



Parent / Guardian Memorandum

To: Year 3 & Year 4 Parents 2016
From: Helen O'Toole (Principal)
Subject: Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) for 2017
Date: 16th September 2016

Dear Parents / Guardians of Year 3 & Year 4 Students 2016

I am writing to you to advise of a decision that has been made by the St Jerome's Primary School Board. After a lengthy consultation the School Board has made the following decisions which will impact you in 2017.

Year 4 2017

Students will be required to have one of the following devices:

- iPad Air 2 - 128GB (Currently costs \$689, which is approximately \$4.42 per week over the three years)
- iPad Pro 9.7" - 128GB (Currently costs \$969, which is approximately \$6.21 per week over the three years)

These devices will allow children use of the iPad from 2017 – 2019 with enough storage to allow for some personal games and apps for home use, as well as enough storage to allow for effective use at school.

iPad Air 2 and iPad Pro 9.7" are the two most recent full size iPads released by Apple. This means that with near certainty the future releases of apps and iOS Software will support these devices until at least 2019.

Year 5 2017

Students will be required to have an iPad device with **at least 2GB** of free space to allow for the appropriate functioning of school apps.

This has certainly not been a quick decision. The school has been working towards this since 2012, with the following events occurring:

- 2012 – Upgrade of WiFi network.
- 2013 – 5 Green Trial of BYOD Optional – 2 days per week.
- 2014 – Apple TV installed in a number of upper primary classrooms.
- 2014 – Year 4, 5 & 6 Trial BYOD Optional – 3 days per week.
- 2014 – Increase of school bandwidth 10Mbps to 20Mbps.
- 2014 – Term 3 – Year 5 Trial BYOD Optional – 5 days per week.
- 2015 – Year 4 to Year 6 BYOD Optional – 5 days per week
- 2016 – Year 4 to Year 6 BYOD – 5 days per week
- 2016 – Increase of school bandwidth 20Mbps to 50Mbps

As part of the Western Australian Curriculum we are required to integrate the use of technology through broad General Capability of Information and Communication Technology. As of 2017 we will be teaching the subject of Digital Technologies from Pre-Primary to Year 6. Digital Technologies and Design Technologies replace what is currently called Technology and Enterprise.

Technology is integrated into regular class work and does not replace the basics of handwriting. It allows the children to take control of their own learning. Technology also allows for different styles of learning to be catered for as part of daily work. While it is not all about one test, there is a clear direction from the Federal Government to move to NAPLAN being online,;for St Jerome's Primary School this will occur in 2017.

While we understand the cost is not small, there are many financing options available, with more information coming about this in early Term 4.