



chromebook

ONE TO ONE INITIATIVE FOR GRADE 4, 5 and 6 STUDENTS

Google at St. Patrick Fine Arts Elementary

St. Patrick Fine Arts staff have been embracing the learning and creation possibilities that Google Suite has afforded our students. For 2024-2025, to continue in this direction, we are inviting students in grades 4, 5 and 6 to bring their own devices. This option will allow for more exploring, creating and sharing learning. This is totally optional, but may be a good fit for you.

Acceptable Devices

Although many students have access to iPods, iPhones, and Android phones, those do not meet the necessary requirements as acceptable learning devices. We also recognize that not all parents will send their child to school with a device. Teachers will continue to plan assuming that not every student will bring a personally owned device to school, but we are still moving toward having less of an ecological footprint (i.e. less paper usage). As it is now, school-owned devices will be available for students to use while at school when needed.



One to One Benefits

Education today requires students to have a readiness to thrive in a complex, global, and tech-rich society. The introduction of a one to one program in other schools has shown student growth in a number of areas including technology literacy, independent learning, greater collaboration and engagement in deeper learning. Most recently, with the necessity for online learning, our students grew their skills even faster. With the introduction of a one to one Chromebook program, students will have more opportunities to take part in critical thinking activities, communication and ethical use activities.

In order to proceed with a one to one initiative in the most effective way, students need to have the technology 'in hand' in their classrooms. Therefore, we are inviting grade 4, 5 and 6 parents at St. Patrick Fine Arts to consider purchasing an acceptable device for their child for the 2024-25 school year. We are confident that this route will increase our students' access to technology for rich learning. **This is totally optional.** Unlike in years past, however, there is no purchase plan through the division.

Why One to One now?

Personalized learning experiences are important to us, and with ongoing access to a robust device, students are empowered to communicate with peers and experts, work collaboratively, research and use data to solve complex problems, and create freely, using a



Acceptable Devices, continued

You may want to provide a different device than a Chromebook. You might consider a **laptop** with Apple OS or Windows OS. Ex: Apple, Samsung, Acer, Sony, Windows, Lenovo.

- Must have Chrome downloaded as that will be the primary platform used
- Screen must be at least 9.7"
- cellular phones are not acceptable devices for rich learning and are not permitted in St. Patrick Fine Arts classrooms, on our playground, or on our buses.
- iPads or other tablets are not robust since they lack separate keyboards, have small screens, and may not support all of the programs students will use.

Guiding Documents

- Acceptable Use Agreement
- Use of Personal Device Agreement

Have questions? e-mail
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anytime.

wide range of available resources. During our school closure in March-June of 2020, our students (especially in grades 4 and 5) grew in their comfort on Google and teachers saw increased engagement when students explored high-quality tasks online.

This does not take away from equally important learning using one's hands (ie. printing/writing/drawing/physical activity) and interacting in real time with one another. Those aspects of a quality school experience are vital and not going anywhere. Also, students will not be on their screens all day long. Technology use must be a tool to enhance learning and is not a substitute for thoughtful teaching.

Why choose a Chromebook?

When considering a one to one initiative, we want to see students with devices that are affordable and **robust**. A robust device works reliably, has a separate keyboard and sufficient battery life for a school day. It can also be managed easily by students, teachers and parents. Chromebooks meet all these needs. Chromebooks require a secure Google login, store almost everything in the cloud, and allow for additional extensions and apps to meet students' personal learning needs. They are much less expensive than most laptops, and are normally lighter, too. For smooth results with wi-fi, a device no older than 3 years is best.

Managing your own Chromebook

With a personal device, the student will work in their division Google account (username@holyspirit.ab.ca) to download necessary apps to complete coursework and the student will be responsible for all aspects of the computer. By using their division Google account, website monitoring and file access/security are included. No hardware service nor tech support is available through the division, though, and the device must go home daily for continued studies and charging. A padded carry case for safe storage while not in use is also wise to avoid unnecessary damage.

Digital Citizenship Lessons Included

To support your and your child's journey through greater technology use at St. Patrick Fine Arts, lessons in Digital Citizenship will be delivered early and often and shared with you at home so that you, too, can adopt the language of Christian safety, responsibility, and courtesy appropriate for elementary-aged students. We want the kids to be successful in their life learning with this technology!