Congratulations to the student leaders who conducted the school’s ANZAC ceremony last week and to Mrs Harrington for her excellent organisation of this important occasion.

KEY TO SUCCESS: CONFIDENCE- FAMILY IS IMPORTANT

The ANZAC commemoration is important not just to recognize the sacrifices of our armed services in their many roles in conflicts throughout the world, but because it also has a huge influence on forging our national identity. It contributes to who we are as Australians. Knowing who we are through our history is important for confidence as a nation and as individuals.

In the holidays I was reading about a research study that showed that it was important for children to understand about their family details and the family history in order for them to be confident and resilient individuals.

The study stated that children who knew details about their family were more confident, more able to cope and did better at school. Family details included such things as where their parents worked, what they did at work or why they did not work, where their parents were born and how they grew up, stories about what they did as children and how they overcame some of the problems of childhood. Also important was a history of the family including any significant successes, what contributions members of the family have made to society, difficulties the family had to face and how they overcame them, the family’s country of origin and why they came to Australia as well as information about the culture and cultural values of the country of origin.

It makes sense. In very early cultures, elders would tell the important stories and families would reinforce the learnings through example and action. This would develop a sense of identity and a sense of belonging, so important to the growth of the individual as a member of a clan or tribe.

Throughout history, the military has used a similar method to instil a sense of pride in the regiment or fighting unit with stories of past achievements and of heroic deeds to overcome insurmountable odds. Their group mottos mirror the resulting values. The Australian Light Horse and the SAS are examples of this. Their values, the things they hold dear, are forged by the knowledge of the past.
In contrast, many children of our school know nothing of their family history, know little or nothing about their culture or where their family originally came from, where their parents were born whether in or outside of Australia, and even what they do during the day, workwise or otherwise.

As our school commences to teach “confidence” another of the Keys to Success, it is worth considering what parents need to do to develop confident and resilient children. All parents can help us to teach the keys to success by educating their children about their family.

**P&C MEETING**
The next general meeting of the School Parents and Citizens’ Association is scheduled for Tuesday 14 May at 7.00 pm. Agenda items will include ratifying the new P&C constitution, financial statements and an update on committee finances plus a fundraising update. All adult members of our school community are invited to attend.

_Jon Simpson_
Principal

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**School Attendance - It’s Not Ok To Stay Away**

Too many students across Australia and at our school are missing their best chance to do well in life because they are allowed to miss days of their education. Some students are allowed to stay home for an ever increasing number of excuses including:

- a day off for their birthday
- a day off because relatives are visiting
- a day off to be with parents at home
- a day off to look after younger brothers and sisters
- a day off to go shopping.

Students should only miss school for genuine illness or for serious domestic reasons. All absences must be explained within 7 days (earlier is even better), by phone, email or note. If you are having trouble getting your child to school, please talk to your child’s teacher, Mr Simpson or Mrs Cuthill.

After love and care the most important thing that we, as parents, can give to our kids is an EDUCATION. Every day a child is away, they are losing a learning experience. Over time, missing school leaves a big gap in their learning. They become keener to spend less and less time at school and they influence younger brothers and sisters. Allowing your child to stay home becomes the easy way out.

If you require support in saying NO to your child on their attendance or any other issue, please contact someone at our school. We can work together to make a difference to your child’s future.

*Be on time. Be at school. That’s the rule!*
**UNSW ICAS Competitions**

The University of New South Wales is offering your child an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). ICAS assessments have taken place annually in schools for over thirty years and in 20 countries. Educational Assessment Australia (EAA), who design and deliver the assessments, is the not-for-profit arm of the University of New South Wales.

