



*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:

AGM/Community Forum

Thank you to the 18 parents and carers who attended the meeting last night, joining School Council in a summary of the Annual Report and participating in some in-depth conversations about the five focus areas:

- *Community Engagement and Fundraising*: focusing on improving connections through improved communications and engagement across the community
- *Diversity and Inclusion*: focusing on ways to make the school more inclusive
- *Education*: focusing on engagement in daily learning
- *Infrastructure (buildings and grounds)*: focusing on an update on the gym/hall and generating ideas for a grounds master plan
- *Sustainability*: focusing on ways to reduce our environmental footprint and be more sustainable

The aim of the evening was three-fold: a chance to find out what initiatives and projects are currently happening, add thoughts to any of the five focus areas and consider how you can get involved in some way. I would like to thank the key members of sub-committees or working parties who supported the night by facilitating the discussions: Mia McDonald (*Diversity and Inclusion*), Mike Pottenger (*Education*), Vanessa Buck and Ceinwen Jones (*Community Engagement/Fundraising*), Ivy Callander and Kat Nicolazzo (*Sustainability*), Gemma Peirce Cooke and Julie Garbutt (*Infrastructure*)

You might know some of the above names which is one more reason to get involved. Joining a group means you are making a positive impact at Bell and has an important social element by connecting with others within the school community. Watch out for a summary of the night's rich discussion, take aways and next steps.

Tournament of Minds

Congratulations to the four teams who recently competed in the Tournament of Minds event at La Trobe University. We are very proud of their efforts preparing and presenting their particular challenges in the areas of Literature or The Arts. One of the teams made it through to the State Final which is an exciting moment for them and the school. I know they will continue to make us proud by showing the five school values of collaboration, creativity, curiosity, resilience and respect. Their performance is at La Trobe on Sunday at 3.20pm; audience to be seated by 1.50pm.

VSSS

We have 16 dedicated dancers heading off to John Cain Arena tomorrow for the Victorian State Schools Spectacular extravaganza. After months of practice and two huge rehearsal days at the venue yesterday and today, the group are ready to shine on the mass dance floor along with about 1000 other students from 73 schools from around the state. Many thanks to the following staff who have supported the group at many lunchtime rehearsals and also the big event tomorrow: Sarah McNamara, Milica Stefanovic, Ivy Callander, Joy O'Neil and Emma Heywood.



End of Term

Next Friday, our special assembly will start at 1.45pm. The Community Engagement and FUNdraising team will hold the annual cupcake stall immediately after the assembly with stalls spread out in various areas for the different sections of the school.

David Twite, Principal

A large, ancient tree with a thick, gnarled trunk and sprawling branches. A person in a red shirt and yellow pants stands next to the tree for scale. The background shows a grassy field and more trees.

Plant trees at Bell Primary this September!

**Please join us for a
working bee!**

**Sat 16th September
9am – 1pm**

- Note this is a **kid free** working bee due to OH&S, apologies to those that this is tricky for!
- Please bring gloves, eye protection, hats, waterbottles, pruning saws, wheelbarrows, snips/loppers, garden forks, shovels, picks. All the gardening things!
- Refreshments provided!
- RSVP by Friday 8th August 2023 to Ivy.Callander@education.vic.gov.au for further details.

Image credit: Randy Larcomb: <https://www.australiangeographic.com.au>

2023 Bell PS Calendar:

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



SEPTEMBER 2023

- 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: Winter Woollies Day (*no donation*)
- Fri 15: Cupcake Stall Fundraiser
- Fri 15: **Prep 2024 Parent/Carer Questionnaire closes**
- Fri 15: Assembly, **1.45pm** (weather permitting)
- Fri 15: **Final Day Term 3, 2.30pm dismissal**
- Sat 16: Tree Planting Day, 9am-1pm (*child-free*)

OCTOBER 2023

- Mon 2: **First Day Term 4**
- Fri 6: **FINAL DAY COMPASS PAYMENT/CONSENT:**
Selected Gr5 NAIDOC Yarning Conference \$26
- Tue 10: **Selected Gr5 NAIDOC Yarning Conference**
- Tue 31: **Prep 2024 Parent/Carer Info Evening #1, 6pm**
(School Operations, Q+A)

NOVEMBER 2023

- Tue 7: **Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday**
- Wed 8: **Prep 2024 Optional Transition Session**
(9.30-10.30 : parents/carers remain onsite)
- Wed 15: **Prep 2024 Transition #1, 9.30-11.00**
(parents/carers to drop off and return)
- Wed 22: **Prep 2024 Transition #2, 9.30-11.00**
(parents/carers to drop off and return)
- Wed 29: **Prep 2024 Transition #3, 9.30-11.00**
(parents/carers to drop off and return)
- Wed 29 – Fri 1.12: **Grade 4 Anglesea Camp**

DECEMBER 2023

- Tue 5: **Prep 2024 Parent/Carer Info Evening #2, 6pm**
(A Day in the Life of a Prep, Q+A)
- Wed 6: **Prep 2024 Transition #4, 9.30-11.00**
(parents/carers to drop off and return)
- Mon 11: **FINAL DAY COMPASS PAYMENT/CONSENT:**
Grade 6 Luna Park Big Day Out \$49
- Tue 12: **Optional Welcome BBQ for Prep 2024 Families**
(4.00-6.00, LC Courtyard/Northern grass area)
- Thu 14: **Grade 6 Luna Park Big Day Out**
- Wed 20: **Final Day Term 4, 1.30pm dismissal**

End-of-Term Assembly Performances

We are excited to announce performances by **Grade 4B, Senior Vocal Ensemble, Rock Band** and the **Victorian State School Spectacular** at the end-of-term assembly on **Friday 15 September** on the Basketball Court (**WEATHER PERMITTING**) at 1:45pm.

