



## Melton South Primary School

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### OUR MISSION:

Melton South Primary School is a progressive community who lead the way.

Together we create motivated, respectful learners who achieve excellence.

# EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

## Monday February 5th 2024

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Friday Feb 16<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Friday Feb 16<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Monday Feb 19<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Friday Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024  
Monday Feb 26<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> 2024  
Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> 2024  
Monday March 4<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Friday March 8<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Monday March 11<sup>th</sup> 2024  
March 13<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> 2024  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Getting to Know You Interviews  
Gr5/6 Summer sports round 1  
Parent Information: Volunteers supporting learning in the classroom  
Whole school assembly 2.30-3.00  
Gr5/6 Summer sports round 2  
Regional swimming  
District swimming  
Gr5/6 Summer sports round 2  
CURRICULUM DAY – student free day  
Fathering Program 5.30-6.45pm  
Divisional tennis  
Summer Lightning Cup  
LABOUR DAY – student free day  
NAPLAN Grade 3&5  
Last day of term 1 - **Early dismissal 2.15pm**

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**Everyone has the right to be SAFE**  
**Everyone has the right to be RESPECTED**  
**Everyone has the right to LEARN**

**WELCOME BACK:** We have had a very positive start to the new school year. We welcome all new families and our new 2024 Prep students.

Introducing our new & returning staff:

Danielle Muskett Gr1    Manisha Kakkar Gr4    Tom Fawcett Gr4    Princess Peralta Gr6    Megan Wilson Gr6  
Michelle Farrugia M/T Gr3    Genevieve Morison Gr 3 Wed-Frid    Renae Harper Gr 2 Fri    June Penney Gr 2  
Tues    David McDonald Gr 6 Fri    Luke Smakman PE    Nicole Jowett Mental Health & Wellbeing  
Rebecca Couley tutor    Therese Footner tutor

**SKOOLBAG APP:** I would like to advise our school community that we are no longer using the Skoolbag App. We will communicate via COMPASS, this will include newsletters, notification of upcoming school events such as camps and excursions, semester 1 and 2 reports etc. We will also use COMPASS to communicate any emergency situation that may arise.

**SUNSMART SCHOOL:** MSPS is an accredited sun smart school so all students are required to wear a navy broad brimmed hat for Physical Education lessons and at playtime and lunchtime. Hats are available from the office for \$12.

# What are the students currently learning?

## Prep: Investigation Unit – Me and My Family

**Students will learn...** about being part of a school community as well as a member of their own Prep class. They learn about the structure and expectations of the Literacy and Numeracy workshops. In **Literacy**, they will be engaged in learning about themselves as emergent readers and writers. They will discuss their interests and preferences with texts. The students will learn about the importance of characters in stories. They will be encouraged to draw, label and write about themselves, and the characters in books. During Circle Time students will learn about Accountable Talk and how to be good listeners and speakers. They will be encouraged to use it in play-based activities with their peers.

## Grade 1-6: Investigation Unit – Growing Learners

**All students will learn...** that a Growth Mindset can help them to be effective learners. They will learn that it is important to set goals and the mindset they need to achieve those goals. They will learn that effective learners have qualities that include being risk-takers who persist when challenged and show resilience with failure.

Students will learn about being part of the class community and how the Literacy and Numeracy workshops work. In **Literacy**, they will be engaged in learning about themselves as readers and writers. The students will be encouraged to read texts that interest them, and choose others that stretch them as readers. They will read texts where characters show a Growth Mindset.

In **Numeracy**, the students will consider the qualities and dispositions of good mathematicians. They will learn to solve problems using a range of strategies and will be encouraged to discuss the effectiveness of their preferred strategy.

**COVID UPDATE:** There is at present an increase in community transmission of COVID-19 in Victoria. You can help us keep our school as safe as possible by taking 2 important steps:

1. Ensure your COVID-19 vaccinations are up to date. Information on how and where to get vaccinated is available on the Get vaccinated webpage.
2. If your child shows symptoms of COVID-19, please ensure they stay home and get tested.

The easiest way to test is to use a rapid antigen test (RAT) . We have RATs available at our school for collection. Free RATs are also available from your local council where you can collect 2 packs of 5 RATs and an extra 2 packs for each person in your household. People with disability and their carers can get 4 packs of 5 RATs. You are not required to have a Medicare card and you can collect RATs as many times as you need. You can also buy RATs at supermarkets, pharmacies and other retailers.

If your child has symptoms but tests negative, please ensure they stay home until they no longer have symptoms. If the RAT test result is positive, please ensure they stay home for at least 5 days and until there are no more symptoms. Thank you for your support – these steps will help us all stay well.



CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

### How CSEF is used

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend activities like:

- school camps or trips
- swimming and school-organised sport programs
- outdoor education programs
- excursions and incursions

This Victorian Government funding will help ensure more than 220,000 government and non-government students from lower-income families are able to participate in camps, sports and excursions each year.

### Eligibility for the CSEF

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card (*Health Care Card, Disability Support Pension, Age Pension etc.*) or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply.

Families can list more than one student in the application form if they are attending the same school.

### Criteria

The applicant must be one of the following on the first day of Term 1 (29 January 2024);

- **a parent or carer who is the beneficiary of a financially means-tested card**
- or
- **a temporary foster carer**

Applications will not be accepted after 1 June 2024

**Parents who receive a carer allowance on behalf of a student, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are NOT eligible for the CSEF payment unless they meet the above eligibility criterion.**

### Payment Amount

Payments for 2024 are:

- **\$150 per year for eligible primary school students**

Payments are made directly to the school:

- from March onwards each year where the parent/carers concession card is assessed as valid on the first day of Term 1 and
- until 1 June where the parent/carers concession card is assessed as valid on the first day of Term 2.

### Use of funds:

**The CSEF provides payments for eligible students to attend activities like:**

- school camps or trips
- swimming and school-organised sport programs
- outdoor education programs
- excursion and incursions

**The CSEF CANNOT be used towards**

- books
- stationery
- school uniforms
- before and after school care
- music lessons, or
- graduation

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$150 for primary school students
- \$250 for secondary school students

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



## Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund APPLICATION Form 2024

Melton South P.S. 3717

School Name

School REF ID

### Parent/legal guardian details

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

First name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town/suburb \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

-    -    -  OR

Foster parent\* OR  Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)\*\*

\*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

\*\*Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card.

### Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Victorian Department of Education (DE) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry about my Centrelink customer details and concession card status to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of any enquiry to DE regarding temporary care orders.

I understand that:

- DFFH or Centrelink will use information I have provided to DE to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DE personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- This consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DFFH and provide it to my child's school so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DE.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to DFFH and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You can request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_



## Camps, Sports and Excursions fund eligibility

Below are the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

### Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible\* for the fund, a mature minor of sixteen years of age or over, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
  - on the first day of Term two.
- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
  - b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
  - c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

\* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Eligibility | education.vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef/eligibility)

Mature minors or parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

### Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and seventeen years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and eighteen years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooling, or TAFE.

#### Eligibility Date

For concession card holders, CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on 29 January 2024 and/or 15 April 2024.

## Payment amounts

### CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$150.00 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$250.00 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to the school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Payment amounts | education.vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef/payment-amounts)

Foundation and Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents, so please register your interest at the school.

## How to complete the application form

### NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.  
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.  
If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2024 closes at the end of term two 2024.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.