



Wanted! Your Opinion

The student council, in partnership with the school association, are initiating a school and community conversation to find out if our school emblem (swift parrot and wattle) and motto (play the game) are still relevant today. All the classes in the school have been required to answer four questions. For example, what does the school emblem mean to you? Do you think the emblem is still relevant? They then had to draw a picture of our emblem and write our motto to see how well they knew it. We then gathered the information and tallied our results. Our final question was, do you think we should change our school motto and emblem? Again, we asked all the classes. The final results showed that we should not change our school motto but change our school emblem. The main reason for change being that the swift parrot is now endangered, rarely seen on our school grounds and might not be relevant. Our next step was to ask the students to consider, what do they see when they think of the school? Students then drew pictures and common themes developed. We are now beginning the task of consulting with the community. We, Sophie and Freya, would like to hear your thoughts on our emblem, motto and what you would think would be a suitable emblem to represent our school. We would love to hear from you! Please email the school, our teacher- di.smith@education.tas.gov.au or deliver ideas to our classroom 5/6 Smith.

The **emblem** has its origins in the early days of New Town when the swift parrot was widely sighted. The **motto** has its origins from a poem written by Sir Henry Newbolt in 1897 about a schoolboy cricketer who grows up to fight in Africa. There, in the panic of battle the boy is stirred to heroic action by schooldays memories: "his Captain's hand on his shoulder smote - / Play up! Play up! And play the game!" "Play up! Play up! And play the game!" - Words that have become famous through the years - symbolized Newbolt's view that war should be fought in the same spirit as school sports. These words were widely quoted during the First World War. After the war many schools adopted this motto. Through our student feedback we found different interpretations on this motto.

Sophie and Freya Grade 5/6 Smith, Co-ordinators