

Bell PS Newsletter

13 August 2021

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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:

Parent and Carer Survey

Our school is conducting the annual survey to find out what parents/caregivers/guardians think of our school. The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is offered by the Department of Education and Training to a sample of randomly selected parents/caregivers/guardians (previously known as the Parent Opinion Survey). It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, student engagement and experiences of remote and flexible learning. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

Approximately 30 per cent of parents will be invited to participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year, the Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey will be conducted from **Tuesday 17**th **August** to **Friday 3**rd **September.** Selected parents will be sent an email with a link to the online survey.

Remote and Flexible Learning Extension

With the extension of the lockdown next Thursday 19 August inclusive, the following home learning programs and wellbeing activities will continue as outlined in the Compass Newsfeed sent out last night:

- Daily morning meetings with the whole class and learning tasks on Google Classroom with priority tasks highlighted in the timetable for students to submit and teachers to provide feedback;
- Group wellbeing and academic conferences throughout the week to provide explicit teaching moments, personal feedback and foster connections between peers;
- Optional Mathematics session for students in Year 3-6 conducted by Paul and Jack .

The major change for the week ahead is the re-structure of the weekly timetable to allocate a specific day for all four specialist subjects for each grade level. Specialist teachers will co-host morning meetings on that day and will run grade level conferences for all students to discuss the activities and provide more opportunities for each cohort to connect on-line.

Additional activities are being organised where time permits, with several of the existing school based extracurricular programs continuing on-line such as State Schools Spectacular dance rehearsals, Tournament of Minds preparation, Senior Vocal Ensemble and Rock Band. As more optional activities become available, teachers will promote them via morning meetings.

The full presentation that outlines all aspects of our current approach to Remote and Flexible Learning will be made available on the school website on the front page in the 'Recent News' sections.

Remember our remote and flexible learning mantras:

Do your best and try not to get stressed and Reach out to the teacher, office staff or leadership if you need help.

Up-coming School Events

As is the case with every lockdown and changes in restrictions, unfortunately some events on the school calendar that were scheduled for the near future have been postponed, cancelled or will need to be conducted in a modified format. We know this is disappointing for our students but rest assured, once there is more certainty on a date to return to on-site learning and the restrictions known, staff will do their absolute best to try and rebook where possible.

At this point in time, here is the status of the events scheduled for the near future:

- The *Grade 6 Winter Sports Gala Day* has been officially cancelled, however Josh is hoping to organise an informal sports day with some of our close schools to still give the students the chance to play in their netball, soccer and football teams;
- The *Grade 4-6 Athletics* scheduled for this Monday has been postponed, and we are unsure if a new date is feasible. If not, we will run a modified event at school when we can. The District Athletics Carnival is being reviewed at the moment.
- **Grade 4 Swimming** at Northcote Aquatic Centre is still starting on Wednesday 25 August if we are back at school. We are hoping that the Grade 1 and 3 swimming program can be accommodated in Term 4 at a new venue in Brunswick. More information to follow soon about those programs.
- This year's *Writer's Festival* brilliantly named 'Broadcasting Bell' will most likely be pushed back until early next term giving students more time to complete their collaborative presentations at school once we return.
- We are still planning for the *Grade 5 Camp* at the end of this term, with an Event Consent and other information being sent home via Compass early next week.
- Grade 5/6 District Basketball is still scheduled for Friday 3 September at the Coburg basketball stadium. Again
 this is subject to restrictions and guidance from the department, and an Event Consent will be sent out via
 Compass next week.

David Twite Principal

From the Office:

2021 Calendar



AUGUST

Mon 16: Gr4-6 Athletics Carnival, Coburg Aths Track
 Tue 17- Tue3: Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey
 Tue 24: Northcote Dist. Aths, Coburg Aths Track tbc

• Fri 27: Vic State School Spectacular Workshop

• Fri 27: *Wear It Purple Day*

SEPTEMBER

• Thu 2: Bell Writer's Festival

• Fri 3: Northcote Dist. Basketball, Coburg B/ball Stadium

• Fri 3: Father's + Special Person's Day Stall

• Thu 9+Fri 10: Victorian State School Spectacular *Rehearsal*

Sat 11: Victorian State School Spectacular!!!!!
 Wed 15–Fri 17: Grade 5 Camp Waratah Bay

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 Fri 17: Last Day Term 3, 2.30pm dismissal

OCTOBER

Mon 4: First Day Term 4

• Wed 6-Thu7: Grade 3 Camp Sovereign Hill

NOVEMBER

• Tue 2: Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

• Wed 10: District Triathlon tbc

• Sat 13: Bell Community Carnival (Fete)

• Tue 23: **Gr6**: Bully Zero W/shop 'New Beginnings

• Fri 26: Bell Trivia Night - Thornbury Theatre

Mon 29 – Wed 1 Dec:

Grade 4 Camp Maldon

DECEMBER

Thu 9: Bell Swimming Carnival, Oak Park Aqtc Centre
• Fri 17: Final Day Term 4 2021

2021 STUDENT TERM DATES:

Term 3: Monday 12 July - Friday 17 September

Term 4: Monday 4 October – Friday 17 December

Payments/Consents Due or Outstanding



EXCURSIONS ARE NOW A TWO STEP PAPERLESS PROCESS:

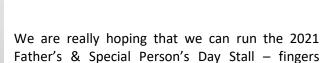
- 1. All Event Consents are to be provided on Compass.
 - 2. All Event Payments are to be paid on Qkr!

