



*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:

COVID-19 Reminder

Thank you to families who have contacted the school when their child has tested positive to COVID. The Department still recommends that families inform the school and keep their child/ren home for at least five days after the onset of symptoms and/or a positive test. Children need to stay home longer if symptoms remain after the recommended isolation period.

It is difficult to determine how much COVID is in our community but it is clearly prevalent to some degree. This means we all need to remain vigilant with the measures in place to keep everyone as healthy as possible; in particular, those with medical vulnerabilities.

Sign up for the Bell Blitz

Details of the next working bee were sent out on Wednesday via a separate Compass Newsfeed. The Infrastructure and Sustainability teams are hoping to see a strong turnout to finish work on garden beds and the tree planting projects. If you can spare an hour or so, or stay the entire time, there is plenty of weeding, mulching and edging to do on **Saturday 11 November**. Please RSVP [HERE](#) to help make the day run as smoothly as possible. There will be a BBQ and drinks for those in attendance and, as the work is low level, children are more than welcome to help.

House Talent Quest

The House Captains' latest initiative was a huge success yesterday, enabling many students of all ages to showcase their special performance in front of their House mates. Judging was tough but a small number of acts from each House have been selected to perform for the whole school at the World's Greatest Shave on **Friday 10 November** where everyone is welcome. Look out for the separate Compass Newsfeed containing lots of photos of the performances from each House Talent Quest, but here are a few photos from Pink Robins!



ToMs

Congratulations to Team 2 who did an amazing job 'challenging the world' at the International Tournament of Minds Competition last week. Scroll down to page 6 for lots of articles and photos!

Leaving Bell in 2024?

If any families are intending to leave the school, I ask that they contact the office as soon as they can to assist us with decisions on class structures and next year's staffing profile. We understand there are many reasons why families move on and always appreciate early communication when possible.

Pupil Free Day before Melbourne Cup

A Pupil Free Day will be held on **Monday 6 November** where teachers will work on the end of year student assessment and reporting process.

OSHClub will run a service for the day if enrolments justify a program for those families not in a position to have an extended weekend.

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 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 3 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**
- Thu 7-Fri 8: **Grade 3 School Sleepover**
- 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**

2024 Dates so far...

January

- Mon 29: **Statewide Pupil Free Day**
- **Tue 30: Grades 1-6 First Day**
- **Tue 30: Prep Drop In Day**
- **Wed 31 + Thu 1 Feb: Prep Staggered Starts**

March

- Mon 11: **Labour Day Public Holiday**
- Thu 28: **Last Day Term 1, 2.30pm dismissal**

April

- Mon 15: **First Day Term 2**
- Thu 25: **ANZAC Day Public Holiday**

June

- Mon 10: **King's Birthday Public Holiday**
- Fri 28: **Last Day Term 2, 2.30pm dismissal**

July

- Mon 15: **First Day Term 3**

September

- Fri 20: **Last Day Term 3, 2.30pm dismissal**

October

- Mon 7: **First Day Term 4**

November

- Tue 5: **Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday**

December

- Fri 20: **Last Day Term 4, 1.30pm dismissal**

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

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 five 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



Sponsor the Bell Shavers!

On **Friday 10 November**, the Junior School Council of Bell will run a World's Greatest Shave fundraising event to support the Leukaemia Foundation.

Some brave students AND one teacher have signed up to shave their heads. These students have already raised more than \$4,000 to support life-saving research and important health services for people affected by leukaemia!

Our students would love your support. To donate to any student on the team you can follow the link here, or use the QR code to get to the Bell Team page and choose someone in the team to support.

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



TOURNAMENT OF MINDS INTERNATIONAL FINAL



What is ToMs?

by Lucy B.

ToMs is an acting, problem solving, teamwork challenge where teams of 7 work to solve a problem involving collaboration, creativity, intelligence and cooperation.

When you start out you are offered a choice for the theme of your task...

- STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Maths)
- The Arts
- Social Sciences
- Language and Literature



Your "task" is to give a performance/presentation about your chosen challenge. Some of the various rules are...

- No adult help.
- You have a budget of seventy dollars.
- There is a list of usable items such as cardboard and paint to create your set, props and costumes.
- There are 6 weeks to design your solution to the challenge.
- You go to LaTrobe University (sponsors of ToMs Victoria) and perform your task in ten minutes as your school (the people who have come) watches and in front of you, 3 judges mark your performance. You also undertake a Spontaneous Challenge. You have 4 minutes to answer a short challenge.



Challenges...

by Henry S.B. and James B.

Long Term Challenge: At Regional Tournament of Minds we were faced with creating an immersive art experience based on one of a set list of artists, as well as creating a story to go along with the theme. We chose Gloria Petyarre as our artist and our story was that a young artist had created an artwork inspired by that of Gloria Petyarre. The artist was trying to convince two interviewers that their piece was the best.

Spontaneous Challenges: The Spontaneous Challenge involved quick thinking and good teamwork. The Spontaneous Challenge helped us win Regional and partially State. It was quite secretive during the event but after you can tell. There is a large penalty if you tell anyone and they find out!

3-Hour Challenge: At both State and International ToMs we were given a "3-hour challenge". This was a quick challenge that made us think on the spot similar to the Spontaneous Challenges. We did not have any clues before either of the three-hour challenges of what would happen beforehand.



Day 1 of TIF...

by Evie W.

On Day 1 of ToMs Internationals, the first thing we did was trade badges with teams from other states, following up with an amazing opening ceremony where April bravely performed an awesome piano piece. Soon after, we completed many different challenges around Melbourne City, though no score went towards the final result. It was fun and a great team building activity for all of us, and afterwards, we were rewarded in the hot weather with a nice cold beverage- Bubble tea! Again, it was great fun and thank you to Uplift Events for organising the amazing day!



Day 2 of TIF...

by April L. and Marita W.

On Day Two of ToMs we completed a 3 hour challenge and a spontaneous challenge. We were competing against all the states and territories as well as New Zealand. Many other countries could not make it to the final. At 12:00 we ate lunch and had fun trading badges, and playing drums. After that we watched the other performances which were all very good. At 5:00 we had dinner with options of curry, pasta, or barbecue. After dinner we all went to the awards ceremony. We heard who won, which was New South Wales in our division. It was an overall good experience.



Skills needed for ToMs...

by Sara S. C.

Students involved in the Tournament of Minds competition might need to have:

- Collaboration because it is part of working as a team and putting all our ideas into one amazing idea.
- Communication because you have to articulate your ideas. There's no I in team.
- Critical thinking because you have to keep reading over the question and read the brief word for word.
- Creative thinking.
- Problem solving.



**Congratulations
and well done
on your
dedication,
collaboration,
creativity and
team work!**



#2 Our Online Tracks

As soon as you share the first photo of your child, you're establishing their digital footprint. As children get older and start creating their own content or engaging with others online, it's important for them to understand the tracks they're leaving behind - and what those tracks might reveal.

Activity

Read aloud: Let's follow the digital footprints, read the clues, and talk about what we learn.



*Watched YouTube
Minecraft videos*



*Played Minecraft
on a public server*



*Searched online for
articles about Iceland*

Based on the footprints, what did you learn about this person? Discuss with each other.



*Posted picture on
Instagram of friend
next to Hillside
Elementary School sign*



*Searched for soccer
shorts on Amazon*



*Streamed Imagine
Dragons on Spotify*

Based on the footprints, what did you learn about this person? Discuss with each other.



*Played Roblox
and used chat*



*Watched Guardians of
the Galaxy on Netflix*



*Used Google Docs
to write a report*

Based on the footprints, what did you learn about this person? Discuss with each other.

Have a conversation with your family about the types of footprints we leave behind online.

Check out these 4 tips 

1

Be a role model.

