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 Levers Desk........

On Monday and Tuesday the 7/8th of March, I joined other newly appointed Principals from around the State in Brisbane, for an induction program. We met with and listened to leaders of the various sections of the Department of Education and Training, including School Operations, School Performance, Finance as well as speakers from the QLD College of Teachers, QLD Association of State School Principals, the Ethical Standards Unit and the Media Unit.

Throughout the two days the consistent message was every action we take must be in the best interests of children. There were many statistics shared about the achievement of QLD’s State School students; both positive achievements and areas that need a great deal more work. It was heartening for me to see how well our school is travelling in many areas discussed during the two days.

However there is ALWAYS room for improvement. I am just as much a learner as the students in our school. This year, our sharp focus is to improve the ability of all children (P-6) to use specific strategies to solve mathematical problems. In 2016 I am teaching the children 5 strategies that they can use as a ‘toolkit’ to choose from when they have a problem to solve. I’ll be sharing more about this at P And C meetings, and if parents would like more information then we could meet together to explore the program further.

You’ll see included in this weeks newsletter the story of the Starfish. Many of us had experiences when we were children at school, feeling like the starfish that was left on the beach. Every day counts at Kulpi, as we— staff, parents, and community members- work to achieve the best for each of our students. We don’t want any starfish left on the beach for lack of our effort,

Enjoy your holiday time with your children. Until next time,

Rosita Lever

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
WEEK 5
Carmen Hartley
WEEK 6
Jackalyn Dorries

DATE CLAIMERS:

* Playgroup every Friday 10am
* Brismarck to Maclagan 100 years anniversary, 10th September 2016
* Dress up day 24 March
* School finishes 24 March
* Good Friday 25 March
* School resumes 11 April Term 2
* ANZAC Day Acland service 24 April

KEEP CALM AND SEE YOU NEXT TERM

THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT.
The Boy and the Starfish

A man was walking along a deserted beach at sunset. As he walked he could see a young boy in the distance, as he drew nearer he noticed that the boy kept bending down, picking something up and throwing it into the water. Time and again he kept hurling things into the ocean.

As the man approached even closer, he was able to see that the boy was picking up starfish that had been washed up on the beach and, one at a time he was throwing them back into the water.

The man asked the boy what he was doing, the boy replied, "I am throwing these washed up starfish back into the ocean, or else they will die through lack of oxygen. "But", said the man, "You can't possibly save them all, there are thousands on this beach, and this must be happening on hundreds of beaches along the coast. You can't possibly make a difference."

The boy looked down, frowning for a moment; then bent down to pick up another starfish, smiling as he threw it back into the sea. He replied,

"I made a huge difference to that one!"

~Author Unknown~

This story always reminds me of the importance of not being overwhelmed by the task at hand. School is a very busy place, but we are focused on helping children to achieve their best, and we do this by being determined to make each learning opportunity count. Thank you to parents who ensure their children are here each day, and the staff who come each day with enthusiasm and a determination to support the students of Kulpi.

Reading Time.....

On Friday afternoons the Prep and Year One students enjoy a quiet time reading books from their book boxes. Here is James Year One, centre reading to two of our Prep students, Ryan, right, and Zara, left.

Easter Holiday Program:

Science Magic: Don’t Do This at Home – Science Program with all new experiments
Tues 29 March to Fri 8 April 2016 (Weekdays only) $10 each
Science Shows at 10:00 am, 11:30 am and 1:00 pm

Winter Holiday Program:

Museum Zoo Program in conjunction with the Room Full of Wild Animals exhibition
Mon 27 June to Fri 8 July 2016 (Weekdays only) $10 each

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

Date Claimer:

10th September 2016
Brismarck to Maclagan 100 years anniversary.
Thank you to all of the community members who keep a watchful eye on our school over the holiday break. If anyone has concerns about the school over the break please call the school watch number, or call the principal directly on 0477337503.

Di Naumann has donated some lovely library bags to the school.

It’s a hilarious joke DVD produced by the ‘Booyal Bunyips’ from Booyal Central State School. Enjoy jokes by children, country music stars, celebrities & community members. It’s a beauty! 😊

Produced by the Booyal Bunyip Entrepreneurs from Booyal Central State School

Cute kids, corny one liners, celebrities, country music stars and more! Lots of laughs for all ages.

