

School Bell



Bellbridge Primary School
Individual Paths, United Journey

Bellbridge Primary School
Bellbridge Drive, Hoppers Crossing, 3029

Telephone 9749 6161

Out of School Care

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

Website Address: <http://www.bellbridgeps.vic.edu.au>

STUDENT ABSENCES

Absences so far this year _____ 351

Absences same time last year _____ 385

DATES TO REMEMBER

22 nd February.....	District Swimming Competition
24 th February.....	Prep Free Day
2 nd March.....	Prep Free Day
3 rd March.....	Prep Parent Information Night
4 th March.....	National Ride2 School Day
9 th March.....	School Photos
10 th March.....	Division Swimming Competition
14 th March.....	Labour Day Holiday
18 th March.....	School Carnival
24 th March.....	Last day of Term 1
11 th April.....	Start of Term 2

LATE ARRIVAL/EARLY LEAVERS

Any child arriving to school after 8.30am is required to attend the office, with a parent/guardian, to obtain a late pass. If your child is leaving school early, the parent/guardian is required to send a note with their child on the morning informing the classroom teacher of the time they will be collected and who will be collecting them. The parent/guardian is required to sign the child out at the office, where arrangements will be made for the child to come up to office.

ASTHMA FORMS

For any student who suffers from asthma, the school must have an action plan in the student's file in case of an emergency. **If your child suffers from asthma**, please send the form back to school as soon as possible. It is important that we have this information on hand so as we can assist your child effectively.

PARENT & TEACHER MEETINGS

We appreciate the time taken by many parents to attend the Parent Teacher Meetings this week. It supports our commitment to strong home school partnerships.

These meetings are often referred to as a 'meet & greet' because we receive important information from parents about their child/ren, e.g. special needs re: medical, social, emotional issues.

If parents were unable to attend this meeting, please contact the Office and/or the classroom teacher so you can make an alternative time for a meeting or a phone conversation with the teacher.

BELLBRIDGE SWIMMING COMPETITION

Congratulations to Mr Henshaw and Miss Morgan, our PE teachers, for organising our annual Bellbridge Swimming Competition. It was an extremely successful event where approximately 50 students participated in trials at the AquaPulse Swim Centre. Based on the results, a team of swimmers were selected to compete against local schools at the District Swimming Competition at Werribee Outdoor Pool on Monday, February 22nd.

SAFE USE of the PLAYGROUND and SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS SUPPORT (SWPBS)

A feature of the SWPBS program at Bellbridge includes explicitly teaching students about how to behave in our playground. As part of on-going learning, our teachers discuss and clarify consistent understandings in relation to safe, respectful and responsible use of all areas of the playground.

Some basic school wide expectations are:

- Students may play anywhere they wish as long as they engage in safe and responsible behaviour
- Playgrounds are for climbing, swinging, sliding, balancing, etc – NOT chasing games
- Games that involve running and chasing should be played on the oval – NOT around buildings
- The front of the school is out of bounds at all times
- The seating around the school is for passive activities (no standing or jumping on them)
- The courtyard is a passive area for sitting or playing less active games – NO running or ball games
- The soccer field is used according to a roster : Monday (Gr 6); Tuesday (Gr 5); Wednesday (Gr 4); Thursday (Gr 2 & 3); Friday (Prep & Gr 1)

EXPECTATIONS about the Use of the Playground AFTER SCHOOL

We are fortunate to have wonderful play equipment at Bellbridge and understand that the children really enjoy playing on it, 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.

1:1 Netbook Program

The Grade 4 - 6 teams and the ICT Team have worked hard to once again implement our 1:1 Netbook Program for all students in Grades 4 - 6. Our 1:1 Netbook Coordinator, Mr Sisson and our Assistant Principal, Mrs Hunt, have made sure that the program provides parents with the best value for money, as well as having the best possible technical support from our full time technician, Helena Kasem.

Students in Grades 4 - 6 will be using their netbooks on a daily basis to support and enrich their learning in all areas of the curriculum, as well as providing engaging homework tasks. We are very proud of this program because ALL students receive a personal netbook to use at school every day, allowing teachers to implement consistent, rich and engaging learning experiences for everyone.

We also appreciate the effort made by parents to attend the official Grade 4 Handover Session last week where parents signed an agreement about safe use of the netbook at home.

HOMEWORK

Bellbridge has a Homework Policy that supports students and their families by providing activities that support classroom learning, foster good study habits and provide an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Please note: Homework is not compulsory at Bellbridge Primary School – it is a parental choice.

