



*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 the Principal:

Hot Off the Press – Lockdown!

Further to this afternoon's press conference from Dan Andrews, we are yet to receive any specific instructions from the DET. However, it is clear from the premier's instructions that schools will be closed to the vast majority of students from Monday – Wednesday next week. Similar to stage 4 lockdown in term 3 last year, there will be only a small number of families permitted to send their children to school (essential workers and vulnerable families).

More details will be sent via Compass Newsfeeds once we have greater clarity from DET.

All Information Sessions – Postponed

Given the uncertainty of next week, we are postponing all information nights that were planned. They will be rescheduled at a later date in a Covid safe format.

School Council Elections

There are three parent representative positions to be decided in the upcoming elections; self-nominations will be available at the office from Monday morning. The timeline for the election process is as follows:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| • Notice of Election and call for Nominations: | Friday 12 February |
| • Nomination forms available via email: | Monday 15 February |
| • Closing date for Nominations: | Monday 22 February at 4.00pm |
| • List of eligible candidates will be posted in our Newsletter: | Friday 26 February |
| • Ballot papers will be prepared and distributed (if required): | Tuesday 2 March |
| • Close of Ballot (if required): | Tuesday 9 March |

If an election is required, more detailed information about the process and candidates' requirements will be distributed to the school community. For details about the role of School Council, follow the link: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/management/community/Pages/schoolcouncilsfunction.aspx>.

Those parents/carers who pick up a self-nomination form from the office will also be given a document outlining roles and responsibilities of school council. This provides greater details about the distinction between responsibilities of council compared to the role of the principal. Alternatively, feel free to contact me directly about council elections and related topics regarding school governance.

Queries and Concerns

There are times when parents need to contact the school regarding their child's needs, or an incident at school, which is all part of the open communication needed between home and school. Outlined below are the general steps within our school structure for such times:

- For child centred matters, the first point of contact should always be the grade teacher, as they are the best person to either deal with your query/concern directly, or ‘triage’ your issue to the best staff member who can help you further. At times the grade level leader can attend a pre-arranged meeting to provide additional support for everyone.
- When an issue is complicated, or the initial meeting does not end in a mutually agreed resolution, a member of the Leadership Team could get involved. The current leadership team is Emma Heywood, Xenia Matani, Lisa McLeish and David Twite. Parents should not go directly to a senior member of staff, eg: Wellbeing Leader, unless it is an ongoing matter.
- For more general queries about whole school initiatives or operational matters, it is appropriate to make contact with either Emma or me directly.

Regardless of the situation, it is always important for us to keep an open mind and remember there are often varying perspectives to any given issue. If we approach every query or concern with the children’s best interest at heart, we can usually work together to reach a positive outcome for all.

Please note that queries about the tutoring initiative is not a direct role of the Wellbeing Leader. As flagged in the newsletter last week, Maria Tevelis (Leader) and Elyssa Agnoletti, are our Intervention/Tutoring staff for this year. As mentioned above, as it’s a child related matter, the grade teacher is always the first port of call and if necessary, they will liaise with Maria if tutoring is being considered based on relevant assessment data and priorities of students’ academic needs.

To assist everyone, a summary of roles and responsibilities for all staff will be published in the coming weeks to clarify who takes the lead in various initiatives or programs within the school’s organisational design.

Lost Property / Un-named Uniforms

We consistently have a huge number of uniform pieces in Lost Property. Our parent volunteer, Kim, does an amazing job sorting through the clothing and trying to return it to its correct owner. This is only an option if the clothing is named. Un-named Bell PS uniform pieces are sent to the Second Hand Uniform Shop to be purchased for a gold coin donation, while generic un-named clothing is dropped off at a local Op Shop.

Parents and Carers are welcome to call in any day between 8.15am – 4.15pm to have a look through Lost Property but, once again, you will only find what you’re looking for if it has a NAME on it.

At school, leadership and teachers we will continue to strongly encourage the students to take responsibility to look after their clothing seriously, especially when on breaks in the yard. Obviously, as parents and carers you are re-enforcing that message on a regular basis too.

