Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to another term at Balaclava State School. I trust you all had an excellent holiday and you are ready for the next great push towards the end of the year.

We extend a warm welcome to the new families that have joined us this term. We hope your children settle in quickly and enjoy their new school. Also a warm welcome to Mr Daniel Bruce who will be teaching the newly formed year 4/5 class.

This term we have a number of events happening which will keep everyone busy;

- Attendance reward – Mon 12th Oct
- Pupil Free day – Mon 19th Oct
- P&C meeting – Tues 20th Oct
- World Teachers’ day – Friday 30th Oct
- Halloween Disco – Thurs 29th Oct
- Prep Open day – Fri 30th Oct
- Presentation and concert dates will be advertised soon.

Just to name a few of the events which are coming up very quickly.

And, in between all of this, we have students starting new units of work, the continuation of the direct and explicit teaching programs, further testing, with all of this leading into the semester two reporting period. As you know, this term flies by even faster than the others do. I am sure teachers will appreciate any support that you can offer with reading, group work and other classroom activities.

With the weather warming up, the classrooms will once again be using the air conditioners. It is also imperative that students have hats and sunscreen to avoid unnecessary sun damage. It is also recommended that students have water bottles which they can keep under their desks or in the class fridge to prevent endless interruptions to learn when students need a drink.

Ms Jane Termaat
Principal

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**SWIMMING – TERM 4**

Swimming starts on Friday 23rd October (Week 3, Term 4) and will run every Friday for 6 weeks. Permission notes have been handed to students, however, if you need a replacement please see the office. Please have your swimming notes and money back as soon as possible!!

**Remember, you must travel on the bus even if you are not swimming so you must have your permission to travel on the bus signed and returned.**

**PUPIL FREE DAY**

The next Pupil Free day will take place on Monday 19th of October; this is the third Monday back. On this day the teachers will participate in professional development with a specific focus on explicit teaching.
BIG BREAKFAST
The Term 4 Big Breakfast will be on FRIDAY in the Hall starting at 8am. A gold coin is asked for the cost of the breakfast. Everyone is welcome to attend.

PREP ENROLMENTS FOR 2016
Do you have a younger sibling due to enrol into Prep for 2016? Children born between 1st July 2010 and 30th June 2011 are eligible to enrol now for Prep here at Balaclava State School. Birth certificates and immunisation records must be produced. Mrs Roome will be contacting those who have already submitted their enrolment form shortly.

REMINDER – YEAR 6
Students in Year 6 please return your form indicating which High School you are enrolling in in 2016. If you have lost your form visit Mrs Roome in the office and ask for another. Remember that you require a birth certificate and evidence of where you currently live. Entry into High School is not an automatic process with High Schools in our area all enrolment managed. This means that that the street where you live determines where you are able to attend in 2016.

ABSENCE HOTLINE
We have a phone number dedicated to student absences. You will now be able to send us a text telling us why your child is away. Please make sure that you give your child’s full name in the text message and year level/class.

The number to contact is: 0475 977 608

GOOD START PROGRAM
The Good Start Program has been developed in response to the health needs identified by the Maori and Pacific Islander communities in Queensland. The focus is on helping children and families to build their skills set, knowledge and confidence about healthy eating, physical activity and healthy lifestyles. Debra Modra and Jodeci Hodge are our Multicultural Health Workers with the Good Start Program and they will facilitate these sessions every Monday, starting week 2 (12 October – 30 November 2015) from 2:30pm-3:30pm. Consent forms are available at the school office. It would be great if you could give them some feedback this term on how you think the program has worked in our school over the year. Feedback is encouraged so that the program can be improved.

RENOVATIONS TO DENTAL CLINIC
Balaclava Dental Clinic is currently undergoing renovations. The clinic is due to re-open mid October 2015. If you require an appointment please contact staff at either of these clinics:
Edge Hill - 4053 4231
Cairns West - 4053 4820

UPDATE STUDENT RECORDS
Parents/carers don’t forget to contact the school office to update your daughter/son’s records if you have recently moved or changed phone numbers. The office sometimes has difficulty getting in contact with families if their child is sick or injured.

