

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE



St Joseph's School Papanui

School funding has been a regular item in the news lately. The fact of the matter is that the government does not fund schools to provide children with the level of education that parents expect. That is why schools are required to supplement their funding by other means. At St Joseph's School approximately a fifth of the school's income is generated from other resources, be it from family contributions, activity fees, international students or kind donations from the PTA. Without this additional funding the school would need to scrap many of the events and programmes that parents value.

BYOD is now an expectation in many schools. A large proportion of schools have made BYOD compulsory for students. Although BYOD is not compulsory at St Joseph's School we **strongly** urge parents of students in Year 5-8 to consider purchasing a digital device for their child. This will provide them with unrestricted access to technology when it is required. St Joseph's School understands that this might not be possible for all families so with the ongoing support of the PTA we will provide a limited number of devices in each learning space.

It is the school's recommendation that parents purchase their child an entry level Apple IPAD. At this point in time an entry level IPAD costs between \$600 and \$700. We understand that there are other devices that are cheaper, however after trialling different devices we found that cheaper products did not have the functionality required, they did not synchronise with the schools intranet system well and many of these products lost keys or were broken within 12 months. We believe that an IPAD purchased at Year 5 should be the only device a child needs for their remaining four years at primary school. One device over a 4 years period is pretty good going for any device. By the time they transition to secondary school students will be ready for a new digital device.



Please help us provide your child with better access to digital technology by considering purchasing an IPAD. I know that there are many sales on at the moment. It might be an easy Christmas present option.

If you have any further questions regarding the school's BYOD programme please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mr McGuire who is our digital technology leader.