



*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:

School Council Elections

After counting the votes for the remaining two vacancies, I would like to declare **Ciannon Cazaly** (parent of Jo in 2A) and **Mia McDonald** (parent of Sidney in 1C) the successful candidates. They join **Vaia Smirneos** (parent of Vasilis in Prep A) as the three new parent representative members of Council. The next School Council meeting will be on Thursday 23 March with the appointment of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer who will join me as the Executive group within this important governance body of the school.

Celebrations of Learning

All year level teams will be scheduling sessions throughout the year for what we are calling 'Celebrations of Learning'. Each team will run some *drop-in and celebrate* sessions with a different focus each term to showcase the learning within the key areas of Literacy, Numeracy and Inquiry (one each term). Individual Compass Newsfeeds will go out prior to the date for each cohort showcase, providing options to drop in at the beginning or end of the day.

This is an initiative that we had hoped to expand on back in 2020, however the restrictions of school access and the ongoing infectious nature of our lives forced us to put it on hold. The core COVID-19 safety measures are still in place and we can now open up classrooms again for parents/carers to engage in their child/ren's learning. These open classroom sessions, along with the termly Parent/Carer Learning Support Document, provides some guidance for those vital home conversations about school, in particular what is happening in the classroom each day.

Ride2School Day

After the second Dr. Cranky Bike Hospital session today, we hope lots of families are geared up for Ride2School Day on **Friday 24 March**. As we launch into the Safer Routes to School initiative with Darebin Council, this day has a focus on the benefits of 'active travel' options when coming to and going from school. Scroll down to page 5 to read more about the day.

Queries and Concerns

Now that parents and carers have spent some time with their child/ren's 2023 teachers, it is important we outline the steps when queries or concerns arise. Here are the general steps within our school structure for such times:

- For child-centred matters, the first point of contact should always be the grade teacher/s as they are the best person to either deal with the matter, or 'triage' to the best staff member who can help you further.
- When an issue is complicated, or the initial meeting does not end in a mutually agreed resolution, the team leader or a member of the Leadership Team could get involved, this being Emma Heywood, Xenia Matani, Gab Goss or David Twite. Parents should not go directly to a senior member of staff, eg: Wellbeing Leader, unless it is an ongoing matter.
- For general queries about whole school initiatives or operational matters, contact either Emma or me directly.
- For queries about parent payments, events, Compass and medications, please contact the office staff.

Regardless of the situation, it is always important for us to keep an open mind and remember there are often varying perspectives to any given issue. If we approach every query or concern with the child's best interest at heart, we can usually work together to reach a positive outcome for all.

David Twite (Principal)

2023 Bell PS Calendar:

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

MARCH 2023

- Tue 21: **FINAL DAY CONSENT: Yr6 GRIP Conference**
- Tue 21: **FINAL DAY CONSENT: Yr5 Immigration Museum**
- Wed 22: Second Hand Uniform Shop **NOT** open today
- Thu 23: School Council Meeting, 7pm
- Fri 24: Ride2School Day
- Fri 24: **Grade 6 Old Melbourne Gaol Excursion**
- Fri 24: Grade 1 Celebration of Learning
- Mon 27: **Family Maths Night, LC, 4-6pm**
- Tue 28: **Grade 6 GRIP Leadership Conference**
- Tue 28: **Grade 5 Immigration Museum Excursion**
- Wed 29: 2024 Prep Tours x2
- Fri 31: Grade 2 Celebration of Learning
- Fri 31: 2024 Prep Tour

APRIL 2023

- Thu 6: **Final Day Term 1, 2.30pm dismissal**
- Mon 24: **First Day Term 2**
- Mon 24: **FINAL DAY CONSENT: Yr2 Bundoora Park**
- Tue 25: **ANZAC Day Public Holiday**
- Wed 26: **Grade 2 Bundoora Park Excursion**

MAY 2023

- Tue 9: **VSSS Rehearsal #2, Ivanhoe East PS**
- Mon 22–Thu 25: **Grade 6 Camp Jungai**
- Mon 29: **Photo Day**

JUNE 2023

- Tue 6: **VSSS Rehearsal #3, Ivanhoe East PS**
- 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

