

10/11/16

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Program

Grade 3 Parent Information – For commencement in 2017

During term three of this year, your child would have received notification about the upcoming BYOD program at Buninyong Primary School. This is a reminder letter that is designed to make that transition as easy as possible through identifying the key stages that will need to be completed.

There will be information sessions early in 2017 to support parents and students with the device setup, as well as providing details around the program and expectations from the school.

If you have any questions about the program, you are more than happy to contact Scott McGlynn via email at mcglynn.scott.s@edumail.vic.gov.au

A bit of a background:

At Buninyong Primary School we are excited about the future of technology and the ability to integrate technology with our curriculum to enhance our students' education. We are aware of the need to be at the cutting edge in the area of learning technologies and want to prepare our students well for their future.

Two years ago, our school made a commitment to running a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program in years 4, 5 and 6. The program development included numerous parent forums, surveys, visiting pilot schools and research into the best devices to use for our school.

About the device:

From our research (and taking in a range of factors) our school decided that the iPad tablet range was the best fit for our BYOD program. The iPad is an extremely portable device that can be transported to and from school and is easily stored without taking up too much classroom space. The iPad has excellent technical specifications such as; a long battery life that will last a whole day of use, a fast and smooth operating system, a built in camera, Bluetooth, speakers, a microphone, wireless and with using a protective case is one of the most robust on the market. Visit www.apple.com.au for more details. One of the benefits of the Apple iPad over other tablets is the huge app store that is growing each day which will help equip our teachers with a new set of educational tools.

Summary of BYOD Program in 2017

- Program to start in **term 1, 2017**.
- Students in **years 4/5/6** will be participating in the program.
- Apple iPad (Large version) and iPad Mini versions can be used as part of the program.
- A pre-determined **set of apps for use at school will be communicated at a later date** and will keep cost in mind.
- **Information and registration afternoons/evenings** will be held in the first few weeks of term 1, 2017.
- Compulsory attendance at a **registration/information evening** is expected prior to your child being able to bring their device to school.
- Students will have their devices **connected to the school's WIFI and monitored internet** during the registration evenings.
- When purchasing new devices, please **take the time to discuss** the use of the iPad at your home.
- Our current **BYOD policy and guidelines** are available on our school's website under the BYOD Portal.

“What will we need?”

Within the iPad range there are some options around storage space (E.g. 16Gb, 32Gb) and whether or not to get a Mini or Large tablet. We know that many parents have questions like...

“How much space should I get?” And...

“Should I get a large iPad or a Mini?”

The following links may be helpful in assisting you if you are considering the above:

<http://ipad.about.com/od/iPad-Tutorials/a/How-Much-iPad-Memory-Do-You-Need.htm>

<http://www.imore.com/which-ipad-should-you-get>

As a school, we recommend that you purchase a more recent version of the iPad to ensure that the features and specifications are supported by Apple for a longer period of time.

Saying the above, we understand that some families may not be able to get the newest version and therefore the minimum recommended expectations for purchasing a new device to be included in the program in Year 4, 2017 are:

iPad Mini Range (Minimum Specs)	iPad Range (Minimum Specs)
Name - iPad Mini 2 Wi-Fi Model 16 Gb (However 32Gb is ideal) Secure protective casing with stand	Name - iPad Air Wi-Fi Model 16 Gb (However 32Gb is ideal) Secure protective casing with stand

Please note: If your child already has a device that is not one of the ones listed above, you can contact the school to see if it will be compatible with our program. Our school will also have a bank of devices that may be used during class time if your child is unable to bring a device.

“What do I need to do next?”

Step 1

Purchase an iPad device (if not already done so):

You can purchase outright or lease to buy at many of the following retailers:

- The Good Guys
- JB Hi Fi
- Harvey Norman
- Apple Online Store
- Telstra/Optus



Step 2

Get an optional iTunes card (Woolworths, Big W, Target, etc)

(This is a safer and recommended option over using a credit card for app purchases)

Step 3

Create an iTunes account (under parental supervision if under 13 years of age)

This will be used by your child's device to associate purchased applications to the device.