We hope you can join us!

Ms S



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

Bell Beanies are available for order **via Qkr!** for **\$20 each** – last chance!

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

The Junior School Council (JSC) has identified State School Relief as an important organisation through their contributions to the lives of Victorian students by providing resources needed for school. As such, the JSC, in consultation with their classes, have selected SSR to receive a donation of funds from the school's second-hand uniform sales.

In recognition of the work of State Schools Relief, and acknowledgement of a donation made by the school community, a Winter Woollies Day will be held on the last day of term – **Friday 15 September**.

No donation is required but we encourage students to wear their Winter Woollies, eg: pyjamas, oodles, etc, on this day.

WINTER WOOLIES

**Pyjama or Winter Clothes day
for everyone!**

NO DONATION REQUIRED

**Friday 15th
September**

From the Grade 2 Team:

Grade 2s have been learning about mapping skills in Mathematics in recent weeks. Have a look at some of the awesome maps they drew!

They also coded BeeBots with sets of directions and trialled them on large maps to see if the bot would get from one place to another. They have been learning about directional language (including left, right, up and back) as well as map features such as co-ordinates, compass directions, keys/legends and much more! Lots of fun Maths has been had in the grade 2 classes! These concepts also link with the Geography Inquiry unit from this term where we have looked at maps and features in atlases.

Ange Georgiou
Grade 2B Classroom Teacher



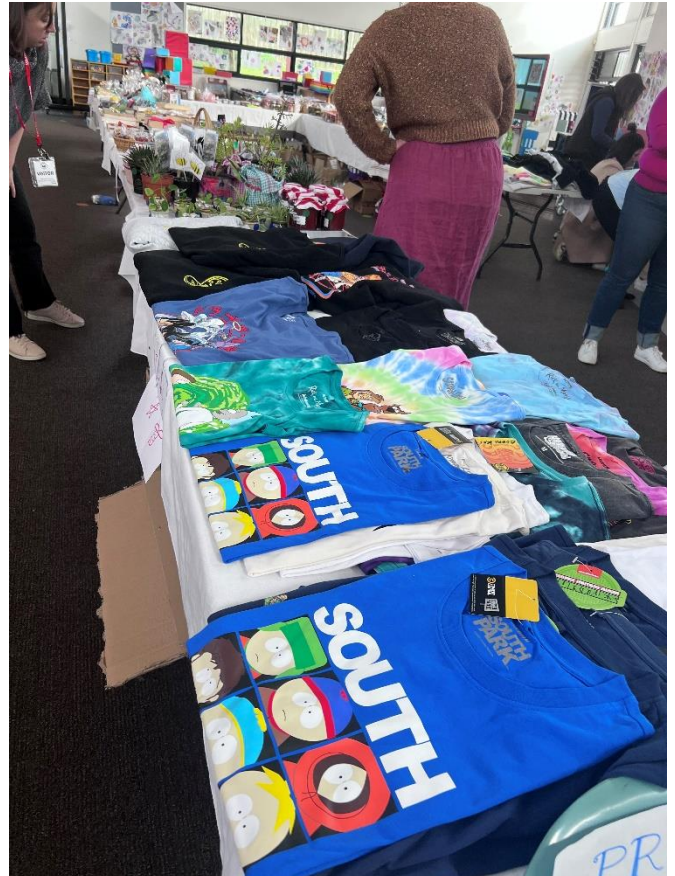
From the FUNdraising Team:

Last Friday's Fathers' and Special Persons' Day Stall

Thanks to all the awesome parents and carers who donated their time and making, baking, planting and collating skills to make this year's stall a huge success. We had over 400 happy shoppers buying from an awesome array of donated gifts. The success of the stall really depends on the generosity of Bell families so thank you again - we really appreciate it.

I hope our Special People enjoyed wearing, eating and relaxing with their gifts last Sunday!

The FUNdraising Team x



Bell Primary's

* Annual *



\$2

CUPCAKE DAY

Fundraiser

FRI 15TH SEPTEMBER 2023
LAST DAY of TERM 3

<https://signup.com/go/XxFdVNF>



Cupcake Day – Friday 15 September

Cupcake Day is an annual and popular Bell tradition where students get to buy cupcakes (or anything in a paper wrapper) for \$2 to celebrate the completion of Term 3. The event is known for the sheer variety of cupcakes and just how excited the children get at selecting their prized cupcake. It's a 20-minute frenzy that goes in a flash. Also, you can never predict what type of cupcake will be the most popular, sprinkles, chocolate, with lollies or plain.

