**Office Hours**
Office Hours have changed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8am – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8am – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8am – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8am – 2:30pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All correspondence can be placed in the brown box when office is unattended.

**Principal News**
We have come to the end of term and it has certainly been a very busy one! Over the past 10 weeks, our students have worked extremely hard in all of their curriculum areas and it has been fantastic to watch their growth and progress. We have also been busy with lots of extra-curricular activities including NAIDOC Day celebrations, Science Week Celebrations, attending the turtle release at Front Beach, attending the Stripey Excursion among other things.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of our fabulous staff who have worked so hard over the past term. Without your hard work and dedication to your students, our school would not be the great place it is. I hope you all have a well-deserved, relaxing break over the holidays.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all of our parent volunteers who help out with our school, your contributions are invaluable. I
would particularly like to say thank you to Kylie and Shane Jameson for their hard work in getting our grounds looking so fabulous over the past 2 weeks.

As you will all be aware, I will be on Long Service Leave from the 6th of October until the 6th of November. During this time, we will have Mr Sam Williams here as Acting Principal. Unfortunately, Mrs Catherine Morris has had to withdraw from the acting position and Mr Williams will be filling it instead. Mr Williams is currently an inclusive instructional coach, English teacher and Drama curriculum coordinator at Bowen State High School and I am sure he will do a great job here at Merinda. Please make him feel as welcome as you have made me feel over the past 3 terms.

We will also be welcoming Mrs Sexton in a full time capacity to our Year 3-4 classroom as Mrs Parnell has had to take leave for Term 4 due to family commitments. We look forward to Mrs Sexton being at our school more regularly for the remainder of the year.

I wish you all a safe and relaxing break and look forward to seeing you all again in Week 6 next term.

**Making our school look beautiful**

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to Mr Ivan Garrod and Burdekin Local Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Committee for their generous donation of $250 of vouchers from Home Hardware. These vouchers have been used to purchase new plants for the front gardens and garden equipment such as sprinklers which will be used to keep our grounds looking great.

**Student Absences**

In order to help the office run smoothly could all parents please call in any student absences. If the office is unattended please leave a detailed message on the school message bank. Administration thanks you for your assistance in this.

**Sun Safety**

It is important that all students have a full brimmed hat to wear during playtime and other outdoor activities. Caps are NOT an acceptable hat for school. Students who do not have a full brimmed hat will not be allowed on the playground. No hat – no play.
Drop Off Times
Children must not be dropped off at school prior to 8:00am unless prior arrangements have been made with the school. Prior to 8:00am there are no staff on duty to supervise your child. In order to keep your child safe, please ensure that they are dropped off no earlier than 8:00am.

Reading Hub
All students who arrive at school at 8:00am must go to the library for Reading Hub as other areas are unsupervised. Reading Hub not only ensures that your child is safe, but is a great opportunity for them to build their love of reading. Please encourage your child to attend Reading Hub regularly.

Fruit Break
Fruit Break is an important part of your child’s day. The energy boost helps them to learn all the wonderful things they need to succeed in school. Can parents please donate a piece of fruit to the school every week for fruit break? We would greatly appreciate any contribution. A Big thank you to our parent helpers who chop up our fruit for us.

Woolworths Earn and Learn
Don’t forget to keep bringing in your earn and learn stickers. You can continue to drop the stickers in the box at the office until Friday 18th September 2015. Thank you for your support.

P/1/2 News
What a blast we have had with our poetry over the last few weeks. All students have done a wonderful job recreating a poem and keeping the rhyming pattern and syllable count the same. All poems are on display in our classrooms for you to come and enjoy with your child. We are all very excited for you to come along and celebrate all the fun we have had learning about dinosaurs at our Dinosaur Museum from 2pm-3pm on Thursday afternoon. We hope you have a nice, relaxing holiday with your loved ones and we look forward to working with you again next term. Don’t forget to read with your child over the break.
3/4 News
The Year 3 & 4 students are very busy finishing off assessment this week for History and Math. The students in our class have worked extremely hard in all areas this term and everyone deserves a well-earned holiday. Everyone has shown great improvement in their efforts. As you know this is my last week in the classroom and although I am sad to be away for Term 4, I know the children will welcome Mrs Sexton in as their full time teacher. Have a wonderful holiday everyone!

5/6 News
During the last fortnight in the 5-6 class we have been very busy working on our history and English assessments. Last week, we had a great science lesson when we spoke with the students from Dajarra State School about traditional bush tucker and cooking methods. We also competed in the first round of Cal Lynch Sports, both our teams performed very well and are looking forward competing again tomorrow. Congratulations to all students who were selected for Cal Lynch. Have a great holiday everyone!

Keeping our School Beautiful
A huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Jameson for helping us to clean up our school last week. We appreciate their time and for loaning their truck to haul away all the tree trimmings. Merinda State School thinks you’re SUPER!

Pictures Left: Some of our senior students lending a hand to load up tree trimmings.
Kirwin State High School Music Ensemble
On Monday, we had the privilege of having the Kirwan State High School music ensemble visit our school. Their fabulous band and choir performed a number of songs for us including ‘Let it Go’ from Frozen and ‘Bohemian Rhapsody’ by Queen. They were a very impressive group and have inspired us to keep working hard at our musical learning. We would like to say a big thanks to them for making the trip down from Townsville to perform for us.
Merinda Super Heroes

Cal Lynch Team 2015

Our Merinda Cal Lynch Soccer Team for 2015. Congratulations to all of our students who were selected to play soccer and netball this year. We wish you all the best in this week’s game and finals. GO MERINDA!!

Blog It!
P/1 http://prep-1littlehoots.edublogs.org/
1/2 http://featheredfriends.edublogs.org/
3/4 http://merinda3and4.edublogs.org/
5/6 http://tullycrew.edublogs.org/