



THOMASTOWN MEADOWS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 4 Parent Payments

Dear parent/guardian,

Decision making at Thomastown Meadows Primary School continues to place the educational needs and opportunities of our students at the forefront of all planning and considerations.

In 2026, our dynamic and engaging programs will continue to ensure that every student has access to stimulating and rewarding learning experiences — programs that not only build their capacity to engage confidently with the wider community but also nurture a lifelong love of learning.

With these goals in mind, we are pleased to introduce the 2026 Voluntary Financial Contributions, which directly support the funding of many enriching programs and initiatives across the school.

At Thomastown Meadows Primary School, students receive free instruction to meet the requirements of the Victorian Curriculum. While all contributions are voluntary, the ongoing support of our families plays an essential role in enabling us to provide the best possible education and learning environment for our students. Your contributions truly make a difference.

Digital Learning and the iPad Program

As we come to the end of our current lease agreement it is timely that we move to align with the changes to student digital device use information that was announced by the Department of Education in a special Bulletin on Thursday October 16th.

Moving forward, TMPS will introduce an alternative model, providing a limited number of **class sets of devices** that can be borrowed and shared for classes, as needed. This change aligns with the **Department of Education's recommended digital device usage guidelines**, which outline **minimal device time for Prep to Year 2** and a **maximum of 90 minutes per day for Years 3 to 6**.

As a school, we remain dedicated to creating engaging, safe, and inspiring spaces for students to play, learn, and grow. Financial contributions from families play a vital role in helping us achieve this.

Funds raised contribute to maintaining and improving our school environment — including the continuation employment of a part-time maintenance person who ensures our grounds are well cared for.

In 2026, funding will also be directed toward:

- saving to replace the oval surface,
- update the turf area
- Enhance shade sail structures
- increase seating around the school

Please find below the 2026 Financial Contributions Schedule, which outlines how your contributions support these vital initiatives.

For more information on the Department of Education's Parent Payments Policy, please refer to the attached one-page overview.

Your ongoing partnership and support enable Thomastown Meadows Primary School to continue providing exceptional learning experiences for every student — thank you for helping us make a difference.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Rosa
Principal

Mai El Salloum
School Council President



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Year 4 Contributions 2026

ITEMS	Annual Amount per STUDENT
Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	
Curriculum Contributions Classroom consumables, materials and equipment - Mathematics - English - STEAM - Art - P.E. - Auslan - Music - Diaries – Customised student school diary - Online Subscriptions Whole School Events - Sporting Carnival F-6	\$180.00
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$180.00

ITEMS	Annual Amount Per FAMILY
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	
School grounds maintenance and improvements to assist in the upkeep of school facilities and grounds, ensuring our students have well maintained grounds for safe play and sporting events. 2026 Focus: - Updating the Turf Area - Increased seating around school grounds - New shade sail structures - Begin the work to replace the oval surface	\$70.00
Total Other Contributions	\$70.00
Total	\$250.00



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Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Thomastown Meadows Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and go above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the Curriculum.

These are provided on a user-pays basis.

Activity Items: To be advised prior to the event, along with cost, payment method and due date.

ITEMS	Amount	Purchase (Please tick)
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities		
Other Optional Activities: Year 4 incursions and excursions to be scheduled can include for example: • Camp • End of year celebration activities - Funfields • Immigration Museum • Preston Market	TBA	TBA
• F-4 Swimming (Please note: Final pricing pending, based on bus quotes, number of students attending and associated costs) This is a school subsidised program	\$120.00 (approx. base Cost, to be confirmed in 2026)	
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	\$120	\$ TBA

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 standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.
- 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.