

## **Bell PS Newsletter**

## **26 February 2021**

www.bellps.vic.edu.au

Principal: David Twite

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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.



## From the Principal:

#### **School Council Nominations**

After the closing date of nominations on Monday, we had two parent nominees who are now duly elected to School Council. Congratulations to Amber Griffiths and Meaghan Block.

As there were three vacancies, DET Election Guidelines require the Principal to call for further nominations to fill the final vacancy. New nominations must be lodged by *4pm on Wednesday 3 March*. Nomination forms can be collected from the office or emailed upon request. The new timeline for the rest of the election process will be advised via Compass next week.

#### **Maths Specialist Positions**

The school was recently successful in applying for additional staff funding for two new roles, being Maths Specialist Teachers. This is part of a Departmental initiative which will see real benefits for the whole school as the selected staff develop further expertise in the subject with additional training over the next two years.

The two staff selected though an internal merit-based process are Jack Fray and Paul Nicholson. This means they will spend half their week in class as usual, and the other half allocated to training and providing ongoing professional development for all teachers throughout the two-year initiative.

Jack's grade will now have a grade share teacher with the selection process being finalised at the moment, whilst Paul converts his part time status to full time, and therefore has no effect on his Grade 4B commitment. Parents from both grades have received separate communication about the changes.

This is a significant initiative for our school as it builds the capacity of two outstanding teachers to fulfil their new middle leadership roles and will allow us to ramp up our collective focus on improving the teaching of Mathematics. Ultimately, this initiative aims to improve learning outcomes for all students over time.

#### **New Art Teacher**

For the many parents/carers who attended information sessions this week, they would have seen an online glimpse of Miss Corrine the new Art teacher. Corinne has settled in extremely well and is already showing us her expertise in teaching art, and her background as a practicing artist.

During the transition from Anna Buchanan to Corrine, there was a technical glitch in the Compass system and Corrine's name did not appear in the Specialist Teacher option to select for a Getting to Know You meeting in week 7. This has now been rectified and if anyone wishes to meet with Corinne, they can revisit the 'Getting to Know You' booking section within Compass to make that selection. Specialists are available on Wednesday 10 March.

#### **Staff Maternity Leave**

As many families are aware, we have our amazing Art teacher Anna leaving us for a while and entering the next phase of her life...motherhood. Today is her last day and on behalf of the entire Bell community, we wish her the very best with the birth of her first child. We look forward to seeing Anna and her new born baby later in the year.

David Twite Principal

## From the Assistant Principal:

#### **Getting to Know You Meetings**

A reminder that the booking system on Compass *closes next Wednesday 3 March at 4pm*. Please do your very best to book in before the deadline to help keep things moving smoothly. However, if you miss the deadline, please contact the office staff who will help you with a time allocation.

#### **Information Sessions this week**

Thank you to the many families who joined their grade teacher online this week. We hope the presentations were useful for parents/carers to gain some insight into the teaching and learning foci for Term 1, as well as other important information about the year ahead.

The PowerPoint presentations will be sent to all families in the grade level via Compass over the coming days.

Emma Heywood Assistant Principal

## From the Office:

## **Important Dates 2021**



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MARCH	
• Wed 3:	New SC Nominations to be lodged <u>before 4pm</u>
• Wed 3:	Compass Bookings Close at 4pm for Getting
	to Know You Meetings
• Wed 3:	Preps to attend for interview time only
• Fri 5:	<b>Gr6</b> Sport v Preston South (A)
• Mon 8:	Labour Day Public Holiday
• Tue 9:	<b>Prep</b> Getting to Know You Meetings
• Tue 9:	Grade 6 Getting to Know You Meetings
• Wed 10:	Grade 2 Getting to Know You Meetings
• Wed 10:	Grade 5 Getting to Know You Meetings
• Wed 10:	<b>Specialists</b> Getting to Know You Meetings
• Thu 11:	Grade 1 Getting to Know You Meetings
• Thu 11:	Grade 3 Getting to Know You Meetings
• Thu 11:	Grade 4 Getting to Know you Meetings
• Fri 19:	Orders close for Carnevale Treats via Qkr!
• Fri 19:	<b>Gr6</b> Sport v Wales Street (H)

#### **APRIL**

• Thu 25:

• Thu 1:	Curriculum Day #3 (Student Free)
• Mon 19:	First Day Term 2

• Wed 31: Last Day Term 1 for Students, <u>3.30pm</u> dismissal

**Bell PS Whole School Carnevale** 

#### **MAY**

• Thu 20:	District Cross Country
• Tue 25 – Fri 28:	Proposed <b>Gr6</b> Camp

#### **JUNE**

• Tue 1:	School Photos
• Fri 11:	Winter Sport Carniva
• Mon 14:	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
• Mon 21 – Fri 25:	Proposed <b>Gr4</b> Camp
• Fri 25:	Last Day Term 2, 2.30pm dismissa

#### **JULY**

• Mon 12:	First Day Term
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#### **AUGUST**

