

From the Principal's Desk

Dates for your 2012 Diary....
June 7-8 – School Photos
June 12 – P&C Meeting
June 12-13 – Bike Ed for 4A&4B
June 13 - Fanfare
June 13 – Junior Athletics Carnival
June 15 - Senior Athletics Carnival
June 18-19 Bike Education for 4C
June 20 – Report Cards Released
June 21 – Student Free Day (Mackay Show Holiday)

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.**

Pauls Collect-A-Cap.
Pauls donates 10c for each cap. If you purchase Pauls milk please send your caps into the office. It is an easy fundraiser for the school.

With school photographs to be taken on Thursday and Friday of this week it is an opportune time to remind our students of the need to wear the correct school uniform. In winter the correct colour for jackets or windcheaters is royal blue and the footwear is fully enclosed lace up shoes.

Year seven students received enrolment information for 2013 to Mackay North High School. Application for enrolment forms are to be forwarded direct to the High School Office for processing. Applications for Academic, Sporting or Cultural Scholarships to North High are to be forwarded to the Fitzgerald School Office by Monday 18th June for endorsement.

A reminder that our report cards for semester one are to be released on Wednesday 20th June. Teachers will be reporting on student achievements gained from the new Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics and Science. For some students this could have a significance for academic performance from 2011 to 2012. If as parents you have any questions about progress please see your teacher.

Well done to our Debating Team members Reanna Quinn, Romy McLean, Pratibha Raut, Lillian Kajewski and Jade McLennan who have reached the district semi-final stage. The team debates the topic "Olympics are a waste of money" on Thursday night.

Going home with this newsletter is an insert advertising our new and improved school website. The website goes live from Thursday. A big thank you to Karen Whittaker, our Deputy who has been instrumental in getting this site functional.

Athletics Carnivals are set down for June 13 - Prep to Year 2 and June 15 - Year 3 to Year 7. Further particulars on these days to follow.

Our monthly P&C Meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th June at 5:30pm in the staffroom, all welcome to attend.

Just a reminder that the Show Holiday is on Thursday 21 June, a student free day for our teachers. It is an expectation from our school that all students will attend school on Friday 22nd June.

Enjoy your week.



Mike Anderson
Principal.

Staff Profile – Jillian Stolberg

Hello, my name is Jillian Stolberg and I am currently teaching year 3A one day a week with Ms. Claire Thompson. This is my first year at Fitzgerald as I have returned from leave after spending time at home with my three children. Prior to arriving at Fitzgerald I taught at Emerald's Capricornia School of Distance Education (School of the Air) and in Moranbah and Dysart primary schools. I am enjoying being part of the teaching staff of Fitzgerald and connecting with the students within my class. On the weekends I love spending time in my garden, bike riding and boating with my family.



Foyer News – 3A & 3B

Year 3's have enjoyed exploring many science concepts through our 'Spinning in Space' unit. We have learnt that the Sun, Earth and Moon belong to our Solar System and explored their size by using play dough. We discussed how our Earth spins on its axis, giving us day and night and completed lots of activities with torches (which acted as our sun) to show how this occurs. In doing this, we found that the moon itself doesn't produce light. We also spent time investigating shadows and measured the length and direction of shadows throughout the day. Fortunately we were able to observe a partial lunar eclipse this week. We have had fun exploring all of the scientific facts through our very hands-on 'Spinning in Space' unit.



Education Queensland Media Release – Every Day Counts

- The holidays are fast approaching. While it may be tempting to let your child stay at home for the last day, or even the last week of term, our school would prefer to see every child on every day of term. We strongly believe children need to attend school everyday to receive the most benefits from their education. Did you realise that skipping the last day of every term adds up to more than a whole term of schooling missed throughout a child's education? Skipping a whole week of school each term means your child will miss more than 15 months of their education! For further information on the importance of regular school attendance, please visit www.education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/posters.html.

2012 Premier's Reading Challenge -

One of the most important skills we can give to our young people is a love of literacy. Books encourage an active imagination, cultivate a passion for literature and provide benefits that will assist young people throughout their life, regardless of their chosen career. That's why I am pleased to invite students at **Fitzgerald State School** to take part in the 2012 Premier's Reading Challenge.