David Twite
Principal

From the Assistant Principal:

Getting to Know You Meetings

Pending Covid restrictions, in Week 7 of this term our teachers are planning to conducting 1:1 Getting to Know You Meetings. These meetings facilitate individual time for parents/carers to share information about their child. These meetings are an important opportunity for you to:

- meet and get to know your child's teacher(s)
- help your child's teacher(s) understand more about your child
- exchange information to support your child's learning, social and emotional needs
- make plans with the teacher(s) about how you can both support your child
- continue to strengthen the crucial home-school partnership

These meetings, whilst about your child as a learner, are not designed to give detailed progress reports of student achievement given the early scheduling.

Getting to Know You Meetings will occur for year levels on the following days and times *in your child's classroom*:

Prep	Tuesday March 9 (3:00pm-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)
Year 1	Thursday March 11 (3:40pm-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)
Year 2	Wednesday March 10 (3:40pm-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)
Year 3	Thursday March 11 (3:00pm-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)
Year 4	Thursday March 11 (3:00pm-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)
Year 5	Wednesday March 10 (3:00pm-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)
Year 6	Tuesday March 9 (3:00pm-5:00pm, 5:30-8:00pm)

Parents/carers will be able to book 1 x 10 minute time slot within the above indicated time frames. Please note that teachers will have a scheduled break between 5:00-5:30pm and will not be available to meet during this time. **Bookings will open via Compass at 9:00am on Wednesday February 17 and will close at 4:00pm on Wednesday March 3.** A guide to completing bookings online will be distributed early next week.

Some questions you might like to consider before you attend the meeting:

- From your perspective, what are your child's strengths and areas for development (learning, social and emotional, physical)?
- What questions do you have about how you can support your child's specific learning needs at home?

Help Needed

A big thank you to Louise Gray and any other parents/carers who have been involved in the organisation of Book Club at Bell. As a direct result of the purchases made by parents/carers, the rewards that we have received through credit have been used to purchase popular series and titles for our library.

We currently have a large number of books that require covering before they can be added to our collection for student borrowing. If there are any parents/carers who would be willing to assist with covering books, could you please send an email to the school account – bell.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Whether you can cover 2 books or 20 books, any assistance would be appreciated. There is no set time to have the book covering completed by, and you will be provided with the books and contact so it can be undertaken in the comfort of your own home.

Emma Heywood
Assistant Principal

From the Office:

Important Dates 2021

Dates for the Diary:

FEBRUARY

- Fri 12: Notice of Election + Call for Nominations
- Mon 15: Nomination Forms available *via email*
- Mon 15: POSTPONED ~~Prep~~ Info Night, 5.30pm
- Mon 15: POSTPONED ~~Grade 2~~ Info Night, 6.35pm
- Tue 16: POSTPONED ~~Grade 1~~ Info Night, 5.30pm
- Tue 16: POSTPONED ~~Grade 6~~ Info Night, 6.35pm
- Wed 17: Bookings Open on Compass **at 9am** for Getting to Know You Meetings
- Wed 17: Preps to attend for interview time only
- Wed 17: POSTPONED ~~Grade 5~~ Info Night, 5.30pm
- Thu 18: POSTPONED ~~Grade 3~~ Info Night, 5.30pm
- Thu 18: POSTPONED ~~Grade 4~~ Info Night, 6.35pm
- Fri 19: Gr6 Sport v Northcote (A)
- Mon 22: Closing Date for Nominations, at 4pm
- Tue 23: District Swimming
- Wed 24: Preps to attend for interview time only
- Fri 26: Eligible Candidates listed in Newsletter
- Fri 26: Gr6 Sport v Fairfield (H)

MARCH

- Tue 2: Ballot Papers distributed (if required)
- Wed 3: Bookings Close on Compass **at 4pm** for Getting to Know You Meetings
- Wed 3: Preps to attend for interview time only
- Fri 5: Gr6 Sport v Preston South (A)
- Mon 8: Labour Day Public Holiday
- Tue 9: Close of Ballot (if required)
- Tue 9: Prep Getting to Know You Meetings
- Tue 9: Grade 6 Getting to Know You Meetings
- Wed 10: Grade 2 Getting to Know You Meetings
- Wed 10: Grade 5 Getting to Know You Meetings
- Thu 11: Grade 1 Getting to Know You Meetings
- Thu 11: Grade 3 Getting to Know You Meetings
- Thu 11: Grade 4 Getting to Know you Meetings
- Fri 19: Gr6 Sport v Wales Street (H)
- Wed 31: Last Day Term 1 (for Students)

