

From the Principal's Desk

2014 Diary Dates...

20 Feb: Yr 7 Student Council Speeches, 9am, School Hall

21 Feb: Safety Circus, 11am, Yr3

3 Mar: Leaders' Parade

3-4 Mar: Life Education Van

11 Mar: P&C AGM 5:30pm

18 Mar: Arts Council – 'Pass the Poetry Please'

21 Mar: Harmony Day

24-26 Mar: Choral Festival

28 Mar: Easter Hat Parade, Prep to Yr3

4 April: Last Day of Term

21 April: Easter Monday

25 April: Anzac Day

Congratulations to our School Leaders for 2014. Our leaders are to be invested into their positions by Mr Jason Costigan, Member for Whitsunday at a special parade on Monday 3rd March at 9:00. The names of our leaders are included in this newsletter.

Our school has received a funding boost of \$219000 through the State Government's 'Great Results Guarantee'. Under this guarantee, students will have further opportunity to improve their learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy. Discussion with staff, Parents' and Citizens' Association members and other Education Queensland personnel are happening in order to plan for this Guarantee.

A level of communication between parents and teachers was conducted with the parent teacher information sessions. To those of us who were able to attend we trust that the session was informative for you. Further communication can be had with our staff by arranging to have an interview at a mutually acceptable time. Parent-teacher interviews are planned for the end of this term. At these interviews the academic and social progress of your children is discussed.

Our students have received a Parent Participation Form for 2014 informing you as to how you can assist at our school, if you could complete and return the form by Friday 21st February, thank you.

The Annual General Meeting of the Parents' and Citizens' Association will be held on Tuesday, March 11th at 5:30pm in the staffroom. Your attendance is important to our school. Our members are looking forward to seeing you there.

Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson
Principal.

Student Absence

Line: 49656360

This service is available for parents ringing their children's absence from school. Please clearly state their name, class and reason for absence. All absences are recorded for teachers.

Sports Captains				
House	Jabiru	Brolga	Kingfisher	Eagle
Boys C	Wesley Dyer	Shameus Edwards	Kye Sleeman	Riley James
V.C.	Ben Allen	Kyryn Allinson	Hugh Arthur	Jeremy Tass
Girls C	Kaitlin Scott	Lily Pringle	Lily Tarlinton	Bridget Donovan
V.C.	Monica Davis	Paige Bone	Georgie Coburn	Kiara Purdue
Student Council		Library Monitors		
Year 7 Tyler Forbes Joe Fortescue Edward Westcott Stephane Schott Emma Cameron Anisha Goonewardane Mercedes Rees Skye Plumley		Year 6 Jana Bassan Alicia West Claire Condren Briana Edgar Callum Chester-Master Lily Daniel Emilee Burgess Callum Peterson Chloe Wilson Ashleigh Boyd Nathan Dodd		
Year 6 Dylan Ashford Cole Morgan Jackson Pain Ella Sippel Rebecca Flor Terah Hope				
Sports Monitors		System Monitors		
Reilly Kurtz Drazic Cotter Zali Mooney Nathan Sheehan Maygan Fitzgerald Tiarni Drew Tallis Conway		Year 7 Stephanie Dowe Danielle Campbell Jessica Tilbrook Cian McLaughlin Alexander Jesser Carlton Rees Sofia Garcia		

- ✚ To be Happy
- ✚ To be Safe &
- ✚ To Learn

Learning Literacy

'Fitz Blitz: Let's Read! 2014' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum

We need YOU! Parents, grandparents, guardians and caregivers, are invited to attend a 'Fitz Blitz: LET'S READ!' information session for reading helpers. 'Fitz Blitz: LET'S READ!' helpers are needed in classrooms from 8.45am – 9.15am each morning. Commit to the time that you can, to help support our beginning and developing readers. Come to the information session to find out how you can help. Learn some handy support-a-reader tips. Find out about the key reading instruction strategies used by the teaching staff of Fitzgerald State School. The content of this information session will be useful when supporting all young learners as they become expert readers at school and at home. The information session will be held from 9.15am to 10.15am on either Tuesday 25 February or Friday 28 February (after the P-2 assembly). To be held at Fitzgerald State School's Library. Presented by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum. No need to RSVP. Just turn up. All welcome! There is no cost to the Fitzgerald SS Community.



