A Creative and Diverse Community Growing Together

respect • trust • working together • integrity • perseverance

Thornbury Primary School

13.11.2025

MAINSTREAM

Dear parent/guardian,

Thornbury Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Thornbury Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary.

Further information regarding these and other contributions is outlined on the following pages.

Thornbury Primary School makes every effort to keep financial contribution requirements to a minimum, and to be affordable for all families. We understand that some families may face financial difficulty, and to support families, there is a range of support options and alternative payment arrangements available. For a confidential discussion, please contact our Business Manager, Shirley Brown on 9484 3254.

We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This makes a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer. In 2025, some of these funds resourced the highly successful STEM program at our school, to continue upgrading classroom reading and numeracy materials, completion of the Babajen garden project, installation of 'sound garden' instruments, purchase of new sports uniforms, and the very popular Gaga Pit.

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

Yours sincerely,

David Wells
Principal

Darby Fullerton
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	**Amount**
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment • Art – paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper • STEM – Materials/ equipment eg. Robotics, 3D printing, Stop Motion • Mathematics – classroom numeracy sets and materials • English – book boxes • Language & Culture – Indigenous learning resources • Sports – equipment • ICT devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets • Online subscriptions: Essential Assessments, Apple / Windows apps • Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials • Parent communication tools (Compass, Naavi)	$ 300
Total Curriculum Contributions	**$** 300

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	**Amount**
Student wellbeing programs (suggested amount)	$50
First aid equipment (suggested amount)	$50
School grounds maintenance and improvements (suggested amount)	$50
Total Other Contributions	**$**

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Thornbury P.S offers a range of optional items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum.

Please note that incursions, excursions, and camps are not included in this payment. These events will be invoiced as they occur throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	**Amount**
Garden Program (Instructor salary costs, materials/equipment) • Students have the opportunity to participate in a weekly garden / environmental program where they will learn about horticulture and develop their love of gardening • Please notify the school if your child/ren will or will not be participating on next page	$100
School Camps – User pays	TBA
Excursions/Incursions – User pays	TBA
Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	**$**

Financial Support for Families

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

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative
Shirley Brown
Ph: 03 9484 3254 | Email: shirley.brown@education.vic.gov.au

Total

Parent to complete: Please return this page to the school office

Student Name:	**Class:**
Category	**Totals**
Curriculum Contributions	$
Extra-Curricular – Garden Program Will your child be participating? No ☐ Yes ☐ Please insert $100 here>	$
Other Contributions	$
Total	**$**

Payment methods

Parents are able to make payment from 1st December 2025 via the Compass portal (a range of instalment options are available)

Payment in full can still be made via EftPos at the school office however, Compass is the preferred payment method. Split billing can be arranged on request.

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.

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	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	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.