



Bell PS Newsletter

21 July 2023

www.bellps.vic.edu.au

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:

Parent/Carer-Teacher Meetings and Reports

As we move into Semester 2 of learning, it was great to see so many parents and carers engaging in meetings with teachers to discuss their child's progress and areas for future learning. I would also like to thank our staff for the work they put into written semester reports that formed the basis for your discussions, and in making themselves available for parents/carers into the evening.

If you were unable to attend a Parent/Carer Teacher Conference this week, please email your child's classroom teacher to arrange an agreed time to discuss your child's progress. Continuing to maintain open communication is pivotal to a positive and productive home-school partnership and we encourage families to continue working with teachers and the school.

If your child was not in attendance for the Conference, we encourage you to talk to your child about what was discussed, future learning goals and the ways everyone will be working together to support their learning.

Swimming

This week, students in Grades Prep to 5 commenced participation in the school's swimming program. Students in Grades 1 to 5 will be attending twice a week for three weeks, and our Prep students once a week for six weeks.

Thank you to the vast majority of families who committed to the swimming program. Swimming and water safety is an essential component of the PE curriculum, supporting students to develop foundation movement skills and practise behaviours and skills to keep themselves and others safe in and around water. Lessons are again taking place at Elite Swimming in Pascoe Vale where we have the benefit of a private centre with no general public or other schools to share the venue with and only a small number of toddler sessions that take place.

Students come to these lessons with a range of capability and ability levels, all of which are determined within the session groupings. Within some cohorts, many have vast experience and swim at a squad level outside of the school program while in others, there are students in the beginning stages of developing their swimming ability and familiarisation around water. The swimming instructors conduct an assessment at the beginning of the program to determine the best group for individuals based on their experience and swimming skills. These groupings are flexible and, should students require an adjustment, this is coordinated among the instructors. We ask parents/carers to have confidence in the ability of the swimming instructors to determine the group that is the best fit for their child within the context of the broader swimming group.

As well as the benefit to swimming skills, the program supports students in their ability to learn the concepts of responsibility, organisation and self-management. While staff will assist and encourage as appropriate, taking ownership of self and belongings is an important part of the learning.



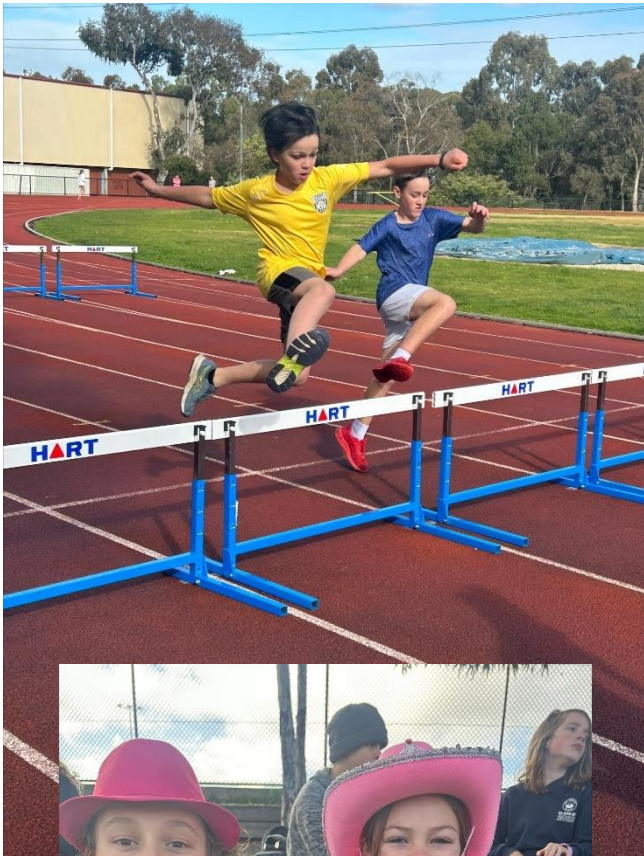
Athletics Carnival for Gr 4-6

Students in Grades 4-6 are today taking part in our annual Bell Athletics Carnival at the Coburg Athletics Track.

