



Bell PS Newsletter

20 October 2023

www.bellps.vic.edu.au

bell.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Phone: 9480 5622

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:

Referendum Day Fundraising

A thank you to all volunteers who were involved at the referendum stalls last weekend. It started with Bridie Murphy (Liam in Prep A) volunteering as Captain at short notice after the referendum date was announced, then a long list of helpers who came on board to make it a huge success.

Takings on the day totalled \$7,159.07, with the majority of funds going towards this year's priority - additional lighting equipment for the gym/hall to make it a functional performance venue. Some of the money will go towards teaching and learning resources that are identified during the development of the Bell PS Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). This is an important step for the school in our drive to be a school that prioritises inclusion, and is a key action for members of the Diversity and Inclusion Sub-committee of School Council. This was flagged in the Compass Newsfeed on Tuesday about the referendum result. If you are interested in actively supporting the school's RAP process, please contact alisanderson@gmail.com.

Upcoming Working Bee (Bell Blitz)

There is a working bee planned for **Saturday 11 November** with a blitz on all the garden beds around the school to weed, tidy up edges and spread mulch. Main focus areas are at the north end of the school in between portables, in the Northern PlaySpace, around the Learning Centre, plus the fence lines at the south end. After the massive tree planting exercise last holidays, if we can finish off the above listed areas, our school will start to look and feel like an engaging place to be and help foster greater pride across the entire school community. More details with a sign-up link to come soon.

ToMs Team Go to International

We all wish our Tournament of Minds (ToMs) team the best of luck in the International Tournament today and tomorrow. After winning their Arts category in the State Final late last term, we know they will be calm, focused and use all five school values and learning assets to thrive in the pressure cooker situation during the two challenges.

The two day event will be a special experience for them all as they meet and mix with students from all over Australia, New Zealand and many Asian countries.



House Talent Quest

The House Captains have initiated another event to promote house spirit and have some fun across the school. Students in all grade levels have the chance to perform at the House Talent Quest next Thursday. It is non-compulsory. At the end of the session, a small number of acts will be selected to perform at the World's Greatest Shave event run by Junior School Council. Captains were finalising acts this week at a House meeting on Thursday.

David Twite
Principal

From our Assistant Principal:

We are undertaking a review of our reporting cycle that informs and engages parents and carers in their child's learning.

For parents/carers of students in the middle-senior years, you will recall that a similar survey was conducted at the end of 2019. Based on the feedback from the school community, parents/carers community, teachers and students, a number of strengths and areas for adjustment were identified. Subsequently both minor and major changes have been strategically implemented between 2020-2023, including but not limited to:

- Information nights scheduled for earlier in Term 1 with administration reminders removed. This has enabled teaching teams to focus on sharing relevant teaching and learning or year level specific information. Administration reminders are now documented, sent out via Compass Newsfeed annually and available on the website.
- Semester reports now sent out at the end of term 2 instead of early term 3. Adjustments to Specialist comment areas and inclusion of effort/behaviour scales for each area.
- Term 3 student led conferences were replaced by a Parent/Carer-Teacher Conference. Student led conferences evolved into Celebrations of Learning, enabling termly opportunities for students to share their learning with parents/carers in a more structured way.
- Blogs were strategically abandoned and Parent/Carer Learning Support documents implemented to keep parents/carers connected with the learning happening in the classroom each term, including provision of suggestions to support learning at home.

As all changes have now been implemented, we are once again seeking feedback to identify and further refine, and ensure our whole school approaches are meeting the needs of all members of our school community- parents/carers, teachers and students.

While there are additional and more individualised communication processes between school and home, this survey is solely focused on our whole-school processes.

*The survey will take approximately 10-20 minutes to complete and will close on **Friday 3 November**.*

<https://forms.gle/vy7F5JFXhLPap437A>

Emma Heywood
Assistant Principal

2023 Bell PS Calendar:

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



OCTOBER 2023

- Fri 20: ToMs International – Day 1
- Fri 20: School Assembly (weather permitting) 3pm
- Sat 21: ToMs International – Day 2
- **Sun 22: Scholastic Book Club Orders Close @ 9pm**
- **Tue 24: Mango Orders Close**
- Tue 24: **Grade 1** Merri Creek Local Walking Excursion
- Fri 27: School Assembly (weather permitting) 3pm
- Tue 31: **Prep 2024** Parent/Carer Info Evening #1, 6pm
(School Operations, Q+A online)

