



# **Bethal Primary School**

## **Newsletter**

**Month: October**

**Ph: 03 9309 7626**

**[bethal.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:bethal.ps@education.vic.gov.au)**

### **WELCOME BACK**

Welcome back to Term 4!

The planned return to onsite learning for all students began this week. We welcomed our Foundation students on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.



Our teachers are ready and really excited to see all of their children and engage in their learning activities at school with their friends.

**Grade 1 and 2 return Thursday and Friday**

**Grade 5 and 6 return Friday**

As we have been in remote learning for an extended amount of time, it is a good idea to continue preparing children for the return to school by encouraging lots of positive talk at home about school, having regular bedtimes and the reintroduction of routines similar to the 'normal' school day.

As a school, we are very aware of how long students have been away from school, from face-face learning and from seeing their friends. We also know that children are resilient and will, in time, bounce back from this disruption to daily life.

Whilst the return to school will be a joyful moment for most and highly anticipated, the reality is that some children may feel anxious about being around others, especially as we continue to see high case numbers in the community at present.

Rather than assuming your child will cope ok, we encourage discussion at home about how they are feeling and prepare to adjust to the return to school plan. We think the staggered return between October 18th -November 5th will work for most students, but some may need a slightly different plan. If you're unsure, we encourage you to contact your child's classroom teacher as soon as possible.

### **Staffing Update**

This week we say a farewell to Felix, our Social Worker who has been a part of our Bethal Primary School Community this year. Felix has worked closely with many of our students to support them throughout the year. We would all like to wish Felix well in the future and thank him for all of his contributions to our school community.

### **HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

There are currently many Tier 1 COVID sites where our Bethal families live and work. As a result of this, we need to follow the rules in place for reporting and monitoring these occurrences. It is a timely reminder for everyone to follow the guidelines listed below to help keep us all safe;

- “ Minimise non-essential trips to 'hot spot' locations
- “ Use QR check-ins
- “ Get tested if you are experiencing any symptoms and stay home
- “ Follow close contact procedures / DHHS advice and contact the school office
- “ Practice good hygiene and maintain physical distancing
- “ Get vaccinated as soon as possible
- “ Wear a mask whenever you leave your home

## **Entry and Exit Gates**

To support our wellbeing and limit mixing of students we have gates designated to year levels when students arrive and depart from school.



- ❖ Foundation Children – enter and leave via the front Gate
- ❖ Grade 1 & 2 children – enter and leave via the front pedestrian gate
- ❖ Grade 3 & 4 children – enter and leave via the basketball gate
- ❖ Grade 5 & 6 children – enter and leave via the parklands gate near basketball gate

**No parents are permitted on the school grounds**

**All parents are required to wear masks and not gather at gates**

## **Children Returning after Isolating**

To keep our school community safe, we need to make sure that we are following the health advice from the Department of Health and Department of Education.

**Students who tested positive need a DHS clearance text.**

**Students isolating need a Day 13 negative result before returning.**

**PLEASE SEND THESE TO THE SCHOOL BY EMAIL OR CONTACT THE OFFICE BEFORE YOUR CHILD May RETURN TO SCHOOL.**



## **Face Masks for Students**

Chief Health Officer Brett Sutton said while masks will be required when onsite for students in Grades 3-6, mask-wearing will be "strongly recommended", but not mandated, for younger children from Prep to Grade 2. "We really want to have these measures in place early on to keep kids in school and to make sure that they are as safe as possible in the school environment."

We will provide the children in grades 3-6 with face masks to wear at school when they are in the classrooms. Children may also bring their own mask if they wish.

### **The Classroom Bubble**

One of the key practices to stay safe at school will be to limit mixing between groups of children and groups of staff.

We have organised our school so that we have 'classroom bubbles' for staff and students over the coming week. We are hoping to have minimal interaction between units as well.

### **SUPPORT FOR SCHOOLS**

You may have heard through the media that the State Government and Department of Education and Training are putting several initiatives in place to support schools with measures to maintain the health and wellbeing of students and staff in the transition back to face-to face learning.

### **Air Purifiers**

The Department will be delivering air purifiers to schools at some stage this year. It is not known how many air purifiers we will receive; however, they are to be prioritised for high-risk areas with poor ventilation and areas where high levels of mixing of staff and students.

### **Shade Sail Grant**

As part of the return to school transition, we have been encouraged by the Department to maximise outdoor learning areas where possible. To support this, there are grants available for schools to apply for to fund the installation of shade sails for outdoor learning spaces. We are currently working on our school's submission for this grant and we shall keep you posted on this.

## PLANNING FOR 2022

Despite the transition to remote learning, planning for 2022 is already well underway. To be able to accurately and effectively plan, we need to have a fairly good idea of the number of students we will have at the school next year. If you are aware of anyone who is considering sending their child to Bethal PS next year, please encourage them to contact the school and get their enrolment forms in soon. This includes new Prep enrolments and enrolments in other year levels. If your child will be leaving us at the end of the year, could you please let us know as soon as possible because this also impacts on planning for 2022.

