Welcome to Term 4 both returning and commencing families where we are focussed on

- Every Student Succeeding
- Every Teacher Effective and
- Every Person Safe, Valued and Well

While we are still working under restricted Operating Guidelines in response to COVID19, we are working to ensure that students come out of 2020 having had the opportunity to participate in as many regular schooling opportunities as possible. This term Year 6 students will go to Kinchant Dam for a day of personal development activities, students who play an instrument, sing in a choir or participate in drama group will perform at Twilight Concerts, Spectacular is going ahead all be it in a heavily modified manner and our students will still get to participate in bump up afternoon to name a few activities. We appreciate our school parent community's understanding in working with us to ensure that these events can go ahead.

Parent / Teacher Interviews are being held this year for the majority of classes between the 19th and 30th of October. (Your child’s teacher will contact you if they need to schedule these at other times.) To book in to see your child’s teacher, please follow the directions below to select a date and time. Parent / Teacher interviews this semester will be conducted either by telephone or by Skype and will be 15 minutes in duration. Please contact your child’s teacher if you have significant concerns requiring a longer interview.
We are currently developing the Fitzgerald Student Code of Conduct which will replace the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students, Statement of Expectations and the Code of School Behaviour.

It will be the school’s behaviour policy outlining expected behaviour and responses and the whole school approach to discipline, with information about school rules, consequences, processes for addressing bullying and the responsible use of technology and critical incident management. It will include references to the following DOE revised policies and procedures:

- Student discipline
- Temporary removal of student property by school staff
- Refusal to enrol—risk to safety or wellbeing
- Cancellation of enrolment
- Restrictive practices

If you would like to contribute towards the shaping of this document, I would like to invite you to a parent and community consultation session to be held on Monday the 19th of October between 3.15pm and 4.30pm in the school hall. Please contact the school office to register your interest in this session.

We will also have opportunities for parents who are not able to make this session to provide feedback on various aspects of the Code of Conduct via surveys throughout the term.

Earlier this week, I received the results of the Pulse Survey in which all parents, students in Years 4 - 6 and staff members were invited to participate in at the end of Term 2. We will be holding 2 parent and community consultation sessions to look at the results in depth and to plan for future school improvement on Monday the 9th of November between 3.15 and 4.30pm and Wednesday the 11th of November between 9.30am and 11.30am. If you would like to be part of either one of these sessions, please contact the school to register your interest and to allow for catering purposes.
We are rapidly approaching the end of the school year and need to look at staffing for the 2021 school year. Please let the office know if your children will not be returning to Fitzgerald in 2021.

Similarly, if you have any information concerning your child’s educational or social needs that might assist us when planning class placements for 2021, please contact the Principal in writing by Friday 6th November. Place this information in a sealed envelope marked ‘Class Placement’. Please note that this is not to be a request for a particular teacher.

Interviews for families interested in sending their child to Fitzgerald for 2021 will occur throughout Term 4. If you know of any interested families, please have them contact the school to arrange an interview.

On Friday the 23rd of October, children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character or a book character that represents the theme of Curious Creatures, Wild Minds. All costumes must adhere to sunsafe policies, children are to wear enclosed shoes and there are to be no inappropriately short or revealing costumes to be worn. Children who do not choose to dress up are asked to wear school uniform. Due to social
distancing requirements for parents, this is a student only event, however we will be posting photos on Facebook throughout the day.

Travelling safely to school – We have had a number of concerned community members contact the school over the start of this term regarding unsafe behaviour of children from Fitzgerald on bikes and scooters. These children have not been aware of the traffic and have crossed roads and busy driveways without checking for cars. If your child walks or scoots to school, please talk with them about the road rules and if using a footpath to be considerate of others using the path as well.

Regards

Tracey Adams -Principal

Foyer Display

As part of 6C and 6D’s Term 3 Reading Response task, students were asked to create a comic strip based on their chosen mystery novels. Throughout the year, Year 6 students have enjoyed spending time with their prep
buddies. We have been practicing reading, writing, making and creating all while making new friends and forming great connections. We love our Buddies!!!

