



SERPELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tuckers Road, Templestowe, 3106
ABN 59 348 376 138

Telephone: 03 9842 8182

Email: serpell.ps@education.vic.gov.au

No. 5168

November 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Serpell Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you that Serpell's voluntary Parent Financial Contribution for 2025 will be \$200, this will include your child's stationery supplies that will be used in class and brought home at the end of the school year.

SCHOOL SAVING BONUS (SSB) - *the Department of Education Portal that was emailed to you*

This year the State Government is giving every Victorian student who attends a public school a School Saving Bonus (SSB) of \$400 to be used for Excursions, Incursions, Camp, Swimming or Uniform purchases. It **can not** be used for anything else.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ITEMS AND ACTIVITIES (compulsory)

- Our Excursion/Incursion Levy is \$80 for all year levels. This amount covers all excursion and incursions that your child participates in.
- An additional \$60 Senior School Sport Levy for year 6 students to cover the Interschool Sport program.
- You will need to allocate your Excursion Levy first on your SSB portal.

HEALTH CARE CARD HOLDERS

- If you have a valid Health Care Card you are entitled to the Camps, Sport and Excursion Fund (CSEF) of \$150 and you do **NOT** need to allocate the Excursion/Incursion levy from the SSB, it will be allocated by the school once your CSEF application is approved with Centrelink in early 2025.

As one of the top 5 performing schools in Victoria, our school payments are exceptionally low when compared to other schools and we strive to keep costs to a minimum for our families. In 2024, close to 100% of our families paid, which meant that we all shared resources equally.

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. 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.

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

Yours sincerely,

Wilma Culton
Principal

Marjan Hajjari
School Council President



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Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<i>Year Prep to 6 Book Bag – delivered to your home</i> <i>Prep students will receive their take home reader bag from their class teacher in 2025</i> <i>Year 6 students will receive their 2025 Diary from their class teacher</i> <i>These items will belong to the student for them to bring home at the end of the year</i>	\$100.00
<i>Year Prep to 6 classroom consumables, materials & equipment</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Art – e.g. paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper</i>• <i>Mathematics – e.g. numeracy blocks</i>• <i>English – e.g. book boxes</i>• <i>Sports – equipment</i>	\$30.00
<i>Year Prep to 6 Online Subscriptions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mathletics</i>• <i>Reading Eggs</i>• <i>Seesaw</i>• <i>Mangahigh</i>• <i>Brainpop</i>	\$50.00
<i>Year Prep to 6 Integrated Subjects – e.g. STEM, Leadership, Digital Technology</i>	\$20.00
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$200.00

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Serpell Primary 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 and will be offered throughout the year such as swimming, camps (year 3 to 6), excursions and incursions.

- ***You will need to select to allocate the Excursion/Incursion Levy \$80 (all year levels) plus \$60 for year 6 only to cover the Senior School Interschool Sport Competition through your School Saving Bonus (SSB) portal.***
- ***If you are have a valid Commonwealth Government Health Care Card and have submitted an application to the school, the school will allocate your Excursion/Incursion Levy payment from this DO NOT allocate from your SSB.***

Financial Support for Families:

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) for eligible Health Care Card Holders
- State School Relief (SSR)
- School Saving Bonus (SSB) every child will receive \$400 in 2025 for excursions & uniforms

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact: Business Manager, 9842 8182 or email serpell.ps@education.vic.gov.au

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's Parent Payments Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy, and any other relevant information.

Open for ordering **Friday 1 November 2024**

Last day for ordering **Monday 30 December 2024***

Payment method



- 1. Go to** booklist.officebrands.com.au/croydon
 - Enter the unique School Access Code: **summerbreak25**
 - Select: Create an Order
- 2. Enter Details - separate orders are required for each child**
 - Enter your child's name, Student Code and select their year level for **2025**
- 3. Create your order**
 - When finished, click on: Add order to Cart
 - Review your order: Check Name and Year Level (2025) – edit order if required
 - Select: Checkout **OR** Add Another Student
- 4. Checkout**
 - Enter you details
 - Please select Home Delivery from the drop-down menu
 - Home Delivery fees are \$17.50 – 1 Pack, \$21.90 – 2 packs, \$25.95 – 3+ Packs
 - Include any special instructions for delivery *i.e. leave on front step*
- 5. Payment – select payment type and submit your order**
 - An order confirmation will be sent to the email address on your order

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ENTERED YOUR CHILD'S YEAR LEVEL FOR 2025

LATE ORDERS will be accepted after 30 December 2025 but will incur a \$15 late fee and may not be available for the start of school so Please do not delay.

***ORDER BEFORE 30th DECEMBER 2025 TO AVOID A LATE FEE**

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 requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- 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.