Recycling is putting plastic in the right bin.

Chantelle Kinloch

Recycling in when you can remake your old garbage into new things.

Lafaele Leota

Recycling is putting your rubbish in the right bin. We can recycle bottles and cans.

Erinaya Krink-Smedden

Last week was National Recycling Week. In our science unit we have been learning about recycling. I have learnt what recycling means. Recycling means to use or cycle again. We need to recycle because if we don’t we will pollute the earth. Which is not a good thing.

Ricky Paiaro

We can recycle fruit peels. We recycle them because they help the plants grow.

Luvy Faafo

Making Everyday Count

As we near the end of the school year, it’s important to remember that all students are required to attend school every day until the end of term which is 12th December 2014. Not only is attendance at school a legal requirement, but being at school helps students to achieve more and builds social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience. For more information, visit http://education.qld.gov.au/ everydailycounts. We are continuing our focus on attendance and unexplained absences through to the end of the year. I will be presenting certificates to students who attend 100% this semester as well as recognising those students with 100% for the year. In semester 1 we had 59 students with 100% attendance. I have enclosed the 2015 calendar in this newsletter so that families can book holidays in the holidays, not during school term.

Classes for 2015

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 pre aged child please contact the office as soon as possible.

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.

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

NEW MAPS HELP PLAN FOR FUTURE SCHOOLS

The Queensland Schools Planning Commission released its second round of maps and findings. The maps show school age population projections and will help to determine where new state and non-state schools may need to be built, or existing schools expanded, over the next two decades. A new interactive mapping tool is also available allowing users to search an area of Queensland for current schools, projected change in school population and proposed land developments. For further information and resources visit http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/schools-planning-commission.

ATTENDANCE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Prep A</th>
<th>Prep B</th>
<th>Prep 1</th>
<th>Year 1/2A</th>
<th>Year 2/3B</th>
<th>Year 6/7A</th>
<th>Year 3/4A</th>
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Brilliant Balaclava, we’re back in the GREEN!

Fantastic effort to those seven classes over 90%. Well done, an icy pole reward is coming your way. S/BA Soooo close! You can do it this week. Everyone use your tracking chart and keep your class on target. I know we can get every class at 90% this week and if we do, Mrs Roome will come to school dressed as: 1. a Martian 2. Mrs Shrek 3. a green smurf

Now, wouldn’t that be something to see????????
Principal's Pen continued....

Our school is allocated a certain number of teachers based upon our enrolment figures. Having a clear idea relating to safety and reducing the opportunity for misuse during the school day. Please remind your child to follow the Be Responsible rule and ensure they are signed in to the office for safe keeping during the day. Electronic devices are not permitted to be kept inside school bags, for reasons based upon our enrolment figures. Having a clear idea ensuring safety on the walk or ride to and from school in any case where an electronic device is brought to school, it must be signed in to the office for safe keeping during the day. Electronic devices are not permitted to be kept inside school bags, for reasons relating to safety and reducing the opportunity for misuse during the school day. Please remind your child to follow the Be Responsible rule and sign their electronic devices at the office, if and when it is necessary for these to be brought to school.

REMINDER - SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT

Following Teacher’s Instructions
It is an expectation at Balaclava that students listen to and follow teacher’s instructions. A teacher means any staff member or adult who works at Balaclava, such as the teacher aids, the office ladies, the ladies in the tuckshop, the cleaners and Mr Brian. By doing so you are demonstrating Respect, Responsibility and Good Relationships. Before you object, say no or back chat, THINK: "WHY are they asking me to do that?" is it for you to be safe or to ensure you and other students have a great learning environment?

When a “teacher” asks you to do something, you should -
• listen carefully to what they are saying
• follow their instruction straight away
• ask them to explain what they want you to do if you are not sure.

To see the latest news from the school please visit our website:

www.qschools.app.html

BUILDING RESILIENCE
Children and young people frequently are placed in situations that are not to their liking. They may have a teacher for a year that they do not enjoy; play in a sports team that always loses; or eat food that are not used to on school camp. Some children are adept at pleasing their parents to rescue them or change a situation so that it suits them. This is okay when a child’s physical or psychological safety is at risk, or if long term harm is imminent if no change is made. If not, then it is better for kid’s resilience that they learn to cope with these situations themselves. Kids, when left to their own devices usually develop their own coping mechanisms, and will usually adapt their thinking or their behaviour to deal with the situation. This may cause some discomfort for both of you in the short term, but boost resilience for you both in the long term.

