



*Bell Primary School is a caring community that fosters a love of learning in young people. At school and beyond, students are confident to think critically and empowered to thrive in a rapidly evolving world. We are grounded by our school values of **resilience, creativity, curiosity, collaboration and respect**.*

*Bell Primary School is a Child Safe School. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people, and have zero tolerance for child abuse.*

*Bell Primary School acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the land the school is located upon, and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.*



## From our Principal:

### Start of day

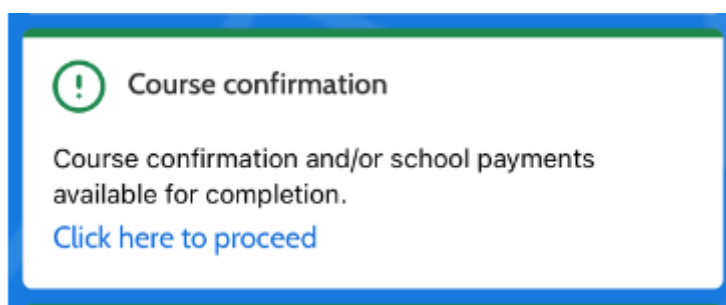
- The start of the day at Bell PS is not a formal one, with no line ups, etc, prior to any bells ringing. The organisation bell goes at **8.50am** when rooms are open for students to come in and set up for the day, with **9.00am** the official start to the learning day.
- Parents and carers are able to have a brief chat to the grade teacher in that 10 minutes if it is a straight forward conversation. Anything more complex should be at a separate meeting time negotiated between both parties.
- Please do not send your children earlier than 8.45am as there is no-one supervising in the school grounds before that time. OSHClub is running every morning and afternoon for families who need care outside the regular hours of school, being 8.45am–3.45pm.

### Parent Payments

Thank you for the amazing response to the Parent Payments request, with 51% of families already paying the voluntary contribution via CompassPay. These funds are vital for us to deliver comprehensive learning and wellbeing programs for every student. The payment amounts for Section A - Curriculum Contributions, and Section B - Other Contributions, are the amounts set by School Council, therefore they are a suggested amount based on the costings for each year level. You are able to make adjustments (more or less if you desire).

Sections C and D are effectively donations; amounts are not prefilled as this is completely at parent/carer discretion. Anything you donate, no matter how big or small, is a bonus to the school as it is money we didn't have before to put towards the Building, Library and Grounds Funds.

The payment notification will stay on your home page as a reminder for those still considering whether to make a contribution and donation any time throughout the year. The wording is somewhat vague: 'course confirmation and/or school payments' but it refers to what we used to call: 'school fees'



It is also pleasing to see many families adding some donations to the Building, Grounds and Library Funds which will enable us to continue upgrades towards those specific aspects of the school. More information will be published throughout the year about the projects these funds will target.

### **Gym/Hall Capital Works Update**

Interface Constructions are making good progress on the gym/hall as everyone has noticed, with the building expected to be at lock up stage in the coming weeks. Some additional work in the office/foyer area of the main building is nearly complete with some changes to the front door and counter important to make the space accessible to everyone. An external ramp will also be constructed inside the veranda columns in the coming months.

A designate First Aid room adjacent to the office will be finished in the next few weeks, giving us a specific area to attend and monitor injured or sick children. This essential space is well overdue at our school to support the wellbeing of everyone who needs medical assistance.



*The north and south view shows the huge space inside the Gymnasium area.*



*The west view shows the Music Room where the operable doors will create a stage and Performing Arts venue.*



*Works at the front of the school.*

The extra mess at the front of the school is mainly for a new power sub-station to provide additional electricity infrastructure for the gym/hall and other buildings now and in the future. Once this sub-station is complete we can finally install the air conditioners in the Learning Centre that the school raised funds for in recent years. It will also be crucial infrastructure to supply power to stage 3 of our master plan down the track. I am always an optimist in thinking we will get more funding and be able to build another learning hub of classrooms and reduce the many portable classrooms on our site.

