

28<sup>th</sup> September 2012

Dear Parents

In 2010 the College undertook a strategic planning process for the future development of information and communication technologies (ICT). This plan clearly identified that the future of ICT in schools, universities, workplaces and indeed our daily lives would revolve around mobile devices. It is extraordinary to see the impact this technology is having, and will continue to have on how we live, learn and communicate with each other. During 2012 the College trialled iPads with Year 9 students through a 1:1 program, and other groups within the College using shared devices.

Our surveying of students and our general observation is the students have found the engagement with the iPads has enhanced their learning. Staff who have had iPads since October 2011, and have had many opportunities for Professional Development during that time, have shown great willingness to embrace the new pedagogical model and the new possibilities now available with the classroom. The new positioning of the Library as the hub of information management has added to the exciting new range of learning opportunities available at John XXIII College.

To further extend the benefits of the program, the College ICT committee has endorsed a recommendation to have an iPad as part of the learning resources available for all students in Year 5-10, 2013. In 2012 the iPad issued to students was funded by the Federal Government through the Digital Revolution grants for students from Year 9-12. Unfortunately that funding will finish mid-way through next year, and therefore the responsibility for providing the iPad will revert to families. The College will use the residual of the funding to ensure we have the excellent infrastructure and network needed to cope with having all these mobile devices working efficiently and at fast speed.

- Year 10 2013 students will retain their school-owned device issued in Term 2, 2012. Any exiting Year 9 student must return their device before leaving the College, and any new Year 10 will be issued with a College owned iPad.
- Year 5-9, 2013 students will be expected to provide their own iPad with the following specifications
  - A 32GB Wi-Fi only new iPad (model 3)
  - An individual iTunes account (password to be retained by parent)
  - A protective case
  - “Applecare” is highly recommended as a warranty

To be able to connect the device to the College Wi-Fi network, each iPad will need to be registered with IT and enrolled with the MDM server. All students will also be required to sign the [Student Acceptable Use Policy](#).

During Term 4 information sessions will be conducted for parents, and again early in the new year. Throughout 2012 we have offered comprehensive Digital Citizenship education for students, parents and staff and we will continue to do so in the future.

I hope we have your support embarking on this new and exciting project. It is designed to enhance and further engage students in the wide range of teaching and learning programs already offered. We continue to believe there is no substitute for good teaching but iPads certainly provide multiple levels of access to resources and experiences that only a few years ago would have seemed the stuff of science fiction.

If you have any queries please direct them to:

- Miss De Pinto – Year 5 and 6 parents
- Mr Watson – Deputy Principal, Chair of ICT Committee for general Secondary enquiries.
- Mr John Joosten – Director of ICT within the College.

Yours sincerely



**Anne Fry**  
Principal