

BELLBRIDGE NEWS



Bellbridge Primary School
Individual Paths, United Journey

Bellbridge Primary School

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 26 th July	-	3-6 Assembly
Tuesday 30 th July	-	PREP 100 Days of School
Wednesday 31 st July	-	Book Club Due
Wednesday 31 st July	-	Grade 6 Excursion. Serendip Sanctuary (6C/6D)
Thursday 1 st August	-	Grade 6 Excursion. Serendip Sanctuary (6A/6B)
Friday 2 nd August	-	Grade 3-6 Athletics Carnival
Friday 2 nd August	-	P-2 Assembly
Monday 5 th August	-	Grade 1 Incursion: Brickworks
Monday 5 th August	-	<i>Respectful Relationship</i> Parent Information Session 5pm-6pm
Tuesday 6 th August	-	Grade 5 Bike Ed
Wednesday 7 th August	-	Gr 5 excursion SCHS matinee
Thursday 8 th August	-	Pyjama Day
Friday 9 th August	-	Grade 2 Excursion Werribee Mansion
Friday 9 th August	-	3-6 Assembly
Tuesday 13 th August	-	Grade 3 Incursion: African Dance & Drumming
Thursday 15 th August	-	Prep incursion (Urban Upcycle)
Thursday 15 th August	-	REAL Robotics Team Event
Friday 16 th August	-	P-2 Assembly
Mon 19 th – Fri 23 rd Aug	-	Grade 1-2 Swimming program
Monday 19 th August	-	School Council

PREP ENROLMENTS for 2020

Next week we will be informing the Education Department of our predicted student enrolments as part of our annual School Census provided for the education department. Our accuracy in predicting Prep enrolments is critical due to the planning required for classroom space and staffing.

Parents of current students at Bellbridge who have a younger sibling who will be starting Prep in 2020 are strongly encouraged to enrol now.

We conduct regular tours of our school for families seeking enrolments (every Tuesday at 9:00am). Please contact the Office if you wish to arrange a tour or a chat with a member of the Principal Class team.

Bellbridge Primary School is committed to protecting children and supports Child Safe Standards.

Victorian government schools are child safe environments. Our school actively promotes the safety and wellbeing of all students, and all school staff are committed to protecting students from abuse or harm in the school environment in accordance with their legal obligations including the Child Safe Standards.

More information is available at:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/protect/Pages/default.aspx>

ENROL PREP STUDENTS for 2020 NOW!

At this time, we have only 64 Prep enrolments for next year.

Families who already have students attending Bellbridge are urged to enrol any siblings eligible for Prep next year as soon as possible so we can make informed decisions regarding staffing and class sizes as part of our census data in early August.

If you know of any local families with children in kindergarten, please encourage them to enrol early.

The process for enrolment involves providing evidence of residence in the designated neighbourhood area (DNA, also known as our Zone) and completion of the enrolment form with copies of appropriate records (birth certificate, immunisation records).

(ACTING) PRINCIPAL WRITES

WELCOME TO TERM 3

We hope everyone enjoyed a relaxing and happy holiday. It is my honour and privilege to fill in for Mrs Clancy during a short period of leave for the first four weeks of Term 3.

Whilst conducting a recent tour of our school for prospective families, it was quite evident that our students have returned to school with a positive mindset and ready to resume their learning. The environment in classrooms is settled and focused, and students have easily resumed their productive, respectful and responsible ways in the classroom and in the yard. The thoughtful and purposeful planning undertaken by staff also has enabled classrooms and teams to maintain the consistent approaches that were embedded last semester. Well done to everyone!

Besides the purposeful learning and teaching happening in our classrooms next term, we have a range of extra-curricular activities and special events planned to support our learning and personal development.

(see below)

LOOKING FORWARD TO TERM 3

Besides the purposeful learning and teaching happening in our classrooms next term, we have a range of extra-curricular activities and special events planned to support our learning and personal development.

District Athletics	ACTIVE TRAVEL on Wednesdays	Grade 5/6 HOOP TIME Basketball Competition
Prep Celebration 100 Days of School!	Grade 6 Serendip Sanctuary Excursion	RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP
PJ Day	WYNDHAM SPELLING BEE	Grade 1/2 Swimming Program
eSMART Week	Brickworks Incursion (Grade 1)	BOOK WEEK (and dress-up day)
Family Science Night	FOOTY DAY	Grade 6 Camp
Grade 3 FOOTY CLINICS	SCIENCE WEEK	SUBWAY Lunch

WE WANT OUR PARENTS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK! PARENT OPINION SURVEY

The Parent Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of parents' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour and student engagement. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies. All responses to the survey are anonymous.

The survey will be conducted online by ORIMA Research Pty Ltd and only takes 10-15 minutes to complete. It can be accessed **until Sunday 11th August**. The link/PIN appear in a Compass News Feed.

The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. These include: Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chin (hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Somali, Turkish, Punjabi and Greek.

