



*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:

### Ever Changing Management of COVID 19 in Schools

Whilst it was only last Friday when the steps schools take when a COVID-19 case directly affects a school were explained; how things change in one week. The announcement yesterday involves a simpler process and much shorter quarantine time for NEW 'exposure persons' (formerly Primary Close Contacts - PCCS), with some adjustments to those directly infected by COVID-19 in school settings. This process is far more straight forward for new cases from today, but has been very confusing for the three existing cases in the Grade 1, 2 and 4 cohorts at our school.

#### **Key changes include:**

- Infected (COVID positive) children under 12 years old will be required to quarantine for 10 days (not 14) as they are still unvaccinated.
- Schools will continue the process of identifying contacts of a confirmed case of COVID-19 at schools; contacts will no longer be contacted by the Department of Health with quarantine requirements. If your child is identified as an exposed person, the school will contact you directly.
- Children identified as 'exposed persons' will be required to complete a standard (PCR) test within 24 hours from when they are identified by the school as a contact.
- If the PCR test returns a negative result, the student can immediately return to school, with evidence of the negative result emailed to the school.
- It is then strongly recommended that for the following five days, contacts complete a rapid antigen test each morning before they attend school. This is to ensure the ongoing safety of all students and staff at school.
- Rapid Antigen Test results can then be uploaded to a central database each day to inform the school. Details for the database would be provided to any NEWLY exposed person from Monday.
- You will be able to obtain these testing kits from Testing Centres from Monday 22 November if your child is required to complete a standard PCR test.
- In exceptional circumstances, the Department of Health may determine that contacts in significant school outbreaks are still required to quarantine for seven days. In this scenario, students will be notified directly of any additional quarantine arrangements.
- Face masks will continue to be required by staff, visitors and Grades 3 to 6 students in indoor spaces within primary schools.

As we head into the final few weeks of the school year, please continue to care for yourself and those around you.

I urge all parents and carers not to take news from any media outlets as the exact truth for every school setting, and refrain from sending rapid fire emails when there is a change announced. This is especially relevant when we have already communicated that we are seeking clarification about the grey areas within any new announcement and change in procedures. Emma and I will continue to communicate as quickly as possible what we know to keep all relevant parties up to date. I understand the pressure affected families are under but hope everyone can appreciate the significant challenges for us when we are not given detailed information as quickly as many would expect. DET are also doing their best to disseminate accurate and timely guidance to schools and communities within a huge educational system during an ever-changing pandemic.

## **2022 Transition**

Thank you to the many parents/carers who provided key information that helped us make an informed decision about 2022 grade combinations. Late correspondence cannot be taken into account as we have a set timeline to finalise this important process. Please note that allocating teachers to classes is a separate process that will be undertaken by the Principal as part of the operational role.

The transition program for Prep to Grade 5 students will be similar to recent years with three 'step-up' sessions in weeks 8, 9 and 10 to help prepare students for next year. Proposed dates for the three sessions are:

- **Thursday 25 November** – Session 1 where students will stay in their current groupings working with a teacher from the higher grade level for a taste of 2022 literacy work.
- **Friday 3 December** – Session 2 with the same group for another taste of next year's work in the area of numeracy.
- **Friday 10 December** (TBC) – Session 3 will be with all 2022 classmates moving to their future classroom to meet their new teacher and complete some wellbeing and engagement activities.

I urge all parents and carers to begin discussing the transition to a new year level, and most likely a new teacher, as a positive thing. It's about assisting the children to embrace the moment and treat a new classroom environment as a stimulating adventure and a chance to show resilience.

## **AGM/Community Forum**

Our AGM/Community Forum is scheduled for 7:00pm, Thursday 25 November. To enable us to determine the number of attendees at our AGM/Community Forum and whether we are able to conduct this in person (based on density limits) or online, we ask that you please **RSVP your attendance** with the office at [bell.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:bell.ps@education.vic.gov.au) **as soon as possible**.

