

Feb 16, 2016



BELL NEWS FORTNIGHTLY



In the 5/6 rooms, one of the 'start-up' activities was a newspaper scavenger hunt. This activity encouraged cooperation between students, with each taking on a different role, and having to communicate effectively to find and record a number of items in newspapers and magazines.

The students in 5/6O worked extremely well with classmates, both old and new, during this task – and had lots of fun in the process!





Qkr! - The Preferred Payment Option at Bell Primary

Using Qkr! you can pay your **Books & Requisites Levy, Camps, Excursions, Interschool Sport, etc.**, directly from your mobile phone, iPad, laptop, etc. **Donations** to our **Grounds** and/or **Building Fund** can also be paid using Qkr! You may even order uniform items with our **Uniform Shop** which you can then elect to have sent home with your child saving you the need to come in personally!

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

Please note that your child's **payment reference number** (shown at the bottom of your Family Statement) i.e. 14309XXXXX may only be used for the students included on that statement.

Download the Qkr! app today.



CSEF

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund.

We need your applications by **Monday 22nd Feb!**

Are you entitled to financial help for Camps, Sports & Excursions?

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. \$125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students, with \$225 per year paid for eligible secondary school students. A special consideration eligibility category also exists. Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student.

For further information, please see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/Pages/csef.aspx>

Applications forms have been sent home but are also available from the carousel in the office.

We need these back to the office for processing by this coming **Monday February 22!**

Also, if you received CSEF last year, you will need to reapply this year. Following this re-application, you will probably not need to apply again for the following years.



There are lots of ways you can get involved in the school and make the contribution that matches the needs of you and your family.

This week the Parent information evenings are being held across the school where you can find out how the grades will be working for the year.

Do not worry if you can't make it. Contact your grade teacher and they will send out any information you may have missed.

If you are interested in Fundraising come along on Thursday evening to the Fundraising Suggest Fest (7.30 MPR). It will be a way of meeting fellow fundraisers and giving and getting a few ideas to get the 2016 ball rolling.

The information is included today in Bell News on the upcoming Sexual Education Talk for families. Vanessa Hamilton, parent, is providing this valuable service for our families for free. Vanessa and other parents are also working with staff on developing the new policies on Respectful Relationships. We are so lucky to be able to work together with such professional experts who are part of our community.

One of the key ways we share information with you is through email. Please make sure we have your correct details so we can set up the 2016 distribution lists. You can always email the [Bell P.S. email](#) and we will redirect your email to the person concerned.

A parent neighbour has alerted me to the use of the grounds by dog owners after hours. This was much appreciated and has prompted me to arrange a review of our signage across the school. You only have to clean up the mess off a prep's shoes

once to know how important this is. Thanks to that parent for the neighbourhood watch approach.

Our School Council elections are coming up soon and this may also be of interest to you.

If you are not sure who to ask, the friendly office staff will always point you in the right direction.

Education State

The Government is showing its commitment to improving education standards by rolling out some fundamental changes to school structures over the next few weeks.

I do not know how much media coverage this will receive but we are in interesting times. I will keep the community informed of how this directly impacts upon our school.

Lift Update

The tentative proposed start date for the lift installation is at the end of this term. Until the lift is completed we will be unable to run our normal assembly schedule due to the lack of a protected covered area. We will schedule a whole school assembly on the first Monday in each month and on the last day of term. (The next being on Monday March 7.) The Areas will hold their meetings across the week as it suits their program and when space is available.

Stolen water meters.

I arrived at school early last week to find someone had stolen our water meter from the main water connection to the school. Luckily we have a second source so we kept on with business as usual. Water meter theft appears to be a problem across the area and I understand they metres are being sold for scrap for \$25. Doesn't quite match the inconvenience this is causing for all of the community.

Cresten Pearce Principal

CALLING ALL FUNDRAISERS NEW & OLD!
We need you! AT THE BELL PRIMARY 2016 FUNDRAISING SUGGEST FEST

Got an idea? Want to be part of the plan? Been meaning to come along and find out what's going on with Bell Fundraising?
Now's your chance. No strings attached ;)

Bring your good selves and your brilliant ideas to a workshop style evening to help us talk and chalk out a plan for 2016!

THURSDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2016
7:00-9:00PM,
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM, BELL PRIMARY.
Drinks and nibbles provided

For more info contact Tash at
bellpsfundraising@gmail.com
If you can't make it but have a great idea, feel free to email me your thoughts and I'll put them to the group.



The View from Above. For those wanting to know if we have Solar Power at Bell, we most certainly do! Around 50 panels reside on top of the Mezzanine area of the main building providing us with a majority of our power.

This photo was taken during a roof inspection last Wednesday.

