

Nov 24th, 2015

Bell News Fortnightly

Children from OSHClub were offered a choice of salad vegetables that they could serve themselves on Tuesday. Oscar enjoys his self-made yummy salad.



Bell Primary is now an eSmart School!



At the beginning of November, Mrs McGowan and Toby spent some time gathering together all of the great ICT learning (including eSmart Week activities) we do at school and relevant school policies that support the Bell Primary

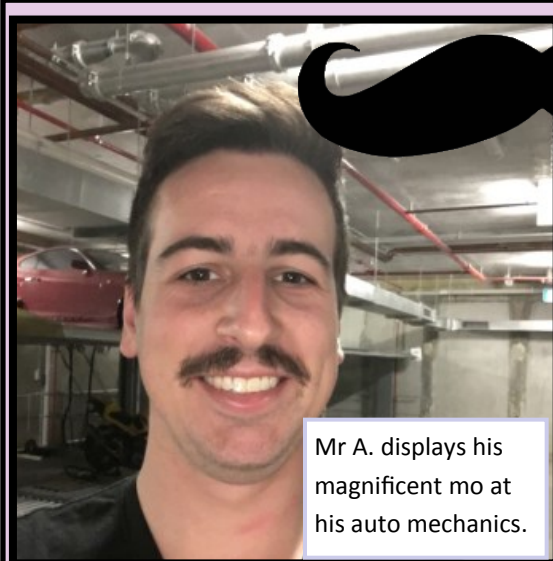
School community to be smart, safe and responsible citizens. We send this off to The Alannah and Madeleine Foundation in order to gain an eSmart status upgrade from the Implementing phase into the final Sustaining Phase.

We are pleased to announce that Bell Primary School was officially granted eSmart Status and our shiny new metal sign will soon find a prominent home within our school grounds.

The eSmart website states that "an eSmart school is a school where the smart, safe and responsible use of information and communications technology is a cultural norm. Students, teachers and the wider school community are equipped to embrace the best these technologies can offer, while being savvy about the pitfalls." For more information about eSmart go to:

www.esmartschools.org.au

Being eSmart is not just about being great digital citizens but also about being smart, safe and responsible in the real world and embracing our school values of Honesty, Respect, Teamwork, Learning and Creativity. Our next step is to use our student designed mascot to help promote our values and eSmart expectations around our school and with the wider community. But first we have to vote on the winner who will be announced shortly!



Mr A. displays his magnificent mo at his auto mechanics.



Please support Mr. A for Movember!

For the past few years Mr A. has been a champion for helping support Men's Health by being a Movember participant and raising awareness and money by simply growing a moustache.

He's at it again this year and we are asking our community to support him by donating at his Movember profile:

<http://mobro.co/matthewatanasovski>

Well done again Mr A – and excellent effort and a very enviable mo!

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.

The Qkr! app may be downloaded from the Apple app store for iPhones and iPads or from Google Play for Android phones and tablets.

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!

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.



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.



Label **BELLPS**



From the Principal's Desk

School continues to be a very busy and productive place. With the introduction of the Education State there are some modifications that need to be made to our work protocols and we are attending to those as a matter of priority. Many changes at this stage are on the business side of things, so we value the work that Robyn Radford has been doing in supporting the school with the administrative changes and guidelines that she has been following.

Teamwork has been very productive as Bell P.S. Firstly may I acknowledge the teamwork of Chelsea Kneale (Arts), Josh Grogan (P.E) and Nick Carver (Music) for the work that they put into the planning, rehearsing and production of the Bellvision P-2 concert. Not only did they work as a team, but they brought all members of staff on board to be part of such a successful team as well. To the parents who were also part of this team in some capacity, thank-you very much, your children looked and performed beautifully.

The Fundraising group have done an amazing job again this year and will be setting up a survey for you to complete in order to have input into how they could disburse their funds for the benefit of the children.

The LOTE review team, as part of the Education Sub-Committee, has been busy with the results of the survey that many of you have completed on line. Thank-you for taking the time to complete this survey, these results along with the other data that we have collected will form part of the report that will be presented at the School Council Annual General Meeting in March next year. This report will feed into our School Review in 2016.

