Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you to all the parents, students and staff who ensured that our classroom transitions last week went smoothly. As I walk through each room every day, I am pleased to say that I am seeing high quality learning and teaching occurring in each and every classroom, with all students settled and focused on learning.

We have a great team of teachers at this school who work exceptionally hard to ensure that your child is receiving learning that is relevant to their year level and suited to their ability.

Our main focus in classrooms continues on from last year, with teachers continually honing their skills in explicit instruction for the delivery of lessons. Explicit instruction – simply summarised as a lesson structure of I Do (teacher input), We Do (group practice), You Do (independent practice) and checking back for understanding – has been shown by research to be a highly effective way of teaching, developing high levels of knowledge, understanding and skill.

We are very excited as this year our school and staff will once again be mentored by John Fleming, a highly respected Australian leader and educator, who has demonstrated strategies which have improved the data in all of the schools he has worked with. Last Monday, John made his first visit to us and was very impressed with the learning and teaching that was occurring. He commented on the positive behaviour of our students while also identifying areas which we will focus on to make sure that we continue on our improvement journey.

Ms Jane Termaat
Principal

**PARKING AND PICK UPS**

We have received a number of concerns regarding unsafe practices while delivering and collecting students and have identified a number of parents who are putting children’s lives at risk by unsafe parking and driving behaviours in the afternoons.

- Please do not park in front of the drive way as others cannot get in or out
- Be very careful when reversing out of car parks – make sure that there are no children on the road. Check all of your mirrors and then check again
- Speak to your child about exiting the school via the gate rather than the drive way

Children’s behaviours around roads can be unpredictable and we need to help them to keep safe. I will be asking the Police to make extra visits at these times as we do not wish to see anyone injured. Thank you for your consideration.
DEPUTY’S DESK

Expensive Items
Just a reminder to all parents and students that expensive items such as mobile phone, ipads, watches and jewellery should be kept at home. Students are required to leave mobile phones at the office when they come to school and they can be collected at 2:30pm. If for some reason you need to contact your child this can be done on the general school number. The school takes no responsibility if these items are bought to school and they are lost.

Mr Michael Patane
Deputy Principal

PARENTS AND SCHOOL

Parents are children’s first teachers. You taught them to walk, to talk, to do lots of things... Now you have handed your precious child over to school and in particular your class teacher.

Like you, our teachers want the very best for your child. If they didn’t care, they would not set high expectations for learning and for behaviour. Partnerships between teachers and parents ensure the best learning for students.

10 ways parents can work with teachers to help kids ACHIEVE:
There’s no doubt that the best outcomes for kids happen when teachers and parents work together to support children’s learning. Here are 10 ways you can work with your child’s teacher to maximise your child’s chances of school success.

1. Know what your child’s teacher is trying to achieve.
2. Keep your expectations reasonable and positive.
3. Support your teacher’s expectations & activities at home.
4. Send kids to school ready to learn and on time.
5. Inform teachers of your child’s challenges and changes.
6. Skill children to work with others.
7. Respectfully seek joint solutions to problems and difficulties.
8. Participate fully in class & school activities.
9. Trust your teacher’s knowledge, professionalism and experience.
10. Talk up what happens at school.

ABSENTEEISM
We have a phone number dedicated to student absences. Send a text telling us why your child is away. Please make sure that you give your child’s full name in the text message, year level/class and reason for absence. The number to contact is 0475 977 608. Alternatively, you can contact the office by phone 4081 5333.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICES
Cairns and Hinterland Oral Health Services wishes to advise families that their District is now able to offer FREE dental treatment to all children and young people from 0-17 years old. It is not necessary to attend school or have a Concession Card. To arrange an appointment, please contact their Central Booking Service on 1300 300 850.

1300 300 850
Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm
Queensland Government

TUCKSHOP VOLUNTEERS
Do you have spare time? The tuckshop is always in need of help, so if you enjoy meeting new people come along and join the team. The students love to see their parents/carers behind the counter.
Phone the school office to enquire 4081 5333.

RESPECTFUL LANGUAGE
Over the last two weeks the teachers at Balaclava State School have been working with students on using respectful language when dealing with one another. Inappropriate language has no place at Balaclava state school. At Balaclava we foster an environment of mutual respect for one another. Please take the time to talk to your child about this important issue.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
The book fair will be open as of Monday 21st March. Each class will be given a time to view and purchase books on this day.

The Book Fair will stay set up the following day for the 3-way conferences, allowing parents to purchase last minute books/goodies.
TRINITY BAY STATE HIGH SCHOOL

will be hosting a

Parent & Student Information Evening for Year 6 students entering Year 7 in 2017

on

WEDNESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2016

6 pm start approximate finishing time 8:30pm

Please meet at TBSHS Theatre.

Enrolment Packages will be available on the night

Parents and students will have the opportunity to:
- Hear from the school principal
- Tour the school facilities
- Find out about the programs offered at the school
- Meet present students and parents at TBSHS
- Meet staff
- Find out more about life at high school

PHOTO DAY

Photo Day is Thursday 3rd March – Please remember to wear your school uniform!

Please return envelopes to the office before photo day. If you did not get an envelope, or you have lost your envelope please come to the office to collect a blank envelope.

Sibling/Family Photos: if siblings wish to have a school photo together they must collect a Family Envelope from the office.

UNIFORMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School shirts (small)</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School shirts (large)</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports shirts</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior shirts</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*available from tuck shop only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School bucket hat</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*available from school office only

OLD SCHOOL UNIFORMS GET A SECOND LIFE

Old school uniforms get a second life at Balaclava. Thank you to Coco & Kingston’s family for donating their old school uniforms to our school. We have passed the uniforms onto some students in need. What a beautiful and rewarding gesture. It’s so warming to have such giving families involved in our school community.

Have your children grown out of their school uniform? Our school can always find a purposeful use for spare uniforms.

QUEENSLAND 2016 TERM DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Wednesday 27 January – Thursday 24 March</td>
<td>9 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Monday 11 April – Friday 24 June</td>
<td>11 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Monday 11 July – Friday 16 September</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Monday 3 October – Friday 9 December</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Date Claimers

### February
- 2\(^{nd}\) Big Breakfast
- 16\(^{th}\) P&C Meeting
- 24\(^{th}\) Trinity Bay High School Info Evening Yr 7, 2017

### March
- 2\(^{nd}\) First Step Dance Session
- 3\(^{rd}\) School Photos
- 15\(^{th}\) P&C Meeting
- 18\(^{th}\) Bullying, No Way! Day
- 21\(^{st}\) Scholastic Book Fair
- 22\(^{nd}\) 3 way conferences
- 24\(^{th}\) Fun Run / Cross country
- 25\(^{th}\) Easter Friday
- 28\(^{th}\) Easter Monday