

19 November 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

2016 ONE-TO-ONE PROGRAM

Over the past few months, the Yanchep Beach Primary School community has been discussing how to prepare our children for the 21st century. All of us --- staff, parents and community members --- have worked together to develop a plan that will prepare our children for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

We are pleased to report that there has been an incredibly positive response to the idea of students, beginning in Year Four, having access to a personal digital device. Feedback from parents has been overwhelmingly positive, with over 85% of parents in favour of the proposal. The School Board has endorsed the plan and the staff of the school has voted unanimously to adopt the program.

As a committee, we have considered this information carefully. Our recommendation to the Principal is as follows:

Yanchep Beach Primary School should implement a parent-funded one-to-one iPad program with Year Four students from the second term of 2016.

We would like to thank every member of the community for helping us to arrive at this point. Without the ideas, time, discussion and support of the school community, a program like this would not be possible.

Intended Outcomes

We are looking forward to seeing the amazing learning opportunities that access to these devices will create for our students. Some of the outcomes that we are hoping to see from the program include:

- improved technical skills;
- improvements in literacy and numeracy skills;

- increased attendance rates;
- greater opportunities for peer teaching and group work;
- greater student motivation;
- improved research skills;
- greater creativity; and
- more 'after hours' learning.

Over the course of the program, the school should gather evidence to see how well it is achieving these objectives. Feedback from the parent community and students will be a key part of this review process.

Selected Device

The school's teaching staff expressed a strong preference for the Apple iPad as the nominated device for our program. Teachers emphasised that the benefits of using technology are greatest when every child is using the same device.

The committee has therefore recommended the purchase of an iPad Air (model 1 or 2) with a minimum storage of 16GB.

Note: This storage capacity will be sufficient for school use. However, parents may wish to increase this storage capacity to allow for games, videos and music to be installed on the device. A minimum of 32 GB is recommended if families wish to use their iPads for non-school purposes.

Other Devices

The Committee also developed a list of other devices that would be acceptable for use in the program. The following is a list of approved devices:

- iPad Air
- iPad Mini 2
- iPad Air 2
- iPad Mini 3
- iPad Pro
- iPad Mini 4

In determining this list, the Committee selected only those devices that were likely to provide acceptable performance for the entirety of the program (i.e. into 2018). Essentially, this list represents iPad models released after November 2013.

Ordering

Yanchep Beach Primary School has partnered with a private company, Winthrop Australia, to provide iPads at a discount price to the parent community. Parents are not required to purchase their devices from Winthrop Australia, but doing so does offer the following benefits:

- discounted education pricing;
- optional two years AppleCare+ extended warranty;
- optional two years of insurance;
- the option of leasing through Flexirent;
- service and insurance support;
- free shipping to your home address.

While the program does not begin until Term 2 2016, some parents may wish to purchase devices as a Christmas present for their child. Families wishing to take up this option may place an order online with Winthrop Australia at portal.winaust.com.au/a/ybps

Insurance and Extended Warranties

It is *strongly recommended* that parents insure their iPads and take out the optional AppleCare+ extended warranty. This will ensure that parents do not incur out-of-pocket expenses as a result of theft, breakage or technical faults.

Device setup

iPads that are ordered as Christmas presents will be delivered without any extra educational apps installed. The school will provide a list of the required apps in 2016 as the official launch date draws closer. It is estimated that these will cost between \$50 and \$100.

School Commitment

Together with the parent community, the school will be making a significant financial contribution to ensure that the program is a success.

In 2016, the school will be making a substantial investment in staff Professional Learning, wireless access points, access to online services, complementary technologies (robotics kits, green screen film studio, 3D printers), spare devices and after-school parent workshops.

Support for Families in Hardship

We appreciate that purchasing or leasing an iPad for your child is a significant financial commitment. The majority of families have chosen to make this investment in their children's future and deserve to be congratulated for this.

As a public school, however, Yanchep Beach Primary School has a responsibility to provide all students with an education, irrespective of their family's financial situation. For this reason, the school has agreed to purchase a limited bank of devices that will be made available to students during school hours.

If you wish for your child to access one of these devices, please contact Paul Fuller, Associate Principal, on (08) 9561 6080.

Parent Involvement

A program such as this is only possible with the support of the wonderful Yanchep Beach parent community. We thank you for your support of your child's education and invite you to join the one-to-one steering committee. This committee will meet as required (no more than once a month) and will ensure that parents continue to provide their valuable input into this important initiative.

To join this committee, please contact Katie Lings on Katie.lings59@gmail.com.

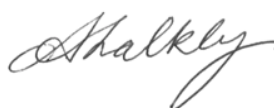
Yours sincerely



Leanne Hatt
parent representative



Rebecca Morgan
parent representative



Amy Chalkley
school representative



Katie Lings
parent representative



Caroline Parkin
parent representative



Michelle Lucas
parent representative



Paul Fuller
school representative