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 is being mentored by John Fleming, a highly respected leader and educator, who has demonstrated strategies which have improved the data in all the schools he has worked with.

On Wednesday 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.

Kind Regards
Jane Termaat

AWESOME ATTENDANCE
The school’s goal is to ensure that every child attends every day. We aim to have 95% attendance for every child. This means that your child should only miss 10 days or less in a year.

Whole School Attendance
Week 1 – 91%  Week 2 – 95%  Week 3 – 92%

Term 1 – Wk 3  Average  92%  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Days Away</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep/1</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1A</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1/2A</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2A</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2/3A</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3/4A</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3/4B</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4/5A</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6A</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6B</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Another fantastic week Balaclava! Well done to Prep A and 4/5A, you are making everyday count.

great attendance = great results
DEPUTY’S DESK

NO HAT! NO SHOES! NO PLAY! NO WAY!!

We wear a hat at play time to protect ourselves from the sun
• Always wear a Hat at play time.
• Shoes protect our feet.
• Always wear your shoes at school to keep your feet protected.

I am RESPONSIBLE when:
• I bring my hat to school (I don’t leave it at home)
• I wear my hat on my head whenever I leave the classroom (I don’t leave my hat in my bag or carry my hat around in my hand)
• I keep my shoes on (I don’t take them off in class and go out to play without them on)

CHEWING GUM
A number of students have been bringing chewing gum to school as of late. **A reminder to students that chewing gum is banned at Balaclava State School.** Chewing gum will be confiscated and disposed of if it is brought to school. Thank you for your support on this issue.

Have a great week!
**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, 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.

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

This year we are looking forward to continuing our journey with School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS), which is the framework we employ to ensure a safe and nurturing environment for our students, staff and parents. We have three school rules — **Respect, Responsibility and Relationships** (The 3 R’s). Each fortnight we explicitly teach our expectations for behaviour in various contexts through role-plays, discussion and practice, and students are recognised and positively reinforced when they demonstrate the appropriate behaviour.

REMINDER – BREAKFAST READING

Our breakfast reading has commenced on Mondays and Fridays at 8am. All students are welcome to attend and Parents are more than welcome to read with their children during this time. The cost of breakfast is “reading a book”. Students who read 5 times are rewarded with a McDonald’s voucher which can be used for a Calciyum drink and a chicken wrap.
**JANE’S JOTTINGS**

It is interesting the number of people both children and adults alike who believe that a Mum or Dad should be a friend in preference to being a parent. The job of being a parent is so much more than being a friend and holds a great deal of responsibility. This is worth some discussion.

**What does being a parent mean:**
- Being there for your child – to talk with them, take them places, stay up late waiting for them to come home to know they are safe, helping them with homework that sometimes is beyond your own knowledge, having school meetings with teachers, preparing lunches for years on end (this alone would test any friendship)
- Being with them to celebrate the good times but also to help them through the difficult times (and at times the difficult times outweigh the good times)
- Even when they say “I hate you’ you give them unconditional love by answering ‘I love you’ (not many friends would last the distance if they felt unloved).
- Using tough love when needed (letting them know when they have done the wrong thing; getting them to take responsibility for their actions; setting limits)
- Letting them know what they are doing well but also letting them know what they may need to improve on (which they may not want to hear)
- Being honest but not harsh eg. if an outfit is inappropriate who better to tell them than a parent (a friend most probably wouldn’t)
- Being the shoulder to cry on but eager to talk through the issue causing the problem
- Modelling good behaviour and educating your child with skills needed for them to be ready for living in the community
- In drastic times - dropping everything and coming to their aid – at these times putting their needs before your own

It takes more than a friend to be a parent. It takes love, commitment, selflessness, and endurance. Let’s congratulate ourselves for lasting the distance.

**AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

For all our new and existing families we would like to inform you that we have **limited vacancies** for children to enrol at our after school care. We can have your child in full time after school care for as little as $22.40 per week. This includes all afternoon tea and at home activities. For families who would like to have per day this can be as little as $5.06. **Limited Vacancies.** For additional information please contact Julie on 40545911 or mobile 0408 741 867.

