

BELLBRIDGE NEWS



Bellbridge Primary School
Individual Paths, United Journey

Bellbridge Primary School

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 9 th December	-	Grade 5 Bike Ed
Tuesday 15 th December	-	Reports go home (via Compass)
Tuesday 15 th December	-	Grade 6 graduation
Friday 18 th December	-	Term 4 ends (1:00pm dismissal)
Wednesday 27 th January 2021	-	Curriculum Day
Thursday 28 th January	-	First Day Term 1

URGENT - WILL YOUR CHILD BE LEAVING BELLBRIDGE?

We have completed planning for our grades for next year and it is very important that we know if any students or families **WILL NOT** be attending Bellbridge PS in 2020.

If your child will be moving to another school, please contact the Office as soon as possible.

**Semester 2 Student Reports will be on Compass at 3:00pm
Tuesday 15th December.**

STUDENT REPORTS

If you have any queries about your child's report, please arrange a mutually convenient time with the classroom teacher to discuss these. Early in Term 1, there will be an opportunity to meet your child's 2021 teacher and share information about your child.

Compass website: Click on "View Academic Reports" and choose "2020 – Semester 2 Report".

Compass app: Tap the student's profile (photo) then "Reports" tab and choose "2020 – Semester 2 Report".

From Wednesday 16th December, parents who have not been able to access the report on Compass may request a printed copy from the office or class teacher – by noting the student's name and grade with a written request for a printed hardcopy. It will then be sent home with the child once printed.



COMPASS

One FAMILY LOGIN CODE is provided per home address for parents/guardians. Where both parents live with a student, they share the same login. Separated parents living in different addresses may wish to have a unique login code for each parent. To arrange this, an "alternative family" form should be obtained from the school office.

If you can't remember your password for Compass, please go to the Compass Portal and select "Can't access your account?"

This link will take you to: <https://bellbridgeps-vic.compass.education/Portal/ForgotPassword.aspx> where you can take steps to change your password.

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT

Our recent School Council held on Monday, November 16th included the following:

- A presentation was made by our School Captains, as well as a proposal they submitted regarding the possible training and implementation of a program involving students as Peer Mediators in the yard during recess and lunch times.
- Presentation of the monthly financial report, including operating statements in relation to expenditure, program budgets – all approved and motions accepted.
- Correspondence was presented and discussed.
- Finance Meeting included the presentation and approval of the Indicative Budget for 2021 and an explanation regarding the reduced funding being allocated to our school due to a significant increase in the level of parent education and occupations recorded on enrolment forms – this results in a perception that our families are less disadvantaged than in the past and we therefore qualify for less funding to support educational programs. As a result, we are no longer able to implement LLI (Levelled Literacy Intervention) and GRIN (Getting Ready in Numeracy) programs which have supported students with additional learning needs.
- Presentation of the Principal's Report re: Staffing, Student Learning & Engagement, School Accountability and Community.
- School Councillors were thanked for their work this year which included most meetings held online via Webex. They have been an extremely supportive group who have provided honest, constructive and open-minded opinions, as well as sharing their realistic parent perspective during this challenging year.

Our next School Council meeting will be in February 2021.

A parent nomination and election process for School Councillors will happen in February and our 'new' 2021 School Council will meet in March.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

While we still have a little over one week remaining, this is our final newsletter for 2020, so we take this opportunity to wish everyone associated with the Bellbridge Primary School community a happy and safe holiday with much awaited family gatherings and celebrations.

We are so proud of how our community has worked together to manage the ever-changing restrictions and procedures of a very challenging year. The tireless efforts (and we understand how exhausting it has been) made by families to attempt to support their children's learning the best way they can has resulted in many students maintaining the expected achievement in the essential areas of learning, and a significant number of students actually thrived due to the commitment and persistence of parents during remote learning.

I'm sure we will never forget 2020!

