



*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:

Bell Blitz on Weeds

A huge thank you to the community members who attended our Working Bee last Saturday when we attacked the weeds along the Scotia Street and Oakover Road garden beds. It already looks amazing in the sections we covered with cardboard and topped with bush mulch.

With more work to be done to finish that area, we will send callouts for some upcoming gardening afternoons soon. Hopefully people can spare an hour or so



before pick-up to cart and spread mulch from the pile near the south gate. We only have the Oakover Road bed to finish, then that area of the school will be transformed.



Thanks to the following families who attended the Bell Blitz and made such an enormous impact on the south end of the school: Natalie Funtera, Steph Hughes and Mia McDonald (+ Sidney and Lulu), Farhan Alam, Nicole Young, Angus Stock (+Maggie and Rose), Trevor Liddell (+ Esther), Julie Garbutt, Oanh Tran (+Thea), Andrea Kneen, Ali Sanderson and Ben Pederick (+ Wolfie), Nic Cottrill and Leigh Bear (+Dante), Bonnie Grant and Joe Charles (+Louis and Gil), Heather Griffith, Elise Needham, Jarrod Hume (+Harvey), Steph Haddad (+Zoe), Libby Owens and Kieran McMillan (+Bronte and Taika), Dion Keech (+Ellie and Laura), Shanaugh Lyon (+Max and Hugo), Germaine Koh, Kali Hulme (+Artie), Cambell Clarke, Tim Fisher (+Tessa and June).

Parent/Carer Input into Grade Combination

A reminder that parents/carers have the option to provide key information that helps us make an informed decision about 2024 grade combinations via the survey link <https://forms.gle/hKsD3PjQhHzkYcvb6>. The link will be closed this Monday 20 November at 9.00am so we can keep moving on the important transition process.

We value parent/carers input however there are no guarantees as ultimately staff must make professional judgements about grade combinations, taking into account all children's academic, social and emotional development and the current dynamics of each group. Student input into friendships will happen in the grades over the next week to ensure student voice is taken into account.

David Twite
Principal

2023 Bell PS Calendar:

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



NOVEMBER 2023

- Fri 17: **Grades 3-6 Swimming Carnival, Oakpark**
- Fri 17: School Assembly (weather permitting) 2.50pm
- **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 Set for Secondary Online Session #2**
- Fri 24: **Grade 6 Graduation Dance Session #2**
- **Fri 24: Grade 2 TaskWorks Incursion**
- Fri 24: School Assembly (weather permitting) 2.50pm
- **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) 2.50pm
- **Mon 4: FINAL DAY COMPASS CONSENT ONLY: *Grade 6 Preston HS Transition Visit \$0***
- **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: Gr6 Graduation Mementoes via Qkr! CLOSE**
- **Thu 7-Fri 8: Grade 3 Bounce + School Sleepover**
- **Thu 7: Grade 6 Preston HS Transition Visit**
- **Fri 8: Grade 6 Graduation Dance Session #4**
- **Fri 8: School Assembly (weather permitting) 2.50pm**
- **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)**
- **Wed 13: Grade 2 Celebration of Learning**
- **Thu 14: Grade 6 Luna Park Big Day Out**
- **Fri 15: Grade 6 Graduation Dance Session #5**
- **Fri 15: School Assembly (weather permitting) 2.50pm**
- **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**

February

- **Mon 20: District Swimming**

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

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS PLEASE

A reminder for parents/carers who are volunteering at school in any capacity, ie: parent reading, fundraising events, excursions, incursions, etc, please arrange a Working With Children Check and provide a copy to the office.

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

World's Greatest Shave + Houses Got Talent:

A huge thank you to our wonderful students Georgia, Oliver, Liam, Sam, Alfie, Jack, Hamish, Jarek, Ethan, Xavier and Chloe, and teacher Daniel, who had their heads shaved last week! And thank you to all that wore a fancy hair style and donated gold coins! As a school, we raised over \$9,000 for the Leukemia Foundation! What an effort!!!

