



Literacy.....

**READ with your child
EVERY DAY ...**



the more you read the smarter you get!



THURSDAY February 22nd 2024

NEWSLETTER Issue 2



Hi everyone,

Welcome to the 2024 school year.

Our school year has kicked off to a fantastic start. We have a number of new students and families who have become part of our community so welcome everyone.

Start Up program

All classes have begun our “**Start Up**” program where class protocols, expectations for learning and behaviours etc. are discussed and developed.

This process gives students greater input into their class processes and helps establish high expectations and a consistent routine which supports a positive and harmonious classroom environment.

This year we are again so fortunate to have Rachele Petrucci and Deidre Granger deliver their amazing

Sun Smart at Belle Vue Park

‘No hat, No sun, No play, No fun’

If a student is not wearing a school hat they are required to sit under the front pergola in the shade.

When it is really hot our students stay inside in the cool and out of the sun which we did a number of times last week.

All classes have large tubs of sunscreen and we encourage children to Slip, Slop, Slap.

Tutor Program.

They are both very experienced teachers. Rachele and Deirdre’s program is aligned to the classroom structure and based on accurate assessment. They provide further targeted explicit learning in reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN tests

The NAPLAN National Assessment program will be administered in every school across Australia in March.

Our year 3 and year 5 students sit the tests which focus on Reading, Writing, Punctuation & Grammar as well as numeracy. The test window is 13th - 25th March.

Schools are able to administer the test according to their own schedule during this time.

Our school implements our own schedule of assessments during the year and NAPLAN provides another source of individual and cohort data to inform our teaching.



Anaphylaxis Policy ‘NO NUTS or NUT PRODUCTS’ to be brought to school

Our school has a number of students who have Anaphylaxis allergies. We are requesting all families to please **do not include any foods that may contain peanuts/nuts** etc.

This includes Nutella and any chocolate bars that may contain nuts.

Urban Camp

This year our year 4-6 students will have the opportunity to attend Urban Camp in Parkville, next to the Melbourne Zoo. It is a fantastic camp which provides great access to many activities in and around the city. Our process is that year 6 students have the first opportunity to attend, followed by year 5 students and then year 4 students if there are places available. More information will be shared shortly.

Annual privacy reminder

The Education Department and schools collect and use student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools’ Privacy Policy and the Schools’ Privacy Collection Notice.

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy [Policies \(bellevueparkps.vic.edu.au\)](http://Policies (bellevueparkps.vic.edu.au)) describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn. We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use programs/apps such as Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information.

If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education etc, please contact the school.



Students in the spotlight

Students in years 5/6 have created their own Learning Passport with their own learning destination goals for the term. Here is an example from Abdul E.



Swimming Program in 2024

We are offering a swimming program this year. It is booked for the 19th -30th August. We will send information to families in early in term 3.

Bike Restoration Program

We are fortunate to have Marty and Euan working alongside Sue S teaching students skills in bike mechanics this term. Students who are participating in the Bike Restoration Program are:

Muhammad Al-Achker -5/6H; Abdul El-Hawli - 5/6V; David Fiti - 5/6V; Xavier Saraya - 5/6V
Declan Kane - 5/6V; Josh Chappel - 3/4H; Stian Gons - 3/4H, Jacinta Jenkins - 5/6H, Lauren Tennant - 5/6H

This activity will be conducted over 10 weeks each Wednesdays between 11:30am - 1:20pm on the following dates from 14th February - 15th May.

After School Hour Care Program



This week - teaching is learning

Another great week. Highlights were having the children read together and teach each other unique

skills. It's amazing how just a little bit of responsibility can give a child so much focus. Humeira taught Sireen how to tie her shoelaces.

Next week - friendship
We're going to focus on Kindness & being little legends to each other. We will run role plays and collaborative activities each day.

If you would like to be a part of the TheirCare community, please make a booking.

To register an account, book, edit or cancel a booking for your child(ren) please click the "Register Now" button on the link:

<https://theircare.fullybookedccms.com.au/family/login>

For any queries on bookings and for further information about any of the programs or activities we offer, please do not hesitate to contact us on 0459 555 361 or email us at bellevuepark@theircare.com.au

TO BOOK PLEASE CALL 0459 555 361

M: 0459 555 361

E: bellevuepark@theircare.com.au

P: 1300 072 410

W: www.theircare.com.au



'See Me, Hear Me' media centre

Over the holiday period our Handyman Joe has been doing lots of work to repurpose the old Female toilets.



