



From the Principal...

Bell's 90th Birthday

The official 'birthday' for Bell PS is sometime in August way back in 1928, which makes this grand old building 90 years old. But it's more than this majestic building; it's full of history, stories, faces and events that are captured in memories, photos and other artefacts. Scroll down to Page 3 to find a snippet of the early days at Bell. Thanks to Matt De Moiser for starting the search for the historical sources about Bell's journey. Know any budding historians? They are more than welcome to help with the search for other snippets of Bell history.

Remember, the 90th celebrations have been linked with an end of year school community event on **Friday 16th November**. Keep that date free for a historical day and an entertaining evening. The Community Engagement sub-Committee are organising the day. The team are keen for parents/carers, both present and past, to get involved. There are some exciting plans in the mix but more ideas and helpers are most welcome. Please contact School Councillors Ken Griffin: griffinscircus@gmail.com or Charles Beaton: charles@interconsult.com.au to get involved.

Wear it Purple Day

Next Friday will be inviting students, teachers and parents/carers to wear something purple to promote the important values of inclusiveness and diversity. This links in well with aspects of the Health and Human Development Program being delivered this term in an age appropriate way by class teachers. 'Wear it Purple' is about celebrating and supporting diversity and showing everyone that they can be proud of who they are. A message we support through our school values of Respect and Resilience in a non-political way.

Siblings & OSH Club Survey

The Sibling/OSH Club survey is a vital piece of data for our future planning and I am grateful that 215 of our 364 families have taken the time to fill in this short survey. However, to gain accurate information we need a much higher participation rate. Reminder emails have been sent recently to those families who are yet to complete the survey (*please do not reply with your answers via email*).

Student Led Conferences in Week 8: Monday 3, Tuesday 4 & Wednesday 5 September

A reminder that the online booking system is open for parents to book the times that suit them. Details on how to book was attached to last week's Newsletter. Please note the Booking System closes at 4.00pm on Wednesday 29 August.

Pick My Project

Further to my item in last week's newsletter requesting we all "Vote for Bell", I encourage you to print a copy of the flyer on Page 4 and post a copy in their neighbours' letter boxes, speak with other people in the community, and log onto the site and VOTE – www.pickmyproject.vic.gov.au.

Here are some details which may be of interest:

- There are 110 projects listed within a 5km radius of Bell PS - competition will be hot so we need everyone to vote for Bell;
- There is about \$1 million up for grabs in our part of Melbourne, which includes multiple local council areas;
- We are seeking \$192,000 to level the south oval, install an artificial turf running track and a natural turf infield, and create a great new outdoor space for the school that can be used year-round;
- Funding for the South Oval is not included in the building works that begin next year, and nor do we have a budget to do this without a grant like this one;
- **It takes about three minutes to register, login and vote.**

David Twite

Fathers' & Special Persons' Day Stall: Thursday 30 and Friday 31 August

Looking forward to the joy of Father's and Special Persons' Day stall **this coming Thursday and Friday**.

We are really short of helping hands to staff the Friday stall – please sign up to help at <http://signup.com/go/krArSiR>.

Thank you to those who have kindly donated some amazing products already. Don't be afraid to just have a go at baking, re-purposing or crafting. Please drop all donations in the box under the table at reception and enjoy the win/win of the children shopping for themselves. And don't forget send your children along on Thursday & Friday with their money in a named envelope or purse to shop up!



Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge finishes on **Friday 7 September**. All books need to be entered online by this date so they can be verified and counted towards this year's Challenge. So far, 35 students have completed the Challenge!

Friday Lunch Orders

Stanley has advised us that next **Friday 31 August** will be the last of the Friday Lunch Orders for Term 3. They will resume in the first week of Term 4.

