

Dear Families,

As we move closer to March Break, I wanted to share a few reminders and updates with our school community.

Parking Lot and Bus Lane Safety

A reminder that our parking lot and bus lanes are extremely busy at the end of the day. At dismissal time we also have our Kindergarten students outside lining up, which adds to the congestion in these areas. Please drive slowly, follow staff directions, and use extra caution when entering and leaving the lot.

We would also like to remind families **not to use the small bus lane in front of the school for parking or pick-up/drop-off**, as this space must remain clear for buses and safe student movement. Your cooperation helps us keep all of our students safe.

Early Pick-Ups at the End of the Day

We continue to experience a high number of early pick-up requests very close to dismissal time. After about **3:15 p.m.**, many classes are already preparing for dismissal, transitioning outdoors, or moving to bus and pick-up areas. This can make it difficult to retrieve students without disrupting the entire class.

In addition, we have one office administrator who is often trying to locate many students at once during this busy time, which can be challenging and takes away from other end-of-day procedures.

If you do need to pick up your child early, we kindly ask that you **plan to arrive earlier in the afternoon whenever possible**. This helps minimize disruption to classes and supports a smoother dismissal for everyone.

School Happenings

Checkers Tournament

Some of our students will be attending a **Checkers Tournament on March 31** with Mrs. Cassidy. We wish them the best of luck!

Robotics and Coding Club

Our Robotics and Coding Club is underway. Thank you to **Mrs. Hrycenko and Mr. Tudor** for providing this engaging opportunity for students.

Winter Concert

Our **Winter Concert on February 24** was a wonderful success! Students performed in an afternoon concert for the school, and it was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate their hard work and musical talents. Thank you to **Mr. Tudor and Mr. McIntosh** for organizing such a memorable event.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration opened on **February 2**. If you have a child starting school in September, or know a family in the community who does, please encourage them to register.

School Musical – *Annie*

We are excited to share that preparations for our school production of ***Annie*** are underway. Students and staff have begun rehearsals, and the excitement around the school is building. It is always wonderful to see our students share their talents and confidence on stage.

Please **mark your calendars for our performances on May 26 and May 27**. More information about show times and tickets will be shared in the coming weeks.

March Break

March Break is almost here! We hope families are able to take some time to relax, recharge, and enjoy time together. Whether you are traveling or staying close to home, we wish everyone a safe and restful break. Students return to school on **Monday, March 23**.



Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school community. The partnership between families and staff helps make our school a positive place for students to learn and grow.

Warm regards,

Anna Ricci
Principal
Balaclava School