UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 10 March
Labour Day – Public Holiday

Thursday 13 March
School Photos

Friday 14th March
Orders Due Book Club Issue 2. Catalogues available at Learning Centres & Library

Wednesday 19 March
Special Canteen lunch (Orders due March 7th)

Thursday 20 March
District Athletics

Friday 21 March
Indonesian Day

Friday 4 April
Last day of term – 3.15pm dismissal

Congratulations to those students who have started February with being at school on time each day. As mentioned in last week’s newsletter, students with 100% attendance at the end of four weeks will go into a raffle for a voucher from Beleza. On the back page today, we have included a graph showing student absences for the first four weeks of the school year.

The home group with the best attendance rate for February was MLB – well done! The learning community achieving the best overall attendance was the Senior Learning Community – great effort!

Whilst we appreciate attendance at school can be interrupted by numerous things, DEECD have released new guidelines for schools to follow regarding student absences. There are now some very tight parameters regarding: acceptable reasons for absence, acceptable number of days absent, procedures for schools to follow when students have been absent for extended periods or an accumulation of excessive absence days and the introduction of School Attendance Officers. Families will need to seek Principal authorization on any holidays. Thank you to those parents who already provide the necessary notification to us regarding their child’s absences. Please remember you can phone us, tell us or write an absent note. It is important to note that some reasons are no longer deemed to be acceptable by DEECD and may require follow up. If you receive a DEECD generated letter regarding your child’s absence, please understand this is now a mandated process.

It is exciting that this week we have already had six home groups with all students in attendance for the whole day. Well done to JMC, MLB, MSG, SMD, JMD, JLB,

Cheryl Van Deursen - Principal

Equal 1st
Bakewell and Childers

2nd Russell

3rd Cameron

‘Children are a reflection of their community’

Quote of the Week

-Tupac Shakur
Student information packs were sent home last week with student details to be checked and a permission sheet for signing. If you have not returned these documents to the school could you please do so this week. Thank you.

Please be advised that schools do not have health insurance for student accidents. If you do not have private health cover and you would like to establish insurance for your child, JUA provide a 24 hour, 7 days a week cover for a small annual fee. You can contact them on 1800 252 264 or www.studenthealth.com.au

**SCHOOL NEWS**

**JJ CURRICULUM**

**Marble March is here!!**

There is a strange phenomenon here at CPS - Marble March. The tradition of bringing marbles to school for the month of March is a long standing tradition that requires no prompting from any staff member! It is amazing that the students just know to bring their marbles to participate in competitions all over the grounds – even our new students have joined in the tradition.

It is great to see the students involved in games such as marbles; students set their own rules and structures for their games; they oversee fair play and playing by the rules, and are able to abide by decisions, even when it means they ‘lose their marbles’.

This is a great opportunity for students to play together, work co-operatively, learn from each other – all while having fun! Learning through play is a fantastic way for students to learn – they are interested, engaged and applying skills and concepts to real life applications.

Part of the game sometimes means losing. With games like marbles or Pokemon cards, losing the game means you also lose the marble or the card. This is part of the game, and something you should discuss with your child, before they bring these items to school to participate.

Being a good sport and losing graciously is a life lesson! We can’t always be the winner or be the best at something – help your child to cope with disappointment and to understand this valuable lesson. As parents we want to protect our children from pain, disappointment, losing, etc. However, this is not preparing them for the future. The reality of life is we all experience disappointment of some kind in our lives, but it is how we deal with it that counts.

So, if your child wants to join in the fun and play marbles or Pokemon at school, encourage and support them. But also help them to understand there are winners – and therefore there has to be a loser too!

**Di Fernand - Assistant Principal**

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**Stars of the Week**

*Congratulations on all your wonderful efforts this week!*  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>For being</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior LH</td>
<td>Nikil P.</td>
<td>Respectful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior MR</td>
<td>Maania K.</td>
<td>Supportive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior MD</td>
<td>Hope E.</td>
<td>Persistent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior MC</td>
<td>Sema M.</td>
<td>Confident</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle LB</td>
<td>Jasper R.</td>
<td>Responsible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle ER</td>
<td>Madison F.</td>
<td>Persistent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle SG</td>
<td>Maria T.</td>
<td>Confident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior AM/IW</td>
<td>Caitlin P.</td>
<td>Co-operative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior MD</td>
<td>Lucas P.</td>
<td>Persistent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior BA</td>
<td>Will M.</td>
<td>Articulate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Kaylah D.</td>
<td>Confident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>Hannah R</td>
<td>Creative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ass’t Principal</td>
<td>Maali A.</td>
<td>Caring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Brayde W.</td>
<td>Responsible</td>
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**Happy Birthday to the students who celebrate their birthdays this week**

- Chris D.
- Shereese W.
- Tahlia P.
- Jay W.
- Robert S.B.

**From the Office**

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Playing sport not only builds children’s co-ordination and fitness but helps improve their social skills, team work, and a healthy attitude to life. At Cranbourne Primary School the children have a variety of opportunities to be involved in sport. Some of the extra curricula activities include:

* Kids Tennis Foundation – 10 free tennis lessons for all Year 5/6 children
* District Athletics, Cross Country, Lightning Premiership – Summer & Winter Competitions
* House Sports P-6
* Hoop Time Basketball competition for Years 3-6
* Swimming Lessons P-6 in Term 3
* Kelly Sports after school Program
* Melbourne Football Club School’s Program

Five ways to get your kids interested in sport:

1. **Spectator Sport**
   – Take your children to watch a big soccer, netball or football match. They might enjoy it.

2. **Fun and Fitness**
   – Explain that playing a sport can be lots of fun, healthy and a great way to meet new people.

3. **Take it Easy**
   – Don’t be a pushy parent. Encourage them to enjoy themselves, no matter what skill level.

4. **Support System**
   – Celebrate their triumphs and encourage them to keep going when they’re finding it tough.

5. **Part to Play**
   – Play sport with them. Not only will help home skills but you’ll also have fun together.
Thank-you to all the families and friends who have shopped at the Good Guys and earned donation credits to support our school.

School Uniform Reminder!
School hats are compulsory this term. If your child has lost their hat, new hats can be purchased from Beleza.

Parent & Friends’ Association (PFA)
We are always looking for parents and family members to help at school. One way you can do this is by joining our PFA. This group of parents helps to organise fund raising events throughout the year, which support the purchasing of new resources and the maintenance of current resources, such as our playgrounds.

PFA has meetings once a month, in the evening to discuss plans for upcoming events. The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 31st March, at 7.00pm**. This meeting will also include the Annual General Meeting, where this year’s committee will be developed. If you are interested in being part of our PFA for 2014, please come along to the meeting. We are always looking for new members to help with the school's fund raising efforts.

If you are unable to attend the meetings, but would still like to help with events, please speak to your child’s Home Group teacher, who will pass your name on to the President of PFA, once the position has been filled.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE – summary of Absences
Keep your eye on this section of the newsletter for regular attendance updates
These graphs show the number of student absences and late arrivals in January.
We hope that February is a better month for students to be at school all day every day.

A Gentle Reminder about School Fees
If you have not yet finalised your child’s school fees for 2014, please contact the school office to organise this. Your payment of these fees helps us to access programs and resources for all students at CPS. Thank you for your support of our school and the programs we provide!