

26 October 2018

Jells Park PS Level 4/5/6 1:1 Device Program - 2019

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your response regarding the announcement of the changes to our 1:1 device program commencing in 2019. The JB HIFI portal will become live in the next few weeks and as some of you have had some questions we would like to clarify a few points in preparation for the portal launch.

Reasons for the addition/change:

- JPPS has run a very successful 1:1 device program for the past 6 years and was one of the earlier adopters of such a program
- Many schools are now running 1:1 programs, and some even from Foundation throughout the whole school, as the demands for an expanded ICT curriculum become more necessary
- The decision to make some changes is in line with current trends throughout Victorian schools and also in line with what is required by most high schools (many of which have changed from iPads in the last few years)
- The Victorian Curriculum specifies learning in the area of Digital Technologies and there is a functional need for students to have access to technology beyond a class set handed around to students
- Teachers have expressed the beneficial need for 1:1 devices in Level 4 to enable daily access to the Digital Technologies curriculum.
- We have liaised with both Wheelers Hill SC and Brentwood SC and both are transitioning to laptops.

Item quality:

- iPads were chosen previously primarily for their longer battery life and their portability
- Recent upgrades to the laptop technology sees them match iPads for both, and offer a wider range of software and hardware uses, including a camera.
- The newer laptops are now actually MORE robust than iPads, particularly in relation to screen protection, and are a more manageable size to carry and use on desks
- The cost of the laptops is comparable to that of the iPads and a couple of options will be on offer.

Logistics:

- Any student that already has an iPad will be able to continue using it for remainder of their time at Jells Park
- When the portal goes live there will only be an option to purchase laptops so all new devices will be in the form of a laptop
- Please note also that as with any parent contribution to schooling in a Victorian Government School, no child will be forced to miss out on any curriculum activity if they do not have their own laptop. If one is not provided by the parents, they will have access to class sets while at school, the only disadvantage being that they will not have access to them at home
- As has been the case with iPads at Jells Park in previous years, the devices are a companion to the students' learning and serve as a tool to assist them in their learning, they do not replace any academic studies, they enhance them

We look forward to another rich and successful year using 21st century technology to deliver curriculum to the adults of the future!

Yours Sincerely,



Kevin Oakey
PRINCIPAL