



From the Principal:

I hope everyone has had a safe and relaxing time away from the hustle and bustle of work and school commitments sometime during the January break. Below is some key information to assist families for the start of the new school year.

Starting Dates

Schools across the state will have slightly different starting days for the students depending on local decisions about curriculum days. The Bell students will start on Thursday next week after the staff participate in 2 curriculum days on the Tuesday and Wednesday. Preps have a slight variation as they transition to school for the first time.

Tue 28 Jan - Curriculum Day #1 (student free day)

Wed 29 Jan - Curriculum Day #2 (student free day)

Thurs 30 Jan - **Grades 1-6** return to school plus a drop in day for new Preps

Fri 30 Jan - Grade Preps **Group A only**

Mon 3 Feb - Grade Preps **Group B only**

There might be some confusion for those families who use before or after care due to an incorrect message sent in recent days from our external provider OSHClub. Bell Primary is definitely open for all students next Thursday 30 January as flagged in many newsletters and bulletins late last year.

Staff Update

There are no changes to the staff list that was published in the December newsletter with no surprise departures over the summer holidays. The following new staff are commencing next week and I am sure they will get a warm welcome from the community:

- Sarah McNamara in Grade 2B
- Rosa Costa in Grade 3B
- Emily Grant in Grade 3C sharing the role with Julie Waugh
- Lily Zampatti in Grade 4B

In addition, there are a few on-going staff returning from leave:

- Karen Elsbury in Grade 1A sharing the role with Christine Rembelos
- Ivy Callendar in Grade 4C sharing the role with Paul Nicholson
- Josh Grogan in PE

Bushfires

Although the Preston area has not been directly in the path of the many fires across the state over the summer, we have all felt the impact in various ways. Please let us know via email to the school account if your child has directly or indirectly suffered some angst about the bushfires. Extended families may be affected which can play on young people's minds and in those cases the grade teacher can be another support to ease their worried minds.

Hats

A reminder that a broad brimmed hat must be worn every day until the end of April as part of our SunSmart policy. They are available for purchase at the front office for \$16 or head to the PSW shop in Kew.

Fees

The Essential Education Items Payment and Donation Request form is attached to this Newsletter. A copy will also be posted to your Compass Newsfeed. Payment is requested by Sunday 16 February. A reminder Statement will be sent home after this date.

David Twite
Principal

From the Assistant Principal:

Welcome back to Term 1. I hope everyone had a relaxing break and students are looking forward to returning to school. On a personal note, I am sincerely looking forward to my first full year at Bell Primary and getting to know additional members of our school community.

As communicated in our final newsletter for 2019, year level Information Nights will be conducted in Week 3 of this term. These sessions allow the timely sharing of information that is pertinent to your child's 2020 year level. We hope that with the advanced notice given at the end of last year, families will be available to attend the relevant meetings and strengthen the school/family partnership.

Each grade level team will be holding Information Sessions to outline key aspects of their programs to ensure parents and carers are well informed about routines, student expectations and learning practices that will be consistently implemented across the year level. While it is important that some information regarding our school processes is reiterated on a yearly basis, we are also wanting to communicate with parents with regards to areas of their child's schooling that they are seeking further information.

As a result of the feedback from our Reporting to Parents survey, we are offering for individuals to contribute ideas to help inform the agenda for the information evening, to ensure it is aligned to the needs of our parent/ carer community. If you have questions or topics that you would like considered for the agenda of the information session for a particular year level, please click on the link below:

bit.ly/bell2020info

This will close on Friday 31 January to enable staff time to consider the information requests of parents and determine the achievability of including particular questions or topics into the presentation.

Please note that this is an opportunity to contribute ideas for broader topics to be covered on the evening that are relevant to the year level cohort. Any information or questions that are relevant to your individual child are best addressed through a private discussion with their classroom teacher.

Parent Information sessions will be conducted on the following days and times:

Prep - Thursday February 6, 5:30-6:30pm
Grade 1 - Monday February 10, 5:30-6:30pm
Grade 2 - Tuesday February 11, 5:30-6:30pm
Grade 3 - Monday February 10, 6:30-7:30pm
Grade 4 - Wednesday February 12, 5:30-6:30pm
Grade 5 - Thursday February 13, 6:30-7:30pm
Grade 6 - Tuesday February 11, 6:30-7:30pm

Please note the above dates and times have been strategically allocated throughout the week in an attempt to reduce overlap for families with multiple children. The location of information sessions will be published in the newsletter next Friday.

