



Bell PS Newsletter

19 May 2023

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bell.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Phone: 9480 5622

Principal: David Twite

Assistant Principal: Emma Heywood

*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:

Octopus Stamps

Part of the Safe Routes to School Program with Darebin Council is the work done by the transport division to identify four safer routes to our school from the north, south, east and west. They are now marked with 'octopus stamps' on the footpaths to help guide families to engage in active transport (walk, ride or scoot) to school as much as practical.

The four routes are marked on the active travel map *attached to this newsletter* and include two designated 'park and stride' spots on the yellow route from the west (H Swaine Reserve) and green from the east (Newman Reserve). There is another informal 'park and stride' spot to the south in Devon Avenue that has a practical gathering spot for a short walk to school. With a potential pedestrian crossing over Miller Street, the blue route can be extended through the Bracken Avenue green space for even better active travel in the future.



One of the many coloured octopus stamps to be found on footpaths around Bell.

Clearly, there are a significant amount of engineering changes to be made over time to make these routes even safer. The longer-term plan is to continue working with Darebin Council and advocating with them and other government authorities to invest in the infrastructure upgrades to ensure we have a safer place for active travel to benefit everyone in the local community starting with Bell families.

The Walk and Wheels (WOW) initiative is a collaboration between Darebin Council and our Junior School Council (JSC) being part of the engagement element. Please scroll down to page 7 for more details.

Next Curriculum Day – Wednesday 31 May

A reminder that the fourth Curriculum Day for this year has been scheduled for Wednesday 31 May where students will not attend school. 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.

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

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 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
- Fri 2: Wear It Yellow Day
- 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 Reminder:

2023 WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

The School Photographer will be visiting Bell on **Monday 29 May** 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 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

For National Reconciliation Week:

Wear It Yellow Day | An initiative of Children's Ground

As part of National Reconciliation Week this year, we are encouraging all students and teachers to take part in a yellow-themed casual dress day on **Friday 2 June** to raise funds for a First Nations organisation, Children's Ground. It could be as simple as wearing a yellow ribbon or a yellow t-shirt, etc.

The 2023 National Reconciliation Week theme is 'Be a voice for generations.' This theme encourages all Australians to be a voice for reconciliation in tangible ways in our everyday lives – where we live, work and play. That is why our school has chosen to participate in Children's Ground's 'Wear It Yellow' day.

As part of 'Wear It Yellow Day', students will engage with National Reconciliation Week learning materials and have vibrant discussions about First Nations culture and history. We remind students and teachers who take part to donate what you can to Children's Ground and bring a gold coin donation on the day. For more information on Children's Ground, head to <https://childrensground.org.au/>



We are
wearing it yellow 
for Children's Ground
this National Reconciliation Week.

Term 2 Clubs:

New Clubs for Term 2 have begun this week. Teachers will supervise a range of activities that students can choose to participate in at play times throughout the week.

Students will be reminded of the Clubs that are on for that particular break at eating time each day.

<p>Monday</p>	<p><u>First break:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Card Club in the Learning Centre with Ramzey • Sustainability Club - Clean Up Crew Odd Weeks (Week 1,3,5,7,9) Grades 3-6 meet at the Italian Room with Sam Even Weeks (Week 2,4,6,8) Grades P-2 meet at the Italian room with Ms G <p><u>Second break:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legoland Club in the Learning Centre with David
<p>Tuesday</p>	<p><u>Second break:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just Dance Club in Room 18 with Kerry
<p>Wednesday</p>	<p><u>First break:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State School Spectacular (selected students only) in the Learning Centre with Ms S, Joy, Sarah and Ivy <p><u>Second break:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Club (2-6) in Room 11 with Ivy, Christine, Dimi and James • Sustainability Club (P-2) Week 3, 6, 9 Meet outside the Learning Centre next to the planter boxes • Grade 6 News Readers in Room 3 with Jack • Tournament of the Minds (4 -6) in the Open Space upstairs with Stacey and Mr Nicho • Art Club (P-2) in the Art Room with Miss Corinne and Ms T
<p>Thursday</p>	<p><u>First break:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior Jam Club (P-2) in the Music Room with Ms S <p><u>Second break:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zine Club in Room 19 with Claire
<p>Friday</p>	<p><u>First break:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dungeons and Dragons Club (invite only) Upstairs in the Main Building with Ramzey



**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". Each Friday in Term 2 we will be walking and wheeling 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

From Grade 4B:

Shared Reading

The students in 4B have been loving the immersive experience of a shared reading of the text 'A Ghost in My Suitcase' by Melbourne local Gabrielle Wang. Students read along with their own copy of the text as the teacher reads aloud with them. Through this process we can pause for discussion, making predictions and inferences about the text.

