This week is State Education Week and it is an opportunity to celebrate all that is great in state education. This week we celebrate the incredible achievements of our staff, students and wonderful school communities.

On Friday celebrations continue as we mark World Teachers’ Day. A day to thank Queensland teachers for the important role they play across the state – inside our classrooms and out in the community. This year they have gone above and beyond learning to use new technology, checking in with families during the Learning at Home period, reworking units of work to align with concepts during Learning at Home, planning for differentiated learning to occur within classes to cater for all children and supporting children across social and emotional domains as well. Teaching is a complex job and it requires teachers to be facilitators of learning, councillors, mediators, detectives, problem solvers, mentors, motivational speakers, entertainers, and creative thinkers just to name a few. This week, I would encourage you to thank a teacher for all that they do.

Late last week, I was notified that three Fitzgerald students achieved scholarships to Mackay North State High School. Congratulations to the following students, we are extremely proud of your achievement.

Maddison Ebert – Academic Scholarship

Ludinda Grieger – Cultural Scholarship

Nate Frost – Sporting Scholarship
We also take the opportunity during Education Week to thank our school parent volunteers. We know that the opportunities to volunteer this year have been few and far between, however we have had parents volunteering in the tuckshop, in the classroom (prior to March) and helping our teachers out with concert preparation. On Monday the 30th of November at 2pm, we will be holding an afternoon tea to celebrate our parent volunteers. We would invite any parent volunteer to attend this celebration which will be held in the school hall. Please let the office staff know if you will be attending this afternoon tea.

Last Friday we held our annual Book Week Celebration Day where we celebrated all things reading. There were plenty of colourful costumes on the day and the children and teachers all enjoyed the opportunity to dress up and discuss the books and stories their characters came from.
This week we are pleased to be able to invite a small number of parents in to the school to celebrate the learning of the students in the cultural fields of choral work, dramatic arts and Instrumental music. These are the first performances that the children have been able to participate in this year due to the restrictions around COVID-19 and while we are still restricted in the numbers allowed in the hall, we wanted to ensure that the children were able to have at least one performance this year.

Spectacular ticketing forms have gone out with students in the last week. We are holding Spectacular in the school hall due to the Department of Education Operating Guidelines which has excluded performances occurring at external venues. We have calculated space within the hall based on the required social distancing protocols to calculate the number of audience members each show can support. As such we are restricting first round of ticketing to immediate family members (Parents and siblings). If numbers support, we will release further tickets after this. We thank you for your understanding in this matter. Please ensure that you get your ticketing forms back to the office prior to the 3rd of November.

Prep transition sessions have started this term with the 2021 Prep students attending the school to familiarise themselves with the school environment. All six groups have had the opportunity to come into our school where we have had lots of fun getting to know our future students and look forward to the remaining sessions.

School enrolment interviews for children in Years 1 – 6 in the 2021 school year have commenced. If you are aware of families wishing to attend Fitzgerald please have them contact the school office to arrange an interview.

Enrolment Intention forms were sent out last fortnight. Please fill these out and return them with your intentions for your students for the 2021 school year. This information helps us to plan for teaching staff and classes for next year which in turn will allow us to start next year with the best class set up that we are able to.

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.

Day for Daniel – This Friday the 30th of October, we will particiate in the Day for Daniel. Students are invited to wear a red shirt with their regular school uniform bottom. During this day we highlight the importance of child safety, in children being where the ir parents expect them to be, using the route home that is expected and not accepti ng lifts or treats from strangers.

NAIDOC Celebrations – We will be holding our NAIDOC celebrations between the 9th and the 13th of November. We will joining with other schools and organisations across the region to participate in a virtual flag raising ceremony. This will be uploaded to our Facebook site. Students will also participate in several activities across multiple Learning Areas related to the Yuwi language, traditional games and cultural activities.

McHappy Day Fundraiser – This year we have had a request by a family from our school to sell socks for McHappy Day. This family have had a close connection to the Ronald McDonald House charity due to an illness suffered by one of their children. Between the 9th and the 11th of November we will have students out the front of the office every morning selling these socks for families who would like to participate.

Student Code of Conduct – As mentioned in the last newsletter, we are currently working on the Fitzgerald Student Code of Conduct which will come into effect next year. We will be sending parents emails across the coming weeks asking for your feedback regarding aspects of our school Student Code of Conduct.

Regards

Tracey Adams -Principal
In English, 4C & 4D students are having lots of fun playing with words in poetry. They are also becoming ‘inferential’ thinkers when deconstructing texts to make meaning. In Science, they are learning about contact and non-contact forces and are looking forward to creating their own, “60 Second Slam” game. Our foyer display also demonstrates what talented artists we have. Students used ‘found’ objects to construct a 3D creation.

