Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Last week was a busy week with lots of wonderful activities occurring in the school – World Teacher’s Day, Day for Daniel, the Halloween Disco and a very successful Prep Working Bee.

Thank you to the teachers for supporting the P&C and the Student council with the disco. Lots of fantastic costumes, great music, yummy food and happy kids. It was also wonderful to see teachers and parents getting into the spirit of the night. What a fun way to celebrate this strange tradition. Check out all of the photos from the night on our facebook page.

Day for Daniel reminded us of the importance of teaching our students protective behaviours. Parents, your children are precious. Teach them the strategies to keep them safe. Check out all of the photos from the day on our facebook page.

A HUGE THANKYOU
Thank you to all of our wonderful parents, grandparents, students and volunteers who helped out with the working bee last Wednesday. The front of the Prep area looks amazing! What a transformation! It’s so wonderful to see the results of great team work. Thank you once again for donating your time to improve our school. Also thank you to our P&C for organising morning tea and acknowledging World Teacher’s Day at Balaclava.

A CHANCE TO SAY THANKS TO OUR TUCKSHOP WORKERS AND VOLUNTEERS
Tuckshop Day is this Friday 6 November. Tuckshop Day recognises the great work of thousands of people across the state each and every school day. It also highlights the important role tuckshops play in school life. Providing nutritious food and drinks means families can have one less task to worry about at the start of their day and helps students to concentrate and learn well in class. Parents, carers, students and staff would like to take this opportunity to wish Sharon, Loris, Lurline, Jessica and other tuckshop volunteers a Happy Tuckshop Day.

Our tuckshop is always looking for volunteers to help out so if you’ve got an hour or two free, contact Sharon at the tuckshop. Additional information is available from the Tuckshop Day website.

Ms Jane Termaat
Principal
DEPUTY’S DESK

Deputy’s Absence
During week 5 I will be in Mackay managing the under 12’s Peninsula cricket team at the state championships. While I am away Mrs Roome will be acting in my position. If you require any assistance please follow the normal procedure of contacting the office. I will return to school on the Monday of Week 6.

Ms Michael Patane
Deputy Principal

WALKING BUS

We are very excited to have started a walking bus. Ms Browning will meet students at the Shang St Park (near Moorooool hub) at 8am on Monday and Friday mornings. At 8:10am, she will meet students at the McEwen St Bridge and then the Francis St Bridge at 8:15am. Together, everyone can walk to school which is such a great initiative as it supports students and parents’ fitness (parents are welcome to join in too) and helps to get our students to school on time. Students can then make their way to the activity room for a delicious breakfast of toast and fruit.

STUDENTS AWARDS

SWIMMING

THIS FRIDAY! Students must be at school on time, wearing uniform and need to bring the following:

- A bag to store dry clothes
- Towel & sunscreen
- Bathers and a shirt (all students MUST wear a shirt over their bathers for sun safety or they cannot swim)
- Dry underwear (if wearing bathers to school)

OFF TO HIGH SCHOOL

The end of primary school marks a major transition in your child’s life. It’s a time for reflection on what your child has experienced and learnt during their primary school years – perhaps wondering where the years have gone.

Many parents have concerns about the changes that the next year will bring. After all, your child will be entering a new environment, with new and greater expectations, especially academically. You may already have visited your child’s new school and met or spoken to their new teachers. You may have even looked at purchasing new school uniforms, books and equipment, including calculators, laptops and other items your child will need for their schooling next year.

What you can do

At secondary school there will be many opportunities for you to continue to take an active part in what your child is learning at school. Show your child that you are there to help and support them by listening and offering suggestions.