Drought fundraiser. All profit donated to drought stricken graziers in Western Qld via the QCWA’s Public Rural Crisis Fund

For more details or to order visit www.booyalbunyips.com
What it means to be an emotionally intelligent parent
By Michael Grose

So what does an emotionally intelligent parent look like? Here are five attributes that emotionally intelligent parents have in common.

Ten year-old Elle liked to be active, but one weekend things got out of control. A jazz ballet concert, a game of netball, and a family visit to her cousin’s house meant no time to herself. And she let her parents know it with constant moaning, as well as a tantrum or two. Her father held his tongue for most of the weekend, but couldn’t help but give her some fatherly advice on Sunday night. “You’ve spent the whole weekend moaning about how busy you are. Maybe you need to drop one of your activities, if they are stressing you out so much!” A tantrum followed...from Elle.

Elle’s mum took a different tack. She had a hunch that something was bothering her daughter. “You sound like something is bothering you big-time. What’s up?” “I’ve got to give a talk at school on Monday in front of the whole school and I haven’t time to prepare. It’ll be awful and everyone will laugh.” Her mum replied, “You sound like you might be pretty nervous. That makes sense. Giving a talk in front others can be nerve-wracking.” Elle dropped her shoulders, smiled and said, “You bet!” She was relieved because her mum understood how she felt. In fact, her mum had unlocked the problem for her and reflected back how she felt.

Elle’s dad focused on her behaviour and responded in kind (with well-meaning advice about her future behaviour), while her mother focused on the feelings that acted as a possible driver to her daughter’s behaviour. She took an emotionally smart approach, which turned out to be the right one in this circumstance.

Emotionally intelligent parents don’t dismiss children’s behaviour and allow kids to do as they please. There are times that we need to focus on a child’s behaviour. A child who is rude in public should be reminded in no uncertain terms that poor manners are inappropriate.

However, there are times when smart parents need to look beyond the obvious behaviours to get an good understanding of what’s happening to their child, and to help a child better understand and manage their emotions. So what does an emotionally intelligent parent look like? And importantly what is the impact on kids, parents and families of this approach?

Emotionally intelligent parents have the following five attributes in common. They will usually:

1. Listen more and judge less
There is nothing better than being understood. Parents who operate from an emotionally-smart mindset are more likely to listen to their kids when emotions are high, trying to access what may be going on, rather than clamping down their behaviour or closing them down with well-meaning advice. Impact: Better, more open relationships.

2. Accept strong emotions
Anyone who lives with teenagers will know that emotions can run very high. They can say the worst possible things to each other and, at times, to you. Ten minutes after delivering a hateful tirade they can be cuddling up to the person who was the butt of their anger, frustration or anxiety. Emotionally intelligent parents know that feelings need to expressed rather than bottled up, and allowed to fester. They also believe there is nothing so bad that a child can’t voice it to a in family, however there are behaviours that are not unacceptable. Impact: A healthy expression of emotions.

3. Focus on the present
Most parents are rightfully future-focused. We focus on the homework that needs to be handed in tomorrow; the washing that needs to be done; the meal that needs to be cooked. That’s part of everyday life. Children generally focus on the here and now. That of course can be frustrating to a task-oriented future-focused mother or father. However when we lower our gaze we are more likely to pick up how kids are feeling, and importantly help them understand and manage their moods and emotions. Impact: Happier families and less stress felt at home.

4. Use rules rather than their moods to determine discipline
Some parents discipline according to their moods. If they feel good then they give children plenty of lenience. If they are feel bad then they pick their kids up on every little thing. It’s better to stick to the family and house rules; that makes you more predictable, which kids really crave. Impact: More consistent parenting

5. Develop a language around feelings
A family develops a vocabulary around the things that are important to them. Kids in a sport mad family will inevitably have a rich vocabulary around their chosen sport. The same holds for emotional intelligence. Families that truly value building emotional smarts will develop in kids a rich palette of words that will help them describe how they feel. This vocabulary will inevitably stay with them for life. Impact: Better relationships later at work and in their own families.

At a time when anger and anxiety has never been so high in families, there is a massive need for a parenting approach that includes emotional intelligence. Many parents struggle in the area of helping children understand and manage their emotions because we’ve never had any training in it. We didn’t learn it from our parents, and more than likely haven’t learned it at work. Emotional intelligent parenting can be learned. At Parenting ideas emotional intelligence is central to the work we do with parents. We know first hand that kids who have parents versed in Emotional Intelligence are more likely to raise kids with the skills to be happier, enjoy better relationships and experience more success at school.