NOVEMBER 2023

- Fri 3: 'Reporting Cycle' Parent Survey Closes
- Fri 3: School Assembly (weather permitting) 3pm
- **Mon 6: **Pupil Free Day****
- **Tue 7: Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday**
- Wed 8: **Prep 2024 Optional** Transition Session
(9.30-10.30 : parents/carers remain onsite)
- Fri 10: World's Greatest Shave Event
- Fri 10: School Assembly (weather permitting) 3pm
- **Sat 11: Bell Working Bee, 9am-12pm**
- **Mon 13: FINAL DAY COMPASS PAYMENT/CONSENT:**
Grade 6 Set for Secondary Online Sessions \$13
- Wed 15: **Prep 2024** Transition #1, 9.30-11.00
(parents/carers to drop off and return)
- Wed 15: **Grade 6 Parents** Online Webinar #1
- **Wed 15: FINAL DAY COMPASS PAYMENT/CONSENT:**
Grade 6 Graduation Dance Sessions \$26
- Thu 16: **Grade 1** Celebration of Learning
- Thu 16: **Grade 6** Set for Secondary Online Session #1
- Fri 17: **Grade 6** Graduation Dance Session #1
- Fri 17: **Grades 3-6** Swimming Carnival, Oakpark
- Fri 17: School Assembly (weather permitting) 3pm
- **Wed 22: FINAL DAY COMPASS PAYMENT/CONSENT:**
Grade 2 TaskWorks Incursion \$17
- Wed 22: **Prep 2024** Transition #2, 9.30-11.00
(parents/carers to drop off and return)

- Wed 22: **Grade 6 Parents** Online Webinar #2
- Thu 23: **Grade 6** Graduation Dance Session #2
- Thu 23: **Grade 6** Set for Secondary Online Session #2
- Fri 24: **Grade 2** TaskWorks Incursion
- Fri 24: School Assembly (weather permitting) 3pm
- **Tue 28: Whole School Transition #1/3**
- Wed 29: **Prep 2024** Transition #3, 9.30-11.00
(parents/carers to drop off and return)
- **Wed 29 – Fri 1 Dec: Grade 4 Anglesea Camp**
- Wed 29: **Grade 6 Parents** Online Webinar #3
- Thu 30: **Grade 6** Set for Secondary Online Session #3

DECEMBER 2023

- Fri 1: **Grade 6** Graduation Dance Session #3
- Fri 1: School Assembly (weather permitting) 3pm
- **Tue 5: Whole School Transition #2/3**
- Tue 5: **Prep 2024** Parent/Carer Info Evening #2, 6pm
(A Day in the Life of a Prep, Q+A Face to Face, LC)
- Wed 6: **Prep 2024** Transition #4, 9.30-11.00
(parents/carers to drop off and return)
- Wed 6: Funkey Music EOY Concert, Learning Centre
- Fri 8: **Grade 6** Graduation Dance Session #4
- Fri 8: School Assembly (weather permitting) 3pm
- Mon 11: **Grade 6** Kids Helpline Transition Session
- **Mon 11: FINAL DAY COMPASS PAYMENT/CONSENT:**
Grade 6 Luna Park Big Day Out \$49
- **Tue 12: Whole School Transition #3/3**
- Tue 12: Statewide Year 6→7 Transition
- Tue 12: Optional Welcome BBQ for **Prep 2024** Families
(4.00pm-6.00pm)
- **Thu 14: Grade 6 Luna Park Big Day Out**
- Fri 15: **Grade 6** Graduation Dance Session #5
- Fri 15: School Assembly (weather permitting) 3pm
- Mon 18: **Grade 6** Colour Run + Picnic
- Tue 19: **Grade 6** Graduation, Northcote Theatre
(doors open 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start)
- **Wed 20: Final Day Term 4, 1.30pm dismissal**

Term 4 Book Club – last chance orders:

Students should have already received a copy of the Term 4 Scholastic Book Club catalogue – please see your eldest child's teacher if they haven't. Now is the time to think about ordering for Christmas and the summer holidays! **Orders close on Sunday 22 October at 9.00pm.** To save \$5 off your order, use the promo code **SAVEEXTRA** (note: \$5 off applies to orders over \$25 and is only available for orders placed before midnight on Friday 6 October). To order, visit www.scholastic.com.au/loop.



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



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 by Carita 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



Year 4-6 World's Greatest Shave Sign-up

On **Friday 10 November**, the Junior School Council of Bell will run a World's Greatest Shave fundraising event to support the Leukaemia Foundation. Students in Grades 4-6 who are interested in becoming fundraisers and shaving their heads will be able to register their interest with a JSC representative who visited their classroom in Week 1.

