From the Principal’s Desk

30 April 2014

2014 Diary Dates...

7 May: Yr6 Excursion Botanical Gardens
13-15 May: NAPLAN Testing
18-24 May: Education Week
19 May: Book Fair
29-30 May: School Photos
26 May: National Sorry Day
26-30 May: Instrumental Camp
29-30 May: School Photos
9 June: Queen’s Birthday Holiday
19 June: Show Holiday
27 June: Final Day of Term 2

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.

Our school community observed the significance of the Anzac Tradition by participating in the Town Ceremony and conducting a School Anzac Parade.

One hundred of our students and staff attended the Town Ceremony with special guest Mr Paul Robertson, school chaplain Mr Nic Ayre, School Captains and the school choir taking a part in the School Parade.

A special welcome to the families who are new to our school this term, we endeavour to have your children enjoy and learn with us.

A Teaching and Learning Audit was conducted in the school at the end of last term. The Audit is conducted every four years by Education Queensland Auditors to provide feedback on how the school is performing and to inform school planning processes.

A report comprising an executive summary and an eight page profile is available on the school website www.fitzgerass.eq.edu.au under Support and Resources/Forms and Documents/ Documents for your information.

Our years 3, 5 and 7 students are preparing for the National Literacy and Numeracy Tests which will be held from 13 to 15th May. Leading up to the tests, students are reminded to get adequate sleep, 8 to 9 hours each night, eat healthy meals including breakfast and exercise regularly.

Our next monthly P & C Meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th May at 5:30pm in the staffroom. You are most welcome to attend.

Enjoy your week.

Mike
Mike Anderson
Principal.
Foyer News – 1A & 1B

Last week the students in year 1A and 1B learnt about the importance of ANZAC Day. They showed a keen interest in paying tribute to the people who went to war for our country. It is for this reason they made poppies to remember the sacrifice many gave to keep our country what it is today.

**Three Dimensional Shapes**

In Maths, 3D have been learning all about the properties that make up three dimensional shapes. Students learnt that these shapes have length, width and height. They have also been analysing the edges, corners (vertexes) and surfaces (curved and flat faces). Students were asked to create some 3D structures from spaghetti and marshmallows. There was lots of problem solving language happening during the sessions. Students worked out that they weren’t able to make 3D shapes that had curved surfaces!!

**Mother’s Day Stall**

The Mother’s Day stall is on next week from Tuesday 6th May to Friday 9th May. Gifts range from $1 - $10 as well as a raffle on offer for 50c a ticket. As this stall runs all week parent help is needed and it would be greatly appreciated, if you can help contact Kerri Sheehan 49429822 or 0407128262.

**North Mackay Private Hospital Car Park**

Parents and Guardians of children at Fitzgerald State School are being advised that North Mackay Private Hospital opened on the 10th February, 2014. You are no longer allowed to park on these premises as such parking on the hospital grounds is reserved for patients, families, clients and visitors of North Mackay Private Hospital and their Consulting Suites only. Could parents and guardians dropping off and collecting children from Fitzgerald State School please make alternative parking arrangements.

**Out of Bounds Areas**

A reminder to parents and students that the Year one and the Year three play areas are out of bounds before and after school.

**Drop Off and Pick Up**

We are aware that drop off and pick up areas around the school are very hectic in the morning and after school. Please exercise patience when using these areas. Do not park and walk away from your car in this area.

Our students’ safety is our major concern and if everyone practises care and patience, hopefully we will have no incidents. These are council car parks and we are extremely lucky to have them.

As part of our TravelSmart initiative we would encourage parents to use the football field car parks as a great drop off/pick up point. This would ease congestion around the school and would be a great form of exercise for the students just a reminder that the top carpark is not available for parent parking before or after school.

**Student Absence**

We are presently reviewing our student absence procedures. Students who arrive late to school each morning should be either reported to the office accompanied by parent/guardian and a reason for the late arrival given, or the student should report to the office with a note from the parent/guardian explaining the absence.

Any absence should be explained either by a phone call to the Student Absence line 4965 6360 or a note from the parent explaining the absence.

**Works Matters**

Covered Links – Our covered links are getting a new roof at present with the tennis court enclosure approved to get a new fence, good news.

