Dear Parents and Students,

This letter is to inform you of the computer options available to students. The information provided will help guide you through the process of deciding what kind of computer to purchase, or, if you already own a computer, what you will need to make it work on our wireless network.

Before students gain access to the school network, they will need to read and acknowledge an Acceptable Use Policy. The Acceptable Use Policy and Social Media Policy can be found in the Student-Parent Handbook. In addition, students will have to register their computers and/or wifi capable devices with the school before they will be able to use our network. Students are permitted to register 4 devices. Students will receive device registration instructions at registration. The Technology Department will help a student if necessary.

Our secure wireless network will provide wireless connectivity to our academic network and to the Internet from every building on campus. Our wireless network allows students to connect to the network from their rooms, allows them to roam within buildings without losing their network connections, and to print to networked printers located in each dorm common room, Steers Center, and in the library.

The Canterbury Technology Department will help students negotiate their initial connection to the wireless network, printing and logging into their Canterbury Google and Veracross accounts. We offer “best effort” technical support for other issues. If the computer's operating system is not set to use English, we can not help. We cannot repair computers with faulty or broken hardware, and in such cases, we will do what we can to help but may have to refer the student to the manufacturer or vendor for repairs. Students can avoid most computer problems by having their computers ready for our network. If during the summer, they perform periodic operating system and software updates, the process of setting up and registering their computers for use on the school’s network should be very easy. Windows computers need up-to-date anti-virus software. If the computer has a trial version of an antivirus program, it is best to buy a subscription to make sure the program will continue to work throughout the school year. The most common anti-virus program is Avast.

After the students have set up and registered their computers on the school’s network, they need to continue performing periodic software updates and anti-virus updates.

While some students use Chromebooks or iPads, most students use Macs or Windows computers. Chromebooks and iPads can limit a student's ability to access and complete assigned work. The school encourages families buying new computers to purchase a three-year warranty. Having Apple Care or a Dell warranty will expedite any repair. Dell offers discounts for Canterbury students at: http://www.dell.com/mpp/CanterburySchool. Additionally, the school recommends that families insure the computer against theft or damage.
Canterbury students will use the Veracross student portal to access class pages, assignments, grades, and other online content. The login link is accessible through Canterbury’s website; (http://www.cbury.org). Teachers post critical class information on Veracross and students are required to check each of their class pages daily. Instructions on how to access Veracross and how to navigate to critical information will be provided during the fall orientation period. New students will not gain access to their Canterbury email or Veracross until they arrive on campus in August.

During this summer, we may update this letter and provide you other information that will make use of technology here at Canterbury successful. Should you have any questions as you consider purchasing a computer, feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely yours,

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