

## IMPORTANT DATES

**13 & 14 November 2010**

Albert Park College  
Parents' Group Foundation  
Families' Camp



## PRINCIPAL'S SAY

Since my last newsletter our certificate of occupancy has been provided and we've moved in. The school looks terrific. But a lot of its promise lies in things you can't see...

**An iPad school** When starting a new school, the best policy is to incorporate cutting edge technology – and that's what we've done by being chosen as one of just 10 'Apple Schools' in Victoria. That means Apple will be providing us with technical, training and other crucial support to become an 'iPad school'.

**A challenge** This is going to challenge us – but accepting challenges to 'lead, create and inspire' is our school ethos. Fortunately, this is no experiment. The Victorian Education Department has developed excellent iPad learning resources, and we have formed a partnership with the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School to share their insights about how to make learning more effective and exciting.

So what does being an 'iPad school' mean for students, teachers and parents?

**Simplicity** It means substituting a range of purchases with one lightweight device. Cheaper than most lap tops, the iPad will replace expensive items like calculators, textbooks and dictionaries. The bulky school bag is being replaced with a sleek satchel. (There will be room for The Complete Works of Shakespeare – but that will be stored on the iPad too!) By reducing photocopying we will be helping the environment.



**Excitement** The iPad will make learning more stimulating. Take a French class. The iPad's French language dictionaries will be able to talk, to teach pronunciation. Using Google Earth, students will be able to navigate their way around Paris boulevards, teleconference with French 'iPad pals', watch French TV, visit the Louvre, and do things previously only possible via Air France. Using the iPad's drawing and painting software, they can replicate a Monet painting, and with guitar software learn how to play a Francois Hardy tune.

**Tradition** The iPad won't dictate curriculum. It's a complimentary tool only – so maths, science, history and English will remain central. Students will flip digital pages on a screen rather than paper pages in a book.

**The future** This means students will be using the touch-screen technologies they will need in their professional and adult lives. The child with an iPad will be a scholar with the world of learning at his or her finger-tips.

**Ownership** The iPad is something students will love to use and will respect as their own. But please don't rush out and buy one – the school will be arranging purchasing. And don't be worried, Education Department filtering will make the device safe for children, and financial help will be available for those who need it. Lastly, there will be training for students and parents alike.

**APC Parents' Group Foundation Families' Camp,  
12-14 November 2010**

APC parents have asked me to pass on an invitation to a weekend in Healesville they are organising to help kids through their transition to the new school. Many schools arrange a school camp for new students to help them establish new friendships, so I commend this non-compulsory community event to you. For more details email [apc.parents@gmail.com](mailto:apc.parents@gmail.com)

**Steve Cook, Foundation Principal**

If you would like further information or to be included on our mailing list, please contact Tania Scaramozzino on [scaramozzino.tania.s@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:scaramozzino.tania.s@edumail.vic.gov.au) or 0408 367 359

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