The Premier's Reading Challenge is a state-wide initiative for all Queensland state and non-state school students from Prep to Year 7. The challenge aims to help your child's learning by boosting the number of books read and encouraging more challenging texts.

The Premier is challenging all Queensland primary school students to read or experience an allocated number of books for their reading level between 22 May and 7 September 2012. Prep to Year 2 students are challenged to read or experience 20 books. Experiencing books can include listening to stories, shared reading or reading picture books. Students in Years 3 to 4 are challenged to read 20 books, while students in Years 5-7 are challenged to read 15 books. Every child who meets the challenge will be presented with a certificate signed by the Premier to recognise their achievement.

I encourage you to visit the Premier's Reading Challenge website at www.education.qld.gov.au/schools/reading_challenge/ for further information on the Challenge.

I look forward to a large number of our students engaging wholeheartedly in the 2012 Premier's Reading Challenge.

Wakakirri – Wakakirri is coming along quickly and we are now looking for certain items to embellish the costumes.

Could you please send in:

- Washed out chip packets
- Clean softdrink bottles (all sizes)
- Milk bottle tops
- Clean ice cream containers
- Unwanted neckties
- Unwanted lace curtains
- Unwanted costume jewellery
- Old umbrellas
- Unwanted beads
- Unwanted zipties (all colours and sizes)

Thank you for the donations we have already received and please keep collecting over the holidays.

Kirsty Mawer

Costume Coordinator.

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 Romy McLean, Alexandra Westcott, Tamara Dobbie, Zak Starr and Ben Davies as one team and Jeremy Rees, Cooper Lewis, Hayden Ede, May-Lee Wilson and Dana Costigan as the other team. Our students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and represented Fitzgerald SS proudly.

A Message About Cybersafety and Cyberbullying –

An electronic copy of the guide can be found on the Student Services website at: <http://education.qld.gov.au/student-services/behaviour/qsaa/v-info-parents.html>

Woolworths Earn and Learn – Keep those sticker cards coming in everyone! Last count today, we have over 10 000 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. Thanks for supporting us! What an awesome effort. Keep them coming!

Learning Literacy – 'The Power of Persuasion' by Sue Hamilton-Smith, Literacy Coach Our Fitzgerald team compete in the semi finals of the interschool debating competition against Victoria Park State School #2 at 6.00pm this Thursday 7 July at St Joseph's Catholic School. The topic is that 'Olympics are a waste of money'. This week's team is Reanna Quinn, Romy McLean and Pratibha Raut and the reserve debaters are Lillian Kajewski and Jade McLennan. The debates have learnt so much over the term, lessons that will assist them in their future schooling and working lives: team work, research and organisational skills, working to deadlines, active listening, quick thinking, speaking with confidence and

most of all the power of words to inform, entertain and persuade.

Readers' Cup Competition - Fitzgerald State School hosted the Children's Book Council of Australia Readers' Cup regional competition on Wednesday evening, 6 June. The Readers' Cup aims to foster a love of reading, challenges students to read widely and work collaboratively. Readers' Cup teams of four students, plus a reserve, are required to read five books. Fitzgerald team members are: Romy McLean, Lillian Kajewski, Eden Whittaker, Brianna McLaughlin and Jade MacLannan. The competition requires the teams to answer three rounds of 10 quiz questions, there being two questions from each of the five books. The winning team receives a new set of books to read and travels to Brisbane to compete at the state finals in Brisbane in September. Thank-you to Mrs Laurel Shaw for coordinating the competition, to Mrs Sue Hamilton-Smith for comparing the event and to judges, Mrs Helen Page of the Mackay Library Services and to Mrs Margaret Spillman of Mackay West State School.

Did you get the answers right for the sample questions from the 2012 NAPLAN Tests –

Year 3 Numeracy – What is the first number?

ANSWER - 7

Year 5 Numeracy – How many crayons does he have altogether?

ANSWER - 78

Year 7 Numeracy – How many litres is 3.5 kilograms of Dale's honey?

