Our Aim at Kulpi State School is to be:

Working together to ensure that every day, in every classroom, every student is learning and achieving.

FROM MRS LEVER’S DESK

This week students in Years Three and Five complete a series of tests that are carried out all over Australia, called the Naplan tests. Over three days, the areas of reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy are tested and results provide a snapshot of ability in these areas. Results compare the individuals achievement to achievement of other students of the same age across the nation, and for parents provide feedback about their child’s abilities. Results are presented in ‘bands’ and it is easy to see where your child falls in terms of the average achievement of their year level, and also whether they are above or below the National Minimum Standard. As these tests are provided to Years 3, 5, 7 and 9, it is also a useful way to see if they improve in an area over a two year period.

The best Naplan preparation is excellent teaching, so that the concepts, skills and knowledge tested over these three days are a regular part of the everyday curriculum. We do prepare children in how to answer multiple choice questions, and how to check they have interpreted a question correctly. I discussed with the children last week the way I use their Naplan results to give me ideas of where I can improve the teaching in the school too—it is the schools responsibility to make sure that children have learnt what they need to know. I’m confident that the children have completed enough preparation for Naplan so that there is no fear, and that they look forward to what they know will be an interesting and challenging activity.

In fact testing is a regular part of school and always gives a picture of both a child’s abilities and the abilities of the staff to teach the Australian Curriculum. Our school values learning, and teaches children how to learn. We talk frequently about what it means, and “looks like” to be a learner. When Deb Frecklington, Member for Nanango, visited recently, she asked the children what they enjoyed about their school. It was fantastic to hear them answer in terms of the subjects they most enjoyed – media, writing, problem solving, History, reading … and more. The students work hard and see the results of their efforts in an ever increasing ability to do more and understand more – we love our ‘light bulb’ moments. So, bring on Naplan and all of our tests, we love the challenge!

Until next time,

Rosita Lever
Students from Years 2-5 are enjoying the challenge of learning the recorder this term, as part of their music lessons each week with Mrs Crosato.

Veggie Delight!

Cooking this week saw the children cooking spinach and feta triangles, which proved delicious! It was terrific to see the children enjoying spinach in this way!

Library Stars!

The children have begun our new Library Stars program, where they can earn ‘stars’ in their special booklets each time they bring their library books back, and retell the stories they have read. We are looking to build excitement about borrowing and reading books, and encouraging the children to read for understanding. Points earned will go towards a prize at the end of the term, kindly provided by the P and C.
TENDER FOR KONICA MINOLTA PHOTOCOPIER

- Konica Minolta Bizhub C280
- Purchased in April 2014
- Low copy usage – final count for black and white – 119516 and colour – 58820
- Good condition – sold on an as is basis
- No Warranty is given
- Some toner available
- Offers must be in writing addressed as below
- Offers to be received by COB Tuesday 14 June 2016
- Located at Kulpi State School, 9 Beckman Street, Kulpi
- Can be viewed by arrangement with the Principal
- Pick-up and delivery charges to be borne by the buyer
- The Department reserves the right not to accept the tender
- Please disclose any interests or links with departmental employees

Tenders to be submitted as below by COB Tuesday 14 June 2016.

CONFIDENTIAL – OFFER FOR ADVERTISED PHOTOCOPIER
The Principal
Kulpi State School
M/S 1945
Perangap Old 4352

The winning tender will be contacted in the week beginning 20 June 2016.

CENTENARY BOOKS

Centenary Books are still available for sale – we have less than thirty of these left. Please contact the office after 2.30pm to make enquiries.

Cost: $25.00

WELCOME MRS TRENHAM

Kulpi State School welcomes Cheryl Trenham to the staff, working as our administrative assistant. Mrs Trenham is replacing Mrs Ehrich for a period of six weeks whilst Mrs Ehrich is acting in a Business Services position at another school. We hope Mrs Trenham enjoys her time with us at Kulpi.

Our veggie gardens......

Because we haven’t had a large amount of rain you would expect our veggie gardens to be less productive. However due to the care given to our veggie patches by Jim, we are very thankful to see them looking beautiful, green and thriving.

Attendance

95.94% attendance for the last fortnight!

Let’s make every day count this term by having children at school learning every day they are well.

Date Claimer:

10th September 2016

Bismarck to Maclagan 100 Years Anniversary.

For advertising please email your items to 1472_principal@eq.edu.au by the WEDNESDAY before Publication.

Please note we are not able to advertise events for individual profit.

Newsletters are published fortnightly on Thursdays.
Do less, not more, for your kids

By Michael Grose

With school-aged children we can find ourselves making lunches, getting kids out of bed and cleaning out schoolbags rather than giving these basic tasks of living over to them.

The basic task of parenting, whether you have a two year old or a twenty-two year old, is to work yourself out of a job at the first possible chance. REDUNDANCY should be the aim of the game! We never become redundant in a relationship sense – the emotional connection between our children and us is never severed.

In a practical, physical way we need to make children less, rather than more, reliant on us. Developing independence is really about stepping back to allow children in. Doing less rather than more! We develop greater independence in our kids one job at a time.

Recently I gave my 22 year old son a job that I had been doing for a while. He lives in North America and I had taken on the job of being the connector between him and one of his sisters, who lives in the UK. It had been my job to pass messages on between the two via telephone and emails. I would update each of them about how the other sibling was going.

Frustrated being the go-between I made sure he had contact details and let him know that it was his job, not my job, to connect with his sister.

TIP NO. 1 for developing independence:

Be clear about who owns jobs or tasks in your family and never take on a child’s job, or part of a task, unless there is extenuating circumstances such as illness. A mother I met recently is very clear on who does what in her home. It is her job to wash the clothes of her early teenage children but it is their job to place them in the washing basket. She doesn’t check bedrooms as it is not her job to place kids’ clothes in the washing basket. Okay, I can hear your thought processes. Sounds good but what happens if kids don’t give a toss and they don’t mind being dirty. Good point. In this case, this mum has a son who is, to say the least, fairly slack in the area of hygiene. But she didn’t become overly fussed about that. She certainly didn’t get fussed when he played a game of football in the wet, muddy jumper that lay in his sports bag for a week. And she happily showed him how to work the washing machine when he wanted his favourite shirt (that he forgot to put in the washing basket) to be washed for a special night out.

TIP NO. 2 for developing independence:

Never be more worried about a child’s job than they are, otherwise it becomes your job, not theirs. This mum remained very clear that it was her job to wash the clothes but not to place them in the washing basket. She would remind kids about washing night, but never nag them to put clothes in the basket. She knows that as soon as she keeps reminding them, it becomes HER job rather than her children’s job to put the washing in the clothes basket. The school holidays provide a good opportunity to reflect on the whole notion of job-sharing. It’s also a good time for kids to increase their job load when they are not burdened with schoolwork and extra-curricular activities.

Here’s my challenge for you: Think of a job that you regularly do for your child that he or she can do for him or herself. Then step back and enable your child to do that for themselves on a full-time basis. Do less not more for your kids.

If you do that, then you can congratulate yourself as you have moved one step more toward REDUNDANCY.