Previously in the Newsletter there was information provided about transition. Transition is about students becoming familiar with their new surroundings and some of their new classmates. The students are involved in a range of activities based on social and personal learning. IT IS NOT about class formation for 2016, it is about children feeling safe and being familiar with their new environment, an example of this is our Year 5's who have been invited to a local high school for a day of activities that supports the familiarisation with a secondary school.

This week our Grade 2/3s are going to their Day Camp. We wish them all a safe and happy day.

Invitations have gone out for the Parent Helpers Morning Tea on Wednesday December 2 in the Learning Centre 10:30-11:30. We look forward to celebrating this event with you and having an opportunity to thank so many of you for all of the support that you have provided throughout the year.

Marg Sneddon

Acting Principal



ISAAC



Nina

Continuing
our final roll
call for our
class of
2015.



Simmi



Liam



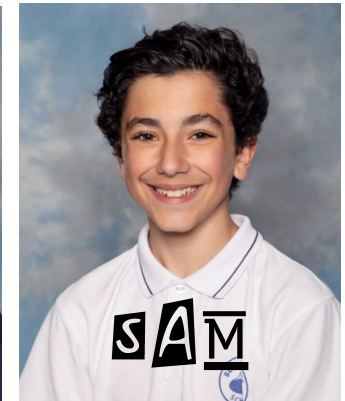
Maisie



Georgie



JOEL



SAM

School Values Certificates

Matilda Moyle: Teamwork. By working together with her Kinder buddy during each transition session to complete activities successfully. Matilda has helped guide her buddy to ensure that she is safe and happy.

Spencer Greenow: Creativity. By planning a sequenced narrative story of his own entitled 'The Three Little Monkeys and the Big Bad Lion'. In each session, Spencer has worked hard to write each phase of his story. I can't wait to read it when it's finished!

Alexei Furness: Teamwork. By working very hard with his classmates to perform in BellVision. Your encouragement to other students was fantastic. Well done!

Ivy Perkins: Respect. By leading by example by ensuring our class is kept tidy and all recycled / compost bins are put away. Thanks for a wonderful job.

Alexa Rogers: Creativity. By writing her draft for her narrative story entitled 'The Three Fairies and the Big Bad Dragon'. Alexa sequenced events in her story and all characters in her story build their houses out of interesting materials. I'm looking forward to seeing her published piece.

Angus Bunton: Teamwork. By working together with his Kinder buddy during transition to complete their activity successfully. Angus helped guide his buddy to do the right things and made sure he felt safe and happy. Go Angus!

Indi Koester: Creativity. By representing our class at the P-2 BellVision concert by singing a solo at the concert. Indi was brave enough to stand up in front of all the students and parents and sing beautifully with confidence. Great job Indi!

Amelie Hollis: Learning. By focusing on being positive at school. Amelie has been learning strategies to think about happy, funny and calming thoughts even if things are a little bit difficult.

Scout Ballard: Teamwork. By recognising that all people are different and understanding that these differences make us special in our own way. Scout showed that she was a fantastic buddy during prep transition. Well done Scout

Isabella Connell: Teamwork. By being a fantastic buddy and showing patience and understanding during prep transition. Isabella was an outstanding leader and set an example of excellence to her buddy. We are very proud of you Isabella. Well done.

Flynn Miller: Teamwork. Flynn was a wonderful role model to the visiting preps when they came up to 1/2 for a Transition session yesterday. He made them feel welcome and comfortable in the classroom environment.

Jack Heffernan: Learning. Jack did an outstanding job on his Royal Castle Floor Plan during maths this week by following directions and using his compass to label the correct rooms.

Ella Nance: Learning. Ella has been putting a lot more thought and effort into her school work and challenging herself to think more deeply about all of her learning.

Ilium Hernandez-David: Learning. Ilium showed great persistence with the Royal Castle Floor Plan in maths this week by thinking carefully about the task and even though it was a bit tricky, he gave it a real go. Well done, Ilium!

