



KEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

No 1075

PEEL STREET

KEW 3101

T 03 9853 8325

F 03 9853 3029

www.kewps.vic.edu.au

Email: kew.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

7/11/2016

Dear Parents / Guardians,

On an annual basis School Council reviews the current budgets and sets the level of essential and voluntary financial contributions required from parents' to meet the needs for the next school year.

Kew Primary School's income is currently funded from two sources:

- The Department of Education & Training (DET) Student Resource Package (SRP) pays for school administration, utilities and services, staff salaries, urgent works, cleaning and general school operations;
- The essential and voluntary contributions from our parents' which are a major source and significant component of our educational and school program funding.

Following careful consideration, School Council has set these contributions for 2017 based on a small increase in line with CPI. The contributions are as follows:

ESSENTIAL STUDENT LEARNING ITEMS

TOTAL: \$420

All parents are required to pay the *Essential Student Learning Items* charge for those items the school provides over and above DET State Government funding, which includes but is not limited to:

- Student stationery such as materials, books, pens, pencils, printed materials for the year;
- Materials and consumables for classroom learning;
- Information and computer technology requirements including software licenses, computer equipment and technical support necessary to support the learning environment for each class;
- Specific items and requirements for all curriculum areas including Art, French and Physical Education;
- Photocopying, mathematics subscription, assessment programs and all other costs associated with classroom and specialist programs.

In order to keep the contributions as low as possible, we will purchase supplies in bulk to obtain competitive prices and ensure all students are using the same materials. This process also allows us to optimise the resources used in all classrooms each year.

We have received close to 100% of essential payments this year so thank you for your support.

It is absolutely vital that the school receives payment from all families for the essential student learning items portion of our school payments.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS - TOTAL SUGGESTED AMOUNT OF \$180

These payments are incredibly important for our school. In 2016 we received voluntary payments from 65% of our families. This assisted with the purchase of valuable learning resources in maths, literacy, Library and ICT resources including interactive screens and computers in the classrooms.

For 2017, we recommend the following voluntary contributions:

LIBRARY TRUST FUND: The suggested amount for this is \$50 which is tax deductible.

This money will be used to increase our Library program to support a targeted approach to English, particularly reading, as part of our new strategic plan. The purchase of school library literature resources, class sets of books, reference materials and maintenance of ICT hardware and software is critical to our goal for all students to find their love of reading.

GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE: The suggested amount for this is \$50

These contributions will enable maintenance of the school grounds including the employment of a part time maintenance person to ensure appropriate safety standards are met. DET does not provide funding to address all of the works and essential items needed for our school. These shortfalls are met from locally raised funds. To improve the hygiene of the toilets, and provide play spaces that accommodate all student needs, the ongoing upkeep of our school is critical to creating a stimulating learning environment.

BUILDING TRUST FUND: The suggested amount is \$50 which is tax deductible.

The Building Fund is used to ensure our school facilities are maintained to the appropriate standards as well as being used to fund larger scale capital works projects. As the oldest school in Kew, our buildings require regular maintenance which drains resources that could be spent in the classroom.

FIRST AID FUND: The suggested amount is \$30

These contributions assist to offset the cost of maintaining and staffing our First Aid room for qualified First Aid Officers.

If you require further clarification of information about parent payments please see the link at the School Policy & Advisory Guide:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/management/Pages/parentpayments.aspx>

These payments are due by 1st March 2017 however we would welcome payments before the 9th December or at the start of Term 1 next year to ensure we have the funds to support our core programs.

We truly believe a strong home-school partnership is critical to the success of student learning and engagement and we look forward to continuing the journey.

James Penson
Principal

Julie Coleman
School Council President