ICAS:
- is an annual skills development assessment program in key areas of learning for students in Years 2-12; assessments are available in English, Mathematics and Science
- gathers performance information through a 30-60 minute supervised in-school test
- provides a continuous, independent and comprehensive record of a student’s performance, and maps their development over the full period of primary and secondary schooling
- enables the progress of each student to be mapped in each skill against their previous performance, demonstrating personal improvement no matter the starting point
- uses fellow students’ results as a reference point; results are mapped against all students sitting at the same year level in Australia
- provides an excellent preparation for national testing
- enables students at all levels of ability to participate; ICAS contains questions designed to specifically explore the abilities of students of all standards – this includes those of both lower and higher levels of achievement
- medals are awarded to the top students in each subject in each school year in each state when sufficiently meritorious and the test was sat on the official test date
- Achievement certificates are awarded to all students at a range of levels:
  1. High Distinction to the top 1% of students
  2. Distinction to the next 10% of students
  3. Credit to the next 25% of students
  4. Merit to the next 10% of students
  5. Participation to all other students
- results are available to parents and students online; these online reports and analyses remain available indefinitely. ICAS reports indicate which questions were answered correctly, compare student performance to that of the other students tested and are highly suitable for inclusion in a student’s portfolio for future tertiary entrance or job opportunities
- entries are administered through the school, so teachers can also access the information

Entry forms for the ICAS Assessments have been available on our website and will be sent home with your child. Please complete the entry form and return it to school by the end of this week with the prescribed fee if you would like your child to complete these assessments.

**NAPLAN Testing**

The 2014 National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses the literacy and numeracy learning of students at Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all Australian Schools. The results present a picture of student performance assisting teachers to improve the literacy and numeracy skills of their students. Students are assessed using common national tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN tests broadly reflect aspects of literacy and numeracy common to curriculums in all States and Territories. The types of test formats and questions are chosen so that they are familiar to teachers and students across Australia.

Parents, it is important that all students participate in the national tests. Special provisions are made to meet the needs of individual students with special needs. Please contact Mrs Cuthill for more information.

Parents and carers can best assist students by making them feel comfortable about the nature and purpose of the tests. Children can be assured that the assessments will give them an opportunity to show what they have learned in class.

Testing will take place over three days - please see that date claimer on the front page of this newsletter.
Music News

Extension Music Programme
Choir and Band Rehearsals

ANZAC Day Ceremony
The Chorale and Chorus will be performing at the ANZAC Day Ceremony. Choir members please wear Choir or school uniform this day.

Ipswich Eisteddfod
The Chorus, Chorale and Glee are practicing for the Ipswich Eisteddfod in May. Please attend every rehearsal so that we can have our pieces practiced and ready to go.

All Choir and Band rehearsals are in the Music Room.

Deian Ping  Scott Bignell
Music Specialist  Instrumental

Rehearsal Times

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<th>Monday</th>
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<td>8:00am -</td>
<td>Chorale</td>
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<td>Senior</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Band</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:10pm -</td>
<td>Chorus</td>
<td>Chorale</td>
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<td>2:00pm</td>
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Accompanist
The choirs are looking for a skilled pianist to accompany them at the eisteddfod. This would entail attending a rehearsal for each choir (so attending twice during the week). If anyone is able to offer themselves please email dping1@eq.edu.au for further information.

Tuckshop News.

Online Ordering
If you are ordering tuckshop on line can you make sure your student/s class are correct.

If you can assist at tuckshop please give us a call as we would really appreciate your help.

Should you have a problem or cannot make your rostered day, please give the tuckshop a call with as much notice as possible.

Dianne: (07) 3818 0687
Mobile: 0403 945 014
Tuckshop: (07) 3381 4335

School Uniforms Wanted
Our school sick bay is running low on spare uniforms (particularly smaller sizes). If you have any old CPSS uniforms at home and are wondering what to do with them…. Please consider donating these to the school sick bay. You donation will be greatly appreciated.
Who Am I at CPSS?

I played soccer for 20 years.
I love Winter.
I work part-time.
My favourite colours are red and black.
I have 4 children.

*I am Mrs Sheree Hirons - Year 4 Teacher.*

Who Am I at CPSS?

I have 3 children.
I am secretary of a local cricket club.
I’ve been at CPSS since 2008.
I have two cats.
I love camping.

*I am Mrs Margaret Simpson - Accounts Officer*

Who Am I at CPSS?

I went to the State Titles for the 400m when I was in year 12.
I was a Rotary Exchange Student to Germany for a year.
I get sea sick but I own a boat.
I’ve been at CPSS for 9 years.

