

From the Principal's Desk

2014 Diary Dates...

21 Mar: Cross Country
21 Mar: Harmony Day
21 Mar: School Dance
24-26 Mar: Choral Festival
24 Mar-4 Apr: Parent-Teacher Interviews
28 Mar: Free Dress Day
4 April: Easter Hat Parade, Prep to Yr2
4 April: Last Day of Term
21 April: Easter Monday
22 April: School Anzac Parade
25 April: Anzac Day

We have a busy and enjoyable time ahead of us for the remainder of this term with a range of planned activities which include – class excursions, an Arts Council production, the Cross Country and other sporting events, Harmony Day, the Choral Festival, the School Dance, Easter Activities, a Free Dress Day, B.O.B Day and Cyber Safety. I am sure that as parents you will support us at school and have the children attend school up to and including the last day of term, 4th April.

For those of us who are new to the school, the Best Of the Bunch activities are planned for students who have demonstrated good behaviour throughout the term.

Information about our school and all Australian schools is available on the My School website www.myschool.edu.au. The 2013 student scores in the National Tests of Reading, Spelling, Numeracy, Grammar and Punctuation compare favourably with many Australian Schools.

A reminder that the School Dances are on this Friday, 21st March with years P-3 commencing at 5:30pm and years 4-7 commencing at 7:15pm, parents if you are able to assist let us know.

A reminder that the Parent-Teacher interviews are to be held in the last two weeks of this term, parents if you could arrange a suitable time with your class teacher.

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.

Foyer News



3C and D have been very busy learning and on the display board there are some examples of this. In English we have been learning about how to be

persuasive. In Art the children are putting their creative minds to work and creating pieces of work similar to famous Artists. In Health the children are learning the keys to being a successful student. The flowers displayed show the special aspects about them which develops the confidence key. We hope you enjoy viewing our display.

Staff Profile



Hi, I'm Jenna Monkhouse and I teach grade 5. I recently moved to Mackay from Brisbane where I have been teaching for the past two years. I enjoy leading a healthy lifestyle and like to keep active through running and regular gym workouts. I am enjoying the lifestyle

change of Mackay and my time at Fitzgerald State School and I am looking forward to future years here.

Learning Literacy

'Read with Me!' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum

If you missed the 'Fitz Blitz – Let's Read!' parent workshops held recently at the school, there is another opportunity. To acknowledge 'Rotary International Literacy Month', the Rotary Club of Mackay, Australian Literacy Educators' Association (ALEA) Mackay Local Council and the Mackay Regional Council Library Services are hosting **free** day and evening 'Read with Me! How to Support Your Beginning Reader' workshop sessions on Wednesday 26 March. These sessions are designed to assist parents, grandparents, guardians and caregivers to help young children with their reading development at home, daycare, kindy and at school. The workshops will be presented by early year's literacy expert and ALEA member, Dr Pam Gargett. Come and learn about the reading process, how young children learn to read and how best to support them to become expert, independent readers. Participants will receive session notes, handy reading resources, including a copy of 'Reading Magic' by Mem Fox and an ALEA professional learning certificate. The day session is to be held at the Gordon White Library, beginning at 9.30am and the evening session is to be held at the Fitzgerald State School hall foyer, beginning at 6.00pm. The workshop sessions are **FREE**, but numbers are limited and registration is essential. To register or for more information visit <https://www.alea.edu.au/events/category/queensland>.

Grounds



The Hall garden facing Norris Road has received a face lift with further planting and mulching. A big thank you to our grounds staff Dave Peut and Les Tselepy.

Free Dress Day

We have a Free Dress Day planned for Friday 28th March to assist with the Mother's Day Stall, as a part of the Free Dress Day the students are able to wear crazy socks to remind us of the 30 years of service that our crossing supervisors have given to Queensland schools. Students are asked to bring along a gold coin donation. A reminder to students to wear sensible and safe clothing.

Daily Mercury iPad Giveaway



7A has been busy co-ordinating the collection of tokens for the "Daily Mercury" iPad giveaway. So far we have collected 450 tokens. Since the number of tokens collected is calculated on the

number of enrolments (748 at our school), we need more!! Apparently the "Midweek" newspaper also has a token in it, so keep your eyes peeled and keep collecting.

Year 6 News



Science this term is looking at "Making Changes" what makes things change and what affects how fast they change, why do some things burn more fiercely, rust more quickly or smell more

strongly? The whole world is made up of particles that are constantly moving and reacting with one another in fascinating ways. Science seeks to understand why and how substances change, and this has led to advances in everything from food preservation to fire control. Over the past few weeks Year 6 have been observing changes in a variety of products which has proven to be extremely interesting. During our learning journey, we have experienced opportunities and have been able to explore melting, evaporating, opportunities for students to explore melting, evaporating, dissolving, reacting and so much more.

