Dear Parents and Caregivers,

ATTENDANCE
Earlier in the year I raised the problem of the significant increase in unexplained and unauthorised absences at the end of each term. End of school year is a particularly bad time. The Regional Director has asked us to send a clear message to students, staff and community that classes will continue, lessons will be purposeful and students will be engaged up until the last day. She has also advised that all learning programs, subjects, courses, and specialists are operating normally until the last days of the last week. The learning program should continue for all year levels, so that time isn’t wasted, our students have more opportunity and the image of our schools in the community is positive.

Come on Mondays
They are fun days
You shouldn’t miss even one day
Fridays are just as cool
Attendance is our golden rule
By Kelly (5/6A)

A number of activities are being planned that require student attendance and participation, along with our normal school routines including assessment and reporting. Student reports will be sent home on Wednesday, 11th December.

Ms Jane Termaat
Principal

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.

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)
- Dry underwear (if wearing bathers to school)

WALKING BUS
Together, everyone can walk to school, come and join us! Ms Browning will meet students at the Shang St Park (near Moorooobool hub) at 8am on Monday and Friday mornings. At 8:05am, she will meet students at the McEwen St Bridge and then the Francis St Bridge at 8:10am. Students can then make their way to the activity room for a yummy breakfast of toast and fruit.

www.balaclavss.eq.edu.au

Quote of the Week
“High Quality Teaching and Learning, High Expectations, Highway to Success”
The Balaclava Way

Great state. Great opportunity.
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:
WHAT IS BULLYING?
Bullying is a behaviour by an individual or group that is repeated and hurts another, either physically or emotionally.

Physical Bullying—when a person or group uses physical actions to bully.
Verbal Bullying—Repeated name calling, insults and unwarranted remarks.
Psychological Bullying—Threats, stalking or manipulating someone.
Cyber Bullying—using technology to bully verbally, socially or psychologically.
Covert Bullying—when a person or group lies about someone, spreads rumours or deliberately excludes someone.

MARBLE SEASON
Many of the students have shown an interest in playing Marbles at school so we have decided to hold a Marble season during weeks 8, 9 & 10 of this term. I have listed the rules below and a reminder will be sent out to students next week.

Students are not permitted to bring Marbles to school until the season starts.

Marble Rules:
• Season will be last two weeks of term (week 9 and 10).
• Individual teachers to decide where marbles are to be kept (box in classroom/school bag).*
• No more than 20 marbles kept in container/pencil case.
• Not in plastic bag, pockets or tidy trays.
• Not to play for keeps.
• Play on grassed areas, under trees not in traffic areas or on concrete areas.
• Play during play time. Be at line up on time and move quickly to wash hands ready for learning.
• Marbles are not balls and must not be thrown.

*If you aren’t following the 3R’s you will have your marbles removed by the teacher who has discussed the issue with you. They will decide when you can collect them.

ARE YOU LEAVING US?
If you are transferring interstate and leaving Balaclava State School at, or near, the end of the year please notify the office on 4081 5333. This action assists us with class numbers and staffing for 2016. Thank you for your cooperation.

WONDER OF LIVING
Natural Fertility Services Cairns will visit our school this term to present a Personal Development Program to our students based on the “Wonder of Living” series, as well as puberty talks to our year 5 & 6 students. An information letter was sent home earlier in the week providing more information.

Parents are invited to attend the parent only session: How to Have ‘The Talk’ — 2hr Parent Session on Wednesday 25 November from 2.45pm (in the school hall) that offers helpful information and insights into normal sexual development. It is designed to help parents feel comfortable talking to their child.

TRANSITION DAY – WOREE STATE HIGH
2016 Year 7 students Transition Day will be held on Wednesday 9th Dec 2015 from 8.45am – 3.00pm at 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 pen and paper, lunch and/or money for lunch from the tuckshop.
For further information please contact Linda Jones – HOD Junior Secondary (Acting) Ph: 4081 5216.

ORIENTATION DAY – TRINITY BAY STATE HIGH
Year 6 into Year 7 Orientation Day will be held on Wednesday 9th December 2015 from 9.00am – 2.30pm at Trinity Bay State High School.
Those attending MUST have already completed an Enrolment Form and have received a Confirmation Letter from the school.
Students must wear school uniform and bring a pen, paper, lunch and/or money for lunch. The tuckshop facilities will be open for students to purchase school uniforms.
Parent Meeting: an information session will be held in the Theatre from 9:00am – 10:30am for parents/guardians.
If you require further information please contact the school on Ph: 4037 5222.

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE CELEBRATION
Congratulations to everyone who took part in the 2015 Premier’s Reading Challenge. More than 150,000 children and students from 830 schools and 410 early childhood centers participated with almost 2 million books read throughout the reading period. Our school had 100%! Congratulations to everyone involved. Each child will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the premier.
STUDENT AWARDS

DEPUTY’S DESK

School Banking
Balaclava state school is committed to educating students of the importance of financial literacy and the benefits of saving money. Taking this into account we are looking at introducing a school banking program in 2016 to help teach students the importance of saving. The program we are considering is Commonwealth’s Dollarmite Accounts. You may be familiar with this program as it has operated in schools for decades. This program not only helps students build up their bank balance but also rewards the students with prizes for saving money.

If you are interested in participating in the Dollarmite Banking Program please tick, sign and hand the form below to the office so we can gauge family interest.

Ms Michael Patane
Deputy Principal

JANE’S JOTTINGS

If I had my child to raise all over again,
I’d build self-esteem first, and the house later.
I’d finger-paint more, and point the finger less.
I would do less correcting and more connecting.
I’d take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes.
I’d take more hikes and fly more kites
I’d stop playing serious, and seriously play.
I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars.
I’d do more hugging and less tugging.
Diane Loomans, from "If I Had My Child To Raise Over Again"

TRINITY BAY PRESENTATION NIGHT

Trinity Bay State High School held their Presentation Night last Tuesday night. Congratulations to all award winners, especially some of our past Balaclava Students!...

Michael Ave Year 11 – Overall Academic Award
Michael Baker Year 10 – Game On (Boss Level)
Bethany Whittington Year 9 – Business Ventures & Overall Academic Award
Therese Berenger Year 8 – Overall Academic Award
Judy Duck Year 8 – English as an Additional Language
Shannon McBrearty Year 7 – Overall Academic Award
Ky Terrey Year 7 – CSIRO Crest Award

We are so proud that these students are continuing to strive for excellence.

GENERAL NOTICE

I am interested in having my child participate in the Dollarmite banking program in 2016.

Family Name: ________________________ Number of students: ______

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### Date Claimers

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