



ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

ABN 40 578 109 371

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YEAR 2022 SCHOOL FEES & LEVIES

Dear Families,

After careful consideration and advice from our governing body, Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS), the School Fees & Levies have now been finalised with the following amounts approved as the **Fee & Levy charges for 2022** (please note that although we have introduced a Chromebook Levy for students in Years 3-6, we have tried to keep all other increases to a minimum – refer below):

▪ Family Fee	\$1,770.00
▪ Building Levy	355.00
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	\$2,125.00
ADDITIONAL CHARGES (PER CHILD):	
▪ Activity & Event Levy (All Students)	15.00
▪ Stationery & Materials Levy (All Students)	130.00
▪ Technology Levy (All Students)	80.00
▪ Chromebook Levy (Yrs 3-6) *New in 2022	50.00
▪ Sacramental Levy (Yrs 3, 4 & 6)	25.00
▪ Swimming Levy (Yrs Foundation-4)	80.00
▪ Camp Fee – 2 days/1 night (Yrs 3&4)	175.00
▪ Camp Fee – 3 days/2 nights (Yrs 5&6)	275.00

There are three (3) compulsory components to school fees and levies:

1. **Family Fee** - \$1,770.00 per family per year: The Family Fee covers the majority of school expenses and includes school paid staff salaries, student protection insurance, administration and operating costs of the school.
2. **Building Levy** - \$355.00 per family per year. The Building Levy is a building improvements and maintenance levy and is used for the acquisition, construction and maintenance of school buildings, and to support capital loan repayments. **It is compulsory and not tax deductible.** (NB: Donations to the School Building Fund would be tax deductible. Please contact the school for more information).
3. **Additional Charges** (per student):
 - The **Stationery Levy & Technology Levy** is an annual fee charged **per student** to assist with the cost of text books, stationery & classroom materials, IT hardware upgrades, software & licensing.
 - The **Chromebook Levy** is a **newly introduced levy in 2022**. It will be an annual fee charged **per student in Years 3-6**. Each student in these year levels will be allocated a dedicated Chromebook device for use in class and to assist with any future remote learning or at home tasks. **This device remains the property of the school at all times.**
 - The **Activity & Event Levy** (introduced in 2018) is an annual fee charged **per student**. It will cover a student's involvement in activities where they create a hand-made gift for their chosen recipient for **Mother's Day & Father's Day** and participate in **Feast Days (Mannix, Mercy & McAuley) & Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)** where support is given to various Community Groups including the St Mary's Parish Pantry.
(Please note: The school's Parents & Friend's Association (PFA) will hold various separate events which may include a cost).
 - The **Sacramental Program** is conducted for students within Years 3, 4 & 6 each year (Reconciliation, First Eucharist/Holy Communion and Confirmation, respectively) and a levy is charged for **every student** within these year levels. (Please note: although Non-Catholics participate in the Sacramental Program they are not eligible to receive a Sacrament).

- The **Swimming Program** is a **compulsory** eight (8) day program for **all students in Foundation – Year 4** with a levy per student charged to support the cost of this program.
- **Annual Camps** (*Please note: All Camp Food is included in the Fee and is GST inclusive*):
 - *Students in **Years 3 & 4** participate in an **overnight camp** (2 days/1 night)
 - **Students in **Years 5 & 6** participate in a **two (2) night camp** (3 days/2 nights)

Annual Fees & Levies are billed to all families at the start of the School Year with payment options through the school's preferred option of **Direct Debit** either annually, quarterly, monthly or fortnightly. Alternatively, families preferring to make a **one off, lump sum, full payment at the beginning of the year can do so by cash, cheque, credit card or EFT Transfer prior to 28 February, 2022.**

If you are unable to comply with either of these methods of payment you are asked to make an appointment with the Principal to **organise a Private Fee Arrangement**. *Please note: Private Fee Agreements are reviewed each year.*

New families to the school will need to complete a Fee Commitment Agreement to indicate their payment method and return completed forms to the school as soon as possible **but no later than Wednesday, 8 December, 2021:**

- **DIRECT DEBIT: Annual** (*deducted 28 February each year*), **Quarterly** (*4 payments per year in February, May, August and November*), **Monthly** (*10 payments per year on or near 20th of each month February to November*), **Fortnightly** (*20 payments per year from mid-February to early November*)
- **LUMP SUM: (full payment)** by 28 February 2022
- **PRIVATE FEE ARRANGEMENT:** A meeting with the Principal is required to discuss and approve this arrangement which will be reviewed each year.

Families selecting payment by Direct Debit will also need to complete a Direct Debit Authority Form, which will continue to operate for the length of time you have children attending St Mary's Primary School with the amount payable adjusted accordingly each year unless the school receives written advice to the contrary. *Please note: Families who request individual split billing will have their payments also adjusted accordingly.*

Goods and Services Tax (GST): Education Curriculum is GST exempt, and as such GST does not apply to School Fees and Levies. However other activities of a recreational nature (e.g. Food on School Camps) do attract GST and is charged accordingly.

School Fee statements will be issued each term or as requested by families. For families choosing a Private Fee Arrangement, all payments will be required by the due date stated on each term account. Families that do not pay their school fees in full by the due date will be required to enter in a regular payment arrangement using the School's Direct Debit facility.

If school fees are not paid, and there is no approved payment arrangement, your child's enrolment will be reviewed. Legal advice may also be sought for outstanding accounts to be forwarded to a commercial collection agency with any additional collection costs payable if applicable.

Rebates: The Family Fee will be rebated accordingly for any family commencing or leaving during the school year with individual student charges adjusted per Principal's advice. *Please note: usually no adjustment is made in relation to the Building Levy with the full amount due each year unless by the Principal's discretion.*

Variation of Fees (concessions): MACS have introduced a **Concessional Fee Policy** and families can apply for an adjustment (concession) to school fees in 2022 by completing the [School Fees Concession Program Application Form](#) and lodging for the Principal's consideration any time during the year. *Please note: Concessions do not apply to Camp Fees charged for Yrs 3&4 and Yrs 3&6.*

Since 2015 the Victorian Government's **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)** has assisted eligible families by providing payments to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF in 2022. The allowance will be paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. Application forms will be available from the school office at the start of the 2022 school year.

We appreciate your support in this matter and look forward to continuing a strong relationship with parents/guardians/carers in the education of your child(ren).