The money raised from this event will go towards the AV equipment upgrades for the gym/hall.

TL;DR

Looking for volunteers to make a dozen cupcakes (or something in patty pans) to sell on Fri 15th Sep 2.30pm (after assembly). No fresh dairy. Allergies and gluten free options. Hate to bake - why not sell? Sign up here: <https://signup.com/go/XxFdVNFx>

Looking for cupcake (or anything in paper wrapper) makers

We are looking for families to pledge to make a dozen cupcakes or more, to sell at the Cupcake Stall to raise money for the school. This year, we need in excess of 450 cupcakes, to ensure every child receives a cupcake. In previous years we have had around 90 families pledging cupcakes enabling all children and their siblings (and some parents) to have at least 1 (and often 2) cupcakes. *No fresh dairy is allowed on them.*

Locations

There will be four separate locations. This allows the younger students a chance to make a selection with a parent or guardian:

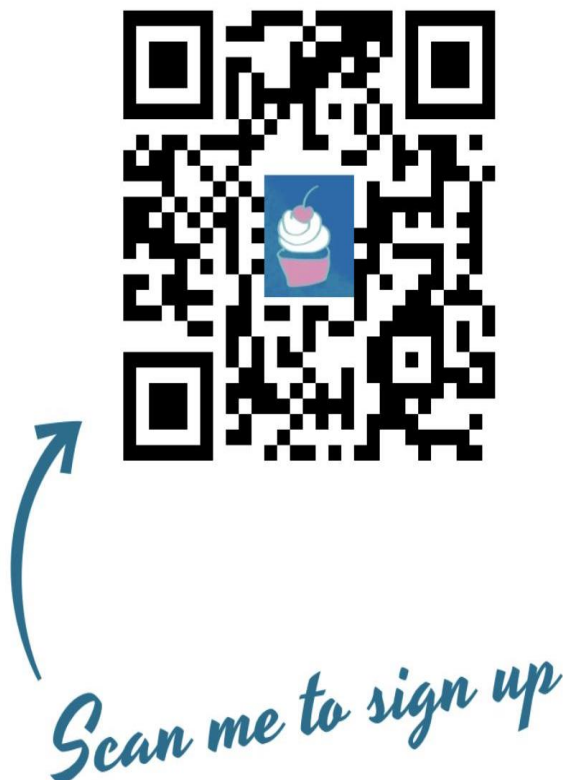
Prep - Grade 2:	In front of the Prep A and Prep B classroom on the basketball court
Grade 3-4:	Near the Italian room under the new shade sails
Grade 5-6:	Shelter Shed
Allergies + Gluten-Free:	In front of canteen

Allergies

Students with allergies or gluten intolerance will need to purchase from the table labelled as “*allergy-friendly/gluten-free*”.

Questions?

See the attached FAQ sheet.





Fresh North Queensland Mangoes

Direct from the farm to you!

Support Our Mango Fundraiser

If you *love mangoes*, here's your chance to indulge in fresh juicy Kensington Pride mangoes and support our fundraising drive.

We are selling trays of mangoes picked and packed during the premium harvest.

Cost per Tray is: \$28 - *only available via Qkr!*

Place your order by: 24th October

Delivery: Late November / Early December

Money raised will be used for: Audio Visual equipment for the Gym Hall



**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.

LITTLE ATHS

AT PRESTON RESERVOIR



SEASON STARTS SAT OCT 7

Register now at lavic.com.au

SATURDAY MORNINGS 8:30AM

 **Located at Edwardes Lake Park**

- 2 Week FREE trial offer for new athletes to Little Athletics
- For all kids aged 5-16
- Focus on improvement and Personal Bests
- FUN, FAMILY, FRIENDLY environment



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SECRETARY - Joanne 0411 755 865

Email - prestonreservoir@lavic.com.au

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Modified rules with a focus on participation and fun!

Girls: Under 10/12/14/16 and senior teams
Under 10 Cricket Blast Program
Scan to Express Your Interest
Contact: Emma Sampson 0408 567 957
Email: cricket@falcons.org.au



Come & Try
1 October 2023
Capp Reserve, Halwyn St, Preston
10am

PROUDLY
PRESENTED BY





FRIDAY·FUN·DAY!·¶ STAR WARS

JOIN·US·FOR·THE·LAST·DAY·OF·TERM·FOR·A·STAR·WARS·THEMED·

AFTERNOON·WHERE·WE·GET·TO·MAKE·GALAXY·JARS·,·BABY·YODA·

MASKS·AND·SPECIAL·LIGHTSABER·WAFFLES!¶



FRIDAY·15TH·SEPTEMBER·@·2:30PM!¶



NOVEMBER • 2023

Youth Choir Auditions

We are looking for students who love to sing to join our wonderful choral program in 2024!

Visit theyarravoices.com for more details

Email us: renee@theyarravoices.com

