



ST THERESE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

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2024 SCHOOL FEES & LEVIES

SCHOOL FEES

St Therese's Primary School receives funding from the both Federal and Victorian Governments, however this funding does not cover the total operating expenses of the school. The collection of school fees is essential to ensure the school is able to cover the gap in funding, manage all financial commitments and continue to provide a quality learning environment.

In determining school fees for 2024, the school's operating expenses were reviewed and consideration given to affordability for families. As many goods and services have been impacted by the rise in inflation, the reality is that school fees need to increase. The increase in school fees for 2024 will be 4%.

School fees are charged per family according to the number of students attending.

SCHOOL FEES

	1 student	2 students	3+ students
Fees (per family)	\$1,797.00	\$2,695.00	\$3,145.00

STUDENT LEVIES

St Therese's Primary School is committed to providing students with a range of educational experiences and opportunities to succeed. Levies are based on the expected expenditure of experiences and activities planned for the year and according to the number of students in the grade level. Levies are charged per student according to their grade level. The structure of levies has been simplified for 2024.

- Curriculum & ICT Levy - supports the school to provide students with:
 - stationery, materials and resources for the classroom and all specialist classes.
 - computers, information technology and associated support.
 - religious education, student wellbeing, library, curriculum resources etc.
- Camp, Sport & Excursion Levy - contributes to cost of students participating in:
 - camps, excursions and visiting groups.
 - sport programs, swimming, gymnastics, athletics, cross country, sports days etc.

STUDENT LEVIES

	Gr F	Gr 1	Gr 2	Gr 3	Gr 4	Gr 5	Gr 6
Curriculum & ICT Levy	\$385.00	\$385.00	\$385.00	\$470.00	\$470.00	\$590.00	\$590.00
Camp, Sport & Excursion Levy	\$260.00	\$260.00	\$260.00	\$415.00	\$415.00	\$480.00	\$580.00
Total	\$645.00	\$645.00	\$645.00	\$885.00	\$885.00	\$1,070.00	\$1,170.00

CAMPS & EXCURSIONS

Students in each grade level will participate in excursions. Camps or extended day excursions have been planned for students in Grades 3 to 6.

- Grade 3 - extended day excursion @ Camp Weekaway, Benloch.
- Grade 4 - extended day excursion @ Camp Kookaburra, Corop.
- Grade 5 - 2-day, 1-night camp @ Campaspe Downs, Tylden.
- Grade 6 - 3-day, 2-night camp @ Alexandra Adventure Resort, Alexandra.

Camps and excursions are planned on the premise that all students participate. Levies are calculated in advance and based on the grade level attending as a whole. When individual students do not attend the cost must be absorbed by the school, therefore the levy associated is still applicable.

In certain circumstances a levy may be reduced or waived with the approval of the Principal. If your child will not be attending a planned activity you must discuss this with the Principal in advance.

SCHOOL SPORTS VICTORIA (SSV)

As a member of SSV, St Therese's students compete with other primary school students in a variety of sports as part of the Loddon Mallee Primary Schools, Sandhurst Division. SSV regional finals are held in Swan Hill. If St Therese's students succeed through to the regional finals, families will be asked to contribute to the cost of bus travel.

ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH (EBT)

St Therese's Primary School takes part in the Energy Breakthrough held annually in Maryborough in November. The opportunity to be involved is open to students in Grades 5 & 6. Whilst fundraising activities and business sponsorships cover the majority of the cost, a levy of approx. \$125.00 is charged for students who participate.

CALCULATING FEES & LEVIES

The total fees and levies payable for 2024 can be calculated by adding the applicable school fee and student levies. A [2024 Fee & Levy Calculator](#) is available to assist families to calculate the total payable and instalment payment amounts. Please note: you will need to download the calculator as an excel (.xlsx) file. Please contact the office if you would like assistance with the calculator, we are happy to help.

