

## **Bell PS Newsletter**

## **03 December 2021**

www.bellps.vic.edu.au bell.ps@education.vic.gov.au

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.



Phone: 9480 5622

## From our Principal:

#### **Grade Structures for 2022**

Next year we will be operating under a 19 grade structure with a reasonably balanced number of students within each year level cohort, allowing us to operate with all straight grades and no composites. This model will enable us to continue to offer students our current four Specialist classes (PE, Visual Art, Music and Italian) on a weekly basis. The moderate drop in numbers is due to another large cohort of Year 6s leaving (76) and an enrolment of mid 60s for new Preps coming to Bell next year. Our anticipated student enrolment number next year is 450 students, making our whole school average 23.7 students per grade which is similar to this year.

#### Step-Up Sessions 2 and 3

The second transtion session today is a taste of Numeracy with a mixed group of students from their grade level, where as the third session scheduled for next <u>Friday 10 December</u> is where students meet their 2022 teacher and classmates in their future room. Once more, I would like to reiterate the rigorous transition process undertaken this term which aims to give every child and teacher in every grade the opportunity for a positive start to their next year at Bell:

- Parent/carer input was about individual needs and other student-based concerns, as well as considering the students' friendships lists. However, there are <u>no guarantees</u> other than every child will be with at least one of <u>their</u> four nominated friends.
- Teachers are still working together in teams and cross referencing with other year levels, carefully taking into account all children's academic, social and emotional development and the dynamics of each group.
- Feedback from specialist teachers, and a final analysis from school leadership, will ensure grades lists are well balanced academically and socially. Teachers will be based on best fit for individual grades and year level teams.

During the final Step-Up Session on <u>Friday 10 December</u>, all students will be given a note to inform parents and carers of their grade placements. On that day we aim to make the session an enjoyable one and ask for parents/carers support afterwards to keep their children in a positive mindset about their new teacher and changes in classmates. We need to collectively support the children to embrace the exciting possibilities and work through the perceived challenges of a new year level.

In previous years, the school has received a small number of requests from parents to make changes after their child has spent time with a new teacher and classmates. <u>Please be aware that I will not be changing our decisions regarding student placements</u>, especially when perceived teacher performance is the reason for a last minute request. Critical, special circumstances may be considered, however expect my answer to be no.

#### **Tree Planting**

We have had a flurry of garden action over the last few weeks with new plantings at both ends of the school. Last Friday, the Sustainability Club spent the day rejuvenating the gardens around the south oval with plants they purchased from a Landcare grant. Ably led by Ivy and Brett (our sustainability teacher leaders), the group organised all grades to come out and plant about 1000 tube stock along the Scotia Street and Oakover Road beds. Scroll down to pages 8-10 for the detailed report and some great action pictures.

As outlined in the newsletter from 19 November, we had the Grade 5s work with Lucy Salt to plant some indigenous plants around the Northern PlaySpace. Page 8 of that newsletter has the details about the link to Darebin Council Rewilding Program which was facilitated by Grade 5 team leader Mr A. Thanks also to Brett Allen our Grade 2 teacher and landscape gardener expert. Previous newsletters can be found via a link on the front page of our website.

We had a number of parents respond to Lucy's call out on Compass prior to the planting to help weed the area which was greatly appreciated. If there are other families able to support the ongoing weed management of that part of the school, please contact the office and we can arrange some tools if you have the spare time. During the day the northern part of the school is not in use at the moment due to the split timetable and separate break times. Therefore, it is a free run if anyone wants some fresh air and happy to get their 'hands dirty' so to speak; gloves are available and highly recommended.

#### **Assembly**

This Monday we are due for a Prep-2 assembly with the School Captains running the show in their wonderful style. Parents/carers are welcome but please remember to *QR code* using the posters nearby as that is still a requirement.

#### Final Day - Dismissal Time

As is the usual arrangement, the last day of the school year will **end at 1.30pm**. Restrictions around large gatherings are easing and we hope to run a whole school assembly leading up to the early finish time. More details to come once the revised Operations Guide arrives.

