

### From the Principal's Desk

#### 2014 Diary Dates...

**26-30 May:**

Instrumental Camp

**29-30 May:** School

Photos

**30 May:** Athletics

Trials – Yr 6,7

**2 June:** P&C Pizza

Day

**3 June:** Athletics

Trials – Yr 3,4,5

**4 June:** ICAS Science

Testing Yr 4-7

**5 June:** Twilight

Concert

**6 June:** Athletics

Trials – Yr 6,7

**9 June:** Queen's

Birthday Holiday

**10 June:** Fan Fare

**12 June:** Arts Council

Performance – My

Friends and I

**17 June:** Junior Sports

Day

**19 June:** Show

Holiday

**20 June:** Senior Sports

Day

**23-26 June:** Year 7

Camp

**25 June:** Report Cards

go home

**27 June:** Final Day of

Term 2

Fitzgerald has a culture of high achieving students, with numbers participating in a variety of activities in the upcoming two weeks. Good luck to all students participating in the following:

- The ICAS Science competition is a test administered by the University of NSW and a number of students across years 4 – 7 have registered to participate.
- If you would like to witness the talents of our music students, these will be on show in the upcoming Twilight Concert on June 5 at 6pm in the school hall.
- Following from this, our concert band and strings orchestra will then compete at North Mackay State High School in Fanfare on June 10.

Well done to our debating team Cian McLaughlin, Emilee Burgess, Jessica Tilbrook who were placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the Mackay Debating Competition, our thanks to Sue Hamilton-Smith who has coached these students throughout the competition.

Every school day counts! Attendance at school is vital to student learning. Currently, we have a daily attendance rate of 92.8% of students. Students that have high attendance rates have recently be rewarded with certificates recognising their efforts. Well done to those students that have received these certificates.

Well Done! So far in the month of May, there have been 203 recorded instances of students receiving either a Gold Card, or Student of the Week Award. That is a daily average of 9.23 awards being handed out. This is on top of awards and rewards being administered to students in classroom reward systems. Well done to the students of Fitzgerald for demonstrating such positive behaviours in our school. This ensures that at Fitzgerald, all students are able to **Learn, be Safe and be Happy.**

Enjoy your week.



Tracey Adams

Acting 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



4A have displayed a selection of narrative writing samples showing some of their editing techniques (DART – Delete, Add,

Rearrange and Trade).

4B have displayed some mini-posters showing their knowledge of fractions, including ordering, naming (numerator, denominator and vinculum), showing them as a diagram and including them in simple word problems.

## Learning Literacy

'The Premier's Reading Challenge 2014' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Head of Curriculum

Fitzgerald State School is aiming for 100% participation in the Premier's Reading Challenge again this year. The Queensland Premier is challenging every student from Prep to Year 2 to read or experience 20 books, Years 3 and 4 to read

20 books and Years 5 to 7 to read 15 books by Friday 5 September 2014. Children who take up the challenge and read the required number of books will receive a signed certificate from the Premier. Some students have so far managed to

