

Thought for the week:

"Living is a constant process of deciding what we are going to do." - Jose Ortega Y Gasset



This Week @ TIS

Telephone Problems

For several weeks now we have been experiencing interruptions to our telephone service at the school. This problem has got worse, so that now we have no lines working at all, including the fax line. We would like to apologise to parents for the inconvenience caused and we hope that Telikom will soon be able to restore normal service. In the meantime our email service is operating as normal; if you are able please contact the school by email.

School Review Report

Following the School Review conducted last week a written report will be issued by the Review Team in the next few weeks. A summary of the report will be made available to parents in due course.

P&W Meeting

Don't forget the P&W meeting this Wednesday, 10th August at 1pm in the Music Room. All parents are welcome.

School Disco

We are looking forward to seeing lots of Snow Whites, Cinderellas, Harry Potters and other favourite book characters at the Disco on Thursday night. Don't forget there will be prizes for the Best Dressed in different categories so start digging around in your cupboards for some costumes.



Venue: Hash Club
Time: 5.30pm 'til 7.30pm
Entry: K2.00
Refreshments: Drinks K2.50
Sausage Sizzle: K2.00
Twisties: K1.00

We will be arranging pick ups and drop offs using the school buses.

Board Meeting

The next School Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17th August.

PCG Meeting

The next Parents Consultative Group meeting will be held shortly. Please note we are still seeking representatives from some classes. Contact Mr. Mather if you are interested in joining us.



Curriculum Corner

Melbourne Thinking Conference By Neal Mather

During the mid-year break I was lucky enough to attend the "12th International Conference on Thinking" held in Melbourne. Attending the Conference were educators, business people and administrators from many countries. Featured at the Conference were leading practitioners on thinking processes and practices from around the world, who provided many stimulating and thought provoking ideas, especially on using "thinking skills" in schools.

One of the leading presenters was Dr. Arthur L. Costa, professor emeritus of the California State University. Art Costa has conducted a lot of work looking at how thinking processes can help humans to tackle everyday issues in their lives. He has identified a total of 16 habits that successful people exhibit as cognitive as well as character traits; he calls these the Habits of Mind.

Whilst some of this may initially seem difficult to grasp, the Habits of Mind are useful tools to enhance thinking and learning and so are used in many schools throughout the world as ways of helping children to enhance learning and problem solving. Over the next few editions of TIS News we will be looking more closely at the Habits of Mind.

A Habit of Mind is knowing how to behave intelligently when you DON'T know the answer.

Employing Habits of Mind requires ways of thinking that produce powerful results. They are made up of many skills, attitudes and ways of thinking including:

- § **Value:** Choosing to employ useful and productive thinking, rather than other, less productive patterns.
- § **Inclination:** Feeling the need to use certain thinking methods.
- § **Sensitivity:** Choosing to use appropriate thinking for the situation.
- § **Capability:** Having the basic skills and capacities to carry through with the thinking behaviours.
- § **Commitment:** Constantly striving to reflect on and improve thinking skills and their application.