



*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:

### Grade and Specialists Roles for 2022

Staff have been allocated teaching roles for next year after much deliberation by leadership about teacher's best positions within the 19 grade structure and specialist subjects to be offered. All year level teams will work at a highly collaborative level similar to recent years, ensuring the curriculum content is the same with even stronger alignment of the daily teaching strategies becoming a focus of professional development and team meetings in 2022. Staff combinations for 2022 are as follows:

Year Level	Teaching Teams
Prep	Gab Goss, Rosie Serratore, Sarah McNamara
Grade 1	Joy O'Neill, Kerry Georgiou
Grade 2	Julie Waugh + Jack Fray, Angela Georgiou, Karen Elsbury + New appointment
Grade 3	Dean Emmanuel, Keara McIntyre + Lisa McLeish
Grade 4	Mollie Zammit, Ivy Callander + Paul Nicholson, Sarah Fry
Grade 5	Matt Atanasovski, Ajay Singh, New appointment (4 days) + Elyssa Agnoletti (1 day)
Grade 6	Laura Meredith, Ramzey Fayad, Dimi Efthymiou
Specialists	Art- Corinne Connor, Italian- Elyssa Agnoletti, Music- Milica Stefanovic, PE - Josh Grogan
Tutoring & Intervention	Maria Tevelis, Xenia Matani

There will be a small amount of staff movement with two part-time positions in Grade 2 and Grade 5 to be finalised next week after we work through the merit-based selection process.

### Staff Farewells

Sadly, we say farewell to a small number of staff which is quite common at the end of each school year. Firstly, we say good-bye and good luck to Megan McGowan who has been at the school for 11 years teaching in many areas from Prep to Grade 5. In between, she had two beautiful children when on maternity leave. Megan was reluctant to move schools but has the opportunity to work at a primary school very close to her home in the far eastern suburbs and, with young children, this makes sense when you have a growing family. Megan will be greatly missed as a dedicated and professional teacher who always gives above and beyond for Bell PS; in particular her work in the digital technology and eSmart spaces have been hugely beneficial for our school.

The second staff member who will be greatly missed next year is Brett Allen who will be moving overseas for most of 2022 with his young family. Brett has made a wonderful impression with staff, students, and parents/carers since we snapped him up for a teaching position in 2018 after seeing his potential when employed as a Casual Relief Teacher at the very start of his career. I have no doubt we will see Brett early next year back as a relief teacher before he heads off to live in Asia with his partner and young Eddie.

### **Swim Carnival**

Despite the ever-changing weather yesterday, we were able to run the inaugural Bell Swim Carnival for the Grade 3-6 students at Oak Park Aquatic Centre. With the cooler than expected conditions, we restructured some of the novelty events to give the children as much time as possible in the water as this was a warmer place to be. The facilities at the venue were outstanding and we plan to re-book at a similar time next year. This carnival aligns with Josh and my joint vision to create inclusive events for the students at Bell PS. Along with the Grade 4-6 Athletics Carnival and P-3 Mini Aths Day, these are examples of fun and purposeful multi-level activities in our overall plan. Scroll down to pages 7 and 9 for Josh's full report.

### **Grade 6 Graduation**

This special event is scheduled for next Tuesday starting at 10.30am here at school, and will have a similar format to last year given the range of restrictions still in place. Whilst the traditional graduation held at the town hall is always the preferred option, with the current climate and additional limitations related to COVID-19, the school option provides the best opportunity to deliver all presentations including the singing and dancing items plus catering for a lunch in a COVID safe way. These are all things that couldn't be done at the town hall venue. Having control of the event at school allows us to open it up to extended families of graduating students.

Next year will hopefully be a different situation and of course looking further into the future, we will have our own special events venue being the gym/hall, where we can hold many community focused events from 2023 onwards.

### **Final Assembly**

We are now able to hold a P-6 end of year assembly next Friday but need to structure it in a COVID safe way. Given it is outdoors, the assembly fits within current DET guidelines, however there will be the following additional safeguards in place:

- The P-2 and Gr 3-6 students will be in separate sections to be consistent with the different break times we are still running;
- Parents/carers will be asked to spread out and maintain 1.5m distancing on the south oval behind the two blocks of students;
- Whilst wearing masks is not mandated outside, they can still be worn for further protection;
- All visitors must be double vaccinated and use the QR Code on the nearby classrooms when entering the area.

We hope to see some of our community there to enjoy the performances by our Rock Band, Senior Vocal Ensemble and the State Schools Spectacular dancers. The final assembly will start at **12.45pm**.