**David Twite**  
**Principal**

## **Annual Privacy Reminder:**

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Further information can be found on the [DET Privacy Collection Notice](#) which is provided to families on enrolment.

These documents can both be found on our website.

# From our Assistant Principal:

## Year 1-6 Parent/Carer Information Evenings

A reminder that Year 1-6 Parent/Carer Information Evenings will take place next week. Sessions will occur face to face, in the locations outlined below. Where parents/carers are unable to attend the information session, the PowerPoint presented by the team will be sent out via Compass for access following the session.

### Year 1-6 Information Evening Days and Times:

#### **Monday 13 February**

**5:30-6:30pm** Grade 1 + Sam (Learning Centre)

**6:30-7:30pm** Grade 3 (Library)

#### **Tuesday 14 February**

**5:30-6:30pm** Grade 2 (Learning Centre)

**6:30-7:30pm** Grade 6 + Josh (Library)

#### **Wednesday 15 February**

**5:30-6:30pm** Grade 4 + Corinne (Learning Centre)

**6:30-7:30pm** Grade 5 + Milica (Library)

## Getting to Know You Meetings

During Week 6 (March 6-10) of this term, our Year 1-6 teachers will be conducting 1:1 Getting to Know You Meetings. These meetings facilitate individual time for parents/carers to share information about their child. These meetings are an important opportunity for you to:

- meet and get to know your child's teacher(s)
- help your child's teacher(s) understand more about your child
- exchange information to support your child's learning, social and emotional needs
- make plans with the teacher(s) about how you can both support your child
- continue to strengthen the crucial home-school partnership

These meetings, whilst about your child as a learner, are not designed to give detailed progress reports of student achievement given the early scheduling.

Getting to Know You Meetings will occur for year levels on the following days and times in your child's classroom.

**Year 1-** Monday March 6 (3:40-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)

**Year 2-** Wednesday March 8 (3:40-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)

**Year 3-** Tuesday March 7 (3:40-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)

**Year 4-** Tuesday March 7 (2:40-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)

**Year 5-** Wednesday March 8 (2:40-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)

**Year 6-** Monday March 6 (3:40-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)

**Specialists-** Tuesday March 7 (3:40-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)

Parents will be able to book 1 x 10 minute time slot within the above indicated time frames. Please note that teachers will have a scheduled break between 5:00-5:30pm and *will not be available to meet during this time*. Bookings will open via Compass at 9:00am on Wednesday February 15 and will close at 4:00pm on Wednesday March 1. GTKY meetings are opportunities for parents/carers to liaise with teachers *without* their child present.

*Some questions you might like to consider before you attend the meeting:*

- From your perspective, what are your child's strengths and areas for development (learning, social and emotional, physical)?
- What questions do you have about how you can support your child's specific learning needs at home?

## Prep Getting to Know You Meetings & Information Night

A reminder that Prep teachers will be conducting Getting to Know You Meetings next Monday 13 February. Parents/carers can book an appointment via Compass. Please see the Newsfeed sent earlier in the week.

The Prep Information session will be held on Monday March 6 at 5:30pm in the Learning Centre.

**Emma Heywood**  
**Assistant Principal**

# From School Council:

## Introducing the Community Engagement & Fundraising Committee

Bell Primary prides itself on an active and inclusive Bell community that is welcoming and engaging for our students, parents and carers and the broader community, building bonds beyond the classroom and school grounds.

This year we are changing the way we approach Community Engagement and Fundraising by emphasising *Community*, hoping to re-establish our in-person Bell community camaraderie now that we're not online all day, every day!

We are creating a new School Council Committee called the **Community Engagement and Fundraising (CEF) Committee**, which will be chaired by two Council Members and will have the dual focus of promoting Community Engagement and managing the Events and Fundraising calendar.