## **Curriculum Day**

A final reminder that this **Monday 22 November** will be a pupil free day as the staff embark on professional learning about key elements of our new strategic plan.

**David Twite**  
**Principal**

# From the Office:

## Event Payments/Consents:

### **EXCURSIONS ARE NOW A TWO STEP PAPERLESS PROCESS:**

1. All Event Consents are to be provided online on Compass – **DO NOT PRINT!**
2. All Event Payments are to be paid on Qkr!

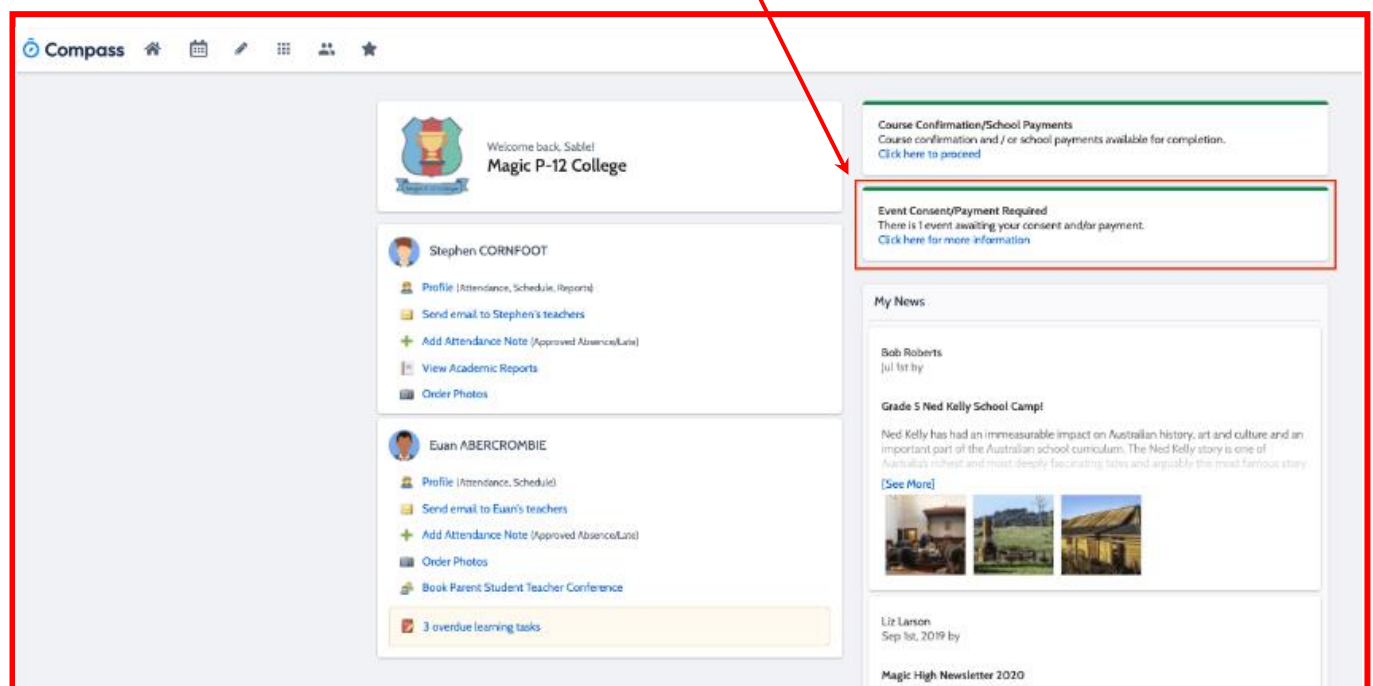
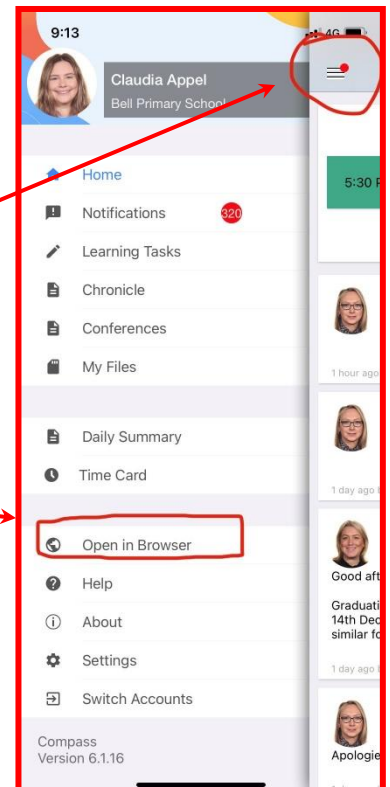
### **NEED ASSISTANCE WITH EVENT PERMISSION???**

