

Year 3 and 4 iPad program 2015

Dear Year 2 and 3 Parents/Carers/Guardians,

As you may be aware, since 2013 year 5 and 6 students at Hamlyn Banks have been using iPads as a tool in their day to day learning. Families have purchased the device and students are able to share and follow up work at home.



In 2014, students in years 3 and 4 have also been using iPads as a tool in their daily learning. There has been pleasing progress in both teacher and student skills in utilizing this powerful tool and creating engaging opportunities for learning.

Currently, each 4/3 classroom has a set of ten iPads for student use. These iPads are a shared resource and remain at school.

The optimum situation is for each student to have their own iPad to use in class. 1-to-1 programs are an element in an international move towards individualising learning, which can increase independence and self-initiated learning in students and extend their learning beyond the classroom. Students who have their own device have been found to take greater pride and ownership over the knowledge they create. Our experience at Hamlyn Banks has been a very positive one, with some amazing work produced by our students.

Students in year 3 and 4 **will not** be required to purchase a device for 1-to-1 use. However, if families already have an **iPad** they can use at school, or they wish to purchase one for their child, our technicians will be able to connect these to the school wireless for use in classrooms. That way students will be able to take their device home each night for continued learning and to share their work with parents/guardians.

While the iPads are being used as a school tool and attached to our network, students and parents would be expected to sign an agreement about the content loaded onto the iPad, as well as being a respectful and courteous user of the web.

Why iPads? These devices are more robust than netbooks, are user friendly and adapt to our school network. Also, there are a wide range of excellent and free Educational Applications for iPads.

Which iPad should I purchase? The following models are acceptable:

- iPad2 16gb (no longer available to purchase new), iPad3 (Retina) 16gb or higher, iPad Air.
- iPad mini is compatible but please remember that students will be reading and writing on the device.
- All devices must have Wi Fi in order to connect to the school internet.
- Parents are welcome to use a device that is already in the family.
- Please note- Android devices **will not** be able to be connected to our wireless network, so are **not suitable**.

Additional Information

- Please ensure you provide a cover which protects the front of the device and has a hard back.
- The school will provide internet connection while students are at school.
- While the school will take every possible measure to protect equipment, students will ultimately be responsible for their device. iPads will not be covered by school or DEECD insurance.
- **Please note** iPads will hold a one year warranty, however any damage not covered under warranty will need to be claimed through your home contents insurance.
- Students who do not have an iPad will continue to be involved in the 1 to 1 technology program through use of school netbooks/iPads.
- Families will need to set up an Apple ID for downloading of apps on student owned devices. This can be done **without** attaching a credit card. We will conduct an information meeting later in the year to assist with this. Alternatively you can use an existing Apple ID. **Please do not share the password with your child if attached to a credit card.**
- Students will be set up with a Google docs account which includes email, calendar, image editing tools, equivalent word, excel and power point. They will be able to access in the cloud (meaning anywhere they have internet they will be able to access their work and on any device e.g. windows, mac and IOS iPads). Teachers and parents will also be able to view students work via the internet. This will be set up at school and will be no charge.
- Many apps used will be free; others will be covered via the school booklist.
- Any apps/movies/music installed for home use must have acceptable content for school use i.e. no M15+, swearing, violence. Restrictions can be set for content.
- Families/students to sign an agreement re the acceptable and respectful use of internet and equipment.

Need more information?

- Please feel free to ring Kerrie Duan* or Simon O'Brien at the school on 5278 3100 if you have any questions. (* I will be on leave from August 25 to October 20)
- Ring the school to make an appointment to view a 4/3 class in action or chat with students/teachers about how the iPads are used.
- Come to an information session to be held in late October/early November (date to be advised).

Regards,

Kerrie Duan (Assistant Principal)