SCHOOL FEE & LEVY PAYMENT

Accounts for 2024 school fees and levies will be emailed in early February. The first statement for 2024 details family school fees and levies charged for each student. Statements will then be emailed after the end of each month. Please note: the end of month statements will only include the opening balance, closing balance and transactions for the month of issue.

FEE & LEVY PAYMENT AGREEMENT

A number of payment methods are available, giving families the opportunity to select the most suitable option. Families are required to complete a [2024 Fee & Levy Payment Agreement](#), indicating their preferred payment method and frequency and return it to the office or by email debtors@stkennington.catholic.edu.au before Friday December 15, 2023.

PAYMENT METHODS

- **Payment in full** – required by the end of Term 1, Thursday March 29, 2024 unless a regular payment arrangement is in place.
- **Direct Debit** - instalments paid weekly, fortnightly or monthly (from February to Nov/Dec)
- **Cash, Cheque or EFTPOS** – at school office. (regular payments finalised by November 30).
- **Direct Deposit** - regular EFT bank transfer to school account (to be finalised by November 30)

In fairness to families who pay school fees and levies regularly and on time, overdue accounts will be followed up. We do however understand that financial circumstances can change and impact families. If you experience financial hardship at any stage, please contact the school to arrange a confidential meeting with the Principal. It is important to us that students attending St Therese's Primary School are able to continue to do so.

SPLIT BILLING OF SCHOOL FEES & LEVIES

If more than one person is responsible for the payment of school fees and levies an option to split the bill is available. In this case, each payer will receive a separate account for their portion only. Both parties must agree in writing before split billing can be implemented. Click the link to download a copy of the [Split Billing Authority](#) form or collect one from the school office.

DIRECT DEBIT

Direct debit is the school's preferred method of payment of school fees and levies. It is convenient and has many advantages:

- allows families to budget for regular, manageable instalments across the year.
- the [Direct Debit Schedule](#) allows for weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments to suit your needs.
- once in place, payments are automatic, therefore no missed payments.
- easy and free to set up, there is no fee for this service.

Things to know:

- Direct debit payments for 2024 commence in early February. (from Thursday February 8)
- Weekly and fortnightly payments are scheduled for Thursday.
- Monthly payments are scheduled for the 20th day of the month (next business day if weekend/public holiday)
- In special circumstances, payments may be arranged for other days, however this requires additional administration, to discuss further please contact debtors@stkennington.catholic.edu.au
- Families paying by direct debit will receive a statement after the end of each month, showing payments processed during the month. This is for your records only and not a request for payment.
- Bank account details are kept in confidence between your financial institution and St Therese's Primary School.
- Direct debit payments are scheduled in advance, in particularly payments due during the school holiday breaks.
- Should you need to cancel an upcoming payment, please email debtors@stkennington.catholic.edu.au as soon as possible, but at least two days prior to payment (earlier if payment is due during a holiday break).
- Please be mindful of when your direct debit payment is due. If you have insufficient funds when the debit occurs, you may incur a dishonour fee.
- When a direct debit payment is rejected, you will be sent an email requesting how the missed payment is to be actioned.
- Setting up a direct debit arrangement is easy, just complete a '[Direct Debit Request](#)' form and return it to the office or by email to debtors@stkennington.catholic.edu.au

CAMP, SPORTS, EXCURSION FUND (CSEF)

Parents who hold a valid means-tested concession card may be entitled to receive the Victorian Government CSEF to offset the cost of any camp, sport activity or excursion. The eligibility date is first day of Term 1, January 29, 2024 or the first day of Term 2, April 15, 2024. The amount in 2024 for primary school aged children is \$150.00 per student.

The CSEF is paid directly to the school and the amount is directly credited against the Camp, Sport and Excursion levy.

Application forms for the CSEF are available from the office or by clicking the [CSEF](#) link. If you received payment of the CSEF last year, you do not need to complete a new application for 2024, the school will resubmit an application on your behalf.

Further information about this funding can be found at <https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund>.

QUESTIONS

Please feel free to contact the school by phone or email debtors@stkennington.catholic.edu.au if you would like further information or have any questions about payment of school fees and levies.

