South Melbourne Park
Primary School
29 Albert Park Drive
Albert Park VIC 3206

17/11/25

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you may know, government schools provide free instruction to meet the requirements of the standard Victorian curriculum. At South Melbourne Park Primary School, our vision is to inspire a new generation of curious minds and nurture highly literate and numerate learners. We strive to make SMPPS a place where children love to be; where they feel excited to learn, grow, and play.

While government funding supports the core curriculum, it does not cover all the resources needed to deliver the rich and engaging programs we believe our students deserve. Your voluntary contributions play a vital role in helping us bring our vision to life. Here are just some of the ways your support makes a difference:

- Access to the latest decodable texts, reading sets, chapter books, and quality literature
- Upgraded maths resources that help students build strong concrete understandings before progressing to abstract concepts at all levels of learning
- High tech STEM resources such as Bots, Makey Makeys, LEGO Education kits, coding tools, chemistry and circuitry kits.
- iPads for years 2-4 and Chromebooks for years 5-6
- Clay, glaze, paint pens, mounting paper, exacto knives, printmaking tools, digital art supplies, and canvases to inspire our budding artists
- New balls, soccer goals, athletics equipment and other PE resources
- Musical instruments, costume supplies, and sound equipment to support our aspiring musicians

Your generosity directly enhances the quality of learning experiences we can offer. We are deeply grateful for your continued support.

For further details on the Department's Parent Payments Policy, please refer to the one-page overview attached.

Yours sincerely,

Nicole Arnold

Nicole Arnold
Principal

Katrina Walker

Katrina Walker
School Council President

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Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
***Classroom consumables**, student pack items, stationery, workbooks, materials & equipment as well as Specialist program supplies:* • Student stationery items (the school bulk purchases these items for students to use) • *Visual Art* • *STEM* • *Numeracy* • *Literacy* • *Sport/PE* • *LOTE (Spanish program)* • *Performing Arts* • *Passions program* • *ICT Devices – provision of devices for students to use for their learning, leased by the school* • *Printing & photocopying of learning materials* • *Classroom sets/kits & learning equipment*	$580
Online subscriptions • *Mathletics, Compass, Storybox, Times Table Rockstars*	*$40*
Total Curriculum Contributions	***$620***

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	**Amount**
***Learning and Facilities** – This category is for curriculum resources and supports for your children such as:* • *Enhanced student support (eg; learning support programs)* • *Enhanced wellbeing support (eg; wellbeing programs & materials)* • *Engaging staff through local payroll (eg; groundskeeper/maintenance person, additional wellbeing and learning support staff)* • *Sports affiliation costs (eg; District sport, School Sport Victoria)*	*$200*
***School Assistance Fund** – this fund is to provide an opportunity for students to participate in extracurricular activities at our school, where otherwise unable to due to demonstrated financial hardship. Your contribution helps to ensure that all our students have the option of attending excursions, incursions, school camp, swimming programs and receiving uniform items.*	*$30*
First aid supplies and hygiene materials	*$20*
***School grounds and maintenance**- materials, equipment*	*$20*
Total Other Contributions	**$270**
Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund** - A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school buildings **(Suggested amount - $50).	$
Library Fund** – A tax deductible contribution for book purchases and equipment that sustain our library as a valuable resource for our students **(Suggested amount $50)	$

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

South Melbourne Park Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user pays basis (ie; excursions, incursions, camps, sports events). Details of these items and activities will be provided to students and families throughout the year.

Financial Support for Families

South Melbourne Park Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) for eligible Healthcare Card holders
- State Schools Relief (SSR) for assistance with uniform items
- Payment plans/ instalments for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
- Welfare and support agencies that have established partnership arrangements to provide further assistance to students and their families.

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

Marco Romano, Business Manager

Ph: 03 9498 3396 | Email: *south.melbourne.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au*

Total

Category		Totals
Curriculum Contributions		$620
Other Contributions	*(Non-tax deductible)*	$270
*(Tax-deductible) suggested amount $100**		$100*
Total		**$990**

Payment methods

Parent contributions towards requested payments is essential to maintain the quality of education that we provide at South Melbourne Park Primary School. Payments can be made via the Compass Parent Portal, QKR app or EFT at the School Office (no cash payments). **Payment by instalments is available**.

Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and made on a case-by-case basis. Refunds will be provided where the school deems it is reasonable and fair to do so, taking into consideration whether a cost has been incurred, the Department's Parent Payments Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy, and any other relevant information.

PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

ONE PAGE OVERVIEW

FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.

PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

Curriculum Contributions	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).

FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.

SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.