

From the Principal's Desk**Dates for your 2012****Diary....****Oct 31** – Walking

Wednesday

Nov 11 –

Remembrance Day

Nov 13 - P&C

Meeting

Nov 14 - Spectacular

Practice – Whole

School

Nov 15 – Spectacular

Matinee and Evening

Performance

Nov 19-23 – Book

Fair

Nov 28 – Walking

Wednesday

Dec 11 – Awards

Night

Dec 13 – Yr 7 Dinner

Dance

Dec 14 – Last Day of

School for 2012

Congratulations to our instrumental, choir and drama students who performed creditably at the Mackay Eisteddfod. A big thank you to the staff who prepared our students for the competition and to the parents for their support. A report of achievements is included in this newsletter.

Parents, if you have some information concerning your child's educational, emotional or social needs that might assist us when planning class placements for 2013, please contact the Principal in writing by Friday 9 November. Place this information in a sealed envelope marked 'Class Placement'.

Our Prep parents for 2013 continue their interviews over the coming fortnight. If you know of other parents wanting to enrol their children at our school for 2013 have them contact us at the school office to arrange an interview.

A reminder that the school hat is a royal blue hat with a brim at least 7cm in width. Other coloured hats with brand names and slogans on them are not a part of the uniform.

Last Friday was World Teachers' Day where communities were able to recognise the valuable contribution that our teachers make to the lives of the children they teach. Thank you to the parents and other community members who recognised us on this day. The cakes and slices were delicious!

This Friday is designated as Tuckshop Day, where we give a collective pat on the back to our convenors Daneal and Antoinette and to our small but willing band of volunteers for the important contribution that they make to our school. Help us to celebrate this day by saying a thank you to our convenors and volunteers.

The comfort level of all who use the hall has improved markedly with the installation of 2 huge ceiling fans. A big thank you to the Parents' and Citizens' Association for providing the \$29000 for supply and installation.

The next P&C meeting is planned for Tuesday 13th November at 5:30pm. You are most welcome to attend.

Enjoy your week.



Mike 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.

Recycle your old MOBILE PHONES

Send your old/unused mobile phones to the recycle bin at the school office. The school will receive \$1.00 for each mobile phone that is recycled. HELP the ENVIRONMENT.

Celebrating a Successful Eisteddfod

Eisteddfod Results

Recorder Ensemble – 1st and Most Enjoyable Performance of the day out of all school ensembles

Concert Band – 3rd

Strings Ensemble – 2nd

Drama Group – 1st

Year 3 Fitzzy Junior Singers - Gold

Years 4/5 Bluebirds Junior Singers – Silver

Years 6/7 Senior Singers – Gold

Congratulations to all students and teachers. Thanks to all parents for their support.

Foyer News – 4A and 4B

This term the year 4 students are studying a health unit around the theme of interpersonal relationships. Students are learning how to show positive interpersonal behaviours and respect cultural protocols. In



addition to this, students are also promoting effective interactions and relationships with different groups of people including their peers, their families and community elders. Our foyer display aims to highlight different ways that students can behave to promote such effective interactions.

From the Classrooms – Swimming

Writing from Prep C

I went swimming in the black group. I wore black togs. I was in the little pool and we played Ring a Ring a Rosie. Lilly Yet Foy.

I went swimming at the pool. I had Butterfly togs. I was in the red group. I had a girl swimming on my towel. Keely Pitt.

Today I went swimming. I wore some Tinkerbell togs. I had a Barbie towel. I had some Tinkerbell thongs. I was in the green group. I went in the hoop under the water. Alyssa Collins.

Writing from 1D

I went to the pool and I liked the big pool. I liked blowing bubbles because it was funny. We thought it was really fun. Dorian Popadyne.

I have fun at swimming all the time. I go swimming with my friends. When I go with my friends it makes me happy. They are very nice. We go in the big pool and the little pool. The big pool is cold and the little pool was warm. The best part was doing freestyle and we blow bubbles. I always learn new stuff. I have lots of favourites like backstroke and floating and diving down to get a ring in the little pool. I like swimming because I do it with my friends and I do lots of my favourite stuff. Amelia Monk.

