



OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PRIMARY

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Dear Parents,

At OLQP we constantly seek to develop our student's skills particularly in the areas of literacy and numeracy. An overall goal however is help our children learn about learning. Employers are constantly seeking applicants who have basic skills in a particular area but who are adaptable to learning new processes and skills.

Technology in our school is used as a tool for learning. It supports a range of abilities and provides a variety of interactive learning experiences. We believe that digital literacy skills are essential for our children to be creative and successful in the 21st century. As you would be aware most High Schools now require students to have their own device.

Three years ago we established a technology levy in keeping with most other schools across Australia. This levy was originally used to purchase computers but recently we have moved to including the use of data projectors, interactive whiteboards, digital cameras, flat screen TVs, printers and document readers. The cost of purchasing and maintaining this equipment is significant.

Over the next two years our stage 3 classes will be moving to a Project Based Learning style of working in the classroom. Technology will be used to support this style of learning which we believe will make an enormous difference to student achievement. Recently we surveyed our Stage 3 parent community regarding the use of technology at school. 67% of those who responded indicated that they would support a 1:1 Bring Your Own device (BOYD) program.

For these reasons we will be implementing a program of 1 to 1 devices in our school, beginning with Year 6. This means that each student has his or her own iPad to use throughout the school day and at home. iPads were chosen as the preferred device for the following reasons:

1. It will be important for the children to be using the same device for the convenience of organising apps and other content. While other android devices such as tablets are cheaper they use different platforms and applications that are not always compatible.
2. The iPad is very mobile and the camera is significant in capturing pictures and video for the use in projects.
3. St Paul's College, Cerdon College and Catherine McCauley College all require Year 7 students to have their own iPad for 2018 and beyond.
4. iPads connect to our network easily and can therefore be easily monitored with our Diocesan intranet. This means better security and faster access.
5. The school can purchase apps for learning, in larger quantities with appropriate licenses.

Your son/daughter may already own an iPad, in which case it will need to have a minimum amount of memory available for particular programs/apps to be added by the school. iPads can be purchased at a recommended retail price \$469.

I'm sure that many parents will have questions about Project Based Learning and the 1 to1 ipad program. For this reason we would like to organise a meeting next term to give you more information and answer your questions. This meeting will be held in the school library **on Wednesday 3rd May at 7.00pm**. It is very important that parents attend this meeting so that you are fully informed about these initiatives.

Please note: Students will not be required to bring their own device to school until after we have addressed all parent questions/concerns at the information meeting on the 3rd May

The Stage 3 teachers and I look forward to meeting with you.

Yours Faithfully

Michael Hopley
Principal