Emma Heywood
Assistant Principal

Important Dates in 2020:

JANUARY 2020

- **Tue 28:** Curriculum Day #1 (student free)
- **Wed 29:** Curriculum Day #2 (student free)
- **Thu 30:** Grades 1-6 return to school
- **Fri 31:** Grade Preps – Group A only – start school

FEBRUARY

- **Mon 3:** Grade Preps – Group B only – start school
- **Mon 3:** Gr4-6 Swimming Trials, Northcote AC
- **Mon 3:** Classroom Cuisine resumes
- **Tue 4:** All students at school
- **Tue 4-Wed 12:** Various Gr4-5 Somer's Camp
- **Thu 6:** Prep Information Session, 5.30pm
- **Mon 10:** Gr1 Information Session, 5.30pm
- **Mon 10:** Gr3 Information Session, 6.30pm
- **Tue 11:** Gr4 Swimming #1
- **Tue 11:** Gr2 Information Session, 5.30pm
- **Tue 11:** Gr6 Information Session, 6.30pm
- **Wed 12:** Gr4 Information Session, 5.30pm
- **Thu 13:** Gr5 Information Session, 6.30pm
- **Thu 13:** Prep/Gr1 Picnic
- **Thu 13:** Gr4 Swimming #2
- **Tue 18:** Gr4 Swimming #3
- **Thu 20:** Gr4 Swimming #4
- **Thu 20:** School Council Meeting, 7pm
- **Tue 25:** Gr4 Swimming #5
- **Thu 27:** Gr4 Swimming #6

MARCH

- **Thu 5:** Prep Reading Information Session
- **Mon 9:** Labour Day Public Holiday
- **Wed 11:** Curriculum Day #3 (student free)
- **Fri 13:** Ride To School Day
- **Mon 16-Fri 20:** Neurodiversity Celebration Week
- **Thu 19:** School Council Meeting, 7pm
- **Fri 20:** Young Leaders Conference (Gr5/6 JSC + Captains)
- **Fri 27:** Cup Cake Stall
- **Fri 27:** Kid's Movie Night
- **Fri 27:** Final day Term 1, 2.30pm dismissal

APRIL

- **Tue 14:** First day Term 2
- **Wed 15-Fri 17:** Gr6 Camp: Waratah Bay
- **Sat 25:** ANZAC Day
- **Sun 26:** Kid's View Conference (Gr6)

MAY

- Tue 5:** School Photo Day #1
- Thu 7-Fri 8:** Mother's & Special Person's Day Stall
- Mon 11:** Grandparent's Day
- Thu 21:** School Photos Day #2
- Wed 27-Fri 29:** Gr5 Camp: Waratah Bay
- Wed 27-Wed 3:** Reconciliation Week

JUNE

- **Mon 8:** Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
- **Tue 9:** Curriculum Day #4 (student free)
- **Mon 22-Fri 26:** Gr4 Bike Ed Camp: Maldon
- **Fri 26:** Final day Term 2, 2.30pm dismissal

JULY

- **Mon 13:** First day Term 3

AUGUST

- Thu 7:** Trivia Night
- Fri 28:** Wear It Purple Day

SEPTEMBER

- **Thu 3-Fri 4:** Father's & Special Person's Day Stall
- **Fri 18:** Final day Term 3, 2.30pm dismissal
- **Fri 18:** Kid's Movie Night

OCTOBER

- **Mon 5:** First day Term 4
- **Tue 6:** Gr1 Swimming #1
- **Wed 7:** National Walk To School Day
- **Thu 8:** Gr1 Swimming #2
- **Tue 13:** Gr1 Swimming #3
- **Thu 15:** Gr1 Swimming #4
- **Tue 20:** Gr1 Swimming #5
- **Thu 22:** Gr1 Swimming #6

NOVEMBER

- **Tue 3:** Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
- **Sat 21:** Bell PS Fete

DECEMBER

- **Thu 3:** International Day for People with a Disability
- **Fri 18:** Final day Term 4

BELL PRIMARY SCHOOL 2020 ESSENTIAL EDUCATION ITEMS PAYMENT REQUEST & DONATION FORM



Essential Education Learning Items - per child - due 16th February 2020:

\$ 280

Student's Name: Class:
 Student's Name: Class:
 Student's Name: Class:
 Parent's Name:

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Family financial contributions are essential in maintaining the quality of the school's wide-ranging academic and co-curricular programs for all students. In line with DET Parent Payment Policy, the School Council requests parent payments as follows. These payments are critical to the school's ability to provide educational programs, facilities, amenities and services to an acceptable level for our community and beyond that which the Government funds.

Essential Education Items: \$280 per child

Books, Requisites and Learning Resources

- Textbooks, stationery and materials that the student takes possession of.
- Materials for learning and teaching where the student consumes or takes possession of the finished article.
- Access to online resources, software, and other communication and learning platforms.

Donations:

Donations provide direct enhancement to the learning environment through upgrades to facilities and grounds. Bell PS cannot rely on Government support for future projects so your support is essential. Contributions to the Building and Grounds Funds will maintain and enhance our facilities, supporting current and future generations of Bell PS students, .

Please tick a box below and follow the relevant instructions:

Full Payment p/child: \$280

Qkr! (preferred method) ☐
 Credit Card ☐
 Cash ☐

Total paid \$ _____

Building Fund Donation:

This **tax deductible** donation directly supports enhancing the school's learning environment, eg: upgrade or maintenance of school buildings.

Donation amount: \$ _____

Grounds Fund Donation:

This **non-tax deductible** donation enables us to maintain our gardens and grounds, including the newly restored south oval, for the benefit of our students and the community.

Donation amount: \$ _____

HOW TO PAY

Step 1: Make a payment via Qkr! (preferred method) or credit card.

Step 2: Please ensure payment is made by 16th February 2020

To support families having financial difficulties, we encourage you to make an appointment with Robyn Radford, Business Manager, on 9480 5622 to discuss a payment plan.