Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools

St Margaret's Primary School
67 The Esplanade,
Maribyrnong 3032
Phone: 9318 1339
Email: principal@smmaribyrnong.catholic.edu.au

Dear Families,

2027 ANNUAL SCHOOL FEES AND LEVIES

I am writing to outline the school fees and levies for the 2027 school year. Decisions about school fees are never made lightly. They require careful consideration of the needs of our students, the financial circumstances of families and our responsibility to maintain a sustainable school that provides high-quality learning, care and support for every child.

We recognise that many households continue to experience cost-of-living pressures. In setting our 2027 fees, St Margaret's has sought to balance these pressures with the rising costs of operating the school and providing the learning environments, resources and support our students need.

Our planning is informed by a range of factors, including the Commonwealth Government's Capacity to Contribute (CTC) assessment and Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) wide requirements and guidance. These considerations help us establish a sustainable financial foundation while continuing to provide a rich and inclusive Catholic education for our community.

For 2027, all MACS schools have been mandated to transition to a tiered family school fee structure. Accordingly, St Margaret's will introduce this model in 2027. Under the tiered structure, families pay an annual school fee based on the number of children enrolled at the school. The fee is $2,810 for a family with one child enrolled, increasing by $150 for each additional child. This means a family with two children enrolled will pay a total annual school fee of $2,960, while a family with three children enrolled will pay $3,110. These amounts represent the total family school fee, rather than a separate fee for each child. A capital levy of $450 per family also applies.

The model recognises that every child benefits from the teaching, specialist programs, resources and facilities provided by the school, while acknowledging the additional financial commitment for families with multiple children enrolled. The transition reflects a mandated MACS-wide approach to school fees and supports the long-term financial sustainability of Catholic education.

2027 Tiered Family School Fee Schedule

The annual School Family fee and capital levy for 2027 are outlined below. The fee schedule reflects a 5% increase, an additional $150 for each child after the first for families with two or three children, and a capital levy of $450 per family.

Family size	School fee	Capital levy	Total fees (excluding other levies)
1 child	$2,810.00	$450.00	$3,260.00
2 children	$2,960.00	$450.00	$3,410.00
3 children	$3,110.00	$450.00	$3,560.00

Additional 2027 Fee Information

The following levies and charges apply depending on your child's year level.

Fee or levy	Applies to	2027 amount
Education levy	Per student	Prep to Yr 2: $425 Year 3: $460 Year 4: $475 Year 5: $425 Year 6: $475
Digital Technology levy	Per student	$125
Excursion levy	Per student	$120
Swimming levy	Per student, Years 1 to 6	$ 80
Camp charge	Per student, Years 4, 5 and 6	Year 4: $ 330 Year 5: $ 610 Year 6: $1350

The Education, Excursion, Swimming and Digital Technology levies contribute towards the educational costs associated with your child at their relevant year level. The due date for these levies is 26 February 2027.

A separate camp charge applies in Years 4, 5 and 6 to cover the camp experience, including meals and activities for the duration of camp.

Payment Arrangements

Statements are issued via email at the beginning of the school year and at the start of each term. Families do not need to wait to receive their statement before making a payment.

The school fee and capital levy may be paid in installments. The 2027 installment amounts, due dates and payment methods will be communicated to families in a letter provided to all students after the 2027 "Step Up" session.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

The Victorian Government provides CSEF assistance to eligible families to cover some of the costs of school camps, excursions and the swimming program. The 2027 amount and application information will be available on the school website at the commencement of the school year.

Concessional Fee Policy

A Concessional Fee Policy is in place to support eligible families in accessing a Catholic primary education. The concessional fee amount is determined by MACS and applies to the eligible fee categories below:

- Family fee
- Capital levy
- Education levy
- Digital Technology levy
- Excursion levy
- Swimming levy

The school's Concessional Fee Policy is available on the school website. Application forms for 2027 will be available from the school office at the commencement of the school year..

Optional Year 6 Graduation Items

Optional graduation garments and pricing information has been communicated to 2027 Year 6 families. These items are not billed to the family's school account, and are payable upon collection of the items.

While fees reflect rising costs over time, these arrangements are intended to help St Margaret's remain financially sustainable and continue to provide the quality teaching, individual care and learning opportunities that our families value. We remain committed to making thoughtful decisions that protect the learning and wellbeing of our students and the long-term strength of our school.

If you have questions about the 2027 fees or would like to discuss your family's circumstances, please contact me directly.

Thank you for your continued support of St Margaret's Primary School and for being part of our school community.

Yours sincerely,

John Rudd
Principal