We are close to completing this project which has required new power & data connections, new carpet and acoustic wall tiles. We will soon add a large screen TV. This week the air conditioning was installed. We already have lots of furniture and have on order new IT resources for the program.



A very exciting and innovative curriculum strategy that has won a National ATOM award and also played an important role in Paul Baks' Victorian Teacher Excellence award last year capturing the story of the Panthers netball team.

Our students love our media strategy.

Scientists in Schools partnership



We are very excited to announce that our school is partnering with the CSIRO in the ‘Scientists in Schools’ program. We are matched with Ben who is an ITC systems expert. Ben will be working with Paul Baks in term 2. Pretty cool hey.

DIARY DATES

School assembly	Friday 3:00pm in the courtyard
Breakfast Club	Tues./ Wed/Thurs 8:30am.
Animation & Documentary making	Wednesdays -Yr 5/6 with Greta & Paul Baks
Labour Day holiday	Monday 11th March

Free Adult English Language classes

The sessions begin on Monday 19th February and finish March 25th. All sessions are held on a Monday in the Library from 9:15-11:15am.

Hina will be the teacher again this year. She is a lovely lady and a great teacher.

Come along, meet new people, and learn more English. Thank you to Sussex Neighbourhood House.

Foundation Students schedule

Our foundation year students have every Wednesday off for the rest of February. They are at school full time starting Monday February 26th



Meet and Greet

Thank you to parents and carers who attended the meet and greet sessions this week. It was a great to see so many attend these sessions.

‘KidsZone’ Wellbeing& Inclusion centre

For those not aware – here is the final design for our new centre which will be constructed this year.



Kindergarten Open Day

You're invited to...



NORTHERN SCHOOLS EARLY YEARS

KINDERGARTEN OPEN DAYS

Visit our kindergartens to meet the kindergarten team, learn about our programs and tour the beautiful settings.



Kindergarten

Regular session times during 2024

Belle Vue Park Kindergarten

3yo: Mon, Tue, Thu, 8.30am-1.30pm
4yo: Mon, Tue, Thu, 8.30am-1.30pm

2.00-3.30pm (no RSVP required)

For more information contact the NSEY office on 9306 1662 email office@nseyc.org.au or visit www.nseyc.org.au

Voluntary Contributions

Parents are asked to pay their \$120 to the front office before the end of February.

The contributions are for many of the resources and equipment that your child uses throughout the year.

Road Safety On time to school

Road Safety is so important, and it starts with parents talking to their children about safety in the car and on the footpaths. Please ensure that you talk to your children about keeping themselves safe and how to be aware when they are near the footpath.



Drivers need to set an example and there are still one or two drivers who wear their seat belt but do not bother to ensure their passengers are safely in a seatbelt.

BELT THEM UP PLEASE

Inter-school Sports

Our students from years 4-6 participate in our interschool sports teams. Year 6 students have first chance to be in a team, followed by year 5 and then

year 4 students if required. Teams for term one will be cricket, softball and bat tennis.

Students have signed up for a team and we will try to ensure all students participate. Thank you to Casey, Stuart and other staff for coaching our teams. Term one sports are held on Friday mornings from 9:30am-11:00am.

Our students have already started practising at recess and lunch time.

Parents and family of participating students are welcome to attend and provide support and encouragement. We will have 4 games in term one against other schools.

Student Welfare

We are very fortunate to be able to continue our student welfare support with the services of RelateWell - Family Relationships Institute Inc. (Suite 102, 398 Sydney Road Coburg) www.relatewell.org.au These services will begin by the end of February.



Staff from RelateWell will deliver various programs and strategies for individuals and small groups as well as families here at the school.

Please contact the office if you would like further information. These sessions are all confidential. More information will be available soon.

School Council news

We are calling for nominations for our School Council this year. The role is for 2 years, and Council is required to have 8 meetings a year. Nominations forms are available from the office. This year we have 4 vacancies with two current Councillors re-nominating. We will also have a new staff rep this year.

