

BELLBRIDGE NEWS



Bellbridge Primary School
Individual Paths, United Journey

Bellbridge Primary School

Telephone 9749 6161

120 Bellbridge Drive, Hoppers Crossing, 3029

Email: bellbridge.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Web Page: www.bellbridgeps.vic.edu.au

We continue to operate under Government Restrictions and the Department of Health Guidelines

The good news is that ALL students can return to school from Monday, 12th October. *(see guidelines below)*

TERM 4 PRIORITIES are:

1. **Wellbeing and Equity** – The wellbeing, and particularly the mental health of every student and member of staff is the highest priority.
2. **Learning and Excellence** – We acknowledge that students have had different experiences during remote learning and our focus will be on working with all students at their point of need, both to support those who may have not progressed in their learning to catch up, and for those who have progressed, to continue to extend and stretch their learning. English, Maths and Health & Wellbeing will form the major focus of learning in Term 4.
3. **Transitions** – A key focus will be to make every effort to support students as they transition back to onsite learning at school from remote learning at home, with the aim of re-orienting and familiarising students with the relationships and routines that form a key part of life in school. We will make every effort to ensure that end-of-year and beginning-of-year transition experiences occur as successfully as possible to support students, staff and parents as we prepare for school life next year.

GUIDELINES for RESUMING LEARNING AT SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE ON-SITE

All students are expected to attend once their year level has returned to on-site learning. Teachers are not required to provide remote learning work to students where parents choose to keep them at home.

Where there are extenuating circumstances (e.g. medical), approval can be sought on a case-by-case basis from the Principal.

STAY HOME WHEN UNWELL

Unwell staff and students are to remain at home, even with the mildest of symptoms.

CANTEEN

The canteen will be closed for Term 4.

RECESS AND LUNCH

Playground equipment may be used and our cleaners will clean all play equipment before and after recess, and before and after lunch.

Recess and lunch bell-times will remain as normal with separated areas.

The following year levels will be separated into two groups:

RECESS:

P-2 use Matlock and Courtyard areas.

3-6 use the Canteen-Sandpit and Oval areas.

LUNCH

P-2 use the Canteen-Sandpit and Oval areas.

3-6 use Matlock and Courtyard areas.

ENTRY AND EXIT

Temperature screening will no longer be required.

Entry/exit arrangements for Term 4 (from Monday 12th October, when all Grade P-6 students return to on-site learning)

- **Students use any gate:** Starting Monday 12/10, students will be allowed to enter and exit from any gate, as arranged with parents.
- **Enter between 8:10am-8:30am:** Students will enter from any gate and proceed to their classrooms. Gates will be opened and supervised by leadership at 8:10am. Adults will not be permitted to enter. The playground will not be open for use. Classrooms will be open shortly after 8:10 for students to enter (with sanitising).
- **Exit times staggered in two stages:**
 - **2:30 PM - Students with surnames beginning with A – L will exit via any gate, as arranged with parents/carers.**
 - **2:40PM - Students with surnames beginning with M – Z will exit via any gate, as arranged with parents/carers.**

*Older siblings are encouraged to collect younger siblings when they are dismissed from class and leave the school grounds together.

*Siblings with different surnames split over alphabet halves will be dismissed **at 2:30pm.**

*NOTE - Children (including Preps) will be allowed to freely exit the school grounds at the times above. *Staff will not be matching students with caregivers, as this procedure will promote an excessive number of adults having to gather at the exit points.*

PREPS will be dismissed from the classroom at 2:30 and 2:40 according to surnames A-L and M-Z respectively, in the same manner as all other grades. Young children will be encouraged to approach a staff member in a yellow vest at the gates if they are feeling unsure of where to go.

***Please ensure your child knows where to go and who to meet after school.**

PRACTISE GOOD HYGIENE

All staff, students and visitors to schools should undertake regular hand hygiene, particularly on arrival to school, before and after eating, after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing or using the toilet.