As we have moved to a paperless excursion process, all consent for excursions is to be given **online** via Compass Events. **We are not accepting paper excursion forms.**

Unfortunately, Compass does not allow you to give permission via the notification in the app – you will need to access the Event via a browser. To do this, please click the **menu button** in your app and go to **“open in browser”**.

You will see a **green notification** in the top right hand corner above your Newsfeeds indicating Event Consent is required.

Please complete this **online** form and submit. You will then need to go straight to **Qkr!** for payment which completes the entire excursion process!



## 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 (29.11-01.12)	Mon 22 Nov	\$290	Qkr!
Grade 5: Camp Anglesea (7-8 Dec)	Fri 26 Nov	\$245	Qkr!
Grades 3-6: Swimming Carnival (9 Dec)	Fri 3 Dec	\$25	Qkr!
Grade 6: Luna Park (16 Dec)	Fri 3 Dec	\$40	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](mailto: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](mailto: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.**

## New School Uniforms - PSW:

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



## Second Hand School Uniforms:

At this stage, the Second Hand Uniform Shop will be taking bookings (via the office on 9480 5622) for **Prep Transition Sessions only**. If anybody has uniforms to donate – maybe the kids have grown out of their uniforms during lockdown!!! – please drop them into the office anytime. Please note we are only accepting **Bell-logoed** tops, but will accept any good quality pants, skirts, dresses, etc.



## Arriving Late or Leaving Early – STOP WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

Please **DO NOT** enter late arrivals or early departures on your Compass Parent Portal. They must be entered on the Front Desk Kiosk **ONLY**. Please help the admin staff out with this request.

## 2021 Calendar – Term 4:

### NOVEMBER

- Sat 20: Term 4 Book Club Orders CLOSE
- **Mon 22:** Curriculum Day #4 – Pupil Free
- Wed 24: Prep (2022) Transition #2, 9.30am-10.30am
- Thu 25: Step-Up Session #1
- Thu 25: AGM / Community Forum
- Fri 26: Crazy Hair/Mask + Casual Clothes Day (*gold coin*)
- Mon 29 – Wed 1 Dec: **Grade 4** Camp Maldon

### DECEMBER

- Wed 1: Prep (2022) Transition #3, 9.30am-10.30am
- Fri 3: Step-Up Session #2
- Fri 3: Drop Off Donations for Fete, 8.30-10.00am
- Tue 7: Prep (2022) Parent/Carer Info Evening #2, 6.00pm
- Tue 7 – Wed 8: **Grade 5** Camp Anglesea
- Wed 8: Prep (2022) Transition #4, 9.30am-10.30am
- Thu 9: Bell Swimming Carnival, Oak Park Aquatic Centre
- Fri 10: Step-Up Session #3 (tbc)
- Tue 14: **Grade 6** Graduation
- Wed 15: *Optional #2* Prep (2022) Transition Session, 4-5.30pm
- Wed 15: **Grade 6** Colour Run (*remember the white top*)
- 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**

#### 2022 School Terms:

- Term 1: Monday 31 January to Friday 8 April
- Term 2: Tuesday 26 April to Friday 24 June
- Term 3: Monday 11 July to Friday 16 September
- Term 4: Monday 3 October to Friday 20 December

## Around the Grounds:

Please take note **and advise your children** that the following organisations have priority use of the designated areas in our School Grounds on these dates and times, as a formal arrangement has been made with School Council. These tables will be updated as other bookings are approved.