We will be re-introducing an initiative that was very popular and successful in 2018, the **Parent/Carer Grade Representatives**. The grade reps will play an important role in supporting community communication and engagement and with two reps per Grade level, we are hoping to spread the load and make events even more fun, social and successful. The roles involve:

- Setting up a grade level What's App or Facebook group for grade level parent communication between those who'd like to opt in
- Participating in meetings for the *planning* of the 2023 Calendar of Events for the CEF Committee
- Taking joint responsibility with another committee member for the running of one fundraising event from the calendar. This would be a co-ordinator role for one event, with the committee assisting to organise volunteers to run it.

We are asking for volunteers to fill two spots per Grade level to be members of the CEF Committee. Meetings will be in person and online, around once a month - we will make a schedule at our first meeting in a few weeks (date tbc).

If your kids get excited about colouring their hair for special days, come home proud of their special person's day presents or rave over the amazing cupcakes at the cupcake stall, and you are interested in getting more involved this year, please get in touch with us! We can give you more detail about what's involved.

We need help to keep the fantastic calendar of events running for everyone to enjoy.

We will also be at the Year Level Information evenings next week to talk briefly and answer any questions. We look forward to meeting you!

Vanessa Buck (Lucy 5A)

[vjbuck@gmail.com](mailto:vjbuck@gmail.com)

Ceinwen Jones (Juniper, 5A; Thomas 1A)

[ceinwenju@gmail.com](mailto:ceinwenju@gmail.com)





# 2023 Bell PS Calendar:

Enter the dates you need to remember in your diary, or take a photo each week for quick reference!

## FEBRUARY 2023

- Mon 13: **Gr 1 + Sam** Information Session, 5.30, LC
- Mon 13: **Gr 3** Information Session, 6.30, Library
- Mon 13: **Prep** Getting To Know You Meetings
- Tue 14: **Gr 2** Information Session, 5.30, LC
- Tue 14: **Gr 6 + Josh** Information Session, 6.30, Library
- Wed 15: **Gr 4 + Corinne** Information Session, 5.30, LC
- Wed 15: **Gr 5 + Milica** Information Session, 6.30, Library
- Fri 17: District Swimming Carnival, Fitzroy Pool
- **Sun 19:** Last Orders – Scholastic Book Club – 9pm
- Tue 21: Dr. Cranky's Bike Hospital: 8.30 and 3.00

## MARCH 2023

- Mon 6: **Prep** Information Session, 5.30, LC
- Mon 6: **Year 1** Getting to Know You Meetings
- Mon 6: **Year 6** Getting to Know You Meetings
- Tue 7: **Year 3** Getting to Know You Meetings
- Tue 7: **Year 4** Getting to Know You Meetings
- Wed 8: **Year 5** Getting to Know You Meetings
- Tue 7: **Specialists** Getting to Know You Meetings
- Wed 8: **Year 2** Getting to Know You Meetings
- **Mon 13:** **Labour Day Public Holiday**
- **Tue 14:** **Curriculum Day #3 (Pupil Free Day)**
- Fri 24: Ride2School Day

## APRIL 2023

- **Thu 6:** **Final Day Term 1, 2.30pm dismissal**
- **Mon 24:** **First Day Term 2**
- **Tue 25:** **ANZAC Day Public Holiday**

## MAY 2023

- Mon 22–Thu 25: **Grade 6 Camp Jungai**
- Mon 29: **Photo Day**

## JUNE 2023

- **Mon 12:** **King's Birthday Public Holiday**
- **Fri 23:** **Final Day Term 2, 2.30pm dismissal**

## JULY 2023

- **Mon 10:** **First Day Term 3**

## AUGUST 2023

- Wed 30 – Fri 1.9: **Grade 5 Waratah Bay Camp**

## SEPTEMBER 2023

- **Fri 15:** **Final Day Term 3, 2.30pm dismissal**

## OCTOBER 2023

- **Mon 2:** **First Day Term 4**

## NOVEMBER 2023

- **Tue 7:** **Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday**
- Wed 29 – Fri 1.12: **Grade 4 Anglesea Camp**

## DECEMBER 2023

- **Wed 20:** **Final Day Term 4, 1.30pm dismissal**

## BOOK COVERING

Once again we have a number of books requiring covering before they can be added to our collection for student borrowing. If there are any parents/carers who would be willing to assist with covering some books, please call past the office anytime to collect what you need.