DRESS CODE POLICY
With the start of the new term, it is a good time to remind students about our dress code policy. Our dress code clearly articulates the expectations of the Balaclava State School uniform. This includes appropriate hats, shoes, T-shirts, shorts. A reminder to the students that nail polish, jewellery and make up are not part of our uniform and should NOT be worn to school at any time. I urge parents to support the school with this policy. Thank you.

JANE’S JOTTINGS
Well-functioning, healthy and positive families make time for talking and listening, show affection and encouragement, accept differences, share chores and decisions, keep in touch and make family time. Accept the differences in each person
Make family time.
• Create a sense of belonging – sharing ideas, values and beliefs.
• Find some way to spend time together as a family group. Make fun times together.
• Shared mealtimes (without TV or phone calls) allow everyone to share information, and to know what is happening to each other.
• Do things together – play cards or games, take holidays, go on outings or walks, go camping, play sport, share hobbies.

JOHNATHAN THURSTON MESSAGE
Check out the video message left from Johnathan Thurston! The link is on our facebook page or you can type this address into your internet search bar https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9ilBeJSCUs&feature=youtu.be
This fortnight our FOCUS SKILL is:

FOLLOWING TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

✔ Listen carefully to what school staff are saying,
✔ Follow their instructions straight away,
✔ Ask a question if you are not sure what they want you to do.

GENERAL NOTICES

WALK TO REMEMBER
‘Taking the steps our babies could not’
A walk of remembrance commemorating International Infant & Pregnancy Loss Day
Where: Funship Parklands, Cairns Esplanade
When: 8:30am October 18th (includes a memorial service & butterfly release)
Contact: Rachelle on 0438 724 469
Email: rachelle.johnson@uq.net.au

RAISING RESILIENT TEENAGERS
Free online program empowering parents to make sense of adolescence & parent their teenager more confidently
Who: Seeking English speaking parent/guardians of child/ren 12-15yrs with internet access
Contact: 03 9905 1250
Email: med-parentingstrategies@monash.edu
Register:
www.parentingstrategies.net/depression.brief.intervention

GIRL GUIDES
Girls between 5-17yrs can become a Girl Guide. Girls in Guiding achieve goals, improve communities & grow in confidence. Guiding is for adults as well
Any woman 18yrs & older who is prepared to make the Guide Promise can be an adult member. Take advantage of the personal & professional development opportunities that Guiding offers.
Develop skills in areas such as leadership, event planning, advocacy, communications & more.
Contact: Melanie 0416 041 510
Email: melpor26@gmail.com

FNQ WORLD CLASS FOOTBALL IS BACK @FSS
When: Fridays from 3:05pm
Where: The Top Oval, FSS
Cost: $10 a class, or block bookings available
Contact: Joe Holt 0422 409 335 or 0411 967 917
Email: info@worldclassfootball.com.au

LITTLE LIFESAVERS
When: Term 4 – 5 session Saturday Program (17th Oct – 14th November) Christmas Holidays: 4 Day Program (14th Dec – 18th Dec)
Where: Cairns Esplanade Lagoon
For: Children aged 5-11 yrs
Contact: 0740 491 201
Email: rdavidson@lifesaving.com.au

SCHOOL HATS
School hats are now available to purchase through the office. They are $8 each and are required for your child to participate in lunch break activities. If students do not have a hat, they must sit under cover on the Orange Seat as part of our sun safety strategy.
### Date Claimers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th First day of term 4</td>
<td>11th Wonder of Life Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th Big Breakfast</td>
<td>17th P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>19th Pupil Free Day</td>
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<td>20th P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>30th World Teachers Day</td>
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<td>11th Last day of 2015</td>
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