David Twite Principal

## From our Assistant Principal:

#### **Semester 2 Student Reports**

As was the case in in 2020, the Department of Education and Training has adjusted the expectations of student reports for Semester 2 in recognition of the disruption to curriculum programs caused by COVID-19 and remote and flexible learning in Term 3 and early Term 4.

Teachers will provide a written report for the parent/carer of each student enrolled at the school for Semester 2 that will include:

- A general comment including student participation and engagement in the learning program offered in Semester 2 and a short description of any additional curriculum areas delivered and their progress;
- A description of the content taught in the areas of English and Mathematics;
- Teacher judgement against the Victorian Curriculum F-10 achievement standards for English and Mathematics;
- For Specialist subjects, a description of what was taught will be provided as well as a short comment on progress and achievement in their learning across the semester.

Semester 2 reports will be accessible online via Compass *next Friday 10 December*. Instructions on how to access reports via Compass will be sent out in a Newsfeed at this time. For readability, we suggest accessing your child's report on Compass via a computer or larger mobile device such as an iPad, rather than a mobile phone. Hard copies will be made available by request only. Please contact the office if you would like to make this request.

<u>Grade 6 parents</u>: please note that is suggested you <u>print</u> a copy of your child's 2021 report - and any other report if required - as your Grade 6 child will no longer have a Bell PS Compass account after their last day of school, Friday 17 December.

#### **Volunteer Thank You**

A sincere thank you to *Louise Grey*, who has been so generous with volunteering her time again this year, for coordinating the entire Bell Scholastic Book Club process each Term. Louise is the reason we have had almost \$4,000 to spend on books in 2021. Once again, your time and effort this year has been very much appreciated.

Emma Heywood Assistant Principal

## Book Club 2021:

Thank you to all families for your support of the Scholastic Book Club this year; it's great to see how excited the kids are when the book orders arrive:-). The yearly tally is in! In 2021, Bell students ordered 1372 books. Ordering through the Book Club helps the school acquire resources for the library and this year Bell Primary received \$3928 to spend on books. Emma has ordered heaps of new titles for the school, all Bell Primary students will benefit from the range of expanded titles in the Bell Primary library.



A few thank yous to people behind-the-scenes who make it all possible:

- to Tania, Jo and Emma: thanks for your admin support and coordinating the delivery of boxes of books to classrooms.
- to all Bell teachers for handing out orders to excited students.
- to all the parents who helped me sort and count orders.
- to my best little helper, Walt in 1C, who sorted endless books, delivered a stack of orders to families during lockdown and helped me carry hundreds of boxes!

Louise Grey Volunteer Book Club Co-ordinator



#### **BOOK COVERING – FROM MONDAY 6 DECEMBER**

Once again we have a number of books that require covering before they can be added to our collection for student borrowing. If there are any parents/carers who would be willing to assist with covering some books, please 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; it's very much appreciated.

#### **FACE MASKS**

The Bell PS Admin Office does have *some* masks available in the event of *damage or loss*, however this supply is very limited. We are still waiting on the delivery of children's masks promised by the DET but have not yet arrived. Please ensure your child/ren (Grades 3-6) leave home with a mask <u>every morning</u>. Thank you for assisting us with this important health issue.



#### **BIKES/SCOOTERS**

To try and keep bikes and scooters as safe as we can on school grounds, we suggest you either store them in the Bike Shed during the day, or chain them up to the bike racks next to the Bike Shed or the bike racks next to Room 13. Try to avoid using the bike rack on the Oakover Road fence line as it is close to the fence and in reach of the general public.



## From the Office:

Event Payments/Consents - DO NOT PRINT - DO NOT PRINT - DO NOT PR

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

- 1. All Event <u>Consents</u> are to be provided <u>online on Compass</u> DO NOT PRINT!
  - 2. All Event Payments are to be paid on Qkr!

