

## **Parent Communication re: iPad 1:1 agreement for Grade 3-4 from 2021**

Dear parents,

From the start of Term 1 2021, Donvale Primary School are moving towards a mandatory 1:1 iPad agreement for Grade 3 and 4 students. This will bring the Middle School students into alignment with Senior School students, where it has been mandatory for them to bring their own iPad to school for a number of years.

Donvale Primary School is moving in this direction, because today's students think, connect and communicate differently from previous generations. Reports have suggested that students with 1:1 access are...

- More motivated and engaged in learning.
- Better organised which improves literacy and numeracy outcomes.
- Able to collaborate and think analytically.
- Provides students with the necessary tools and awareness to learn and work in a society that is becoming more technology rich.
- Gives students different avenues to present their work.

As evidenced by the recent Remote Learning period, where students were completing their work at home, iPads allow independent learning to be done anywhere and anytime. Additionally, with the ability to connect to parents via Seesaw it harnesses the link between family members and education.

A number of students already have access to iPads. That's great! All you will have to do is complete the relevant agreement forms and you will be ready to go. If there is no iPad accessible at the moment, we believe that there is now sufficient time to save money and buy that Christmas or Birthday present, before the start of next year. Studies have found that the average lifespan of an iPad is between four and five years, which equates to around \$100 a year, for a 7<sup>th</sup> generation 10 inch iPad.

It is important to note, however that the tablet that is brought to school MUST be an Apple branded iPad. Other tablets such as the Samsung Galaxy Note, will not be accepted by the Department's Wifi network. It does not matter what sort of Apple iPad is being used at school, whether it be a Mini, a Pro, or somewhere in between.

The school is currently investigating a partnership with the Apple Store at Doncaster Shoppingtown. Once things are finalised, there will be the possibility of discounts for parents of Donvale Primary School. More details will be released when this partnership is finalised.

Just as has been done in the past, there will be a list of Education apps that will need to be downloaded for the start of the year. That list, as well as the relevant Terms of Agreement documents will be available towards the end of 2020.

Feel free to contact the school if there are any queries.