Before you post a photo of your kid on social media, ask if it's OK to share. Not only will you give them control over their own digital footprint, you'll also be showing them what you expect them to do with others' photos.

2

Use privacy settings.

Together, go through all the settings on new apps to make sure you both know what information your kids are sharing. Especially in the beginning, it's better to share very little.

3

Question everything.

Before you sign school forms or register for a new online service for your kid, check the privacy policy to see what kind of information you're giving the school or company and who they're sharing it with. Sharing some data might be required, but you may be able to opt out of others. Talk with your kid about why it's important to protect your personal data.

4

Use a celebrity as an example.

With older kids, choose a celebrity or another famous person and look through their Twitter or Instagram posts with your kid. Discuss your impressions of them based on what they post. Ask your kid what kind of image they'd like to project online.

Parents and carers can help guide children to understand how their online image might be perceived, and towards creating the kind of footprint they can be proud of.

The ICT Team



**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
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Bendigo Bank





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”.

THE LIONS CLUB OF MELBOURNE MARKETS PROUDLY PRESENTS...

★ 2023 MELBOURNE ★ WORLD FESTIVAL OF MAGIC

THANKS TO THE GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP FROM THE GREATER MELBOURNE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, THIS INCREDIBLE SPECTACLE ALLOWS CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS OF DIVERSE ABILITIES AND BACKGROUNDS TO EXPERIENCE ASTONISHING MAGIC AND ILLUSIONS, HILARIOUS COMEDY AND MIND-BLOWING BALANCING AND JUGGLING ACTS!
ENJOY AN INCLUSIVE, ACCESSIBLE AND FLEXIBLE ENVIRONMENT WITH A RELAXED ATTITUDE TO AUDIENCE NOISE AND MOVEMENT.

*ALL TICKETS ARE COMPLIMENTARY, INCLUDING FOR FAMILIES AND CARERS.

*ONE TICKET PER PERSON IS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY.

*BULK AND INDIVIDUAL TICKET ORDERS FROM SCHOOLS, ORGANISATIONS, FAMILIES AND CARERS ARE WELCOME, INCLUDING TENTATIVE BOOKINGS.

*AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS UNTIL BOOKED OUT.

IF YOU CAN'T ATTEND THE LIVE SHOW, FREE UNLIMITED AND ON-DEMAND VIDEO STREAMING WILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE LIVE SHOW DATE.

THE THORNBURY THEATRE

SUNDAY 26TH NOVEMBER @ 11AM, 1PM & 4PM SHOWTIMES

MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER @ 10.30AM, 1PM & 6PM SHOWTIMES

TO BOOK YOUR COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS,
PLEASE EMAIL OR TEXT YOUR TICKET ORDER AND CONTACT DETAILS TO...

✉ MEREDITHNEWMAN@SHOWINTENT.COM.AU

☎ 0404-367-782



Year 7 and 8 Village

**BOOK
A TOUR**



Enrol Today

YEAR 7 2025 & 2026

VERY LIMITED PLACES FOR 2024



**SANTA MARIA
COLLEGE**

A CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Phone: 9488 1600

Email: registrar@santamaria.vic.edu.au

Northcote Swim Club

*Our return to the Northcote
Aquatic and Recreation Centre
is imminent!*

*Email us today to enquire
about joining a squad:
ntc.swimming@gmail.com*



Aboriginal Community Elders
Services Inc. (ACES)

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for people
who have a high dedication
to society, humanity and our
First Nations people.



YOU WILL BE ASSISTING WITH:

- Planned Activity Programs
- Residential Aged Care
- Transportation
- Fundraising
- Events

ABORIGINAL VALUES AND RESPECT FOR ELDERS ARE OUR GUIDING PRINCIPALS

Register your interest:
[www.acesinc.org.au/employment/
volunteer-form/](http://www.acesinc.org.au/employment/volunteer-form/)

For more information please
contact: nicola.m@acesinc.org.au
or 03 9383 4244