This week, students have created open-minded portraits of the main characters. Inside these impressive character illustrations are detailed paragraphs where students wrote from two different perspectives, one being the inner dialogue of the character they chose. Here they demonstrated a strong understanding of personality traits and character motivations.

Then they wrote their own thoughts on the characters, taking the time to reflect on how they feel about the character, what is interesting about them and where they predict the character's story arc will lead them.

Well done 4B and keep up that love of reading.



From the Grade 1 Team:

All Grade 1 students have commenced learning the basic skills of playing Soccer as an extra-curricular activity. For the first four weeks of this term, all students will participate in basic skill practise sessions each Wednesday.

The students have been having a great time learning how to dodge, weave, change direction and dribble the ball around the oval, either independently or with a partner. It's been great seeing the kids outside participating in an extra sports activity to build up their sporting capabilities.

The team appreciates all the effort Josh puts in to organising such activities for us...way to go Josh!

Thanks,
The Grade 1 Team.



SPECIALIST AWARD

The Specialist Award winners for this fortnight are...**5A!!**



A big **CONGRATULATIONS** to 5A.

They have been demonstrating the school value of **Collaboration** by sharing ideas, listening respectfully to each other and making compromises.

They have also made wise decisions when forming groups.

Great work 5A!

*The Specialist Team
(Josh, Ms S, Miss Corinne and Professoressa Sam)*

RIDING WITH YOUR CHILD

FAQs AND TIPS



the place
to live

Getting ready

Where should I go to find the right bike for my child?

- Ask your local bike shop for professional advice on selecting the right type of bike to ensure that it is the correct size and fit.
- A second-hand bike can be more cost-effective and sustainable, but you'll need to thoroughly inspect the bike to make sure it is safe to ride and meets your child's needs. Adjustments or repairs might be required before it can be ridden. Darebin Council offers Free Monthly Bike Checks darebin.vic.gov.au/bikechecks @

What should I consider?

- Your child should be able to sit on the seat, with hands on the handlebars and place the balls of both feet on the ground. Don't raise the handlebars or seat beyond the warning marks on the seat post. See VicRoads *Bike Fit Guide* bit.ly/bike-fit-guide @
- A back pedal brake is good for younger children whose hands may not be large or strong enough to operate hand brakes effectively.
- Gears are only useful if the rider knows how to use them properly, which is most likely at about 8 years of age. Geared bikes will have hand brakes and generally 20-inch or larger wheels.

Know the rules

- ➔ Always wear a bike helmet, fitted properly and fastened
- ➔ Make sure the bike has a rear red reflector, a bell, and at least one working brake
- ➔ For a full list of road rules, refer to bit.ly/bike-road-rules @



Learning to ride

What's the best way to teach my child how to balance without training wheels?

- Balance bikes (training bikes with no pedals) are a great way to help your child develop their balance.
- You can also convert a normal bike by removing the pedals and lowering the seat height so your child has a slight bend in the knee.
- Practicing on a large open area such as a school yard or vacant carpark is ideal. Grass can be harder to ride on and gain momentum unless it's smooth and sloped.
- Bicycle Network has excellent tips for teaching your child to ride a bike bit.ly/bike-fit-parents @

What if my children are at different stages with their riding?

- A tag-along (half a children's bike attached to the back of an adult's bike) is a good way to keep one child under your control while you supervise an older sibling.
- Child seats mounted on front or back, trailers and cargo bikes are other great options for younger children not ready to ride on their own.

When is it appropriate for my child to ride without me?

This will be different for every child and the more you ride with them the better sense you will have. Consider their riding experience, character, skills and confidence.

How can I prepare my child to ride independently?

- It's best if they start on a route they're familiar with from riding with you.
- Map out new routes together using the Darebin TravelSmart map darebin.vic.gov.au/travelsmart @
- Ask your child's school if they offer Bike Ed for Schools vicroads.vic.gov.au/bikeed @

How can I improve my own bike riding skills?

- Darebin Council runs regular free and low-cost bike programs suitable for all ages darebin.vic.gov.au/bikeskills @
- See also VicRoads Adult Bike Ed vicroads.vic.gov.au/adultbikeed @

Riding on footpaths and shared paths



Is there a difference between a footpath and a shared path?

Yes, a shared path is marked by walker and bike signage. It is designed to be used by both pedestrians and bike riders of all ages.

Who has right of way on shared paths and footpaths?

Bike riders must keep left unless it is impracticable to do so and must give way to pedestrians.