If parents do not wish to support homework activities or find that some homework tasks cannot be completed due to other family commitments, we request that parents write and sign a short note to the teacher (e.g. in the Student Diary).

Our approach to homework at Bellbridge includes:

Prep – Grade 3

- Reading activities to, with and by parents.
- Simple extension tasks associated with classroom activities.
- Gathering of additional information or materials.
- Homework will generally not exceed 20 - 30 minutes per day.

Grade 4 – 6

- Independent reading on a daily basis.
- Tasks such as continuation of classroom work.
- Other tasks linked to Inquiry Learning and Integrated Studies.
- Homework will generally not exceed 45 minutes per day.

STUDENT DIARIES are an IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION TOOL at BELLBRIDGE

Prep and Grade 1 students receive a Reading Log/Journal to record their daily reading at home and all students in Grades 2 – 6 receive a Student Diary at the start of the year as part of their book box. The regular use of Student Diaries is a consistent, school wide expectation. It is a tool for regular communication between home and school and must be at school every day. We ask that parents support this expectation by checking their child's diary each day and sign it daily or weekly as required by classroom teachers.

BELLBRIDGE CARNIVAL – Friday, March 18th (mark it in your diary!)

Our major annual fundraising event is the School Carnival which is being held on Friday, March 18th from 2:40 – 6:00pm. Each class has a stall or activity to prepare and host on the day and our School Council organises and oversees a Food Stall with the support of parent volunteers.

If any parents or their family or friends have contacts with businesses and/or are able to provide our school with donations it would be very much appreciated.

More information about donations, pre-ordering of show bags and rides and other important news will be sent home via a weekly Carnival Newsletter.

You can also check out our Facebook Page for information and updates.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

We currently have four vacancies for parent positions on School Council and will be seeking nominations from parents to participate in an election process in order to fill these positions.

The notices for the election of new School Council members have been posted around the school.

Nomination forms have been included in this newsletter and are available from the Office. They need to be returned to the Office by 4:00pm, Wednesday, February 24th.

HOW PARENTS can RAISE CONCERNS with the 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.

We look forward to continuing our positive and productive partnerships with all families at Bellbridge.

Debbie Clancy
Principal

CARNIVAL NEWS



On Friday March 18th 2016, Bellbridge Primary School will be having our annual School Carnival. This is not only an important fundraiser to assist us in providing quality programs for your children, but an exciting and much anticipated event for the whole school.

Everyone is invited to become involved. Students and families assist by donating items needed for the running of class stalls.

Children are able to pre-purchase wrist bands for unlimited rides, showbags and lanyards.

Look out for an order form soon in our weekly Carnival Newsletter.

Donations

Our School Council is currently seeking donations for our School Carnival.

If you have a business or are associated with a business that might be able to donate services or goods, we would love to hear from you.

We appreciate your support and will acknowledge the business at the Carnival and in our Whole School Newsletter.

Please contact our Lisa Lynch on 9749 6161 with details as soon as possible.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

We are seeking expressions of interest from parents who are able to volunteer some time on the day of the carnival. If you are able to dedicate some time to assist on stalls, please complete the form below, circle the time that suits you and return it to the Office.



NAME:

Child's Grade/Room:

I/We are able to work as a VOLUNTEER at the Carnival at the following time:

2:00 - 3:00pm

3:00 - 4:00pm

4:00 - 5:00pm

5:00 - 6:00pm

Chat with the Principal

Monday, February 22nd, 9:00 – 9:30 in the staff room

Parents are invited to meet with our Principal, Debbie Clancy and members the Leadership Team after Assembly on Monday, February 22nd.

This will be an informal gathering where parents have the opportunity to learn more about our school whilst getting to know other parents as well.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If your child is absent from school for any reason, we require parents/guardians to notify the school office that they won't be attending. When your child returns to school, a note must be given to their teacher detailing the date and the reason for the absence.

If your child has any long term absences from school, (eg. holidays, extended illness etc) a note is required to be given to their teacher informing them of the absence prior to them commencing the absence.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the children named below for receiving Awards.