- Fri 4: **VSSS Rehearsal #4, Maroondah Nets, Heathmont**
- Wed 30 – Fri 1.9: **Grade 5 Waratah Bay Camp**

SEPTEMBER 2023

- Thu 7: **VSSS Rehearsal #5, John Cain Arena**
- Fri 8: **VSSS Rehearsal #6, John Cain Arena**
- 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**

Around the Grounds:

Please take note **and advise your children** that the organisation below has priority use of the designated areas in our School Grounds on the following dates and times, as a formal arrangement has been made with the Principal and School Council. This table will be updated as other bookings are approved.

Just a reminder that UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES are footy or soccer boots to be worn on our ovals.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2023							
Darebin Falcons Women's Soccer Training	South Oval 5.30-7.30pm 20 Feb-31 Mar APPROVED	South Oval 5.30-7.30pm 20 Feb-31 Mar APPROVED	South Oval 5.30-7.30pm 20 Feb-31 Mar APPROVED	South Oval 5.30-7.30pm 20 Feb-31 Mar APPROVED	South Oval 5.30-7.30pm 20 Feb-31 Mar APPROVED		

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

LATE ARRIVALS, EARLY DEPARTURES OR STUDENT ABSENCES

1. **Late Arrival**: **ONLY** enter this on the Compass Kiosk at the office on arrival.
2. **Early Departure**: **ONLY** enter this on the Compass Kiosk at the office on arrival.
3. **Whole Day Absence**: **MUST** be entered on your Compass Parent Portal either in advance, or on the day by clicking the absence SMS link.

Please help the Admin Team out by NOT entering 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 (except 22 March).** Don't forget your gold coins – no credit or credit card facility is available.

LOST PROPERTY

You are welcome to check through Lost Property at any time. Just walk straight past the office and turn right! It can be found in the cabinets in the corridor near the Art Room.

SECOND-HAND JUMPERS & JACKETS NEEDED!

Kate in the Second-Hand Uniform Shop reports that we are in serious need of donations of **jumpers** and **bomber jackets** in particular. If you have any pre-loved Bell logo jumpers or bomber jackets that are still in reasonable condition, we would be very grateful to receive donations at the front office. Other uniform donations are always welcome too, including Bell branded school bags and hats.



A note that the second-hand uniform shop will **not** be open this coming Wednesday 22 March.

From the Prep Team:



This term the
Preps have been
learning about
the school
values with the
help of their
Grade 6
buddies.

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

Friday 24 March 2023



ride2school.com.au





2024 PREP TOURS



Wednesday, March 29th 9:30am-11:30am
Wednesday, March 29th 5:30pm-7pm
Friday, March 31st 9:30am-11:30am

Families interested in enrolling their child at Bell Primary School in 2024 are invited to attend a Prep information session and school tour in March 2023.

We welcome enrolments from local families, with priority given to those living in the school's Designated Neighbourhood Area.

Currently, families living beyond our Designated Neighbourhood Area are able to enrol as space is available.

2024 Prep enrolments can be submitted at the school office or via email from **April 24th 2023**.

**Tour bookings essential-
please call 9480 5622 or email
bell.ps@education.vic.gov.au**



OPEN DAY

WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL 2023

For current Year 5 and 6 students and their families.

Student led tours: Book today at <https://compasstix.com/e/jwkyzpyvdo>

We warmly invite you to visit us at Coburg High School to learn more about our school. For more information

visit us at www.coburg.vic.edu.au or call 9353 1700

Proudly Supported By:

**Nelson
Alexander**

Westgarth Baseball Club Juniors

Sunday 26th March *and*

Sunday 2nd April

10:30AM - 12PM

Merri Park,

St Georges Road, Northcote

(Next to Northcote High School)

RSVP to

westgarthbaseballclub@hotmail.com

or phone 0432 761 879



Why Baseball?

- ✕ Improve coordination
- ✕ Learn throwing and catching skills
- ✕ Encourages Teamwork
- ✕ Great winter sport for cricketers!

