



Bell PS Newsletter

14 July 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 Acting Principal:

Welcome back for Term 3. How fast the year is going! Despite the cooler weather, we hope families have had a safe and relaxing break. Alongside daily learning, it is going to be another action-packed term with events such as Prep-Grade 5 swimming, Grade 4-6 Athletics Carnival, Grade 5 Camp and other year level-based excursions and incursions scheduled to take place. As mentioned in communications at the end of last term, David is on leave for the first part of this term. We wish David and Jeanette a well-deserved break in central Australia and look forward to his return in early August.

Assembly

A reminder that our weekly assembly will now take place on a **Friday at 3.00pm**, beginning today. This trial of a new day and time seeks to maximise Monday mornings as optimal learning time, and enable an increased number of parents/carers to attend. Feedback will be sought from all members of the community regarding the change of day and time later in the term.

First Aid Room

Despite the current hold on the gym/hall construction, the VSBA have approved the final elements of our new First Aid Room which were completed over the holidays. Having a dedicated First Aid Room in the main building will enable students who are unwell to receive treatment in a quieter, more private space.

School Access

This week, access to the school via the Oakover Road pedestrian gate has been reinstated meaning families are now able to access the school from the south. Temporary fences have been adjusted to widen the path and enable access to the outside bike racks. Re-opening this gate should ease some congestion at the northern end of the school and on Scotia Street footpaths while the front of the school remains closed.

During our assembly, we will be reminding students who ride/scoot to school of appropriate etiquette on a shared path, including:

- Walking bikes/scooters in areas of congestion
- Giving way to pedestrians on the footpath
- Keeping to the left and using single file
- Using a warning device, such as a bell or their voice, when overtaking.

If your child rides or scoots to school, we would appreciate parents/carers engaging in a similar conversation at home. This will help to ensure all members of our school and broader community feel safe around our school at the beginning and end of the school day.

We would like to remind parents/carers that bikes and scooters cannot be ridden in the school ground before school after 8:45am, and after school before 3:45pm.

Semester Reports & Parent/Carer-Teacher Conferences

A reminder that Parent/Carer-Teacher Conferences will take place next week. These Conferences facilitate individual time for parents/carers to meet with their child's classroom teacher to discuss their Semester 1 Report and any other matters pertinent to their child. Students are welcome to attend these sessions with their parent/carer to discuss their learning progress and future learning goals.

Emma Heywood
Acting Principal

From School Council:

CALL OUT FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging sub-Committee

JOIN US IN SHAPING A MORE INCLUSIVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

The **Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging sub-Committee** aims to contribute to an environment where all people feel that they belong, they are valued as they are, their contributions are welcome and they have full and equal opportunity to participate, regardless of sex, gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, age, ability, religion, health or socioeconomic status.

What will we do! How will we do it!

As a member of the Committee, you will have the opportunity to actively contribute to fostering an inclusive culture within our school community. Your valuable insights and ideas will help us develop initiatives and programs that celebrate diversity and promote understanding among students, staff, and parents.

We are seeking individuals who are passionate about embracing different perspectives, cultures, and backgrounds. Whether you are a parent, teacher, or community member, your unique experiences, lived experience and expertise will be greatly appreciated.

As a Committee member, you can expect to participate in regular monthly brainstorming sessions and collaborative projects. Your commitment is flexible, and we understand that everyone has different schedules and availability. **Even if you can only spare a few hours a year, your involvement will make a difference.**

If you are interested in joining our Committee or have any questions, please call or text Mia McDonald (she/her), parent to Sidney in 1C, on 0405 343 628 or email miamalamcdonald@gmail.com or pop in for a casual catch up with Mia in the library on Tuesday 25 July at 3:40pm (kids welcome).

We welcome all volunteers and look forward to working together to promote diversity and inclusivity within our school.

