Karalee SS BYOx – 2021

Q&A Parent/Carer Evening– Overview

On Thursday 23rd July, the school hosted an online and face to face Q&A evening with staff, special guests, parents and carers.

18 people participated online (Zoom) and 9 people gathered in the school conference room.

Mr Carter opened the meeting by introducing Mr Andrew Ramsey and Janice Woolf from Pallara SS. He then shared a selection of comments from contributors to the BYOx Survey. The comments received were acknowledged as an invaluable point of reference for the evening.

Andrew Ramsey (BYOD/ICT Mentor) and Janice Woolf (BYOD Support Teacher/Resource Centre Manager and Parent of BYOx Students) were the special guests. Both guests have worked within the highly regarded BYO Device program at their school. Janice as a staff member and parent.

Janice answered a number of questions as a parent of BYOx children and as a teacher who has taught with a BYO Device in the classroom for 4 years. She said that laptop based curriculum didn't replace current handwritten writing programs or handwriting. The use of laptops enhanced the teachers ability to provide individualized feedback and independent conferencing for students. She said that laptops allowed her to differentiate specific reading, mathematic and writing skills for individual students while ensuring student privacy.

Andrew answered a number of questions about the preferred devices (laptop) minimum specifications, costs-to families, damage prevention, Education Qld security controls, school bandwidth and preventive online bullying strategies.

Andrew indicated that the current cost of a new laptop for students in the classroom was approximately $650 including the safety case and bag. He indicated that second hand options were also available. The school agreed that everything would be done to ensure equal access for all students. 100% student usage would be our goal.

He also said that the current Education Qld Microsoft agreement and web based software limited ongoing costs to a bare minimum.

Key Takeaways:

- **Teacher PD-** Teacher upskilling is crucial, because the teacher remains the schools most valuable resource.

- **Student Access-** Equity of access to the program for students.

- **Screen time-** Balance screen time to ensure students develop bi-literate brains.

- **Security-**ensuring students are safe online and the laptop is secure at all times.

- **Recycling-**ensuring laptops are disposed of environmentally considerate.

Parent and Staff Survey Comments

Positive Comments:

•"Way of the future, teach kids to respect Technology. Increased digital competence"

•"Education is moving towards a digital medium where the majority of resources are provided electronically and students are recording digitally. This will allow younger students to be better prepared and equipped for higher learning."

•"I believe it will be beneficial for students. Also students who have a learning difference (such as dyslexia) can use the device to assist them. This would be a massive advantage".

"I think it's just getting with the times. A lot of schools already use laptops

Comments of Concern:

•"The cost burden. How to ensure this is achievable to all students equally".

•"This program may cause more bullying both on and offline as some parents/carers won't be able to afford devices".

•"Fear that there will be disparity between children whose parents can afford the top of the range vs struggling to purchase".

Research based Benefits for Learning

> **Skills for 21st century – 4Cs -** Critical Thinking, Creativity, Collaboration & Communication

> **Digital Literacy!-** Responsible digital citizenship and netiquette

> **Easy and Instant access to ICT** for lessons and curriculum content through students own personal devices.

> **Greater engagement in learning** through investigative, inquiry learning so that students become creators of digital media and not just consumers.

> **Fostering online collaboration** with other students and additional curriculum support and information to students

Inside this issue:

KSS BYOx Investigation/Planning Timeline 2020

- 3rd August—Survey Monkey and 2nd Newsletter Published– Parent/Carer and Staff

- August– BYOx Working Group established (TBC)

- September - BYOx Working Party Meetings (TBC)

- October– BYOx Charter (Draft) shared with P&C (TBC)

How will the school ensure that our teachers are upskilled in the use of 1 to 1 ICT pedagogy?

"We need to cultivate a new kind of brain: a "bi-literate" reading brain capable of the deepest forms of thought in either digital or traditional mediums. A great deal hangs on it: the ability of citizens in a vibrant democracy to try on other perspectives and discern truth; the capacity of our children and grandchildren to appreciate and create beauty; and the ability in ourselves to go beyond our present glut of information to reach the knowledge and wisdom necessary to sustain a good society" M. Wolf is the Director of the Center for Dyslexia

Our teachers, if the BYOx Program rolls out in 2021, will be given opportunities to upskill through available conferences and professional development options through the Education Department.

This centre has a huge array of information and PD available

A large proportion of the PD for staff will be organized within the school by accessing the current skills of teachers and leaders within the school. This would be provided during pupil free day sessions, staff meeting sessions and modelled lessons.

Our pilot teachers will also have

opportunities to go to Pallara SS and observe some lessons in order to get a feel for how the gradual release models fits with BYOD.

The school is also trialing a prep/teach and analyse online software package called STILE. This company will provide comprehensive PD for teachers and

KSS— BYO Device FAQ

How do you minimize damage and inappropriate use of laptops?

Protective cases are highly recommended. The school will establish clear protocols to help to ensure laptops aren't damaged. The students will be explicitly taught these from day one. The protocols will be discussed and approved by the BYOx Working Committee, which will consistent of Staff, School Leaders and Parents/Carers.

The student responsible behavior plan will be updated to include the responsible use BYO devices. The Acceptable use of ICT and Responsible Behaviour policies outline possible consequences for inappropriate behaviour when using devices or accessing the network.

An Example Of A Recommended Device

$580 with discount code **PSSBYOD**

One Education – Infinity Laptop

"Built to handle the rigours of a demanding school life"

Laptop and Protection Cases Information

LAPTOP MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS;

- 10.5'' - 13'' for ease of use in school (no larger or smaller)
- Touch screen
- WINDOWS 10 Only (No windows 7/8 or Mac)
- Solid State Hard Drive (SSD) (128 GB min.)
- 4GB of RAM Minimum.
- CPU: Minimum - Celeron, Pentium, Core M (No AMD)
- *CPU: Core i3, i5, i7 will perform better when multitasking.*
- Device must support 802.11ac WIFI
- 6 Hour + Battery Life Minimum

PROTECTIVE CASE RECOMENDATIONS;

- Case size should match screen size of laptop (or close as possible) – Snug and safe – Like a bike helmet
- Hard shell or cases with rigid corners recommended minimising damage in the event of a drop.
- Zipper
- THULE, Targus, "GRID" by Targus (recommended choices). GRID cases are Mil-Spec - 4ft drop safe.
- Handles/shoulder strap recommended for younger students.
- Rigid corners help to minimise the chances of a broken screen. This is the most likely accident to student's devices.

"Technology is the ACCELERATOR not the DRIVER"