For more information, see:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/management/improvement/Pages/performsurveyparent.aspx

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT

Please note: Parents are always welcome to raise school related issues by communicating via letter or email and the matter can be presented via Correspondence and discussed in General Business at the next School Council meeting.

Next meeting: Monday, August 19th at 6:00pm (with School Captains' presentation at 5:30pm)

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL – Grade 3-6

We look forward to our rescheduled Grade 3-6 Athletics Carnival next week on:

Friday 2nd August from 8:40am-1:00pm

We will be trialling the athletics carnival on our own school oval (and gym) as a result of the rescheduling. Families are most welcome to attend and position themselves on the oval hill. The oval itself will be strictly for staff and students only please.

A few parents have asked about the timing of the athletics day (being in winter), and this is certainly a reasonable question. Our school has tried the date at different times of the year in the past, and some influencing factors about the winter timing include:

- The availability of the VU Fitness Track, which can be very difficult to book no matter how far in advance we'd like to lock in a date.
- Ensuring we avoid hot weather. This has proven just as challenging as cold weather – with a number of children experiencing sunburn despite sunscreen being provided.
- Ensuring our school-based athletics is reasonably close to the pattern of representative competition beyond the school: School > District > Division > Regional > State. We have a large number of students participate at a District level and beyond, and our P.E. teachers have written their lesson program to include athletics training leading up to our school carnival, which in turn leads up to the next level.
- Keeping the athletics day spaced nicely from the cross country carnival – which follows the same pattern of School > District > and so forth, and is timed accordingly.

I do hope that helps to give a sense of the reasons behind the scheduling – which otherwise might leave parents scratching their heads on such an Antarctic day as the one we experienced last term.

The weather was not kind to any of us on the original day – forcing a lot of well organised people into a last-minute change – including parents – and we appreciate the flexibility and understanding by all affected.

Hopefully our upcoming rescheduled day provides us with much better weather than the original date. (*The P-2 athletics had a perfect day in the last week of Term 2! Another one like that please!*)

EXPECTATIONS about the Use of the Playground AFTER SCHOOL

We understand that many children really enjoy playing on our wonderful playgrounds at Bellbridge, but at the end of the school day it is essential that our staff can identify any child who has not been collected from school. This is impossible to do when we have lots of children on our playgrounds.

Therefore we have implemented the following expectations:

- NO pre-school children or toddlers are to play on the playground equipment at any time as it has not been designed for pre-school age children. *Parents or carers who choose to allow their pre-schoolers and toddlers to play on the school playgrounds, do so at their own risk and it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to provide supervision.*
- Students who walk or ride bikes/scooters home from school are NOT to play on the playground after school as all students are to make their way home or to their designated meeting place where they are picked up by a parent as soon as the bell goes at 2:40pm.
- Parents or carers are responsible for the supervision of their children if they choose to allow them to play on the playground after 2:40pm.

TRAFFIC SAFETY AROUND OUR SCHOOL

We are very fortunate to have three school crossings around our school with school crossing guards on duty each day to ensure the safety of our students and their families.

The safety of students and parents on Matlock Street and Bellbridge Drive is a constant concern in our community. In the past few weeks some of our students and parents have had some very frightening experiences around our school.

You can help to keep your children safe by:

- Using the school crossing as an option for crossing the road
- Obeying the parking signs around the school – do not park in disabled car parks unless you are allowed
- Not parking in the Bus Zone to pick up students
- Not double parking near parked cars – this blocks traffic and can cause accidents
- Not parking in, or walking through the staff car parks
- Respecting the parking restrictions and parking responsibly, especially on Matlock Street.

We, as a school, cannot take any responsibility for parents who engage in unsafe and/or illegal use of the roads, bus stop or school car parks. Last term some parents were booked for parking incorrectly on Matlock Street which is generally a fine of more than \$150.

Please make good choices and help to keep our students safe.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE: 'EVERY DAY COUNTS'

Attending school regularly is a key factor in students making expected progress in their learning. We are very concerned about the significantly high number absences from school experienced by some students and families. As part of our commitment to the 'Every Day Counts' program, we maintain a focus on monitoring students with a high rate of absences from school. This includes making regular contact with parents and families regarding school support measures, and in some cases, reporting our concerns to the education department and other relevant agencies. In addition, we celebrate consistent and high rates of students' attendance with awards at assembly, individual certificates for students with 100% attendance, and special class rewards for five consecutive days of 100% attendance (e.g. exclusive use of areas of the playground).

