ANZAC Day Service 25 April 2014

Bowen RSL Sub-Branch Inc. has invited the Merinda State School Staff and students to be a part of their ANZAC Day commemorations. Assembly for the march will be at 9:00am on Herbert Street, Bowen south east of the Council Office with the march off at 9:30am ending up at the Herbert Street Cenotaph. As in previous years the Merinda State School Staff and Students will be assembling behind the Queens Beach State School students and staff for the off march. We look forward to seeing you there.

ANZAC Service at Merinda State School

This year our ANZAC Service will take place on Thursday the 24th of April. We will have a member from the RSL branch present and community are more than welcome to attend this event.

It starts at 2:30pm

Parent / Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher interviews will take place during week 2 of Term 2. This allows for the teachers to complete assessment marking from term 1 and provide you with the most up to date information regarding your child. Interview time sheets will be distributed to parents during week 1 of Term 2.

Principal Away

On Wednesday the 12th of March we will have all the small Principals from the Bowen and Whitsunday Cluster at our school for professional development in the school community. On Thursday the 13th of March and Friday the 14th of March Mrs Cornwall will be attending the Small School Principal Training Days for Students with Disabilities. This is compulsory training that all Principals must attend.

Mrs Kirsty Fether will be the teacher in charge for the day.

Chaplin Report

Would you believe it! We are already past the half way mark of term one. Well done to everyone who participated in the cross country! I'm excited to say that the coming programs are just around the corner. “impact” and “club330” more info will follow.

The “fruit break” and “Top up” breakfast program are going well with special mentions to Woolworths for their continued partner ship.

This year I have added some practical “Feel Good” strategies that we can all benefit from. Laughter is the best medicine. Numerous medical studies have been conducted about the effects of laughter. Research indicates that when you laugh, you boost your body's endorphins and lower your blood pressure; reduce the stress hormones in your body and, most importantly, release endorphins. These endorphins are your body's natural painkillers and “feel good” hormones that will give you a natural sense of well being. Make laughter a priority in your life and laugh heartily every day. Create laughing opportunities and set yourself a goal of daily laughing out loud with your family. Have an awesome week ahead ID you have a need or just want to talk to someone, come chat to Chappy!

Great Results Guarantee

As part of our funding through the Great Results Guarantee program, we welcome two new teacher aides to our school. Miss Danniele Barratt will be working in Mrs Hubbert’s room and Mrs Melinda Bruce will be working in Mrs Fether’s Room. The extra teacher aides are funded via the Great Results Guarantee program to help during our uninterrupted Literacy Block time. We welcome both Melinda and Danniele to our school and look forward to the wonderful results we will see in the Prep to Year Two classrooms.

Prep

We are well into reading now in the Prep room! Keep practising your magic words (just start on golden word page only) and practice these words by sight. When you know all your Golden words you will receive an award on Paradise and there will be a colour certificate to obtain every colour page you achieve right up until 300 words! Wow! Many of the boys and girls in our class are already on Green SSP colour level. Please help your child to know the sounds, how to write them and how to read simple words made from the sounds on this level. e.g. sat, top, pin, pants, Santa, sht, it, in, is, at, tip, pit, nip, spin. You can see how already children can read and write sentences using these speech sound combinations to make words and simple sentences. Today we were creating sentences like “She is in the ‘th'” and “The art sat on the pan.” Encourage your child to write words and simple sentences everyday using the speech sounds they know. Practise writing and reading your sentences!

We need more helpers every day! Especially on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings between 9-10 for our reading and spelling group sessions. The more adults helps the better. We also need support to provide we can provide to students. Come in and learn yourself and assist your child’s learning journey. Also we have a massive amount of laminating and binding of books to complete to set up our new home reader system. If you are free anytime to help with this please see Mrs Fethers. Each Friday afternoon between 1:30 – 3pm, Mrs Bruce works in the library covering books, accessioning, returning and up keeping our library. If you have some time to spare during a Friday afternoon we would love a group of helpers to come and work in the library helping with books and working through our laminating for the new reader system.

Finally I am seeking volunteers who can sew, garden and cook for some upcoming events later in the term. Please let me know if you are interested and able to do either. Please send in any unused magazines that would be suitable for our Prep to cut and paste when playing speech sound detective each day – we need lots. Other items are searching for: *A couch for our reading corner *Compost bin with lid *Worms and soil for a worm garden *Fish tank accessories *Safe, climbing playground equipment to add to our playground area – perhaps you have one of these items at home that you don’t use anymore and could be donated to our class. Dad’s, we need you to come in for some gardening fun

A big congratulations to all our Prep’s who participated in their first cross country races – even Mrs P joined in A lot of fun and also a lot of tired eyes

Yr 1 – 2

Wise Little Owls in Year 1 -2 were off to a flying start last week with the Cross Country. We are all very proud of everyone’s participation. We had a HOOT measuring and comparing different lengths and heights of things in our classroom last week as well as making all different numbers and matching numbers to number names. The class finished speaking to their other Wise Little Owls about the characters of the Nutt Pout Fish and Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day. During technology, we are designing our very own 3D insect in the following weeks. Wise Little Owls have been asked to bring along something that they wish to use (we have a lot here as well). It has been exciting exploring line in the book “Big Rain Coming” (written by Katrina Germein and Illustrated by Bronwyn Bancroft) in art last week. Bronwyn Bancroft has some amazing art pieces and uses lines in a variety of colourful and emotional ways. Please visit our class blog for photos of our work last week.

Mrs H

3rd March , 2014 (Term 1Week 6)

Young leaders encouraged to nominate for youth parliament - newsletter

The AEC National Indigenous Youth Parliament is looking for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people interested in government and the parliamentary process. Six Queensland and two Torres Strait Island representatives aged 16 to 25 will be selected. Nominations will close on 13 March and more information is available from: http://www.aec.gov.au/Endigenous/riyp.htm

Make every day count in 2014

Make 2014 the year when your child doesn’t miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren’t at school or don’t stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons. Check out the new Every Day Counts video live on DETE TV http://www.youtube.com/DETEQueensland

Photos

School photos will be taken on Friday the 30th of May ( Week 6 of Term 2) Please ensure children are in full school uniform for this important event.

School Health Nurse

The school health nurse will be visiting on the 3rd of April. During this time she will be seeing all prep children for their hearing and vision. She is also available to see children from Year 1 – Year 7 provided there is a parental permission and concern.

If you would like your child’s hearing and vision tested, please provide a parental permission and concern.

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Welcome to week 6 of Term One! Wow, hasn’t Term One travelled quickly? The 5/6/7 children have been very busy engaging in their learning whilst still having fun on the way! Have you checked out our blog? We have some fabulous “ bloggers” who are thoroughly enjoying the challenge of posting comments. The comments that have been posted by the students are fantastic! Mrs Tully and I are both noticing the positive relationships and trust being built between all the children in class. Keep up the great efforts!

Last week the 5/6/7 children all started LOTE as well. All children are learning Chinese and thoroughly enjoying the challenge that this is providing for all of us. We learn our LOTE via Charters Towers Distance Education, so our children are actually learning LOTE via the internet! Very exciting!

Sports Update

I am blown away with the number of student interest in lunchtime netball, with the Years 3/4 students alone making close to two teams. Students have developed a fair idea of the role of each position and are willing to give all positions a go. Our next focus is to work on students resisting the urge to move with the ball. New netball lines will also be marked on the court as soon as the conditions are right and the week that Year 3/4 students play netball on Monday and Years 5/6/7 on Tuesday.

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