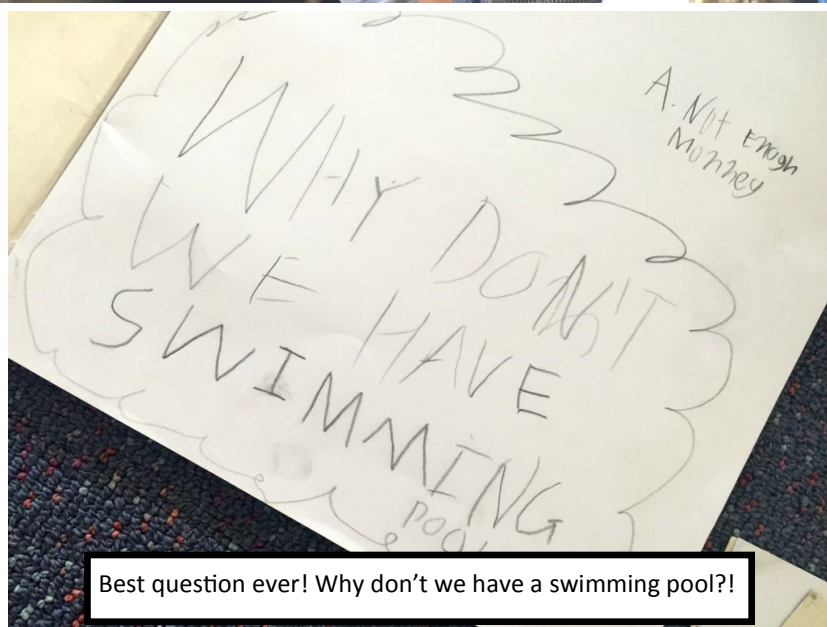
Inquiry in 1/2C and G

This week during inquiry the students in 1/2C and 1/2G we have been learning about questions and the type of questions we can ask to get the most information. To help us become great at posing questions we have learnt about the difference between open and closed questions.

As our inquiry topic this term is 'The Environment' students were encouraged to think of any questions they had about our school environment. The students came up with some **GREAT** questions. We were lucky enough to have Ms Pearce and Marg visit us to answer some of these! Ms Pearce and Marg were able to answer our questions and helped us problem solve how we could find out how old the school is, how many trees there are and how much the school cost to build- we can't wait to get working on these and report back to them with our answers!



In their first press conference of the year, Ms Pearce and Marg get grilled by the Grade 1/2 students.



Best question ever! Why don't we have a swimming pool?!



"...Brilliant, every parent should have access to this talk..."

"...This talk was very helpful to me as a parent of both a kinder and a primary school child, thank you..."

"...Such a clear presenter – easy to listen to, I liked the humour as it took the pressure off heavy topics..."

"...I feel a lot more confident talking to my kids now..."

Sexual Health Education for Parents of Pre & Primary School Age Children

Learn how to tailor conversations with your children about:

- Healthy & Respectful Relationships
- Body Safety
- What is Normal Early Childhood Sexual Behaviour
- How Babies Are Made
- Puberty Preparation
- Internet Safety

Learn how to choose suitable information about sexual health:

- What is appropriate for my family?
- How much do I need to tell them?
- At what age should I discuss these topics?

Monday

7th March 2016

7.30pm - 9.00pm

Where: Bell Primary Primary School

Scotia St, Preston

Who: Parents and Carers from

Bell Primary

(Not suitable for children to attend)

www.talkingthetalksexed.com.au

Presented by Vanessa Hamilton

More than 20 years experience as a

Sexual Health Nurse & Educator and is a Mother of three.

Vanessa is also a parent at Bell Primary and is providing the session free of charge to the school.



For Your Information: Talking The Talk will be filming Vanessa (only) during this presentation.

*together we are creating a
healthy school*

achievement
program



The Achievement Program is a jointly funded initiative of the State Government of Victoria and the Australian Government.



The Wellbeing Team will be continuing to work towards 'The Achievement Program: Healthy Together School' accreditation. The various working parties for this team is made of staff, students and parents. This year we will continue to focus on the 'Physical Activity', 'Sexual Education' and Drug Education.

For more information please visit: <http://www.achievementprogram.healthytogether.vic.gov.au/>

As part of the school review we will also be doing a complete review of our 'Well Being' framework.

News from the Wellbeing Team!



Sun Protection

During the seasons of Summer, Autumn and Spring, every child needs a broad brimmed hat or a Legionnaire hat that protects the face, neck and ears for outside play. Caps do not offer enough protection and are not recommended by Sun Smart. Please help your child remember to bring and wear their approved hat. If your child does not have a hat, they will be required to stay in the shelter shed.