Anneka Croxon: Learning. For the fantastic effort she has been putting in to her reading. Anneka is always one of the first to settle into reading in the morning and is an excellent independent worker during reading groups. We have had some great discussions in class about the characters in stories. Well done Anneka!

Finn Blakey: Creativity. Finn demonstrated creativity during the BellVision concert and rehearsals. He had many ideas for dance moves for the group and would always perform to the best of his abilities. Well done Finn!

Ashlin McGowan: Respect. Ashlin has demonstrated respect by consistently looking after classroom materials, sitting in a fabulous learning position and offering to assist others when needed. She continues to be a fantastic role model to all – we love having Ashlin in 1/2T!

Mateo Rodriguez-Callejas: Mateo has demonstrated learning through his wonderful improvements in handwriting. Mateo has been trying very hard to improve the size and formation of his letters with fine motor and handwriting practise. Keep up the great work Mateo!

Connor Cogan: Connor has demonstrated learning in the classroom. I particularly like the way he has read daily without distracting others.

Stacey Tongopoulos: Stacey showed enormous enthusiasm and leadership when rehearsing for BellVision. She was eager to sing and perform in a 5-star way and led by example. Well done on a fantastic performance Stacey!

Louis Long-Pinnell: Louis has shown enormous enthusiasm when rehearsing for our BellVision performance. He sang loudly and with passion and was a great leader to his peers. Well done Louis!

Mai Bennell: Mai has shown enormous respect during class discussion and lessons. She always leads by examples and is a fantastic 1/2H team member and leader! Mai, we are so lucky to have you in our class!

Ben McInerney: Ben has demonstrated learning in the classroom. I particularly like the way he supports the learning of others by encouraging his classmates to do the best they can.

Imogen Murnane: Teamwork. Imogen is a fabulous class member! Recently she has been using her skills to support her peers to finish their inquiry projects. She has been sharing advice, offering feedback and helping her classmates achieve their goals.

Josh Stanley: Persistence. Josh has shown true dedication during his personal inquiry into asteroids. Although the journey has been long and involved set backs he has shown great resilience and independence to overcome hurdles and interpret the information into a brilliant model. Great work!

Matilda Crowther: Confidence. Over the year Matilda has been approaching tasks with growing confidence and enthusiasm, such as her recent interactive involvement in her team's 'La Tomatina' inquiry exhibition. Great work Matilda!

Nina Ilsley: Teamwork. Nina consistently demonstrates outstanding teamwork, showing that she can get on well with a variety of her peers. She always makes excellent contributions to her teams, such as in her recent Day of the Dead inquiry and her horror film. Well done Nina!

Sarah Warren: Learning. For her outstanding effort on her writing portfolio. Sarah worked tirelessly at both school and home to produce many entertaining pieces across a range of genres, demonstrating her talent as a young author. Great work Sarah!

Albert Ley: Teamwork. By working cooperatively in his group to research and create an interesting inquiry project on La Tomatina. Good use of ICT in your project. Well done, Albert.

Max Hamilton: Teamwork. By working cooperatively in his group to research and create an interesting inquiry project on La Tomatina. You had so much knowledge about La Tomatina, Max. Great work.

Mia Dunstone and Quinn O'Brien: Congratulations on a fabulous team effort with your inquiry into Thanksgiving. You both worked well together, allocated tasks and developed an attractive booth. Including details such as turkey and cranberry juice as well as realistic costumes made the presentation complete and inviting.

Caelen D'onofrio: Congratulations Caelen on being able to prepare and deliver such a heartfelt and honest speech about your fears. You had the entire audience mesmerised with your presentation and 'on the go' illustrations. You spoke clearly, made regular eye contact and engaged your audience.



On Friday the 13th of November a total of 121 students from Bell Primary made their way to the Northcote Aquatic and fitness Centre for the annual District Triathlon. These numbers made us the second largest school participating on the day which in itself is a fantastic effort. Students had to complete a 50m swim, a 1km run and a 1km bike ride in teams of three.