Students who register will need their parents' permission and to sign up as a fundraiser. This can be done by [signing up using the link here](#) or the QR code below. Students and their parents should complete the online sign up for the Bell Team as soon as possible, and by 22 October (end of Week 3) at the latest. Once students are signed up they can get fundraising!

All students will be able to donate to the Leukaemia Foundation as we will have a gold-coin donation Special Hair Day as part of our World's Greatest Shave event on November 10.

Get in touch with Claire (3C) or Hannah (1B) if you need further information.

Thank you for your support!

Claire, Hannah, and the Junior School Council



On the 10th of November, the year 4 to 6's can participate in the World's Greatest Shave.

The World's Greatest Shave is where you shave your hair to raise money for Leukaemia research, treatment, and to help make patients' lives easier. Bell Primary School has raised over \$50,000 for the World's Greatest Shave in the past few years, we'd like this year to be just as successful.

On the 26th of October, the Houses are going to run a Talent Show. The winners from the Talent Show will then perform at the World's Greatest Shave.

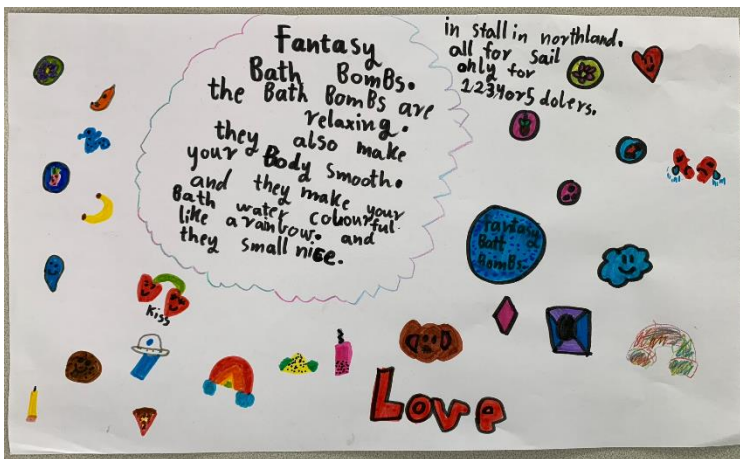
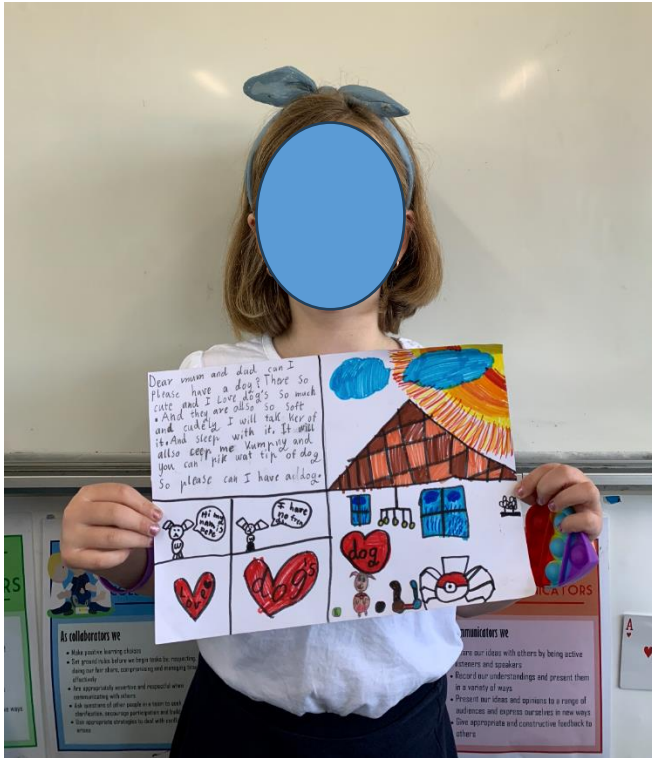
By the Grade Six News Team

From the Grade 2 Team:

This term our Grade 2 students are exploring persuasive writing for the first time. We've done a lot of different activities. First we read a book called 'Hey Little Ant' and wrote a letter to the main character to convince him not to squash ants! Next we made some advertising posters for fun products, including bath bombs and time travel machines. This week the kids have been writing to convince me to get them a class pet. There have been many requests for dogs and cats, but also some more unusual choices including turtles, scorpions and even AT-ATs!