It was fantastic to see students wearing their house colours with pride and encouraging their peers. Today was also the first opportunity for our upper year levels to learn the chants that have been developed by the House Captains.

Participation and having a go are always the ultimate objective for all our sporting events, with a balance between having a fun day and doing your best, whilst also conducting trials and recognising those who would like to be considered in the Bell athletics squad at the District Carnival held in August.

Any event that involves coordinating staff and cohorts of students is a huge organisational and logistical challenge. We would like to thank Josh Grogan for undertaking this role for both the swimming and athletics programs and thank staff for their support and flexibility, as well as the parents and carers who attended and/or assisted at athletics today. A great collective effort that enabled the event to run successfully.



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.

Scholastic Book Club – Term 3:

Last orders for Term 3: Friday 30 July @ 9.00pm.

Order online only – see the back of the catalogue for details. 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.

Any questions, please email louisegrey8@gmail.com



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

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

Keep those heads warm!!!

Liz Waygood

Beanie Co-ordinator



2023 Bell PS Calendar:

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



JULY 2023

- 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

- Tue 1: **Gr 3 + 5 Swimming Program #5/6**
- Wed 2: **Gr 1, 2, 4 Swimming Program #6/6**
- Thu 3: **Gr 3 + 5 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

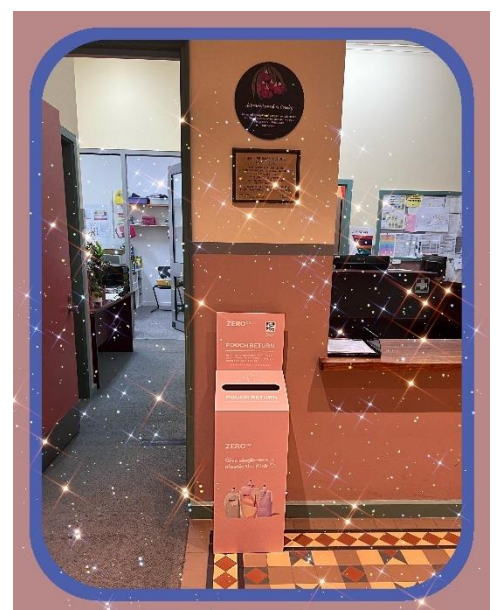
- Wed 20: **Final Day Term 4, 1.30pm dismissal**

From the Sustainability Club:

Did you participate in our Zero Co. Fundraiser? Do you have a collection of empty pouches building up at home? **Great News! Bell Primary School is now a collection point for empty Zero Co. pouches!**

Drop your empty pouches into the box which can be found in the office foyer, and we'll send them back to Zero Co. in bulk so they can be cleaned and reused. We also receive 10c for every pouch we return – it may not seem like much but every dollar helps in our efforts to become a more sustainable school!

The Sustainability Team



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 Due Next Week



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

From the Sports Department:

Victorian Skiing Championships

Over the past weekend, Carmen C-C competed at the Victorian Junior Cross Country Skiing Championships. She won her favourite event, skiing 2.5km in the distance freestyle race (skating) and came a very close second in the classic sprint. This makes Carmen the Victorian WU14 champion and is off to the Australian Championships at Perisher in September. We would like to congratulate her on this amazing achievement and wish her all the best for the upcoming Championships.