Students should bring their own water bottle for use at school, as students should not drink directly from drinking fountains at this time. Taps may be used to refill water bottles.

Sharing of food should not occur.

ENSURE PHYSICAL DISTANCING

STUDENTS

Students **should** practise physical distancing, where possible. Maintaining a physical distance of 1.5 metres will not always be practical. In these contexts, a combination of health and safety measures should be utilised to reduce risk, e.g. washing hands, sanitising.

STAFF

Staff **must** practise physical distancing between themselves and other staff members or adults to the extent that is reasonably practicable. Staff will physically distance themselves from students where appropriate and feasible.

LAPTOPS NEED TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL (P-3)

Throughout remote learning approximately 100 laptops were loaned out to students and families.

These laptops came from our P – 3 classrooms and will need to be returned promptly so that they can be checked and allocated to their classroom to support student learning.

The process will be:

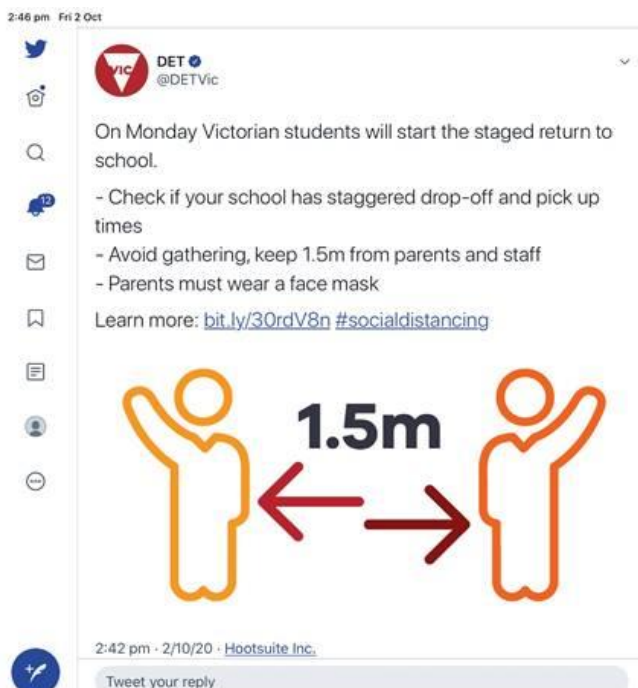
- **Laptops must be returned on MONDAY 12th OCTOBER.**
- Students should return the laptop and charger to their classroom teacher. (Teachers will mark off that a student has returned the laptop and charger.)
- If a parent is not confident that the laptop will reach the classroom safely, they are asked to deliver it to the office between 9am-12pm Monday. (Office staff will mark off the laptop and charger returned against a student checklist.)

TAKE HOME BOOKS and LIBRARY BORROWING

Students will not be bringing Take Home Books from school for home reading. Home reading may be supported with books at home, as well as online reading programs that have been used during remote learning (e.g. Reading Eggs/Eggspress and Sunshine Online). Students will not be borrowing from the Library, though teachers may choose to take their class to the Library at times. Teachers will borrow class sets of books and reading material from the Library for students to use in their classroom as part of their learning program.

MORE INFORMATION MAY BE FOUND AT THIS SITE:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/Pages/Physical-distancing,-health-and-hygiene.aspx>



SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISION

Throughout this year, the Wyndham City Council's School Crossing Program has worked to support its operations to support the needs of schools within our municipality. The School Crossing Program will return to full service once advice is received from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, and where staffing levels permit.

At this stage, the following crossings will be supervised to support the safety of our families:

- **Corner of Macedon Street & Bellbridge Drive - 8:00am-9:00am and 2:30pm-3:30pm**
- **Matlock Street - 8:00am-9:00am and 2:30pm-3:30pm**

STUDENT ENROLMENTS FOR 2021

All enrolments for 2021 are being managed using an online process that is accessible via our school web page (<https://www.bellbridgeps.vic.edu.au/enrolments.html>). A virtual tour of the school is available (PowerPoint Presentation), as tours will not be conducted at school until we feel it is a safe and appropriate option for our students, staff and prospective visitors.