ANSWER – 2.5L

From the Classes –

Science in Prep - Our Prep classes have been studying the properties of materials including plastic, wood, metal, glass and paper etc. They then had to choose the appropriate materials and objects to make a Wind Chime. The children had success because they chose things that were waterproof, made a noise and moved in the wind. What fantastic Wind Chimes Preps and a great use of recycled goods too!



Under 8's week – Stories from Year 2D



Today we had under 8's day and it was sensational because there was fun activities. Neah and I were together and my favourite part was making the puppet. Neah and I went to the balloon making and it was in Mr K's class and it was so much fun. I

liked everything that I went to. I went to year1 and Prep. It was the best thing of my life. Sophia Sticklan.

I had an awesome time because I played with the blocks and the puppets. The thing I liked best of all is the squishy beanbags. I liked the balloons and in Prep I loved the blocks and bowling. It made me cry because it was so fun. I didn't like it when it was over but I still had a good day.

Ethan Carter.



World Environmental Day – 6B - Tuesday June 5 was World Environmental Day. To acknowledge this special event Year 6B, Mrs Brunke's class participated in rotational activities which included; the completion of an information

worksheet, making an environmental chatterbox, planting vegetables, the removal of weeds from our gardens, making paper mulch for our worm farm, distributing labelled scrap buckets to all eating areas, picking up litter around our school and watching a video clip on 'Products that Harm the Environment'.

Sports Notices –

Mackay Touch Football – Congratulations to Emmerson Rebetzke and Ben Vella who have been selected in the Mackay Touch Football team. Ben and Emmerson will now compete in the Capricornia trials. Well Done.

Schoolboys Rugby League - Unfortunately the last 2 games have seen the team come up against some very strong opponents. The results were 8-14 against Mackay West with Declan Laird and Reece Del Simone scoring the team's tries. The other game resulted in the team going down 4-30 against a very strong St Francis Team. It is good to see the team really trying each week and improving each game.

Mackay Softball - Congratulations to Kiera James and Riley James who have been selected in the Mackay softball team. Kiera and Riley will now travel to Rockhampton for the Capricornia trials. Best of luck, and well done on your achievements.

Tuckshop Talk –

Junior Sports Day – Wednesday 13th June P-2. Tuckshop will operate normally. Students in P-2 will order their tuckshop as normal and Morning Tea will be collected and taken to the oval. Students will be back in class for Big Lunch. **Senior Sports Day – Friday 15th June 3-7.** Tuckshop will not be operating for P-2. Students in Years 3-7 should pre-order their tuckshop using the special menu which will come home shortly. Orders should be returned with payment by Tuesday 12th June. On the day tuckshop will be delivered to the house tents on the oval.

There will be a catering tent operating on the oval for the Junior and Senior Sports Days for your convenience. Donations of home baked goods would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the catering tent. We are looking for volunteers to help serve in the tent. If you can spare just an hour this will help things to run smoothly. Either contact the tuckshop convenors or leave your name at the office if you can assist and nominate the day that you can help out.

Roster – Thurs 7/6 Geri Nolan, Tracey Laird **Fri 8/6** Aretha Lyon, Leanne Thompson **Tues 12/6** Cathy Kean **Wed 13/6** Cindy Lawn, Help Needed **Thurs 14/6** Geri Nolan, Janelle Newsome **Tues 19/6** Cathy Kean, Julie Dowe

Thank you
Daneal and Antoinette.

Community Notices –

2013 Scholarships – Mackay State High School

Year 7 students are invited to apply for one of eight Scholarships. Each scholarship provides the recipient with free tuition, \$500 towards School Resource Scheme, Uniforms and equipment as well as free entry to ICAS Academic Competitions in Year 8. Applications for Academic, Sporting and Arts/Cultural Scholarships will be available to interested students and their families from Mackay State High School's office. Students may apply for more than one scholarship type. Applications must be submitted by 8th June 2012. For further information speak to Steve Paulger Principal, Mackay SHS on 07 4957 9179.

NAIDOC Quest & Awards Evening for 2012 – Saturday June 23rd, 2012 at PCYC just off Norris Road Mackay. Crowning of Mr and Miss NAIDOC 10-14 years and 15-17 Years. Nomination Forms available at the school office. For further information contact Tracie Carmichael, Mackay PCYC, 0400838742.