



## Chairman's Fees Letter 2023

2 October 2023

As we reflect upon the year that has passed, we are filled with gratitude for the journey we've shared together. The last Council meeting, held on Tuesday, 19 September 2023, marked a significant milestone as we finalized the budget and fee structure for 2024.

Constructing the 2024 budget was a meticulous process. We considered various factors, including the predicted inflation and educational inflation figures for 2024, the escalating global cost of living, and our commitment to ensuring the long-term sustainability of our school. We also took into account our projected numbers for the upcoming year. We are acutely aware of the sacrifices that many parents are making, especially in the current economic climate, to provide their children with an independent education.

The annual review of school fees is always a delicate balance between affordability and maintaining the high standards we set for education. This year was no exception, and we also factored in our crucial three-year maintenance plan for our grounds and buildings.

With these considerations in mind, we have decided to implement a 7% fee increase for 2024 across all grade levels. This is below the current educational inflation rate. It is important to note that school fees at Applewood include so much more than at most schools of our calibre. This fee includes:

- world class academic tuition
- classroom stationery and art supplies
- safe sports transport
- immersive and engaging outings and excursions
- insurance fees per child
- a sports tour for Grade 6 and 7 children
- the Parents Association levy
- development levies which are used to improve facilities at our school

However, there are a few items that are not covered in the fees:

- The monthly swimming pool levy, which supports the operation of our world-class facility, will increase to R180 in 2024. This includes a swimming lesson during the school day in the summer months and the opportunity to participate in extra squad swimming.



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- The Grade 7 "Mountain to Coast Experience" is funded through fundraising efforts.
- Individual stationery requirements are not included in the fees.

Promoting our school remains a top priority for growth and development. We cannot overemphasize the importance of every member of our school community, including parents, in supporting our marketing efforts. Increasing our number of learners is critical to ensuring we are able to keep our fee increases aligned to or below inflation, due to the positive impact that this has on the cost per child. It's a collective responsibility to showcase the incredible opportunities our school offers and actively engage in recruiting new students to ensure our sustainability.

This term, we held an open day focused on Grade 1, completed phase-specific handbooks, and produced a captivating marketing video. Our newly revamped website and our active presence on Instagram and Facebook are yielding positive results. Our primary focus is on expanding our Pre-Primary program. If you know of any families interested in becoming part of the Applewood family, please connect them with our school.

Anticipation is high for this year's Golf Day, which promises to be a resounding success. In these challenging economic times, fundraising has become increasingly vital. Looking ahead to next year, we must unite as a school community to generate additional funding that will support our strategic plans.

It would be remiss not to mention the incredible work of our teachers. The passion and commitment they show is evidenced in the well rounded and confident children in our school. Together, we'll continue to nurture and enhance the educational experience at Applewood School. Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to our shared vision.

Kind regards

Stephan Beukes



## SCHOOL FEES 2024

### APPLICATION FEE

A non-refundable fee of **R300** is payable with the return of an application for registration.

### ACCEPTANCE FEE

Confirmation of a place at Applewood is contingent upon payment of a non-refundable Acceptance Fee. The fee per child enrolled is **R3 000**.

### SCHEDULE OF SCHOOL FEES

The annual fees are inclusive of all activities at Applewood.

<b>GRADE</b>	<b>MONTHLY (11 months Jan–Nov)</b>	<b>ANNUAL</b>
Apple Blossoms	R3 340	R36 740
Apple Pips	R3 700	R40 700
Busy Bees	R3 700	R40 700
Grade R	R5 170	R56 870
Grades 1 and 2	R6 540	R71 940
Grade 3	R6 830	R75 130
Grades 4 – 7	R7 520	R82 720

### APPLE BLOSSOMS VARIABLE ATTENDANCE

Fees covering a variable attendance week for **Apple Blossoms** are as follows:

<b>Days per Week</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Annual</b>
Two Days	R1 890	R20 790
Three Days	R2 290	R25 190
Four Days	R2 720	R29 920

### APPLE PIPS VARIABLE ATTENDANCE

Fees covering a variable attendance week for **Apple Pips** are as follows:

<b>Days per Week</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Annual</b>
Two Days	R2 020	R22 220
Three Days	R2 650	R29 150
Four Days	R3 030	R33 330



### **SWIMMING POOL LEVY**

A monthly levy of R180 per child per month will be charged to cover the costs of running the Aquatic Centre.

### **PAYMENT OF FEES**

Fees are payable either monthly, quarterly, or annually. **Annual payments** received on or before

**31 January** are allowed a 2.5% discount on school fees only, except accounts which are the beneficiaries of financial assistance.

School fees paid **monthly** are due by the **2<sup>nd</sup>** day of each of the 11 months January to November, or on the first banking day thereafter if the 2<sup>nd</sup> falls on a Sunday or Public holiday.

School fees paid **quarterly** are due by the first day of each quarter.

**All accounts are to be paid in full by the end of November of the year in which they are raised.**

### **FEES INCLUDE**

Our fee structure is unique and all-inclusive. Our monthly fee includes Tuition Fees, Classroom Stationery, Sports Transport, Medical Insurance Fees per child, PA Levy, Development Levy, as well as Outings and Excursions.

The following are however **not included** in the fees:

- Monthly swimming pool levy, which helps to cover the costs of running this Aquatic Centre and the swimming programme which includes swimming lessons during the school day in the summer months as well as the opportunity to take part in extra squad swimming.
- Individual stationery requirements.
- Individual extras such as: Individual Private Music Instrument Tuition, Dance Mouse, Private Tennis Lessons, Playball, Rugby, etc. Parents wanting their children to participate in private individual lessons must make payment arrangements with the individual teachers, tutors or coaches concerned.
- Grade 6 and 7 Sports Tours and the Mountain2Coast experience for the Grade 7's (these vary and are child dependent).



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### DEPOSITS

Deposits made directly into the school's current account should be referenced with either the fees account number or the child's name and surname. The Applewood School's current account details are:

Bank:	<b>First National Bank, Grabouw</b>
Account name:	<b>Applewood Preparatory School</b>
Account number:	<b>5231 104 62 81</b>
Branch code:	<b>200 312</b>

### BANK CHARGES

The following charges levied by our banking institution will be transferred through to the depositor's or defaulter's account:

- Foreign Exchange commission/fees on deposits in any foreign currency
- Cash deposit fees

### NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

**A full three months' written notice** of the intention to withdraw a child from the school is required.

- Failure to comply will entitle the school to **raise three months' school fees** in lieu of such notice

Yours sincerely

**JS BEUKES**  
**CHAIRMAN: APPLEWOOD COUNCIL**