Please bring a bag with you and we will provide the books and a roll of contact so the job can be undertaken in the comfort of your own home!

Any assistance would be appreciated.

**Emma Heywood**  
**Assistant Principal**



## From the Admin Office:

OFFICE HOURS: 8.00AM – 4.20PM

**JO**: Mon/Wed/Fri : Finance, Excursions \* **JESSIE**: Mon-Fri : Attendance, Enrolments, Compass, Medical \* **TANIA**: Tue-Fri : Facilities, OHS, Communication

### **STUDENT ABSENCES, LATE ARRIVALS OR EARLY DEPARTURES**

**Whole Day Absence:** must be entered on your Compass Parent Portal.

**Late Arrival:** ONLY enter this on the Compass Kiosk at the office on your arrival.

**Early Departure:** ONLY enter this on the Compass Kiosk at the office on your arrival.

*Please do not enter medical/dental appointments, etc, through your Compass Parent Portal – simply follow the early departure / late arrival procedure when you come in to drop off or collect your child.*

### **COVID Reminder**

A reminder to Bell families to please continue to report your child's positive test result directly to the front office via phone or email. While the isolation guidelines have recently changed, we kindly ask that we are still informed of positive cases to keep track of absences and let your child's teacher know. **Rapid Antigen Tests are still available from the front office.**  
Thank you for your continued co-operation.

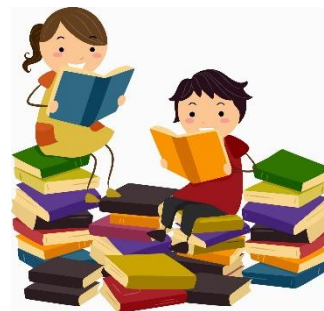
### **Bell PS Uniforms**

1. **NEW** Bell PS uniforms can always be purchased from [PSW](#).
2. **SECOND-HAND** Uniforms can be purchased from our Second Hand Uniform Shop run by a parent volunteer once per week. **IT WILL BE OPEN BY KATE EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM 3.15-3.45PM DURING TERM 1.** Don't forget your gold coins – no credit or credit card facility is available.

### **SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB - ORDER DEADLINE SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY - 9PM**

Welcome to all the new Bell families! Bell students love to read and we participate in the Scholastic book club once per term. Your family should have received a catalogue by now. If you'd like to order, you'll need to register for LOOP on the Scholastic website which is Scholastic's online ordering system. A few things to remember:

- The catalogues are sent out once a Term.
- The only way to order is online. No cash or cheques accepted at School.
- There is no pressure to order anything. Don't feel any obligation.
- Books are delivered directly to your child's classroom.
- The book club is a fundraiser. 15% of all sales are returned to the Bell Primary School as vouchers so they can order educational materials and/or books for the school.
- Catalogues come home with the ELDEST child (to prevent excess paper wastage - war on waste!). If you've missed out on a catalogue, head to the office to pick one up.



Any questions, please email [louisegrays8@gmail.com](mailto:louisegrays8@gmail.com).

# From the PE Department:

## Get ready for Ride2School Day with Dr Cranky's

Riding, walking or scooting to school is a great way to start your day. We want to make sure every student at Bell Primary School can do just that, so we've partnered with Darebin Council and not-for-profit organisation Dr Cranky's to run a FREE Bike Hospital in the lead up to Ride2School Day on Friday 24 March 2023. Dr Cranky's will fix bikes and if you don't have a bike they will provide a free second-hand bike!

