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…..

You may have noticed that I include in the newsletter a summary of the attendance for the past fortnight, presented as a percentage. We aim to achieve at least a 94% attendance rate with all year levels, for a range of reasons.

Common sense will tell us that at some stage children will not be well enough to attend school. When children have an illness that is infectious its really important that they stay away until the infection is no longer a threat to other students. If they have an injury that means they can’t be at school safely, or they can’t concentrate because of pain or discomfort, then it is logical they are away until they are well enough to take part in lessons again.

There are times however when children simply don’t ‘feel like’ coming to school, and these are the occasions when I encourage parents to take the responsibility for their children's education and insist they attend. This is because if there is no legitimate reason for being absent, children learn that it is ‘OK’ to make an excuse and don’t make an effort to get through what needs to be done. We all have days when it would be easier to not work, and we feel unmotivated and disinterested. However when we show children that these aren’t times to give in and give less than our best, we teach them the meaning of a work ethic.

As adults we face the same dilemmas, and the difference between a work ethic and employees who take ‘sickies’ when they are not really sick, is a habit that can be born in childhood. Does it really matter if they miss the odd school day here or there? Yes, it does in terms of building children’s resilience to get through a task they may not necessarily feel like doing – the high school projects ahead, the jobs around the home that aren’t fun but need doing, or the tasks at work that are difficult but need doing, to be successful. We can teach our children to persevere by showing them that it means doing what we don’t always feel like doing.

When children miss days at school they miss pieces of learning that are very difficult to revisit, because the rest of the class moves on. Every day does count and our days are planned carefully to include a carefully sequenced program which builds children’s learning a piece at a time. We value learning and it is expected that each child will be the best participant in each lesson that they can be – joining in, asking questions, sharing their ideas, and helping others.

The satisfaction when children achieve at school is a prize that takes diligence and perseverance. There are always going to be times when life tempts us to skip the effort, but I urge everyone to continue to teach their children the lifelong attitude that when we work hard we can achieve our best and this leads to the opportunities we want – a fantastic education where every day counts.

Thank you for your support
Rosita Lever
Cross Country
This year we had some extra challenge in our cross country race. Normally it is a course around the outside of the school, along the fence line. This time to add some excitement, we provided (and co-constructed) some challenges – a swamp filled with “crocodiles”, a fern covered waterfall, a line maze, and even a track through our natural dry rainforest area. The children were excited and got plenty of running time as well as plenty of laughs along the way. This may just become an annual event!

Give Away Roosters
Reluctantly, we are giving away our two roosters. They came to us as chicks, but have grown into huge birds who are a little too much for our bantam silky hens. If anyone has a safe home for these beautiful birds, please contact us at school on 46928239 to make arrangements to collect them. If you are able to help us locate a white, bantam silky rooster we would also appreciate hearing from you.
KULPI STATE SCHOOL

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
Perangeth Qld 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

National Simultaneous Reading Time

On Wednesday, 25th May Kulpi junior students joined Mrs Jull in a simultaneous reading, right across Australia, of the text 'I Got This Hat'. As part of the reading time the children played games with different hats and talked about the purpose behind these hats.

Thanks Mrs Jull for reading with the children!
Helping kids deal with rejection

By Michael Grose

One of the keys to functioning socially and emotionally is the ability to deal with disappointment and rejection.

Most children experience some type of rejection from their peers throughout childhood. One study found that even popular children were rejected about one quarter of the time when they approached children in school.

Paradoxically, children’s experience of rejection and disappointment at school is good for them, as long as it’s balanced with successful experiences too. They learn that they can cope and solve problems in their own way and that bad experiences don’t last forever.

And they learn that sadness and disappointment can be managed too, which is an important lesson to learn to take into adolescence and beyond, when life is full of ups and downs.

Helping them move on

Most children recover from such rejection. They move on and form constructive, worthwhile relationships but some children need help. They often take rejection personally, blaming themselves. As a parent it is useful to challenge children’s unhelpful thinking and encourage them to look for new friendship opportunities. Parents can help children understand that rejection may happen for any number of reasons that are unrelated to them.

In the course of a school day children will meet with a number of challenges and even setbacks. They may struggle with some schoolwork. They may not do well in a test and they may not be picked for a game that they wanted to play. Children grow stronger when they overcome their difficulties. The challenge for parents is to build and maintain children’s confidence levels to help them get through the rough times.

One way to help children deal with rejection and disappointment is to talk through problems or difficulties, recognising and accepting their feelings. Talk about various scenarios, discussing possible outcomes. The age of your child will determine the amount of detail. Keep things simple and avoid burdening a younger child with concepts he or she doesn’t understand.

Your attitude as a parent can make a huge difference to how a child reacts. If you see rejection or disappointments as problems then your child will be hamstrung by this view. See them as challenges then your child, in all likelihood, will pick up your upbeat view and deal with disappointments easily. After all, confidence is catching!

To help children handle rejection and disappointment try the following four strategies:

1. **Model optimism.** Watch how you present the world to children, as they will pick up your view.

2. **Tell children how you handle disappointment and rejection.** Not only is it reassuring for children to know that their parents understand how they feel but they can learn a great deal by how their parents handle situations.

3. **Help children recognise times in the past when they bounced back from disappointment.** Help them recognise those same strategies can be used again.

4. **Laugh together.** Humour is a great coping mechanism. It helps put disappointment in perspective. It helps them understand that things will get better. They always do.

The stronger the wind the stronger the trees is the notion here. Supporting kids to handle life’s hurdles helps them to develop a lasting sense of resilience, which is essential for good mental and emotional health.