From the Principal

It’s official our hard working year 3s and 5s have survived NAPLAN for another year and we are very proud of their efforts. As a school we are now gearing up for the final 6 weeks of term to make sure that every post is a winner and that we achieve the best possible marks before report cards are finalised. I had the great fortune of visiting the Bowen Research Station with four of our Year 5/6 students last Friday to see the growth of their corn, pumpkin and watermelon crops that they had planted back on the 22nd March. It was such a great experience. Our crops are looking healthy and I for one can’t wait to take some home when they’re ready in about a month’s time. Friday 20th May is Walk to school Day and as a school we will be meeting down at the park here in Merinda at 8:30am so we can all walk to school together and get back in time for pancakes. As a school we are currently sitting at 91.85% attendance for the year and our challenge is to try and reach our goal of 95% attendance. Our Year 2/3 class is leading the way on 92.94%, followed by Year 3/4 on 91.58%, Prep-1 on 91.46% and Year 5/6 on 91.45%. Remember every day at school counts!

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Quote of the Week
“Nothing is impossible; the word itself says I’m possible!” Audrey Hepburn

Donations
Would any parents or carers that are able please donate something small to go into our prize box. Things like cool rubbers, pencils, note pads and stickers are good ideas to add. We appreciate any contribution that can be made. If you have something to add to our prize box please just pop into the office and see Mrs Conway. Thank you for your help.

Please remember to bring fruit to go towards our shared fruit break. Hungry tummies make it harder to use our heads. Help us to keep our tummies full of healthy food.

Upcoming Event
Please note that some of the dates and times have changed.

Special Parade
Tuesday, 17th May 2016
Covered Play Area
9am – George Christensen will be attending parade today to present our school with a new Australian flag.

Walk to School Day
Friday, 20th May 2016
Walk to School to help promote a healthy lifestyle. Meeting at the park at 8:30am, parents are welcome to join us!

Under 8’s Day
Friday, 27th May 2016
Queens Beach State School Permission slips will go home later this week.

Chappy Day
Friday, 03rd June 2016

P&C Meeting
Monday, 6th June 2016
6:30pm in the Library

BFG Performance
Thursday, 16th June 2016
Classroom Teachers will send home further information.

Athletics Carnival
Friday, 17th June 2016
Parents are welcome to come along and help out or just cheer on our teams.

Special Parade
Monday, 20th June 2016
9.00am in the covered play area. Age Champions and Winning Team Announced.
P/1 Super Stars News
Prep/One Super stars have been hard at work! Last week, we finished our first English assessment for the Term, where we had to write and give a re-tell. Our classmates were a supportive audience. Thank you to all the mums and dads who helped us practise at home. Science has been one of our favourite subjects as we are exploring different materials and their properties. For our assessment, year 1 have to make a waterproof boat to carry a marble and prep have to make a wind ornament. The weather still has its warm moments, and we are practising long jump and high jump in HPE with Mr Wells, so please remember to send a water bottle and hat to school with your child.

Here are some pictures of our class doing super star work. We are very busy bees in the Prep/1 classroom.

News from 2/3 Smarty Pants Owls
Welcome to week 5 everyone! The 2-3 class have been working super hard on all of their assessments this past week and are showing a very high level of persistence! During this week, we will be making a push/pull toy for science. We have a lot of resources at school, however if your child would like something special, could you please help them bring those items into school. Well done to all students this week for changing their mindset and being helpful and friendly to each other. Watch this space for the exciting event of the term, the Year 2-4 performance of the BFG play! You will not have to provide anything as we will be making props, costumes and backgrounds ourselves! Have a great week everyone!

A Blast from 3/4 Class!
First of all I would like to congratulate the year 3 students on their efforts during NAPLAN. You all worked very hard to complete the activities. Well done! In class we have been working very hard on our English assessment; learning about algorithms; and drawing some maps to scale. All very challenging activities. As you can see from the photos our veggie garden is doing very well. There is plenty of basil and thyme and the black tomatoes are beginning to grow. The worms are doing well and provide nutritious worm tea for our garden. In a few weeks the year 3/4 class and the year 2/3 class will be performing acts from the play The BFG. The children are showing great acting prowess and I am sure we have some budding actors in our midst. Just a reminder that homework can be done at school between 8:30 and 9:00. If you would like to see me about any concerns that you may have can you please contact the school to arrange a meeting time or see me straight after class Monday, Tuesday, or Friday.
**5/6 MON-STARS**