Just a reminder that **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** are footy or soccer boots to be worn on our Ovals.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>2021</b>							
Darebin Falcons Women's Soccer Training		South Oval 5.30-8.00pm 16 Nov-16 Dec APPROVED		South Oval 5.30-8.00pm 16 Nov-16 Dec APPROVED			

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>2022</b>							
Darebin Falcons Women's Soccer Training	South Oval 5.00-8.00pm 14 Feb-8 Apr APPROVED	South Oval 5.00-8.00pm 14 Feb-8 Apr APPROVED	South Oval 5.00-8.00pm 14 Feb-8 Apr APPROVED	South Oval 5.00-8.00pm 14 Feb-8 Apr APPROVED			



# From the Sports Department:

## BIKE SAFETY:

It is important that parents/carers ensure that everyone:



- wears an Australian Standard bicycle helmet when riding



- wears appropriate footwear and bright, light coloured clothing



- keeps their bicycles in good working order



- follows all road rules and rides in a safe manner

As the weather starts to get warmer and our Grade 4 students prepare for their camp we are seeing more and more students riding, scooting or skateboarding to school.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind our community on how to be safe when traveling to and from school. Below is some information to support our community getting to Bell safely every time.

*Before the age of 12 years children should not ride a bicycle on the road without adult supervision. Even when riding on footpaths and bike paths there are points at which roads need to be crossed. The reality is that most children, until around the age of 12 years, are still developing the skills to be able to ride safely in or near traffic. 'Vic Roads'*

**Josh Grogan**  
**PE Teacher**

## Courtesy on paths

When riding on paths there are rules designed for everyone's safety:

- keep to the left of the path
- don't ride too fast or do anything unexpected
- let others know that you are approaching by using your bell or calling out
- give way to pedestrians
- obey signs along the path and ride in single file, especially on shared paths and footpaths
- ride side by side only when the path is wide enough and when it is safe.

## Be alert on paths

There are many things to watch out for when riding on paths, including:

- other path users - be extra careful near small children, older people and people with vision impairments
- dogs or other animals
- driveways, laneways or places where the path crosses a road
- hazards such as changes in the surface of the path, steep hills, puddles, pot-holes, blind corners and broken glass.

If a road has to be crossed, the rider should stop, dismount and walk across.

## BELL SWIMMING CARNIVAL:

After more than 3 years of planning its finally here... Bell Primary's very own Swimming Carnival!

The event will take place on **Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of December (Week 10)** at the Oak Park Aquatic Centre. All grade 3 to 6 students will attend, with the day catering for students of all swimming abilities. Students will come to school where we will bus to and from the event.

One part of the day is to act as trials for the 2022 District Swimming Carnival early in Term 1. This will allow all students a fair and equitable opportunity to trial in all events that are offered at District level. Students will have an opportunity to place their name down for any event that they would like to trial for during their P.E. lessons in week 8.



Although this carnival is used as trials for the District event, the main reason Leadership and I wanted to get this up and running was to give all students an opportunity to participate in a fun and exciting swimming carnival. There is no expectation that students put their name down to trial in an event. The day however, will offer a number of opportunities for students to participate in social and novelty style races and activities if they are not interested in trialling for District swimming. We have also booked a splash pad for students who are not able to swim and a waterslide for students to use after their races.

Our goal is to offer something for all students and to promote inclusion and participation in an aquatic setting.

Compass Notifications have gone out asking parents to complete the online Events Permission, plus complete payment in Qkr!