### **First of Many Thanks**

Whilst next week's newsletter will have a long list of acknowledgements for the many volunteers who help out at Bell, I would like to start with a huge thank you to Kim Veale. Her tireless work every week sorting through lost property and re-opening the second-hand uniform shop is greatly appreciated by staff and parents/carers alike. Her co-volunteer Nicole Galea has been unable to help out during the second half of the year but our thanks goes out to Nicole as well for her past efforts. We are definitely looking for more helpers in this important role so let the office know if you are able to take on the task next year as it will be a sad farewell to the Fijan/Veale family next week.

### **Final Day - Dismissal Time**

As is the usual arrangement, the last day of the school year will **end at 1.30pm**.

***David Twite***  
***Principal***

## From our Assistant Principal:

### Semester Reports

Student reports are now accessible to parents online via Compass. A Compass Newsfeed item was posted today that included two supporting documents attached.

- The Letter to Parents/Carers outlines the Department of Education and Training's adjusted expectations to student reports for Semester 2 in recognition of remote and flexible learning during Term 3 and early Term 4, as well as information regarding student growth and achievement.
- The Bell PS Learning Assets document outlines our process of inquiry and provides an explanation of the Learning Assets. The Learning Assets will be referenced in your child's comments this semester.

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 require a hard copy.

To access your child's report through Compass, please open the App or browser, open your child's Profile (tap their photo), navigate to the Reports tab, then click on 2021 Semester 2 Reports. **If you are unable to see the Reports tab, please try refreshing your browser or logging out and back in.**

**GRADE 6 PARENTS:** Please print out any Reports you wish to keep as your Grade 6 child will no longer have a Compass Account at Bell PS after the last day of school this year.

*Emma Heywood*  
*Assistant Principal*

### **BOOK COVERING**

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.

## From the Office:

**Event Payments/Consents – DO NOT PRINT – DO NOT PRINT – DO NOT PRINT**

### **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!

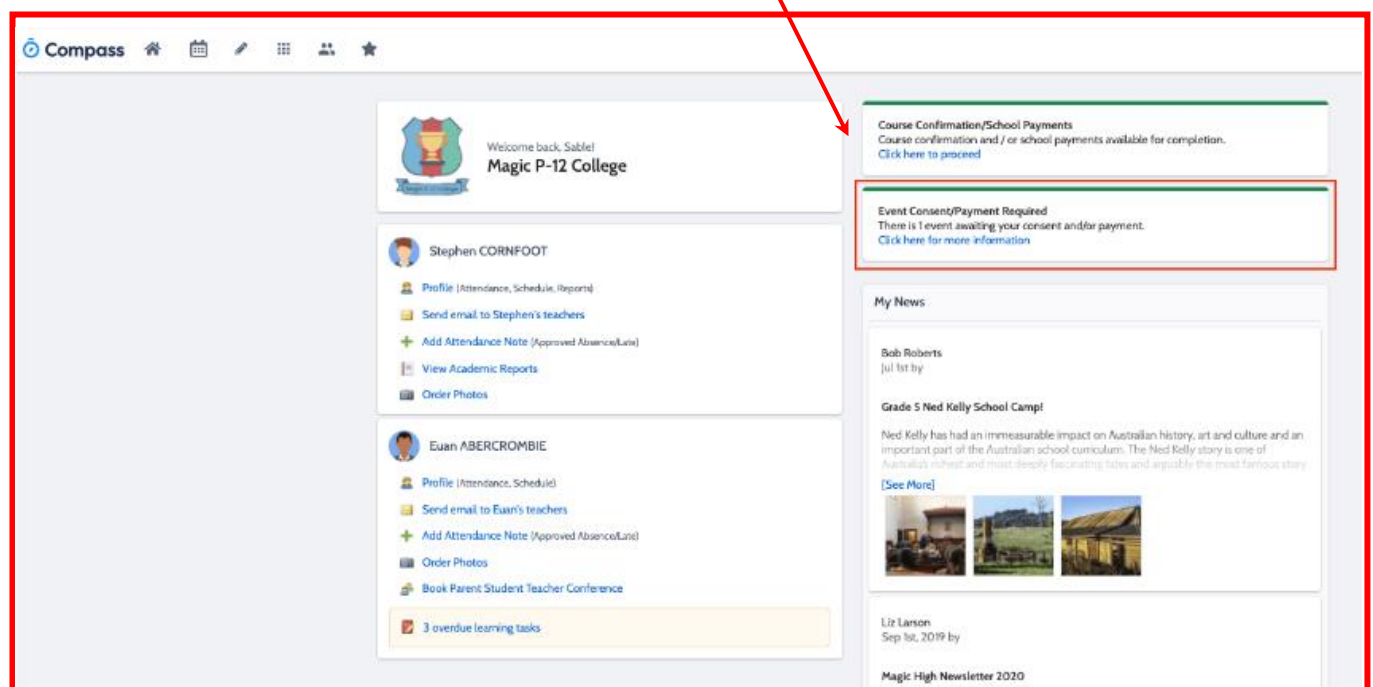
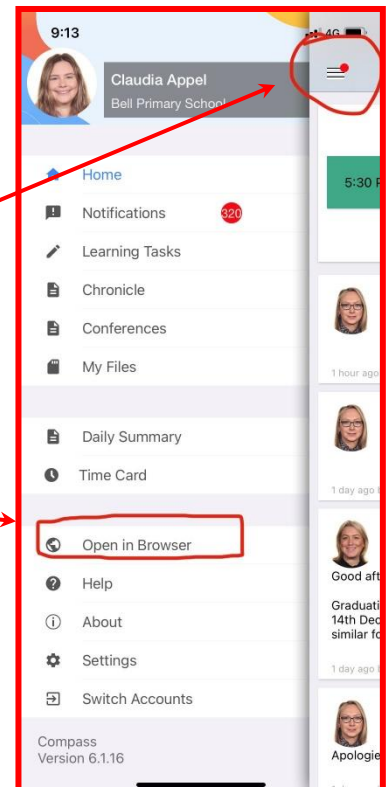
### **NEED ASSISTANCE WITH EVENT PERMISSION???**

