

ACCOUNT NOTICE FOR 2023

November 2022

Dear Parents,

In consultation with the School Advisory Council and School Accountants, School Fees and Curriculum Levies have been set for 2023.

This is the first increase since 2019 as we understand the ever increasing financial pressures on families and strive to balance those pressures with the financial obligations of the school. Families who qualify for Concessional Fees are asked to contact the School Office for an application form. **Concessional school fees are available to any family that meets the following eligibility criteria:** a family of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage; holding an HCC and eligible for CSEF; experiencing severe financial hardship; holding a DVA Gold Card; identified as refugees and holding an ImmiCard.

Curriculum Levy for 2023

Years P – 2:	\$520.00 per student
Years 3 – 4:	\$500.00 per student
Years 5 – 6:	\$540.00 per student

School Fees for 2023

Family with one child:	\$1,400.00 per family, per year
Family with two or more children:	\$1,600.00 per family, per year

School Development Fund

\$200 per family (Annual payment to fund school improvement initiatives)

Payment structure for 2023.

One invoice will be raised at the start of the 2023 school year.

Payment is to be made in 3 instalments – each instalment equal to one third of the combined fees, levies and building fund. *Please round payments up.*

Fee payment dates:

Term 1. Final payment date: End of Week 3 – Friday 10 February

Term 2. Final payment date: End of Week 3 – Friday 12 May

Term 3. Final payment date: End of Week 5 – Friday 4 August

Note: Fee payment dates do not apply to those families who have chosen to pay by Direct Debit

In addition to the above, parents are required to provide the following items per child: one art smock (can be an old over-sized shirt), one library bag - drawstring type (waterproof preferable) and a large box of tissues.

All books and stationery will be ready in the classroom for student use at the beginning of the 2023 school year.

Curriculum Levies account for recurrent curriculum expenses. Some examples of these costs are:

- classroom books and stationery;
- water awareness program for Years Prep to 2;
- sports and excursions - hiring of venues, buses, entry fees, etc;
- inter-school sports for Years 5 and 6 (additional bus hire)
- licenses, memberships and subscriptions;
- the upgrade of resources and curriculum requisites such as those needed for literacy, mathematics, library, science and technology, etc;
- other recurrent curriculum expenses as arise from time to time.

We highly recommend Direct Debit for its convenience. Many of our families currently have Direct Debit plans in place. If you would like to take advantage of our Direct Debit facility, please collect a form at the office. Just nominate the \$ amount to be debited from your account and the payment frequency - i.e. weekly, fortnightly or monthly. We also ask you to nominate a start and end date. Once in place, amendments or adjustments can be made, but must be in writing.

Note: All accounts paid via Direct Debit (unless payments are ongoing) are to be finalised by 3 November 2023.

School Development Fund - this is an annual payment of \$200.00 per family to assist with the funding of school improvement initiatives such as playground improvements and facility upgrades.

CSEF 2023 (Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund)

Families who hold a valid Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card or Veterans Affairs Gold Card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) allowance of \$125 per child.

*Note: If you applied in 2022, you do not need to complete an application form in 2023 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred - **new student enrolments** - your child has started or changed schools this year or - **changed family circumstances** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number or new siblings commencing this year. All current recipients will be automatically assessed by Centrelink in 2023.*

If you did not apply in 2022, please pick up an application form from the office or download the Application form from the website <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

We ask that you please notify the office if you think you are eligible. Under strict regulations governing this fund, payment can only be credited towards the sports and excursions component of your Curriculum Levy thereby reducing the fee payable by eligible families.

For further information please contact the office.

If you are facing financial difficulty you are encouraged to make an appointment to see me as soon as possible to discuss mutually suitable payment arrangements.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Wilson – Principal