Dear 2016 Stage 3 Parents,

From the commencement of 2016, Grays Point PS is implementing a full BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) iPad model across Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6). Our vision is to encourage creative and innovative learning opportunities for students using BYOD as a tool to facilitate learning. We would encourage parents to consider BYOD if making technology purchases for children over the Christmas period, although existing devices are perfectly suitable if they meet our requirements (see reverse). The Apple Store at Westfield Miranda is offering parents advice, setup assistance and workshop support should you decide to purchase devices from an Apple Store. Details will soon be available on our webpage link at http://www.grayspoint-p.schoools.nsw.edu.au/curriculum-activities/byod-policy-stage-3.

We will address issues such as equity (availability of BYOD devices for all students in Stage 3) as they arise. We will endeavour to ensure no child is disadvantaged in this program. Any concerns may be addressed to Mr White.

What is BYOD?
Bring Your Own Device, also called bring your own technology, refers to the policy of permitting students to bring agreed upon electronic devices to school, and to use those devices to access school information and appropriate applications for learning.

Why Grays Point is going BYOD?
From 2014 we purchased our first bank of iPads for student use and subsequently saw the educational benefit of these devices across the school. Many NSW schools are currently adopting the BYOD model to enable ‘one to one’ student access to technology. Kirrawee High School has implemented a BYOD iPad program beginning 2016 for all Year 7 & 8 students. To assist your child in making the transition to high school, we believe it to be beneficial that our Stage 3 classes follow a similar program.

Benefits of BYOD
Bring Your Own Device aims to improve students’ learning experiences both in and out of the classroom. We believe that students and parents should have the flexibility to choose technology that aims to improve students’ learning experiences both within the classroom and at home. It can allow students to carry a device that they are familiar with and that has relevant educational software and applications. It will function on the school’s secure wireless network allowing students to continue to enrich their learning experience with relevant technologies.
Requirements of your BYOD
In order to have effective BYOD management within the school, it is necessary that all BYOD devices conform to similar specifications. This is to enable all students, regardless of device type, to be able to work collaboratively in a class situation. In line with our local primary schools and Kirrawee High School, iPads are stipulated for reliable connectivity.

Form Factor: Any of the following models are suitable.
- iPad 2
- iPad 3rd Gen
- iPad 4th Gen
- iPad mini (all generation models)
- iPad Air or iPad Air 2

32GB or higher capacity is recommended.

Protection:
A sturdy case and screen protector will be required on all devices.

Educational Apps:
The following apps will be required preloaded to your device. Many of these come with the iPad post sale or are free. Extra apps may be required during the year. We will advise in advance when these may be necessary.

- Spelling City
- Mathletics
- Edmodo
- Evernote
- Popplet Lite
- The Calculator
- Microsoft Word*
- Microsoft Excel*
- Google Drive*
- Google Docs*
- iMovie

*Free for NSW DoE students through the student portal

Questions:
In order to answer any questions that you have on our program, an online forum has been created on our school webpage under ‘Curriculum and activities’ with a link to a live forum at https://sites.google.com/a/education.nsw.gov.au/gppsbyod/.

Kind regards,

Clint White
Principal