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, AND DO NOT NEED, PAPER EXCURSION FORMS.** 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: (listed under <i>Excursions</i> in Qkr!)	DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
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

## 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.

## FACE MASKS - PLEASE HELP

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 every morning.** Thank you for assisting us with this important health issue.



## CLASSROOM CUISINE

Just a note to advise parents that the last day for lunch orders this year will be **Thursday 16 December**. Classroom Cuisine will be up and running again in 2022 from **Wednesday 2 February**.





# Diary Dates:

## 2021 Calendar – Term 4:

### DECEMBER

- 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: **Whole School Assembly, 12.45pm, South Oval**
- **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 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
<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			

## 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.



## Bell Swimming Carnival:

On Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of December, 300 odd students and staff braved the elements for the first ever Bell Primary School Swimming Carnival at Oak Park Aquatic Centre. There was a buzz in the air as students rolled into the centre and their eyes light up at the sight of the water slides and splash pad.

The day got off to a cracking start with seeing some of our students show off their very impressive butterfly abilities in the first races of the day. As the rain rolled in year levels all had opportunities to partake in some novelty events in the learn to swim pool. A big thank you to David for facilitating these events with the support of Mr A, Dimi and Miss Zammit.

The races continues in the 50m pool and the quality of swimming throughout the day and year levels was phenomenal. A special mention to Mr Nicko for being the Bell Primary lifeguard and spending near on 3 hours doing laps up and down the pool supporting all the students. Even after his many laps he was able to still come first in the Staff v Students race leaving the competition (Myself included) in his white wash, while swimming a butterfly that resembled that of Geoff Huegill at the 2000 Olympics.

To all the staff on the day I would like to offer my great thanks for your support not only for powering through the weather on the day but also your support leading up to the event. Please, if you get the opportunity, thank the following staff for their hard work. (Miss Meredith, Dimi, Jack, Belle, Mr A, Ramzey, Mrs McGowan, Mr Nicko, Miss Zammit, Mr Singh, Mr E, Sarah F, Mrs Mac, Lisa, Rein, Lily, Lucas and Jo and Tania from the office)

I would also like to say thank you to Emma and David for supporting this event in what has been a very busy and uncertain time. Through it all they have been flexible and done whatever necessary to give these students and the community a great day out.