*I am Mrs Meridee Cuthill - Deputy Principal*

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**Redbank Plains State High School** invites parents, carers and students who want to know more about **Junior Secondary School** (Yr 7, 8 & 9) to our...

**BBQ, Talk and Tour**

**Date:** Thursday 8th May

**Time:** BBQ at 6pm, 6:30pm-7:15pm session

**Location:** Redbank Plains State High School
Performing Arts Centre

**RSVP:** Wednesday 7th May
To Natalie via email: nuhlm1@eq.edu.au or phone: (07) 3432 1222

We warmly welcome all parents, carers and students to attend our BBQ, Talk and Tour night. Our Junior Secondary School team will provide **answers to many questions** you may have about your student **starting high school in 2015.** With the arrival of Year 7 to our Junior Secondary School there will be changes to the structure of these year levels. This is the perfect opportunity to hear for yourself what is in store for students next year.

**Come along, meet our staff and tour the facilities!**
For more information please phone (07) 3432 1222
Parents and Citizens Association News

Next P & C Meeting:
Tuesday 13th May 2014
7.00pm – Seminar Room (Library)
All Welcome

Have you ever wondered “how can I find out what goes on at my child’s school”? Then please, Come Along to a P & C Meeting - Share and Create Ideas
“Make it Happen”.... Get Involved
Telephone 3381 4333 for more information.

Mother’s Day - a Mother’s Day
Stall will be held in the Hall on the 8th and 9th May. Gifts will range from $2 upwards.

UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform Shop is now open a Monday afternoon.

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS 2014
Monday 8.30am to 11.30am – 2.30pm to 4.30pm
Tuesday and Wednesday 8.30am to 12.30pm
Thursday CLOSED
Friday 8.30 to 12.30pm

For uniform orders please collect an order form from the office, fill it out and attach payment. The office will then pass your order onto the Uniform Shop and they will fill your order and send home the order and the receipt with the eldest child of your family.

Please note all Layby’s now incur a $2 Non-Refundable Fee.

Winter Madness
- All Long Sleeve Polo Shirts $30
  or 2 for $50.
- 5 Pairs of School Socks $20.

Hair Accessories – are available for purchase in the Uniform Shop. Prices start from $3.00 each. Current stock includes 10 piece Hairbands, Scrunchies, Ribbon Bows and Alice Bands. All come in the school colours of either Blue or Maroon.

A-Mart Allsport Community Kickbacks Program
Our school has joined this program so next time you shop at AMART ALLSPORTS be sure to join yourself and receive preferred pricing, exclusive offers, VIP shopping nights and member only competitions. Let them know you are from our school and our school will receive 5% back on member purchases.

Contact Us
OSHC 3381 4317  OSHC Fax 3381 4355
Uniform Shop 3381 4336  School Fax 3381 4300
Tuckshop 3381 4335  School Office 3381 4333
Rewards Day - Thank You!

We would like to thank the parents and grandparents who helped with rewards day activities on Friday 4th April. Your time and effort was greatly appreciated by the students and staff.

Upcoming Events and Fundraising Update!

The Easter Raffle was very successful with lots of families turning out for the end of term Easter Parade where all prizes were drawn. Thank you to all who supported.

The next event for fundraising will be the **MOVIE NIGHT – THURSDAY MAY 15 AT 6PM** following the end of NAPLAN testing – DON’T FORGET FRIDAY MAY 16 IS A PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

Following this will be a Disco on Friday June 13 at 6pm. To avoid the backlog of children trying to get tickets on the night, we encourage children to purchase pre-sale tickets at school via the Uniform shop – any queries please email cpss-pnc-admin@bigpond.com.au or call Karen on 3381 4336.

**MOTHERS DAY SHOP**

We will be holding a Mother’s Day shop the week leading up to Mother’s Day. This gives children the opportunity to choose a small gift for their Mum. More details will be posted closer to the day.

**DATE CLAIMER: Thursday 15th May Frozen Movie Night**
## Parent Class Representatives

**2014**

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<th>Level</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
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We’re on the Web........

[www.collparkss.eq.edu.au](http://www.collparkss.eq.edu.au)