We also encourage students to bring in their own sunscreen that they can apply themselves. The roll on sunscreen is sometimes easier for younger children to use. Teachers are not permitted to apply sunscreen on children.



Healthy Eating and Oral Health

Thank you to the families that have been sending their children to school with water bottles. Along with their lunch, having a water bottle is an important item for school. Students are encouraged to drink water during class times so they can remain hydrated without missing out on valuable learning time. They are able to refill their bottles during outside

play.

Stay tuned for more updates and please feel free to see Maria Tevelis or Ruth Vonarx if you have any questions or feedback.

Lego Club Is Back!

Ninety - One students joined Ruth Vonarx and Lachlan Raven in the first Lego club session for the year. Everyone had a lovely time sharing ideas and making new friends. Lego Club is each Thursday in the first half of lunchtime.



5/6 Interschool Sport Reports:

Due to the fact that there are so many grade 6s, the grade 5s are getting to practice for next year's upcoming interschool sports. Preston South visited our school on Friday and they had a bat tennis team, which we do not. Luckily some of the grade 5s got to play bat tennis against Preston South. It was a fun and enjoyable game. All of the grade 5s found our first Friday sport session to be a fun experience and we look forward to next Friday. Teagan, Eve and Tahlia.

It was hard to know who won the bat tennis games, but we know that we all had a great time and we hope that we won. Mitchell

It was fun and all the other teams were good sports. Dan

It was good. Elliot F Some people lost and some people won. Oscar.

It was good because we got to practice and play with the other school. Ayesha.

It was fun. Nic

Unfortunately Preston South Primary School didn't have a softball team, however we made use of the time that we had and did a bit of training. A few of us had a go at pitching and catching. We all had a go at batting and learnt that fielding positions. It was good to have a practice and prepare for upcoming matches. By default we won that match and all had fun. Romy and Rahima

The cricket team was excited to play their first game. We tossed the bat and they called 'roofs', so we got to choose bowling or fielding first. Preston South got 59. When we batted we finished on a whopping 86 points, but unfortunately we lost 40 points. It was still a good, challenging game. Mariana

On Friday 12th, the mixed and girl's rounders teams played Preston South. The mixed team won 17 - 0. The girl's won 8 - 2. Both games were fair and fun. Max H took an amazing catch, Will hit the ball, with such force that he lost his grip on the bat and sent it flying, luckily no one got hurt. Albert ran the whole 4 bases, even though he only needed to run to the first base to get another home run for his team. A special thanks to Sarah Stafford who filled in for the girl's team. She played really well. Albert, Riley and Will.

Former Bell Student Yianni Rowlands wins Tropfest Jr 2016!

Congratulations to Mira's (Grade 3/4) big brother Yianni for winning Tropfest Jr this weekend in Sydney.

Yianni's amazing animated video "Chess People" can be seen at <https://youtu.be/ltJTaualzMM>. It is well worth 3.41 of your time to view it! Incredible!



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FRESH PRODUCE EVERY TUESDAY AT BELL P.S

www.ceresfairfood.org.au

Would you like to order your organic veggies and groceries online and collect them from Bell?

It is more than simply Fruit and Veg... you can order dairy, eggs, bread, snacks and heaps more. As much or as little as you want with no joining or delivery fee.

Ceres Fair Food has a pick-up location at the school. Register online and try out the service – or just visit the website to see what produce is on offer.

TO REGISTER: email sonia-orchard@optusnet.com.au (Sonia Orchard) and I will email you the link so you can join the BELL PS pick-up. 5% discount off your first order. Join up and give it a try!!!!



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/carers 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

Events Calendar

February-March 2016

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
15 Playgroup 9.00-11.00 8.45 Uniform Shop 5.30pm Cr 1/2 Parent Info Evening	16 5.30 Prep Parent Info Evening	17 Prep Interviews 5.30 Cr 3/4 Parent Info Evening	18 3.15 Uniform Shop 9.00-3.30 Cr 3/4 Kite Festival Workshop during Art 5.30 Cr 5/6 Parent Info Evening 7-9pm Fundraising Suggest Fest	19	20	21
22 Playgroup 9.00-11.00 8.45 Uniform Shop	23 9.00 Year 5/6 Drug Education Program	24 Prep Interviews	25 3.15 Uniform Shop	26	27	28
29 Playgroup 9.00-11.00 8.45 Uniform Shop	1 1	2 2	3 3.15 Uniform Shop	4 Curriculum Day - No School Today!!	5 5	6 6
7 8.45 Uniform Shop 9.00 Whole School Assembly (Weather Permitting) Playgroup 9.00-11.00 7.30pm Sexual Health Education for Parents	8 8	9 9	10 3.15 Uniform Shop	11 11	12 12	13 **Sunday Crew - Grounds closed

**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 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.