

St. John's Lutheran School
Bring Your Own Device 2019-2020

Our 5th-8th grade students have the opportunity to bring their own device to school. **We encourage each family to provide a Chromebook for their child to use in the classroom for the 2019-2020 school year.** We recommend a Chromebook over other devices because it provides the students with exactly what they need to participate in our technology program without all the “extras” a tablet or laptop provide. In addition, the Chromebooks will link directly to their school Google account, meaning that items that are already blocked on their Google account will also be blocked on their Chromebook.

Specifically, we are recommending that you purchase the **Acer Chromebook 11 for under \$200**. The Acer Chromebook 11 can be bought at a variety of places like Best Buy, Walmart, Target, and Amazon. Typically, there are a lot of back-to-school sales, and you *may* get the best price if you wait until August to purchase.

St. John's will provide a Chromebook for those who are unable to purchase one, however, students will not be allowed to bring them home. If that is a need, please ask your classroom teacher.

We will be using these devices in a variety of ways, including:

- Utilizing Google Drive – writing, editing, and creating content
- Practicing math skills using IXL
- Practicing spelling using Spelling City
- Taking AR tests
- Recording, documenting, and analyzing information that we are learning in the classroom

Websites to bookmark:	URL:
AR	https://hosted141.renlearn.com/159325
Citation Machine	http://www.citationmachine.net
Classroom Blogs	
Dictionary	http://dictionary.reference.com
ESV Bible	http://www.esvbible.org
Google Drive	http://www.drive.google.com
Google Mail	http://www.gmail.com
IXL	http://www.ixl.com
Lexia	http://www.lexiacore5.com/
Spelling City	http://www.spellingcity.com/
St. John's Website	http://www.stjlutheralschool.org
Thesaurus	http://www.thesaurus.com/
Think Central	https://www-k6.thinkcentral.com

Bring Your Own Device FAQs

- 1. If every student has their own computer or device, does that mean they will no longer use pencils, paper, and books?** Even though each student will have their own computer or device, students will continue to use pencils, paper, and books. Sometimes using pencil and paper will be the most appropriate way of meeting learning goals. However, our goal in allowing students to have their own device is to increase Digital Age Learning skills, giving each student confidence and competence in using technology appropriately in order to assist their learning and development.
- 2. What if the computer or device breaks and needs to be repaired or becomes inoperable?** It is the responsibility of the parent and the student to maintain, and if necessary, pay to have devices repaired.
- 3. What happens if my child forgets their device at home or their battery runs out during the school day?** There will be several extra devices in the classroom for students to use if necessary. However, the student will not be allowed to bring the device home. There will also be several extra chargers at school, but students should be prepared for the day by having their device fully charged. Please do not bring chargers to school.
- 4. Will other students be allowed to use my child's device?** No, the device your child brings will only be allowed to be used by the owner of the device. If another child forgets his or her device they may borrow one provided by the school if one is available.
- 5. Does the device need to have 4G or LTE?** No, the students will access the wireless network provided by St. John's Lutheran School.
- 6. Will students be required to go online at home?** Yes, many of the tools used are online resources that require an Internet connection in order to work. Students who are unable to get online at home may have to come to school early or stay late in order to get their work done.
- 7. Will St. John's provide Internet filtering?** Yes, students who connect to the Internet at school will be protected from inappropriate content by St. John's Internet filters. In addition, students are required to sign into their Chromebook using their stjlusheranschool.org username and password which provides additional filtering and protection.
- 8. Do students need to have a Chromebook?** While a Chromebook is not required, it is highly recommended. Another device such as a Kindle Fire or an iPad will work for many things that we do in the classroom, but not everything because many of the tools will require Adobe Flash (which is not available on iPads). In addition, the iPad only supports a limited "mobile" version of Google Apps which will be our main way of writing and creating content. There will be several Chromebooks provided by the school that students may use when needed, but they will not be allowed to take the devices home.
- 9. What about printing?** Student devices will have limited access to printing at school. If a project requires printing, then we ask that printing be done on your home printer. In some cases if a home printer is not working, it may be acceptable to send the document to the teacher for printing. The document must be shared or sent via email before the assignment would be due.