



*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:

Wear It Purple Day

It is wonderful to announce the 'Wear it Purple' tradition at Bell will still go ahead next Friday in a modified but meaningful way. Key members from the wellbeing team, being Josh Grogan and Corinne Connor, are driving this year's event with support from members of the Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement (DICE) sub-committee. Please scroll down to the 'Wear it Purple' section for more details.

School Ground Restrictions

Regrettably, I must re-enforce the Government's restrictions about **no community use** of the school's playgrounds, basketball/netball court and the oval. There are signs at every gate and tape around the two play equipment areas until further notice. As per DET guidelines, students attending on-site learning are able to use these areas during breaks with daily cleaning happening as part of the additional cleaning arrangements organised for schools.

I hope we can announce a re-opening of these outdoor areas for community use in the not too distant future when restrictions are eased again.

Up-coming Events

At this stage there are a number of events that are waiting for restrictions to be eased to get the green light. These include the Grade 5 Camp to Waratah Bay, Grade 4 Swimming, the Boîte Choir performance and District basketball. As these event dates come closer, we will let the relevant groups know if they are going ahead as planned or have been cancelled, or if there is the possibility of re-scheduling.

Unfortunately, the Father's Day Stall has been cancelled after the FUNdraising leader Bridget and I discussed the COVID issues around holding the stall on site if we actually came out of lockdown the day before. Please scroll down to the FUNdraising section for more details.

Gratitude, Self-Care and Celebrating the Little Moments

As we hit an unfortunate milestone in terms of days in lockdown this week, I wanted to express my utmost gratitude to the parents/carers and staff who are juggling the continuous challenges of family life and work commitments in these uncertain times. The most recent lockdown has clearly worn most or all of us down even more as we support the children with their academic and wellbeing needs. However, the adults must make sure their wellbeing is addressed too. Teaching staff recently participated in another wellbeing session aimed to boost their mental state to enable them to continue supporting their own families, the students and their families as best they can. Whilst there are many psychologists suggesting various ideas, some of the following personal wellbeing strategies might resonate with parents and carers during this time of upheaval:

- Plan meal breaks and fun moments into your daily planner at home and/or work;
 - Eat well and exercise regularly in the best ways you can to support good sleep routines;
 - Routines and rituals in general are important to create predictability and some sense of security, especially for children;
 - Talk to friends, family, partners in whatever ways you can, even though we are getting tired of ZOOM. And also find time in your week to unplug and go technology free;
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- Do things you enjoy - a favourite hobby, listen to music (old favourites or new) and/or consider learning something new;
- Keep a gratitude diary or use other ways to reflect on feelings whilst also noting the positive moments. This might even be a family journal;
- Don't forget to celebrate special events and achievements from anyone in the family; celebrate the little positive moments in a way that eases pressure.

Finally... 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.**

David Twite
Principal

From the Office:

2021 Calendar

Dates for
the Diary:

AUGUST

- Tue 17- Tue 23: Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey
- Tue 24: Northcote Dist. Aths, Coburg Aths Track
- 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 Stadium tbc
- 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
- **Fri 17: Last Day Term 3, 2.30pm dismissal**

OCTOBER

- **Mon 4: First Day Term 4**
- Wed 6-Thu 7: **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 Payments in Qkr!)	DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
Prep, 1, 2, 3: Essential Student Learning Items (<i>stationery</i>) per child	Wed 19 May	\$125	Qkr!
Prep, 1, 2, 3: Essential Learning Items (<i>bulk/online</i>) per child	Wed 19 May	\$100	Qkr!
Gr 4, 5, 6: Essential Student Learning Items (<i>stationery</i>) per child	Wed 19 May	\$115	Qkr!
Gr 4, 5, 6: Essential Learning Items (<i>bulk/online</i>) per child	Wed 19 May	\$90	Qkr!
All Grades: Educational Program Voluntary Contribution per child	Wed 19 May	\$55	Qkr!
ITEM: (under Excursions in Qkr!)	DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
Grade 4: Camp Maldon	tbc	\$290	Qkr!

Book Week 2021: 21-27 August



Next week is Book Week and, because we LOVE dress ups so much at Bell, we are going to hold off on our traditional dress up day and parade until we return to school. We are, however, still celebrating book week in a few different ways:

- Each class will be doing at least one activity based on a shortlisted book;
- Grades 3-6 students will be given the opportunity to record themselves reading a book they have at home as one of their optional extension tasks next week;
- All students will be given access to the above student recordings to enjoy hearing as many books as they want over the week!

We look forward to sharing our love of reading and books!

Bell Community Celebration:

Wear it Purple day is on Friday 27 August (week 8). We “**wear it purple**” to provide inclusive education and share the same goals of ensuring we create a safe and caring school environment where students are accepted.

Wear it Purple strives to foster a supportive, safe, empowering, inclusive environment for rainbow young people. For more information go to the website:- <https://www.wearitpurple.org/wear-it-purple-day-2020>

As part of celebrating our own diversity at Bell Primary School we are asking for families who are comfortable to do so, to **send a photo of their own family or a selfie wearing purple to show your support**. If you are able to email the photo to joshua@bellps.vic.edu.au by the Monday 23 August so we can create a short video to share with the community and students as a way to celebrate and support the conversation in classrooms and homes.

Students will also have an opportunity to wear **purple** to their morning meetings on the 27 August.

Josh and Corinne

On behalf of the Bell Wellbeing Team.

From the Fundraising Team:

We will be back in 2022!



Very sadly we have had to cancel the Father's & Special Person's Day Stall for 2021. Ensuring our Bell community is safe must always be our priority and given the current restrictions, it is not feasible to run such an event in compliance with DET Guidelines.

We hope all the Fathers & Special People have a wonderful day on Sunday 5 September, and see you in 2022 for a bigger and better stall.

Bell Writers Festival 2021:

Bell
Writers
Festival
2021!

Save the date!

**Broadcasting
Bell**

NEW DATE
TO BE
CONFIRMED!

4:45-5:00
Opening
Ceremony

5:00-7:00
Student
Work
showcase

Bell Community Carnival:



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