Parent Communication

It is important that parents/caregivers show respect in their interaction with each other and students.

If a parent has an issue or concern the appropriate protocol is to make an appointment with the staff member, outside of student learning times, to discuss the matter in a calm manner. If the matter is school and not classroom related it should be referred to the principal/deputy principal in the first instance.

All members of the school community are asked to abide by these protocols so that the school can maintain a safe supportive environment for our students to learn.

Prep Drop off and Pick up Times

The doors to the prep classes open at 8:30am. If carers and children arrive before this time they are to wait in the undercover area in front of the tuckshop. A bell rings at 8:20am. At this time students should make their way down to the Prep area to begin class at 8:45am. The Prep day concludes at 2:45pm. Students should be collected at this time.

Mobile Phones

It is recognised that students may need phones for security purposes for before and after school. Bringing them to school is not encouraged because of the potential for theft and general distraction and/or disruption associated with them and should only be brought as an imperative need for a student directly after school. However, if they are brought to school, they must be turned off and left at the school office for collection at the end of the day. Students have been alerted to this rule via class teachers, parades and newsletters. We thank you for your support in this matter.

Accidents/Illness - In the event of an illness or accident involving your child, parents will always be contacted. For serious illness or injury, when a parent or guardian cannot be contacted, an ambulance and or medical attention will be sought. **It is therefore absolutely essential that all families provide up to date and**

Staff Profile



Hello, my name is Jaana Aaltonen and I am the new 1B teacher. Before arriving here at Fitzgerald, I was teaching at Calen District State College. I would like to thank everyone who has made me feel

welcomed these past few weeks. Please feel free to pop in and have a chat and learn about the wonderful things happening in our 1B class.

Foyer News



Year 1C & 1D

During English Year One students have been identifying emotions in picture books and making personal connections to these emotions. 1D wrote a

sentence about an emotion. During Geography we made a field sketch to record the natural, managed and constructed features of a local place.

Values! Values! Values!

The Australian Values are in full force at Fitz! Year 5/6E & 6C are proud to share with you, the values we see each day at Fitzgerald.

"Teachers establish learning environments based on values, they model values to students and they provide opportunities for intellectual understanding. In the light of this, values education is at the heart of the teacher's role." (Adapted from Terence Lovat, 2005)

During Weeks 2 and 3 our office foyer displayed the values we embrace at Fitz! As our school we strive:



accurate details of your phone contacts. Should any contact details change please advise the school office **promptly?**

Medication - Expectation of Parents

It is reasonable to expect parents/guardians to undertake the following in relation to the administration of medication and/or management of health conditions.

- Request the school in writing to administer prescribed medication or to assist in the management of a health condition.
- Notify the school in writing of any requests and/or guidelines from medical practitioners including potential side effects or adverse reactions.
- Provide the medication in the original labelled container to the nominated staff member.
- Ensure the medication is not out of date and has an original pharmacy label with the students name, dosage and time to be taken.
- Advise the school in writing and collect the medication when it is no longer required at school
- Medication forms are available from the school office. These forms are to be completed before the staff can administer any medication

Make Every Day Count In 2014

Make 2014 the year when your child doesn't miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren't at school or don't stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons. Check out the new **Every Day Counts** videos live on DETE TV. <http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland>

WIN a set of iPads

The Daily Mercury is offering a set of 10 iPads to be won by one lucky school. The school with the most tokens per student wins! We need you to collect the tokens from the Daily Mercury and place in the box in the office foyer. The tokens will appear in the paper from Saturday 22 February, so start collecting!