Who should ride in front – child or parent?

- When riding on the footpath, follow closely behind your child so you can see them clearly at all times and provide instructions or warnings.
- Remind your child to give way to pedestrians and keep to the left.
- If there are two adults, one can ride in front and one behind the child/children.
- On a wide shared path without road crossings, it might be appropriate to lead and model courteous and safe riding practices for them to follow.

How can I help my child to look out for cars backing out of driveways?

- Every time you walk or ride along the footpath with your child, take the opportunity to remind them to turn their heads to look for cars reversing from driveways. Peripheral vision is not fully developed until around 10 years of age, so younger children need to learn to move their focus.
- Explain that it is hard for drivers to see little people and talk about the importance of standing clear.
- If you feel your child is unable to ride safely near driveways, interim measures include using a child seat on your bike or attaching a tag-along bike.

Any tips for crossing roads?

Stop, dismount and walk your bikes together across the road when it is safe to do so.

Know the rules

Who can ride on the footpath?

- Children under 13 years of age.
- People older than this who accompany children under 13 years.
- Anyone with a medical certificate that says they have a disability that makes it difficult to ride on the road (and anyone accompanying them).

On the road

What's the best time to start the transition from footpath to road?

- Legally, children need to start riding on the road from the age of 13 years, so it is a good idea to start practising early to help them build their confidence.
- There's no specific age that is considered the best for transitioning from footpath to road but a good time to begin is when they can demonstrate good bike control and can behave safely.
- Start on quiet, local roads and venture onto roads with more traffic as confidence and skills increase.

Where should I position myself on the road when riding with children?

- Ride close behind and slightly further out to deflect traffic coming from behind.
- If there are two adults riding with children, one adult should lead the group, riding exactly where the children are to ride and the other should ride at the back, slightly to the right in a protective position.



For more information about Darebin's bike programs and support, visit darebin.vic.gov.au/darebinlovesbikes @

CITY OF DAREBIN

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National Relay Service relayservice.gov.au

If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service.



Speak Your Language T 8470 8470

العربية	Italiano	Soomalii
繁體中文	Македонски	Español
Ελληνικά	नेपाली	اردو
हिंदी	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ	Tiếng Việt



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!

Section Break (Next Page)

What's-been-happening...

Welcome to our second fortnightly newsletter for term 2. Below are a few important and exciting events and reminders coming up at OSHClub!

Last Wednesday, we had the first of four of our **Extended Learning Activity (ELA) of Dance club!** The children absolutely loved their dance teacher Emmanuel and his cool dance moves and tricks he taught the children. It was wonderful to see so many children actively involved and engaged in this experience. The next three dance sessions will occur on Wednesday 24th, 31st, for the Pupil Free Day and on Wednesday June 7th. The classes run from 4:15-5:15 at no additional cost, so make sure your child is booked in on the following Wednesday afternoons to participate.

As mentioned above, OSHClub will be running a full day program on **Wednesday 31st May for the Pupil Free Day**. We are open from 7:00am-6:30pm at the cost of \$70 (before any applicable childcare subsidy). Please remember to bring morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea for the duration of the day and to be mindful that we are a nut-free service. Bookings are now open, if you need any assistance booking in your child for this day, please feel free to reach out.

We are very excited to announce that our **Winter School Holiday** program has been finalized and that bookings are *now open*! We have a very fun and exciting 2 weeks planned with both excursions and incursions for the children to enjoy. Brochures with our themed days will be released and sent out on May 26, so please stay tuned for more information regarding the activities and themes for each day. Please feel free to begin booking in and securing your spots early! Again, if you need any assistance with bookings, please reach out!

FRIDAY FUNDAY! We are super-duper excited to announce that every Friday afternoon during our Stay and Play (after-school care) sessions, that we have introduced **Friday Funday Pizza Party!** Every Friday, the children will be involved in making their own pizzas for afternoon tea and will have the opportunity to be involved in pizza party games, pizza activities and challenges, music, and dancing and much, much more! If you would like to join in on our Friday Funday Pizza Party, please make sure you are booked in on a Friday afternoon to participate.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Warm regards Celeste, Olivia & Amy.

FRIDAY FUNDAY Pizza Party

OSH
CLUB

OSH
CLUB

EVERY FRIDAY
AFTERNOON, COME
ALONG FOR A PIZZA
PARTY AT OSHCLUB!

- JOIN US FOR:
- PIZZA MAKING
 - PIZZA PARTY
GAMES
 - MUSIC & DANCING
AND MUCH, MUCH
MORE...



OSH
CLUB