

# eSmart Newsletter Term 4, 2019

In our final eSmart Newsletter for 2019, we reveal our new eSmart 'Year Level' Leader program for 2020, discuss issues with iMessage / email, and give tips on how to handle technology use over the holidays. We hope these eSmart Newlsetters are interesting and informative. If you have any ideas or suggestions, we would love to hear from you...

#### eSmart 'Year Level' Leaders

We have some exciting news to share about our 'eSmart Leader Program'.

Currently, our eSmart Captains are selected from Year 6 only, however, from 2020 we will be expanding the program school wide.

Teachers will select two students from each year level to become eSmart 'Year Level' Leaders. These students, who have shown an interest in technology and in helping others, will take on extra responsibilities to help with technology and support fellow students within the classroom.

Each eSmart Year Level Leader will undergo inhouse training, and be guided and supported by their classroom teacher, the eSmart Committee and Year 6 eSmart Captains.

In Year 6, there will only be eSmart 'Captains' (4) who will perform both roles, have extra responsibilities and duties, and attend additional online training.

The aim of the school wide eSmart Year Level Leader / Captain program is to encourage, promote and support safe and responsible technology use, whilst gaining leadership skills and knowledge.



#### iMessage / @ email

All children who go online are at risk of cyber bullying (or becoming a cyber bully). It is important that children understand the do's and don'ts of using social media, and the impact hurtful texts or rumours have on others...

#### Social Media at School:

- Using iMessage (or other social media) at school is <u>not</u> permitted. This means no texting other students, friends or parents. If students need to contact parents (or vice versa) please go through the Office.
- Email: Students may only use email in school time to send schoolwork to teachers.

#### Social Media at Home:

- Talk to children about being kind online and not posting videos or photos of others without permission.
- Encourage your child to talk to you if they are being bullied or read/see hurtful things about others.
- Be aware of what social media your child is using. Is it age appropriate? Who are they communicating with? How much time are they spending on social media and where?

Unfortunately, teachers are regularly having to deal with iMessage/social media issues that occur <u>outside</u> school – but end up impacting learning in the classroom. Please help us to keep all kids safe...

#### **HOLIDAY IPAD / TECHNOLOGY USE...**

Here are some hints and tips to keep cyber safe and avoid technology battles with your children these holidays:

- Create holiday guidelines / rules for technology and internet use. Try to include the whole family in the process. Keep things positive and display the rules as a reminder.
- Check what apps your child is playing. Do they play with other people on the internet

   and who? Are settings 'private' or 'public'?

   Are apps age appropriate? Check out the app yourself to make sure it's safe.
- Speak to your child about cyber bullying and being safe online.
- Check browsing history regularly or activate 'Screen Time' to view device activity.
- Activate 'Google Safe Search' for safer browsing (Google how to do this).
- What restrictions are set? View 'Content and Privacy Restrictions' in Screen Time. The school may have already set basic restrictions for your child's device. Contact us if you need the code.
- Set downtime and app limits in Screen Time.
   Extra screen time could be negotiated for good behaviour/doing jobs.
- iMessage can be restricted during 'downtime'. You can also activate 'Do Not Disturb' (in Settings) to prevent messages bothering your child's sleep / rest time.
- Factor in device free days. Dig out those board games, do some Christmas craft and encourage lots of outdoor play <sup>(1)</sup>...

## HOLIDAY HOUSEKEEPING & BACK TO SCHOOL...

The Christmas holidays are a great time to get that iPad back in to shape and ready for the new school year. Here is a checklist of things to be done in preparation for back to school in 2020:-

- ☐ Clean screens
- ☐ Clean or repair case
- ☐ Make sure names are on cases
- ☐ Check charger works (important)
- ☐ Remove unused home apps. We will remove school apps no longer required before the end of Term 4.
- ☐ Delete old iMessages and emails
- ☐ Copy/move photos (videos) on to a home computer.
- □ Back up device & update software (Settings/General/Software Update).

IMPORTANT: iPads are compulsory for Years 1-6
If purchasing a new iPad, please remember:

- Minimum IOS 12+
- Minimum 32GB storage

Shop around for great Christmas deals!



Keep Reading... Students have access to a various reading apps such as Wushka (www.wushka.com.au). Try to encourage some reading over the break. Perhaps visit the local library? Real books make great stocking fillers! ©

### Our Holiday iPad Rules Poster (example)

- Device free from 7pm to 7am
- Take a break after 20 mins
- No iPads in bedrooms
- No devices at the dinner table
- No messaging friends at inappropriate times
- Respect people's privacy
- Report bullying

Always treat iPad and others with respect and be cyber safe!