More to follow.

Jane Ternaat
Principal

From the Deputy.

Uniforms

Over the last couple of weeks we have implemented our ‘no hat, no play’ rule at lunch time. From the Deputy…..

Electronic Devices Policy

When it comes to electronic devices, such as mobile phones and iPods and iPads, our first preference is that it is necessary for some students to carry these devices to school, for example as a way of parents ensuring safety on the walk or ride to and from school. In any case where an electronic device is brought to school, it must be signed in to the office for safe keeping during the day. Electronic devices are not permitted to be kept inside school bags, for reasons relating to safety and reducing the opportunity for misuse during the school day. Please remind your child to follow the Be Responsible rule and sign their electronic devices at the office, if and when it is necessary for these to be brought to school.

Principal

Jane’s Jottings....

Tips for parents to prevent cyber-bullying

Kids socialise very differently these days. A lot of it takes place on the internet, a world that can be very hard to monitor as a parent. Due to the remote nature of the internet, it may be less obvious that your child is being subjected to cyberbullying, so be sure to watch for symptoms and talk to your child if you have any concerns.

Cyberbullying involves the use of email, chatroom or social media site messaging on the internet, and text, picture and/or video messaging on mobile phones. Unfortunately, it means victims can be bullied even when they’re not at school, leaving children very few places hide. Often, children may be scared to confide in their parents regarding cyberbullying, worried they’ll have their computer rights restricted, or their mobile taken away.

Symptoms can include:
• Excessive computer use
• Troubled sleep or nightmares
• Depression
• Anti-social behaviour
• Anxiety after using the computer

Tips for talking to your child about cyber-bullying:
• Educate your child about cyberbullying and reinforce which types of online behaviour are acceptable, and which are not.
• Advise them only to give their mobile number and personal email to friends
• Encourage time off from the computer or their mobile phone if cyberbullied
• Do not open emails from cyberbullies or respond to bullies on Facebook or SMS
• Encourage them only to talk to people they’ve met in person
• Block the bullies from their Facebook account

What to do next:
• Move your family computer to a public place so you can monitor the times they’re online, and their anxiety levels
• Contact the police if the messages are threatening
• In the event your child has been a victim of cyberbullying, parents can seek assistance from: Parentline QLD - 1300 30 1300. Young people are encouraged to call Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800. Information on cyberbullying is available from the Guidance Officer or online from www.kidshelp.com.au

QSchools App for Our School

We are asking families to use the QSchools App to hear our news - at your fingertips. With the free QSchools app you can find out the latest news from the school instantly. No more missing newsletters or hearing about school events at the last minute. We also use the app to issue notifications such as emergency announcements to you. You can ‘favourite’ more than one school on the app if your family has children attending another state school. QSchools is available for Android, Apple and Windows devices.


The QSchools App is free. By downloading the QSchools App onto your smartphone, you will receive school newsletters, term and holiday dates, events, and important notices. You are encouraged to set up a QSchools account and add your child’s name to your school’s QSchools App. Once you have added your child to the school’s QSchools App, you will receive all important school communications. You may also add your child’s other schools to your QSchools App.

By doing so you are keeping in mind all underwear donated must be new and unused—please keep us in mind next time you are at Big W, K-Mart, Best & Less or the like. Thank you for helping us to help our families.

Tuckshop Notice......

There will be no tuckshop available on the last day of school - the tuckshop will be closed on the 12th December for cleaning. The last week of school will see the menu selections reduce as the cupboards and fridge become bare! 2015 will see changes to the tuckshop menu as the ladies get creative and tantalise your taste buds with new and exciting selections on offer. Suggestions via the Tuckshop Survey recently sent home will be warmly received. The new menu will be available at our website: balaclavas.eq.edu.au and from the tuckshop once it has been finalised. Yum!! Merry Christmas to you and your family from the staff and volunteers at the tuckshop.