ITEM: (under <i>Payments</i> in Qkr!)		DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
Prep, 1, 2, 3:	Essential Student Learning Items (stationery) per child	Wed 19 May	\$125	Qkr!
Prep, 1, 2, 3:	Essential Learning Items (bulk/online) per child	Wed 19 May	\$100	Qkr!
Gr 4, 5, 6:	Essential Student Learning Items (stationery) per child	Wed 19 May	\$115	Qkr!
Gr 4, 5, 6:	Essential Learning Items (bulk/online) per child	Wed 19 May	\$90	Qkr!
All Grades:	Educational Program Voluntary Contribution per child	Wed 19 May	\$55	Qkr!
ITEM: (under <i>Excursions</i> in Qkr!)		DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
Grade 4:	Camp Maldon	tbc	\$290	Qkr!

From the Fundraising Team:

2021 Father's & Special Person's Day Stall 'Friday 3rd September'





A decision about whether the stall can occur in a COVID safe manner will be made in the next few weeks, however we need to start planning in the hope that it can happen. Please sign up for a shift working on the stall or volunteering to set up the stall on the night before:

crossed!

https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/1026997272906634069/false?popup=true#/invitation

Donations:

- Start thinking about what you can create/make/bake, etc...
- We will put a call out for donations closer to the date when we can confirm the stall will happen

TRIVIA NIGHT THANK YOU!!!!

A huge thank you goes out to our 'Real Life Trivia Heroes', - Dave, Tash & Francine.

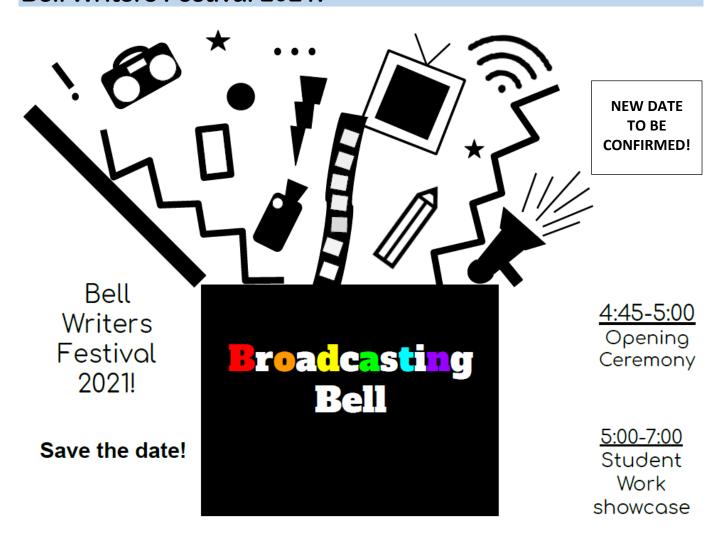
An amazing effort in facilitating another online trivia event, bringing our wonderful Bell community together during these challenging times. It was a night full of fun, dancing and laughter that many of us needed.

<u>Reminder</u>..... to pencil into your dairies that the Trivia Night held live at the Thornbury Theatre has been reschduled to *Friday 26th November*.

All tickets previously purchased will be honoured on this night, and if capacity limits permit, additional tables/tickets will be sold closer to the date.



Bell Writers Festival 2021:





Fete Planning Continues

In and out of lockdown fete planning is at full steam. Lets give the kids something to look forward to! A huge thank you to all the people who have stepped up to help plan and run stalls for our event so far.

We need to fill a final few! No experience necessary and help on hand!

Final Stall Captains Needed

- Bar Manager
- Event Photographer
- Photo Booth / Green Screen
- Side Show Alley x3 people
- Action Games
- Kindy Raceway
- · Face Painting
- Kids Corner / Craft

Please be in contact with Mel, Ange & Mel on bellprimaryfete@gmail.com

Bottle Some Preserves

Get your pickle on and cook up a chutney, jam or preserve.

New jars only please!

Got Spare Lemons?

Got more lemons than you know what to do with?

Our Lemonade stall will need cordial and now is the time to make it!



















From the Wellbeing Office: Child Safe

Bell Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.

Bell Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

We are committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability and children who are vulnerable.

Every person involved in Bell Primary School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role they play individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

On arrival at Bell Primary School, all volunteers, visitors and contractors *must* make contact with the office, sign in at the front desk and wear a visitor's badge while on site.

Please **CLICK HERE** to see specific policies on our website.



Parentline:

Parentline is a phone service for parents and carers of children from birth to 18 years old. They offer confidential and anonymous counselling and support on parenting issues.

What they do:

The qualified counsellors are available to:

- talk about any issues to do with parenting and relationships
- help with ways to cope and be a positive parent
- help with families' wellbeing and resilience
- connect parents with services in their area.

Your call:

- Calls are confidential and anonymous.
- Calls are not time limited and parents can call back as often as needed.
- Qualified and experienced counsellors have social work or psychology backgrounds.

Some reasons to ring Parentline include:

- child behaviour and development
- parent / carer child relationships
- education
- bullying
- living with teenagers
- family violence
- family breakdown
- parental stress



For the Bell Community:

ART ACTIVITIES

For some extra fun and colourful art activities, please try out this FABULOUS sculpture workshop by artist, Tracey Lamb. Thank you Hannah Mathews for this suggestion.

https://vimeo.com/584677460