



*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:

Next Curriculum Day: Wednesday 31 May

As flagged in a Newsfeed earlier this week, the fourth Curriculum Day for this year has been scheduled for **Wednesday 31 May** where students will not attend school. I realise this is extremely short notice and apologise for this situation, and understand it may place undue pressure on families to make alternative arrangements for the day.

It has been designated a student report writing day for teachers as part of the latest Victorian Government Schools Agreement between the AEU and the Department. I take full responsibility for the late notice due to the delay in staff consultation which I am required to manage in matters related to the agreement.

I have confirmed OSHClub will offer a program on the 31 May for those families who wish to utilise the service.

Mother's and Special Person's Day

Once more the Bell community have rallied together to make the Mother's and Special Person's Day Stall an enormous success. Donations have been flowing in all week with an amazing range of goodies for the children to select from. A big thanks to Kate Nicolazzo and the team for running the event. I wish all families a wonderful day on Sunday.

Infrastructure Expertise Call Out

Part of the governance structure of the Bell School Council are a number of sub-Committees and Working Parties; Infrastructure is one of the main sub-Committees with plenty of ongoing work to improve our facilities. We are placing a callout to parents and carers who would like to join School Councillor Nick Carrington and myself to bolster the Committee as we work through some current projects and future initiatives to improve our buildings and grounds.

You do not have to be a member of School Council to be part of sub-Committees and Working Parties; therefore, if you have some expertise or passion in any of the following areas, please contact Nick or myself:

- Project and/or Contract Management
- Engineering, design or quantity surveyor experience
- OHS expertise related to buildings and grounds works
- Building maintenance skills or grounds development experience
- Other areas of expertise or knowledge related to current or future projects.



Key projects underway and future initiatives in the pipeline include:

- Supporting the planned audio/visual upgrades in the gym/hall to enhance the performing arts features
- Finishing off aspects of the planned soft landscaping around the gym/hall once the main contractor has completed their scope of works
- Planning, procuring and managing \$130K of planned maintenance works identified in a Department audit of our school buildings
- Co-ordination of community-led tidying up and basic maintenance sessions in what we call the 'Bell Blitz'. This is an elaborate name for the old fashioned school Working Bee.

We have also been developing a grounds Master Plan with Bell parents Gemma Peirce Cooke (landscape designer) and Julie Garbutt (biodiversity expert), which will guide the refreshing of many outdoor spaces to create engaging school grounds for diverse play and outdoor learning experiences over the medium to long term.

Nick Carrington has experience in the building industry working in State Government departments, and I have many years' experience as the facilities leader here at Bell, Macedon and Gisborne Primacy Schools, so together we have in-depth knowledge of government processes. We are hoping to recruit others to join us to support the above projects over the next period of time. Nick can be contacted on 0411 300 214, or feel free to speak to me at school or via my email david.twite@education.vic.gov.au

COVID-19 Update

We have had a moderate number of COVID cases in various grades in recent times. Firstly, I would like to thank those families for contacting the school promptly and following the recommendations that help to keep us as safe as possible as this pandemic bubbles along in the background.

A reminder about the highly recommended protocols from the Department if experiencing COVID-like symptoms or testing positive:

- Students and staff who test positive to COVID-19 stay home and isolate for 5 days and do not attend school after 5 days if they are still symptomatic.
- Please notify the school if your child tests positive so we can keep track of cases and alert the community if there are significant numbers building.
- Any student or staff member who is unwell should continue to remain at home unless symptoms are linked to a pre-existing conditions such as hay fever.
- Free rapid antigen tests are available from the front office for those who need them.

Schools are not required to notify the community of cases, however I will continue to give general reminders and updates to our community so we can all remain diligent against COVID and other nasty illnesses that inevitably reach us throughout the year.

David Twite
Principal

2023 Bell PS Calendar:

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



MAY 2023

- Fri 12: 🌸❤️ Mother's + Special Person's Day Stall 🎪👩🏫
- Fri 12: Final day for Scholastic Book Club Orders, 9pm
- Wed 17: **FINAL DAY CONSENT:** Gr6 Camp Jungai
- Wed 17: **FINAL DAY CONSENT:** District Cross Country
- Fri 19: **FINAL DAY CONSENT:** Gr5 Prime SCI! Visit
- Fri 19: District Cross Country
- Mon 22–Thu 25: **Grade 6** Camp Jungai
- Mon 22: **FINAL DAY CONSENT:** Gr1 Hands On Science
- Tue 23: **Grade 5** Prime SCI! Visit
- Thu 25: **Grade 1** Hands On Science Incursion
- Mon 29: Photo Day
- Wed 31: **Student-Free Curriculum Day**

JUNE 2023

- Thu 1: Nthn Div. Cross Country, Bundoora Park
- 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**

LATE

DON'T FORGET THE SLIP!

EARLY

When collecting your child early or dropping them off late, the Compass kiosk in the front office must **always** be your first stop to sign your child in/out before heading to the classroom. The correct slip (green for early departure, orange for late arrival) needs to be given to your child's teacher, indicating they have been signed in/out. Without entering your child at the Compass kiosk, their attendance and whereabouts will not be amended. Thank-you for your cooperation with this important process.

2024 Prep Enrolments now open



We are now accepting 2024 Prep enrolments, and we invite any current Bell families with a 2024 Prep child to submit an enrolment form this term.

Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website
or collected from the front office.

We look forward to welcoming the next cohort of Bell siblings to the school!

From the Admin Office:

ADMINISTRATION STAFF:

Lu Paglia: Business Manager (Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri) : Jo Taylor: Finance/Excursions (Mon/Wed/Fri)
Tania Levens: Facilities/OHS/Communication (Tue-Fri) : Jessie Storm: Attendance/Enrolments/Medical (Mon-Fri)
OFFICE HOURS: 8.00am – 4.30pm

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. ***The Shop is open every Wednesday afternoon from 3.15-3.45pm.*** 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.



Photo Day Info:

2023 WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

The School Photographer will be visiting Bell on Monday May 29 to take 2023 individual portrait, whole class, and sibling photos. Please use the QR and access codes below to view the available packages and place your order in advance. We are cutting down on paper wastage this year and using the online order portal only - envelopes will not be sent home as in previous years. Posters with QR order codes are now displayed in classrooms and reminders will be sent out to families in the lead up to Photo Day.



The School Photographer

PHOTO DAY COMING SOON!

Monday 29th May 2023

Head to our website to view the available packages and to place your order

VISIT OUR WEBSITE & ENTER THIS CODE:

X3060EL50B



ORANGE

Bell Primary School

www.theschoolphotographer.com.au

From the Sports Department:

State Soccer Trials

Earlier in the week, three Grade 6 students from Bell PS joined over 70 Primary School students (12 & under age category) to try out for the State Soccer Team. Although our students didn't get selected, they enjoyed playing a full day of soccer in rain and sunshine!

Well done Jo, Carlo and Luca.



From the Scholastic Book Club Co-ordinator:

Great news for book lovers, the new catalogue for Term 2 Book Club should have made it home with your eldest child recently. Remember that the Book Club is a fundraiser - 15% of all sales are returned to Bell PS as vouchers so educational materials and/or books can be ordered for the school.

Ordering closes *TODAY* - Friday 12 May - at 9.00pm.

There is a small supply of spare catalogues at the office if you need one. Any questions, please email louisegrays@gmail.com



Don't forget to WOW!

**Walk, cycle,
scoot or skateboard
to or from school
on FRIDAYS for Term 2!**

**Walk 'n Wheels
Once a Week (WOW!)**



**YOUR CLASS
COULD WIN THE
GOLDEN BOOT
AWARD!**

What is it?

WOW is "Walk 'n Wheels Once a Week". **Starting Friday 5 May**, each Friday we will be walking and wheeling for seven weeks through to the last Friday of term. Each class will have a WOW wall calendar to record the weekly participation. The class who walks and wheels the most for seven weeks will receive the Golden Boot Award. There will also be rewards and prizes to hand out to students.

Why are we taking part in WOW?

Council wants to help our school students to walk, ride, scoot or skate to school. It's great to improve health with daily exercise. We want to see more students being active when travelling to school plus help to decrease the traffic around schools. We also want to help improve road safety knowledge as part of the program and this will happen through road safety sessions delivered by a Council representative.

Hannah, Claire + Josh

ZERO^{co}

Give single use plastic the flick.

Your school is running a fundraiser and instead of selling chocolates they're selling zero waste beauty and cleaning products from ZERO CO.

Made from
ocean and
recycled plastic



Refill, then
send me back
to reuse

Every Zero Co purchase funds ocean cleanups & raises money for your school


3.5
MILLION

Water bottles of ocean plastic
collected and counting!



Join your School's Fundraiser today.
Help us clean our oceans and put an end to single use plastic!



 Printed on recycled paper



**NOW ACCEPTING
2024 PREP
ENROLMENTS**



We are now inviting Bell families to submit enrolment forms for children who will be starting Prep in 2024.

Enrolment forms are accessible on our website or in the school office, and can be submitted in person or to **bell.ps@education.vic.gov.au**

We ask that 2024 Prep enrolment submissions are made by **Friday July 28th 2023.**

We look forward to welcoming a new bunch of younger siblings to the school!



**NORTHCOTE
HIGH SCHOOL**

Full boarding homestay families are sought for International Students at Northcote High School *(for new International Students arriving in July 2023)*

We are very excited to be welcoming International Students back to Victoria post the onset of the COVID Pandemic.

Northcote High School seeks quality homestays from our local community to help care for new international student arrivals (Year 10-11 age group) in July 2023.

Our international students are mainly from Asian countries, such as China, Vietnam, Korea, Japan and Thailand and they will continue to complete their VCE studies with us in the following years.

Hosting International Students can bring a rich cross cultural experience and opportunity for families. Many local families already on board with the Northcote High School Homestay Program over the years have enjoyed and benefited from the diverse cultural and language exchange experience, especially when they have school age children at home. The reverse experience for our International Students is very much part of their overseas study journey.

If you have a spare room and are willing to take care of a young international student please contact the International Student Office on 9488 2334 (or General Office 9488 2300) or email jocelyn.hill@education.vic.gov.au for more information.

Full boarding homestay fees are \$340 per week (tax free), which covers a fully furnished room, 3 healthy meals daily, laundry, household bills (including internet). Students are encouraged to participate in the normal household family chores and be responsible for their own transport.

Jocelyn Hill

Director of Global Education
Northcote High School