

From the Principal's Desk**Dates for your 2012****Diary....****May 22-26 –****Education Week****May 24 – Under 8's
Week****May 24 – North High
Visit to Yr7****May 29 – McDonalds****Math Competition****June 4-5 – Bike Ed****Commences Yr4****June 7-8 – School****Photos****June 12 – P&C****Meeting****June 13 - Fanfare****June 13 – Junior****Athletics Carnival****June 15 - Senior****Athletics Carnival****June 20 – Report****Cards Released**

Education Week is celebrated in our school this week. This week is an opportune time to thank the dedicated staff members and supportive parents who together continue to provide educational opportunities for the students. During the week we have planned excursions, sporting and debating competitions, drama, cultural activities, Under 8's day and class visits by community members. Well done everyone. A big thank you to the one hundred and twenty-three parent volunteers who receive a certificate this week for their efforts.

Congratulations to our debating and rugby league teams that have recorded good results in their respective competitions recently.

The following students have been invited to attend the Regional Band Camp at Yeppoon beginning May 28.

Bridey Condren	Renae Conroy
Chloe Fransham	Tom Henderson
Nicolas Holditch	Lillian Kajewski
Genevieve Lambert	Jade MacLennan
Brianna McLaughlin	Jonas Mosshammer
Lee Smithwick	Alex Stewart
Zachary Summers	Julia Ward
Alexandra Westcott	Eden Whittaker

School Photos will be held Thursday 7th June and Friday 8th June. As in previous years sibling photo packages and Year 7 leader packages are available and an envelope can be obtained from the school office to order these. Students are required to bring their envelope to school on photo day to hand directly to the photographer. No money is to be handed to the school office or teachers.

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.

**Recycle your old
MOBILE PHONES**

Send your old/unused mobile phones to the recycle bin at the school office. The school will receive \$2.50 for each mobile phone that is recycled. HELP the ENVIRONMENT.

Staff Profile – Linda Miller - My name is Linda Miller and I am the Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 Music Teacher. I have been teaching primary music in the Mackay District for over 15 years and have returned to part-time work this year after the birth of my son, Henry, in 2011. I am enjoying my role in the school working alongside Ms Jill Green and am having a great year so far working with Prep – 2 students as well as Year 3 students involved in Fitz Junior Singers. Outside of school, you'll find me wearing my Broncos jersey, refereeing Touch Football or hanging out at home with my family.



Foyer News – 7A and 7B have been inspired by some of the most powerful and imaginative art of the 20th century. The surrealists had fun breaking the rules and finding new ways of looking at the world. They also enjoyed inventing and playing games with words and pictures. Andre Bretou was the leader of the surrealists and he and some of his friends, Jean Arp, Max Ernst and Tristan Tzara exhibited together. Salvador Dali was one of the most well known surrealists.



TravelSmart – Friday 18th May was *National Walk to School Day*. About **100** Fitzgerald students met teachers at the Touch Football Fields to walk to school. This great activity can be enjoyed any day of the week as a family. We encourage everyone to Park and Walk to school each day. By parking your car a short distance from school and walking the remainder of the journey, you can avoid traffic congestion at the school gates.

Did you know

- Frequent exercise is the best way to reduce stress and improve your overall wellbeing.
- Exercise will make you feel energised, happy and have a positive effect on your day.
- By just walking 400 metres you can burn 25 calories or 105 kilojoules.
- An average person can walk 400 metres in five minutes.
- By parking and walking the remainder of the journey, you can take time to catch up with other parents and carers, talk while you walk, or simply take time out for yourself.

Make every day a *Walk to School Day* and enjoy the benefits!

Parents to monitor Websites – Parents are able to monitor the websites that their children access by visiting the link <http://www.softpedia.com/get/Internet/Other-Internet-Related/Windows-Live-Family-Safety.shtml>

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 incidences. 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.

Arts Council -Puppet Mania

On Monday 21st May, Queensland Arts Council presented *Puppet Mania* to the students at Fitzgerald. They were amazed and entertained as multi-award winning master puppeteer, David Hamilton combined the worlds of puppetry, cabaret and visual theatre to bring a cast of 15 puppets to life in this all singing, all-dancing extravaganza. David demonstrated how to manipulate marionettes, rod, glove and finger puppets from around the world, culminating in a dazzling finale.



Not only did students thoroughly enjoy the performance as they were immersed in drama and visual arts, they also were encouraged to think critically and creatively about the art of puppet making.

P&C News – Our annual P&C Mothers day stall was held earlier this month and through the fantastic support from our Fitzgerald families it was a roaring success. With approximately \$5500 profit raised the P&C will look at re-investing this money back into the school community by supplying resources back into our classrooms.

Thank you to our Mothers' Day Stall helpers – Jenny McLaughlin, Cheryl Vella, Katrina Branch, Kim Moore, Lill Morecroft, Maryanne Villalba, Tracey Laird, Lenore Dobbie, Donna West, Rick Anderson, Meichelle Williams, Michelle Barbeler, Lyndal Orchard and Antoinette James. Winners of the Mothers Day Raffle -

1st Tahlia Pierce 4B

2nd Nixon Fiori 4A

3rd Josh Vickers 6C

Thanks again

Kerri Sheehan, P&C President.

Woolworths Earn and Learn – Keep those sticker cards coming in everyone! Last count today, we have 2600 points accrued already for our school to obtain free resources. For example, already we have enough to buy 5 sets of 6 x 2 L paints for the classrooms. It's only been two weeks! Wow! Thanks for supporting us!