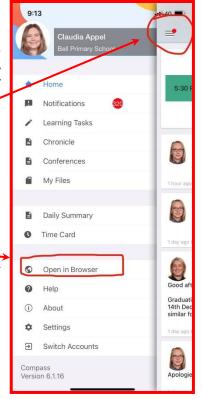
#### **NEED ASSISTANCE WITH EVENT PERMISSION???**

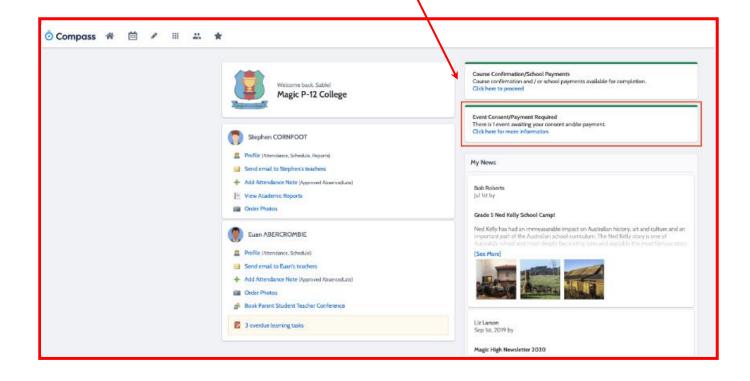
As we have moved to a paperless excursion process, <u>ALL</u> consent for excursions is to be given *online* via Compass Events. <u>WE ARE NOT ACCEPTING, AND DO NOT NEED, PAPER EXCURSION FORMS.</u> If you are having issues, please contact us.

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! THE END.





#### Payments/Consents Due or Outstanding:

ITEM: (liste	d under <i>Payments</i> in Qkr!)	DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
Prep, 1, 2, 3:	Essential Student Learning Items (stationery) per child	Wed 19 May	\$125	Qkr!
Prep, 1, 2, 3:	Essential Learning Items (bulk/online) per child	Wed 19 May	\$100	Qkr!
Gr 4, 5, 6:	Essential Student Learning Items (stationery) per child	Wed 19 May	\$115	Qkr!
Gr 4, 5, 6:	Essential Learning Items (bulk/online) per child	Wed 19 May	\$90	Qkr!
All Grades:	Educational Program Voluntary Contribution per child	Wed 19 May	\$55	Qkr!
ITEM: (liste	d under <i>Excursions</i> in Qkr!)	DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
Grades 3-6:	Swimming Carnival (9 Dec)	Fri 3 Dec	\$25	Qkr!
Grade 6:	Luna Park (16 Dec)	Fri 3 Dec	\$40	Qkr!
Grade 6:	Atmospheric Walking Excursion (15 Dec) (Permission only)	Mon 6 Dec	n/a	Compass

#### **FAMILY CREDITS + FAMILY STATEMENTS**

Family Statements are being mailed out today and Monday to families with an amount outstanding. Please finalise your payments *before Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December*. If you have made a payment in the last few days, please disregard the notice.

If you have a credit in your family account that is **not CSEF**, please advise the office how you would like the funds dispersed.

These Statements are for 2021 charges only; 2022 payments can only be made in 2022.

## New School Uniforms - PSW:

To purchase new Bell PS School Uniforms, please see the PSW website <a href="here">here</a> or phone 9768 0381 with any enquiries.



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

## **Diary Dates:**

#### 2021 Calendar - Term 4:

#### **DECEMBER**

- Tue 7: Prep (2022) Parent/Carer Info Evening #2, 6.00pm
- Tue 7 Wed 8: **Grade 5** Camp Anglesea
- Wed 8: MANGO PICK UP DAY, SHELTER SHED, 3PM-5PM
- Wed 8: Prep (2022) Transition #4, 9.30am-10.30am
- Thu 9: Bell Swimming Carnival, Oak Park Aquatic Centre
- Fri 10: Grade 5 Merri Creek Picnic / Movie Matinee
- Fri 10: Step-Up Session #3
- Tue 14: Grade 6 Graduation
- Wed 15: Icy Pole Day, Gold Coin, Start of 2<sup>nd</sup> Playtime
- Wed 15: Optional #2 Prep (2022) Transition Session, 4-5.30pm
- Wed 15: Grade 6 Merri Creek Excursion / Colour Run
- Thu 16: Grade 6 Celebration @ Luna Park
   Fri 17: Final Day Term 4 1.30pm dismissal

