



*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:

Transition Planning for 2022 Grades

The transition team have started organising the term 4 program for this year's Prep to Grade 5 students to ensure the step-up to the next year level is as smooth as possible. Given another unusual year, we are looking to fine tune all aspects to get the best outcomes we can. Key points in the process include:

- Staff are working with a 19 straight grade model with no composite classes. Whilst numbers are not perfect within each grade level, straight grades are manageable next year with current enrolment predictions.
- Parent/carer input and student friendship lists will occur like other years and will be seriously considered as staff work through the process.
- *Please hold off sending any emails as a confidential Google form will be available from next Friday to help streamline the parent feedback process, similar to recent years. Please do not send requests directly to teachers.*
- There will be three transition sessions similar to recent years allowing all students to get a feel for the higher year level.
- Staff are committed to working collectively and consistently throughout this process, making the best decisions we can using our professional observations and judgements.

More details will be published in subsequent Newsletters as the grade allocation/step-up program is rolled out.

Leaving Bell at the end of the year?

To assist us with the final stages of 2022 planning, I ask any families who are leaving us to let their grade teacher/s and/or the office staff know as soon as possible. Regardless of the reason, the earlier we know of family departures the more accurate our grade structures, staffing arrangements and student allocations can be. This **does not** include our Grade 6 students – they will be farewelled in style towards the end of the year!

Future Preps Transitioning into Bell

Emma Heywood and the Prep team have mapped out a comprehensive Prep transition program with some changes due to COVID restrictions but with some additional activities aimed to create a warm and welcoming time for new Bell families and those existing families who are sending their next child to school.

The first on-line transition meeting for parent/carers was held on Wednesday night with nearly all new families attending, finding out a bit more about how Bell PS operates.

Student Masks

We had a considerable supply of children's masks at school when the announcement was made about mandatory masks for the older children, however they are quickly running out. Like most schools, we are currently waiting for an unknown quantity of child size masks to be sent from DET. Supplies from retail and online outlets have dwindled dramatically. ***If your child is in Grade 3, 4, 5 or 6, where possible, could you please send them to school with their own mask?*** Their name, or an identifying mark, should be on the mask to make it easier for them to recognise when they take it off to go outside.

Please say hello to Suzanne who is our new Oakover Road Crossing Supervisor. Whilst she has big shoes to fill, I am sure the Bell community will make her welcome and she will feel part of the community in no time.

Early Pick Up of Students

When collecting your child/ren early, **firstly** check in with the QR code on the door of the Admin Building, **secondly** sign your child out on the Compass Kiosk on the front desk of the office, **thirdly** take a green 'Early Departure' slip for the teacher, and **lastly** check in with the QR code on the door of each classroom you enter.

Community Forum Rescheduled

The AGM/Community Forum is now scheduled for Thursday 25 November with key topics including presentations on the new school strategic plan, school communication, wellbeing, and hopefully the plans for the new gym/hall. At this stage we are planning for it to still be an online event.

Parent Payments – Outstanding Invoices

Thank you to the majority of parents/carers who have provided their school payments throughout the year. For those who have unpaid amounts, an up-to-date statement will be sent home in the coming weeks outlining outstanding payments and contributions that still can be made via Qkr! anytime. The details for your child/ren's year level payments can be found in the Communication section of the Bell PS website. Click on the following link: <https://www.bellps.vic.edu.au/page/218/2021-Parent/Carer-Payments>

David Twite
Principal

From our Assistant Principal:

Thank you for your purchases from the last Scholastic Book Club catalogue. Again, we received nearly \$1,000 in rewards to spend. Also, a big thank you to families who donated to the Library Fund throughout the year. A combination of both Book Club rewards and the Library Fund has continued to support the restocking and building of our collection.

The following popular series' are some of our recent additions, as well as a range of picture books, non-fiction texts and graphic novels:

Nancy Drew Diaries
The Last Dragon Chronicles
Rangers' Apprentice

Warriors
Disney Twisted Tales
Frankie Fish

Disney Villains
Go Girl
Zac Power

Kensy and Max Books
Real Pigeons
Juliet, Nearly A Vet

We are also excited that donations through the Library Fund have enabled us to sign up to a 12-month subscription for the National Geographic, K-Zone and Wacky but True! magazines. Adding magazines to our collection further helps us in expanding our collection to cater to the diverse reading interests of all students and we look forward to adding further subscriptions to our collection next year.

The last date you can order from the Term 4 Scholastic Book Club Catalogue is ***Saturday 20 November.***

Thank you again for your support.

Emma Heywood
Assistant Principal



From the Office:

Event Payments/Consents:

EXCURSIONS ARE NOW A TWO STEP PAPERLESS PROCESS:

1. All Event Consents are to be provided on Compass
2. All Event Payments are to be paid on Qkr!

Payments/Consents Due or Outstanding:

ITEM: (listed under <i>Payments</i> in Qkr!)	DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
Prep, 1, 2, 3: Essential Student Learning Items (<i>stationery</i>) per child	Wed 19 May	\$125	Qkr!
Prep, 1, 2, 3: Essential Learning Items (<i>bulk/online</i>) per child	Wed 19 May	\$100	Qkr!
Gr 4, 5, 6: Essential Student Learning Items (<i>stationery</i>) per child	Wed 19 May	\$115	Qkr!
Gr 4, 5, 6: Essential Learning Items (<i>bulk/online</i>) per child	Wed 19 May	\$90	Qkr!
All Grades: Educational Program Voluntary Contribution per child	Wed 19 May	\$55	Qkr!
ITEM: (listed under <i>Excursions</i> in Qkr!)	DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
Grade 4: Camp Maldon	Mon 22 Nov	\$290	Qkr!
Grade 5: Camp Anglesea	Fri 26 Nov	\$250	Qkr!