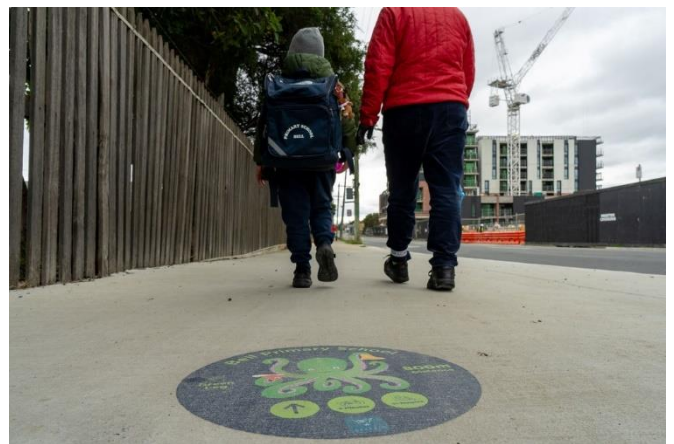
Josh Grogan
PE Teacher



Safe Routes in the Community:

Over the holidays Warren and his mother Jenni had the opportunity to continue to promote road safety within the Darebin community. Darebin council approached Bell as part of our safe routes to school program asking if any students would be available for a photoshoot to show off some of the recent upgrades that have been completed around Bell Primary. This included the new park and artwork under the train line and the new Octopus legs (routes) to Bell Primary.

We are sure many of you have noticed the coloured Octopus painted on the walkways around Bell since returning over the holidays. We will aim to send out a copy these new routes to the community in the coming weeks.



*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.

What's been happening...

Welcome back to term 3! How quickly is this year going! We hope you all had a lovely two-week break and are looking forward to a jam-packed term 3 ahead!

We had a wonderful two-week winter holiday program where the children had two incursions and one excursion. The children had a visit from a mobile zoo where they got to meet and hold different animals such as blue tongue lizards, frogs, snakes, and baby wombats. The second incursion was a dancing session where we saw all our children being taught a 3-minute-long dance routine and were able to make up their own dance moves which were incorporated into their dance. All the educators were super proud and impressed with how engaged each child was and how quickly they could remember each new move! The children were also very lucky to go on an excursion to Inflatable World in Bundoora! We were very lucky to have the whole play space to ourselves! The children loved showing us how high they can jump, bounce, swing, and slide! Overall, the two weeks of the winter holidays were a great hit, and we look forward to our spring holiday program at the end of this term!

Starting next Tuesday, we have a brand-new Extended Learning Activity (ELA) of AFL! The program will run for 4 weeks on the following dates Tuesday 25th July, Tuesday 1st August, Tuesday 8th August, Tuesday 15th August. The session will run from 4:00-5:00pm at no additional cost, so make sure your child is booked in on the following Tuesday afternoons to participate.

We are very excited to announce that we have introduced a Coding Club that will run during each morning and afternoon session. Coding robotics combines the use of electronics, mechanics, and coding software to program robots to do a particular job/sequence. Coding can help teach children the basic concepts of coding while having fun and learning hands on skills such as problem solving, logical and computational thinking.

This term we will also be partnering with our local community. Last Thursday we had Libby and Robbie from Preston Police Station visit the children where they spoke to them about stranger danger, police officer roles and got to answer the children's questions about the gadgets officers carry on them and how they respond in emergencies. The children loved having Libby and Robbie visit so much, that we made them hand-written thank you cards and hopefully we will see them again soon. We have also made contact and connections with our local library, different sporting centers, hardware stores that will all be embedded into our program this term – so please stay tuned!

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

Warm regards Celeste, Olivia & Jamila.

Mon-Fri 07:00-09:00 & 15:00-18:30
0413 123 119
Bell@oshclub.com.au

oshclub.com.au
1300 395 735

Look what's coming to
OSHClub!



Extended Learning Activity:

AFL

What:

Calling all football fanatics, join us in-service while we learn and participate in different AFL techniques and drills to get us game ready! Run by qualified and current AFL players, these sessions are sure to teach us some impressive and valuable skills.

When:

Dates:

Tuesday 25 July

Tuesday 1st August

Tuesday 8th August

Tuesday 15th August

Time:

4:00–5:00pm

Limited spaces available! Book now.
oshclub.com.au