**MOBILE/ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Mobile phones, electronic games, tablets and other electronic devices should not be brought to school. These devices can be subject to theft and or breakage at school, being so small, portable, attractive and concealable. They also represent an issue in terms of security at school for both the school and other students. I am well aware that parents, at times, will need children to have access to a mobile phone out of school hours for routine or emergent contact. To support students and parents in this regard, children who NEED to bring a phone to school, for out of hours use, are to deliver it to the main office when they arrive at school, and get it back at the end of the school day before leaving. These phones will then be stored securely and safely by office staff. Children found with phones or other electronic devices at school will be required to deliver them to the office for safe keeping. Parents will also be contacted to discuss this. Any contact required during the school day can be managed via our school landlines – messages taken to children or children given access to phones when necessary.

**REMAINDER - WEATHER**

While we do not currently face any cyclone threats, I have included information for you today which you may like to keep should things change in the near future.

**CYCLONE PROCEDURES**

Upon a cyclone warning, parents are advised to listen to the radio re possible school closures.
- Should a cyclone threat emerge unexpectedly during the school day, parents may be advised at short notice by radio of impending school closures. We will ensure that appropriate supervision is maintained until all students are collected from school.
- Be prepared when school re-opens to send your child/ren to school with their own drinking water and lunches.
- It is possible our tuckshop may not be open immediately after.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Radio</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Radio</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HOT FM</td>
<td>103.5 FM</td>
<td>4CA</td>
<td>102.7 FM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEA FM</td>
<td>99.5 FM</td>
<td>4AM</td>
<td>846 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABC</td>
<td>106.7 FM</td>
<td>ABC</td>
<td>801 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABC -Beaches</td>
<td>99.5 FM</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CLEAN-UP AUSTRALIA DAY**

Schools Clean-Up Day is on Friday 27th of February 2015. Our school will participate by holding an Emu Parade.
LIFE EDUCATION

!!!EXCITING NEWS!!!

The Life Education Team and Harold the Giraffe will be visiting; Balaclava State School From Wednesday 25th March to Tuesday 31st March 2015.

Life Education motivates and empowers young people to make smart life choices for a healthy future.

MODULE: ‘Harold’s Surprise’ – Prep
Harold and the class are invited to possum’s party in the park. On the way they become aware of and develop appreciation of their bodies, discuss the importance of healthy food choices and exercise, safety in the environment and identify how people grow and change.

MODULE: ‘CLUED UP’ – Prep/1 & YEAR 1
The Children help Harold investigate the disappearance of his friend Cocky. Through being detectives and solving the mystery, they learn about friendship, healthy food choices, safe and unsafe living and cooperation.

MODULE: ‘Harold’s Mystery Tour’ – Year ½ & YEAR 2
The class joins Harold and his friends on a mystery tour where they experience an ‘Amazing Body Adventure.’ The children explore appropriate remedies when feeling sick, issues of safety and ways to cope when feeling pressured.

MODULE: ‘Harold’s Heroes’ – YEAR 2/3
The children join Harold’s superhero team to make the world a safer, healthier place for everyone. Throughout the mission they discover the importance of clean air, safe use of medicine and safety in the environment.

MODULE: ‘Harold’s Diary’ – YEAR ¾ A & B
The Children are invited to read Harold’s Diary as he shares stories relating to bullying, feelings, developing coping strategies, safety with medicines and the importance of making healthy food choices.

MODULE: ‘MIND YOUR MEDICINE’ – YEAR 4/5
The children develop an understanding and gain information on legal drugs, their effects on physical development and their potential for harm. The program encompasses risk-taking, responding to pressure and recognising harmful situations.

MODULE: ‘ON THE CASE’ - YEAR 5/6 A & B
The class identify ways nicotine adversely influences physical and social development. Students also identify high risk situations and develop strategies to deal with the influences and pressures to smoke.

