



28 February 2020

Dear

We need your help!

In 2019 the school asked for a donation of \$150 per student, which was dropped to \$130 per student if paid or set up an automatic payment before the end of March.

Last year 52% of our students contributed a donation. This was quite a bit less than we had budgeted. The school donation is voluntary and there is no requirement to pay it, but any donation makes a huge difference in what we can offer our students.

The school is primarily funded by the Ministry of Education. They cover our basic needs of staffing, property, and educational and administrative resources. Anything extra is over to us.

The extras that Plimmerton School provide are:

- a music programme
- a kapa haka programme
- a significantly subsidised swimming programme
- additional reading recovery hours
- additional teacher aide hours
- full library services, including a librarian
- additional digital technology resources
- release time for staff to allow them to be more responsive to student needs

Most Ministry funding streams are targeted for specific purposes. There is very little scope for cost savings or redirecting ministry funding to cover these extras. The school donation along with the PTA and other fundraising efforts are essential if we wish to continue providing these extras.

Last year the government announced a policy to fund decile 1-7 schools \$150 per student if schools didn't ask their parents for a donation. This policy is currently **not** available to us as we are a decile 10 school.

In line with the government donation scheme the suggested donation this year is \$150 per student. As it is a donation the amount is up to you and voluntary. If this amount is a stretch feel free to adjust it accordingly. At the same time if you feel you could contribute more also feel free to adjust the amount. The school office will generate a tax receipt for any donation amount (of which you can then claim 1/3 back from the IRD).

Payments can be made at the school office via eftpos or by direct credit to the school bank account. Please clearly state your child's surname, donation and your 4 digit parent account number.

Plimmerton School Board of Trustees

12-3478-0062343-00

Alternatively, please email the office to request the deduction of the donation from your parent account - you can then pay it off over the next few weeks.

We appreciate your support.

Mel Swallow
Board Chair