5/6 MON-STARS have made drastic changes to their attitudes toward themselves and others. We are developing our skills in leadership and collaborative learning to prepare ourselves for High School and future success. We have been exploring states of matter and reversible and irreversible changes. We are hypothesising, experimenting, observing and reflecting really well and absolutely love having hands on experiences. Our mathematical thinking around geometric understanding has been challenging, however we have persevered and accomplished our goals. We are also developing our technology skills and creating animations to showcase ethical dilemmas. As seniors, we are super lucky to be given exciting opportunities, one of these is our visit to the farm to plant some crops and we had a special visitor come out to teach us about water and water testing. Also a big congratulations to the Year 5’s for doing their absolute best during NAPLAN. You are Super Stars!

Above: Some pictures from our visit to Bowen and Gumlu Growers Association. We got to check out the crops we planted at the start of term and how they are growing, what pests have affected them and what sort of produce we can pick.

Below: We had special a visitor to show us all there is to know about water testing. We also got to see what micro and macro organisms are living in our water. There were lots of cool hands-on activities to get our brain juices running.

**Chappy News**

Chappy Week is coming up! This is where we aim to promote the chaplaincy program that is used across our state schools in Bowen. As part of this program, the three school Chaplains from Bowen will be working together to put on some fun activities for students during lunch breaks. Merinda State School’s Chappy Day will be Friday the 3rd of June. Chappy Day is free dress going with a theme of Black, Red or Yellow. A gold coin donation will be greatly appreciated as all funds raised go back into the chaplaincy program for our community.

Chappy Calendar

Week 6 – Wednesday the 18th of May 2016, Le Sorrell will be holding a waffle night to raise money for the Bowen Chaplaincy Program. Come along and enjoy some sweet treats with your friends. 6:00pm to 8:30pm. Please see the flyer at the back of this newsletter for all of the details. I hope to see you there.

Week 7 – I will be at school on Thursday this week instead of my normal Friday.
Save the Children News – Play 2 Learn

Never underestimate the importance of PLAY... messy, active, dirty, colourful & crazy... our kids learn and thrive through play. The younger the better. We provide an opportunity to meet others and be active with your kids in fun, safe, resourced, casual, friendly places in our community.

The Bowen Mens’ Shed recently responded enthusiastically to the goals and aims of Save the Children’s local Play2Learn Mobile Play Group. The invitation over a cuppa with Kylie to handcraft some Easels for the kids was taken on by Bob Knight and his mates, many of whom are grandfathers. Bob attended a Play Group one rainy afternoon last week to say hello and deliver the double sided wooden easels that can be used as blackboards or for painting.

Bowen is a windy place and as we do art and craft at every group this can get messy, which is fun, but can be challenging with our usual wind speeds on the front beach or coming off the paddock at Merinda State School. Big Thanks to the Bowen Mens Group & Shed. You’ve made a wonderful contribution to our families. As we welcome Dads & Grandparent Carers of 0 – 5 year olds, we hope you will join us sometime. Keep up the good work fellas.

Left: Bob Knight is pictured with Community & Family Support Worker Kylie Bell, Kathleen & Seraphina Dole, Railene Strange & Sophie Yap.

Right: Getting messy and having fun with colour and texture is India Chapman from the Collinsville/Scottville Play2Learn Group.
2016 McDonald’s Winter Championships
AND
U7 & U8 CARNIVAL
25TH - 26TH JUNE

AGE GROUPS
FOR REGISTERED AND NON-REGISTERED ATHLETES IN THE U7 - U17

WHERE
TOWNSVILLE SPORTS RESERVE
14 WARBURTON STREET, NORTH WARD QLD 4810

NOMINATIONS
HARD COPY 15TH JUNE
CENTRE E-COPY 20TH JUNE

McDonald’s
Chappy Week
Waffle Night
@ Le Garelle

Wednesday 18th May
6pm - 8:30pm
Waffle & Any Drink $20

Andrew Poole
Bowen SHS & Collinsville SHS
Glen Currie
Queens Beach SS & Merinda SS
Adam Goode
Bowen SS

Chappy Week
MAY 14-22 2016
chappyweek.org.au
BOWEN PLAZA NEWS

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