Chess Club



Last Wednesday twelve students attended our Chess Club. It was a great turn out for our first day. The students really enjoyed themselves. Thank you to Audra Daniels who is preparing our team, hopefully as the weeks' progress more students will attend.

Best of luck to our students who are heading to the inter school chess tournament at Victoria Park State School next term.

Pass the Poetry Please



On Tuesday our students attended their first Arts Council for the year, 'Pass the Poetry Please'. We have some great reviews from 3A.

My favourite bit was when Ruth performed magic and my favourite character was the awesome magician.

Ty Campbell

My favourite piece of the Poetry is when Mary the doll said a rhyme. My favourite character was Mary.

Zeneta Ellis

My favourite character was the puppet Mary because she was funny. My favourite poetry was when she said to put some ice up someone's pants.

Ryan Haber

Today I met Ruth and she taught us poetry. I liked it when Ruth did an amazing magic trick. My favourite piece of poetry was when she sang 'Old Mother Hubbard'. My favourite character was Mary the doll.

Emily Thompson

Student Fees

Student fees are now due. Payments may be made during office hours by phone, in person or over the internet. If you are experiencing financial hardship contact the office to arrange a payment plan. Centrelink payments may be arranged by contacting the school office.

Library News

Each lunch hour you will hear the chatter of children, students playing card games, the sound of 'checkmate' being called, the flipping of books and clicking of keys on a computer. That's absolutely correct, you will be in our school Library. Fitzgerald's Library not only offers students a wide variety of books, supports students in developing their reading abilities, provides resources for teachers and staff, in addition to the many online software and resources used on a daily basis, it is also a cool friendly and welcoming meeting place for all students to gather during their lunch hours.

This week you will see a new display as you walk through the doors of our Library showcasing Harmony Day, which is celebrated on Friday 21st

March. Colouring activities will be available during the lunch break on Friday as a part of our school's Harmony Day celebrations.

Don't forget to look on our Fitzgerald's Online Library for the latest events and see if you can be the first student to answer this month's "Library's Treasure Hunt Quiz

Questions." <http://fitzgerass.cmeweb.libcode.com.au/>

Sports Notices

Northern Suburbs Rugby League

Congratulations to Riley Whitestyles, Jamal Brown, Shameus Edwards, Drazic Cotter and Hugh Arthur

who have been selected in the Northern Suburbs rugby league team. Good luck at the Mackay trials boys.

Northern Suburbs Netball

Congratulations to Emma Cameron, Skye Plumley, Maygan Fitzgerald, Claire Condren, Zali Mooney and Harriet Goldspring who have been selected in the Northern Suburbs netball teams. We wish all these girls the best of luck at the Mackay trials.

Northern Suburbs Basketball

Well done to Lily Tarlinton, Tiana Pompey, Emma Cameron, Callum Rebetzke and Shameus Edwards who have been recently selected in the Northern Suburbs Basketball team. These players will now compete in the Mackay trials, best of luck to these students.

Cross Country

The school cross country race is this Friday the 21st of March. Only those students who have handed in their permission forms are allowed to participate.

Competitors will need to be on the oval at 8.00am for marshalling. Approximate race times are 9 years 8.15am, 10 Years 8.35 am, 11 Years 8.55am, 12 & 13 Years 9.15am.

Tuckshop Talk

ROSTER:

Wed 19th – Robyn Adams, Shiran Akthen

Thurs 20th – Nikki Poa, Robyn Adams

Fri 21st – Cath Kean, Rebecca Benson

Tues 25th – Robyn Adams

Wed 26th – Robyn Adams, Liliana Umbarila

Thurs 27th – Nikki Poa, Robyn Adams

Fri 28th – Julie Dowe, Deb Jenkins

Tues 1st April – Cath Kean, Robyn Adams

Wed 2nd - Robyn Adams, Tammie Brodie



Date: **Friday 21st March 2014**

Venue: **School Hall**

Time: Prep to Year 3 – 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Year 4 to Year 7 – 7:15pm – 8:45pm

Cost: \$5-00 per child for dance entry (to be paid by Tuesday, 18th March)

Theme: Favourite Super Hero

Hall Canteen opens at 5:15pm

Sausage on bread \$2-00 and drinks \$2-00 available for purchase at the hall.

Parent Café open in Hall Foyer area price is also \$2-00.

If your child/children are attending and you haven't returned your form, then you can pay at the door on the night.