Montmorency South Primary School

Together we Learn, Lead and Achieve

20 October 2026

Dear parents and carers,

This letter provides information about voluntary contributions you can make to support Montmorency South Primary School for 2027 and other payments you can choose to make.

Victorian government schools provide free instruction. This means all students have free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.

Some families choose to make a voluntary financial contribution to support the school, and we are very grateful for this support. Making a voluntary contribution is your choice. There is no expectation or pressure for families to contribute.

Montmorency South Primary School offers a range of items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Financial help is available for extra-curricular items and activities if you are experiencing financial hardship (see further details under Financial Help for Families in the attached information). For a confidential discussion about how to access the financial help available, please contact: Paula Hogan (Business Manager), 03 9439 6201, paula.hogan@education.vic.gov.au

If you need an interpreter, please contact 03 9605 3053 and give our school's phone number 03 9439 6201. An interpreter can help you speak with us. This service is free. For more information, please see How to use an interpreter to contact your school.

For more information on the Department of Education's Parent Contributions policy please see the information attached. You can read the full policy at Parent Contributions: Policy | education.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Keyla Jeffers
Principal

Steve Gartner
School Council President

MONTMORENCY SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL 2027 PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS ARRANGEMENTS

Voluntary contributions

If you are the carer of a student in out-of-home care or hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card), please ignore the invitation to make voluntary contributions.

We encourage any family experiencing financial hardship to contact the school for information about the financial help available for extra-curricular activities like camps and excursions.

Voluntary contributions	Suggested amount – parents can contribute more or less	Amount
Voluntary contributions to enhance our school's range of programs, resources and environment.	$180.00	$[parent to complete on Compass]

Tax-deductible voluntary contributions	Suggested amount – parents can contribute more or less	Amount
Voluntary - Building fund: a tax-deductible contribution to support renovations and upgrades of school infrastructure	Suggested $50/$100/$150/other Donations over $10	$[parent to complete on Compass]
Voluntary - Library fund: a tax-deductible contribution to support library maintenance and enhancements	Suggested $50/$100/$150/other Donations over $10	$[parent to complete on Compass]

Extra-curricular items and activities

Montmorency South Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Accessing these items and activities does require payment, but financial support is available (see further details under Financial Help for Families below).

Example extra-curricular items and activities include:

- optional activities, camps, excursions and programs
- class photos
- social events like formals.

We have provided confirmed or indicative costs of known extra-curricular items and activities below.

Payment for extra-curricular items and activities with a confirmed cost can be made now or later. Payments can also be made via instalment.

Please contact the school for advice on financial help available for extra-curricular items and activities.

Extra-curricular items and activities	Indicative cost	Confirmed cost (where known)	Parent/carer to select
Extra-curricular Items and Activities - Excursion / Incursion to be scheduled by each year level It is anticipated that each year level will have 1-2 incursions & 1-2 excursions per semester and cost for each activity will be charged via Compass event. Incursion prices approx. $10-$30 per event; and Excursions prices approx. $40-$50 per event Additional activities (subject to change) may include the following:- • Athletics carnival (years 3-6) • Swimming carnival (years 3-6) • Cross Country (years 3-6) • Cyber Safety Program • Author Visit • SEL Program • SEA Program (alternate years) All events including year level incursions/excursions will be payable closer to event via compass event.			
Camping programs School camp *(details subject to change)* Prep - breakfast Year 1 – excursion Year 2 – excursion Year 3 – Overnight Stay at school Year 4 – Allambee Camp (overnight) Term 4 Year 5 – Phillip Island (2 nights) Term 3 Year 6 – Sovereign Hill, Ballarat (2 nights) Term 2 Costs for all camps will be advised closer to the time. Camps will have options to pay via instalments or in one payment within the same timeframe. Final payment is due a minimum of 1 month prior to the camp. Refunds will not be available once final numbers are provided to the camp.			
Inter School Sport (Year 6 only – Fridays Terms 2 & 3)	Will depend on what is charged via the School Network approx. $85		
Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program (Years 3-6)	Varied depending on year level		
Sporting events Please note that students will be charged for all next level events including finals. Cost is based on staffing requirements, entry fee and transport. This fee is split between all participants moving on to next level of competition.	To be advised on an event basis via Compass		
Swimming and Water Safety Program – Foundation to Year 6 (Term 3) Cost of the event is reduced due to DE funding. Separate	To be advised closer to event via Compass		

cost will issue closer to the activity and payment via Compass event.	
School Photos (will take place in **Term 1 – 4 March 2027** by MSP Photography) Photos are purchased directly through MSP Photography – a separate link/email in Compass will be available closer to photo day.	*Direct through photographer*
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	

Learning materials for students to own

Booklist items:

You can choose to buy learning materials for your child to individually use and own. These items can be bought from any supplier.

