Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This week brings us to half way through the first term already. Teachers are beginning to mark the first units’ assessment pieces and are already busy planning and preparing for the next units of work. While I will continue mentioning the importance of attendance I am also mindful that children do get sick. If your child is very unwell, please keep him/her at home. Please notify the office if your child is going to be absent. A quick phone call is all it takes Ph: 4081 5333

On Thursday and Friday I will be in Brisbane for the biannual State wide Principal conference. 1200 Principals will be in attendance at the direction of the Director General of Education,Jim Watterson.

With the recent wet weather, and with more likely to be on its way, the drains and creeks around the school fill up fast and are prone to flooding. Please remind your child/ren to stay away from pipes and drains. A recent tragedy in the North highlighted the importance of this message. “Use your brain. Don’t play in pipes and drains”

I 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 so that 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 your mirrors and then check again.

- Speak to your child about exiting the school via the gate.

I will be asking the Police to make extra visits at these times as we do not wish to see anyone injured.

Children’s behaviours around roads can be unpredictable and we need to help them to keep safe.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind Regards

Jane Fernaat

AWESOME ATTENDANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Days Away</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>92%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep A</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep/1</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1A</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1/2A</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2A</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2/3A</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3/4A</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3/4B</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4/5A</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6A</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6B</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balaclava, you make everyone so proud. This week ROCKS again. Well done to Prep A, 1A, 1/2A and 2/3A for hitting the target this week. A special mention to Prep A who are leading the way as the top attendance class so far this term. Icy poles are coming to the classes at 92% and above.

www.balaclavss.eq.edu.au

Quote of the Week

“Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.”

Robert Louis Stevenson

Great state. Great opportunity.
ATTENDANCE

WHY EVERYDAY AT SCHOOL COUNTS!

Did you know your child’s best learning time is the start of the school day? That’s when every minute counts the most!!! The First bell goes at 8:25am!! All students are ready for learning at 8:30am!

Just a little bit late doesn’t seem much but........

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/She is only missing just....</th>
<th>That equals....</th>
<th>Which is....</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that’s....</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly Half a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 Weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 Weeks per Year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 and a Half years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 Weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 and a Half years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 or 2 days a week doesn’t seem much but........

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses....</th>
<th>That equals....</th>
<th>Which is....</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that’s....</th>
<th>Which means the best your child might perform is....</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 Days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 Days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 Days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 days per week</td>
<td>120 Days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing at grade 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

COWBOYS VISIT TO BSS

On Friday the 20th of February, two North Queensland Cowboys players, Robert Lui and Scott Bolton came to visit our school. They talked to us about the importance of eating well, playing well and staying well. They informed us that it meant getting enough sleep at night (10-12hours), getting a good education (coming to school each day) and keeping those sugary treats to a minimum. They also told us that it is not about winning, it is about having fun and showing good sportsmen ship. During the presentation, all students were focused and showed amazing listening skills. Balaklava students showed their appreciation with a massive round of applause and a thank you. Well done, Balaklava and we wish the Cowboys the best of luck this season.

By Molly and Kelli

LUNCH

Please ensure that your child has a healthy lunch every day. A large number of students are coming to school without food. Students need to have eaten breakfast in the morning, have lunch and a snack for the afternoon break. Without food your child cannot do his/her best at school.

CLEAN-UP AUSTRALIA DAY

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

TUCKSHOP NOTICE

Please do not ask for credit as refusal often offends.

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.
The Life Education Team and Harold the Giraffe will be visiting *Balclava 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/S**
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 is introduced to what 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.

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**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!**

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**STUDENTS OF THE WEEK!**

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**PLANET RHYTHM**

**THE RHYTHM OF THE PLANET COMES ALIVE!**

Planet Rhythm offers a fun and informative short talk on the history and evolution of rhythm and drums and a variety of drumming demonstrations. **An awesome student experience where everyone is invited to participate!**

**When:** Thursday 5th March 2015  
**Session 1** 8:35am Classes 2/3A - 5/6B  
**Session 2** 9:40am Classes Prep A - 2A  
**Where:** School Hall  
**Cost:** $4.50 per student payable to the school office
**BULLYING NO WAY**

A reminder to all parents and students that at Balgaclava we have a no tolerance policy on physical abuse or bullying. Students breaching this policy run the risk of being suspended as well missing out on extra-curricular activities such as camp and interschool sport days. Please remind your child if they are experiencing any bullying to contact a teacher. We thank you for your support on this matter.

**FREE DENTAL CARE**

- All QLD school aged children from 4 years to completion of Year 10
- All QLD children aged between 2-17 years who receive Family Tax Benefit A (Child Dental Benefits Schedule) or have a current pension/concession card.

When arranging an appointment, dental staff will be happy to include other eligible children in your family. Please bring your Medicare Card to your appointment.