A huge thank you to our Houses Got Talent performers who entertained us with jokes, dances, music and more! It was great to witness everyone's secret talents!

Finally, a massive thank you to our hairdresser Michelle who donated her services to us, and to all the amazing parent volunteers that helped shave, sweep and more!

We are so grateful to you all and thank you for supporting the amazing learning community that is Bell Primary School!

Claire, Hannah & the JSC



From the Specialist Team:

SPECIALIST AWARD

Prep B

were the lucky (and deserving!) winners of the Specialist Award!!

This award goes to a class that has shown creativity in specialist classes. They have displayed open-mindedness and fantastic problem-solving skills.

They have also been able to show that they are 'thinkers'

by expressing their ideas in specialist classes.

Well done and congratulations to the amazing and fabulously fun, Prep B!

Wahooooooooooooo!

The Specialists



From the ICT Team:

#5 Safety, Privacy and Security

When kids start to go online, whether they're playing multiplayer games, using educational apps, or just exploring their curiosities on Google, it's important that they understand the basics of online privacy and safety. Kids need to learn about what information is and isn't safe to share online. With an understanding of digital safety, kids can have fun and learn a lot in the online landscape.

Having a conversation with your child and discussing these five tips is a step to keeping them and their details safe when online.

Check out these 5 tips 📌

1

Discuss personal vs. private info.

Talk about the difference between what's OK to share online (favorite color) and what's not (home address).

2

Use privacy settings.

Together, go through the settings on all 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

Avoid location tracking.

Location-aware apps can be super helpful. But apps that use a device's location to help people find your kid or offer them ads for nearby businesses should be used with caution. Turn them off if you can.

4

Power up passwords.

Work together with kids to help them come up with complex passwords. Think outside the dictionary. Use phrases and special characters that make passwords hard to guess but easy to remember. Remind kids to keep passwords private and change them regularly.

5

Skip quizzes.

Help kids identify and avoid clickbait, quizzes, special offers, and anything that asks for personal or private information. This helps keep information secure and devices safe.



Activity

Read aloud: Let's read the headlines below, then talk about which ones might be clickbait and why. For each headline, talk about: How is it trying to grab our attention? Does it seem impossible? Is it trying to shock us?



This video will prove aliens exist. You won't believe what happens next!



