

July 2019

Dear Parents,

We hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer. As students begin to plan for their upcoming school year, technology has become an increasingly important factor. At The Southport School (TSS) we incorporate the use of technology in the online learning space to maximize teaching and learning. Our students are provided opportunities to learn and use various technology tools through projects, games, and multi-modal activities.

All of our faculty are trained in Apple-based applications that are designed for the iPad. We do not require lower school students to have their own device and will continue to have devices available for students as needed. However, TSS supports a Bring Your Own Device policy (BYOD). If you are choosing to allow your child to bring a device, we recommend an Apple iPad 5 or newer, any iPad Air, or iPad Pro. Additionally, it would be beneficial for students to have a set of headphones equipped with a microphone, such as the Apple headphones, as they are helpful in many capacities. Keyboard cases are optional and secure cases are highly suggested.

If you are looking for a way to save money on a new iPad, two options are to purchase a refurbished model from Apple, comes with full warranty, or Amazon has been offering discounts and is an Apple certified reseller.

<https://tinyurl.com/AppleiPadRefurb> Or <https://tinyurl.com/IPadsAmazon>

Free:	Paid:*
<p><i>Listed below are required apps that students will learn and use throughout the school year.</i></p> <p>Google Drive, Docs, Slides, Classroom, Apple Pages, Keynote, Clips Lexia Core 5 Freckle Spark Video Classkick Stop Motion Studio Grammarly Keyboard Quizlet Kahoot Quizizz EdPuzzle Kodable codeSpark Academy Spritebox: Code hour</p>	<p>Kidspiration (If entering 5th grade, purchase Inspiration instead) Voice Dream Reader (For students who benefit from listening to books)</p> <p>*(If you prefer not to purchase these apps, the school can provide access to them for your child during the school year. Please contact me directly and we can set that up.)</p>

Please be sure to review the Acceptable Use Policy in the Parent Handbook when you receive it and feel free to email me or your child's advisor if you have any questions. Periodically I may reach out to have other apps downloaded per a teacher's request. Explore Apple's Families page to learn more about managing your child's device:

<https://www.apple.com/families/>

Thank you,
Sharon Plante, Director of Technology

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