2022 Calendar – Term 1:
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#### 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 organisations below have priority use of the designated areas in our School Grounds on the following 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
2021							
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
2022							
Darebin Falcons Women's Soccer Training	South Oval 5.00-8.00pm 14 Feb-8 Apr APPROVED						

## From the Grade 5 Team:

Next week is going to be an incredibly busy week for our Grade 5s - not only is there our 2-day **Anglesea Camp** and the 3-6 **Swimming Carnival**, but we also have one more thing to add - our **Friday Fun Day**!

The Grade 5s will be having an enormous end of term celebration! On *Friday 10 December*, we'll be going to the Merri Creek for a picnic and ending the day with a movie matinee. It's going to be a fun day of celebration to wrap up what's been a crazy year!

Parents and carers are invited to join us for our picnic celebration. We will be departing school at 11.00am. *If you are planning on joining us, please make sure you email proof of vaccination and your Working with Children Card to bell.ps@education.vic.gov.au prior to the day.* 

Ramzey Fayad Grade 5B

## From the Sustainability Club:

Last Friday life was born. Roughly 1,000 native plants from Wurundjeri Country were planted by the year levels of Bell Primary, guided by the Sustainability Club, which is led by Brett and Ivy. This was especially great because we don't have all that many native plants at Bell. At the start of the day, 26th November, the Sustainability club gathered to move all the plants into their positions to be planted by the school. There was Poa lab (Wallaby Grass), Lomandra longifolia, Craspedia (Billy Buttons), Dodonea speciosa, and Acacia species to be planted. The Grade Sixes finally got to see their buddies again and assist them in planting many plants. Then the Grade Fives came out to finish the job with the Wallaby Grass. Throughout the day the other grades came out to plant for a whole session and learn about the plants in the garden, and how to plant them.

This plan has been about a year in the making, as at the start of the year there was talk of sprucing up the Butterfly Garden and using the Grant we received to expand our Native repertoire. Then, of course, we had a lockdown and everyone thought that the plan had been blown off the rails, apparently not, because now we have all the lovely plants that are ready to go into our school.

So, where are the plants going? Well, they're going to go all along the edge of Oakover Rd, and along Scotia St until the small gate. That area will become an extension of the Butterfly Garden and will hopefully bring some bushland into suburban Preston. This land is hoped to be a sanctuary for bugs, birds, butterflies and other small animals. Though I think I can say that everyone also wants that one wallaby that came into our school. As a student of the school, I know that there can <u>never</u> be enough plants to make the school more of a home to everything. Even if the wanted animals and bugs don't come, at least, we have a lovely new garden space.

#### Levi Weisert, 6C































## From the Fundraising Team:



Thanks to everyone who ordered. We sold a record number of boxes, raising \$1,939.00 for Bell PS!

If you can't recall if you ordered, please either check your Qkr! history or send Kate (our fabulous Mango Coordinator) an email at <a href="mailto:bellmangoes@gmail.com">bellmangoes@gmail.com</a>.

#### **Collection Details:**

DATE: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December

TIME: 3.00-5.00pm LOCATION: Shelter Shed

We have *333 boxes* of mangoes to distribute and we really need the school community's support in making this a smooth and timely process.

All trays <u>MUST</u> be picked up on the day. If you can't pick up on that day, please ask a friend to collect them for you.

Each year we have trays of mangoes not collected and this becomes very time consuming for us as organisers. Given the school has nowhere for us to store them, we would really appreciate your cooperation in collecting mangoes on the day. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thanks again for your support and we hope you enjoy your delicious mangoes.

Let's finish off the year with a little bit of **ICY POLE DAY** FUNdraising!!

ICY POLES will be sold to students for a gold coin.

To uphold Covid Safe Practices, the stall will look a little different this year. The classroom teachers will collect the \$\$\$ and icy poles will be distributed to each class by the teachers at the start of the second outside play. Each student will be able to purchase one icy pole.