### Dates for your diary:

#### **Dr Cranky's Bike Hospital - Tuesday 21 February**

8.30 to 9.30am and 3pm to 4.30pm

- Bring your bike in for a free check by our friendly mechanics
- If you don't have a bike, **order a free second-hand bike**

#### **Dr Cranky's returns - *Date To Be Confirmed***

8.30 to 9.30am and 3pm to 4.30pm

- Another chance to bring your bike for check
- Collect your free second-hand bike ordered at the first session

#### **Ride2School Day - Friday 24 March**

- Ride, walk or scoot to school
- Parents enjoy a free coffee
- Stickers and prizes for participation



**Important:** To help the Bike Hospital run smoothly we need parents to volunteer at each event. If you're available to help, please email [barts@dr crankys.com.au](mailto:barts@dr crankys.com.au).

For more information about bike riding in Darebin, including information about local workshops and events, visit [darebin.vic.gov.au/darebinlovesbikes](http://darebin.vic.gov.au/darebinlovesbikes)

We can't wait to see you there!

*This program is proudly supported by the Victorian Government Department of Transport.*

**Josh Grogan**

**Sport Co-ordinator**

### Sustainability house points are back!!

Beginning next week, students will be able to earn points for their house by getting on board with the following sustainable actions:

- **Bring Nude Food:** To reduce the amount of waste bought into school, please send your children along with Nude Food on **Tuesdays and Thursdays** (*the two 'T' days*). For more information about Nude Food and ideas for packing 'nude' lunches, please see supporting material on the next page.
- **Clean-Up Crew:** Each Monday students will have the opportunity to spend some of their playtime picking up rubbish to help keep our school grounds tidy and stop waste ending up in our waterways. Students use gloves, tongs and buckets to collect waste and hand sanitiser is provided to each student upon completion.



Sustainability house point tallies will be announced each week at assembly. May the greenest house win!





## Information for PARENTS



Keep Australia Beautiful



# WHAT IS NUDE FOOD?

**NUDE FOOD** is simply food that is not wrapped in foil, plastic or commercial packaging.

The best type of nude food consists mainly of fresh food, so that it is healthy and nutritious PLUS environmentally friendly.

Promoting Nude Food empowers students to make conscious choices about what they eat, and encourages them to think about their impact on the environment (and their health). You might be amazed with how enthused your child can become on this...

### ✓ TO PACK A NUDE FOOD LUNCH OR SNACK, YOU WILL NEED:

- Cutlery from home is better than throwaway plastic ones
- Plastic or metal drink bottles are recommended for refilling with water
- Reusable containers for putting all of your food, snacks and drinks into
- Lunch boxes that have lots of separate sections can be useful to avoid lost lids or containers

### TIPS FOR PACKING NUDE FOOD LUNCHES:

- Try to involve the kids in helping decide what to take. This will help to avoid uneaten foods being thrown out, plus will save your family money as well. Also, remember to praise your child if they do eat something healthy which is new for them.
- Try to pack the lunches the night before and store in the fridge overnight to avoid the mad rush in the morning.
- If your child normally enjoys chips, yoghurt or other prepackaged snacks, buy these in a larger format and you can decant these into smaller reusable containers or lunchbox.
- If your child does enjoy chips, why not try making your own veggie versions using sliced beetroot, parsnip or sweet potato and baking in the oven?
- Try to use fruit and vegetables that are in season. Seasonal produce is friendly to the environment as well as to your budget, as less fuels are used to transport it into your supermarket.
- Go to [www.nudefoodday.com.au/resources](http://www.nudefoodday.com.au/resources) for Nude Food recipe ideas.

I'M A NUDE FOOD WARRIOR



### ✗ TRY TO AVOID:

- Zip lock or plastic bags, plastic wrap or aluminium foil
- Tetra packed drinks, single serve yoghurts and cheese
- Single use plastic forks and spoons
- Prepackaged food, i.e. biscuits, snack bars and chips

## For the Bell Community:



ABN 83 635 484 779

### Keyboard/Piano and Guitar Lessons

Group Piano/Keyboard and Guitar classes have commenced at Bell PS this week on Tuesdays/Thursdays.

There are a few places available to start now – in particular Prep, Grade 1, Grade 2 Keyboard/Piano classes and Grade 3 Guitar group.