**Learning Literacy**

‘Primary Interschool Debating Competition’ by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum

The first round of the Mackay Primary Interschool Debating Competition was held last week on Thursday 24 April at Whitsunday Anglican School. The 2014 team of Cian McLaughlin, Emilee Burgess and Jessica Tilbrook successful debated FOR the topic, ‘Homework is a waste of time.’ This first round win puts the Fitzgerald State School Debating team in the A pool, debating at 7.00pm each second Thursday this term at Whitsunday Anglican School, in a knock out competition. Debating team members learn so much. Debating is best described as ‘war with words’, the students needing to research, write an engaging speech, deliver it persuasively and skilfully dispute the arguments presented by their opposition. Over the term, each member of the Fitzgerald State School Debating Team will have roles and duties to fulfil, well supported by Mrs Sue Hamilton-Smith and Mr Mike Anderson.

The Let’s Read Fitz Reading Blitz continues this term. Can you help a year two reader? Do you have some time to spare, any morning of the week, from 8.30am-9.00am? Contact Sue Hamilton-Smith 49656306, or leave a message at the office, or meet us upstairs in the Year 2 Withdrawal Room any morning of the week. Even a little amount of time will make a BIG difference!

**Sports Notices**
Mackay Touch Football
Congratulations to Shameus Edwards, Lily Tarlinton, Georgie Coburn and Zali Mooney who have been selected into the Mackay Touch Football team. We wish these students the best of luck at the Capricornia trials in Rockhampton.

Mackay Hockey
Congratulations to Terah Hope, Nathan Sheehan and Edwards Westcott for their recent selection in the Mackay Hockey team. Best of luck to these three players at the Capricornia trials in Rockhampton.

Schoolboys Rugby League
The Schoolboys rugby league season is underway. Unfortunately the team lost their first round game to Northview 30-16, a reminder that training sessions run from 7.45-8.30am Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Northern Suburbs Cross Country
Congratulations to all runners who recently participated in the Northern Suburbs Cross Country carnival at Glenella state school. Fitzgerald School performed well on the day finishing in 5th spot. Extra congratulations to Cameron Dhu, Jaala Grant, Connor Laycock, Jasmine Banks and Kaitlin Scott who have been selected in the Northern Suburbs team and will now compete in the Mackay trials.

Capricornia Netball
Congratulations to Zali Mooney who has been selected in the Capricornia Netball team. Zali will now compete in the State trials in Emerald. Well done Zali.

Tuckshop Talk
ROSTER – TERM 2:
Wed 30th – Robyn Adams, Shiran Akther
Thurs 1st May – Robyn Adams, Liliana Umbarila
Fri 2nd – Ray Sellings, Sandy Dunn
Tues 6th – Robyn Adams
Wed 7th - Robyn Adams, Shiran Akther
Thurs 8th – Robyn Adams, HELP NEEDED
Fri 9th – Rebecca Benson, Sandy Dunn
Tues 13th – Robyn Adams
Wed 14th – Robyn Adams, Lyneece Wheaton

Community Notices
Softball Season - Commencing 17th May 2014, Mackay Softball Association is inviting new players to join the 2014 Softball Season, all age groups from T Ball to A Grade. Please contact: Hawks – Cheryl - 0428 182 248, Angels – Linda - 0427 114 955, Dragons – Maxine - 0439 376 887

Mackay North State High School Information sessions - Mackay North State High School Information sessions for Year 7/8 in 2015 will run over two nights. There will be two sittings which will run for approximately 45 minutes each.

Tuesday 6th May - Year 6 Information Session 1 - 5:30 - Session 2 - 6:30
Tuesday 13th May – Year 7 Information Session 1 - 5:30 - Session 2 - 6:30
Tours will also take place Wednesday 14th May, 21st, 28th May – 4:00 – 4:30pm. Please ring the school to make a booking for these tours.
Any further information, please ring Liz Rodgers 49631 659 or Geoff Ryan 49631 663.

CLEANERS POSITION
FITZGERALD STATE SCHOOL
Norris Road
North Mackay
0749656333
29 hours per week over 5 days.
Split shift each day.
Working with children check required.
Application Package can be collected at the school office between the hours of 8:00am and 4:00pm. Applications close 4.00pm Monday, 12 May, 2014.