104-110 Spring Gully Road
Bendigo Victoria, 3550
Phone: (03) 5443 7230
Email: spring.gully.ps@education.vic.gov.au
Website: www.sgps.vic.edu.au

Grade 1

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter provides information about voluntary contributions you can make to support Spring Gully Primary School for 2027 and other payments you can choose to make.

Victorian government schools provide free instruction. This means all students have free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.

Some families choose to make a voluntary financial contribution to support the school, and we are very grateful for this support. Making a voluntary contribution is your choice. There is no expectation or pressure for families to contribute.

Spring Gully Primary School offers a range of items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Financial help is available for extra-curricular items and activities if you are experiencing financial hardship (see further details under Financial Help for Families in the attached information). For a confidential discussion about how to access the financial help available, please contact: Francis Trezise, 03 5443 7230, francis.trezise@education.vic.gov.au.

If you need an interpreter, please contact 03 9605 3053 and give our school's phone number 03 5443 7230. An interpreter can help you speak with us. This service is free. For more information, please see How to use an interpreter to contact your school.

For more information on the Department of Education's Parent Contributions policy please see the information attached. You can read the full policy at Parent Contributions: Policy | education.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

Francis Trezise
Principal

Ronald Lowe
School Council President

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SPRING GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL 2027 PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS ARRANGEMENTS

Voluntary contributions

If you are the carer of a student in out-of-home care or hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card), please ignore the invitation to make voluntary contributions.

We encourage any family experiencing financial hardship to contact the school for information about the financial help available for extra-curricular activities like camps and excursions.

Voluntary contributions	Suggested amount – parents can contribute more or less Amount	Parent to complete
Voluntary contributions to enhance our school's range of programs, resources and environment.	140.50	

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Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Spring Gully Primary School offers a range of optional items and activities that are additional to the free instruction provided to all students at our school. Accessing these items and activities does require payment, but financial support is available (see further details under financial help for families).

We have provided indicative costs of known extra-curricular items and activities below.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Indicative Amount
Term 1 • School Wide Positive Behaviour (SWPB) – Activity	3.00
Term 2 • School Wide Positive Behaviour (SWPB) – Activity • Capital Theatre performance	3.00 20.00
Term 3 • School Wide Positive Behaviour (SWPB) – Activity • Major Excursion (Aquarium TBA) • Book Week Activity	3.00 65.00 4.00
Term 4 • School Wide Positive Behaviour (SWPB) – Activity • Be Awesome Day	15.00 20.00
Total - Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	**$133.00**

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Learning materials for students to own

You can choose to buy learning materials for your child to individually use and own. These items can be bought from any supplier.

Spring Gully has an arrangement with the following supplier for the materials that you can buy: Education Plus

If you do not buy these items, your child will still be provided with what they need, however they may not be provided with these items to own, or keep, on an individual basis.

If you wish to buy items through the supplier, please go to www.edplus.com.au.

Your school login for **Grade 1** is: **SGP12027P**

- Click on the "Booklist" tab in the top menu, then enter the code above in the "Code" box.
- Press enter and follow the instructions to complete your order.
- Make sure you go all the way to the "Place Order" tab. Once you have done this you should receive a confirmation email confirming your order, if you don't receive this email, please contact Education Plus on 5447 8588.

If ordered through Education Plus, collection of your order will be:

Where: Spring Gully Primary School
Date: Thursday January 21, 2027
Time: 8:00am to 4:00pm
From: Art Room

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Grade 1 recommended learning material list

Qty	Items	
10	Faber-Castell Junior Grip HB	
2	Faber-Castell Junior Coloured Triangular Pencils – packet 10	
1	Faber-Castell Connector Pen Markers – packet 12	
5	Bostik Blu Stick 35g	(1 for Art)
1	Scissors Osmer 170mm School Scissors Black Handle	
5	Exercise Book Ground Grass Sky A4 64pg 18mm Dotted Thirds	
6	Best Buddies Mega Scrapbook 100gsm 64pg Board Cover	(1 for Music)
1	READ IT Home Reading Yellow Level (Junior)	
1	Manilla Document Wallet Foolscap Blue	
2	Artline Supreme Whiteboard Marker Wallet 4	
1	Staedtler Pigment Fineliner 0.5 Black	(1 for Art)
1	Sharpie Permanent Marker Fine Point 1.0 Black	(1 for Art)
1	Writer Premium Story Book 64pg Ground Grass Sky 18mm dotted thirds	
1	Display Book A4 Refillable 20 Pocket Clear Front Blue	(1 for Auslan)

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Financial help for families

Spring Gully Primary School understands families can experience financial difficulty. Help is available, including:

- **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund** – this program provides funding for eligible students, including those in out of home care, and holders of eligible financially means-tested cards (such as health care cards), to attend activities like camps, sporting activities, excursions and incursions that are offered on a user-pays basis.

- **Affordable School Uniforms** - delivered by State Schools Relief, this program helps cover costs such as school uniforms, shoes, and other essential school items where families are experiencing financial hardship or short-term crisis.

- Secondhand uniform cupboard, please see front office

Applications for support from the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and State Schools Relief are submitted by the school - please contact us to discuss these and other financial help.

For a confidential discussion about accessing financial help, please contact Sonia our Business Manager on sonia.lewis@education.vic.gov.au.

Payment methods

Payments can be paid either through Compass as the event is posted or through Eftpos in our school office.

If you want to make voluntary contributions throughout the year, you can:

- decide when to make each contribution
- choose the amount of each contribution.

Extra-Curricular Items & Activities

- will be posted as they are confirmed and can be paid via Compass.

Refunds

Refunds will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will be provided to families where it is reasonable and fair (for example, if the school has not incurred a cost). If Spring Gully Primary School has incurred costs, our school will act reasonably and take into consideration the circumstances relating to the requested refund, for example, if an event is unexpectedly cancelled. If the school decides to provide a refund, then parents need to agree and advise the school where the refund should be paid.

Parent Contributions policy

Information for families

FREE INSTRUCTION

Schools give students free instruction in the curriculum. This includes:

- Free access to all items, activities and services that schools use to deliver the curriculum, including reasonable adjustments to support students with disability.
- The Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major, and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Free access to all subjects, including elective subjects.
- Free access to select-entry and accelerated programs.

FAMILIES CAN CHOOSE TO CONTRIBUTE

Schools can invite 2 types of voluntary contributions:

Voluntary contributions	Tax deductible contributions
Used towards enhanced educational programs and school environment, and additional resources and opportunities offered by schools	Used towards building and/or library fund (for those schools who have such funds)

Schools must advise the carers of students in out-of-home care and parents and carers who hold a financially means-tested card (such as a healthcare card) that the invitation to make voluntary contributions does not apply to them.

In addition, schools can invite parents and carers to pay for optional:

- Extra-curricular items and activities that go beyond the curriculum - for example, school photos, some excursions and some camps.
- Learning materials for students to individually use and own - for example, textbooks, stationery, and in secondary schools only, digital devices. If these items are not bought or provided from home, schools must provide students with free access to what they need for curriculum delivery.

FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

Each school has a contact person who can discuss with parents and carers the financial supports that are available.

Schools must publish their Parent Contributions arrangements on their school website, along with a link the department's Parent Contributions policy.