From the office

Student Fee Update
Student activities this term will include: Spectacular $14, Year 6 Excursion $35.50, and Graduation Dinner ($ to be advised). Statements were sent home last week. All school fees were due prior to the end of Term 3. If payments have not been received, student participation in end of year activities will be affected.

All fees must be paid before costumes will be purchased for Spectacular, please advise if your child is not participating.

Should you be experiencing financial hardship please contact the school immediately to arrange a suitable payment plan.

Student Absence Line
Parents, a reminder that you can SMS our school absence line at any time. This service can be used for past, present and future absences or late arrivals. Once you have sent your SMS, the school will receive this message. The number is 0426 305 678. You will not need to use QParents or the school absence line once you have SMS the school. Please save this number into your phone.

If your student needs to be picked up early from class for an appointment, please call the office and your student will be waiting for you in the office foyer, please do not go to the classroom as this will interrupt classroom learning.

If your student is late for school, please come to the office for a late slip.

Please ensure your contact details are up to date, to ensure effective communication.

Due to new Education Queensland requirements direct deposits to the bank account, payments over the phone and credit card details given via paper can no longer be accepted.

The new payment options are as follows:

• Payment through Bpoint or Qparents using the invoice details on your debtor statement
• Payment in person at Front Office counter
• Cash payment in envelope with student details placed in deposit box in Office Foyer

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Dates to Remember
October 18th – 23rd
Book Week
Book Week Parade
October 28th
Twilight Concert
October 29th
Twilight Concert
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 30th</td>
<td>World Teachers' Day</td>
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<td>October 30th</td>
<td>Day for Daniel</td>
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<td>November 2nd</td>
<td>6A &amp; 6B Kinchant Dam Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 3rd</td>
<td>6C &amp; 6D Kinchant Dam Excursion</td>
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<td>November 10th</td>
<td>Year 3 Safety Circus</td>
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<td>November 10th</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 5:00pm</td>
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<td>November 11th</td>
<td>Y6 Spectacular performance</td>
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<td>November 12th</td>
<td>Y6 Spectacular performance session 2</td>
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<td>November 18th</td>
<td>Prep &amp; Year 2 Spectacular performance</td>
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<td>November 19th</td>
<td>Year 1 &amp; 3 Spectacular performance</td>
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<td>November 20th</td>
<td>Year 4 &amp; 5 Spectacular performance</td>
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<td>November 30th</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation dinner</td>
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<td>December 4th</td>
<td>Year 6 Social Dance</td>
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<td>December 7th</td>
<td>Year 3 – 6 Awards Parade</td>
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<td>December 7th</td>
<td>2021 Class Orientation Afternoon</td>
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<td>December 8th</td>
<td>Prep – Yr 2 Break up day – Waterslides</td>
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<td>December 8th</td>
<td>Awards Night – School Hall</td>
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<td>December 9th</td>
<td>Year 6 Break up day excursion</td>
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<td>December 9th</td>
<td>Year 3-5 Break up day – Waterslides</td>
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<td>December 9th</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 10th</td>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 11th</td>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 27th</td>
<td>First day of Term 1 2021</td>
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**P&C News**

Welcome back to our last term of school for 2020! What a year! We have lots of exciting things happening in term 4:

1. Uniforms - At this stage we are all on track for our new uniforms to be available for the 2021 school year.

2. Picture Plates - Thank you to all those families who ordered picture plates and cups, which are expected to have arrive during week 8 or week 9 of this term.

3. Sushi Day - We are having a Sushi Day on Monday 26 October, 2020. A note with all details will be circulated shortly.

4. Dumpling Fundraiser - This term we will be holding a dumpling fundraiser, which will be run similar to pie-drive. Families can purchase locally made dumplings from Bings, in a number of flavours, for you to be able to cook at home. Please keep an eye on an note which will be circulated shortly detailing prices and order details.
5. Survey - Thank you to all those families who have completed our current survey regarding feedback to our P&C. There is still time for those to complete it as we welcome all your feedback.