Be a Learner

Eva Susan Thomas, Christina Yarshevich, Elias Khalifa, Moulok Khalifa, Clare Gustin, Sanjana Shivashankaran, Bailey Hutchinson, Sebastian Paice, Jack Bresnan, Vaughan McIntyre, Ebony Raudino, Rhys Kahaki, Zinny Derby, Lochebed Citro, Deniz Oztan, Abdalla Ganada, Lachlan O'Kane, Ayaan Khan, Alia Sahai, Louay Melhem, Harshad Surya Diddi, Joelynn Citro, Abi Tottle, Axel Partridge, Stevie Wisewould, Rory Cunningham, Ella Newborn, Shantell Yip, Vrishti Patel, Tinir Sami Adus, Matthew Butt, Fletcher Grunwald, Nadja Probst, Daniel Krywula, Ehsona Kunoo, Lara Cruz, Athulya Nair, Kiara Stojcevski, Sanket Shivashankaran

Be Responsible

Anahita Kaur, Max Xue, Ava McDonald, Nebiyu Mezgebu, Jarrod Johnstone, Vinay Kaler, Shaelyn Dowsett, Jonathon Bufalino, Macy Sheriff, Kaleb Johnson, Bobby Luo, Alexis Cossey, Mitchell Dawson, Jordan Sobing, Hiwet Kidanemariam, Charleen Nguyen

Be Safe

Tianer (Dou Dou) Zhang

Be Respectful

Logan White, Jorja Roberts, Aashi Dhindsa, Charlise Plowright, Ella Taylor, Alex Taylor, Mauridi Sumaili, Jet Ostrogonac, Akoija George, Ariella Mitchell, Gurnoor Toor, Amel Khalif, Danisha Tran, Kyle O'Keroa, Hannah Shave

ART NEWS

The Art Room requires **clean plastic bottles** as the students will be making wind spinners. If anyone has any plastic bottles, please send them to the art room.

Thank you.

Naomi Bennett

ART TEACHER

P.E. NEWS

On Friday 12th February Grade 3-6 students participated in our annual swimming competition at AquaPulse, Hoppers Crossing. Some amazing talent was shown by all students with everyone trying their best in all events. Thank you to all the lovely parents and guardians who attended, helped out and showed their support for their children. From this group, a selected few will be chosen to represent Bellbridge Primary School in the Truganina district swimming competition on the 22nd of February at Werribee Outdoor Pool. Congratulations to all students on their wonderful achievements and a fantastic day!

Kind regards,

Cruze Henshaw & Alycia Morgan

P.E. TEACHERS

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Please note the following important information:

- Parents must notify the program if their child/ren are attending the program. It is important that children who are enrolled on a casual basis do not attend without being registered.
- Parents must also let the program know if their child is not attending the program on the day they are booked in. Unfortunately, families will be charged a fee if this process is not followed.
- Invoices are now processed a week in advanced and all invoices must be paid by the due date stated on the invoice. Failure to pay by the due date will result in your child losing their place in the program.
- If families are having difficulty paying fees on time, please contact Joanne on 0419594846 or Lisa Lynch at the office.
- All children must have a new enrolment form for 2016 before attending the program.
- The OSHC Program provides Homework Group. If you would like your child/ren to do their homework with us, please inform the staff.
- Breakfast Club is now open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8.00am.
- If you have any further inquiries, please contact Joanne on 0419594841.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TRUGANINA RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB: Truganina Rugby League Club is holding a registration day on Saturday 27th February at Truganina Rabbitoh's Home Ground, Clearwood Drive Reserve, Truganina from 12.00pm – 2.00pm. They are looking for Under 6 – Under 12 players, coaches and volunteers. Register online at www.playnrl.com/register and attend the registration day. On the day, ID (birth certificate or passport) and a player's deposit of \$50.00 will be required.

MANOR LAKES CRICKET CLUB: Manor Lakes Cricket Club is holding a T20 Cup on Sunday 13th March at Howqua Reserve, Manor Lakes from 11.00am – 3.00pm. Registrations open at 10.30am. There will be T20 Blast Cricket Games, all abilities, action and girl's skill zones, player and coach appearances, and attractions. For more information contact 0404144167.

SUPERSPEAK: Superspeak will be running a public speaking and drama program for 6 – 15 year olds at Altona Meadows. They are offering a free trial on Thursday 14th April. Bookings are essential. For more information contact 9572 5249, info@superspeak.com.au or visit www.SuperSpeak.com.au

WERRIBEE SECONDARY COLLEGE: Werribee Secondary College will be holding a 2017 Enrolment Information Night on Wednesday 2nd March 2016 commencing at 7.00pm in the College Auditorium. Come along and find out what the College can offer your child. Information regarding the Select Entry Learning Program will be available. Contact the college on 9741 1822 for further information or to book a tour of the College.

