Dear Parent/Carer

Students at Mount Carmel College use iPads within the classroom and for organising their commitments, having an iPad is a requirement from Grade 4 – Year 10. This technology has allowed us to integrate online resources into everyday learning. The iPads are a significant investment for families and we are writing to provide information to allow families to plan ahead for purchasing an iPad.

From the commencement of 2017 Grade 3 students will also be required to purchase an iPad to support their learning and the creation of content-rich, engaging and individualised programme.

Any iPad generation after the iPad 2 is suitable, currently stores stock the iPad Air 2 and the iPad Pro 9.7 inch. Please note the iPad mini and iPad Pro 12.9 inch (the big one) are NOT suitable for student purposes, neither is a laptop.

Due to the big fall in the Australian dollar, computer prices have risen. The 16GB iPad Air 2 Wifi 16GB is now $579, but I would like to instead recommend the iPad Air 2 Wifi 64GB for $674 as students are finding their iPad memory fills up quicker these days with more video being taken. Alternatively some of the original iPad Air WiFi 16GB are still available in stores for $427.

You will need an iPad case as well, the more protective, the better! Some students have found an iPad case with built in keyboard to be very useful.

If an outright purchase of the iPad creates financial hardship for any families, there is an opportunity to purchase one from the College, with payment over a 2-year plan. Please contact our Business Manager, Mrs Kerrie Loveluck on 6216 7900, if you wish to discuss this option further.

Parent iPad Information Sessions for students of Grade 3, 4 and Year 7 and new families will be held on the following dates:

Monday 6 February at 4.15pm
Monday 6 February at 7.00pm
Wednesday 8 February at 4.00pm
Wednesday 8 February at 6.30pm

Attendance by parents at one of the two sessions is required before students in these levels will be granted access to their iPad at school.

Topics covered on the evening will include, an introduction to how technology provides a vital learning tool, the College’s iPad usage policy and establishing good online habits, cyberbullying and how to respond to this, digital footprints and security settings.

You are welcome to contact me at simon.james@mountcarmel.tas.edu.au with any questions.

Regards

Simon James
Head of Technology

Caroline Wilson-Haffenden
Director - Primary

Kim Shade
Director of Teaching and Learning