



*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:

Celebrations of Learning for Term 3

Over the coming weeks, the remaining grade levels will invite parents/carers into classrooms to showcase some learning in either Literacy, Numeracy or an Inquiry focus from this term. This is the third one this year with another planned for mid term 4. The main purposes for introducing these open classroom sessions this year are:

- To facilitate time for students to share some learning with parents/carers in a particular curriculum area.
- To connect learning at school with conversations at home, strengthening the school/home partnership.
- To foster pride and motivation within the students to experience success with a learning challenge and to have that recognised by the most important people in their lives, their parents/carers.

It was great to see high numbers of parents/carers turn out for the Year 3 Celebration in Numeracy focusing on multiplication. We look forward to similarly strong turn outs for those able to juggle some time from their busy schedules.

Absence & Grade Splits

Schools across the State are still experiencing a teacher shortage, for both permanent staff and casual relief teachers (CRTs) to cover absences. Whilst we are fortunate to have all classes and specialist roles filled, sometimes the impact of the shortage is felt with relief staff. We do have a moderate bank of local CRTs and an agency to call on, however sometimes coverage is still not possible.

We do our best to make adjustments to timetables and staff roles to cover absences, however sometimes grade splits are necessary. When grades splits are required, we ensure students are placed with peers they work well with and, where possible, a teacher they know. It is an extreme situation for a grade to be split two days in a row.

Sustainability and Infrastructure Projects

Our Sustainability team of teachers, students and parents have been hard at work planning and implementing some important initiatives that will help create a more sustainable and nature-focused school for everyone in the Bell community. Come along to the Community Forum next Thursday to hear more about the new habitat area in the Northern PlaySpace that CERES have helped us with. Also, there are some new recycling projects for composting and plastics in the pipeline.

Some additional plantings at the north end of the school will happen soon to create more engaging natural play spaces. This is part of the \$10,000 Queen's Jubilee Grant that Ivy Callander and the Sustainability Sub-Committee obtained. Again, if you attend the Community Forum next Thursday, you can have your say on a grounds master plan we are developing with parent experts, Gemma Peirce Cooke and Julie Garbutt.



David Twite
Principal

2023 Bell PS Calendar:

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



SEPTEMBER 2023

- Fri 1: **Grade 5 Waratah Bay Camp RETURN**
- Fri 1: **Gr P-4+6 - Father's + Special Person's Day Stall**
- Fri 1: Assembly, 3pm (weather permitting)
- Fri 1: Second Hand Uniform Shop, 3.15pm
- Fri 1: **FINAL DAY COMPASS PAYMENT/CONSENT:**
* **Grade 6 Museo Italiano Excursion \$25***
- Mon 4: **Grade 2 Celebration of Learning**
- Tue 5: **Prep Celebration of Learning**
- Wed 6: **Grade 6 Museo Italiano Excursion**
- Wed 6: **FINAL DAY COMPASS PAYMENT/CONSENT:**
* **Grade 3 Scienceworks Excursion \$30***
- Thu 7: Community Forum + Annual Meeting,
@ 7.15pm, Learning Centre
- Thu 7: VSSS Rehearsal #5, John Cain Arena
- Fri 8: VSSS Rehearsal #6, John Cain Arena
- Fri 8: Assembly, 3pm (weather permitting)
- Fri 8: Second Hand Uniform Shop, 3.15pm
- Mon 11: **Grade 3 Scienceworks Excursion**

- Thu 14: **Grade 2 Merri Creek Walking Excursion**
- Fri 15: Cupcake Stall Fundraiser
- Fri 15: **Final Day Term 3, 2.30pm dismissal**
- Sat 16: Tree Planting Day

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

- Mon 11: **FINAL DAY COMPASS PAYMENT/CONSENT:**
* **Grade 6 Luna Park Big Day Out \$49***
- Thu 14: **Grade 6 Luna Park Big Day Out**
- Wed 20: **Final Day Term 4, 1.30pm dismissal**

Beanies : Beanies : Beanies : Beanies : Beanies :

Bell Beanies are available for order [via Qkr!](#) for **\$20 each**.

Even though it's now Spring, the mornings are still pretty chilly. They're a great idea for walking to school and early morning sport on the weekends. Grab one for every member of the family!

Liz Waygood
Beanie Co-ordinator



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



We kindly ask any current Bell families with a 2024 Prep child to submit an enrolment form **as soon as possible** 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 will now be open every FRIDAY 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 Grade 3 Team:

This Term, students in Grade 3 have been learning about forces for their Inquiry unit. Through Scavenger hunts and various STEM tasks, they have been exploring how forces and friction affect the movement of objects, for example, push and pull, throwing, rolling, bouncing and dropping. In this STEM task, shown in the photos below, students worked collaboratively to plan and use materials from around the classroom to demonstrate how forces can make a ball roll. They even explored how different surfaces and friction can affect the speed of an object. We look forward to our excursion to Science Works at the end of term to explore forces further!

Rosie Serratore
3A Classroom Teacher



From the Specialist Team:

SPECIALIST AWARD

The Specialist Award winners for this fortnight are...

3C!



A big congratulations to 3C for winning the Specialist Award this week.

They've been showing the school value of *collaboration* through their learning by working well together, asking questions and thinking as a team. They have been working hard to be more cohesive as a class. Keep up the good work!

Lavoro brillante, 3C!

The Specialists

We Wore It Purple!

On Friday 25 August 2023, Bell students, staff and the community celebrated 'Wear it Purple' Day. 'Wear it Purple Day' was founded by students in response to global stories of LGBTQIA+ youth taking their own lives due to bullying and harassment.

Students enjoyed celebrating the day by dressing up in a splash of purple to demonstrate to rainbow young people that they are seen, supported and respected. We would like to thank all of our parent and carer volunteers, Shannon, Alex, Anna and Esther, who helped out on the day to promote diversity and inclusion. We also would like to thank all of our students who volunteered their time, in particular Jack, Stanley, James, Felix, Christian, Greta, Lexi, Delilah, Minty, Otis, Goldie and Willow.





**CALLING ALL
2024 PREP
ENROLMENTS**



With planning for next year now underway, we ask that any families who have not yet submitted a Prep enrolment form for their child please do so as soon as possible.

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**

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

Hey, young artists!

JUMP

into 2024!



Coburg Little Athletics
and Coburg Harriers
want **YOUR** artwork
for our 2024 calendar!
The theme is **JUMPING**.

Open to all artists
aged 5 -12.
Entries close 15/9/2023.

Send a scan of your artwork to
art@coburgharriers.org.au



coburglittleathletics.teamapp.com
coburgharriers.org.au





**COBURG LITTLE
ATHLETICS CENTRE
COME AND TRY DAY
16.09.23**

U6-U10: 9AM - 11AM

U11-U17: 11AM - 12PM

**COME ALONG TO OUR BEAUTIFUL ATHLETICS CENTRE TO
TRY TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS & FIND OUT ABOUT THE
UPCOMING SEASON.**

**IDEAL FOR CHILDREN AGED 5 - 17, LITTLE ATHS IS
INCLUSIVE, FUN AND A GREAT WAY TO MAKE FRIENDS!**

**REGISTER YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE AT:
[HTTPS://LAVIC.COM.AU/CENTRES/COBURG/](https://lavic.com.au/centres/coburg/)**



**HAROLDS STEVENS ATHLETICS TRACK COBURG
20 OUTLOOK ROAD, COBURG NORTH**