







Welcome back to school for 2016. I have had a refreshing and relaxing break and I am grateful to the Leadership team for their efficient running of the school in my absence.

The first day of school went very smoothly. There is a calm atmosphere and a very positive buzz in the air. The children enjoyed their first day and most parents were happy to see the school routine start up again.

We welcome 6 new staff to the school.

Jade Bedford - Prep B

Kerry Georgiou - 1/2K

Lachlan Raven - 5/6T

Maria Daskalou - 1/2M

Lisa Bass - 5/6L

Daniel Guglielmini - 3/4G

The website is regularly updated and you will find it very useful in keeping up to date and finding out what is happening. The info pack DET will begin installing a lift in the main building sometime in the near future. We have emptied what was the Prep room in preparation. This project will cause some considerable disruption and we will need to work around it.

Future Planning

The school is currently going through the process of establishing an enrolment ceiling. Once approved the places will be offered to those families for whom we are the closest school, siblings of current students and all other students in order of their closeness to the school.

This DET decision will take the pressure off our resources and allow for more predictable planning.

Use of Grounds

I regularly write in the Bell News about the use of school grounds after hours. The vast majority of people use the grounds respectfully and enjoy the open spaces and equipment. However

A big THANK YOU to Julie Kelly who went above and beyond the call of duty in helping clear out and dry out the uni-

form shop after being flooded by the weekend downpour. The smell was horrendous so it really was a big ask.



there are occasionally behaviours by some that are inappropriate and create a risk to the health and safety of others.

There has been a group of teenage boys hanging around in the school grounds in recent weeks. They have been behaving dangerously and have been threatening and offensive to both staff and families. We also had to clean up broken glass on the basketball court for the start of school.

The grounds are closed on one Sunday per month to allow the Department of Justice team to do their work in the grounds. They do essential basic cleaning and maintenance for us but have to leave if others are in the grounds (see Bell News Dec) The school grounds are not public space and are DET property. I have the right to deny access to the grounds at anytime.

If you are aware of any dangerous or inappropriate behaviour in the grounds after hours please dial 000 and inform the police. Please give me a call or send an email if there is anything I need to know about.

If you should want to use the grounds for family events such as a birthday party, please check with the school first. For safety reasons I schedule work such as tree pruning or maintenance on weekends. The lift installation project will create a building site and movement of plant and equipment that may well require the grounds to be closed on weekends. It is unwise to allow your children to play in the grounds unsupervised.

Please take note of any signs or locked gates informing you that the grounds are closed.

The dates for the Bell Sunday crew this year are:

14th Feb 13th March

24th April 22nd May

19th June 17th July

14th August 11th September

9th October 6th November

4th December

Cresten Pearce

Principal

New Bell Times

The start and end time bells are the same but we have new bell times during the day for recess and lunch:

9.00 Start of School

10.40 Recess

11.10 End of Recess

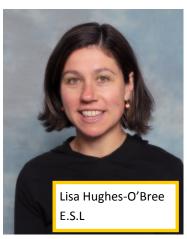
12.50 Lunch

1.50 End of Lunch

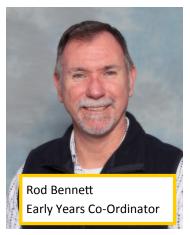
3.30 End of School

3.45 End of Yard Supervision

Bell Bell Bell Call 2016









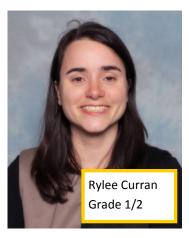


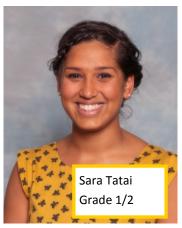






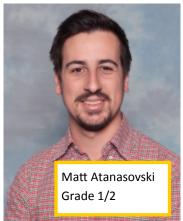














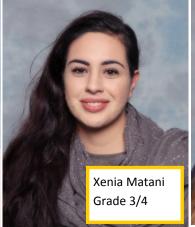






























Bell Roll Call 2016















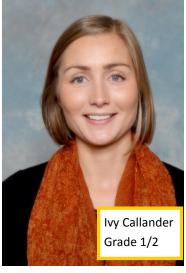












Bell Roll Call 2016

COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

How do I receive information about school?