### School Enrolment

### Kinder Enrolment



The poster for Bethal Primary School features the school's crest in the top left corner. Below it is a yellow arrow pointing right with the URL <https://bethalps.vic.edu.au/>. The main title "Bethal Primary School" is in large black font, followed by "ENROL YOUR CHILD FOR 2022 NOW!" in bold black text on a red background. On the left, there are four circular photos of children in school uniforms. On the right, a yellow box contains the text: "Bethal Primary School is taking enrolments for 2022 now. For information about enrolments please call 9309 7626 or email [bethal.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:bethal.ps@education.vic.gov.au)". At the bottom, a red banner reads "Collaboration | Perseverance | Respect".

**Bethal Primary School**  
**ENROL YOUR CHILD  
FOR 2022 NOW!**

<https://bethalps.vic.edu.au/>

Bethal Primary School is taking enrolments for 2022 now.  
For information about enrolments please call  
**9309 7626**  
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**Collaboration | Perseverance | Respect**



The poster for NSEC Kindergarten has a blue and yellow color scheme. The top section says "ENROL NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN IN 2022 at the NSEC" in large yellow and white letters. Below this is a circular photo of children playing in a sandpit. To the right, text lists school sites: "Our kindergartens are located on school sites across: Glenroy, Dallas Fawcner, Coburg Broadmeadows & Meadow Heights". It also says "See over page for a list of our kindergarten services." and features the "KINDERGARTEN" logo with a checkmark. A large orange circle at the bottom right contains the text "Call us on 9306 1662 to enrol for 2022". A list of bullet points is on the left: "Free or low cost kindergarten available", "3 and 4 year old sessional programs", "High quality learning", "Smooth transition to school", and "All children and families welcome!". The bottom of the poster provides contact information for the Northern Schools Early Years Cluster.

**ENROL NOW**  
**FOR KINDERGARTEN IN 2022**  
**at the NSEC**

Our kindergartens are located on school sites across:  
**Glenroy, Dallas Fawcner, Coburg Broadmeadows & Meadow Heights**

See over page for a list of our kindergarten services.

**KINDERGARTEN**  
NSEC

• Free or low cost kindergarten available  
• 3 and 4 year old sessional programs  
• High quality learning  
• Smooth transition to school  
• All children and families welcome!

**Call us on 9306 1662 to enrol for 2022**

Contact the Northern Schools Early Years Cluster  
Email us at [office@nsec.org.au](mailto:office@nsec.org.au)  
Phone 9306 1662 or visit us online at [www.nsec.org.au](http://www.nsec.org.au) or [www.facebook.com/nsec](http://www.facebook.com/nsec)

## Return to School timetable

Please note - Melbourne Cup Day Public holiday is November 2nd

Year levels	Week 3 Monday 18 October	Week 4 Monday 25 October	Week 5 Monday 1 November	Week 6 Monday 8 November
Foundation	Monday Tuesday Wednesday	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	All Week
Year 1-2	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	All Week
Year 3-4	Remote Learning	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	All Week
Year 5-6	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	All Week

**Canteen is back, opening Monday October 25th.**

Canteen days are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Cash only, no Eftpos available.

Please remember to put your name, grade and lunch order on a paper bag.







## Foundation 2022 Transition Program



We welcome you to the Bethal Primary School Community and thank you for choosing our school. We look forward to connecting with you and your child and beginning our partnership in learning.

*Our Transition Program is usually facilitated on site, face to face. However, current circumstances have prevented this from happening this year. We would still like to connect with you and your child virtually via Webex. Please download the **WebEx App** to be able to connect with us for the transition program. See instructions below.*

We invite you to engage in the following program to introduce you and your child to Bethal Primary School for four transition events. These transition sessions will provide you and your child with the opportunity to learn more about Bethal Primary School and what you can expect for your child when they start school, as well as some virtual/live activities for them to participate in with our teachers. The last session is a Parent Information presentation.

Below is our schedule to meet with you and your child. We encourage you to join as a family.

Please contact the school office on 9309 7626 if you need some help.

SESSION	DATE	CONNECT	CONTENT
<b>1</b>	<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November 10 - 11am</b>	<b>Webex Meeting - Please click the link</b> <a href="https://educic.webex.com/jb81d7ff6-98ad-4b15-a93a-7f0d9d36cc9a">https://educic.webex.com/jb81d7ff6-98ad-4b15-a93a-7f0d9d36cc9a</a>  Meeting number: 786 905 505	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome</li> <li>• School Tour</li> <li>• Letters and Sounds</li> <li>• Storytime</li> <li>• Music</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 10 - 11am</b>	<b>Webex Meeting - Please click the link</b> <a href="https://educic.webex.com/jb81d7ff6-98ad-4b15-a93a-7f0d9d36cc9a">https://educic.webex.com/jb81d7ff6-98ad-4b15-a93a-7f0d9d36cc9a</a>  Meeting number: 786 905 505	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome Back!</li> <li>• Zones &amp; Feelings</li> <li>• Counting &amp; Numbers</li> <li>• Storytime</li> <li>• Spanish</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 5pm - 6pm</b>	<b>Webex Meeting - Please click the link</b> <a href="https://educic.webex.com/jb81d7ff6-98ad-4b15-a93a-7f0d9d36cc9a">https://educic.webex.com/jb81d7ff6-98ad-4b15-a93a-7f0d9d36cc9a</a>  Meeting number: 786 905 505	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Parent Information Session - Presentation</li> <li>o Questions and Answers</li> </ul>

