



MEENIYAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

6 Geale Street

Meeniy 3956

Ph: 5664 7382

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Principal: Gene VanderZalm

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Meeniy Primary School is looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Meeniy Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students, by inviting parents to contribute via the Curriculum Contribution. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that's through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school your financial support has allowed us to organise and coordinate the best possible programs outside of the traditional teaching and learning classroom structure. These financial contributions assist us with the ability to provide additional resources giving our students opportunities that are above and beyond what is required in the standard curriculum and what is provided for by Government funding. Curriculum Contributions allow us to provide subsidies for some of our camps, excursions and sports days, together with our swimming program; as well as additional resources for Music, Auslan, Wellbeing & PE Programs. In past years we have been able to update our resources within our Literacy & Numeracy, Mathematics and Technology areas, all due to Curriculum Contributions from families. All of these programs running alongside the traditional classroom teaching are imperative so as to provide an effectively balanced and rigorous overall education for your children.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see a one-page overview attached.

Yours sincerely,

Gene VanderZalm
Principal

Kate Thomas
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<p><i>Classroom consumables, materials, & equipment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Classroom - pens, pencils, textas, glue sticks, writing, graph and scrap books, highlighters, folders, display books, scissors, rulers – delivered to school in January and distributed to students on the first day of school</i> • <i>Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, glue, card, wool, material, wood, beading</i> • <i>Science/ Mathematics – numeracy blocks, calculators, books, stationary</i> • <i>Literacy – book boxes, class sets, novels, readers</i> • <i>Sports – equipment, sports</i> • <i>Auslan – books and folders</i> • <i>Library – books, subscriptions</i> 	\$125
<p><i>Online Subscriptions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mathletics</i> 	\$18
<p><i>Curriculum Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cultural Performances (2 per year)</i> 	\$17
<i>Curriculum Consumables</i>	\$160

Other Contributions

Meeniy Primary School continues to welcome a voluntary grounds levy, used to support our Grounds & Playground maintenance. In the past this has supported a gardener, which reduces the need for parent/guardian working bees.

Other Contributions	Amount
<i>Grounds Levy – Per Family</i>	\$20.00

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Meeniy Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Sport – swimming & athletics, winter sport, cake decoration, pool party etc.	\$TBC
Camps, sports and excursions to be scheduled (Year Prep – Beach Excursion, Yrs 2/3 Dinner & Sleepover, Years 3 – 6 camps.	\$TBC
<i>Extra-curricular Items and Activities</i>	\$TBC

Financial Support for Families

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

- *the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund to **eligible Health Care Card Holders** (this fund cannot be used for Curriculum Contributions)*
- *Individual Payment Plans*
- *State Schools Relief*

Families who have a valid Health Care Card at the beginning of the school year 29/01/2024 who have never claimed the CSE Funding should request a form from the office.

Any family who successfully claimed in 2023, your details will roll over into 2024, unless your card is no longer valid or your details have changed.

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

Gene VanderZalm Ph: 03 5664 7382 | Email: gene.vanderzalm@education.vic.gov.au OR

Kylie Mitchell Ph: 03 5664 7382 | Email: kylie.mitchell2@education.vic.gov.au

Preferred Payment methods –

- *Credit Card payment via Compass Billing*
- *Direct deposit to the school's bank account Commonwealth Bank 063 518 / 1007 1649*
- *Eftpos facilities available at school*

Cash or card payments can be made directly to the school office from now.

* Please note we now have Credit Card/EFPTOS facilities at school for your convenience.

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE PAYMENT SLIP BELOW TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE
AFTER PAYMENT HAS BEEN MADE**

PAYMENT SLIP:

FAMILY NAME _____

Curriculum Contributions: No. of children _____ @ \$160 per child \$ _____

Child's Name: _____ Year Level _____

Child's Name: _____ Year Level _____

Child's Name: _____ Year Level _____

Child's Name: _____ Year Level _____

Grounds Levy @ \$20 per family \$ _____

TOTAL PAYMENT FOR 2024 \$ _____

Paid By (please circle): Direct Deposit / Cash or Card to School/Compass Billing

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 standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.
- 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

Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.

Other Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

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.