Sports Notices

Northern Suburbs Tennis

Congratulations to Joel Smith, Jackson Pain, Skye Plumley, Bridget Donovan and Emma Cameron who have been selected in the Northern Suburbs Tennis team. We wish these competitors all the best at the upcoming Mackay Trials.

Mackay Cricket

Well done to Riley James and Wesley Dyer who have been selected in the Mackay cricket team. These boys will now travel to Rockhampton for the Capricornia trials. We wish these boys the best of luck.

Tuckshop Talk

Prep – Year 2

When ordering ice blocks could you please order through the bag system.

Thank you to all our new volunteers, it is good to see new faces in the tuckshop. Please order for the correct days, a new menu is available.

ROSTER:

Thurs 21st – Nickki Poa, Robyn Adams, Anna Munthie

Fri 22nd – Lynece Wheaton, Rebecca Benson

Tue 25th – Robyn Adams

Wed 26th - Robyn Adams, Lynece Wheat

Thurs 27th – Robyn Adams, Nikki Poa

Fri 28th – Julie Dowe, Raylene Sellings

Tues 4th March – Robyn Adams, Liliana Umbarila

Wed 5th – Robyn Adams, Lynece Wheaton

Thus 6th – Robyn Adams, Nikki Poa

Community Notices

Mackay Junior Touch - are running a Junior Touch Competition on Friday afternoons, for Boys and Girls in U6 through to U16. For more information go to www.mackaytouch.com.au under Junior tab.

Mackay Athletics Club – Sign-on and information day – Saturday 22nd February, 10am – 2pm at Mackay State High School. Ages 5 – Masters. First club day – Saturday 1st March. Trial period only \$10 for 2 weeks. For more information contact James on 0431 973 129 or visit www.mackayathletics.com.au New members to bring a copy of Birth Certificate for sighting.

Community Youth Orchestra - The Mackay Youth Orchestra caters for experienced young musicians. Primary students welcome, as well as secondary students and all young musicians. Our orchestras rehearse on Mondays, 4.30 - 6 pm, with the Jazz Ensemble rehearsing 6 - 7 pm. Please see our website for further

details: <http://mackayyouthorchestra.weebly.com/>

Or e-mail us at: mackayorchestra@gmail.com

Slade Point Athletic Club - When: Saturday 22 February 2014

Where: Cathy Freeman Oval

Wren Street, SLADE POINT

Time: 1.00—3.00 pm - Cost: \$95.00 for the year

First Club Day Saturday 1 March at

1.00 pm come and try for free!

For more details contact Brad on 0488 742 210

Mackay Softball Association - invites parents to get their kids active and playing a great sport whilst making new friends and social groups. All the clubs welcome new players for the 2014 season commencing in May. All upcoming Softball Sign on days for adults and children are held at the Mackay Softball Fields, Beaconsfield Road, Andergrove. Come along to any of the days for more information and sign on.

Dragons: 2nd March 2pm - 4pm - Contact: Noreen 4942 7606

Angels: 8th March & 15th March 10am – 2pm - Contact: Chub 0416 432 988 or Linda 0427 114 955

Hawks: 16th March 2pm – 4pm - Contact: Cheryl 0428 182 248 or Kim 0420 309 905

Interschool Chess Tournament – Monday 24th Feb, 8:30am – 2:30pm, Victoria Park State School multi-purpose hall, Shakespeare St. For more information contact Terese Marrs on 0409 572 059

First Child Tax Offset

Do you have a child in year 4, 5 or 6? Have you missed out on thousands of dollars? In 2001 the Government introduced the 'First Child Tax Offset' and surprisingly many Australians did not know about it and have not claimed any benefits. If you have any child that was born between 1 July 2001 and 30 June 2004 you may be eligible to receive up to \$12500 of entitlements. The government has a 30 June 2014 deadline on this entitlement so please email childoffset@twelve.com.au today to receive more information.