

From the Principal's Desk

2014 Diary Dates...

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

This year's Spectacular musical is 'Eureka', an original script written by music teacher Jill Green and first performed in 2001. This year our year six and seven students take to the stage together, a cast of over 100 making the 2014 musical production the biggest in Fitzgerald State School's 31 year Spectacular history.

The history of 'Eureka' may be familiar to you. The story is set in our pioneering days, when men and women from all over the world flocked to the Australian gold fields, hopeful of a lucky find. Whether they struck it rich, or not, each hard working digger had to ensure that they carried their expensive miner's licence at all times. To be caught without a licence meant a miner was in big trouble with the troopers who enforced the law at the goldfields.

But along with the harsh conditions, there are laughs to be had. You'll meet Mrs and Mrs Pook and the dance girls of the Buninyong Flats Sly Grog Pub. Best mates Maurie McCackle and Herbie Clapsaddle are always up to their tricks. Sheila Awesome makes sure that the miners have the supplies they need and the Roach Brothers are a menace to all. Struth! Strike me lucky! Eureka! It's going to be a great show!

Special thanks must go to 'Eureka' Director, Jill Green; Co-director and Choreographer Sam Scott-Girgenti; Costume Designer and Coordinator Trina Saunders; Sets Design and Art Work Lynne Adams, Ann Brunke and Debbie Hunt; Set Construction David Peut and Les Tselepy.

Thank-you to all staff, parents and friends who have assisted in any way with the production of 'Eureka' and this year's Spectacular class items, your continued enthusiasm and support of the Arts at Fitzgerald State School is invaluable.

Concert one commences at 6:00pm and concert two commences at 7:30pm. Drop off and pick up arrangements are included in this newsletter.

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



In Prep A we are learning how to write a letter. These letters were written to the students' Grandparents. The students had to ask their Grandparents a question to find out information about the past.

Prep B's History unit explores familiar ways family and friends commemorate past events that are important to them and explore the way in which stories of families and the past can be and have been communicated. Stories can be prompted by photographs, oral histories that represent past events. Students were required to reflect on a family event and illustrate what this event was about and in their own words explain the event giving information about who was there and what happened. The students of PB have worked very hard this term and have become wonderful illustrators. I especially love the families whom have giant belly button syndrome.

Prep B Remembrance Day



Prep B celebrated Remembrance Day by making their Poppies. Before they went out to play at morning tea students bowed their head and observed a minute of silence. An important day for all Australians to share and pass on the knowledge of how to remember and respect those whom have fought for us so we can enjoy freedom today was discussed as a class.

Spectacular Drop off and Pick up Arrangements

Concert One

- Commences at **6.00pm**.
- **Prep, Year One, Year Two and Year Three students** should assemble in the undercover walkway located between the Entertainment Centre and the City Library at **5:30pm**.

- All students will be under supervision outside the Auditorium for the whole of Concert One.
- **Parents must see the class teacher to have their child marked as left prior to taking their child.**
- We anticipate Concert One will **conclude by about 7.00pm**

Concert Two

- Commences at **7.30pm**.
- **Years 4 and 5 students** should assemble in the Entertainment Centre Grounds **near the Fountain at 7:00pm**.
- **Year 4 students** should have a ticket to sit with parents after their performance or are to be collected by parents.
- **Students in Year 5** will be escorted to their seats at the rear of the theatre after their performances.
- **Year 4 and 5 students** who are not staying for the rest of the show after their class item must be collected by parents' immediately in the foyer area when their children have completed their commitments. Teachers will be unable to wait with children due to other performance duties so we ask parents to be prompt in this matter. Parents are asked to please consider your child's teacher and co-operate with them in this regard.
- **Year 6 and 7 students who are performing in the first half of Concert 2 and/or the Year 6 and 7 production are required to go straight to the Space where they will be supervised.**

Book Fair



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 *Break a leg, Fitzgerald!* by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum.

The benefits of an arts rich education are great. There are strong links between arts education, student motivation and engagement in school - attitudes that contribute to academic achievement. Arts education builds communication skills. The beat, repetition and patterns of music and dance makes for great numeracy, the arts demands

creative problem-solving, planning, organization and perseverance. Studies show that students who engage in the arts demonstrate improved performance in academic grades, standardised test scores and attitudes concerning community. Participation in the arts broadens experience, caters for different learning styles and promotes divergent thinking. This week's 'Arts Spectacular' is a showcase and celebration of arts education at Fitzgerald State School. This event promotes community – a shared purpose and team spirit. In the classroom this translates to students who have a sense of belonging, have developed positive relationships with those around them, who feel good about themselves and are ready to learn. The new Australian Curriculum states that, "The Arts have the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich all students, exciting the imagination and encouraging them to reach their creative and expressive potential." Have fun and break a leg this week Fitzgerald!

The Premier's Reading Challenge



Tim Mulherin - MP Member for Mackay, Deputy Opposition Leader and Dr Anthony Lynham - Shadow Education Minister were assisted by Fitzgerald State School Captains, Emma Cameron and Tyler Forbes to award certificates to those students in years 3 to 7 who met the challenge of reading and recording a set number of books during the 2014 reading period. Head of Curriculum, Mrs Sue Hamilton-Smith said, "The school has been involved in the Premier's Reading Challenge since its inception. Through this literacy initiative, students are given an opportunity to further develop their appreciation of the English language and are encouraged to read more and read more widely, for pleasure and for learning." Classroom teachers, Ms Di Bankie and Mrs Janelle Stuart received awards



for ensuring all students of their classes completed the challenge. Fitzgerald State School Teacher Librarian, Mrs Laurel Shaw was also congratulated for her efforts in putting great books in the hands of young readers. Mrs Shaw presented the visitors with copies of the 'History of Mackay and District', compiled by the local Teacher Librarian network. Parents and friends are



invited to attend the Prep - Year 2 assembly Friday 22 November, when students of the early years who completed the challenge will receive their certificate signed by Queensland Premier, Campbell Newman.



Tuckshop Talk

With only a month left of school the canteen will be starting to run stock down so please note that some items may not be available.

Could you please remind your children to place their tuckshop in the box as soon as they get to their classes to avoid late orders.

Roster

Thurs 13/11 Robyn Adams, Shiren Akther, Bec Benson
 Fri 14/11 Cath Kean, Deb Jenkins, HELP NEEDED
 Tues 18/11 Robyn Adams
 Wed 19/11 Robyn Adams
 Thurs 20/11 Robyn Adams, Shiren Akther
 Fri 21/11 Deb Jenkins, HELP NEEDED
 Tues 25/11 Robyn Adams
 Wed 26/11 Robyn Adams

Community Notices

Pioneer State High School Orientation Day

Pioneer State High School's Year 7/8 'Orienteer Pioneer' will be held on Wednesday 3rd December. All students enrolled for Year 7 and 8 in 2015 are expected to attend our Orientation Day. Similarly, if you are still considering your child's enrolment, you are welcome to come along to this day to learn more about what Pioneer can offer your child.

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