If you would prefer your child <u>not</u> to participate in this FUNdraiser, please kindly let your child's teacher know.

## **ICY POLE DAY**

Wednesday 15 December
GOLD COIN



## **Bell Community Carnival News – Saturday 5 March:**



## 13 weeks to our Fete

Questions and Offers of Help please contact us on bellprimaryfete@gmail.com

## Donate items NOW to your class Raffle Donation Box

Check the list to see what items your class has been asked to donate, place it in the tub in your classroom. Donate to suggestions, or choose your own or donate to multiple. Thank you

## Prepare Mystery Jars

Save empty jars and fill them with absolutely anything for one of the kid's favourite stalls! Can be small toys, craft items, trinkets, scrunchies, games, balls, collector cards, dress ups, jokes, activities or lollies etc.

We will call early next year for them to be

bought into school and wrapped. We will need approx 650 filled jars to meet demand!







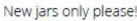






## **Bottle Some Preserves**

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













## Save spare shopping bags to donate

## **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.

## **Get 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!



#### BELL COMMUNITY CARNIVAL

#### **Class Collections**

Bell Families – get in early to donate to the fete!

We are collecting items for the fete raffle before Christmas. If you are able, please send a donation with your child to their classroom and placed in the class tub (except donations of wine – please take those to the office). We have made suggestions for each year level, but feel free to choose a different category or give to multiple!

The Bell Community Carnival is on **Saturday 5 March 2022** so please only donate non-perishable items and long expiry dates. Thanks everyone!

#### **CLASS LISTS:**

Prep A	Raffle Basket: Pamper/Bath	2C	Raffle Basket: Sports
Prep B	Raffle Basket: Pamper/Bath	3A	Raffle Basket: Gourmet, preserves & chocolate
1A	Raffle Basket: Gardening	3В	Raffle Basket: Gourmet, preserves & chocolate
1 B	Raffle Basket: Gardening	3C	Raffle Basket: Gourmet, preserves & chocolate
1C	Raffle Basket: Entertainment/Games	34A	Raffle Basket: Gourmet, preserves & chocolate
2A	Raffle Basket: Entertainment/Games	4A 4B 5A 5B	Bottles of Wine for Wine Tombola (office only) <b>OR</b> 200g Blocks of Chocolate for the Lob-A-Choc Game
2В	Raffle Basket: Sports	5C 6A 6B 6C	Canned Soft Drinks (4 or 6 packs) for the Can Toss Game and sale at Drinks Stall

## 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:



Looking for something BIG to do these summer holidays?

## JOIN THE BIG SUMMER READ!

For kids aged 5 to 12 years. Great prizes to be won!







# CALLING ALL 9, 10, 11 & 12 YEAR OLDS

# **COME AND TRY NETBALL**



TRAINING HELD AT J.E. MOORE RESERVE WEDNESDAYS 5:30-6:30PM

GAMES PLAYED AT DAREBIN COMMUNITY SPORTS STADIUM SATURDAYS AT 9:20AM & 10:10AM

The Lions Club of Melbourne Markets Proudly Presents International Entertainment's

# World Festival of Magic Online Show

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DARREN CARR Ventriloquist



JONAS JOST Illusionist & Mag<u>ician</u>



JADE TWIST Contortionist

Visit the website or scan the QR code below, and enter the password to access the video...

vimeo.com/showcase/msmelb21



Password: MAGIC2021

Please show your appreciation to the businesses that sponsored this event by sending a thank you email to <a href="mailto:thankyou@iepty.com">thank you email to thankyou@iepty.com</a>



Campbellfield Warehouse Sale Scholastic Warehouse 17 Production Drive, Campbellfield

#### 8am-5pm

- Wednesday 8th December
- · Thursday 9th December
- Friday 10th December









## follow this event on facebook 🕝

\*Selection may vary from image shown. One free book per customer. While stocks last. Payment methods EFTPOS, cash, VISA, MasterCard and school accounts. No Trade resellers.

www.scholastic.com.au/saleevents