### How to download Webex

#### Download Webex on your Computer



1. Click on the link  
<https://www.webex.com/downloads.html>
2. Download Webex for your computer
3. Open Webex and join the meeting

#### Install the App on your phone

1. Go to your App store on your phone....
2. Select Webex
3. Install
4. Open the App





## COVIDSafe Habits

- ▶ **Wash your hands** often with soap and running water for at least 20 seconds. Dry your hands with a paper towel or hand dryer.
- ▶ **Use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser** with over 60 per cent alcohol.
- ▶ **Cover your cough or sneeze** into your elbow.
- ▶ **Carry a face mask** with you when you leave home. Wearing a face mask is recommended when at a private gathering and outdoors when you can't keep 1.5 metres distance from other people.
- ▶ **You must wear a face mask** on public transport, in taxis, ride share vehicles, tour vehicles, at airports and during flights to and from Victoria.
- ▶ **Don't touch** your eyes, nose or mouth – or your face mask, if you're wearing one.
- ▶ **If you feel unwell** stay home. Call your GP or the Coronavirus (COVID-19) hotline on 1800 675 398 for advice.
- ▶ **Get tested** if you have COVID-19 symptoms. Go straight home and isolate while you wait for your results.
- ▶ **Remember**, if you're seeing friends and family – it's safer to meet outdoors.
- ▶ **Continue health habits**. Exercise, eat a balanced diet, get plenty of sleep and stay connected. Quit smoking (Quitline 137 848).



Find out more [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

For more information, call the

**Coronavirus hotline 1800 675 398 (24 hours)**

Choose option 0 for translating and interpreting services

**Call Triple Zero (000) for emergencies only**

To receive this publication in an accessible format email [COVID-19@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVID-19@dhhs.vic.gov.au)  
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Department  
of Health



# Vaccine Chats

**For Muslims, by Muslims**

*Book a free, confidential conversation  
about the COVID-19 vaccine\* with a  
Muslim health care professional at:*

**vaxchats.org.au**

*or scan the QR code below*

*\*Disclaimer: This platform does NOT  
provide medical consultations.*



# محادثات اللقاح

للمسلمين ، من قبل المسلمين

احجز محادثتك المجانية والسرية مع  
أخصائي صحة اليوم على

[vaxchats.org.au](http://vaxchats.org.au)

أو امسح رمز الاستجابة السريعة أدناه

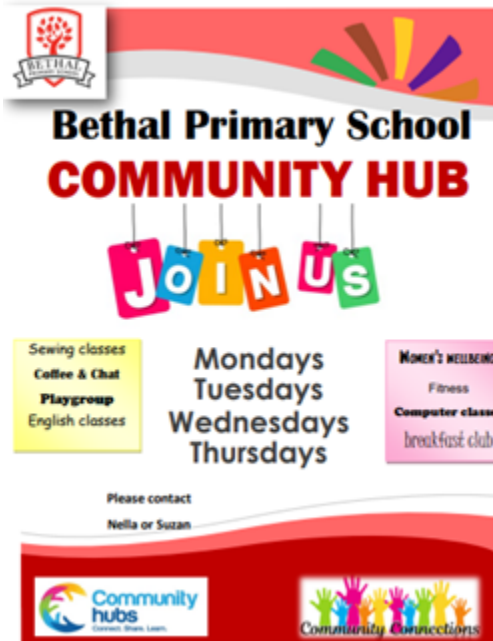
إخلاء المسؤولية: هذه  
المنصة لا تقدم استشارات



**MHPA**  
Muslim Health  
Professionals  
Australia



# Community Hub



STAY CONNECTED and JOIN US ON  
WHATSAPP and ZOOM

PLAYGROUP – Whatsapp

Enjoy new activities to do with your children!

SEWING – Whatsapp

Try an activity in your own time and no machine needed!

ENGLISH – Zoom online

For Beginners and those ready to study at Tafe!

WOMEN'S WELLBEING – Whatsapp and Zoom

Talk about Women's Health and meet others!

Contact Nella: 0407 844 403 / Suzan: 0405 019 440

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

**Playgroup** – Let's plant for Spring and learn Farm Animals

**Sewing** – Learn how to make a pin cushion and insert a zipper

**English** – Tuesdays & Wednesdays 4p.m – English for Tafe

-Thursdays 10a.m – Beginner English and 1p.m - Conversation

**Women's Wellbeing** – Wednesdays 1p.m Coffee and chat

