

From the Principal's Desk

Dates for your 2012 Diary....

Nov 14 - Spectacular
Practice – Whole
School

Nov 15 – Spectacular
Matinee and Evening
Performance

Nov 20-23 – Book
Fair

Nov 28 – Walking
Wednesday

Dec 7 – School Dance

Dec 11 – Awards
Night

Dec 13 – Yr 7 Dinner
Dance

Dec 14 – Last Day of
School for 2012

Jan 29 2013 – First day
of school for 2013

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.

We are looking forward to the Spectacular 'Realm Quest'. Five friends discover an ancient board game in an attic, they get more than they bargained for when they begin to play the game. They are thrown into the realm of Nexus where they must fight for their lives in a series of challenges to defeat the evil realm master so that they can return home.

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.

END OF ITEMS: Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 will exit the stage to either their parents in the audience or to the Theatre Entry near Door 3 at 6.20pm and 6.30pm respectively. If in the audience please abide by the instructions of the stage crew.

Children in Year 3 will exit via backstage and assemble in the grassed area for collection by parents at the conclusion of the first show.

We anticipate Concert One will conclude by about 7.00pm

End of Concert One You Must Vacate the Theatre.

Concert Two: - Commences at **7.30pm**.

Years 4 to 6 students should assemble in the Entertainment Centre Grounds **near the Fountain at 7:00pm**. Students in Years 5 and 6 will be escorted to their seats at the rear of the theatre after their performances. Year 4 students should have a ticket to sit with parents after their performance or they will be collected by parents.

Year 5 and 6 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.

Year 7 Students who are performing in the first half of Concert 2 and/or the Year 7 production are required to go straight to the Space where they will be supervised.

Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson
Principal.

Spectacular Update

The Spectacular update has been sent home with students. This update contains details for the full school rehearsal on Wednesday 14 November and other valuable information. Please keep this information close at hand over the coming days to help you to stay informed.

Spectacular Programs for sale at the office for \$1 each. There will be no programs sold at the Theatre.

Foyer News

Prep A and Prep B -

As the school year draws to a close, the children in Prep A and Prep B have been reflecting on just how much they have achieved this year! From writing their name to writing a sentence and then a story! From reading letters of the alphabet to sight words and then books! From learning numbers and counting to working out addition sums! They are so proud of themselves and we as a school are so very proud of them too. But, not only have they learnt so much, they have also had a lot of fun along the way with Easter hat parades, swimming lessons and of course Spectacular. The foyer display by PA and PB captures some of the children's favourite moments from their Prep year.



TravelSmart

Walking

Wednesday

Our last Walking Wednesday for the year is Wednesday 28 November. Come along and join this great event. All walkers need to wear a hat. As always, our walk will be followed by a light breakfast from the tuckshop and prize draws for TravelSmart goodies.

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.

Student Safety

When crossing the road, set a good example for our children and use the crossing with the crossing supervisors. This teaches good habits and ensures that everyone is safe, including drivers who may not see people stepping out from between cars to cross the road. Thank you for helping to keep our students safe. Di for the TravelSmart team.

Learning Literacy – Break a leg, Fitzgerald! by Sue Hamilton-Smith, NP Literacy Coach.

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 core competencies like writing, communicating,

problem-solving, planning, organising and perseverance. Studies show that students who engage in the Arts demonstrate improved performance in academic grades, standardised test scores, measured reading levels and attitudes concerning community. Participation in the Arts broadens experience and access to meaning, caters for different learning styles and promotes divergent and creative thinking. Next week's '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. Students who feel good about themselves are ready to learn. In the words of newly elected U.S. President Barack Obama, "The future belongs to young people with an education and the imagination to create." Arts education is great literacy learning. Break a leg, Fitzgerald!

Book Fair

Dear Parents,

Family involvement in reading activities has a positive impact on a child's educational achievement. Come to our Book Fair and strengthen the most important skill children can develop: Reading!

Have fun choosing books together at our Book Fair!

Please join us!

Book Fair Date: November 21, 22, 23.

Times: 8:00am – 9:00am

Don't forget!

Early Bird Sales

Tuesday November 20.

5:00pm-7:00pm

Bush Tucker Garden

Our 'Bush Tucker Garden' for birds, is finally complete.



Please feel free to stop and have a look the "Yarning Circle" and bush plants. On the wall near the garden is a chart with the names of each plant. This was an activity we started during N.A.I.D.O.C. week celebrations, thanks to a donation of \$2000 from the Indigenous Parental and Community Engagement Program. I would

BOOK FAIR
Luau
It's a Reading Celebration!

like to thank Claire from Pioneer Land Care for the donation of the native plants. A special thankyou to two parents from within our school community, Troy Nelson from Porter's Northern Beaches for donating a grass tree and cane mulch and Duane LeGarde from Batrosa Concrete for the donation of concrete pavers. Without these donations our garden would not have been possible.