STUDENT ATTENDANCE in Term 2, 2019 (average number of days absent per student in each class)

Prep A - 5.29	1A - 5.05	2A - 4.86	3A - 3.42	4A - 3.26	5A - 2.13	6A - 4.32
Prep B - 5.45	1B - 3.71	2B - 4.45	3B - 3.91	4B - 2.13	5B - 3.58	6B - 6.29
Prep C - 5.52	1C - 3.05	2C - 2.83	3C - 5.00	4C - 3.22	5C - 2.91	6C - 4.40
Prep D - 4.60	1D - 4.71	2D - 4.22	3D - 4.43	4D - 3.67	5D - 3.36	6D - 4.08
Prep E - 4.50	1E - 5.00	2E - 3.50				
Average - 5.07	Average - 4.30	Average - 3.97	Average - 4.19	Average - 3.07	Average - 3.00	Average - 4.77

* Classes with less than 3 days per student each term assist us in achieving our Annual Implementation target by the end of the year - 'the average number of student absence days over the course of the year will be less than 12'.

* 144 students had 100% attendance in Term 2.

HOW PARENTS can RAISE CONCERNS about ISSUES at SCHOOL

At times, parents may have queries or concerns related to their child, a situation, a teacher or the school environment. In order to maintain a respectful, responsible and supportive home school partnership, our leadership team and staff make themselves available for open communication about these issues.

- Parents are advised to make a time to meet with a TEACHER to discuss issues related to their child's learning and/or social, emotional or behaviour concerns.
- Parents are advised to make a time to meet with the PRINCIPAL (or an Assistant Principal) to discuss issues related to the governance of the school, the safety or welfare of the community, or if a meeting with a teacher is not deemed to have been resolved with an acceptable level of satisfaction.
- Our Principal and Assistant Principals are highly visible within and about the school grounds before and after school, and are very approachable when they are on supervision duty during these times.
- Parents can also contact the Office to make appointments with Teachers and the Principal Class.

When we are able to address concerns or issues promptly it can assist in parents and teachers arriving at a timely and shared solution. Open and honest conversations between parents and teachers also support clear understandings of specific situations. Where necessary, other staff, such as an Assistant Principal, Principal or local support services may be able to lend support and advice as well.

We look forward to continuing our positive and productive home school partnerships with all families at Bellbridge. Please read over the *Respectful Relationships* information in the newsletter and consider attending our parent information session about this program.

Tania Hunt
Acting Principal

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: 26/07/2019

Bellbridge Primary School has begun implementing the *Respectful Relationships* program.

[Respectful Relationships](#) is an initiative to support schools and early childhood education settings promote and model respect and equality. It also supports educators to teach our children how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence. Everyone involved in our school community deserves to be respected, valued and treated equally.

Respectful Relationships is implemented by using a suite of teaching and learning materials for Prep-Year 12, called "Resilience, rights and respectful relationships". The resources have been developed by experts from Deakin University and the University of Melbourne. These age-appropriate resources support curriculum delivery and include lesson plans and activities that help students learn and practise social skills and apply them in a positive way to learning, life and relationships. The resources support a whole of school approach to creating equal and respectful attitudes, behaviours, structures and practices across the school culture and ethos.

The materials cover eight social and emotional learning topics to support the delivery of respectful relationships content through the Victorian curriculum, with the current plan for Bellbridge being one activity per topic per year (8 sessions in total per year). Topics are:

Emotional Literacy	Personal Strengths	Positive Coping	Problem-Solving
Stress Management	Help-seeking	Gender and Identity	Positive gender relations

In 2015, our local Hoppers Crossing Secondary College was one of the pilot schools for the *Respectful Relationships* program.

Respectful Relationships is a different program to the *Safe Schools* program in secondary schools, although many secondary schools have implemented Respectful Relationship as well.

Further information:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/capabilities/personal/Pages/respectfulreapproach.aspx>

Myths and Facts can be found here:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/respectfulrelationships.aspx>

Our Department of Education and Training's South-Western Victoria Region is very fortunate to have highly effective project lead staff. Jarrod and Libby have provided information to our staff, and we've been able to book them to come and introduce our parents to the *Respectful Relationships* program – providing an understanding of the program and answering questions our parents may have. Please take the opportunity to attend this session.

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION: RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Monday 5th August

5:00pm-6:00pm

Bellbridge PS Staffroom

If you are able to attend, please notify the office staff by Friday 2nd August.

PYJAMA DAY

Wear your PJs to school
Thursday 8th August



Bellbridge Primary Newsletter

Maths Challenge

Things to remember

Remember to write your name and grade on your answer page.

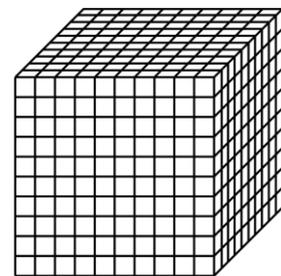
Put your answer in the maths challenge box in the library by Monday 12th August.

One person drawn from the box, will win 25 bee-tokens to spend at the reward shop.



Grade Prep to 2 Challenge

1. How many letters are in your name?
2. Write the names of 5 friends who have more letters in their name.
3. Write the names of 5 people who have the same or less letters in their name.



Grade 3 – 6 Challenge

You have a 10 x 10 x 10cm cube that is made up of 1 x 1 x 1cm cubes.

You paint the outside of the big cube orange.

How many of the little cubes get painted?