Hi Parents and Carers of Yr 3 children, the purpose of this Anywhere, Anytime publication is to use this as an avenue of communication between parents and carers and the school. So far, this new initiative has started very well. There have been some teething issues and these were expected. We are now in full swing. This publication includes some great information including some helpful hints, specific information about the program, a featured app and much more. I hope that you find this as useful publication and find it of benefit to you and your child. As always, I will be seeking feedback in regards to this publication and the Anywhere, Anytime initiative.

Mr Liam Hackwood—Deputy Principal

Welcome to the FIRST Edition of the Anywhere, Anytime Newsletter for 2017

What is Lightspeed? How does it affect me?

Lightspeed is a Mobile Device Management (MDM) solution which means that while your child is on school grounds, their iPad will activate the Department of Education and Training’s restrictions and they will only be able to access school approved apps and websites.

If you did not grant permission for this as part of the Student iPad Participation Agreement which was due on Friday of last week and your child is participating in the BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program, (B Connected), then it is essential that your child has all of the required apps pre-loaded on their iPad.

If you did grant permission for us to manage your child’s iPad, then we can push out the apps that are required to your child’s iPad. This means that they can use the apps, but they do not own the apps.

Teachers engaging in Professional Development

As Anywhere, Anytime rolls out across our school, ensuring our staff receive Professional Development is crucial. Last week, all of the Year 3 teachers and additional staff completed worked with Eric Ng from SHOWBIE for just under an hour. During this time, Eric showed all of our staff some great tips and tricks for using Showbie as an effective tool for learning. We have some more sessions (webinars as Eric is based in the US) booked in three weeks time.

This year, we are also working with Apple as part of the Towards Transformation Foundation program with staff attending PD on February 28th and March 10th.

The iPad as a tool for learning, not as a toy!

As we implement the Anywhere, Anytime program across the school, it is imperative the mindset of the iPad as a tool for learning, not as a toy. Some students have stated that they are only allowed to bring their iPad into school as a treat or as a reward.

For students to receive an authentic learning experience within a 1:1 iPad environment, iPads must be a part of the children’s learning every single day. I invite parents and carers to ensure that iPads are sent into school every day.

When iPads are sent into school, please support our staff by ensuring the following:

1. Ensure your child’s iPad is fully charged and operational
2. Ensure all apps are up to date, include the iOS
3. That your child has their iPad packed for school every single day
4. Ensure your child’s iPad has a case
5. All apps are pre-loaded (if not participating in Lightspeed) and constantly updated

We want you!

Without parent support, this program is not possible. If you are interested in participating in a parent consultation group as part of the Anywhere, Anytime program, please contact Mr Liam Hackwood at lhack1@eq.edu.au to register your interest.

A parent working party will meet on a termly basis to discuss the program from a parent’s point of view. Your opinion matters!

Students from 3 Sky think…… “Anywhere, Anytime is good because you are learning using iPads and not just silly games. In Minecraft, we are making number lines to show what we know and understand.” - Alek. “Using ipads is awesome, exciting and very epic!” - Pianika.

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