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iConnect@Greenbank BYOD iPad Program 2021



From the start of the 2021 school year, a BYOD Apple iPad program will be introduced, then phased in over the next three years. In 2021 years 1, 4 and 5 students are strongly encouraged to bring an iPad to school as a tool to support their learning. The use of iPad technology will support our students' learning, engagement, productivity, technical capability and home school partnerships. We are very excited to be embarking on this journey with our students and we are looking forward to what we will be able to achieve.

Device Specifications:

We recommend an Apple iPad 7th Generation with either 32GB or 128GB of storage. If you have an Apple iPad 6 already, this device is acceptable for use at school also. Please note that any device earlier than an iPad 6 is not compatible with our systems and apps that students will be accessing.

Your child's learning will not be disadvantaged if you choose not to participate in the BYOD iPad program. However, the iPad will be an effective tool to assist students with a wide scope of learning opportunities. Students without iPads will have access to a school owned device, however this will have to be shared with others. It is not guaranteed that students will have access to a school owned device every lesson. These devices won't be able to be taken home.

The school has partnered with School Locker and JB Hifi Education to be able to offer competitive prices on iPads and accessories. However, families can choose to purchase devices from any store of your choosing, as long as the device meets the minimum specifications.

Device Setup:

Setup for your child's device will occur at school, prior to school starting in 2021, or in the first week of Term 1. All the required apps that your child will need will be loaded onto the iPad for you, as well as ensuring the device is able to connect to the school wi-fi. Greenbank State School ICT staff members will do this for families, and will be available for tech help at the start of the year for parents who have concerns or questions.

All students in years 1, 4 and 5 will access a variety of different apps to support their learning throughout the year.

Student Participation Agreement:

All students in years 1, 4 and 5 will be asked to sign a 'Student Participation Agreement'. This document outlines the most important aspects for students and families in relation to general use of the ipad, content and safety and security. This document summarises for students the more extensive information contained within the 'Greenbank State School BYOD Charter' which will be forwarded to families in Term 4 this year. Students and parents are asked to read through the agreement together, sign and return it to their child's teacher ASAP.



Classroom Use:

The amount of time that students will spend on their iPad each day will vary from year level to year level, class to class, student to student and even day to day. Students will engage in a range and balance of learning experiences throughout a day that may or may not include iPads. The use of iPads does not replace the use of paper and pencil.

Safety:

All year 1, 4 and 5 classrooms will be fitted with lockable cupboards to store iPads in when not in use. This includes during lunch breaks.

iPads are not to be used before or after school, and students with iPads are encouraged to go to the covered areas prior to school commencing where supervision is available from 8:00am onwards. The Student Participation Agreement and BYOD Charter outline procedures for lost / damaged devices.

Keeping Updated:

Parents are encouraged to talk with their children about how they are using their devices in the classroom. Parents will be able to see some of the ways students will use their devices, as it is most likely that students will be able to complete many of their homework tasks on their iPad.

We will be sharing lots of examples of how iPads are being used via Class Dojo and our school Facebook page and newsletter.

Our ICT department are always available to answer questions parents may have and we welcome any parent feedback around the program. We are aiming to hold parent info sessions early in 2021 which will include topics such as 'cybersafety at home' and 'how to setup screen time limits'.

We are all commencing the 'iLearn @ Greenbank' BYO Apple iPad program together and are looking forward to working with you in 2021 to unlock the full potential of the iPad and create "a school for the future, that retains the best of the past."

Kind Regards,

Mr Jeff Jones Principal