

Guide on how to commemorate Australian National Flag Day



Model order of service

The Pause for the National Salute should be observed on Australian National Flag Day, 3 September at or around 2:30pm, being the time the Australian national flag was first flown at the Melbourne Royal Exhibition Building on this day in 1901.

- Students assemble.
- Welcoming address by master of ceremonies.
- A speaker or speakers informs the assembly of the significance of the occasion, including a short history of the Australian national flag. Official Flag Day messages from the governor-general, governor, heads of government, opposition leaders and other dignitaries may be read.
- All assembled to sing *Advance Australia Fair*.
- The students are organised into the form of a hollow square facing the flagpole. When, at a given signal, the flag is raised, the boys should salute, and the girls stand to attention. Then all, placing the right hand on the left breast, should recite the National Salute (or another form of words approved by the school community) simultaneously:

Traditional style

**I fear God,*
I love my country,
I honour her Queen,**
I salute her flag,
I promise to always obey her laws.**

Citizenship oath variant

**As an Australian citizen,
I pledge/affirm my loyalty to Australia and its people,
Whose democratic beliefs I share,
Whose rights and liberties I respect, and
Whose laws I will uphold and obey.**

* Non denominational schools may substitute the words

I am an Australian

** **Optional Anglican affirmation**

- Immediately afterwards, taking the time from the master of ceremonies, or some one appointed for the purpose, three cheers for the Queen may be given, the boys uncovering their heads.
- The master of ceremonies thanks the assembly for their attendance.
- Assembly ends.