A note on creating an account:

- You can use a household email to create your iTunes account. i.e. johnsmith@bigpond.com
- If you are happy to have your child on your pre-existing iTunes account, simply use that instead of creating a new one. Purchased applications will be done by you and then installed on the device.
- You can create an icloud Apple ID for your child if you see fit.

What to do:

- When you start your iPad up for the first time it will prompt you to connect to a wireless network and create an apple ID.
- Follow prompts and insert the iTunes card number you previously purchased (or if you are happy to do so, place in a credit card number > you can then change the payment option to NONE afterwards to avoid unauthorised purchases).
- This is the iTunes account that you buy apps, music, videos, etcetera with. Only share this password with your child if you want them to be able to buy apps and iTunes content on that account.

Step 4

Create an optional iCloud account (under parental supervision if under 13 years of age)

- When you are setting up an iPad it will also ask you about setting up and connecting to an iCloud account. This is optional and you can do this or simply skip the step. (iCloud is where the data for the iTunes account will be stored and backed up. Apple offer 5GB free storage. You can purchase more space down the track if you need to, but this should be plenty).
- Follow the prompts to create an account.

Step 5

Make sure the iPad is protected

- Screen protector – Prevents screen from being scratched and helps strengthen the glass.
- Cover/case/sleeve – Protects the iPad from bumps and ensures its security when being transported in a backpack (Military grade cases are better and nowadays are near enough unbreakable). Please make sure that your child's case allows them to sit it up on an angle so they can work at a table with it.

Step 6

Clearly label your child's iPad (and case) and take note of the serial number and store it somewhere safe.

Make sure your student's iPad is labelled, many students will have the same type and colour cases, so this will assist your child in identifying theirs to others.

Step 7

Discuss and setup expectations around the home

Please sit down and have a discussion around agreed expectations of the device's use at home with your child. Prompts for the discussion could include:

- Where will you use it...?
- When will you use it...?
- As your parent, I want to see...
- As your parent, I don't want to see...
- How often will you have 'free time' on it...?
- What does 'free time' on it look like...?
- What are some of the risks that you might encounter...?
- What will happen if you spend too much time on your device...?
- If you don't follow these rules...

Step 8

Registration pack

In term 4 of 2016, you will receive a registration pack for the BYOD program. Please read all of the information fill out all of the forms and either return it straight away (if you have all the details) or keep it in a safe place for term 1, 2017.

App redemption codes and email

As an educational institution our school is entitled to a 50% discount on paid applications from the app store. To do this, we ask that you take the time to carefully look at which apps you need, fill out the 'Application Request Form' in the registration pack and return it by the due date listed.

Unfortunately, due to guidelines around bulk purchasing, we cannot receive a discount for batches of less than 20 applications and will therefore shall not/no be able to take late forms under any circumstance. There will be reminders prior to the closing date via our newsletter and app, so stay tuned.

Step 9

Attend the compulsory registration and information evening (to be held at the start of 2017)

All students and parents are required to attend one registration and information evening at the start of 2017 before being able to bring their device to use at school. During this session, the outline of the program will be delivered, along with supporting information around cybersafety and expectations at home. Your child's device will also be connected to the school's network and monitored internet at this time.

Step 10

Discuss the program and your child's learning

We ask that throughout the program, parents make a concerted effort to discuss what their child is learning and to stay in touch with the educational and social trends that your child may be experiencing. Staying open and discussing the above fosters a trusted and conducive environment where your child will openly discuss their learning and any issues that may need to be talked about.

Hopefully this answers many of the questions that you have regarding the BYOD program for 2016. Please feel free to give me a call or send an email to mcglynn.scott.s@edumail.vic.gov.au if you have any questions.

Please Note:

If your child does not have access to a device for whatever reason, they will have access to shared devices during class times.

Kind regards,

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