All of the students did a fantastic job and showed great sportsmanship and the strong sporting and athletic abilities at Bell. Out of the 31 races on the day Bell placed in 9 of the races with 4 of those teams coming first. All the students who participated should be extremely proud of themselves and we hope to have even more numbers and great results next year. A big thank you to all of the 3/4 and 5/6 teachers as well as Leadership for all their work in organising and the running of the day.

Josh Grogan (not the singer)



(Thank you Catherine Acton for these images.)



BellVision!

On Monday the 16th of November the Bi-annual Prep to Year 2 concert was held. This year, we decided to hold BELLVISION, our own original take on Eurovision. Classes performed songs from many different continents, as well as old favourites from the specialist team. A huge thanks to our wonderful audience that attended on the day. It was a hot afternoon on the oval, but we were really pleased with the amount of people that attended and their fantastic response to the performance. Thank you all so much!

Josh Grogan (still not the singer)



Bell Primary celebrate Nude Food Day!

Nude Food Day is a nationwide initiative developed to encourage kids and parents to **eat well** and **live well**, and eliminate all unnecessary packaging and wrapping that goes into schools.

Well done to the students at Bell (and parents) who did a fantastic job, getting involved with Nude Food Day. The JSC conducted a food audit prior to the day and again on the day to see if the initiative would help eliminate packaging. The audit showed that there was a significant decrease in packaging across all grades, with majority of students bringing a nude food lunch box. The students loved showing off their nude food and there were some great alternatives for healthy snacks in their lunch boxes.

The day was a great success & the students were very proud of the lunch boxes they produced. Thank you to the parents for the support with the day. The plan is to conduct another food audit in a couple of weeks to see if Nude Food Day has been able to shift the way people pack their lunch boxes on a regular basis. So as a community, we encourage you to always support nude food.



Zooper Dooper Day

This Friday 27th Nov at lunchtime

\$ 1.00

*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 has been working towards 'The Achievement Program: Healthy Together School' accreditation. Over the course of this year we have been focussing on six of the eight achievement areas (see above). We will continue to report on the different areas each Bell News. For more information, please visit www.achievementprogram.healthytogether.vic.gov.au



Sexual Health and Wellbeing

Glenys Borland from Family Life did an excellent job last week as our host for our Sexuality Education sessions. She facilitated great discussions between parents and students and got the ball rolling for continued chats in the days and weeks to come. Students learned about families, bodies and babies to varying degrees depending on their year level. If you have any feedback about the sessions please feel free to contact Rylee Curran at curran.rylee.m@edumail.vic.gov.au.



Mental Health and Wellbeing

Helping kids deal with horrifying news (by Michael Grose, Parenting Ideas for Schools)

Terrorist events in Europe in recent days have reverberated around the world. Graphic images have been brought into our living rooms and onto our devices via the media over the last few weeks, and will continue to do so in the immediate future.

But what about the impact of the event and the subsequent media coverage on children and young people? As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of tragedies such as terror attacks. In reality we can't do this. So what is a parent, teacher, or other caring adult to do when such events fill the airwaves and the consciousness of society?

Here are some ideas:

1. Reassure children that they are safe. The consistency of the images can be frightening for young children who don't understand the notion of distance and have difficulty distinguishing between reality and fiction. Let them know that while this event is indeed happening it will not affect them directly.
2. Explain what happened. Sounds obvious but it's important not to simply assume that children and young people understand what's happened. Be calm and stick the facts, using a map to show older children where it happened.
3. Be available. Let kids know that it is okay to talk about the unpleasant events. Listen to what they think and feel. By listening, you can find out if they have misunderstandings, and you can learn more about the support that they need. You do not need to explain more than they are ready to hear, but be willing to answer their questions.
4. Help children process what they see and hear, particularly through television. Children are good observers but can be poor interpreters of events that are out of their level of understanding.

5. Support children's concerns for others. They may have genuine concerns for the suffering that will occur and they may need an outlet for those concerns. It is heart-warming to see this empathy in children for the concerns of others.
6. Let them explore feelings beyond fear. Many children may feel sad or even angry with these events so let them express the full range of emotions.
7. Avoid keeping the television on all the time. The visual nature of the media means that images are repeated over and over, which can be both distressing to some and desensitising to others.
8. Be aware of your own actions. Children will take their cues from you and if they see you focusing on it in an unhealthy way then they will focus on it too. Let them know that it is happening but it should not dominate their lives. Children's worlds can be affected in ways that we can't even conceive of so adults need to be both sensitive to children's needs and mindful of what they say and how they act in front of children.

