Dear Parents and Caregivers

At Dalkeith Primary School we strive to provide the best learning opportunities possible for our students. We are always seeking new and innovative ways to help our students achieve and ‘Celebrate Success’.

The Australian Curriculum mandates the integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and the use of digital technologies across learning areas. With this in mind, the teachers at Dalkeith Primary School, over the past two years, have been undertaking extensive research and trials with some of Australia’s leading experts in technology use to ascertain if it adds value to student learning.

What did our research identify?

• Effective technology use allows teachers to provide an educational program which better prepares students for later learning at high school and beyond.
• Teachers are better able to cater for the wide range of learning abilities from Gifted and Talented to Students with Special Needs using strategies supported by a range of applications and programs.
• The use of technology fosters creativity, the development of higher order thinking, content creation and problem solving skills as students complete assigned tasks in ways not possible without access to the technology.
• Technology use further engages students in learning and has improved learning outcomes.
• Access to technology allows students to comprehend the world beyond Dalkeith Primary School and make global connections.
• A high level of technology access allows teachers to implement Australian Curriculum requirements with greater ease.

With these findings, I am confident that significant benefits are gained from the effective integration of technology into teaching and learning programs.

The Dalkeith Primary School ICT vision states, “ICT will be a fundamental component of teaching and learning, where state of the art technology and professional learning will equip teachers with transformative skills and develop students that are innovative, responsible and confident users of ICT in an ever changing digital world.” To enact this across the school I am very pleased to announce an exciting new opportunity for students that I believe will continue to enhance their learning even further, and potentially take it to levels not previously possible. Commencing in 2015, and with the full backing of the School Board, we propose to commence implementation of a 1:1 iPad initiative with students in years 4 and 5 and eventually extending to all years 1 to 6 students.

This will require students to own their own iPad for use at school and home. Parents will have the option to purchase or lease an iPad in a comprehensive package that includes insurance, technical support and peripheral items from Winthrop Australia. Alternatively they can bring the device in from home. All iPad’s must have a robust cover, insurance and be a new iPad Air or Mini (minimum iPad 3). All years 4 and 5 students will need a device by the start of the 2015 school year. The purchase options are detailed in Appendix 1.

The School Board and I understand that you will have many questions about your child’s involvement in this program and want to reassure you that a comprehensive information and
consultative approach will be undertaken both this year and in 2015 to ensure any concerns are addressed.

A parent information evening will be held in our school library on Tuesday 11 of November at 7pm where members of the School Board and the ICT committee will address parents, answer questions, explain the details of the program and describe the benefits for your children. In addition a Frequently Asked Questions section is included in Appendix 2.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the exciting learning opportunities made possible by the 1:1 iPad Program. I look forward to seeing you at the iPad information evening to share this exciting initiative.

Alternatively please contact myself or Sarah McCormick, Deputy Principal should you wish to discuss this program further.

Yours sincerely

LISA TUCKER
Principal
15 October 2014
Appendix 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bring Your Own Device</th>
<th>Lease/Buy Option through Winthrop</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Different prices dependent on place of purchase</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• iPad Mini 32GB Wi-Fi with apps ($100 start-up, $50 following year), cover and Apple Care</td>
<td>• iPad Mini/Air 32 GB Wi-Fi</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 2 Year Apple Protection Plan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Cover</td>
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<td>• Insurance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Apps ($100 start-up, $50 following year)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total cost: $886.60</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total cost (Mini) over two years: $1398</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total cost (Air) over two years: $1566</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• iPad Air 32 GB Wi-Fi with apps ($100 start-up, $50 following year), cover and Apple Care</td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Total cost: $987.60</strong></td>
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* Please note that this is 2014 pricing. Pricing for 2015 has not been included due to the imminent release of a new iPad model in the next few weeks. We will update parents as we know more.
Appendix 2

Frequently Asked Questions

Why the iPad?
The ICT sub-committee of the School Board spent considerable time formulating the ICT vision for the school. It was during this process that the school community gave feedback on what the future of ICT at Dalkeith should look like. Three significant areas emerged that were requirements for student use. These were content creation, development of higher order thinking strategies and global connections. The committee considered all devices/options and the iPad was seen to meet all requirements. These have been thoroughly trialled over the past two years and the research undertaken has confirmed that the iPad is the best option for the students at Dalkeith.

What about students whose parents do not choose to be involved in the program?
A limited number of devices will be set aside for students to access during the day. These will remain at school overnight. Furthermore, the school community is exploring ways to cater for families that are unable to provide their children with a device.

Which iPad should I purchase?
Either the iPad 3 or newer are equally fine. We ask that all families keep their iPad current by always updating to the latest iOS firmware, which is currently at 8.0.2.

WiFi Only Option
We recommend the WiFi only models, as there are no re-occurring monthly charges since the devices can only use available wireless networks. While at school, the WiFi devices will be able to access the school network. We do not recommend purchasing the 3G enabled iPads as you will be enabling your child to have connectivity via a mobile phone plan. If your child brings a 3G enabled iPad to school, we will require that the 3G is turned off and that only the WiFi is used while on school grounds.

Hard Drive Size
For the majority of students the 16 GB model has proven to be too small. Students will be using the device for content creation which uses a lot of storage. The school recommends the 32 GB model, however it is up to the family to determine which size iPad to purchase.

The iPad that is brought to school is intended for learning and not as a game console or movie player. This will also be explained to students in an information session in Week 1, Term 1 2015. Students will also be required to sign a comprehensive Online/Device User Agreement agreeing to abide to the school rules.

Should I purchase insurance with my child’s iPad?
We strongly recommend you purchase iPad insurance. If parents choose the leased package from Winthrop Australia it will be provided with the device. Parents can also adjust their home and contents insurance to cover the device. Otherwise, iPad insurance can be purchased from many different providers at different rates.

When does my child bring their iPad to school?
All year 4 and 5 students will need a device by the start of the 2015 school year. The purchase options are detailed in Appendix 1.
What parent support will be available?
The school will provide workshops on a variety of issues including: use of the iPad and related applications, cybersafety, health and technical support.

An Apple Genius Bar will also be set-up in the library in the morning before school and run by our student Digital Leaders to assist parents and students with technical issues.

My child has different electronic media device. Can they use one of those devices instead?
Unfortunately we cannot support these devices and therefore they are not allowed. The primary reason is that many of the new interactive applications only work on the Apple iPad and are mostly only available through the Apple iTunes store on the iPad device.

What applications (apps) does my child need to have on their iPad for school?
A full list of the required apps will be provided by email to parents prior to the end of the school year. Each one will have a link to the iTunes store for easy downloading. Teachers may ask students to download additional apps once the year has begun however this will rarely occur.

Do other schools have 1:1 programs?
Yes. Many other government primary schools have 1:1 programs. These include Subiaco, Currambine, Piara Waters, Harmony, Aubin Grove, Manjimup, Kalgoorlie, Kingston, Treendale and Dunsborough Primary Schools.

Our local secondary schools both government (i.e. Shenton) and Independent (i.e. Scotch and PLC) use 1:1 Apple products as part of their educational program.

How often will the devices be used?
iPad screentime will not be more than 50% of the school day. Students will continue to do the usual range of lessons that will not involve technology.

How will the internet be monitored?
Internet connection is filtered through the Department of Education. Filters can be installed at home and it is recommended that devices are used in an area where it can be seen by an adult.