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 Islander representatives aged 16 to 25 will be selected. More information is available from: http://www.aec.gov.au/Indigenous/myp.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.

Children in Years 3,5 and 7 will be participating in this National ANZAC Day Service 25th April 2014

Term 2) Please ensure children are in full school uniform for this Assembly for the march will be at 9:00am on Herbert Street, Bowen RSL Sub Branch Inc. has invited the Merinda State School families over the coming holiday.

The school will be hosting a series of behaviour workshops starting this week. These workshops will be to inform parents/ caregivers about our school behaviour policies and expectations.

The dates for NAPLAN for 2014 are Tuesday the 13th of May, Wednesday the 14th of May and Thursday the 15th of May.

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Children in Years 3, 5 and 7 will be participating in this National Test.

ANZAC Service at Merinda State School

This year our school ANZAC Service will take place on Thursday the 24th of April at 2:30pm. We will have a member from the RSL Branch present. Parents and community are more than welcome to attend this event.

Merinda State School Easter Hat Parade

Just a reminder that our school Easter Hat Parade is this Thursday-day from 2pm. Our normal whole school parade will follow. Hope to see you there.

Chaplin Report

Wow, term 1 is coming to a close, and what a term it has been! I’m excited to see where we have found ourselves on the Journey through 2014 this far. We have celebrated ‘Harmony Day’ and raised awareness for ‘Epilepsy’. We have participated in Football, Soccer, Cricket and Equestrian trials and that’s just to name a few. We are a privileged school to have the opportunities, but even more so that we take these opportunities. This I am proud to see.

Special mention to our awesome partners Woolworth’s Bowen, Guinida and Choyim Community Care. Enjoy your Easter break! This year I am sharing some practical “Feel Good” strategies that we can all benefit from.

Negative emotions often affect your breathing, causing it to become shallow and fast. Not breathing effectively will then add to the discomfort you will experience in these situations. Remember to breathe effectively, especially when under pressure or in a stressful situation.

Implement a simple breathing technique: Begin breathing in and out slowly, concentrating on how the air enters and leaves your lungs; then allow your body to relax with each increasing breath. After about seven to ten deep breaths, change your focus from the negativity surrounding you to the positive. Mentally picture the negative thoughts leaving your body every time you exhale, replacing each one with a personal power statement as you inhale. Repeat this as often as needed.

Have an awesome week ahead! If you have a need or just want to talk to someone, come chat to Chappy!

Cross Country Report

On Friday 28 March, students from Merinda State School participated in the Bowen District Cross Country at Bowen State School. Four students, Shantelle Short, Dallas Jones, Gearoid Beck and Dean Ryan were selected to attend the Whitsunday Cross Country Trials which are to be held in Scuttleby on Wednesday 2nd April. This is a fantastic achievement from Merinda and we wish these students all the very best at these trials. A new change is taking place this year, as the students are divided into seven or eight age groups and they will be invited to participate in the High School Whitsunday Trials. Best of luck boys! Merinda State School came third in the overall standings at these trials which again is an awesome achievement! Just a reminder, as Easter holidays are fast approaching these students are well aware of the importance to train hard and not eat too many Easter eggs so that they can compete well and give themselves the absolute best chance for selection at the trials.

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ANZAC Duty Service 25th 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 Offices with the march off at 9:15am 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 march off. We look forward to seeing you there.

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Prep

How spectacular were all my dolls and soldiers dressed up and dancing at our Dance Fever Showcase last Friday. A huge thank you to our Mums who helped see all the costumes - fantastic effort! I am away this week at my Take the Lead small schools Principal residency in Mackay. Miss Long will be teaching our class.

We had so much fun with Miss Emma’s visit to our room last week - you will soon be able to see our journey on You tube - how exciting! Prep will definitely impress Miss Emma when she returns in November. Finally Happy Easter to all my students and their families over the coming holiday.

Yr 1-2

Owl fantastic learning last week began with a visitor ‘David’ who was kind enough to bring in a ‘Tasman Frog Mouth Owl’ into our classroom. This allowed us to discuss what happens through the owl’s life stage. We had a real HOOT with the lovely Miss Emma (from SSP) visiting our class! We are very grateful for her to come in and provide some exciting and engaging lessons with owl students. We worked hard this week creating graphs and brainstorming questions to gather data. Some of us are still completing assessment this week and will then enjoy doing Easter learning activities and craft. Please visit our class blog for updates (on the holidays) and photos of our wonderful work (http://mrshubberts.edublogs.org/). Enjoy your last week of School and don’t forget to make an Easter hat/bonnet.

Yr 3-4

Well done to everyone who got involved in celebrating Epilepsy Day! It was fantastic to see people supporting such a great cause by wearing purple and purchasing pens, badges or wrist bands. Huge congratulations to our superhero!! You all did an amazing job and looked wonderful.

Wet weather lunches have involved very busy children creating their playgrounds for Technology! I am astounded by their creativity and ability to work in small groups.

A round of applause for Shantelle and Dallas who represented Merinda for cross country and received outstanding positions. Five days remain until the end of the term. Please ensure your child attends school until the very last day as every day counts! Have a safe and happy Easter break and I look forward to seeing you next term!

Yr 5-7

What a wonderful fortnight we have had. The 5/6/7 class have really shown how fabulous they are excelling in several sporting events including soccer, cross country and rugby league well done! We are all very proud of all our children and who are in the instrumental program this year. Last year we only had two children who performed on speech night, this year we will have over 20! What a fabulous achievement. Mrs Tully and I hope you all have a well deserved break and we are looking forward to a wonderful term two.

Have a great holiday and Happy Easter!!

Green Team update

Green Team Report

A big congratulations to all the boys and girls for wanting to be in the green team. Those people are Wolly Wolfe, Kiara Rollin, Liam Bruce, Mikala Matheson, Ethan Bailey, Ben Jomessan, Dylan Bruce, Ashton Beck, Darcy Gowan, Trinity Rollin, Natalia Starkey, Dallas Jones, Julie Webb, Tia Bann, Savannah Piggott, Evie Herlihy, Sidney Short, Malakaya Beck, Gypsy Anear, Gabi Ester, Dean Ryan and Yidi Dodd. We also have just been granted $500 to build a brand new garden to grow fruit and vegetables. We aim to recycle some water to make the garden sustainable. This is a photo of Yidi, Dean Gabi with Kate Finch of GRampa - receiving our $500.