APRIL

- Thu 1: Curriculum Day #3 (Student Free)

- Mon 19: First Day Term 2
- Mon 26: Observed ANZAC Day Public Holiday

MAY

- Thu 20: District Cross Country
- Tue 25 – Fri 28: Proposed Gr6 Camp

JUNE

- Fri 11: Winter Sport Carnival
- Mon 14: Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
- Mon 21 – Fri 25: Proposed Gr4 Camp
- Fri 25: Last Day Term 2

JULY

- Mon 12: First Day Term 3

AUGUST

- Thu 19: District Athletics

SEPTEMBER

- Fri 3: District Basketball
- Wed 15 – Fri 17: Proposed Gr5 Camp
- Fri 17: Last Day Term 3

OCTOBER

- Mon 4: First Day Term 4

NOVEMBER

- Tue 2: Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
- Wed 10: District Triathlon

DECEMBER

- Thu 9: Bell Swimming Carnival
- Fri 17: Final Day Term 4 2021

2021 STUDENT TERM DATES:

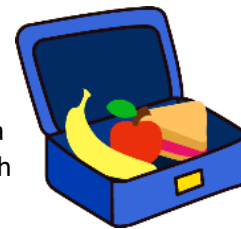
- Term 1: Friday 29 January – Thursday 1 April
- Term 2: Monday 19 April – Friday 25 June
- Term 3: Monday 12 July – Friday 17 September
- Term 4: Monday 4 October – Friday 17 December

Payments Due or Outstanding

ITEM:	DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
Prep, 1, 2, 3: Essential Student Learning Items (stationery) per child	Fri 19 Feb	\$125	Qkr!
Prep, 1, 2, 3: Essential Learning Items (bulk/online) per child	Fri 19 Feb	\$105	Qkr!
Gr 4, 5, 6: Essential Student Learning Items (stationery) per child	Fri 19 Feb	\$115	Qkr!
Gr 4, 5, 6: Essential Learning Items (bulk/online) per child	Fri 19 Feb	\$95	Qkr!
All Grades: Educational Program Voluntary Contribution per child	Fri 19 Feb	\$50	Qkr!
Grade 6: Polo Tops	Fri 19 Feb	\$35	Qkr!
Grade 6: Bomber Jackets	Fri 19 Feb	\$72	Qkr!
Grade 6 (selected only): Summer Interschool Sport	Wed 17 Feb	\$25	Qkr!

Classroom Cuisine Lunch Orders

Important note to Parents/Carers: lunch orders cannot be guaranteed to arrive in time for the 11.30am eating time. As the next eating time is at 2.00pm, it is important to put extra food/snacks in your child's lunchbox just in case they have to wait until 2.00pm to eat their lunch order.



Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund Applications

The **C**amps, **S**ports and **E**xcursions **F**und helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a **Veterans Affairs Gold Card**, **Centrelink Health Care Card** or **Pensioner Concession Card**, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

The payment amount this year is **\$125** for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office on 9480 5622 to request an application form. You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page.

Please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.

Second Hand Uniform Shop

Good news! Our Second Hand Uniform Shop will be opening again at 9.00am – on Mondays (volunteer Nicole) and Wednesdays (volunteer Kim) – from Monday 8 February. The following regulations apply:

- Bookings must be made via the office on 9480 5622;
- No walk-ups;
- Bookings are for up to 10 minutes in length;
- STRICTLY CASH ONLY (gold coins and small notes);
- One adult per visit;
- Masks must be worn.



UNIFORM DONATIONS: Donations of 'Bell-branded' tops only, or non-branded dresses/shorts/pants – in good condition - can be made to the office at any time.

GOLD COIN DONATIONS: All monies raised from the Second Hand Uniform Shop is donated to State School Relief.

Arriving Late? Leaving Early? Don't touch your Compass App!

The ONLY thing we need you to do is either sign in late at the office (WITH YOUR CHILD), or sign out early at the office. Emailing the teacher to advise details is totally optional.

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.



Tours are back.

2021 TOUR BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

Preston High School invites Grade 5 & 6 families to enjoy a personalised tour with Principal, Sean Butler and senior staff. Discover why the school has quickly developed a reputation for academic rigor and a wide range of enhanced curriculum opportunities for students. Welcome to a new era in education.