Please send me an email if you are interested in your child starting lessons this term.

Regards,

Jacinta Guerin

[melodicminors123@gmail.com](mailto:melodicminors123@gmail.com)

0423 921 412



Instrumental Music Lessons - on school campus  
Places available for Term 1, 2023



### Small Group & Private Lessons

- Primary Music Institute offer instrumental music lessons right here on school campus!
- To find out all about the music lessons please visit PMI's website. You can check which instruments are available, get up to date program details and apply for lessons online
- Please **ENROL TODAY** via PMI's website
- Lessons are held once per week on campus – with lessons typically during and outside school hours
- Only \$20.50 per child per small group lesson (2-5 students for 30 minutes)
- Private lessons (1-on-1) and pair lessons (max 2 students) are also available
- Online lessons (after hours) are also available direct to your home – contact us to find out more
- Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination, IQ, abstract reasoning, performance confidence... and is great fun!

P: 1300 362 824

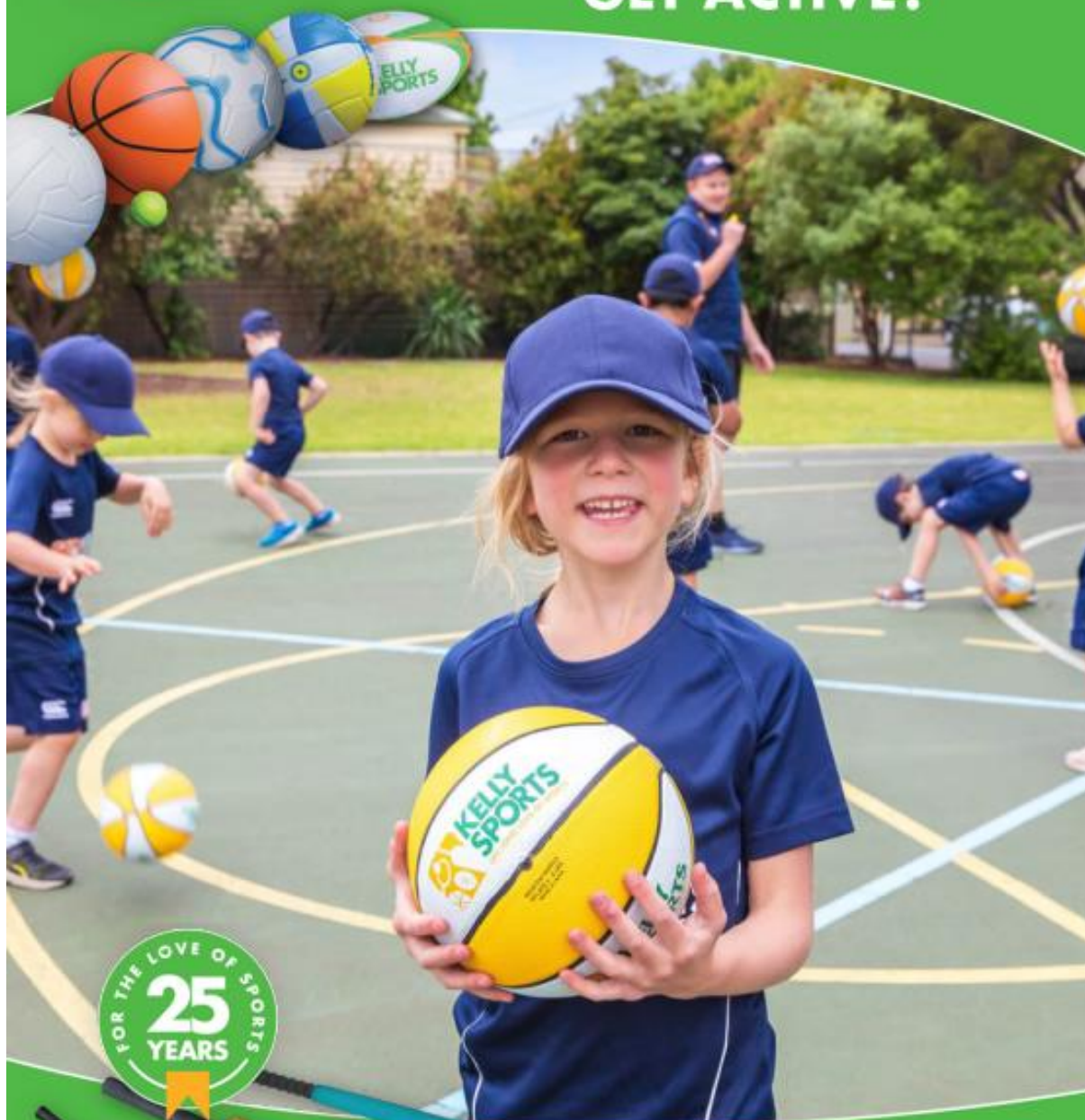
E: [admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au](mailto:admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au)