One way to help is by building your child’s confidence. You can do this by openly acknowledging the things they do well. They don’t have to have done anything particularly special; telling your child that you value them and appreciate their qualities – like how well they help around the house or how thoughtful they are – will go a long way to building and maintaining your child’s confidence. Talk to your child about going to secondary school as often as you think is needed over the summer holidays. Ask your child what they think it will be like. Do they expect they’ll have more homework? Will they learn more things? Are they expecting to enjoy themselves? Do they feel safe and at ease? What do they think their teachers will be like? What do they think the other kids in the classes will be like? What are they most looking forward to? Listening to your child talk may give you some indication of their concerns. If they have concerns, discuss their options. Let them know that you take these seriously and are there to help.
Hello staff, student, parents and carers. This is my first newsletter item ever, in my fourth year at Balaclava. The only excuse I have is that I have been waiting for the cowboys to win a grand final before writing something special, and ‘wha la’ – look what happened!

No, but seriously, even if you are not a Cowboys fan, football fan, or even a North Queenslander, you cannot help being caught up in the spirit of celebration and victory still going on up here. We all love to win, but it comes at a price. I am sure Jonathon Thurston wasn’t sitting down on his bottom every morning dreaming of being the best. He would have been up with the birds, first thing in the morning in the gym or on the field doing drills, over and over again. When his body is exhausted, he would have been sharpening and revising strategies repetitively with his mind, with his pad and pen.

If we want to be champions in anything, or even a contender, we must be diligent, we must make sacrifices we must work hard and listen to others. I’ll steal ‘Coolio’s words when I write, “If everybody is a sinner, then anyone can be a winner”. Whatever challenge or obstacle you face this week, I encourage you all to remember the Cowboys again, in their final minute, they didn’t crumble and give up to a strong Bronco defence but kept the faith and persistence and became victors.

Mr Shannon Forrester
School Chaplain

SLIP, SLOP, SLAP!
Just a reminder to slip, slop, slap as the weather heats up. It’s just as important, if not more so, when the weather is cloudy. Please drink lots of water, wear your hats and slip, slop, slap!

GENERAL NOTICE

JANE’S JOTTINGS
Praise is when you tell your child what you like about her or her behaviour. It goes a long way towards helping your child feel good about herself.

Descriptive praise is when you tell your child exactly what it is that you like. For example, ‘I love the way you shared your Lego with your brother just now’. Descriptive praise is best for boosting self-esteem and building good behaviour – when children get praise for behaving well, they’re likely to want to keep behaving well.

You can praise children of different ages for different things. You might praise a younger child for leaving the park when asked, or for having a go at tying his own shoelaces. You can praise teenagers for coming home at an agreed time, or for starting homework without being reminded.

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT
This year we are pleased to be continuing our journey with School Wide Positive Behaviour Support.

This fortnight our FOCUS SKILL is:

THINK BEFORE YOU ACT
✓ T – is it TRUE?
✓ H – is it HELPFUL?
✓ I – is it IMPORTANT?
✓ N – is it NEEDED?
✓ K – is it KIND?

PREP 2016
We are currently finalising our Prep enrolments. All current families who will have a student coming to Prep next year must complete an enrolment form. Enrolment forms can be obtained from the school office. When they are completed they need to be brought back to the office along with the original birth certificate of the child and up to date immunisation records.

TRANSITION DAY 3
2016 Year 7 students - You are invited to attend Transition Day 3 at Woree State High School – ‘A day in the life of’. Wednesday 9th December (Week 10).

Date: Wednesday 9th Dec 2015
Time: 8.45 am—3.00 pm
Venue: Woree State High School (Meet: Q03)
You MUST be enrolled to attend this day and reply through your teachers/school by Mon 30th Nov.
Students are required to wear their current school uniform and covered in shoes, bring a book and pen to write with, bring lunch and/or money for lunch from the tuckshop. Please be in time!

For further information please contact:
Mrs Linda Jones - HOD Junior Secondary (Acting)
Phone: 4081 5216 Email: ljone132@eq.edu.au
### Date Claimers

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<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
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<td>17th P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>7th Presentation Night</td>
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<td>17th Wonder of Living Parent Info Session</td>
<td>9th High School Orientation Day</td>
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<td>18th Wonder of Living Program for Students</td>
<td>10th School Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th Wonder of Living Puberty Program (Yr. 5 &amp; 6)</td>
<td>11th Last day of 2015</td>
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<td>25th Wonder of Living Parent Session ‘The Talk’</td>
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