In difficult times, it is worth remembering what adults and children need most are each other.

Below are some extra links for more information. Thank you to Bell Parent Emma Sampson, who works at the The Australian Psychological Society Ltd., for her recommendations.

<https://goo.gl/EMAIuC> (Michael Grosse's related Facebook post)

www.psychology.org.au/psychology-topics/talking-to-children-about-terrorism/ (Information that Dr Susie Burke has put together about talking with children about terrorism and disasters more generally.)

www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/lifematters/talking-to-kids-about-terror/6945668 (a discussion with Dr. Burke on Radio National last week)

www.psychology.org.au/publications/tip_sheets/beyond/#s3 (a tip sheet on dealing with/discussing racism and encouraging and promoting diversity.)

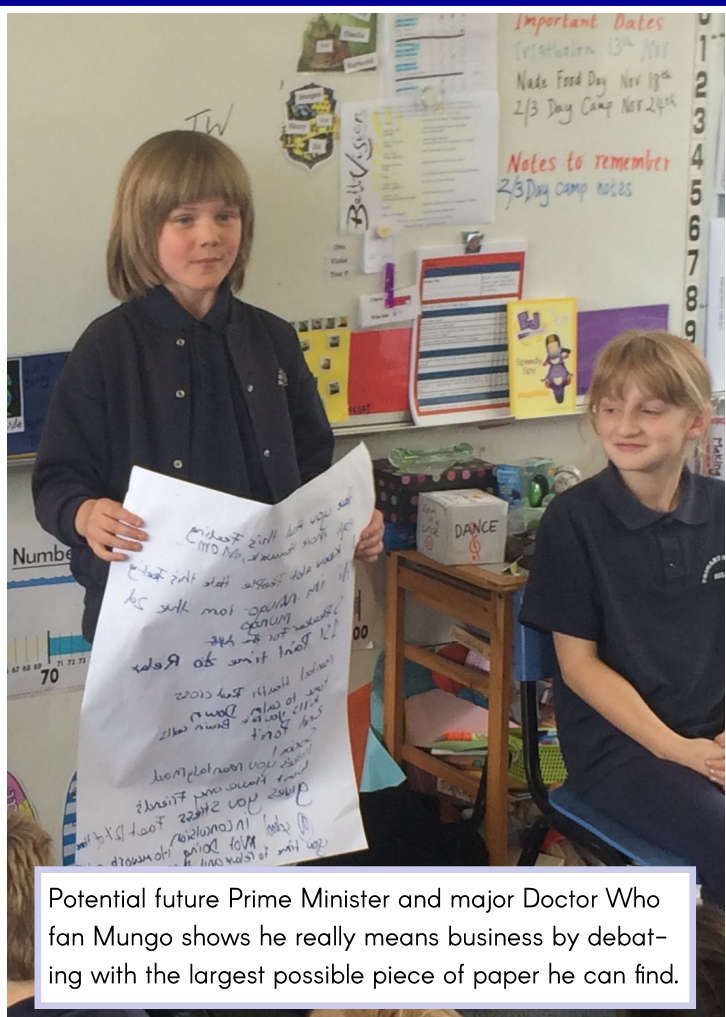
Stay tuned for more updates and please feel free to see Ruth Vonarx or Maria Tevelis if you have any questions or feedback. (vonarx.ruth.r@edumail.vic.gov.au and tevelis.maria.m@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Student Workshop Run by the 5/6 Debating Team

On Wednesday 11th November the school debating team, made up of students from 5/6, ran a debating workshop in 3/4N and 3/4L. It was a great chance for the younger students to learn all about debating and for the 5/6 students demonstrate their leadership skills.

The 5/6s began by giving the students an example of a debate. They argued the topic 'Schools uniforms should be compulsory', while explaining to the audience how a debate is structured and the role of each speaker.

