



Dear Parents,

## RE: School attendance dues and voluntary financial contributions 2020

As a parent/caregiver, we appreciate that you had a choice on the school you selected for your child's/children education. We are honoured that you have chosen Marist Catholic School Herne Bay, and value the contribution you make to our special community.

Marist Catholic School, Herne Bay is different from other schools you may have considered:

1. First and foremost, we are a Catholic School and, as such, there is requirement from the Catholic Diocese to charge for the Special Character education provided;
2. As an integrated school, we do not charge fees in any way comparable with private schools. (~\$18k per annum);
3. As an integrated school, we do not receive the same level of government funding as public schools;
4. As a consequence of 3, we seek additional voluntary contributions from families to ensure we are providing your children with the best education possible.

Each year the Board of Trustees review the school fees. It is a challenging task to balance the increasing funding demands required to deliver a quality education for your children, with our desire to avoid putting undue financial pressure on families in our community.

After a detailed review, the Board of Trustees have agreed to set the total contribution for 2020 as follows::

- \$1,015 for the first child; and
- \$830 for any subsequent children of the same whanau enrolled at the school.

This fee contribution consists of the following components:

Fee Component	Purpose	2020 Fee
<b>Catholic Diocese Attendance Dues</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Compulsory payment set by and given to the Diocese</li> <li>● Contributes to the running of all Catholic schools across Auckland including Marist.</li> </ul>	\$450 per enrolled child
<b>Special Character</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Payment set by and given to the Diocese</li> <li>● Main source of funding for all Special Character services by the Catholic Education Services Board</li> </ul>	\$50 per enrolled child
<b>General Purpose Contribution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Set by the MCSHB BoT to enhance learning environment for our students eg employing additional teaching staff; ensuring classrooms are resourced to deliver the curriculum at high levels</li> </ul>	\$250 per enrolled child
<b>Activities fee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Set by the MCSHB BoT</li> <li>● Ensures all families are able to participate in activities that the school run to support Special Character and the Curriculum eg Museum Visits; Swimming Lessons; Concerts</li> </ul>	\$80 per enrolled child

<b>Building contribution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set by the MCSHB BoT</li> <li>Ensures the school is able to invest in capital projects like the new building; field drainage; landscaping</li> </ul>	\$120 per family
<b>Family Assistance Fund</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set by the MCSHB BoT</li> <li>In line with our values, this provides assistance to families who are experiencing financial difficulties</li> <li>Contribution can be increased if families so desire</li> </ul>	\$65 per family

**Note:** Stationery is an additional cost. All stationery is listed by class, and can be ordered, via [www.myschool.co.nz](http://www.myschool.co.nz)

We appreciate that this fee contribution can be a significant component of your household expenses. As such, we have sought to provide flexibility around payment options.

Option	Payment options	Due Dates	Total Amount
1	<b>One-off annual payment</b>	21 February 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1,015 (first child)</li> <li>\$830 (each additional child)</li> </ul>
2	<b>Quarterly payments</b>	14 February 2020 15 May 2020 31 July 2020 23 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$253.75 each quarter (first child)</li> <li>\$207.50 each quarter (each additional child)</li> </ul>
3	<b>Fortnightly or Monthly Automatic Payments</b>	Set this up with your bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$92.30 per month (first child)</li> <li>\$75.50 per month (each additional child)</li> </ul>

Payment Details:

**Marist School (Herne Bay) 12-3019-0483173-50.**

Reference: your child's full name as a reference.

- These details are also on the bottom of your invoice.
- If you chose to make several one-off payments over the year, please also include the item of the account you are paying as this is helpful for our accounting purposes.
- If required, payment by cheque or cash can also be made at the office.
- You may qualify for an income tax credit from Inland Revenue in relation to contributions made to the school.
- If you think you may have difficulty with payment, please contact the school office as soon as possible to discuss your options or apply for a hardship grant.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Thawley

**Chairperson, Board of Trustees  
Marist Catholic School, Herne Bay,**