We look forward to seeing you all in the new year, with the exception of our Grade 6 students – who we wish the very best to as they enter the next major phase of their education at secondary school.

Take care and enjoy the holiday period!

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CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

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>

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

Our school has been fortunate to be accepted as a partner in The Resilience Project next year. Participation in this program will involve learning activities for students, training for staff and an information session for parents.

After the challenging experiences we have had in 2020, we are keen to support the health and wellbeing of everyone in our community by providing opportunities for us all to engage in learning how to include gratitude, empathy and mindfulness into our lives.

There will be lots more information to share with you in Term 1.



KINDNESS CALENDAR: DECEMBER 2020

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 7 Leave a positive message for someone else to find	1 Share the Kindness Calendar with others and spread kindness	2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are	3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment	4 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today	5 Make a gift for someone who is homeless or feeling lonely	6 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about
14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one	8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member	9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead	10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them	11 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today	12 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank	13 See how many different people you can smile at today
21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you	15 Contact an elderly neighbour and brighten up their day	16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to	17 Practice gratitude. List the kind things others have done for you	18 Give away something that you have been holding on to	19 Buy locally and support independent shops near you	20 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated
28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy	22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed	23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness	24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh	25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!	26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature	27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat
	29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people	30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why	31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2021	Let's look beyond our differences and help each other. Every act of kindness matters 		

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS #DoGoodDecember www.actionforhappiness.org
Learn more about this month's theme at www.actionforhappiness.org/do-good-december Keep Calm · Stay Wise · Be Kind

TERM 1 2021

The first day of school at Bellbridge PS in 2021 for all students is Thursday 28th January. Teachers will start the year on Wednesday 27th January with a full day dedicated to preparation and professional learning (Curriculum Days).

Prep students will have an altered schedule for four Wednesdays – from 3rd Feb until 24th February inclusive. For these four Wednesdays, Prep assessments and parent meetings will be underway, with Prep students only required at school for their designated day/time.



AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TUTOR LEARNING INITIATIVE: Information for Parents, carers and families

This information is for parents, carers and guardians about the Tutor Learning Initiative, which will support students in their learning in 2021.

The 2020 school year has been an extraordinary and challenging one for every school community. Many Victorian students spent much of Terms 2 and 3 this year learning remotely and Victorian schools and their communities have made an exceptional effort to provide continuity of teaching and learning to our students during this time.

During Term 4, schools across Victoria have been focused on supporting students' mental health and wellbeing, in addition to assisting students to readjust to on-site learning. Teachers have also been focusing on assessing student learning, addressing individual learning gaps and identifying those students who need extra support for their learning, using classroom-based observation and assessments.

We know that the remote learning experience was different for every student. While some students thrived, some students may not have engaged as fully with remote learning. For most of our students, regular high-quality teaching in 2021 will be enough to help them progress to the expected level of learning. Some students will benefit from additional intensive learning support in 2021.

As you may be aware, in response to this, the Victorian Government is investing \$250 million in the Tutor Learning Initiative to enable schools across Victoria to engage around 4,100 teachers as tutors in 2021 to support students who need extra assistance with their learning. Schools will determine how this initiative is best implemented for their students and will ensure that students will get this support in a way that minimises disruptions to other learning or school activities.

By engaging additional teachers to support children with intensive learning, classroom teachers will have greater capacity to ensure that all other students' achievement, engagement and wellbeing needs are met, so that all students receive the support they need in 2021.

Further information about the Tutor Learning Initiative, and how it will be implemented for students who need individual learning support in our school, will be issued before students begin tutoring in 2021.

During Term 4, schools will be working with students to understand their experience of remote learning and their return to onsite schooling.

If you are concerned about your child's engagement in their learning, while learning at home or following their return to school, please contact your school.

PLEASE NOTE: At Bellbridge PS, we have been fortunate to have appointed four experienced teachers as our Tutors for next year. Early next term, we will inform parents of how this program will be implemented to support the needs of our students.