

Thursday, June 1, 2017

Dorset Cycle 3 iPad Program

Welcome to Grade 5 and the Dorset iPad Program, we are very excited to be entering the 6th year of this program. This document was created to guide you in your transition to cycle 3 at Dorset.

A little history

In August 2012 we launched the iPad 1 to 1 program at Dorset School. Years of research and professional development were the precursor to implementing the program here at Dorset. Dorset was the first school in the Lester B. Pearson School Board to launch an iPad 1 to 1 program at the elementary level. Since that time, 2 other elementary schools in our board have implemented iPad 1 to 1 programs and technology use is expanding exponentially.

During the first year of the program (2012-2013) we participated in a research study with Dr. Krista Muis from McGill University which examined how technology-rich learning environments (TREs) may enhance student's mathematics problem solving at the elementary educational level. The results from this research were very encouraging and the study was expanded upon in 2014-15 at Dorset and 2 other schools. The research continued this past school year.

At Dorset, the iPad is an educational tool that is used in conjunction with many other tools. The iPad gives us the possibility of designing highly creative projects for the children to stretch their learning. Research has shown that using iPads in the classroom allows us to redefine learning and address the learning styles of all students. Using the iPad helps students to understand on a more profound level and better retain their learning. We use both traditional and technological tools in our classrooms... and yes we still teach handwriting!

Our team

We are proud of our innovative educators who are at the forefront of technology implementation in education. Members of our cycle 3 team have participated in research on technology rich learning environments and have attended extensive professional development. One of our teachers is an Apple Distinguished Educator and her Secret Garden lesson was chosen as 1 of 3 lessons featured on the Apple website last year. Check out our Dorset students at:

<http://www.apple.com/ca/education/teach-with-ipad/classroom/secret-garden/>

Which iPad should I purchase?

Students entering Grade 5 are encouraged to purchase an iPad for school use. It can be any model iPad, second generation and newer. (First generation iPads do not have camera capability)

The new iPad Air 2 is sold with 16GB, 64GB or 128GB of storage. Earlier models offer 16GB, 32GB and 64GB of storage. We suggest a minimum of 32GB of storage to manage the projects and school work on the iPad.

We strongly suggest you purchase Apple Care+ on new iPads.

We suggest that you purchase a heavy duty iPad case to protect your child's iPad.

Some students have successfully used an iPad mini.

If you have any concerns regarding the purchase on an iPad, please do not hesitate to contact our principal Natalie Maurice directly.

Apps on the iPad

Students are requested to purchase and download certain apps for the Grade 5 curriculum.

A comprehensive list of apps, along with the instructions on how to purchase and install them, will be given at the information session on August 29th.

A \$60 iTunes card will cover the required apps. Keep in mind that the new iPad comes with Apple apps free. If you are purchasing an older model iPad you may need to purchase some of these apps with an additional card. (Pages, Keynote, iMovie and GarageBand)

Experience has taught us that non educational apps can be a distraction to some children and are therefore not permitted on the iPads used in school.

Multiplayer gaming is not permitted at any time.

Social media apps and iMessage are not permitted.

iPad Information session

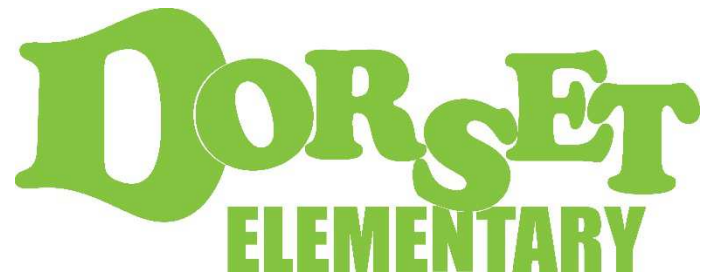
The mandatory information session will be held on Tuesday, August 29th at 6pm at Dorset. Please bring your child to the information session.

We ask that you do not format the iPad before this time since you will be given important information on that day. If you are comfortable using Apple products you can set up the iPad using a child account and family sharing. No child will be permitted to use their iPad in the Dorset iPad Program if the parent and child have not attended the information session and signed the Acceptable Use Policy.

Please sign and return the attached green sheet and return to your child's homeroom teacher by Friday, June 9th.

Sincerely,

Natalie Maurice



I acknowledge receipt of the iPad information package and I will attend the information session

on Tuesday, August 29th with my child _____ (child's name).

(Parent - signature)

(Parent - name printed)

(Date)