



The Heartbeat of Mountain District Christian School



“Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.”

Deuteronomy 11:18 – 19.

Deuteronomy tells us of the importance to teach our children and to raise them as good stewards and carers of God's world;

to help our children in establishing a faith of their own. This is part of the vision for MDCS as providing a place for educating our children in a Christ centred way.

A key component of enabling our School vision to be met is through the payment of fees; to allow for delivery of the educational outcomes we all desire. We seek to achieve this by keeping our fees as low as possible to allow for all families to access a quality biblically based education. We have seen over the past few years the growth in our results across NAPLAN and median VCE study scores as indicators of improvement as students faithfully respond to understanding God's world and how they may best serve Him.

A number of families attended the EGM where the School Association passed the budget for 2019, including the change in School Fees and School Fee structure. The schedule of fees was included with the EGM notice and is also attached here for reference purposes.

The main changes in fee structure are two-fold:

- An amalgamation of fee levels in the Primary school.
- **No increase in fees for Year 7 – 10** as we transition to the process of families purchasing textbooks for student use. This was an important consideration at Board and Finance Committee meetings as discussion revolved around how best to achieve the development of annotation habits in early Secondary levels in preparation for senior study. This is a crucial skill for students to acquire as a means of enhancing knowledge retention and learning.

Letters have been sent out with book lists explaining the above changes. I readily recognise that this is a change from previous practice whereby fees were all inclusive other than at VCE level.

COMING HOME THIS WEEK:

- Scholastic Book Fair catalogue
- Primary 'Be Active' booklet
- Yr 11 Chemistry Exc
- VCE 2019, Retreat Forms

REMINDERS:

- SCHOOL BANKING TOMORROW
- RETURN SAUSAGE SIZZLE ORDERS
- YEAR 7-10 2019, BOOK ORDER FORMS

School fees continue to cover a range of items including all camps, excursions and incursions, basic stationery as well as access to School provided computers. There has been a consistent and directed drive to improve school technology infrastructure including fibre optic cable to provide a much improved connectivity to the internet and a very sound internal network. We have an ongoing program to renew class sets of PC's, laptops and iPads across all levels.

School fee increases have been kept to the barest possible minimum; whilst being responsible to cover cost increases. Our fees are competitive with similar placed schools and reflect responsible stewardship by the Board and school executive.

Invoices for the 2019 fees will be sent out shortly together with payment agreements, request for bus information and working

bee dates.

Payment options for fees are as follows:

8% discount on tuition fees if paid in full by 7th December, 2018

Direct debit arrangements in

place on either a weekly, fortnightly, monthly or term basis.

We ask that as a minimum families need to be a Term's fees in advance. This means that Term 1 fees are paid prior to commencement of the term. No change to the requirement that fees be paid in full by end of November 2019.

We know that each family in our community makes a sacrifice to invest in their children's education and value the partnership we have with each of you. As such, the Board readily recognises that some families may find it difficult to meet fee commitments and has put in place a confidential process to apply for reduced fees on a "needs" basis. This is a yearly application process and does not automatically roll over from the prior year. If you need to apply for fee assistance, then please contact myself to start the process and obtain a fee assistance form.

Ross Ingram
Business Manager



Association Members at this years EGM

Annual Tuition Fees	1 st (Eldest) Child	2 nd Child	3 rd Child
Prep	1,700	1,700	1,700
Year 1	2,300	2,300	2,300
Year 2	2,300	2,300	2,300
Year 3	3,700	3,700	3,700
Year 4	3,700	3,700	3,700
Year 5	4,700	4,700	4,700
Year 6	4,700	4,700	4,700
Year 7 - 10	7,300	5,840	3,650
Year 11 - 12	8,500	6,800	2,550

Parents please note...



Wheelathon
THIS MONDAY, 12th November

KEEP THOSE SPONSORS COMING - We are hoping to raise enough to purchase one wheelchair for \$200 dollars!

SAUSAGE SIZZLE - Secondary students welcome to join in the sausage sizzle - \$1 sausage, \$1 drink. All order forms (Primary students only) should be handed to the office.

MDCS is partnering with Rotary and Wheel Chair for Kids for this venture and we look forward to making a difference in the lives of others.

Ed Eadon - Chaplain

Stay and Play

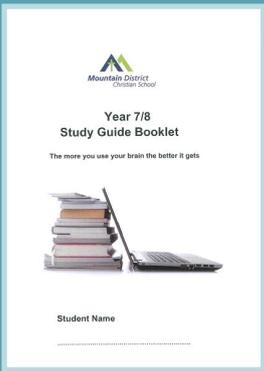
Stay and Play runs every Tuesday, 8.45am ~ 10.30am

Come along with your little one/ones or come alone and have a cuppa and a chat!!

School Banking

Just a reminder that school banking takes place every Friday, from the office. School banking is a great way to educate your child about the value of saving, while building a nest egg for future 'needs'.... (cars...mobile phones, end of school travel....etc...!)

If you are new to school banking and would like your child to open a account, please contact the office and we will send home the necessary forms.



Coming home this week are the Year 7-10 Study Guide Booklets that students have been given for their Semester 2 exams.

Study techniques and content to be expected in exams has been covered in class to prepare students.

Exams for students in Year 7-10 will be held between Wednesday 21st - Friday 23rd November.

Exams for students in Year 11 will be held between Tuesday 20th - Friday 23rd November.

Dear Primary Families, Today you would have received a brochure titled 'Make your move – Sit less, Be active for life!' This outlines Australia's Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour Guidelines for Children (5-12 Years) and also includes lots of practical tips and strategies to help your family work towards meeting these goals. We have sent this home because during our Primary Health and Physical Education lessons this term we have spent some time talking and learning about 'Sedentary Behaviour' and 'Physical Activity'.

WHAT ARE SEDENTARY BEHAVIOURS?

Sedentary behaviours are activities that are done while sitting or lying down (e.g., watching TV, iPad or computer, homework).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

No more than two hours a day using screens (e.g., TV, electronic tablets, video games) for entertainment and break up long periods of sitting as often as possible.

WHAT IS PHYSICAL ACTIVITY?

Physical activity is about moving your muscles. You feel warm and a little out of breath (e.g., walking, climbing trees, skipping, running, riding).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

At least 60 minutes of physical activity every day and doing activities that help strengthen bones at least three days per week.

The benefits of moving more and sitting less are

numerous and include positive health benefits, as well as improved academic outcomes and even improved self-esteem (Deakin University, Institute for Physical Activity and Nutrition (IPAN) Transform-Us!, 2018).

As part of our desire to help our students develop these positive

habits the Primary teachers have signed up to be part of the 'Transform-Us' program run by Deakin University. This program provides resources and ideas to help us incorporate physical activity into the school day and integrate movement into our learning environments.

Please have a look at the brochure with your child/ren and let's continue the conversation about being active and honouring God with our bodies! - Nissa Heading



SCHOOL CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

9th - Yr 8 Cricket Incursion

- Year 2 Sleepover

12th - Secondary Assembly

- Primary Wheelathon/Sausage Sizzle

14th - 16th Yr 9/10 Outdoor Education camp

15th - Yr 7 PE Dance Incursion

16th - Scholastic Book Fair begins

- Yr 8 Cricket Incursion

19th - Primary Assembly

20th - 23rd Year 11 Exams