Collaborative Collographs

During term 3, Arts Project Manager, Jane Younghusband, invited BSS students to participate in the REACH Collaborative Collograph arts workshop. Thanks to the efforts of Mrs Toni Behrendorff and Mrs Sue Robinson-Ross (pictured), interested students spent their lunch breaks letting their creative ideas come to life. Fifteen tiles of artwork were individually created and then joined together and presented as one piece of art. This artwork was then used as a template to print the main artwork for The Big Print Inkfest. The piece was then put on display in the Collaborative Collograph exhibition at Cell Atrspace, which was a huge success. This amazing piece of artwork by our students will be on display here at the school once it has been framed. Stay tuned for more on the artists and their process, along with the completed artwork itself.

Principal’s Pen

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

DISCIPLINE AUDIT

This week the school underwent a Discipline Audit. As part of an initiative to strengthen discipline in Queensland State schools, Discipline Audits will be conducted in every Queensland state school by November 2014. The purpose of the Discipline Audits is to provide quality feedback on how the school is ensuring a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment and to inform school behaviour management planning processes. During the audit, an independent, experienced school principal visited the school to collect a range of data and information about school-wide programs and procedures in the area of discipline. Interviews were also conducted with staff, students and parents to gather a range of perspectives on school strategies and practices in relation to behaviour management.

The school will receive the auditor’s report within 15 days and a 5 page Profile will be made available to parents and caregivers on the school’s web site. We will work with the school community to include any recommendations in the school’s forward planning around strengthening discipline. For further information about Discipline Audits, please contact your child’s school or visit the Education Queensland website.

ATTENDANCE

Date Claimers

Tues 19 Aug  P&C Meeting
Tues 8 Sept  3 Way Conference
Mon 19 Sept  End of Term 3

Tuckshop reminder………..Orders and money for the pie drive are due by Thursday 21 August. Please return to the tuckshop at your earliest convenience. Happy fundraising!

Residential Address
418 Mulgrave Road
Westcourt  QLD  4870

Postal Address
PO Box 266M
Manunda  QLD  4870

Email
admin@balaclavss.eq.edu.au

Website
www.balaclavss.eq.edu.au

Phone Numbers
School - 40815333
Fax - 40815300
Tuck Shop - 40815312
After School Care - 40545911
C&K Kindergarten - 40335192
Dental Clinic - 40541677 (QLD Health)

Date Claimers
Principal’s Pen continued....

STAFFROOM MAKEOVER
Help us win a $20,000 staffroom makeover! Thanks to QT Mutual Bank we have the chance to win a $20,000 staffroom makeover as part of their “Staffroom for Improvement” competition. The prize is a complete makeover of our school’s main staffroom. The winning school will be the one with the most votes weighted against the number of students, so any school, small or large has an equal chance to win. We need as much support from our local school community as possible. Even if we don’t take out top prize we have the chance to win a $10,000 as part of the People’s Choice award. Simply visit www.staffroomforimprovement.com.au to read the terms and conditions and register your interest today. The competition kicks off on 18th August so spread the word and get as many people as possible to vote for our school.

PREP ENROLMENTS FOR 2015
We have a number of prep students enrolled for next year already. This is fantastic for this time of year. Of course we have room for plenty more. Do you have a younger sibling due to enrol into Prep for 2015? Children born between 1st July 2009 and 30th June 2010 are eligible to enrol this term for Prep here at Balaclava State School. Birth certificates must be presented upon enrolment. Enquiries are most welcome on (07) 40815333

BREAKFAST READING
The breakfast reading program will continue this term with reading and breakfast available from 8 am until 8:30 each Monday and Thursday morning. Students who read 5 times will receive a McDonald’s voucher. We have approximately 15 – 20 students who turn up each day for this program.

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT
This week we revised “What to do if you are bullied”

JANE’S JOTTINGS...
Help your child remember
Children with working memory challenges will need extra help: more reminders, more repetition and different kinds of instructions. Here are some approaches:

Simplify it. Young children can’t hold as many words in their head at a time as we can, so instructions should be short, simple and direct. For example, saying “When you’ve read two pages, you can watch The Simpsons” is simpler and more direct than saying “If you complete your homework, then you can watch TV for half an hour.”

Chunk it. Give a child three math questions to do at once (rather than the whole set of 15) and give feedback on those answers before she sees more.

Hook it. Build your instructions around three or four key concepts. For kids with poorer working memory skills, the big ideas can act as a guidepost. If they can get those big ideas down, it helps them remember other concepts.

Mnemonicize it. Teachers once used all manner of mnemonic devices to help kids remember. Some, like Every Good Boy Deserves Fudge, for remembering which note goes on which line in musical notation, are still used. These strategies became less popular as educators began to rely less on rote memorizing. It would be good to see them come back. Not only do mnemonic devices and other memory aids help children remember specific things, they also provide good general training for working memory.

I HAVE READ MY NEWSLETTER!
Would you like the chance to win a free tuckshop voucher for your child? Simply complete the form below, and hand it into the office no later than next Friday morning. The winner will be announced on parade next term.

The family (name) _____________________________ from year ___________ has read the newsletter this week!

Parent signature: ________________________________________

HA VE YOUR DETAILS CHANGED?
Have you moved? Have you changed your home phone, work or mobile number? To help us get in contact with you should your child become sick or injured, please update your records at our office. We have forms available on request. Thank you to those families who have recently updated their information.

NOTIFICATION OF SCHOOL’S INTENT TO START THE PROCESS TO TENDER FOR THE OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE SERVICES
The existing licence to provide the services of Outside School Hours care is due to expire in January 2015. Due to government policy it is mandated that the school needs to put the Outside School Hours Care Services out to tender. It in no way reflects on the existing service provider. This tender process takes approximated three (3) months. Invitation to Offer documents will be released to the market on the Queensland Government QTender website – hosted to the Department of Housing and Public Works in the near future.