We had a special guest at our school assembly last week. Anthony Byrne (Australian Labor Party Representative for Holt) came to present our school with a new national flag. Unfortunately our previous flag was stolen from the flag pole late last year. During his visit he spoke to the students about the origins of our national flag and its importance in our history as well as present day. Mr Bryne was very impressed that so many of our students asked him questions about the flag and its history. He was also impressed at how sensible and thought provoking their questions were. We should be extremely proud of our students that they made such an impact on Mr Bryne.

Our school captains accepted the flag from Mr Bryne on behalf of the whole school community.

During the theft of our previous flag, the flag pole was damaged and we are now looking into getting it repaired. However this is an expensive job. Once we have had the flag pole repaired we will be able to fly our new national flag with pride!

*Cheryl Van Deursen – Principal*

---

**Quote:**

If you want children to keep their feet on the ground, put some responsibility on their shoulders.

~*Abigail Van Buren*
As I mentioned last week, student reports will be written in accordance with AusVELS. AusVELS is the new DEECD document that schools in Victoria work with to deliver curriculum to students and assess their progress and achievements.

Up until last year schools in Victoria worked with VELS (Victorian Essential Learning Standards). All other states and territories had their own curriculum, so there was no consistency across the country. To alleviate this, we are now working towards the implementation of a national curriculum.

To assist with the introduction of the national curriculum, we are in a “transitional phase” - so we are working with AusVELS. This is a combination of the new Australian Curriculum and VELS. English, Mathematics, History and Science are now in line with the Australian Curriculum and all other curriculum areas are still being followed from VELS.

Eventually all curriculum areas will be added to the Australian Curriculum and we will no longer be working with AusVELS. This will be a gradual process, and will mean that all children in Australia will be working to the same curriculum.

AusVELS and Australian Curriculum is a set of guidelines and standards that support the curriculum that we deliver. It allows us to develop quality learning and teaching opportunities that enable our students to work towards the standards determined by DEECD.

**Di Fernand - Assistant Principal**
Welcome to Term 2! This has been a busy and exciting term already!

Last Monday our students got to participate in the Cross Country Trials. It was a beautiful day and we had many children who qualified and will represent our school at the next level. Congratulations to them and to every student for their participation and their positive attitude.

Next week is NAPLAN week. Students of Year 5 will be sitting the Reading, Writing, Language Conventions and Mathematics tests. We wish them luck.

Our topics for investigation this term have been: **Federation, Women in Politics and Indigenous Australians and Democracy.**

We have also been setting up our towns and businesses for Earn and Learn, which is a program that is based on real life where children rent houses, buy groceries, and have jobs.

For the past half of Term 1, and for all of Term 2, SMR have been working with their Prep Buddy Grade. We have been having an amazing time working and learning together. The SMR seniors have really enjoyed teaching the Prep students about responsibility, organisation and trying your best. We even taught each other how to tie our shoelaces! We have been using the iPads to make movies about different things, and loved watching the Wonky Donkey song!

The Preps have really enjoyed showing the SMR seniors their writing and reading, and how quickly they are learning new things. The SMR seniors are very proud of the Preps! We are looking forward to the rest of Term 2.
COMMUNITY NEWS

School Uniform
Beleza is currently offering 20% off the price of their current stock of bomber jackets.

Mothers’ Day – Sunday 12th May 2013
CPS is having a Mothers’ Day Stall tomorrow Thursday 9th May
Gifts are available for $2.00, $3.00 or $5.00.

Book Fair
Monday 20th May – Thursday 23rd May
Come and have a look at the great titles available to purchase.

Curriculum Day
Friday 7th June
Students do not attend school on this day. CPS staff members are involved in Professional Development.