Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The term is moving along at a very fast pace. Last week we collated our first 5 weekly reading data to discover that a number of students have made significant progress with their reading. This is very exciting news. Reading with your child for just 10 minutes a day helps students to become fluent confident readers.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT REVIEW

Next week we’ll participate in a school improvement review. Three external advisors will visit our school for three days. During this time they will have interviews with teachers, parents, students, and all other staff members. The programs that we use in our school will be reviewed and feedback provided to all.

To help Queensland state schools continue to lift their performance and improve outcomes for students, tailored school reviews have been introduced in 2015. The reviews replace the teaching and learning audits and will ensure every school gets the support it needs. Every state school, including independent public schools, will be reviewed at least every four years. This is the same frequency as the teaching and learning audits but it’s no longer a one-size-fits-all approach. The new reviews are tailored to the individual needs and context of schools. For example, high-performing schools will be given autonomy and some funding to organise their own reviews and appoint reviewers. Schools needing extra support will receive it as a priority. The reviews are administered by the School Improvement Unit (SIU), which has been established as an independent monitor of state school performance.

Review process

Reviews are conducted in a professional manner by teams of three to four reviewers appointed by the SIU or, in the case of self-determined reviews, in consultation with the SIU. Depending on the type of review, reviewers may spend between three and six days in a school looking at its operations and speaking with staff, parents, students and other community members. Principals and school leadership teams are involved and kept informed throughout the process. At the completion of the review, the review team presents its findings to the school’s leadership team. A written report follows that identifies areas for future improvement.

Following the review, schools work closely with their regional office to develop an appropriate response and improvement strategies. The school also shares the findings with their school community and publishes the final report on their website. Schools continue to be supported following a review. In the case of priority support reviews, the SIU checks back in with the school at three and six months after a review. It then revisits the school at 12 months.

More information

For more information please visit our website www.education.qld.gov.au/schools/school-performance-assessmentframework or talk to your principal or regional office.

KEY DATES

We have a number of key events coming up in the next few weeks. Please keep an eye out for the dates to remember so you can keep up with these.

Kind Regards
Jane Termaat

Quote of the Week

Explicit teaching is ‘a systemic method of teaching with emphasis on proceeding in small steps, checking for student understanding, and achieving active and successful participation by all students.’ Rosenshine (1987)
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 to 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 in grade 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHY NOT PLAY A ROLE IN YOUR P&C THIS YEAR?

The Annual General Meeting for the P&C Association is to be held in the Training Room next to the school office at 5 pm on the 17th March. At the AGM all existing memberships lapse and all P&C positions become vacant.

All parents and guardians of children at the school are encouraged to join the P&C so they may be informed of matters affecting their children’s school experience and to have a say in P&C activities. Membership applications submitted prior to the AGM can be accepted on that night, even if the applicant is not in attendance. Membership applications made after that date will require attendance at a monthly general meeting. The membership forms are available at the school office. For those willing to take a more active role in the P&C, nominations for executive or other positions are keenly sought and extremely welcome.

ROLE OF THE PRESIDENT
• Chair the monthly P&C meetings
• Signatory for official agreements/Representative at official functions
• Outside School Hours Care Licensee
• Oversee the activities of the P&C
• Assist and encourage other executive members to fulfil their roles according to the guidelines

ROLE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT(S)
• Act as the President’s understudy
• Take responsibility for activities and/or projects within the school and report back on these to the monthly meetings

ROLE OF THE SECRETARY
• Oversee maintenance of records and registers, correspondence and other documents
• Assist with preparation of agenda and minutes for monthly meetings (this role is greatly assisted by the P&C Administration Officer)

ROLE OF THE TREASURER
• The Secretary is responsible for carrying out the administrative tasks related to the decisions of the meetings as resolved.
• The Secretary prepares, in consultation with other P&C members, all meeting agendas.
• The Secretary is required to attend every association meeting and take notes of the discussions in order to produce a set of minutes for subsequent distribution to members and for receipt, possible amendment and adoption at the following meeting. (In the absence of the Secretary the meeting should elect a person to take the Minutes, this person should be identified in the Minutes.) Further, the position includes receiving and tabling all correspondence as well as writing and dispatching outgoing correspondence as resolved/appropriate.
• The Secretary also issues notice of all meetings and maintains official records of the P&C Association such as the constitution, by-laws, rules of subcommittees, Incorporation Certificate, ABN details, list of financial (voting) members, Minutes, Attendance book.

The injection of new ideas and enthusiasm is essential to keep the P&C moving forward in its goal to support the best possible education of our children. It is an opportunity to make a real and lasting contribution. If you would like to nominate for a position, just complete and drop a note to the office with the following information: Name, Nominated position(s) and Phone Number.
AWSOME ATTENDANCE

Term 1 – Wk 6  Average 91%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Days Away</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep A</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep/1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1A</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1/2A</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2A</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2/3A</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3/4A</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3/4B</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4/5A</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6A</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6B</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balaclava, we are still the green team. Way to go! Let’s see if we can get this week’s Monday and Friday into the green as well as Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION

A number of students are not going home on the bell. We only provide supervision until 2:45 after which time we have staff meetings, planning meetings and other appointments. Please discuss with your child the importance of going home straight away at the end of the day.