6. Drain Buddy - We have recently been able to install a drain buddy with in our school. We are only the second school within Mackay to be able to do this. The drain allows us to collect waste before it washes into the drains and then out to the ocean. Once installed a rubbish audit will be conducted and we can detail exactly how much waste we have stopped from entering our waterways.

7. Lastly we will be running a competition over the whole of this school term to coincide with bookweek celebrations. We have a $10.00 Tuckshop vouchcr to give away, one for each year level, to the child who loans the most books from our school library in term 4. Enjoy reading!

Unfortunately we will be unable to hold our Christmas Carols this year due to Covid restrictions, but of course we are hoping that this and many other great events will be back in 2021.

Tuckshop News

With only 8 weeks of school left we are in need of volunteers. Please consider helping even if its only for a couple of hours. Any help is greatly appreciated.

Roster:-

**Thursday 15th October**: Dale K, Robyn Adams

**Friday 16th October**: Alarna Gala, Debbie Adams, Robyn Adams

**Tuesday 20th October**: Dale K, HELP NEEDED

**Wednesday 21st October**: Dale K, Robyn Adams

**Thursday 22nd October**: Alarna Gala, Dale K, Robyn Adams

**Friday 23rd October**: Emma Cullen, Robyn Adams, HELP NEEDED

**Tuesday 27th October**: Dale K, HELP NEEDED.

Thank you Antoinette.
Dear Parents and Families,

The Book Fair will be at our school as of next Monday 19th October! This year’s Book Fair will be different from anything we have experienced here at Fitzgerald! Our theme for our Online Only Book Fair aligns with this year’s CBCA Book Week theme - Curious Creatures, Wild Minds! We have a blizzard of books heading our way and are very excited to host our first Online Only Book Fair!

Our school’s Book Fair is a terrific place for a child to see, find and purchase books essential for their reading progress. Once your child finds that-just right book, they will complete their Student Wish List during their classes viewing session (Student Wish Lists will be handed out during this time). The Student Wish List is a take-home form that allows your child to write down titles they are interested in, then bring home to share their excitement and discoveries with you. Once you and your child have selected a book or books, all you need to do is go to https://parentpayments.scholastic.com.au/BookFairs to make your payment.

Your child will then return this form with the receipt number to collect their books from the fair to have at home to enjoy. We will also be sending home a flier with your child with only a small selection of titles this week.

**When:** Monday 19th October Viewing Sessions for classes - Friday 23rd October

Books will be in our Library from Monday 19th – Friday 23rd October for students to view and collected purchased books.

(Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, we will not be holding traditional Book Fair operating times)

Once our books and trinkets have arrived, we will place images and prices of what is available on our Facebook page for your easy viewing.

Don’t forget to dress up on Friday as your favourite book character!

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**Library News**

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**Grounds News**

Last Thursday, the friendly men from the CleanWater Group installed the first ‘internal’ school Drain Buddy in the Mackay Region. Thanks to the P&C, Fitzgerald students now have the opportunity to collect data, analyse it and monitor rubbish issues that we have as a collective, especially within the Year 4/5 eating area. The Drain Buddy was installed due to constant amounts of rubbish being found within our school drains. As a school, we decided...
that we needed an effective and cost-efficient way to reduce this rubbish being washed or blown down stormwater drains into the ocean leading to the destruction of marine animals and their habitats. We look forward to collecting data in the coming weeks and will work on ways to slow the problem down. Drains around the school will also be stencilled and artwork added with positive messages to remind students that “All Drains lead to the Ocean.”
now accepting Prep Enrolments for 2021

To book for an interview please call 0749656 333 or email principal@fitzgeraldss.com.au
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Homework Program

Fitzgerald State School would like to welcome parents and caregivers of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to weekly afternoon homework sessions. Fitzgerald teachers and teacher aides will be there to support your child to complete their homework tasks. We would love to see you accompany your child throughout these sessions. COVID restrictions and guidelines will be in place to ensure the safety of parents, students and staff.