Toni Mooney
FAITH Group

Fitzgerald's Staff Shine!

Fitzgerald's staff members have made an outstanding commitment to their professional development over the past 18 months. As a community we are lucky enough to have many accomplished teachers who have successfully obtained their Digital Pedagogical Licence and Information Communication & Technology – ICT Certificates. These qualifications recognise that our teachers understand how learners use computers and acknowledges their skills and use of digital technologies in their daily teaching practices, affirms commitment to professional growth, helps teachers to meet the diverse student learning needs in this the 21st Century.

At Fitzgerald we have:

- 20 Teachers who have attained the Smart Classroom Digital Teaching Licence and above
- 25 Teachers and Administrators currently holding ICT Certificates
- 10 Teacher Aides who have successfully completed the Education Support Workers Certificate and have been mentioned for their skilled work on the Smart Classrooms website.

We certainly are lucky to have such an accomplished staff teaching and working with our children and preparing them for their future.

2013 School Term Dates

Queensland Term Dates:

Term 1 Tuesday 29 January – Thursday 28 March

Term 2 Monday 15 April – Friday 21 June

Term 3 Monday 8 July – Friday 20 September

Term 4 Tuesday 8 October – Friday 13 December

In 2013 the Labour Day public holiday will move to Monday 7 October and the Queen's Birthday holiday will be returned to Monday 10 June.

For more information the 2013 school calendar can be downloaded at

www.education.qld.gov.au/public_media/calender/holidays.html

Instrumental Students for 2013

New parents and students to the strings, woodwind, brass and percussion instruments were entertained by our Beginners String Ensemble and Concert Band in the hall last Monday night. Thank you to our beginning students and teachers, Ms Green, Ms New and Mrs Mora for encouraging our new students to the instrumental program for 2013.

Sports Notices

Interscholar Sports - Each Friday afternoon, two Fitzgerald teams travel to the Indoor Sports Arena to

compete in a variety of interschool sports. These are the results thus far:

Round 1 Indoor Cricket (Year 4): Mackay West Boys def Fitzgerald Boys; Fitzgerald Girls def Mackay West Girls

Round 2 Indoor Cricket (Year 6): Fitzgerald Boys def Eimeo Rd 2; Eimeo Rd 1 def Fitzgerald Boys. Mackay West Girls def Fitzgerald Girls

Round 2 Beach Volleyball (Year 6): Fitzgerald Girls def Eimeo Rd Girls.

News From the Office

Debtor Statements should be sent home this week. Please try to clear outstanding amounts before the end of the year. Centrelink payments may be an option, weekly deposits through internet banking another. Please contact the school office on 49656333 if you wish to take up one of these options. Please remember that amounts are approved by the School Council and P & C Association. Money goes towards providing valuable resources for our school. We wish to sincerely thank all those parents who make their contributions earlier in the year as this facilitates the smooth running of our resources for the year.

Lost Property

The lost property box in the office is full! If your child is missing jumpers, lunchboxes, shoes or anything else then come and look to see if any of it belongs to them. It will all be donated to a charity if not collected.

Tuckshop Talk

Thank you to Tracey Donovan and Julie Dowe for volunteering in the tuckshop. It has been greatly appreciated. We still desperately need **HELP** in the tuckshop! If you can spare an hour or two to help it would be appreciated.

Teriyaki chicken and rice, pretzels and sour cream and chives chips are no longer available on the menu.

Roster – Wed 14/11 Julie Dowe **Thurs 15/11 HELP NEEDED Fri 16/11** Kerry Sheehan, Cheryl Vella, Kath Kean, Leanne Thompson **Tues 20/11** Cath Kean **Wed 21/11 HELP NEEDED Thurs 22/11** Geri Nolan **Fri 23/11 HELP NEEDED Tues 27/11** Cath Kean **Wed 28/11 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

Souths Junior Rugby League 2013 Season Sign on Day -

Sunday – 3rd February 2013

At Souths Leagues Club, Milton Street, Mackay
From 10:00am to 2:00pm

New Players need to bring along proof of age, ie: Original Birth Certificate or current Passport
Enquiries to Club Registrar – Kellie Cairns
Mob: 0407 742 359

Email: rkcarpentry@bigpond.com

Other Enquires: southsjrl@bigpond.com