



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

## RE: School attendance dues and voluntary financial contributions 2021

Nau mai and welcome to 2021. As a parent/caregiver, we appreciate that you had a choice on the school you selected for your child's/children's 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 the Catholic Diocese charge to cover the cost for the Special Character education provided;
2. Furthermore, as an integrated school, we do not charge fees in any way comparable with private schools (e.g. about \$20k per annum); and
3. As an integrated school, we do not receive the same level of government funding as public schools; therefore
4. Therefore, 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 agreed to set the total contribution as follows:

- \$1,017 for the first child; and
- \$902 for any subsequent children of the same whanau enrolled at the school.

This fee contribution consists of the following components:

Fee Component	Purpose	2021 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 MCSHB.</li> </ul>	\$452 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.</li> <li>● Enhance the learning environment for our students (e.g. employing additional teaching staff, ensuring classrooms are resourced to deliver the curriculum at high levels).</li> </ul>	\$300 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 runs to support Special Character and the Curriculum (e.g. Museum Visits, Swimming Lessons and Concerts).</li> </ul>	\$100 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. Historically this has contributed to things like the new building, field drainage and landscaping. In 2021 these are expected to be new drinking fountains and cultural murals and items.</li> </ul>	\$90 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>	\$25 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>	26 February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1,017 (first child)</li> <li>\$902 (each additional child)</li> </ul>
2	<b>Quarterly payments</b>	26 February 2021 21 May 2021 13 August 2021 5 November 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$254.25 each quarter (first child)</li> <li>\$225.50 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>\$92.46 per month (first child)</li> <li>\$82 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 choose 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,**