Spellathon Certificates

Well done to all of the students who participated in the recent Spellathon. The students who collected the most sponsorship for each year level will receive a certificate and a \$25 Coles/Myer voucher and are as follows:

Prep - Liam Twaddell PC, Yr 1- Andrew Dingle 1A, Yr 2 - Baylin Matthews 2D, Yr 3 – Amber Wright 3A, Yr 4 – Melissa Dingle 4A, Yr 5 – Shaquille Tatow 5B, Yr 6 – Deagan Whitestyles 56E, Yr 7 – Megan Archer 7D

There were also random draw prizes, donated by Officeworks, handed out to students who participated in the Spellathon.

The amount of \$10,800 was raised from the Spellathon and this will go towards providing resources for our students.

Reminder for parents purchasing Spectacular Tickets

Ticketing Confirmation for Spectacular ticket purchases have gone home this week. Parents can purchase tickets from the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre from 9am Wednesday 31st October until Saturday 3rd November. If you haven't purchased your tickets by Saturday afternoon they can be purchased from Monday 5th November when the tickets are open for the general public to purchase.

MECC offers bookings by phone using credit card facilities. NO INTERNET SALES will be accepted until Monday 5th November. Parents are required to take their "Ticketing Confirmation Sheet" to the MECC when collecting tickets. Tickets not booked or paid for by the close of business on the 3rd November cannot be guaranteed, as tickets will become available to the general public on Monday 5th November.

TravelSmart

Walking

Wednesday

Today was Walking Wednesday. We had a great group walking with us today and many prizes won. Well done to all who walked! Our last organised Walking Wednesday for 2012 is Wednesday 28 November. As always, this will be followed by a light breakfast from the tuckshop and prize draws for TravelSmart goodies. Just a reminder to wear your hats.

Remember, you can walk from the Touch Football Fields any day, you don't have to wait for our Walking Wednesday! Meet a friend there in the morning and walk your children to school together. This is an easy way to get those precious minutes of exercise accrued each day.

Green Boot Award

Each week on Travelling Tuesday we survey our students to find out how they travelled to school that day. Our last Green Boot Award went to 1C, 2D and 6B for having the most students walking to school in the morning.

Congratulations to those people and keep up the great travel choices!

Student Safety

Please think of our students and their safety when picking up and dropping off for school. The top car park is ONLY for staff parking and deliveries. The drop off zone and the area out the front of the Prep buildings IS NOT a parking area and you SHOULD NOT leave your car if you use these areas to drop off and pick up. Please be mindful that this area out the front of Prep is also a BUS ZONE, so a quick drop off and/or pick up is essential.

Thank you for helping to keep our students safe.

Di for the TravelSmart team.

Instrumental Music Selection 2013 Instrumental music selection process is now underway for 2013. We will be selecting students from Years 3/4 for woodwind, brass, percussion and strings. The selection process is very stringent and involves input from classroom teachers, the

It feels good to travel **smart**



music teacher and from the administration. Student selection is based upon behaviour, parent and home support and musical ability. If your child has been selected they will receive a letter of invitation to attend a parent/student meeting details of which will be in the letter.

Please help us to win an upgrade to our staffroom

You can visit www.staffroomforimprovement.com.au right now, register and

click on the big red button to begin your apple giving. That's right, apples! The perfect way to show thanks to your teachers – each apple



represents one vote. You can come back to the website every day, and each time you do you'll be able to give more apples.

In addition to the grand prize of a \$20,000 staffroom makeover for the winning school, we also have:

- Five runner-up prizes packs for schools, consisting of a gourmet Delonghi coffee machine and coffee grinder, coffee cups and coffee beans; and
- Individual prizes for participants just like you, including an Apple iPad and iTunes gift cards.

Please get on board and support the staff at Fitzgerald!

Learning Literacy – Good to Great!