**Foyer Display**

Scooters – We have seen an increase in inappropriate behaviour associated with children riding scooters to school. Several children are insisting on riding their scooters in school grounds treating the surrounds as a skate park. As late as this week, a couple of boys have been riding their scooters along the footpaths outside of the school, after first entering the school grounds. It also seems that a required accessory for a scooter is the cap. Caps are not part of the school uniform and are to be put in school bags prior to entering the school grounds. If your child rides a scooter to school, please reinforce the rules at home and the safety concerns of leaving the school grounds.

As per the Student Resource Scheme, all school fees must be paid in order for students to participate in the Spectacular Concert, and the end of year activities.

Should you be experiencing financial hardship please contact the school to arrange a suitable payment plan.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 29th</td>
<td>Twilight Concert</td>
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<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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<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>Parent Volunteer Afternoon Tea</td>
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<td>December 7th</td>
<td>Year 6 Social Dance</td>
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<td>December 7th</td>
<td>Free Dress Day – Christmas Theme</td>
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<td>December 7th</td>
<td>Year 3 – 6 Awards Parade</td>
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<td>December 8th</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 9th</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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<td>January 27th</td>
<td>Last day of Term 4 2020</td>
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<td>First day of Term 1 2021</td>
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**P&C News**

We hope all children and staff enjoyed our Sushi Day on Monday. A big thank you of course to our volunteers for helping pack the orders, and to Noodle & Sushi Paradise who provided the delicious sushi.

Hopefully now everyone has received their 2020 booklists. Each booklist order places with either supplier, provides a rebate direct back to the P&C.

We are holding an election BBQ on Saturday 31 October – so if you are out and about to vote, please come to Fitz and vote and have a sausage on bread $2.50 or a bacon and egg muffin $4.50 and drinks $2.50. Our playgroup will also be holding a raffle on the day with great prizes on offer.

Don’t forget our two other P&C “events” – our dumpling fundraiser which is open for orders until 9 November, 2020; and our book week competition with tuckshop vouchers on offer for those students who borrow the most books this term from the library.
Each of these events helps us fund exciting projects across the school. Proceeds from these events will directly fund the water slides which are being held for all students during the last week of school.

A big thank you to Robyn from our Tuckshop who retired after 7 amazing years of volunteering! We appreciate her assistance and wish her all the best for the future.

**Tuckshop News**

We are in desperate need of volunteers. Even if you can spare an hour or two, would be greatly appreciated.

HELP IS NEEDED

Friday 30th November.

**Library News**

WOW! What a fortnight it has been! We would like to thank everyone for their support, patience and understanding during our Book Fair this year. It has certainly been unique. We are still in the process of tallying the exact funds raised but with the funds we will be purchasing new titles for our library and activities for the students to participate in during their lunch hours, especially now that it is going to become hotter as the term progresses. As always, in the summer months our library becomes increasingly more popular with students waiting to borrow books, participate in activities, play with our toys from Lego, games, puppets and dolls and so much more – I am sure it is not the fact that we have the air conditioners running. As you are aware from the extraordinary photos on our school’s Facebook page all of the students and teachers had a fantastic time dressing up as their favourite book character. There are so many imaginative students and parents in our community creating the most amazing costumes!

The P&C Committee’s Reading Competition being held as a part of Book Week is progressing along beautifully, students are regularly visiting the library each day to change their book and read another one to be the ”Reader who has read the most books!” Remember though, Mrs Ross, Mrs Doyle & Mrs Stuart have special super powers and know if you have read them or not! So make sure you are reading each book before you return it to our Library!

Over this week and the coming weeks, we will be celebrating the American tradition of Halloween, a wonderful group of Year 6 students have put together our Halloween display. A special thanks to Lily Wells for giving up quite a few lunch hours to really make our display look fantastic! Next Tuesday we will celebrate Melbourne Cup with the following week seeing us enjoy, participate and experience various Indigenous activities as a part of this year’s NAIDOC Week during lunch time activities in the Library and also as a school we will be colouring in and putting together a map of Australia with this year’s NAIDOC logo included.
On Wednesday 11th November, we will acknowledge and remember all the dedicated Australians who have died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts.

Finally, our library will be closed for student borrowing from the 23rd November 2020 to allow us time to have all books returned, cleaned and shelved in our library and ensure that we are ready for another awesome year in 2021! Students will still enjoy lunchtime activities up until 30th November where our library will close for the remainder of the year to complete our annual stocktake and resourcing for the 2021 school year.

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

2020 Indigenous Homework Club

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.