Daniel Jeffery

2A Classroom Teacher



#1 Balancing Screen Time and Technology

It is important for students of all ages to have a healthy balance of screen time and technology. From phones and tablets to streaming movies and YouTube, tech and media are everywhere. Kids love easy access to shows, games, and information. Parents and caregivers love that kids can learn on the go (and stay busy when dinner's cooking). But it's easy to overdo it when the phone never stops pinging and the next episode plays automatically. Families can keep media and tech use in check by following a few simple tips.

Check out these 5 tips 🐸

1

Create screen-free times and zones.

Help kids take breaks from tech by limiting screen time in bedrooms, during study time, or at the dinner table.

2

Try parental controls.

Set content limits that make sense for your family. Alongside conversations about healthy media habits, use features such as content filtering, privacy settings, and time limits offered by the apps and platforms your family uses to help manage access and exposure to media.

3

Establish clear family rules.

Decide together what kind of media and tech is OK -- and when it's OK to use it. A family media plan can help get everyone on the same page.

4

Watch and play together.

Choose quality, age-appropriate media to enjoy with your kids. Visit commonsensemedia.org to find shows, games, and more.

5

Help kids identify healthy behaviors.

Practice talking about feelings -- both physical and emotional -- during screen and non-screen activities.

Have a go at starting a conversation with your family about healthy use of technology. You can use these tips to help create a healthy routine surrounding the use of digital technology in your homes.

The ICT Team

From the Grade 5 Team:

Darebin NAIDOC Yarning Conference

On Tuesday the 10th of October, a selected group of students went to the 6th Darebin NAIDOC Yarning Conference. The Yarning Conference was an incredible opportunity to learn about First Nations history and culture. Many Darebin schools attended. The day was hosted by the founders of clothing the gaps - Sarah and Lina. Recording the conference was an indigenous radio station called 3KND.

Many people - especially Aboriginal Australians and Elders- gave speeches, making up most of our morning. After our lunch break, the different schools broke off to do different activities, and ours was a yarning circle. In the yarning circle we talked about decolonization with Uncle Stewart. We thought about what it meant to us and why it is important. We also got the opportunity to ask him questions about his life as a survivor of the Stolen Generation and what responsibilities he has as an Elder.

After our yarning circle, we came back together with the other schools and sang *Colour of Your Jumper* by Archie Roach. All schools participated in a march around Coopers Settlement, displaying posters we'd made in the weeks before the conference, honouring Elders who have fought for change. As we marched we chanted 'ALWAYS WAS, ALWAYS WILL BE, ABORIGINAL LAND!' and held up our beautiful posters. A couple of First Nations students from other schools came up and gave a speech celebrating their culture and shared what their totems were.

Overall we all really enjoyed going to the Yarning Conference and would like to thank Jess and Sue-Ellen for coming along as parent helpers on the day. We took away lots of knowledge about Aboriginal culture and the history of Bundoora Park. It was really fascinating and we hope that the year fives next year enjoy it just as much as we did.

By Emily, Elke and Juniper S



From the Clubs Team: Term 4 News

New Clubs for Term 3 have begun this week. Teachers will supervise a range of activities that students can participate in at break times throughout the week - students can choose the ones they wish to go to. At eating time each day students will be reminded of the Clubs that are on for that particular break.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| M O N D A Y | <p><u>First Break:</u></p> <p>*Card Club in the Learning Centre with Ramzey</p> <p>*Clean Up Crew - Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 (For all grades) meet at the Italian Room with Ms G and Mr Lakin</p> <p>*Junior Gym Club (P - 2) in the Learning Centre with Josh</p> <p><u>Second Break:</u></p> <p>*Drawing Club in Learning Centre Room 4 (1C) with Mrs Yates</p> |   |
| T U E S D A Y | <p><u>First Break:</u></p> <p>*Open Mic Club for Grades 3 and 4 in the Music Room with Ms S</p> <p>*LegoLand Club in the Learning Centre with David</p> |  |
| T H U R S D A Y | <p><u>First Break:</u></p> <p>*Sustainability Club (Weeks 1,3,5,7,9,11) outside the Learning Centre with Ivy, Rosa and Abby</p> <p>*Reading Club in the Library with Ms Elsbury</p> <p><u>Second Break:</u></p> <p>*P-3 Dance Club (Weeks 2,4,6,8,10) outside the Learning Centre with Ivy and States School Spectacular Dancers</p> |   |
| F R I D A Y | <p><u>First Break:</u></p> <p>*Coding Club (Grades 4-6) in Learning Centre Room 2 with Thom and the Technology Leaders</p> |  |



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: **\$26 - 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.