Our teachers have been thinking about how good writers become great writers. Good writing follows the rules. Good writing is the right words in the right order at the right time. But great writing is something more. Great writers know the rules, but innovate by choice. Great writers make up the words they need, change the time order, lead you to a twist, disguise social comment in the shape of fairy tale and can sell ice to Eskimos. Great writers use their personal story to put a fresh spin on life's themes. Great writers create new metaphor, or use cliché in new ways. Great writers work and rework each and every word until it is perfect and perfectly in place. Great writers enthrall, entertain, astonish and convince, targeting their message for maximum audience effect. Great writers create something original. So, what can we do to help grow great writers? Writing comes more easily if there's something to say. So, expand vocabulary and world knowledge.

Encourage more reading and more variety of reading material. Talk about books, movies, happenings. Share your knowledge and interest in current events. Value play, curiosity, creativity and innovation. Discover great examples of great writing. Teach learner writers to get it right. Ensure that learner writers write, write and write. Sue Hamilton-Smith, Literacy Coach.

Sports Notices

Interschool Sports - Some students from grades 4 and 6 will have the opportunity to play Interschool Sport this term at the Indoor Sports Arena. Notes have gone home to students who have been chosen to play. A reminder that their bus money must be paid prior to the date your child is attending the Indoor Sports Arena.

Tuckshop Talk

We desperately need **HELP** in the tuckshop! If you can spare an hour or two to help it would be appreciated.

Roster – Wed 31/11 HELP NEEDED Thurs 1/11 Tracey Laird Fri 2/11 Kerry Sheehan, Cheryl Vella Tues 6/11 Cath Kean Wed 7/11 Cindy Lawn Thurs 8/11 Janelle Newsome Fri 9/11 HELP NEEDED Tues 13/11 HELP NEEDED Wed 14/11 HELP NEEDED

Daneal and Antoinette.

Pauls Collect-A-Cap

Pauls donates 10c for each cap. If you purchase Pauls milk please send your caps into the office. It is an easy fundraiser for the school.

Community Notices

Foster Carer – Could you be one?

Churches of Christ Care Pathways support their carers with training, advice and access to local resources to enable them to provide the best home environment for children and young people in their care. Contact Churches of Christ Care pathways on 4953 5097 or go to carepathways.com.au for a foster care information pack.

Auditions for Mackay Junior Orchestra & Mackay Youth Orchestra 2013

If you are a young musician who loves music, is keen to develop your musical skills, is committed to practice and loves to be part of a team, then we would like to invite you to audition to become a member and enjoy the many benefits that music can offer. We aim to offer the full orchestra experience and complement the fabulous school music programs or provide opportunities to those who are not able to participate in school orchestras and bands. We will be holding auditions on Monday 19th November 2012, at the Conservatorium, Central Queensland University, from 4.30 pm. Please bring along two pieces of music of your own choice to play. You may also be asked to play a couple of scales. All enthusiastic young musicians are encouraged to join us! For more information contact Vicki on 0418150690 or Leonie 0413778676. We look forward to hearing from you!

International Exchange Students Urgently Seeks Volunteer Host Family in Mackay Area

STS High School Exchange Student Sarah Salzgeber **urgently needs a permanent volunteer host family in Mackay**. Sarah is a 16 year old from Austria who is already in Mackay attending School; Sarah will be in Australia for another 7 months. Her interests are volleyball, skiing, dancing, shopping, photography and meeting friends.

For more information contact Terrie Gourley on 0438510165

Young Sharkies Day 2012

Come and try Rugby League. All primary school students are invited to learn and develop Rugby League skills. When - Saturday 10th November 2pm-7pm (includes a family BBQ)

Where - Souths Juniors, 'Abbott Park' (near MJRL grounds)

Cost - \$50 (includes lunch, afternoon tea, T-Shirt, football and water bottle)

Enquiries to Doug Knight – 0407159114

For a registration form email: southsjrl@bigpond.com or collect a registration form from the school office.