Cancelled Events

Due to the cancellation of Winter Sport, Bell Grade 4-6 Athletics, and Grade 4 Swimming, some parents would have received a request for instruction for the funds already paid for these events. Thank you to the families who have already provided instruction. If you haven't already done so, please return the forms to Jo Taylor at joanne.taylor4@education.vic.gov.au.

Family Accounts

We have contacted families who have their Bell PS account in credit. If you haven't already replied, please do so via email (joanne.taylor4@education.vic.gov.au) to advise how you would like your funds managed: either donation or refund (please include account details). Thank you.

Grade 4 Camp Payments

As Grade 4 Camp Maldon is scheduled to proceed, please check your Qkr! or Credit Card history before paying for this camp to avoid a duplicate payment. To check your Qkr! history, tap on the three bars at the top left of the home page in your app. The 'My Receipts' option should be helpful in checking your payment history. As Camp was originally planned for June, you may have to go back a bit. Your Bank Statement is another option.

Please ensure you provide consent for camp via Compass.

From the Office:

2021 Calendar – Term 4:

NOVEMBER

- Sat 20: Term 4 Book Club Orders CLOSE
- Mon 22: Curriculum Day #4 – Pupil Free
- Tue 23: Grade 6: Bully Zero W/shop 'New Beginnings'
- Thu 25: AGM / Community Forum
- Fri 26: Bell Trivia Night – Thornbury Theatre
- Mon 29 – Wed 1 Dec: Grade 4 Camp Maldon

DECEMBER

- Wed 7 – Fri 9: Grade 5 Camp Anglesea
- Thu 9: Bell Swimming Carnival, Oak Park Aquatic Centre
- Tue 14: Grade 6 Graduation
- Thu 16: Grade 6 Celebration @ Luna Park
- Fri 17: Final Day Term 4 – 1.30pm dismissal

2022 Calendar – Term 1:

JANUARY

- Fri 28: Curriculum Day #1 – Pupil Free
- Mon 31: Grades 1-6: First Day of Term 1
- Mon 31: Grade Prep Drop In Day

FEBRUARY

- Tue 1: Prep Group A: First Day of Term 1
- Wed 2: Prep Group B: First Day of Term 1
- Thu 3: All Grade Preps attend together

MARCH

- Sat 5: Bell Community Carnival (Fete)
- Mon 14: Labour Day Public Holiday

APRIL

- Fri 8: Final Day Term 1, 2.30pm dismissal

Classroom Cuisine:

Classroom Cuisine are now back in action! Don't forget to order before 8.30am on the day, or anytime in advance. Always remember to pack a few snacks in case they don't arrive before the first eating time.



School Uniforms - PSW:

To purchase Bell PS School Uniforms, please see the PSW website [here](#) or phone 9768 0381.

From the Literacy Team:

A LITTLE MORE HELP NEEDED

We still have a number of books that require covering before they can be added to our collection for student borrowing. If there are any other parents/carers who would be willing to assist with covering some books, please either email us at bell.ps@education.vic.gov.au or just call past the office any time to collect what you need.

Any assistance would be appreciated. You will be provided with the books and a roll of contact so it can be undertaken in the comfort of your own home.

A big **thank you** to parents who have already helped out: Giuliana, Brooke and Sienna.

Lisa McLeish

Learning Specialist – Teaching + Learning





Fete Planning Continues

In and out of lockdown fete planning is at full steam. Lets give the kids something to look forward to! A huge thank you to all the people who have stepped up to help plan and run stalls for our event so far.

We need to fill a final few! No experience necessary and help on hand!

Final Stall Captains Needed

- Bar Manager
- Event Photographer
- Photo Booth / Green Screen
- Side Show Alley x3 people
- Action Games
- Kindy Raceway
- Face Painting
- Kids Corner / Craft

Please be in contact with Mel, Ange & Mel on bellprimaryfete@gmail.com

Bottle Some Preserves

Get your pickle on and cook up a chutney, jam or preserve.



New jars only please!



Got Spare Lemons ?

Got more lemons than you know what to do with?

Our Lemonade stall will need cordial and now is the time to make it!

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.



Parentline:

Parentline is a phone service for parents and carers of children from birth to 18 years old. They offer confidential and anonymous counselling and support on parenting issues.

What they do:

The qualified counsellors are available to:

- talk about any issues to do with parenting and relationships
- help with ways to cope and be a positive parent
- help with families' wellbeing and resilience
- connect parents with services in their area.

Your call:

- Calls are confidential and anonymous.
- Calls are not time limited and parents can call back as often as needed.
- Qualified and experienced counsellors have social work or psychology backgrounds.

Some reasons to ring Parentline include:

- child behaviour and development
- parent / carer child relationships
- education
- bullying
- living with teenagers
- family violence
- family breakdown
- parental stress



For the Bell Community:

OSH CLUB MEALS

Hello Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back, I hope you are all doing well. For the remainder of the Term, Bell OSHClub is offering families meals and condiments for main meals in the Shelter Shed every fortnight.

REMINDER: This is FREE, so please take what you need for a delicious dinner. All food prep and cooking are done in a registered and compliant kitchen and is COVID-Safe. All containers will be labelled with allergens.

Hope to see you there!!

Elizabeth

OSH Club Co-ordinator

SANTA MARIA DISCOVERY TOUR – TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER

Please register your details at <https://www.santamaria.vic.edu.au/enrolment/discovery-tours>