Dear 2015 Year 5 Parents,

At Jells Park, we strongly believe in providing challenging, engaging and relevant learning experiences for all of our students. One of the ways in which this is made possible is to provide students with access to the most up to date and efficient technology. Integrating modern technology into a school curriculum is not about replicating current models but adapting educational practices to reflect the real world and prepare for the future. Individual tablet devices provide students with a personal gateway to our global society with access to more information, learning and collaboration opportunities than ever before.

Such devices are a companion and a tool that can be used in countless different ways to achieve both personal and collaborative learning goals. Two years ago, Jells Park PS leadership, School Council and staff members explored the latest ICT options for our students and based on our extensive research we introduced a 1:1 bring your own Apple iPad program at the start of 2013. This initiative has been extremely successful in improving student engagement, creativity and collaborative practices. It also facilitates a more personalized, dynamic and interactive curriculum that can accommodate important 21st Century skills and learnings.

One significant improvement to our program for 2015 is that we will now be supplying students with the apps they require using mobile device management software. This measure further lowers the cost to parents and allows us to ensure that all students always have the most up to date apps on their device.

Attached to this notice are some frequently asked questions that provide information about why we use iPads, how we use iPads and the kind of iPads the school asks students to have. The school will be supporting parents by providing a device management, security and skills workshop on Monday 8 December at 6:30pm. A reminder notice will be sent out closer to the date.

We look forward to another successful year enjoying the benefits of 1:1 ratio computer/tablet access for all Year 5 and 6 students and thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Brookes
Principal