As part of valuing learning in our school the students are encouraged to be the best participant they can be. We talk about being active listeners, and having a positive attitude. There are many moments within a day that remind us of the pleasure of learning. Here are just a few:

- With the rare rainy day we had at school one of our Preps was fascinated with the little wet birds that gathered to huddle out of the weather under the tank stand. He was delighted, and took a photo so his group could write a sentence about the birds in their story books.

- There are just a few days of Winter left and visitors to our school have all been commenting on the beautiful show of Spring flowers in several of our gardens. Mr Stewart devotes regular volunteer time to our gardens, and we thank him for keeping up with the sticks and weeds so that we can all enjoy our outdoor environment. Mr Kruger makes sure that the grass is neat and tidy and we really appreciate the way he efficiently keeps up with the many maintenance jobs that need to be done in our school each week.

- Soccer at Bowenville meant cold mornings and lots of running as the students attempted to make the soccer ball do exactly what they wanted it to. It was great to see them determined and focused and keen to try their best.

- In guided reading time in the Prep/One class the children have really enjoyed their new reading books. Sometimes there is a giggle or even a squeal of delight as they work out the words on the page, and read and then re-read their new ‘favourite’ story to themselves.

- Science lessons in the Year 3/4/5 class with Mrs Patterson involve learning about how materials change. They have heated, melted, mixed and frozen materials and discussed the changes with excitement. Thank you to Mrs Patterson for putting in such a great effort to make the lessons exciting for the students– all of the junior children are looking forward to their turn with this unit one day!

If school isn’t making children excited about learning then we are not going to see the results that children are capable of. It is such a pleasure to share the joy of learning with our students.

Until next time,
Rosita Lever
Our students hard at work during classroom rotations.

**Religious Instruction**

At Kulpi parents may choose for their children to be part of Religious Instruction classes, which are held each fortnight on a Wednesday from 11.45am to 12.15pm. Pastor Joel Pukallus and Mrs Janelle Cooper from the Goombungee Lutheran Parish present the students with a program using the Connect materials. Parents have access to detailed information about the program and lesson materials should they request it. In the past I have also offered parents the opportunity to sit in the lessons as well, so that they can understand what the lesson content is.

At any time parents can withdraw their child from the program. Please don’t hesitate to talk with Mrs Lever should you like to discuss your child’s participation in the Religious Instruction program.

**Adventures Shared**

On Tuesday the 23rd of August Mr Gary Deakin came to visit the school, to share with the students his latest travels across NSW and Victoria, as well as QLD. For many months Mr Deakin has sent us postcards from places of interest, which provide the students with an understanding that there are a huge number of amazing places within neighbouring states that are supported by tourists. On our whiteboard we projected maps of Victoria and New South Wales and placed the postcards against the towns from which they were sent. We discussed the advantages of driving and seeing the countryside firsthand, rather than flying. Mr Deakin described and explained some of the places he had been, and the children were able to ask him questions. Mr Deakin also gave us background information about the history of postcards, and we were able to find pictures of the first postcards ever produced on the internet. We also discussed the importance of the tourism to small towns, and Mr Deakin generously gave each of the students a postcard (no longer in production) from the town of Peranga, Maclagan and Kulpi.
Silkworms
We are looking for silkworms for our classroom. If anyone has any to spare we would be grateful.
Thank you.
**Tolerance: a vital ingredient for your child's success**

By Michael Grose

*Kids who accept differences in others are setting themselves up for success in the world of diversity that they will enter.*

Want your child to be successful way past the confines of the school gate?

Then you need to make sure your child is tolerant of individual differences and accepting of children and adults who look and act differently to them.

**Schools are diverse places**

Walk into any school ground in Australia and you’ll witness diversity firsthand. You’re likely to see children from many different cultural, racial and family backgrounds. You’ll also see kids with different needs and diverse ways of expressing themselves. Tolerant kids are accepting of these differences. They make friends with children and young people who may look and act differently to them.

**Intolerance breeds bullying**

Intolerance, or prejudice, is at the heart of a great deal of the bullying that occurs among children and young people. Kids who look and act differently or who are more isolated often experience bullying for no apparent reason other than the fact that they are ‘different’. Whole-hearted acceptance and even appreciation of differences is a preventative bullying measure that we can all support.

**Tolerance starts at home**

Kids learn attitudes such as tolerance from those around them. Children in primary school usually reflect the attitudes of their parents. While adolescents are strongly influenced by their peers, parental attitudes still have a significant impact on their attitudes to other people. In short, if you want your child to be accepting of differences – whether they are racial, cultural, behavioural or in sexual orientation – then make tolerance a family trait.

Here’s how:

- **Help your child feel accepted, respected, and valued.** When your child feels good about himself, he is more able to treat others respectfully.
- **Model acceptance.** Kids learn what they live so make sure you welcome differences in others, and be sensitive to cultural or racial stereotypes. It also helps on a practical level to discuss prejudice and stereotypes when they occur in the media.
- **Challenge prejudice or narrow-minded views.** Sometimes kids, knowingly or unknowingly, can say the cruelest things about others. As a parent respectfully remind your child or young person about the impact that a narrow view can have on his or her own behaviour as well as on those it may be directed towards. Intolerance of diversity is an attitude that parents should make a stand against.
- **Answer kids’ questions about differences honestly and respectfully.** Teach your kids that it is acceptable to notice and discuss differences as long as it is done with respect.
- **Respect individual differences within your own family.** Your ability to accept your children’s differing abilities, interests and styles will go a long way towards establishing an attitude of tolerance in the children themselves. By valuing the uniqueness of each member of your family you are teaching your kids to value the strengths in others, no matter how diverse.