Enrolments will be managed by our Enrolment Officer. Prompt enrolments assist with our planning for staffing and classes, as well as our Transition Program (typically held mid-late Term 4).

We need Prep enrolments for 2021 to be completed as soon as possible, so we can plan the necessary transition experiences and processes to support students and their families.

Please note: All schools in Wyndham are directed to accept enrolments of students who live in the Designated Neighbourhood Area (DNA), which is also referred to as a 'zone', and proof of residence is required to complete an enrolment (e.g. rates notice, electricity bill, rental/purchase agreement).

If you know of any local families who have a child in kindergarten, it would be appreciated if you could encourage them to complete the enrolment process as soon as possible. They can contact our Enrolment Officer (9749 6161)

if they wish to discuss aspects of the enrolment process.

WE are SUNSMART in TERM 4

All students need to wear hats when they play outside in Term 4 (this includes P.E. classes). Navy hats (bucket or broad brimmed) are part of our school uniform.

Students who do not have a hat will be directed to be undercover (in the shade) in the courtyard or the canteen area.



SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Some additional resources for parents and children to access if additional support is required include:

- **PARENTLINE: 13 22 89** Parentline is a phone service for parents and carers of children from birth to 18 years old. They offer confidential and anonymous counselling and support on parenting issues.
- **LIFELINE: 13 11 14** Lifeline is a national charity providing all Australians experiencing emotional distress with access to 24 hour crisis support.
- **KIDS HELPLINE: 1800 55 1800** Kids Helpline is a free, private and confidential 24/7 phone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 to 25.

Take care and stay safe.

Please feel free to contact me if you any other queries or concerns.

Take care,
Debbie Clancy

0407 828 327

Debra.Clancy@education.vic.gov.au



2020 marks Bellbridge Primary School's 24th SunSmart birthday!

Bellbridge Primary School is proud to have state-wide recognition for our efforts in promoting sun protection at our school, as well as maintaining our SunSmart membership. As Term 4 approaches and the UV increases, it is important we practice Sun Smart recommendations.

Ultra-violet radiation is a type of radiation produced by the sun. UV cannot be seen or felt. It is not like the sun's light which we see, or the sun's warmth (infrared radiation) which we feel. Our senses cannot detect UV, so it can be damaging without us knowing. UV radiation can lead to a number of health issues, but it is also our main source of Vitamin D. Each classroom contains a poster outlining the daily UV level. The SunSmart app is also on our school's website and displayed on our electronic board out the front of the school.

When the UV level is below 3, it is important that we allow ourselves to absorb the Vitamin D from the sun. However, when these levels go above 3, sun protection is recommended. In Term 1 and 4, students wear hats in accordance with our Sun & UV Protection policy and daily UV announcements occur. In Terms 2 and 3, the UV levels are generally below 3. When the UV level is beyond 3, students are encouraged to follow SunSmart recommendations, which include:

- Slip on a shirt
- Slop on sunscreen
- Slap on a hat
- Seek shade
- Slide on sunglasses



Each classroom has been provided with a bottle of sunscreen (Cancer Council, SPF 30+), which students will be able to use when the UV levels are above 3, if they wish. Students will be applying the sunscreen themselves, with teacher direction if required. It would be helpful if you could ensure your child is clear on how to correctly administer sunscreen. You are welcome to provide your child with your own sunscreen if you prefer, which can remain stored in their bag until needed.

If your child has a specific health issue and should not use school-provided sunscreen, please notify the school office so this information can be noted and passed to the relevant teaching staff and school nurse.

Further information about UV levels can be found via this link:

<https://www.sunsmart.com.au/uv-sun-protection/uv>.