BRAVEHEARTS

Ditto’s Keep Safe Adventure!
Education Program

On Wednesday 11th March your child will have the opportunity to experience our Personal Safety Education Program “The Ditto Show”. Bravehearts are extremely proud of this program and believe that by providing children with the basic principles of personal safety, we are providing them with the tools to stay safe. ‘Ditto’, the Bravehearts’ mascot comes to life as the star of Ditto’s Keep Safe Adventure Education Program to ensure the program is delivered in a fun, interactive and engaging manner. Topics covered throughout the show consists of “Yes” & “No” Feelings, The Body’s Warning Signs, Private Parts, Secrets and what to do if you feel unsafe or unsure.

PARENTS WELCOME TO ATTEND!

!!STUDENTS OF THE WEEK!!

!!BRONZE AWARD!!

Congratulations to our students! Keep up the great work!!
CAIRNS YOUTH ORCHESTRA RECRUITING
We are accepting new enrolments in ALL orchestral instruments at ALL levels for the Friday afternoon/evening weekly rehearsals which commenced Friday 30th January. The CYO is particularly seeking flute, clarinet & percussion players. Contact Mrs M Duffy the CYO Musical Director 4053 2630 or email kandmduffy@westnet.com.au

CAIRNS BMX COME & TRY DAY
When: Saturday, 21st February from 1-4pm. Club racing afterwards
Where: Scott St, Cairns
Bring bike, helmet, gloves, enclosed shoes, long pants, long sleeved shirt
Contact: 4031 2728 or www.cairnsbmx.org.au

TINY TACKER TUESDAY @ CNS REGIONAL GALLERY
Great fun for younger brothers & sisters at the Cairns Regional Gallery. Tiny Tacker Tuesdays for ages 2-5, from 10-10:45am with artist Louisa Ennis-Thomas. Discover your Gallery & make wonderful artworks. $70 for 6wks or $60 for members or $12 per class if booked in advance.

CAIRNS YOUNG VOICES 2015
What: Bringing together students from all over Cairns to experience the joy of singing. Join us for music appreciation classes, theory of music lessons & group choral sessions.
Contact: cyvoices@bigpond.net.au or www.cairnsyoungvoices.com.au

PCYC YOUTH GROUP FOR TEENS WITH ASD
Who: 12-16yr olds
When: Fridays from 6-8pm (fortnightly in term time)
Where: PCYC function room
Cost: PCYC annual membership + $100 per term for sessions
Contact: Brigitte cairnsasdyouthgroup@gmail.com

QSCHOOLS APP
Stay in touch with the QSchools app
Families can keep up-to-date with the latest information from our school through the QSchools app. It’s an easy way to find vital school information including events and newsletters.

The QSchools app now allows for push notifications to deliver essential information directly to a device including emergency alerts and important updates.

### Date Claimers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Clean up Australia Day (Schools) Emu Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>March</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Religious Instruction begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Bravehearts Visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>National Day against Bullying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Life Education Van Visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Life Education Van Visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Life Education Van Visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Life Education Van Visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>April</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Last day of term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>First day of term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Community Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Saturday - ANZAC Day</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>May</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>NAPLAN - National Testing for year 3, 5 &amp; 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Language conventions and Writing tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Notes:**

- Important Date icons are used to highlight special events.
- Events are listed in chronological order by month and date.
- Specific dates and events are noted for each month, including meetings, celebrations, and school activities.
- The end of term 1 occurs on April 2nd, with Easter Monday on the 6th and Good Friday on the 3rd.
- The school year starts on May 20th, and the National Testing program begins on May 12th and continues through mid-May.

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**Additional Information:**

- The newsletter includes advertisements for local services and businesses.
- A reminder to check the school newsletter for more details and updates.

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**Contact Information:**

- Wuchopperen Health Services Ltd: 6 Moignard Street, Manoora, Cairns QLD 4870
  - Ph: (07) 4080 1000
  - enquiries@wuchopperen.org.au

- Calanna Pharmacy: 49 Main St, Ph: 4080 2900

- Caffe Suprimo: Phone: (07) 4041 5181
  - 40% OFF on second meal
  - Valid only at Caffe Suprimo Cairns, up to equal or lesser value. Not valid on special days, contact store for details.