Teen raises \$2,000 to fund new community garden



10 cats that look exactly like your favorite celebrities



Scientists debate evidence of UFOs



Take this quiz to find out which TV character you are

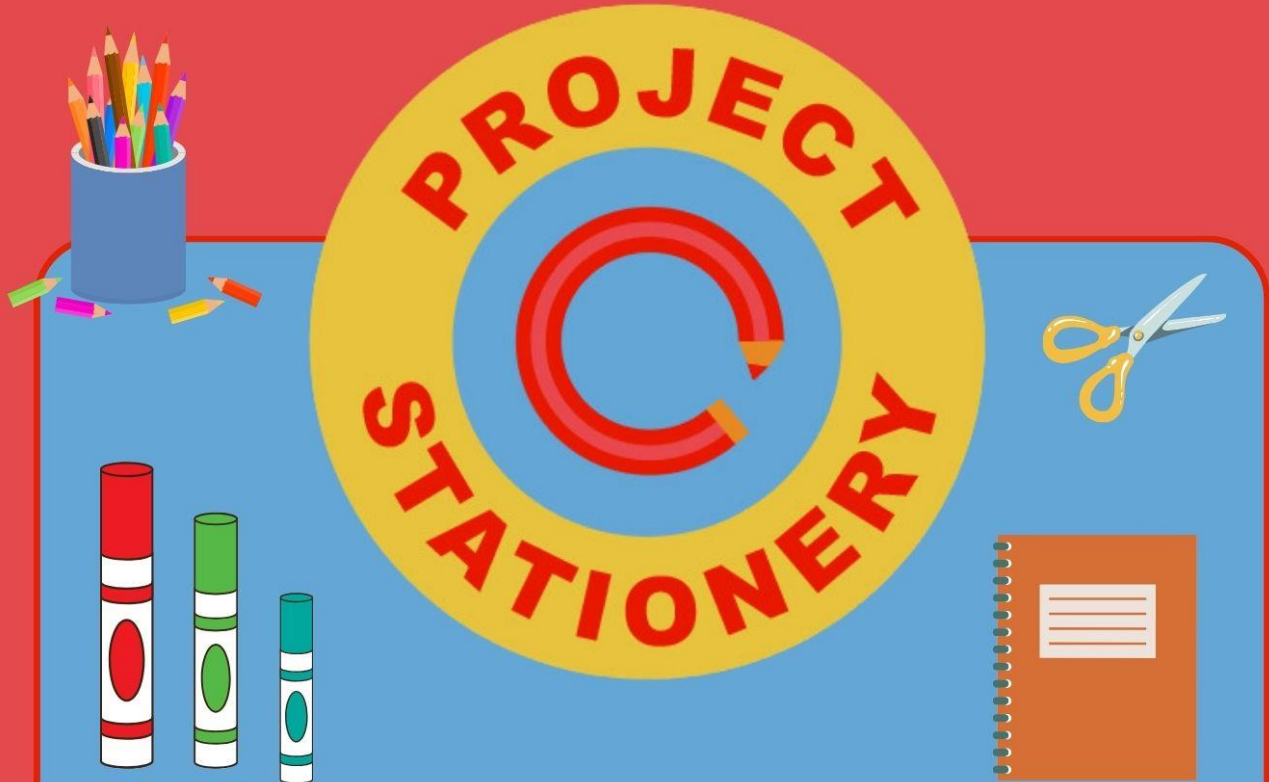


Man tries to rescue dog from lion. The reason why will make you cry.

Why do people make clickbait? What are the risks of clicking on it? If you see a headline you're interested in but aren't sure if it's clickbait, what are some things you can do instead of clicking on it?

With a fast paced online landscape with imagery and AI, it is important to consider what is real and what may be fishy... Have a conversation with your kids and stay safe online!

The ICT Team



Do you have excess stationery?

Why not donate it to Project Stationery?

When: December, January & February

Where: Shop front at the Alphington Farmer's Market.
Melbourne Innovation Centre, 2 Wingrove St, Alphington VIC 3078

Accepting: All types of new & used stationery in good condition including half-used exercise books.

No lever arch folders or binders please.

Please see list for all accepted items.

Opening Hours from December 3rd to February 28th:

Sundays 9am - 1pm

Wednesdays 9am - 1pm

Stationery will be collated & redistributed to
not-for-profit organisations.

Our aim is to share resources and minimise waste.



ITEMS WE ACCEPT

YES PLEASE: NEW & USED

- pens
- pencils
- textas
- highlighters
- board markers
- rulers
- glue sticks
- erasers
- sharpeners
- exercise books*
- sketch books*
- scrapbooks*
- notepads *
- pencil cases
- clipboards
- bulldog clips
- paperclips
- scissors
- sticky notes
- staplers & staples
- hole punchers
- loose leaf paper
- plastic pockets
- document wallets
- display folders
- binder dividers

*Please tear out any used pages

NO THANK YOU

- binders
- lever arch folders
- broken or damaged stationery

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!

projectsharestationery@gmail.com





JOIN WITH FRIENDS PLAY TOGETHER

Join Woolworths Cricket Blast

For girls aged 5-10

Darebin Falcons Women's Sports Club

Sundays 11am-12pm

8 weeks

26 November, 3, 10, 17 December, 4, 11, 18, 25 February

AH Capp Reserve, Halwyn Crescent, Preston

Registration: \$98

Contact: Emma Sampson 0408 567 957, cricket@falcons.org.au