When: Every Wednesday starting Week 2 14/10/2020
Finishing - Week 8 25/11/2020

Time: 3:10pm - 4:00pm
Where: Library laptop space
Cost: No cost
Bring: Homework tasks and reading book
Contact: Jacqui Bird - jbird84@eq.edu.au

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Playgroup at Fitzgerald 2020

Playgroup is starting again this week –
Thursday 6th August 1.30-2.30pm

Fitzgerald SS Playgroup is now operating on a new day and time and with a new

Playgroup team- Paula Pierotti (Teacher) and Lisa Ware (Teacher Aide)

Young children and their caregivers are invited to meet in the Fitzgerald State School hall 1:30pm- 2:30pm each Thursday afternoon to play, learn and connect with others.

When? Every Thursday afternoon (1.30-2.30pm)

Who is invited? Any bubs, toddlers and before school aged children accompanied by their parents, grandparents or caregivers. Prams welcome.

Where: Fitzgerald State School Hall

What will the cost be? Free

Please do not attend if you have any cold or flu symptoms.
Day for Daniel
Friday 30 October, 2020

This October, schools, parents, carers, businesses and the community are uniting to keep kids safe.

WEAR RED • EDUCATE • DONATE

To raise funds for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation, we are holding a wear Red Day, Friday 30th October 2020.

Please bring with you a gold coin donation.

Please note – Safety requirements within the school dress code still apply Hats and closed in shoes need to be worn.
THE NEXT GENERATION
RUGBY LEAGUE CLINIC
BOYS & GIRLS 6-12
WEDS 21 OCT
MACKAY JUNIORS RLC

430PM - Registrations open
Includes coaching by local Mackay Cutters Curtains players, WRL, and a Hastings Deering forty pitch.
This invitation is open to boys & girls aged 6-12 years old. Spaces are limited, register now!

REGISTER NOW!

FREE!

MACKAY CRICKET
Join the fun!
2020 GIRLS ONLY PROGRAMS - MACKAY
MCA JUNIOR GIRLS ONLY CRICKET PATHWAY

POP UP BLAST
LEARNING THE SKILLS
AGE 5-12
DURATION 3 HOURS
GAME DAY FRIDAY
FULL GAME-BASED ACTIVITIES
QUALIFYING SKILL ALL GIRLS COMPETITION
QUALIFYING SKILL BEST JUNIOR BLASTERS

REGISTER NOW!
Visit playcricket.com.au to find your closest club!

MACKAY GYMNASTICS INVITES YOU TO OUR
2020 SPOOKTACULAR

CHILDREN $5 EACH
PRIMARY AGE (PREP GRADE 6)
OCTOBER 30, 2020
6:30 - 9:30 PM
5 SNOW WRIGHT CRT
BEACONSFIELD
COVID SAFE PLAN - CANTEN OPEN
DRINKS, SNACKS, GLOW STICKS FOR SALE
PARENTS CAN BRING CHILDREN IN, PAY ENTRY FEE, LEAVE THEM WITH SOME MONEY AND HAVE SOME QUIET TIME BEFORE RETURNING BACK BY PICK UP TIME TO COLLECT CHILDREN FROM INSIDE

BROTHERS CC: Wed 14th Oct - South Mackay
MAGPIES CC: Program Running in TL 2021 - Garavilla
MARTINS CC: Program Running in TL 2021 - Northern Beaches
PIONEER VALLEY CC: Fri 11th Oct - Whitsunday
SARINA CC: Wed 14th Oct - Sarina
SOUTH CC: Thurs 22nd Oct - South Mackay
WALKERSTON CC: Thurs 22nd Oct - Walkerston