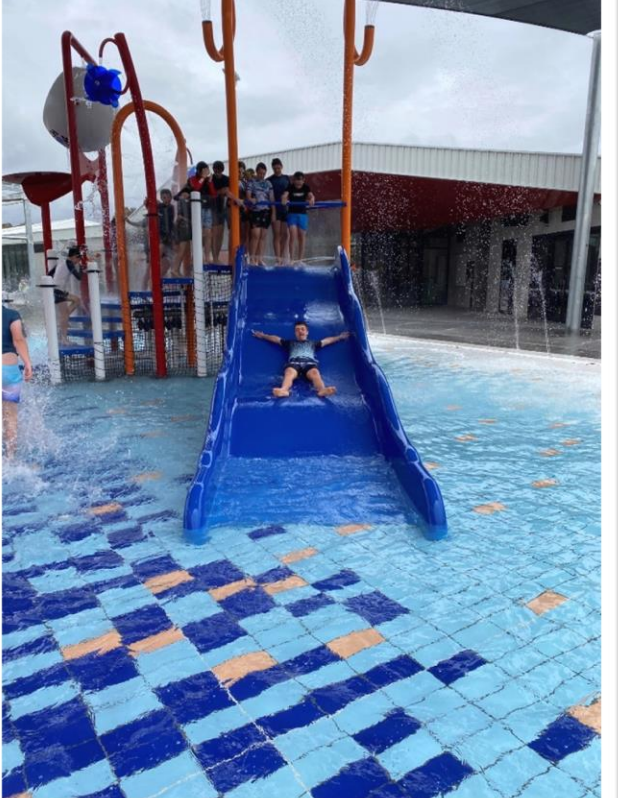
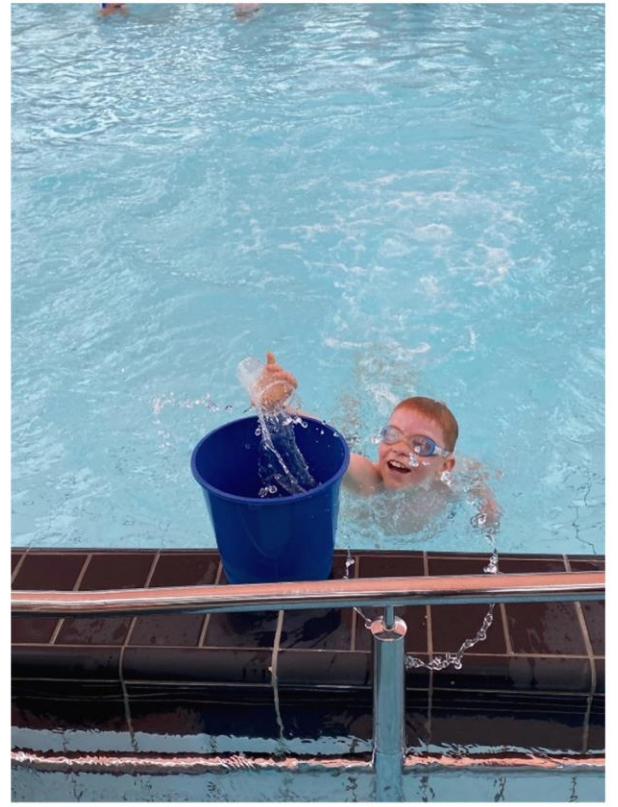
Finally I would like to give a special mention to the parents who came out to support the day, particularly Allison Farley, Clare Perry, Gerard Fennessy and Natalie Swann for standing out in the rain with stop watches in hand timing every race.

I am very pleased to say that the inaugural Bell Swimming Carnival was a huge success and will be back again in 2022.

**Josh Grogan**  
**P.E. teacher**









# SPECIALIST 'METAL OF HONOUR' AWARD

A huge CONGRATULATIONS to 3B for winning the 'Metal of Honour' Specialist Award for Term 4! A fantastic effort from the whole team.

3B have been working hard demonstrating the school values and working on the Learning Assets in all their Specialist classes.

Special mention to **6B in second place** and **5B in third place**. The Specialist team would like to congratulate every class in the school for doing an amazing job in all their Specialist classes.

Josh, Signora Elyssa, Miss Corinne and Ms S.





## ICY POLE DAY

**Wednesday 15 December - Second Lunch Break**  
**Bring along a Gold Coin**

Let's finish of the year with a little bit of ICY POLE DAY **FUN**draising!! 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 x1 icy pole.

If you would prefer your child to not participate in this FUNdraiser, please kindly let your child's teacher know prior to Wednesday.



## Mango Wrap Up!

A HUGE THANK YOU to Kate James, our amazing Mango Captain. Kate has captained this fundraiser for 3 years now and this year with her fabulous coordination, we sold a record 333 boxes, raising \$1,939.00 for Bell PS!

A big thank you to Kath, Nicola and Fran for their super-efficient distribution of the mangoes on Wednesday and a further thank you to the Bell community for coming together and collecting the trays of mangoes in a timely manner, making our job much easier.

We hope you enjoy your delicious mangoes!







## 12 weeks to our Fete

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



### 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.



### 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!

### 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	3B	Raffle Basket: Gourmet, preserves & chocolate
1B	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
2B	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