WYNDHAM LACROSSE CLUB: The Wyndham Lacrosse Club is seeking boys, girls, men and women of all ages for the 2016 season. A registration and information night will be held on Monday 29th February 2016 at Wootten Road Reserve , Cnr Hogans and Wootten Road Tarneit. For more information contact 0401770218.

Newsletter Prize

Question: When is our School Carnival?

Answer: _____

Student's Name: _____

Parent's signature: _____

Return to the office by 8:20am Monday, February 22nd – to be drawn at Assembly

HEALTHY VISION IMPROVED EDUCATION

The Optometry Association recommends that children have their eyes checked by a vision health professional (optometrist or ophthalmologist) prior to starting school and every two years after that or as advised by the vision health professional.

Vision assessments by an optometrist do not require a referral letter and in most cases are covered by Medicare. Optometrists are located in all areas. A list of optometrists, including those that speak other languages can be found on www.vicoptom.asn.au.

If you wish to see an ophthalmologist a referral can be organised through an optometrist or local doctor.

Reasons why children should be seen by a vision health professional are children may:

- not be aware that there is a problem with their vision and rarely complain of vision problems
- not always show or have symptoms of vision problems
- have a weakness in one eye which may not be obvious.

If parents have a history of a vision problem as a child or are now wearing glasses, there is an increased likelihood that their children will have a vision problem.

Some facts about vision issues being present and not treated:

- It may lead to severe vision loss or blindness
- The earlier the diagnosis and treatment of a vision problem the better the outcome

Source: www.vicoptom.asn.au

Early Years Literacy and Numeracy Parent Helpers Course SURVEY

ALL WELCOME (parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles etc)

Runs for 3 weeks

This is an expression of interest to see what session times are most popular to run a program starting later in Term 1.

SESSION ONE

Speaking and Listening & Children Learning Maths

SESSION TWO

Reading & Maths: Pause Prompt Praise strategies

SESSION THREE

Writing & Helping with Maths (in the Classroom or at Home)

Find out how Numeracy and Literacy is taught in school and how you can help your child at home, and at school.

Please include all your details below so we can contact you and return it to your child's teacher.

Thank you

Helen Baldock (Assistant Principal)

Bellbridge.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

EARLY YEARS LITERACY AND NUMERACY PARENT HELPERS COURSE PARENT SURVEY

PLEASE TICK WHICH DAY BEST SUITS YOU

If you could attend anytime please tick that option. Thank you

I would like to attend a Parent Helpers Course. I understand there are 3 sessions in the Course.

I can attend

Mondays 9.00-10.15 am

Wednesdays 6.00- 7.15pm

Either of these times suit me

Please fill out your name clearly

Name _____ Contact Number _____

Child's Name _____ Child's GRADE (eg 2B) _____

RETURN AND GIVE TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER Thank you

BELLBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Council Election 2016 - Information for Parents

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category - members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category - members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term i each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term i each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

[Contact the principal for further information.](#)

Bellbridge Primary School Council Elections

Schedule 5A: Self-nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the **BELLBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL SCHOOL COUNCIL**.

NAME:

Residential address:

Contact phone (mobile or landline):

Email:

I am the parent/guardian of _____, who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training but not engaged in work at and for the school

Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not:

- an undischarged bankrupt
- of unsound mind
- currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence; or
- a registrable offender within the meaning of the *Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004*.

Signature of Candidate _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on **03 9749 6161**. If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.

Bellbridge Primary School Council Elections

Schedule 5B: Nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to nominate _____ for an elected position as a parent member on the

BELLBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNCIL

CANDIDATE'S DETAILS

Name:

Residential address _____

Contact phone (mobile or landline)

Email: _____

I am the parent/guardian of _____, who is/are currently enrolled at this school. The person I have nominated is the parent/guardian of _____ who is/are currently enrolled at this school. The person I have nominated is an employee of the Department of Education and Training but not engaged in work at and for the school.

Yes / No (please circle)

Name of Nominator _____

Signature of Nominator _____ Date ____/____/____

CANDIDATE TO COMPLETE:

I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not:

- an undischarged bankrupt
- of unsound mind
- currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence
- a registrable offender within the meaning of the *Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004*.

Signature of Candidate _____ Date ____/____/____

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate and to nominate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

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