[www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au](http://www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au)





**WANT AN EASY WAY  
FOR YOUR KIDS TO  
GET ACTIVE?**



BOOK ONLINE NOW AT

 **KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU**

## **THEN KELLY SPORTS IS YOUR ANSWER!**

Start the school year right by enrolling in this fantastic Kelly Sports program. Join up with your friends and develop your skills in a fun, safe & inclusive sporting environment.

Our Sizzling Summer Sports weekly programme gives children skills and confidence in a fun and enjoyable environment. It also encourages their enthusiasm and participation and the life skills that such involvement brings – giving them increased confidence in the future.

Our experienced coaches aim to develop and enhance the wide range of sporting skills of your child including kicking, catching & throwing while also improving strength, flexibility, hand-eye coordination, spatial awareness, co-operative skills and teamwork. For Term 1 we are focusing on Soccer, Basketball & Cricket

**WHEN:** Tuesday's

**DATES:** 7th Feb - 4th April

**TIME:** 3.30pm - 4.40pm

**YEAR LEVELS:** Prep - Grade 4's

**COST:** \$144 (9 weeks)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT**

**[WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU/INNER-NORTHERN](http://WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU/INNER-NORTHERN)**

**Website:** [kellysports.com.au/inner-northern](http://kellysports.com.au/inner-northern)

**Contact:** Shane Oliver

**Email:** [shane@kellysports.com.au](mailto:shane@kellysports.com.au)

**Phone:** 0432 522 829

**Facebook:** #KellySportsInnerNorthern





# **Bell French Club**

**A small number of places are available for T1!**

Foreign language learning strengthens critical and creative thinking, informs one's mother tongue, and opens up a world of possibilities.

We have been operating at Bell PS for 10 years. We help foster curiosity and a sense of achievement.

Small group learning with a highly experienced teacher.



Children of all ages and experience welcome.

**Thursdays 3:45-4.45pm**

Jim Callahan

[jim.callahan@lcfclubs.com.au](mailto:jim.callahan@lcfclubs.com.au)

0432 719 034

## **NORTHERN PARX NETBALL CLUB**

# **CALLING ALL 10 & 11 YEAR OLDS**

## **COME AND TRY NETBALL**

**BOYS AND GIRLS WELCOME  
ALL ABILITIES & BEGINNERS WELCOME**



**TRAINING HELD AT J.E. MOORE RESERVE  
WEDNESDAYS 5-6PM**

**GAMES PLAYED ON SATURDAYS AT 8:30AM & 9:30AM  
AT NARRANDJERI STADIUM, THORNBURY**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:  
MAGGIE CROWE (0400 025 333) OR EMAIL  
NORTHERNPARXNETBALLCLUB@GMAIL.COM**



# PRESTON HIGH SCHOOL

[ GRADE 5-6 BOOK A TOUR NOW ]



**WINNER:** Outstanding Provision  
for High-Ability Students  
– Secondary Award



[WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CEYFV](http://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CEYFV)