Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The end of the school year is racing towards us which can make this time very busy. We have a lot of events filling our calendar so please make a note of these so you can stay up to date. Flyers and information about these are also posted on our Facebook page and website.

- Presentation Night – Monday 7th December
- Concert – Thursday 10th December
- High School Orientation Day – Wednesday 9th December
- Report Cards – Wednesday 9th December (yr 6 report cards Tuesday 8th December)
- Student Leaders for 2016 Speeches – Wednesday 2nd December at 1:55pm in Hall
- Class Excursions and Activities – dates vary for each class.

BEHAVIOUR
The end of the year can be a challenging time for students as they struggle with the heat and the demands for increased focus continue. Some students respond to this by inappropriate behaviour. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that the school has ZERO tolerance for:

- Inappropriate language – especially towards staff. There is an expectation that all students follow instructions, are in attendance each and every day, are in class doing their best work and are following the 3 R’s.
- Physical altercations – There is no place for this in our school. Ever!

The consequence of inappropriate behaviours may result in a suspension.

Children who are suspended are required to stay at home and complete set work. Suspensions are not a holiday and children who are suspended should not be rewarded with holiday style activities.

The support from all parents is asked for if a suspension is the consequence of a breach of the Balaclava State School Responsible Behaviour Plan.

Our preference is for every child to be learning at school every day, while making positive choices about their actions and their behaviours.

Ms Jane Termaat
Principal

CLASSES FOR 2016
Our planning for next year’s classes is well underway with most classes formed and with spaces for new enrolments considered. We are still accepting prep enrolments for next year and have space available for 20 more students. These spaces are filling fast, so if you would like to enrol your young child or know someone who has a prep aged child please contact the office as soon as possible. Our school is allocated a certain number of teachers based upon our enrolment figures. Having a clear idea of the number of students we will have at our school next year will make this a lot easier for our planning.
**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.

**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.

**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)

**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 TO DO IF I AM BEING BULLIED?**

- **STOP** – make the ‘STOP’ sign and ask the person to stop their behaviour.
- **WALK** – if the problem continues… walk away from the situation.
- **TALK** – if the problem continues… TALK!

**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.

**LOST PROPERTY**

We have a number of items in our lost property such as lunch boxes, drink bottles, school bags, hats and clothing. Please collect your forgotten items before the end of this term as we will be donating all unclaimed property to charity on the last day of school.

**MARBLE SEASON**

Marble season is active during weeks 8, 9 & 10 of this term. See list of rules below. **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.

**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.**
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.

Mr Michael Patane
Deputy Principal

VACATION CARE

What do you do when the school year has finished, but your working day hasn’t? How do you keep your children busy during the holidays? Vacation Care is a fully supervised care and recreation centre based at Balaclava State School.

We emphasise play, social interaction and recreation. Activities are organised in small and large groups, or children may choose quiet time by themselves. Some typical activities include: excursions and special outings, art and craft, cooking, drama, dance, games and sport.

Child Care Benefits and Child Care Rebates are available for eligible families using approved centres.

Vacation Care’s hours are 7.30am – 6.00pm. The costs vary, but typical fees for Vacation Care based on the same percentage fees per child could be as little as $7.60 (excursions are additional costs).

HEAD LICE VIGILANCE

We have quite a few classes under attack from dreaded Head Lice. Please, please constantly check and treat your child’s hair for these pests. After initial treatment, check daily using conditioner and a lice comb for at least a week. Up-to-date information is available at the QLD Health website www.health.qld.gov.au/headlice

GENERAL NOTICE

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

Family Name: __________________ Number of students: ____
Date Claimers

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<tr>
<th>November</th>
<th>January 2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>25th Student Free Day</td>
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<td>26th</td>
<td>26th Australia Day Holiday</td>
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<td>27th</td>
<td>27th First Day of Term 1</td>
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<td>25th Wonder of Living Puberty Program (Yr. 5 &amp; 6)</td>
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<td>25th Wonder of Living Parent Session ‘The Talk’</td>
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<th>December</th>
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<tr>
<td>7th Presentation Night</td>
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<td>9th High School Orientation Day</td>
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<td>10th School Concert</td>
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<td>11th Last day of 2015</td>
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These advertisers support us, please support them:

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- 355 Sheridan St - Ph: 4031 4222
- Calanna Pharmacy Woree
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- 6 Moinguard Street, Manoora, Cairns QLD 4870
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  - www.wuchopperen.org.au

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