| What | Information | How | When |
|--|---|--|---|
| Bell News | General school news | hard copy sent home with your child, by | Fortnightly, |
| School Calen- dar | Monthly calendar information Notices reminders | hard copy sent home with your child, by email and on the website | Fortnightly, Alternates with Bell News |
| Grade news- letters | Area specific infor- mation, grade news, timetables and up- coming events, stu- dents work and con- tact details | hard copy sent home with your child, by email and on the website | Beginning of every term |
| Grade level blogs Specialist area blogs | Area specific infor- mation, grade news, timetables and up- coming events, stu- | Links published through grade newslet- ters,on the webpage and in Bellnews | Online 24/7 |
| Webpage | Sections include News Our Profile Transitions Community Policies and forms Oshclub Extra-curricular Gallery Links Contact | http://www.bellps.vic.edu.au | Online 24/7 |
| Reports | Bellnews extra Teacher comments and student assess- ments on academic and social develop- | Hard copy sent home with your child | At the end of terms 2 and 4 |
| 3 way Conferences | Teacher, parent and student meetings held to set student goals and share pro- | Meetings are publicized and parents make booking online. A flyer is sent home to parents giving booking infor- mation and details | In early term 1 and at the end of term 2 every year. |
| Information Sessions | Grade management details, curriculum information, commu- nity interest topics | Advertised through Bellnews, grade newsletters, webpage and email | Across the school year and usually in the early evening |



COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

Want to talk to someone?

| Contact the teacher | Any school matter relating to your child | In person | School business |
|---|--|--|-------------------------|
| | or family. It may be necessary to book a | By phone | hours or anytime online |
| Contact the area | | 9480 5622 | |
| coordinator | meeting time. | By email | |
| Contact the Welfare coordinator, | | Email addresses are pub- lished in newsletters and grade information handouts | |
| Principal or Assistant Principal | | Any email sent to bell.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au | |
| If not sure who you need, contact the office staff and they will help. | | will be forwarded on. | |
| Office Staff | Any administration | In person | School office hours |
| Uniform Coordinator | matters such as ex- | By phone | are 8.30 am to |
| | cursion charges, fees, uniform orders and | 9480 5622 | 430pm on school days |
| | enrolment details. | By email | |
| | | Any email sent to bell.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au | |
| Llooful Links | | will be forwarded on. | |

Useful Links

http://www.bellps.vic.edu.au

http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/primary/Pages/default.aspx

http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/Pages/default.aspx



Curriculum Day Friday March 4th

This is a pupil-free day so no students are to attend school on this day. However, Oshclub may run for the day depending on numbers. Please see in Ann in Oshc to express interest in attending.



Bright Sparks Creative Workshops Sessions at Bell Primary School - Term 1

Bright Sparks is a creative arts program designed to help children learn about themselves and develop a sense of inner strength, promoting confidence, resilience and general wellbeing.

Children create artwork that is meaningful to them through a variety of creative media such as; painting, drawing, clay and recycled art materials.

Sessions are run by an Art Therapist and are beneficial for all children from Prep to Grade 3. Individual Art Therapy sessions are also available.

3.30pm - 5.30pm Tuesdays, commencing February 16. \$150 / \$130 (concession) for a 6 week course or \$30 per session. The Art Room, Bell Primary School.

Bookings essential by Friday, February 12. Contact Naomi on 0421 914 220 or email: naomi@brightsparks.id.au

Naomi Williams (M. A. Arts Therapy) is a Creative Arts Therapist with 11 years experience facilitating creative workshops, individual art therapy sessions and resilience programs for children.





ABN 83 635 484 779

Keyboard/Piano and Guitar Lessons

Classes will be commencing next week from Monday, February 8th.

Look out for an email late this week regarding your child's lesson day/time.

Please make sure I have your current contact details (email address). For any other enrolment queries please contact me on 9480 0235 or jacintagn@optusnet.com.au.

Regards,

Jacinta Guerin



Save the Date: Monday 7th March 2016 7.30pm - 9.00pm

What: Sexual Health Education for Parents

Where: Bell Primary School

Who: Parents and carers from Bell Primary School Learn how to tailor conversations with your children about:

- ✓ Healthy, Positive & Respectful Relationships
- ✓ Conception and Birth
- ✓ Body Safety
- ✓ Puberty
- ✓ Internet and social media safety

More details in the coming weeks

www.talkingthetalksexed.com.au

Interested in Violin lessons at Bell Primary?

Violin lessons at Bell are available during school hours with Violin teacher Renee Bufton. Lessons are avail-

able for all year levels and abilities. A small number of violins are also available for hire per term. If you would like any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me or collect a parent information sheet from the office.

email: <u>reneebufton@gmail.com</u>

phone: 0402 307370

website: <u>www.reneebufton.com</u>



Qkr! – The Preferred Payment Option at Bell Primary

Qkr! by MasterCard is a FREE live app that is the preferred method of payment for families at Bell Primary School.



After downloading the app and registering, simply scan the QR code on the left using the Qkr! code scanner or type BELLPS after tapping the magnifying glass on the top right of the home screen of Qkr!

Qkr!

The app will then always recognise you as part of the Bell Primary School community making future payments even easier.

Using Qkr! you can pay your Essential Items (Books & Requisites Levy), Camps, Excursions, Interschool Sport, etc. Optional Extras and Voluntary Financial Contributions can also be paid using Qkr! and when purchasing items with our Uniform Shop.



