Parent Information:

DIGITAL EDUCATION REVOLUTION – NSW (DER-NSW)

Since 2009 the DER-NSW program has successfully delivered over 250,000 laptops to Year 9 students, installed wireless access points in over 21,000 learning spaces, provided professional learning experiences to teachers and leaders across the state, developed more than 250 online resources and supported schools with 560 school based Technology Support Officers. 2013 will see the final rollout of 63,500 laptops. Under DER-NSW Macarthur Girls High School has received 1069 laptops since 2009, had wireless access installed in 65 spaces and a Technology Support Officer employed full time from 2009-2013.

The DER-NSW one to one laptop program has led to enhanced access to computers and the internet for students, teachers and students’ families, plus the movement of teaching practice towards the skills of the 21st century, greater access for students to global information resources and tools and improved motivation and engagement of students. (Source: The 2010-2012 evaluation of DER-NSW by the University of Wollongong)

New arrangements from 2013

The Australian Government’s DER National Partnership Funding finishes at the end of 2013. Students who have already received laptops under this program (i.e. Years 10, 11 and 12 in 2013) will continue to use them under the terms of the Laptop User Charter while remaining at a government school, with transfer of ownership on final completion of Year 12.

In 2013 there will be a roll out of laptops to schools, similar to previous years. The big difference in 2013 is that laptops allocated to schools become school property. Thus any allocations to students are to be done as loans to students. Parents will be required to sign a Laptop Loan Charter. Since the 2013 laptops will not be considered part of the state wide pool, there will be no transfers of laptops between schools unless an arrangement is made between principals. This includes when a student moves to a new school.

As part of the consultation process for 2013 Macarthur Girls High School made a proposal to the P&C for the laptop allocation to be based in classrooms and for loaning of devices to be on a needs basis. The P&C endorsed this proposal and new laptops will roll out into allocated classrooms once the security infrastructure has been established. This decision enables students of all years to have access to the latest technology to assist their learning. A number of laptops will be kept in the library to be loaned out, similar to other library resources. In order for students to borrow a school laptop the attached Laptop Loan Charter needs to be completed and signed.

Our school will continue to plan how best to integrate Information and Communications Technology (ICT) into teaching and learning. We will also investigate emerging technologies and new ICT devices to determine ways that will best meet the learning needs of our students.

Yours sincerely,

G. Cluff
Principal