the Orchestra, you are welcome to attend our end of year concert which will be held at the Pansy Wood Auditorium at Whitsunday Anglican School at 3pm on Sunday, November 2nd.

More information can be obtained by emailing [mackayorchestra@gmail.com](mailto:mackayorchestra@gmail.com).

**Our newsletter can now be viewed on the school website [www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au](http://www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au).**