Library News - Thank you to all families at Fitzgerald. Our Book Fair was very successful and our Library has benefited to the tune of \$1,500!



Our next Fair will be held in November.

Learning Literacy – Speaking to Reading by Sue Hamilton-Smith, NP Literacy Coach. Spoken language formalises the language in our heads. Spoken language helps us to communicate our thinking. Spoken language is the foundation of literacy. British educationalist, James Britton said, "Reading and writing float on a sea of talk." Talk to your children, get them talking, share your stories, read books. Expand their vocabulary; add to their knowledge and understanding of the world and their sense of how language works. Encourage your child's thinking by giving them a good listening to. A child's competence in spoken language greatly influences how quickly and successfully they learn to read. Unlike spoken language,

reading is not a natural ability. There is no part of the brain that is ‘hot-wired’ for reading acquisition. The human brain is not born with the insight to make sound-to-letter connections, nor does it develop without implicit and explicit instruction. For many children, learning to read can be hard work, requiring time, effort, motivation as well as sound instructional practices, support and encouragement. The only way to become a reader is to read and good readers read more widely and read more often.

Sample Questions from the 2012 NAPLAN Tests – Year 3 Numeracy –

Each new number in this pattern is made by adding together the 2 numbers before it.

?, 16, 23, 39

What is the first number?

Year 5 Numeracy –

A teacher has 9 packets of crayons.

There are 6 crayons in each small packet.

There are 10 crayons in each large packet.

The teacher has 3 small packets.

How many crayons does he have altogether?

Year 7 Numeracy –

Dale is a beekeeper.

The mass of 500 Millilitres of Dale’s honey is 700 grams.

How many litres is 3.5 kilograms of Dale’s honey?

Answers available in our next newsletter.

From the Classes –

6A & 6C - Blue / Green screen photography is an impressive and exciting form of media to help create sensational and at times unbelievable photographs. As part of this Term’s Year 6 Unit of Work, 6C participated in a Student Channel session and shared their new found knowledge with 6A – Mrs O’Connor’s class. Together we created a variety of great advertisements to sell products or destinations as a part of our assessment.



Both classes photographed each other and removed the blue background leaving only our bodies; we were then able to superimpose ourselves into various places, making it look as though we are truly at that particular destination. Using our

knowledge of multi modal media we were able to add slogans to sell, sell, and sell products!

6C & 1D - Mrs Johnston’s beautiful Year 1 Class was treated to a wonderful morning of reading and song last Wednesday morning. Year 6C, are lucky enough to have a CQ University student Ms Van Rooyen, working with them and invited Year 1 to come and share the books they have written to help support them to achieve their



reading goal of knowing the “5 Reading Strategies “or our “Reading Star”. 6C wrote on line stories using Storybird.com and both classes created a shared story together, very soon we will publish these stories in an

edStudio on The Learning Place so that all of the Year 1’s are able to read the stories written by their friends in Year 6 and stories written together.

This session focussed on reinforcing the importance of reading and using their reading strategies through song and online learning.

Sports Notices -

Rugby League - On Friday 4th May Fitzgerald participated in the ARL Development Cup, the team came 4th out of 10 teams. After advancing to the semi-finals, the team was knocked out of the competition by Eimeo Road. Well done boys. Recent scores in the John Paap Shield have been 6-30 against Eimeo Road, 0-34 against Slade Point and 14-12 against St Mary’s. The team is certainly improving week to week.

Mackay Soccer - Congratulations to Declan Wheeler and Courtney Sleeman who have been recently selected in the Mackay soccer team. Declan and Courtney will now travel to Central Valleys to participate in the Capricornia trials.

Capricornia Hockey - A big congratulations to Christy Anderson and Shaye-Lee Simonsen who have been selected in the girls Capricornia Hockey Team. The girls will now travel to Townsville for the State Trials.

Mackay Cross Country - Well done to Connor Laycock, Lily Tarlinton, Mitchell Cheetham, Nicolas Morokutti and Abby Cryer who recently participated in the Mackay Cross Country trials as part of the Northern Suburbs Team. Congratulations to Nicolas who finished 3rd in the trials and will now attend the Capricornia Trials.

Year 6 Eco Group - This week is Education Week and on Monday May 21, all year six students were educated about the correct way to set up and maintain a worm farm. The talk was conducted by Shelly from Bunnings who generously donated the worm



farm and worms for our Bio-Diversity Sustainable Schools Program at Fitzgerald School. We now know what to, and what not to feed our worms, the best location to set them up and how to look after them. The worm farm will supply valuable fertilizer for our three vegetable gardens and passionfruit vines which were established this term. We also anticipate selling this fertilizer to our community when we have a surplus supply.

Did you know?

The worms favourite food is porridge; cooked oats in water without the sugar and milk.

Mrs Brunke and Year 6 Eco Group

Tuckshop Talk – Help is needed for our tuckshop roster. If you can spare a couple of hours on these days it would be greatly appreciated.

Roster – 24/05 Gerri Nolan, HELP NEEDED 25/05 Aretha Lyon, HELP NEEDED 29/05 Cath Kean 30/05 HELP NEEDED 31/05 Gerri Nolan, HELP NEEDED 01/06 Cheryl Vella, Kerri Sheehan 05/06 Cath Kean 06/06 HELP NEEDED

Thank you

Daneal and Antoinette.

Safety – **Scoters and Skateboards** are not required at school. Parents please support staff by having your children keep these personal items at home.