If you are interested or would like further information please speak to Paul or Nat. We meet on a Tuesday at 4:00pm on site or online. The timeline for our process is:

Notice of election & call for nominations	Fri. Feb 23 rd
Closing date for nominations	Fri. March 1 st
Date candidates will be posted	Mon. March 4 th
Date ballot prepared/distributed	Mon. March 11 th
Close of ballot	Mon. March 18 th
Declaration of poll	Tues. March 19 th

Domestic Violence

If you or a member of your family requires confidential crisis



support, information and accommodation please contact the 24/7 state-wide Family Violence response service [safe steps](http://safe.steps) on **1800 015 1881** or visit the website at <http://dvvic.org.au/on>. They will assist you.

If you feel unsafe or are concerned for someone's safety, please call 000.

For confidential phone help and referral in Australia, please contact 1800RESPECT

Effects of screens on young children

A new study has added to a growing body of research showing that **screen time is slowing child development**. The



study, by researchers from the University of Waterloo, the University of Calgary and Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute, was published in the journal *Jama Paediatrics*.

The researchers looked at the screen time and development of more than 2,400 children between the ages of two and five. **They found that Children who spent more time with screens at two years of age did worse on tests of development at age three than children who had spent little time with devices.**

A similar result was found when children's screen time at three years old was compared with their development at five years.

“What is new in this study is that we are studying really young children, so aged 2-5, when brain development is really rapidly progressing and also child development is unfolding so rapidly.

The team say a clear trend emerged: the more time children were reported to be spending in front of screens, the worse they did on development tests which means the harder learning is for them at school.

Those who spent longer with screens at 24 months showed worse performance on tests at 36 months,

and a similar trend was seen for screen time at 36 months and test performance at five years.

“When young children are observing screens, they may be missing important opportunities to practice and master interpersonal, motor, and communication skills,” the authors wrote.

Good sleep, reading to the child, and positive communication are also very important. Our advice is for families to spend time interacting as a family, **that screens are not allowed to interfere with sleep, and that screen-based interaction is no substitute for in-person contact.**

Reading with your child

Making time to read regularly with your children is an important part of literacy development. Reading, as well as listening, speaking and writing are fundamental to the development of literacy skills, including vocabulary and language development.



The key is to have a regular routine for reading together that suits you both. Spending 10 minutes a day reading together has been shown to make a difference.

If you can manage more time, that's great - as long as it's a positive experience. It helps to have books that match your children's interest, whether they are purchased, borrowed from friends, the local library or from school.

Children often take their cues from their parents. For this reason, it's important for adults to display a positive attitude towards reading - simply expressed by spending time enjoying reading.

Just read a few pages and ask your child questions, get them to predict what might happen next, talk about how characters might feel etc. All helps to advance reading skills and comprehension doing with a love of reading.

Recycle bottles and cans

Ken Gauci, Operations Manager of iDump (iKon) Waste Management Services will provide us with a NEW 240L black bin with a red lid and hole cut out on the lid for 10c refund bottles/cans. Thank you to Ken for his generosity.



Donations in term one will go towards the Panther's netball team. Thank you to our Wellbeing Officer Sue Sandy for co-ordinating this.

On time to school


A reminder to our families that school classes begin at **9:00am**.



It is wise to have students arrive at school at around 8:45am which gives them time to play, catch up with friends and get organised for the day ahead.

We ask families to make the effort of ensuring that their child/ren arrive at school on time. Late comers miss out on the start of the lesson and interrupt the class.

Social media profile

Twitter  Our school now has a number of social media platforms to keep our community up to date with what's going on at school.

To follow our school's Tweets, go to the following:
[@BelleVueParkPS](https://twitter.com/BelleVueParkPS)

Belle Vue Park Primary Website

Our school, kindergarten and Community Hub website address is located at:
<http://www.bellevueparkps.vic.edu.au/>

S.O.L.E. Australia website & Twitter



Have you checked out the Self Organising Learning Environments website yet? S.O.L.E. The address is:
soleaustralia.com

The website has been developed by our school and our partner school Aberfeldie Primary School.

[@PaulKenna@SOLEAust](https://twitter.com/PaulKenna)

Have a great week everyone.

Cheers,

Paul Kenna
Principal

Natalie Wise
Assistant Principal