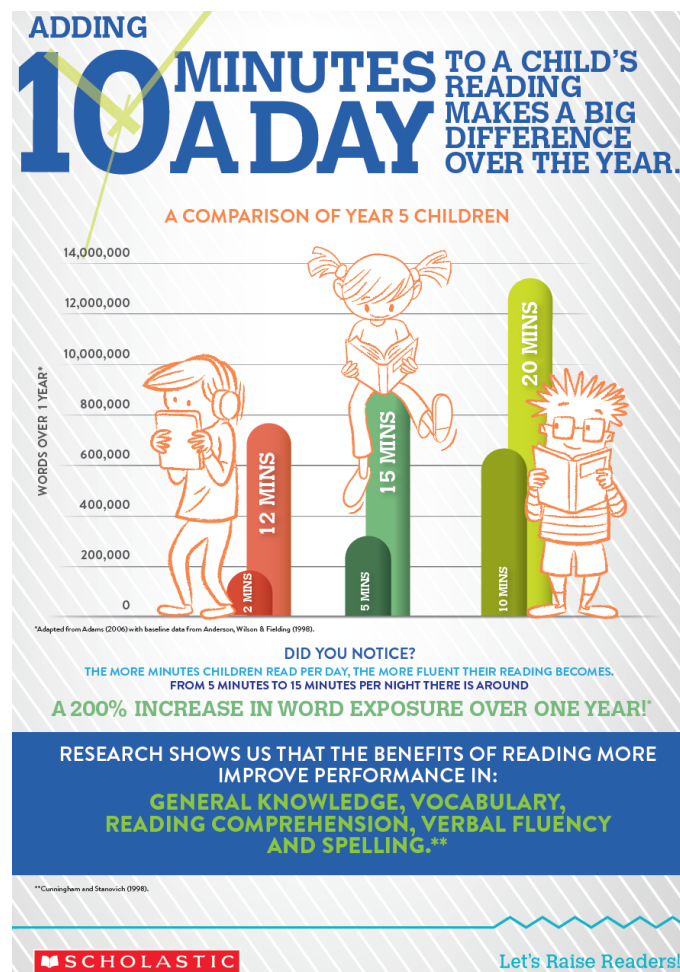


successfully complete the challenge since its inception several years ago. Schools with 100 per cent participation will go into the running for numerous lucky draw prizes. But there are greater rewards. Reading opens up a world of educational opportunities for young people, providing the foundation for learning for the rest of their life. Through the Premier's Reading Challenge students are given an opportunity to further develop their appreciation of the English language and are encouraged to read more and read more widely for pleasure and learning. Every student at Fitzgerald State School will receive a copy of the required Reading Record Form from their teacher. A big part of the challenge is managing its record-keeping requirements. So, please help your reader to achieve success. Good luck and start reading! Further information can be found on the website <http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/readingchallenge/index.html>

## Library News

Teachers are often asked how parents can help their child become a better reader. The best answer to this is to help your child create time to read every day. This comparison of readers in Year 5 shows how the more reading a child does the more fluent their reading becomes. Just 10 minutes extra a day means their exposure to words increases by 200% in just one year! Remember

also that reading to your child and with your child are excellent strategies to increase word exposure especially with reluctant readers.



## McDonald's Maths

McDonald's Maths is a maths competition where you have teams of 5 students from both Years 6 and 7 competing against other schools. There is a team challenge and a relay challenge with the points from both deciding the overall champion school.

McDonald's maths was an exciting experience where students learnt new mathematical equations - for example when you multiply 2178 by 4 you get 8712. It's just the number backwards. Competition isn't all about winning or losing; it's about having fun, giving it your best shot and learning new things, sometimes even making new friends.

This year our school teams consisted of Riley Kurtz, Alexander Jesser, Carlton Rees, Hugh Arthur and Emily Burgess. Our students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and represented Fitzgerald SS proudly.

## Student Fees

Thank you to the parents who have paid or are paying off their Resource Hire and Voluntary Contributions. The funds contributed go towards purchasing valuable resources for our students. This in turn contributes to making Fitzgerald an exciting school to attend.

At this time of year at least 50% of contributions should be paid. Parents are reminded that for students to participate in extra-curricular activities they need to have paid or be actively paying off their contributions. If you are experiencing difficulties with your payment, send in weekly or fortnightly contributions. Centrelink payments are also an option. Please contact the school office if you wish to avail yourself of any of the options listed.

Thank you again for supporting the staff and students at our school.

**Mackay-Whitsunday Primary & Secondary Interschool Chess Championships**

Best of luck to those students who have been selected in this terms Interschool Chess Tournament which will be held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014, 8:30 am to 2.30 pm at Victoria Park State School multi-purpose hall inside school grounds on Shakespeare Street.

**Sports Notices**

**Rugby League**

The rugby league team's two previous rounds have come up against some strong opposition, and unfortunately saw the team narrowly defeated by St Mary's and also Victoria Park.

**Capricornia Touch Football**

Congratulations to Shameus Edwards who has been selected in the Capricornia boys touch team. We wish Shameus all of the best at the upcoming state trials.

**Mackay Cross Country**

Congratulations to Jaala Grant who has been selected in the Mackay Cross Country team. Jaala came second in her 10 year old age group at the Mackay trials. We wish Jaala the best of luck in Rockhampton for the Capricornia trials.

**Icy Cups Are Back**

Icy Cups will be selling every Friday afternoon in the prep area for 50 cents.

**Tuckshop Talk**

Chilly weather will soon be upon us. The tuckshop has started selling hot milo and raisin bread in the mornings from 8am – 8:35am. We also have something new to try out,

Chocolate custard snack - \$2.00

Tropical gelato - \$2.00

Please do not use sticky tape on bags and also ensure correct money is used.

**ROSTER**

Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams, Liliana Umbarila

Fri 30<sup>th</sup> – Ray Sellings, Rebecca Benson

Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Robyn Adams

Wed 4<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams,  
Shiran Athker, Lyneece Wheaton

Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams

Fri 6<sup>th</sup> – Sandie Dunn, Deb Jenkins

Tues 10<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> – Robyn Adams, Shiran Athker

**Community Notices**

**National Day of Thanksgiving Community Festival** – A time to celebrate and appreciate our blessings! Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May – 10am to 5pm – Jubilee Park, Cnr Wellington & Alfred St. Everything is **FREE!**

# Under 8's Day