If you pick your child up at the end of the day but are running late please call the office so we can arrange supervision.

Students who participate in the “The Good Start” program or the after hour dancing program have all provided permission to be here after 2:45.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

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.

TUCKSHOP NOTICE

Please do not ask for credit as refusal often offends.

BULLYING NO WAY

A reminder to all parents and students that at Balaclava 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 practise. 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 Tuck-shop 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.

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. Find out more on the DETE apps page.

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: Cairn 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>

LIFE EDUCATION

!!EXCITING NEWS!!
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.

PLANET RHYTHM
Last Thursday morning, students from Balclava State School attended an interactive presentation called Planet Rhythm. Students were exposed to different types of drums from all over the world and had a chance to play some of the instruments. At the end of the show, a few students were asked to perform a piece of music using these percussion instruments using complicated rhythms and performing together. Students had fun playing the different drums and the show emphasised some of the aspects being learnt in music classes here at school.
JANE’S JOTTINGS

PARENTS HAVE NEEDS TOO

As parents, a great focus of our time and energies is spent on ensuring that our children’s needs are met. We do this out of love for our children. Sometimes though, it is easy to forget our own needs. When this happens it usually leads to a feeling of discontent which certainly impacts on all members of the family.

Many parents have common needs that, if fulfilled, will help greatly in the enjoyment of family life. Here are some suggestions:

- Take time away from the kids – Having time with your spouse or partner without the kids in your ear is very beneficial for your relationship. So too is personal time for yourself. We all have a need for privacy.
- Enjoy your job – As employment caters to financial security it is important it is something you enjoy. If you don’t then this will impact on not only your own health and well-being but your families as well.
- Be healthy – Look after your health through good eating habits as well as exercise. When you look good you feel good. As one needs to be a parent for a very long time (at least 18 years), being healthy makes the job easier. Exercise also helps the mental health – you can work through a lot of problems when you are on the go.
- Take time to relax – take holidays when they are due (what really is the point of saving them if it eventually leads to stress from overwork?). Use weekends well – they too are a time to relax and unwind. A relaxed parent is better able to enjoy the family.
- Pursue an interest – whether it be a leisure interest, friendship group or community involvement. Find time to do the things you enjoy.
- Let others support you when you’re down – It’s often said you need a community to raise a child, but it is also true that the community can help you in this sometimes difficult task.
- Educate yourself on being a better parent – often our only model of parenting may have been what our parents did. It is worthwhile attending parent classes, seeking advice, talking to other parents to ensure you are well equipped for the challenges that children provide.

Remember: We are all important. No one is more important than the next person. Just as children require their needs to be met so do parents. So, factor in time each day to meet your needs – Happy parents can only benefit the entire family.

GENERAL NOTICES

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Volunteer to host an international high school student in July 2015. This unique & rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer to understanding themselves better & see the world in a new light. The students arrive in July from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland & Spain. Visit our website www.scce.com.au or email scceaust@scce.com.au or call 1800 500 501.

BEARS JNR BASEBALL CLUB

When: April to September
Where: Loridan Dr Jnr Sports Reserve, Brinsmead
Contact: Kendra 0408 154 760 or Toni 0412 248 192
email bearsjuniorbaseball@gmail.com website www.bearsclubs.baseball.com.au

TYC AWESOME AUTUMN DRAMA SCHOOL 5-13YRS

What: Awesome Autumn Drama School (5-13yrs)
Holiday Programs

Get your training gear on for Program 1: Quidditch Cup: Let the Games Begin (7/4 – 10/4, 9am – 3pm, Cairns City) with special guest costume artist Hayley Gillespie. Search through the live source code with Program 2: Minecraft: Return of Herobrine (13/4 – 16/4, 9am – 3pm, Cairns City). Explore acting, costumes, lighting, sound & multimedia elements, finishing with a creative performance on the final afternoon. Learn the essentials of stage performance through improvisation, role-play & characterization activities & then perform in front of a live audience with costumes, sets, props, sound effects, live projections & theatrical lighting!!

Contact: 4041 4066, email info@theyoungcompany.com.au or visit our website www.theyoungcompany.com.au

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

Care Chiropractic QLD

[Image: Care Chiropractic QLD]
## Date Claimers

### March
- **11th**: Bravehearts Visit
- **17th**: P&C Meeting Annual General Meeting
- **20th**: National Day against Bullying
- **25th**: Life Education Van Visit
- **26th**: Life Education Van Visit
- **27th**: 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
- **12th**: Language conventions and Writing tests
- **13th**: Reading
- **14th**: Numeracy
- **19th**: P&C Meeting

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**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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### Advertisements
- **Balaclava Veterinary Surgery**
- **AAB Office Equipment**
- **Calanna Pharmacy**
- **Wuchopperen Health Service Limited**
- **Caffe Suprimo**

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