



Bairnsdale West Primary School No. 4725

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2023 School Year

Dear parent/guardian,

Bairnsdale West Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of your child's voluntary financial contributions for 2023. In recent years the Department of Education has changed the policy for Parent Payments and hence this letter to clarify the situation with all families.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. The voluntary components are for 'curriculum contributions' and the swimming program, however Bairnsdale West Primary School still need to pay for these items and hence our appreciation for those families that make their voluntary contributions.

These payments support the purchase of classroom consumables including books, pencils, art supplies, sports equipment etc. Without your support we have limited funds for other things that are required around the school like furniture, equipment, grounds maintenance and additional school activities and programs.

The payment of the voluntary contribution can be paid as a lump sum, spread across each term or half year.

You will note that charges for 'extra curriculum items and activities' are not voluntary and will be provided on a 'user-pays' basis. These items include camps, excursions, incursions and other specific activities.

We can set up payment plans for families to facilitate payment of 'extra curriculum items and activities'.

Families may also be eligible for the Camps Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF - \$125 per child per year). Therefore, if you didn't apply for CSEF last year at Bairnsdale West Primary School or are a new family to the school, please contact the office to determine if you are eligible.

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

Thanks again for your ongoing support and involvement in our 'caring, learning community'.

If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact myself on 0419 018 293, email douglas.vickers@education.vic.gov.au, or Fiona (Business Manager) in the office.

Yours sincerely,

Doug Vickers PRINCIPAL
PRESIDENT

Jo Cunningham SCHOOL COUNCIL