



## QUEENSLAND ALUMINA LIMITED

A. B. N. 98 009 725 044

PARSONS POINT GLADSTONE QUEENSLAND 4680 AUSTRALIA

TELEPHONE: 4976 2211 (Area code 07; International dialling code 61-7).

12 January 2012

### MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

#### **Schools set to receive a green boost with QAL Fund**

Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL) is ready to 'plant' another \$10 000 into local school environmental projects with applications now being sought for the 2012 Reef Guardian Fund.

The annual fund is open to all Gladstone region schools signed on to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's Reef Guardian Schools program, an initiative encouraging schools to commit to protecting the reef through education and environmental projects.

Schools are encouraged to apply to QAL's Fund, aiming to provide the financial boost needed to implement a variety of sustainable environmental projects, or to purchase equipment used to teach awareness on environmental conservation.

Kin Kora Primary School was one of those successful in receiving funding last year, with the donation going towards its long term environmental management plan to become a sustainable school.

Teacher Lyn Homann spent the year busily developing Kin Kora's environmental initiatives and was thrilled the school received support through the Reef Guardian Fund.

"QAL's funding really helped us kick-start the projects in our plan, with the main aim for 2011 to improve biodiversity in the school through gardening projects", Mrs Homann said.

"We were able to purchase supplies for the students to participate in national tree day and planted natives on the school grounds, as well as set-up six complete veggie and herb gardens located throughout the school."

"The Environmental Captains maintain the gardens so they learn all about the importance of prioritising their duties along with school commitments. With the continued success of the gardens, we are hoping to use the herbs in cooking classes and the students can sell the fresh produce to teachers as a way to cover ongoing costs, really making the gardens quite sustainable," Mrs Homann said.

Kin Kora was also able to put some of the funding towards its Nude Food Days, promoting no packaging used for school lunches, as well as recycling initiatives to minimise waste.

In recent years the Reef Guardian Fund has provided close to \$60 000 in support to local schools, including funding for worm farms, weather stations, water quality monitors, garden beds and even a mini electricity generator.

QAL encourages teachers to apply for funding for either small or large environmental projects, with guidelines and application forms available on the QAL website, [www.qal.com.au](http://www.qal.com.au). Applications close on 30 March 2012.

**...ends**

---



Kin Kora Environment Captains (L-R) Michael Farnell, Brittney Underhill, Mikayla Jones and Jack Moore, with QAL Community Relations and Media Specialist, Courtney Brown (left) and Kin Kora teacher Lynn Homann (right).

**For further information and images, contact:**

**Courtney Brown**  
**Community Relations and Media Specialist**  
**Queensland Alumina Limited**  
**Ph: +61 7 4976 2448**  
**Mob: 0457 924 516**  
[brownco@qal.com.au](mailto:brownco@qal.com.au)  
[www.qal.com.au](http://www.qal.com.au)