

1ST November 2023

Dear Families,

Re: 2024 Parent Payments

It is the time of year, that the school communicates to families around financial contributions for the following year. The Department of Education and Training made changes to the Parent Payments Policy which came into play from the start of 2022. In line with the Victorian Government's commitment to providing free, high-quality instruction to all students, Koo Wee Rup Primary School will only request voluntary financial contributions from families in 2024.

Following the same process as this year, families will be provided with details on how to purchase individual supply packs from our preferred supplier, WINC. Parents may alternatively elect to purchase stationery items for their child independently from a store of their choice. Book lists for each year level will be available to view via our school website www.kooweerupps.vic.edu.au

Some families may be unable or may choose not to purchase stationery items for their child. In this instance, Koo Wee Rup Primary School will not disadvantage or deny that child access to the resources required to deliver the curriculum. We will always provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum.

Below is listed the categories under which contributions will be requested. They have been changed to align with the purpose of the payment:

- o **Curriculum Contributions** (previously known as Essential Student Learning Items) include items and activities that help deliver fundamental curriculum or subject learning e.g. General classroom materials and equipment
- o **Other Contributions** (previously known as Voluntary Contributions) support the school's operation and function more generally e.g. Parent communication tools and school building enhancements
- o Payments for **Extra-Curricular Items and Activities** (previously known as Optional Items) provide for items and activities over and above what is needed to deliver fundamental curriculum learning. These *user-pays* contributions enhance the schooling experience for students e.g. Optional camps, excursions and events

Curriculum Contributions and **Other contributions** are voluntary. Koo Wee Rup Primary School continues to value your contributions in supporting our school's programs and resources.

Your voluntary contributions continue to assist us to broaden the educational experience for our students. This year, voluntary contributions have allowed us to provide, among other things:

- 100s of new books for the school library
- Creation of a school library through the refurbishment of an existing portable building
- Hands-on teaching materials for use in teaching Mathematics effectively
- Brand new Chromebook computers for all Grade One students as part of our commitment to providing one-to-one electronic device access to our students by 2027
- Sufficient Little Learners Love Literacy resources so that each classroom F-2 has their own supplies
- Well-being supplies and items for classroom Zen-Zones
- New sporting equipment and sand-pit toys
- Updated robotics for our DigiTech program

In 2024, voluntary contributions will ensure we continue to provide updated resources in all learning areas. Your contributions will be targeted towards:

- Further replenishment and update of books in the library
- Quality sporting equipment
- Future purchases of Chromebook computers as we head towards 1:1 electronic devices for all students
- Sustaining our Art program
- Updated equipment for our Digi-Tech lab
- Updating student take home books
- Purchasing resources to support inclusion
- Supporting our whole-school wellbeing programs.

Without your contributions, many of these things may not be possible.

For **Extra-Curricular Items and Activities**, it is up to you whether you wish for your child to have the item or participate in the activity. This would include attendance at events such as excursions, incursions and camps that are not considered, by the school, as essential to the child's education.

These are optional and provided on a user-pays basis, and so the school will require a parent payment to provide them to individual students.

For some educational items (e.g. devices, stationery, text books), it makes sense for parents to purchase them from a third-party provider, so students can take personal ownership for use at school and/or at home. The school considers the necessity of these items, the cost and preferred suppliers. The school has arranged for WINC to

provide stationery items for 2022. Information regarding this has been communicated **SCHOOLS** separately.

In 2024, we are seeking voluntary contributions in the following areas:

ITEMS	PER STUDENT
School Wellbeing Program	\$25.00
ICT / Digi-Tech	\$40.00
LOTE - Italian	\$5.00
Physical Education	\$5.00
Numeracy	\$5.00
Library/Books	\$15.00
Classroom equipment	\$5.00
Buildings and Grounds <i>* This fund is to help maintain grounds and play equipment</i>	\$25.00
Student Assistance Fund <i>* This fund is to provide essential education items or optional extras for families at our school who are unable to purchase these items due to financial hardship. Your contribution helps to ensure that all our students have the option of attending camps and excursions and have the items they need for school.</i>	\$25.00
TOTAL	\$150.00

Families can opt to contribute any amount they like for voluntary contributions. The table provides an overview of how a voluntary contribution of \$150 would be distributed across the school.

If you wish to make a voluntary contribution, knowing that every little bit helps our school provide the very best it can for your children, but cannot afford an up-front amount, please contact our Business Manager Ashlyn Hodgson to discuss a payment arrangement. Any information about your financial circumstances, payment arrangements or status will remain strictly confidential.

Kind regards

Ben Zimmerle
Principal

Stacey Webb
School Council President