Batman Park Kindergarten
Presents our 2023

FAMILY FUN DAY

SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER

10am-2pm at Batman Park
Corner of St Georges Rd & Separation St

Animal Nursery • Live Music • Rides
Jumping Castle • Paint-A-Car • Gelato Messina
BBQ & Food Stalls • Face Painting • Bar
Cake & Preserve Stalls • Craft Costumes
Magic Show • SES Truck • Fairy Floss

Everyone is welcome!

Respectfully on Wurundjeri Country.

Proudly supported by:

**Nelson
Alexander**

Community Bank
Clifton Hill • North Fitzroy

 **Bendigo Bank**





Junior HOCKEY

**Free & Fun
Term 4 casual
activity for
kids, all ages**

**Every WEDNESDAY 5:30-6:30pm in Term 4
Cyril Cummins Reserve, Bellfield**

**No RSVP required & hockey gear will be available
Contact: juniors@yarravalleyhockey.com.au**



Australian Childhood Anxiety TREATMENT STUDY

Free home-based
assessment and treatment for
7 to 12 year old children with
fear and anxiety disorders.

Does your child become very afraid of certain situations or objects, worry about a lot of things, get very distressed, or try to avoid things they fear?

About the study

Our team at Griffith University may be able to assist you. We are conducting a nationwide study that includes the following services at no cost to families:

- A thorough assessment of your child's anxiety with a trained psychologist via the telephone;
- Your child receiving one of two kinds of home-based treatments delivered on a PC, laptop or tablet; and
- Two follow-up telephone assessments with a trained psychologist 6- and 12-months after treatment to track your child's progress.

The study aims to find out if these two treatments are as effective as each other, and which children have the best response to each kind of treatment. This will mean that there are more evidence-based treatments available for helping anxious children.

About the treatments

Each treatment involves your child completing treatment sessions at home on a PC, laptop or tablet.

Each treatment involves your child learning practical strategies to better manage anxiety.

- One treatment helps children learn to control the focus of their attention on helpful things around them.
- The other treatment helps children learn to think differently and approach things they fear.

Each treatment includes information, telephone or email support for parents in assisting their child to better manage anxiety.

Prior studies have shown that children who complete each treatment experience significant reductions in anxiety.

Contact us

This study is being funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council and is led by Professor Allison Waters and a team of experts in childhood anxiety disorders.

For more information about our study and our team, or if you would like your child to participate, please contact us:



(07) 3735 3351



cadrp@griffith.edu.au



griffith.edu.au/childhood-anxiety-treatment-study



Australian Government
National Health and
Medical Research Council



GU Ref No: 2019/146

Please click [here](#) for an information sheet from Griffith University titled:
“Improving Access to Treatment for Children with Anxiety Disorders”.



Girls just want to
PLAY
Under 12s and Under 10s
CRICKET

Girls: Under 10/12/14/16s
Under 10 Cricket Blast Program
Scan to Express Your Interest
Contact: Emma Sampson 0408 567 957
Email: cricket@falcons.org.au
Capp Reserve, Halwyn St, Preston



PROUDLY
PRESENTED BY



A few quick updates from oshc...

Please see below some reminders/upcoming adventures at oshc...

Starting next Wednesday, our Extra Curricular Activity will be commencing which is Tennis and Ninja Warriors! This after school activity will be run by professional external provider "Activity Fit" at no additional cost. This ELA will be occurring on a Wednesday afternoon from October 25th – November 15th between 4:00-5:00pm. The first two

Wednesday's – October 25th and November 1st will be Tennis and the last two Wednesday's November 8th and November 15th will be Ninja Warriors. Please make sure you book early to secure a spot.

Next Week's Friday Funday theme will be Disney Day! Come and join us for Mickey Mouse pancakes, Disney Trivia and Karaoke and crafts. We look forward to seeing you there.

Pupil Free Day: On Monday November 6th we have just had confirmation that we will be running a Pupil Free Day from 7:00am – 6:30pm at the cost of \$70 (before any applicable child care subsidy). Please log in to your parent portal and book in under the Pupil Free Day Room. All regular Before and After School Care bookings have been removed and bookings can not be made online within 5 days of the Pupil Free Day session commencing. If you need any assistance with bookings, please come and see us. Remember to bring morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea and please be mindful that we are a nut-free service.

As always, any other questions or concerns you may have please reach out.

Warm regards Celeste, Olivia, Jamila & Olivia.

Bell Primary OSHCLUB

Newsletter

October 2023

OSHClub 



Mon-Fri 07:00-09:00 & 15:00-18:30
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