Important Dates for Term Three

AUGUST AUGUST AUGUST AUGUST

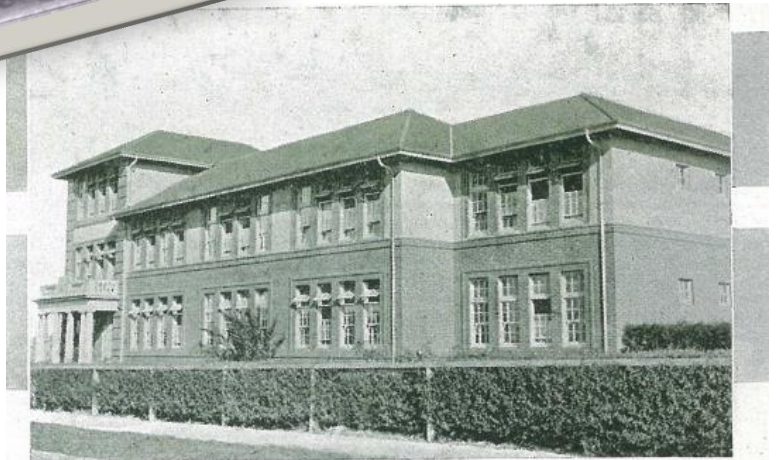
- Sat 25-Sun 26: Tournament of the Minds, LaTrobe Uni
- Wed 29: Student-Led Conference Bookings Close 4pm
- Thu 30: **Gr 2** Swimming #4, Northcote Aquatic Centre
- Thu 30: **Gr 4 (+3/4M)** Dromkeen Excursion
- Thu 30: Fathers & Special Grown Ups Day Stall #1
- **Fri 31: Last Day of Stanley's Lunch Orders for Term 3**
- Fri 31: Fathers & Special Grown Ups Day Stall #2

SEPTEMBER SEPTEMBER SEPTEMBER

- Mon 3: Student-Led Conferences (Gr1)
- Tue 4: Student-Led Conferences (Preps, Gr2, 3/4M, 4, 5/6)
- Wed: Student-Led Conferences (Gr3)
- Wed 5: **Gr 5/6** Dromkeen Excursion
- Thu 6: **Gr 2** Swimming #5, Northcote Aquatic Centre
- Fri 7: Premier's Reading Challenge ends
- **Fri 7: Curriculum Day (Student-Free Day)**
- Mon 10: **Gr 2** Swimming #6, Northcote Aquatic Centre
- Mon 10: District Athletics, Collingwood Harriers Track
- Fri 21: Final Day Term Three, 2.30pm dismissal



Happy 90th Birthday Bell!



BELL STATE SCHOOL.

One of the newest schools in the district is State School No. 4309, situated in Scotia Street, at the corner of Oakover road. It was opened on August 13, 1928, with 480 pupils, and at present this number has grown to 700. In addition to 13 classrooms, it has been found necessary to use the adjacent Methodist Sunday School to house some of the scholars. Mr. R. O'Brien has been in charge of the school since its opening, and has a staff of 16 teachers to assist him. Although the whole of the grounds have had to be filled in and drainage attended to, such progress has been made that the school twice has won the prize for the best garden and grounds in the district.



as first headmaster.¹⁹ The Bell school, opened in August of the same year in Oakover Road with Robert O'Brien as headmaster, had nearly 600 pupils on the roll in the early months of 1929. It was erected on low-lying, swampy lands. Hundreds of loads of earth had to be spread in the yard. Scotia Street, on its east side, was an unmade street in the early days of the Bell school, and the first pupils experienced great difficulty in even reaching the school after heavy rain.²⁰

Bell Primary Community Sports Oval

Bell Primary School in Scotia Street, Preston is seeking funds to upgrade its sports oval from 'dust bowl' to 'super bowl'. The sports oval will be used by the school and also local community sporting groups including the Darebin Falcons.

To win we need your VOTE.

If you live within 5kms of Bell PS, then please:

1. Go to www.pickmyproject.vic.gov.au
2. Sign up and register your location.
3. Search for "Bell Primary School Community Sports Oval"
4. **VOTE FOR BELL PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

**PICK MY
PROJECT**

