



# Our Lady of the Assumption

## Parish Primary School Cheltenham

26 November 2021

Dear OLA Families,

I am sure you will agree that the last twelve months have been difficult on many fronts, not least financially. I am pleased to announce, therefore, that the Fee Support/Concession Policy we introduced last year has now been formally adopted and improved by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS). All information regarding eligibility for assistance, the application process and what it means for those who qualify is included in the attached brochure.

Keeping in mind the hardships we have all faced, Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School has endeavoured to maintain its high standard of education and to improve its programs and facilities wherever possible. I believe initiatives such as the one to one devices throughout the school (Prep iPads and Grade 1-6 Chromebooks), 4 Specialist Subjects including Digital Technologies, Japanese, PE and Art, a professional and inclusive Swimming Program Grades P-4 and Surf Lifesaving Victoria Beach Program for Grades 5 and 6, a dedicated and well resourced Library, and an extensive variety of extracurricular activities, such as Wakakirri, STEM and Taiko Drumming, amongst many others, means that students at Our Lady of the Assumption receive a unique education experience.

Next year we will also be providing all stationery, including pencil cases, diaries and books. We will also provide a tighter security for our students around the use of digital technologies. As a means of providing our students with scaffolds to be safe online and act as responsible digital citizens we will implement a new cyber safety program using Linewise, an internationally recognised company that has demonstrated excellence in this area. Through its school management system called 'Family Zone' we will be able to identify and address the individual online behaviours of all students when they are accessing school devices, whether at school or off site.

At the same time, we have endeavoured to keep our operating cost increases to a minimum. Unfortunately, however, Commonwealth and State Government grant increases have not fully covered all increases in costs associated with the school's operations. As detailed last year, the calculation of grants includes a factor known as the school's Capacity to Contribute (CTC). ***This is a government measure of Catholic School Families' ability to contribute income by way of fees to cover the normal operating costs of the school.***

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School's CTC factor for 2022 will increase by approximately \$55 per family, resulting an effective decrease in the school's grant allocation to cover operating costs. Without an increase to school fees we would be unable to meet the resultant short fall; in the grant allocation. Effectively we would be trying to offer the same facilities and services with less money.

To this end, on the advice of the Our Lady of the Assumption School Advisory Council (OSAC), our school accountant and our MACS Business Manager, school fees for 2022 will be as per the attached schedule. These fees include a small increase over current fees sufficient to cover the effective loss of grant income as a result of the increase in the CTC factor.

It is important for the efficient running of the school that all families who can afford to pay their fees continue to do so in a timely manner and we are very grateful for your continued financial support.

## ***Our Lady of the Assumption Parish School Building Fund Donation***

Another way you can assist our school is to make a donation directly to the Parish for the Our Lady of the Assumption Parish School Building Fund. Any donation over \$2 or more to the Parish School Building Fund is tax deductible. Payments can be made by cheque payable to 'Our Lady of the Assumption Parish School Building Fund' or via direct deposit to the fund's bank account as follows:-

BSB: 083-347

Account No: 025471925

(Please ensure you include reference no: 110031932 and surname in the details, (e.g. 110031932SMITH).

The Parish will issue a receipt for taxation purposes.

The Our Lady of the Assumption Parish School Building Fund is endorsed by the Australian Tax Office (ATO) & Australian Charity and Non-profit Commission (ACNC) as a registered deductible gift fund. The fund is open for donations from the school community, general public and local businesses for voluntary contribution. The main purpose of the fund (or use of the fund) is to protect the integrity of the school buildings and provide for a greater learning environment for current and future students. As contributions are voluntary, they are tax deductible for donors.

We thank you for your ongoing support in maintaining and improving student safety and education, as we continue to foster community, wellbeing and academic excellence.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,



Richard Jacques  
Principal

## **2022 School Fee Charges**

### **Family Fees Payable:**

Family Fee	\$2,045.00
Capital Levy per family	\$ 873.00
<b>Total Family Fee:</b>	<b><u>\$2,918.00</u></b>

**Curriculum Levy - (Per Student)** \$ 783.00

### **\*Additional Fees - (Per Student)**

Years Prep - 4 - Swimming Levy	\$ 110.00
Years 5 and 6 - Senior Beach Program	\$ 120.00
Years 5 and 6 - Camp Fee	\$ 360.00
Year 6 - "Big Day Out"	\$ 95.00
Year 6 - Graduation Levy	\$ 50.00

**\*Please note that 2022 Swimming fees, 2022 School Camp and Year 6 "Big Day Out" fees will be adjusted according to the fees charged by facilitators for Camp, Swimming Pool, along with bus fees etc**

# Our Lady of the Assumption Concessional Fee Policy



MELBOURNE  
ARCHDIOCESE  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



Our Lady of the Assumption  
Parish Primary School Cheltenham

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School is a school which operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS), where formation and education are based on the principles of Catholic doctrine, and where the teachers are outstanding in true doctrine and uprightness of life.

## Eligibility for Concessional School Fees

The following families are strongly encouraged to apply for concessional school fees:

- Any family of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage.
- Any family holding an HCC and eligible for CSEF.
- Any family experiencing severe financial hardship.
- Any family holding a DVA Gold Card.
- Any family identified as refugees and holding an ImmiCard.
- Any family required to relocate their (Australian resident) child to St. Michael's Catholic Primary School, North Melbourne, due to the child requiring long term medical treatment at The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne. Pro-rata concession is provided for part-year attendance. An annual statutory declaration is required to confirm eligibility.
- HSS who attend a MACS primary school on a part time basis, who meet any of the criteria detailed above.

## Ineligibility for Concessional School Fees

FFPOS or full time HSS are ineligible for the concession as no government funding is available for FFPOS or full time HSS.

## Concessional School Fees for Eligible Students

Students of eligible families are entitled to concessional school fees.

The school fee for eligible students is:

- 1 child – \$15 per child per week, direct debit (\$780 per annum or \$195 per term)
- 2 children – \$23 for the family per week, direct debit (\$1,196 per annum, or \$299 per term)
- 3 + children – \$30 for the family per week, direct debit (\$1,560 per annum, or \$390 per term)

The above fees cover both tuition fees and levies, but exclude Camp and Grade 6 Graduation fees.

## Application for Concessional School Fees

Applications for concessional school fees must be made on the Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School concessional fee application form.

Information provided in support of concessional school fees must be treated in the strictest confidence, in accordance with the School's Privacy Policy.

## Successful Applications for Concessional School Fees

When an application for concessional school fees is approved, an automated payment plan must be established. Where applicable, the payment plan should be set up through CentrePay or via direct credit to the School.

When invoicing families for concessional school fees, Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School will invoice school fees and levy in full and then show a fee remission on the invoice so that the invoice total reflects the concessional school fee amount.

## Unsuccessful Applications for Concessional School Fees

In the circumstance that a family applies for but does not meet the threshold for a school fee reduction, the Principal will work out an appropriate payment plan with the family.