*Contact your nearest clinic for an appointment*

Van 173 0418 716 687
Van 188A 0407 599 670
Van 141A 0412 059 394

**WRITING**

Despite our ever-increasing use of technology, writing is still a basic life skill and used by most people on a daily basis. For students in particular, writing by hand is involved in at least 25-50% of tasks in the school day. Writing by hand is a complex task that develops skills in a number of areas and aids learning and creativity. The best way to improve handwriting is to practice. Just ten minutes of practice every school day will lead to better handwriting within weeks.

**HATS**

As of this week students are not permitted to wear caps and are required to wear a broad-brimmed hat. Our Sun Smart policy stipulates bucket or broad-brimmed hats. Students who do not have appropriate hat wear will not be permitted to play. Hats are available from the Tuckshop for $8. It is highly recommended that your child’s name is inscribed on their hat!

Wear your hat every day,
‘No hat’ means you cannot play,
Keep it on ‘til half past two,
Our safety rule applies to you.

**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.

**LIVE WELL WITH ASTHMA**

Are you or someone you care for living well with asthma? If you:
- wake up coughing, wheezing or breathless
- struggle to keep up with normal activity
- use your blue reliever puffer more than three times a week
- are unsure about the way your medications can
- work best for you

These are all signs your asthma is not well controlled or signs you are not living well with asthma. If your asthma is limiting your quality of life, Asthma Foundation Qld invites you to join us for a free one hour Live Well with Asthma workshop. To register please call Asthma Assist on 1800 645 130 or visit http://www.asthmafoundation.org.au/QLD/Courses_for_the_community.aspx

*Where:* Cairns City Library, 151 Abbott St
*When:* Tuesday 10th March from 10—11am

**REMEMBER - 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>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**QSCHOOLS APP**

Stay in touch with the QSchools app

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

**GENERAL NOTICES**

**CAIRNS JNR CHORAL SOCIETY**
*What:* For kids who love to sing. Ages 8-18yrs  
*When:* Meet every Tuesday from 5:30pm  
*Where:* Cairns Choral Society Hall, Grove St  
*Contact:* Ioni Dunstan on 0437 942 019

**FSS NETSETGO**
*What:* NetSetGo is an opportunity for kids to increase social & motor skills & experience netball in a fun & friendly environment.  
*Where:* The Canopy, FSS  
*Who:* Boys/girls 5-10yr olds  
*When:* Wed 18th Feb from 3:05-4:05pm  
*Cost:* $80 with NetSetGo pack, $60 without pack  
*Bring:* Suitable clothing, appropriate footwear, hat, ball from kit, water bottle & sunscreen

**ELLIS BEACH SURF CLUB SIGN ON / OPEN DAY**
*When:* Sat 28th & Sun 29th March from 10am to 3pm  
*Where:* Ellis Beach Clubhouse  
*What:* Clubhouse tours, beach activities for Nippers, free sausage sizzle etc  
*Contact:* ellis.sls@bigpond.com

**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

**LITTLE LIFESAVERS @ CAIRNS ESPLANADE**
*Term 1:* Saturdays from 14th Feb to 28th March from 8:15 to 10am  
*Holidays:* Mon 13th to Fri 17th April from 8-10am. No Wednesdays  
*Term 2:* Saturdays from 18th to 6th June from 8:15 to 10am  
*Cost:* Holiday session $55 inc rashy. Term sessions $150 inc rashy.  
*Contact:* 4049 1201 or r davidson@lifesaving.com.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:* cvvoices@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

**T20 CRICKET ACTION SIGN ON**
*When:* Friday Feb 6th to March 27th (8wks)  
*Time:* 5:30 – 7pm  
*Where:* Griffiths Park, Manunda  
*Cost:* $99 includes shirt, cap & bag  
*Contact:* Mitch mitch.cricketcairns@gmail.com 0409 084 375

**GUIDANCE OFFICER INFORMATION**

**Seasons for Growth**
*an 8 week group program for children*

*When:* Mon 9th March 2015  
*Time:* 3:30-4:30  
*Cost:* Free  
*Where:* 10 Thomas St, North Cairns  
*To register please contact Linda on 4014 0130 or Linda.Ryan@centacarecairns.org

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**HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENING**

**HIGH SCHOOL 2016 INFORMATION EVENING**

Trinity Bay State High School will be hosting  
**PARENT INFORMATION EVENING**

**YEAR 6 INTO YEAR 7**  
**WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2015**

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

**SUCCESS THROUGH ENDEAVOUR**
Date Claimers

February
27th: Clean up Australia Day (Schools) Emu Parade

March
2nd: Religious Instruction begins
11th: Bravehearts Visit
17th: P&C Meeting
20th: National Day against Bullying
25th: Life Education Van Visit
26th: Life Education Van Visit
30th: Life Education Van Visit
31st: Life Education Van Visit

April
2nd: Last day of term 1
3rd: Good Friday
6th: Easter Monday
20th: First day of term 2
24th: Community Breakfast
25th: Saturday - ANZAC Day

May
NAPLAN - National Testing for year 3, 5 & 7
12th: Language conventions and Writing tests
13th: Reading
14th: Numeracy
19th: P&C Meeting

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