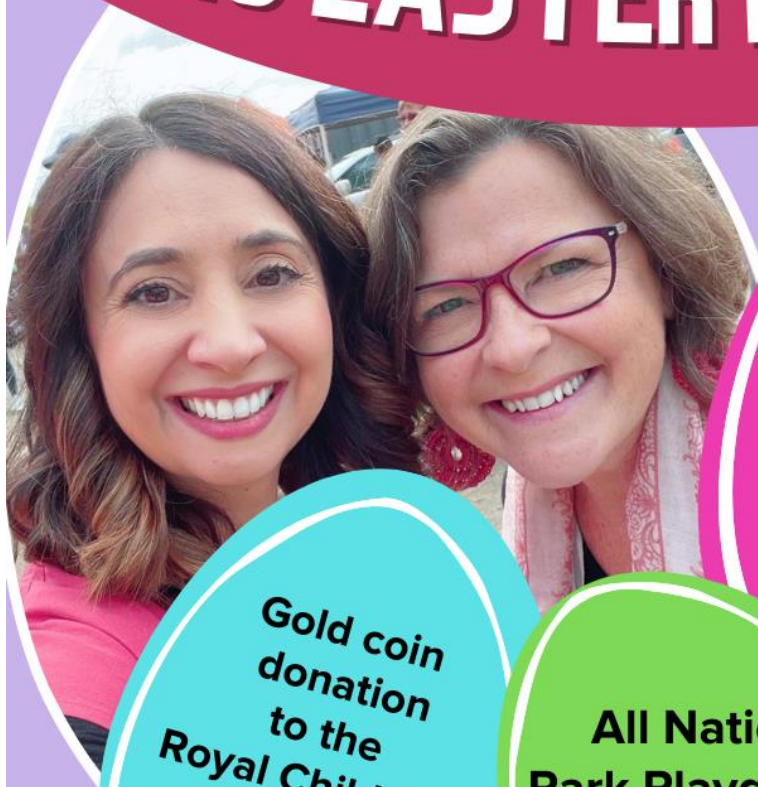
8 - 15 year old girls and boys are invited to

COME 'N' TRY BASEBALL

find us online at

westgarthbaseball.com

KAT AND GED'S BIG EASTER EGG HUNT



Join local MPs
Kat Theophanous
& Ged Kearney for
a morning of family
fun, friendly chats
and chocolate!

Gold coin
donation
to the
Royal Children's
Hospital
Good Friday
Appeal

All Nations
Park Playground
Northcote
2nd April 2023
11AM start

REGISTER HERE



Kat
THEOPHANOUS

Gets
things
done.

GED

Together for better

www.kattheophanous.com.au/easter-egg-hunt-2023

WHAT'S ON

AT DAREBIN INTERCULTURAL CENTRE



Darebin
Intercultural
Centre

The Darebin Intercultural Centre OPEN DAY



We invite everyone to come and explore the relocated Darebin Intercultural Centre, meet current and future friends, partners and user groups, and learn about how the new Centre will contribute to a more equal society.

The Darebin Intercultural Centre was designed in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi wurrung Traditional Owners and members of our diverse community.

Darebin Intercultural Centre Open Day

12.30 - 3.30pm

Sunday 19 March, 350 High Street, Preston

- Kids activities presented by 'Wurruck Yambo' meaning Earth Spirit and based around the belief that Aboriginal culture is vital across all aspects of our lives.
- Enjoy musical acts from the Decibels Youth Music Program, High Street Bells, Greek choir 'Parikia', Filipino dancing and more.
- Join workshops in Rangoli and create patterns using coloured flour and markers.
- Explore the 'Aqal' exhibit – a Somali thatched hut adorned with weaving that becomes a live-in gallery. Marvel at artefacts & listen to songs from the East African Women's Foundation.
- Meet community groups currently using the Darebin Intercultural Centre - the Asylum Seekers Tapestry Group, the Australian Macedonian Disability Pensioner group 'VARDAR' & English pronunciation class volunteers.
- Learn about services that are available in Darebin - Bridge Darebin, Darebin Ethnic Communities Council, Action on Disability within Ethnic Communities & Your Community Health.

Email us at interculturalcentre@darebin.vic.gov.au for more information