Google play Qkr! will also provide you with your receipt confirming that your payment has been successful.

Please note that your child's payment reference number i.e. 14309XXXXX can only be used for them and not their siblings.

Download the Qkr! app today on Google Play or the App Store.



NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL - TOURS AND OPEN DAY 2016

School Tours commencing Tuesday 9 Feb

School day tours for prospective parents and students run several times per week in Term 1 and early Term 2. The tours depart from our foyer at 9.10 am and take about one hour. See our website for exact Term 1 dates. Please ring to book a place as numbers are limited (9488 2300)



School Open Morning - Wednesday April 27, 2016

Open Morning will be held on Wednesday 27 April between 9 am and 12 noon. All prospective parents and students are welcome, and there is no need to book in advance for this event.

There is an information session at 6.00pm that night, for parents who were not able to come during the Open Morning

ACE Program Testing - Saturday May 7(TBC)

Further information on the ACE program is on our website

Applications close Friday 22 April.

Northcote High School, St, Georges Rd, Northcote, 3070, Australia. Phone 9488 2300

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The National Disability Insurance Scheme is the new way of providing individualised support for people with disability, their families and carers. Disability could affect anyone and having the right support makes a big difference. The NDIS provides eligible people a flexible, whole-of-life approach to the support needed to pursue their goals and aspirations and participate in daily life.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will ensure that people with disability are given every opportunity to make their own decisions and exercise choice and control. They recognise that the role of families and carers is often essential in supporting people with disability to realise these goals and will include them in discussions about supports.

The NDIS will provide information, referral and linkage to ensure families and carers are able to access supports in the community to assist them in their role. Guardians or nominees of people with disability play an important role in the NDIS to represent the interest of the person and they can contact us on behalf of the person.

Information for families and carers:

The National Disability Insurance Agency knows that families and carers, are partners in the support of people with disability. Access to the NDIS website is found at www.ndis.gov.au

Roll out of the full scheme will commence progressively from July 2016.

In preparation for the Roll out of the NDIS Croxton School and Bell Primary School are holding joint parent/carer information training sessions. The proposed dates are:-

Monday, 22 February, 2015 Monday, 29 February, 2015 Monday, 7 March, 2015 Monday, 21 March, 2015

These sessions are 3 hours in duration and will be scheduled from 9:30am to 12:30am at Croxton School.

159 Beaconsfield Parade, Northcote VIC 3070 (03) 9482 5482

National Disability Insurance Scheme Introduction Program: Carers, families & the system

Program Outline

The health sector is rapidly consolidating the move from service-directed to a consumer directed approach with the introduction of NDIS. For some carers, this period of transition may create a sense of uncertainty. There may be a struggle to build a new set of skills, a process to deal with the present, and move towards the new. This program explores future planning and offers carers an opportunity to acknowledge their current situation and to work towards a sustainable future.

The target audience is carers looking after someone with a disability. Carers will have access to a range of resources and an invitation to engage with other carers in an online discussion forum following the program.

The program consists of 4 x 3 hour sessions. Carers are asked to commit to all sessions, as each builds on the last. They also need to attend without the person they care for.

Session 1: Preparing for change

- · Exploring the changes in disability care
- · Why think ahead?
- · What's person-centred planning?

Session 2: Adapting to change

- · Emergency planning
- · Making a start on future plans
- · Expanding social & community networks

Session 3: Managing the plan

- · What are the options?
- · Building skills
- · Where to get help?

Session 4: Making your voice heard

- · Know your rights
- · Communicating with Professionals
- Advocacy



Events Calendar

February 2016

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Ξ : | Sat | Sun |
|---|-----|-------------------------------|--|------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| | N | 3 Prep Intro Interviews 1 | 4 3.15 Uniform Shop | σ | 6 | 7 |
| 8 Playgroup 9.00–11.00 9.00 Jnr Assembly 8.45 Uniform Shop | • | 10 Prep Intro Interviews 2 | 11 3.15 Uniform Shop | 12 | ᅜ | **Sunday Crew - Crounds |
| Playgroup 9.00-11.00 | 16 | 17 Prep Intro Interviews 3 | 18 3.15 Uniform Shop | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 9.00 Snr Assembly 8.45 Uniform Shop | | | Year 3/4 Kite Festival Workshop 7.00-9.00 Fundraising Suggest Fest | | | |
| 22 Playgroup 9.00–11.00 9.00 Whole School Assembly | 23 | 24 Prep Intro Interviews 4 | 25 3.15 Uniform Shop | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 8.45 Uniform Shop | | | | | | |

school grounds under the direction of the manager. The grounds are closed on these days to allow them to go about their tasks uninterrupted. Please observe all signage **The Sunday Crew is a Department of Justice team who work here on one Sunday each month from 8.30am until 4.30pm. They complete various maintenance and garden works around the