District	Athletics
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#### **SEPTEMBER**

• Fri 3:	District Basketball
• Wed 15 – Fri 17:	Proposed <b>Gr5</b> Camp
• Fri 17:	Last Day Term 3, 2.30pm dismissal

#### **OCTOBER**

• Mon 4: First Day Term 4

#### **NOVEMBER**

• Tue 2:	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
• Wed 10:	District Triathlor

#### **DECEMBER**

Thu 9:	Bell Swimming Carniva
• Fri 17:	Final Day Term 4 202:

#### **2021 STUDENT TERM DATES:**

Term 1:	Friday 29 January – Thursday 1 April
Term 2:	Monday 19 April – Friday 25 June
Term 3:	Monday 12 July – Friday 17 September
Term 4:	Monday 4 October – Friday 17 December

## **Payments Due or Outstanding**

ITEM: (under <i>Payments</i> in Qkr!)	DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
All Grades: Bell PS Carnevale Day Treats (Bombolone or Pancakes)	Fri 19 Mar	\$2.50	Qkr!
ITEM: (under <i>Excursions</i> in Qkr!)	DUE BY:	AMOUNT:	METHOD:
Grade 6 (selected students only): Summer Interschool Sport	Wed 17 Feb	\$25	Qkr!

### **Classroom Cuisine Lunch Orders**

*Important note to Parents/Carers*: lunch orders cannot be guaranteed to arrive in time for the 11.30am eating time. As the next eating time is at 2.00pm, it is important to put extra food/snacks in your child's lunchbox just in case they have to wait until 2.00pm to eat their lunch order.



## **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund Applications**

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a *Veterans Affairs Gold Card*, *Centrelink Health Care Card* or *Pensioner Concession Card*, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

The payment amount this year is \$125 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office on 9480 5622 to request an application form. You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page.

Please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.

#### **Uniforms - New**

All Bell Primary School uniform pieces, including hats and bags, can be purchased from **PSW**, 12 Strathalbyn Street, Kew East, or anytime online at <u>PSW</u>. You can contact PSW on 9768 0381.



## **Uniforms - Second Hand**

Our Second Hand Uniform Shop is currently open on Mondays (volunteer Nicole) and Wednesdays (volunteer Kim) from 9.00am. The following regulations currently apply:

- Bookings must be made via the office on 9480 5622;
- No walk-ups;
- Bookings are for up to 10 minutes in length;
- STRICTLY CASH ONLY (gold coins and small notes);
- One adult per visit;
- Masks must be worn.

<u>UNIFORM DONATIONS</u>: Donations of 'Bell-branded' tops <u>only</u>, or non-branded dresses/shorts/pants – in good condition - can be made to the office at any time.

**GOLD COIN DONATIONS**: All monies raised from the Second Hand Uniform Shop is donated to State School Relief.

## Arriving Late? Leaving Early? Don't touch your Compass App!

The <u>ONLY</u> thing we need you to do is either sign in <u>late</u> at the office (WITH YOUR CHILD), or sign out early at the office. Emailing the teacher to advise details is totally optional.

## 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.





THIS YEAR, BELL PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS
WILL BE CELEBRATING
CARNEVALE ON THURSDAY, 25TH MARCH.

CARNEVALE IS AN ANNUAL FESTIVAL MOST NOTABLY HELD IN VENICE, ITALY. THE FESTIVAL IS RENOWNED FOR ITS INTRICATE AND ELABORATELY STYLED MASKS.

AS PART OF OUR CELEBRATIONS, STUDENTS WILL PARTICIPATE IN A WHOLE-SCHOOL CARNEVALE PARADE. ALL STUDENTS WILL CREATE A MASK DURING THEIR SCHEDULED ART CLASSES AND WEAR THEIR INDIVIDUAL MASK DURING THE PARADE.

DUE TO CURRENT RESTRICTIONS, THE PARADE WILL BE FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ONLY. HOWEVER, THE PARADE WILL BE FILMED AND SHARED WITH FAMILIES VIA COMPASS.

# Tours are back.

#### 2021 TOUR BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

Preston High School invites Grade 5 & 6 families to enjoy a personalised tour with Principal, Sean Butler and senior staff. Discover why the school has quickly developed a reputation for academic rigor and a wide range of enhanced curriculum opportunities for students. Welcome to a new era in education.







## THURSDAY 18 MARCH REGISTER ONLINE

Outstanding VCE results
Innovative, engaging curriculum
Renowned music program
Wide-ranging sporting opportunities



FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA (6) (7) @THORNBURYHIGH



\$14.9M STEAM CENTRE PROJECT UNDERWAY

## **BOOK ONLINE**

SCHOOL TOURS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



The Murdoch Children's Research Institute is conducting a study evaluating a possible new treatment for egg allergy.

To find out more, please contact our Allergy Research Nurses from the Allergy Immunology Research Group.

Email: egg.study@mcri.edu.au for more information