Montmorency South Primary School has an arrangement with the following supplier for the materials that you can buy: **Absolute MBA Office National**.

If you do not buy these items, your child will still be provided with what they need, however they may not be provided with these items to own, or keep, on an individual basis.

If you wish to buy items through the supplier, please go to: www.ambaofficenational.com.au OR see recommended list that is published on our website and as a Compass newsfeed item.

If you would like to buy items to own that are not from this supplier, you can view this by downloading the information via Compass or the school website.

Financial help for families

Montmorency South Primary School understands families can experience financial difficulty. Help is available, including:

- **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund** – this program provides funding for eligible students, including those in out of home care, and holders of eligible financially means-tested cards (such as health care cards), to attend extra-curricular activities like camps, sporting activities, excursions and incursions that are offered on a user-pays basis.
- **Affordable School Uniforms** - delivered by State Schools Relief, this program helps cover costs such as school uniforms, shoes, and other essential school items where families are experiencing financial hardship or short-term crisis.
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
- Second-hand uniform sales are held termly by our Parents' & Friends Committee (details advertised in school newsletter)
- State Schools' Relief State Schools' Relief (stateschoolsrelief.org.au)
- Banyule residents may be eligible for assistance through Diamond Valley Community Support https://www.dvsupport.org.au/kidsassisteducation

Applications for support under both the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and State Schools Relief are submitted by the school - please contact us to discuss these and other financial help.

For a confidential discussion about how to access financial help, please contact:

Paula Hogan
Ph: 03 9439 6201 | Email: paula.hogan@education.vic.gov.au

Payment methods

Parent contributions towards the requested payments contribute significantly, in maintaining the quality of education that we provide at Montmorency South Primary School. Payments and consents are to be completed via Compass.

https://montysouth-vic.compass.education/

Compass is our school online communication portal. Please log in regularly using your unique login details which have been provided to you.

Please check 'Course Confirmation/Payments' in the 'organisation' tab or via the 'my news' link on the home page.

If you are having issues with Compass or have forgotten your password, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

2027 Parent contributions can be made online via Compass from **Monday 14 December 2026.**

If you would like to pay for extra-curricular items and activities through instalments, please contact Paula Hogan (Business Manager) to arrange a personalised plan.

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 of Education's Parent Contributions policy and guidance, Financial Help for Families policy, and any other relevant information. Enquiries should be directed to Paula Hogan, Business Manager.

VICTORIA State Government | Department of Education

Parent Contributions policy

Information for families



FREE INSTRUCTION

Schools give students free instruction in the curriculum. This includes:

- Free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.
- The Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major, and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Free access to all subjects, including elective subjects.
- Free access to select-entry and accelerated programs.



FAMILIES CAN CHOOSE TO CONTRIBUTE

Schools can invite 2 types of voluntary contributions:

Voluntary contributions	Tax deductible contributions
Used towards enhanced educational programs and school environment, and additional resources and opportunities offered by schools	Used towards building and/or library fund (for those schools who have such funds)

Schools must advise the carers of students in out-of-home care and parents and carers who hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card) that the invitation to make voluntary contributions does not apply to them.

In addition, schools can invite parents and carers to pay for optional:

- Extra-curricular items and activities that go beyond the curriculum - for example, school photos, some excursions and some camps.
- Learning materials for students to individually use and own - for example, textbooks, stationery, and in secondary schools only, digital devices. If these items are not bought or provided or provided from home, schools must provide students with free access to what they need for curriculum delivery.



FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

Each school has a contact person who can discuss with parents and carers the financial supports that are available.

Schools must publish their Parent Contributions arrangements on their school website, along with a link the department's Parent Contributions policy.