2023 Bell PS Calendar:

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



JULY 2023

- Fri 14: Assembly, 3pm (weather permitting)
- Mon 17: **Gr 1, 2, 4** Swimming Program #1/6
- Mon 17: **Year 1** Parent/Carer-Teacher Conference
- Mon 17: **Year 4** Parent/Carer-Teacher Conference
- Mon 17: **Year 6** Parent/Carer-Teacher Conference
- Tue 18: **Gr 3 + 5** Swimming Program #1/6
- **Tue 18: Grade 6 Northcote HS Musical – We Will Rock You**
- Tue 18: **Year 5** Parent/Carer-Teacher Conference
- Tue 18: **Specialist** Parent/Carer-Teacher Conference
- Wed 19: **Gr 1, 2, 4** Swimming Program #2/6
- Wed 19: **Prep** Parent/Carer-Teacher Conference
- Wed 19: **Year 2** Parent/Carer-Teacher Conference
- Wed 19: **Year 3** Parent/Carer-Teacher Conference
- Thu 20: **Gr 3 + 5** Swimming Program #2/6
- **Fri 21: FINAL DAY CONSENT Gr6 Preston HS Musical - Matilda**
- Fri 21: **Gr 4-6** Bell Athletics Carnival
- Fri 21: **Prep** Swimming #1/6
- Fri 21: Assembly, 3pm (weather permitting)
- Mon 24: **Gr 1, 2, 4** Swimming Program #3/6
- Tue 25: **Gr 3 + 5** Swimming Program #3/6
- Wed 26: **Gr 1, 2, 4** Swimming Program #4/6
- **Wed 26: Grade 6 Preston HS Musical - Matilda**
- Thu 27: **Gr 3 + 5** Swimming Program #4/6
- Fri 28: **Prep** Swimming #2/6
- **Fri 28: VSSS Rehearsal #4, Basketball Stadium, Keilor**
- Fri 28: Assembly, 3pm (weather permitting)
- Sun 30: Last orders for Term 3 Book Club, 9pm
- Mon 31: **Gr 1, 2, 4** Swimming Program #5/6

AUGUST 2023

- Wed 2: **Gr 1, 2, 4** Swimming Program #6/6
- Fri 4: **Prep** Swimming #3/6
- Fri 4: Assembly, 3pm (weather permitting)
- **Fri 4: Bell Trivia Night**
- Fri 11: **Prep** Swimming #4/6
- Fri 11: Assembly, 3pm (weather permitting)
- Tue 15: Northcote District Athletics Carnival
- Fri 18: **Prep** Swimming #5/6
- Fri 18: Assembly, 3pm (weather permitting)
- Fri 25: **Prep** Swimming #6/6
- Fri 25: Assembly, 3pm (weather permitting)
- Wed 30 – Fri 1.9: **Grade 5** Waratah Bay Camp

SEPTEMBER 2023

- Fri 1: Assembly, 3pm (weather permitting)
- **Thu 7: VSSS Rehearsal #5, John Cain Arena**
- **Fri 8: VSSS Rehearsal #6, John Cain Arena**
- Fri 8: Assembly, 3pm (weather permitting)
- **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**

Beanies : Beanies : Beanies : Beanies : Beanies : Beanies:

Bell Beanies are once again available for order **via Qkr!** for **\$20 each**.

Meet me in the **office foyer** on either **Monday, Wednesday** or **Friday** next week, **from 8:40 am**, to collect your ordered beanies!

Liz Waygood
Beanie Guru



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

2024 Prep Enrolments Open



We kindly ask any current Bell families with a 2024 Prep child to submit an enrolment form before Friday 28 July for planning purposes. 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! Please contact Jessie in the office with any questions about the enrolment process.

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 Requirements Update

As of July 10, Victorian schools are no longer required to keep records of student COVID cases, however the DET recommendation remains in place that any staff or students who test positive for COVID should stay home for 5 days minimum and only return to school when they are symptom-free. We kindly ask that you continue to inform office staff or your child's teacher if your child tests positive for COVID. Free rapid antigen tests are still available at 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.**

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Please see our [website](#) for details on these activities offered both after school and/or during school time in Room 14 – please make direct contact with the provider:

Keyboard : **Guitar** : **Violin** : **Ukelele** : **Singing** : **Dancing** : **Computer Programming** : **Sports**

SPECIALIST 'Metal of Honour' AWARD

A huge CONGRATULATIONS to

1A

for winning the 'Metal of Honour' Specialist Award for **Term 2!**

It was a massive team effort and you are all so deserving!

1A have been working hard demonstrating the school values and working on the Learning Assets in all their Specialist classes. Thank you for choosing kindness and making good behaviour choices every single session.

The Specialist team would like to congratulate every class in the school for doing an amazing job in all their Specialist classes.

Josh, Professoressa Sam, Miss Corinne and Ms S.