After this debate each 5/6 student ran a small workshop with a group of 3/4 students. The groups developed a speech for their own debate on the topic 'Homework should be banned'. Then the group came back together and delivered their debate, with a number of impressive performances among the 3/4s – particularly considering this was the first time they had ever participated in a formal debate. A great effort by all the students involved!



Potential future Prime Minister and major Doctor Who fan Mungo shows he really means business by debating with the largest possible piece of paper he can find.

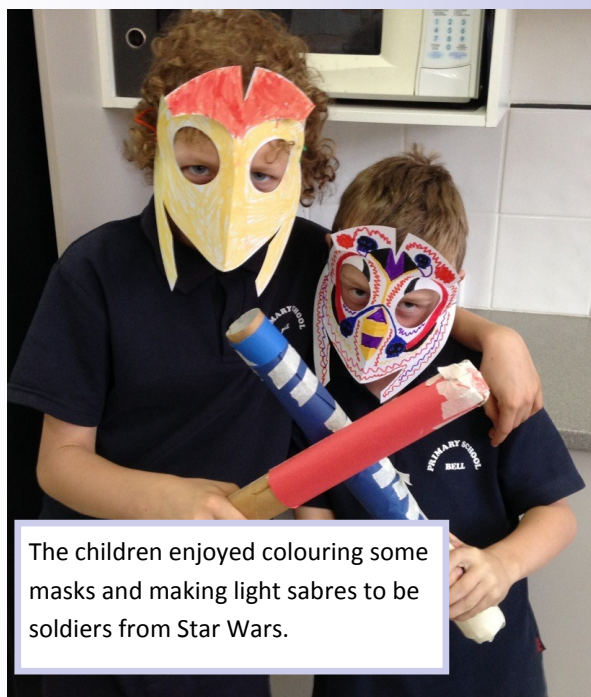
OSHClub News

Before School / After School Care Program

We have started changing a bit of our menu at OSHClub to be more inline with healthy and nutritious breakfasts and snacks. We no longer offer juice at our Bell Buffet, but extras children can choose from are fruit, cheese, and wholemeal English muffins. Please let us know if you have any healthy food suggestions or recipes.



With the Preps-2's at a concert on Monday, the 4 remaining children were excited to be able to cook chocolate truffles. They had so much fun 'licking the bowl' and their fingers!



The children enjoyed colouring some masks and making light sabres to be soldiers from Star Wars.



On Tuesday some children went into the art room and made some 3-d paper collages .



Some of the children have enjoyed playing with their Lego people at Before School Care.



Community

House for Rent

We are going overseas for 6 months next year from late March to late September and are looking to rent out our house while we are gone. 3 bed, 2 bath renovated Californian with big garden, 5 min walk to school. Feel free to pass my number to anyone who might be interested - Annie 0431 313276

Events Calendar

November - December 2015

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
23 Whole School Assembly 8.45-9.15 Uniform Shop 9.00 Playgroup	24 Cr 2/3 Day Camp	25 Prep Transition Week 4 10.00 Year 5's to Thornbury High	26 Cr 2/3 Day Camp 3.15 Uniform Shop Statewide Debating Tournament	27	28	29
30 Jnr Assembly 8.45-9.15 Uniform Shop 9.00 Playgroup	1	2 10.30-11.30 Parent Helpers Morning Tea (Learning Centre) 2.30pm Cr 5/6 Metro Talk	3 3.15 Uniform Shop 10.00 Preps Responsible Pet Ownership	4	5	6
7 Snr Assembly 8.45-9.15 Uniform Shop 9.00 Playgroup	8 9-3.30 Cr6 High School Transition 3.45 Violin Student Concert 6.00-8.00pm Funkey Music End of Year Concert	9	10 3.15 Uniform Shop	11	12	13
14 No Assembly today Uniform Shop Closed 9.00 Playgroup 6.00pm Grade 6 Graduation	15	16 Grade 6 Big Day Out	17 Uniform Shop Closed	18 Final Day! 1.00 All School Assembly 1.30 School Ends - Dismissed! Enjoy your holidays!	19	20 **Sunday Crew - School 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.