**Josh Grogan**  
**PE Teacher**

## From the JSC:



**Year 3-6 Basketball Tournament** will commence during lunch times next week, for students who have signed up.

### **Casual Clothes & Crazy Hair/Mask Day**

When: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November

Why: Fundraiser for State School Relief

How: Bring a gold coin donation



## Scholastic Book Club Orders – CLOSE TOMORROW!!!

**Don't miss out.**

**Term 4's Scholastic Book Club closing date is SATURDAY 20 NOVEMBER!**







## Darebin Council Rewilding Program

**On Thursday, Year 5 students  
planted local native indigenous  
plants including wildflowers,  
meadow plants, and flowering  
shrubs on the Northern Play Space  
with the help of Brett and Lucy  
Salt.**

**We planted these indigenous plants  
to preserve country. It was really  
great to get outdoors and we look  
forward to seeing them grow.**



PIC•COLLAGE





## 16 weeks to our Fete - Let's Get Going.....

Information will now be sent regularly on things you can all do to contribute to this event which will include bringing things in to sell and win.

Sign Up Genius out soon for you to register where you will help on the day

Questions and Offers of Help please contact us on [bellprimaryfete@gmail.com](mailto:bellprimaryfete@gmail.com)

## Last Donation Day for Bric a Brac - Fri Dec 3rd 8.30 - 10am

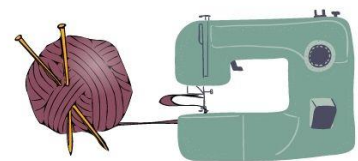
### Entertainment

Cool tunes and great voices ... do you know anyone who might like to perform and create an awesome and diverse vibe for the day?



### Get Crafting

Sew, glue gun, paint, knit and glitter items of your imagination for us to sell at the craft stall. Be in contact with us to be connected to other crafters.



### Bottle Some Preserves

Get your pickle on and cook up a chutney, jam or preserve with all new season fruit and vegetables.

New jars only please!



### Planting ?

Green and even black thumbs get some cuttings in a little pot. If things are flowering now and might not be for March 5th, take a photo, we can pop it on the pot to look pretty!



## 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





### **Support for your kids to get active**

Does your child love sport and being active? Does your family have a Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card? You may be eligible for up to \$200 to put towards the cost of your child's participation in physical activities.

As children return to sport over the coming months, the Get Active Kids Voucher Program helps [eligible families get their kids involved in organised sport and active recreation activities](#).

Under the program, children may be eligible to receive up to \$200 to help with the cost of membership and registration fees, uniforms, and equipment. The program also provides a special consideration stream to support children residing in care services as well as temporary or provisional visa holders, undocumented migrants or international students.

Applications for vouchers in round three of the program **close at 5pm on Tuesday 30 November**. For eligibility requirements and to apply, visit the [Get Active Victoria website](#).







### What you need

- Good judgement and general knowledge of the road rules
- Reliable transport to get to and from your rostered crossing
- Availability to work shifts in the morning, afternoon or both
- Ability to lift, utilise and operate safety equipment
- Hold a Working with Children Check or willing to apply for one

For more information or to apply, please email  
[recruitment@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:recruitment@darebin.vic.gov.au)

Darebin City Council are currently recruiting for a number of local School Crossings Positions that service our school to start in February 2022. Vacant Crossings are currently located at:

- St George's Road in Thornbury and Northcote
- High Street in Thornbury and Northcote
- Merri Parade
- Arthurton Road
- Station Street
- Dundas Street
- Victoria Road
- Bell Street
- Gilbert Road
- Murphy Street



AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR



An experience that goes far beyond the stage!

We believe in growing girls through the hidden elements of our curriculum; your daughter will develop confidence, public speaking and presentation skills, resilience and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Our senior performers have entertained everyone from Queen Elizabeth II to Oprah, and have shared the stage with a long list of artists including Hugh Jackman and Pharrell Williams. This summer, you can watch our girls sing throughout the Ashes Series for Qantas.

Now accepting 2022 enrolments for our rehearsal venues in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney.



Join us at our free OPEN DAY in November

Register now at [ausgirlschoir.com.au/joinagc](https://ausgirlschoir.com.au/joinagc) or phone 1800 338 142



AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

