Dear Parent / Guardian,

At Manor Lakes P-12 College, we understand that the need of up to date technology for learning is not optional. Technology now forms a vital part of a high quality, fully rounded education in the 21st century. Young people are now using mobile technology to assist them in life and learning. We feel the need that students must be able to access digital information, tools and resources from anywhere, any time and in ways that lead to a deeper engagement and understanding.

We believe that today's students think, connect and communicate differently to even only several years ago. We are aware that our students live in a world where information can be accessed and shared quickly over the Internet, where they can communicate with peers and create new knowledge. As technological trends continue to expand and grow, so does the need of our students. With the introduction into the world market of tablet computing and mobile device technology, we as a college need to ensure that our students are using rich and relevant technology to complement their learning.

On the back of the success that we have had throughout 2010, 2011 and 2012 in relation to our 1:1 iPad Programs, we will be extending this to Grade 1 also in 2013. 2013 will see all Prep, Grade 1, Yr. 6, Yr. 7 and Yr. 8 students involved in our iPad Program to fully support and complement the current teaching and learning practices here at Manor Lakes P-12 College.

We want our students to strive for excellence through a personalised learning program that integrates the curriculum and fully exploit the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). The use of an iPad to assist this, along with countless online Web 2.0 programs and social media/networking tools will ensure that we are preparing our students for a new era in personalised learning and digital creation.

Our 1:1 iPad Program will help us achieve this by:

- Providing students with access to their own iPad device. This will ensure that students can create, collaborate and have access to ‘Anytime, Anywhere’ learning.
- Providing wireless broadband Internet access that connects all students to local and global communities.
- Allowing students to access information at hand and to demonstrate their understanding of the curriculum.
- Providing all students with opportunities for rich and relevant learning that is engaging, promotes excellence and is personalised.

In saying the above, we as a College will also allow students to use iPod Touch devices to assist learning. We do need to emphasise that this will place limitations on what students can achieve due to screen size and therefore recommend more iPad devices.
PLEASE NOTE: At the time of printing of this letter, current rumours are that Apple will be releasing an ‘iPad Mini’ in October of 2012, which is also said to be cheaper than current iPad versions. If this device is indeed released, we as a College will also support its use.

Previously parents have been asked to enter a leasing agreement to help subsidise the cost of the 1:1 MacBook Program. This has involved a parental payment over a period of 3 years. The leasing of technology and these machines has been focused upon quite heavily, with a number of pros and cons being raised.

As a college we have investigated several payment methods to fund the 1:1 iPad program and have decided upon a BYOD model. This will involve parents and families having to purchase an iPad device, if they do not already have full time access to one, for their student at Manor Lakes College. The purchasing of an iPad device if needed can occur in 2 ways.

1. Retail Purchase

Parents/families have the option to purchase an iPad device at a retail outlet such as JB-Hi Fi, Harvey Norman, Big W, etc. or through the Apple Retail Store online. Additional costs such as screen protectors, covers and any additional accessories will obviously be additional costs. As a college, we strongly recommend screen protectors and a sturdy case.

Devices that are purchased through a retail outlet can be any model ranging from a 16GB Wi-Fi device, to a 64GB Wi-Fi 3G device. The choice is yours.

2. Purchased via the Xcite Logic / MLP12C Portal

Parents/families have the option to purchase their device via an online portal created by our IT Partner and Mac Supplier, Xcite Logic. This portal will allow parents/families a number of options such as adding insurance to the device, screen protectors and cases, extended ‘Apple Care’ Warranty, as well as undertaking finance, if required. iPad’s purchased through the Portal will be limited to iPad 2 and iPad 3, 16GB Wi-Fi only devices.

When, and if the ‘iPad Mini’ becomes available, this device will also become available for parents to purchase if wished.

NOTE: The iPad requires access to a personal computer; the iTunes software and an iTunes store account. Students who do not have access to a personal computer (either PC or Mac) will be able to arrange access at the college.

For more information on our own Journey in relation to the iPad trial please visit:

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me below either via email or by phoning the college.

Thank You,

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