PRESTON
HIGH SCHOOL



WINNER

OUTSTANDING PROVISION FOR
HIGH-ABILITY STUDENTS

BOOK ONLINE
phs.vic.edu.au



EXCELLENCE | ENRICHMENT | COMMUNITY



Small Group & Private Lessons

- Primary Music Institute offer instrumental music lessons right here on school campus!
- To find out all about the music lessons please visit PMI's website. You can check which instruments are available, get up to date program details and apply for lessons online
- Please **ENROL TODAY** via PMI's website
- Lessons are held once per week on school campus – with lessons typically during & outside school hours
- Only \$18.50 per child per small group lesson (2-5 students for 30 minutes)
- Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
- Private lessons (1-on-1) and pair lessons (max 2 students) are also available
- Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination, IQ, abstract reasoning, performance confidence... and is great fun!

P: 1300 362 824

E: admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au

www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au



Bell French Club

French Club is back!
Thursdays: 3.45 – 4.45pm

We have 2 places available starting T1 – this is VERY rare!

We have been operating at Bell PS for 10 years, almost always at capacity. We help foster curiosity and a sense of achievement. Our early cohorts are now in Years 11 and 12 and embracing French at VCE level.

Foreign language learning strengthens critical and creative thinking, informs one's mother tongue, and opens up a world of possibilities.

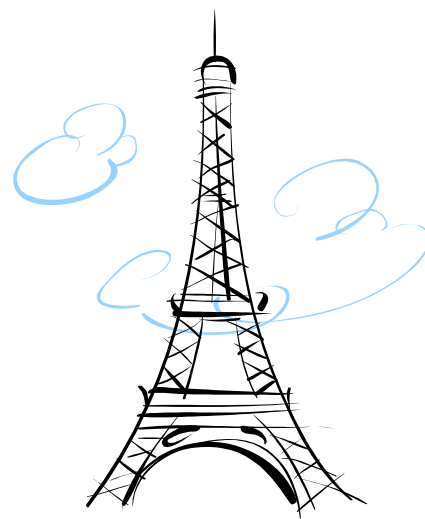
Small group learning with a highly experienced teacher.

Children of all ages and experience welcome.

Jim Callahan

jim.callahan@lcfclubs.com.au

0432 719 034





**IT'S TIME TO MOVE IT!
SIZZLING SUMMER SPORTS**



**TUESDAY'S
9 FEB - 30 MAR
3.30PM - 4.40PM**

**8 WEEK PROGRAM
\$112 EARLY BIRD PRICE
UNTIL FEB 5**

Enquiries to Shane Oliver 0432 522 829 or shane@kellysports.com.au

BOOK ONLINE AT

 **KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU**

Northcote Junior Football Club

The NJFC caters for all ages, with both boys and girls teams across most age groups. More information can be found here at njfc.com.au

2021 Registrations: We are open for registrations, with pre-season training starting next week for High School aged kids. Register via this [link](https://njfc.com.au/register-afl-northcote/) - <https://njfc.com.au/register-afl-northcote/> Our season proper starts with Round 1 after the Easter Holidays.

2021 Open Day: We are running our Annual Open Day BBQ on Sunday February 28th from 3pm at McDonnell Park, all are welcome.

If you wish to get in touch, please contact me directly, I'd love to chat, happy to take any parent inquiries too.

Chris Niall

NJFC President

Email: president@njfc.com.au

Web: njfc.com.au

Mob: 0419 011 628



SealPony Football is a developmental & participation program that introduces boys and girls aged between 5-10 to the game of football (soccer). It focuses on teaching the basic/intermediate skills.

* Fun games & activities * Great giveaways

For more information, call 0415-388-028

or visit www.sealpony.com.au

Time:	Every Sunday Morning
Starting Date:	7 th March 2021
Finishing Date:	Late May
Register in-person:	Sunday 10 - 11 am
	28 th February 2021
Address:	James Street Reserve
	Heidelberg Heights 3081



Preston Under-12s Ultimate Frisbee (Disc)

Sundays practice and match from 9:30-10:45am.

Bell Primary Oval.

See [fb](#) for more information.

Or contact Bryony, 0431 284 283.



Secondary Education Guide

To assist your decision making in relation to your child's education for 2022 and beyond, please find below a link to the 80 page **February 2021** edition of the **Secondary Education Guide**.

CLICK HERE: victoriaschoolguides.starcommunity.com.au/secondary-education-west