Specialist Award

The Specialist Award winners for this fortnight are...

2B!



A big **congratulations** to 2B for winning the **Specialist Award** this week.

They've been showing the school value of respect through their learning by working well together and helping others in their class. They have really stepped it up this term and shown a lot of growth as a team. Keep up the good work!

Lavoro brillante, 2B!

The Specialists

From the Sports Department:

Athletics Carnival

Next Friday the 21st of July, the Grade 4, 5 and 6 students will be heading out to the Coburg Athletics track for the Bell Athletics Carnival. The event will be for most of the day and students will need to bring food and water for the day and some warm clothes.

Parents and carers are more than welcome to attend on the day, so any parent/carer holding a Working With Children Check who would like to support Bell, please email Josh at joshua@bellps.vic.edu.au

Josh Grogan
PE Teacher



Victorian Schools State Cross Country Competition

On the morning of Thursday the 13th of July, Grade 4 student Jack SDM represented Bell Primary School at the Victorian State Cross Country competition. Jack has been training for months by getting up early in the morning (alongside his father Mat), building up his capacity as an athlete by pushing himself further and faster.

He made it through the various stages with grit, determination and a growth mindset. He finished 38th in the race amongst a huge field of likeminded runners. Jack encourages others to "put in the hard work and believe in themselves" when they have something they want to achieve.

Congratulations Jack! Your community is proud of you.

Paul Nicholson
4B Classroom Teacher



Scholastic Book Club – Term 3:

Great news for book lovers, the new catalogue for Term 3 Book Club should be arriving home with your eldest child either today or early next week. 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.

Last date for ordering is Friday 30 July at 9.00pm.

Any questions, please email louisegrey8@gmail.com



NAIDOC Week Update:

Hello parents and carers,

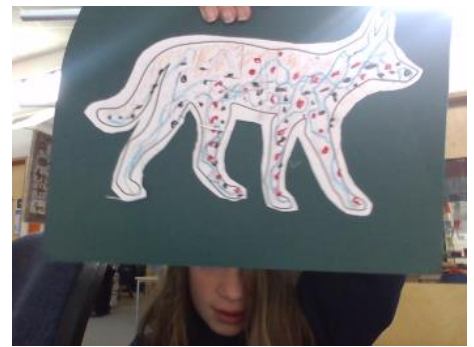
NAIDOC week took place during the school holidays. It is a weeklong celebration of Indigenous culture and learning.

On the 13th of July, the grade sixes re-engaged in NAIDOC week. They learned about Aboriginal culture and dived into the way Aboriginal groups think, see and feel about Country. They watched inspirational videos and learned about the concept of *dadirri*, a way of deep listening and quiet stillness as a way of thinking. They also had fun making hands with aboriginal markings on them with our prep buddies. It looked really cool.

Grade One students have produced some beautiful artworks of Australian animals

In Grade Four, students have learned the game '*buroinjin*'. This was a ball game played by the Kabi Kabi people of South Queensland. The game was played with a ball made of kangaroo skin, which was called a *buroinjin*. The ball, which was smaller than a soccer ball, was sewn with tendons and stuffed with grass. Teams from different groups played against each other. The game was often played until sunset. Spectators used to mark their applause by calling out '*Ei, ei*'.

Xavier + Sara
Grade 6



*Bell Trivia Night
Presents*

DECADE DANCE

COCKTAIL LOUNGE



*Northcote Theatre
Friday August 4th
9.30pm til Late*



\$20

Cocktail Lounge Fundraising Ticket

(Cocktail Lounge Included In All Trivia Tickets Already Purchased)

New Venue Brings New Possibilities

**As Trivia Winds Down, Dress Up And Join The Celebration As
We Toast The Winners In Our Upstairs Cocktail Lounge Bar,
With Dance Floor And DJ's Til Late**

**Thanks To An Enthusiastic Bell Community
Trivia Tables Have Sold Out In Record Time,
To Be A Part Of The Event Of The Year
Grab Your Lounge Pass Soon**

Tickets On Sale Now Via Qkr

All Proceeds Going Towards Future Bell Gym Fit-Out



**CALLING ALL
2024 PREP
ENROLMENTS**



We are 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

For planning purposes, we ask that 2024 Prep enrolment submissions are made by **Friday July 28th 2023**.

Please contact Jessie in the office for any questions about enrolment.