

Wagga Wagga District NEWSLETTER



Tuesday 27 March 2001

CP 01/11

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your participation in last week's District Principals' Meeting. It was a full, yet important agenda. It is vital that we and our staff keep working on our professional networking and looking beyond "the square we live in". To this end I commend to you the opportunity to be involved in an international virtual conference for teachers. The information for online registration is outlined below and your teachers may access the papers and discussion at their convenience. I found two similar conferences held in 2000 professionally stimulating and thought-provoking.

Regards

Colin Parker
Superintendent, Wagga Wagga District

School Improvement and Accountability

I have spoken to many Principals both during and after the District meeting last week regarding Management Plans and the Self Evaluation Cycle. It is pleasing for me to see that most schools have in place a 'team' and that the targets indicated in the Annual School Report have become the priorities for the 2001 Management Plan.

I am keen to visit schools and discuss progress on management plans as well as the planning for strategic evaluations that will be reported on in the Annual School Report.

Peter Brabin
Chief Education Officer

Priority Schools Funding Program

The Priority Schools Funding Program has replaced the Disadvantaged Schools Program after some 25 years. The Priority Schools Funding Program is an equity program designed to assist school communities to improve the learning outcomes of students in schools with high concentrations of students from low socio-economic backgrounds.

A successful orientation meeting was recently held at the Education Centre for the nine schools on the program in Wagga Wagga District. These schools will receive consultancy support, funding, staffing supplementation and Equity Centre support. The support is for the next four years.

A Wagga Wagga District network planning committee has been formed to assist with organising training & development activities during the year.

John Ferguson
Priority Schools Consultant

Legal Issues Bulletins

Bulletins No.15 and No.16 are now available on the Departments' Intranet site at:
<http://www.intranet.schools.nsw.edu.au/stand.cgi/dse/D1.0/index.htm>

No.15 – Fireworks Displays in Schools and TAFE Premises (6/3/01)

No.16 – Searches in Schools and TAFE NSW (8/3/01)

Past Legal Issues Bulletins are also available at this site.

Support for Principals: Key Contacts **Wagga Wagga District Office**

Attached is the document handed to principals at last week's meeting in Wagga Wagga. I will email amendments as they occur.

Judy Grant
Office Manager

Early Childhood Networks

Next week K-2 teachers will meet in Wagga and Young.

The Wagga network will be looking at portfolios as part of the school assessment plan. Teachers are bringing examples of portfolios to share.

In Young, teachers have planned to discuss the video "Too young too soon". The focus is on the talking and listening segments with discussion of activities and skills to help young students succeed at school.

Register on the flyer at your school. For further information contact Margaret Donaldson, on telephone number 6937 3870.

Margaret Donaldson
Mathematics Consultant

Literacy strategies that work

Teachers have been requesting assistance in identifying the best reading strategies to complement their literacy session. Currently, schools are booking the consultant for after school information sessions with team-teaching follow-up. If you are interested in individual or

small group support using the *Programming and Strategies Handbook*, contact Ineke Kolder-Wicks on telephone number 6937 3817.

**Ineke Kolder-Wicks
Literacy Consultant**

Let's Walk the Talk...

Journey of Healing Day

Saturday 26 May

National Reconciliation Week

Sunday 27 May to Saturday 2 June

Why not plan something now?

**It could be something symbolic like
a minute's silence, and/or a tree planting ceremony.**

For further information contact Debbie Evans 69 373849 or Sally Tapscott 69 373811.

Invitation to International Virtual Conference for Teachers

25 June -13 July 2001

'Experiencing Change, Exchanging Experience'

* **PRINCIPALS, HEADS AND MANAGERS:** Please alert teaching staff to this excellent international professional development opportunity.

The United Kingdom's Department for Education and Employment, and its three partner organisations (the Central Bureau, the Technology Colleges Trust and the League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers) are to conduct a Virtual Conference for participants in the first year of the Teachers' International Professional Development Programme (TIPD).

This will be conducted entirely on the Internet between 25 June and 13 July 2001.

Registration is free. Participants will primarily include TIPD participants from the United Kingdom and abroad. However, an invitation to participate is also extended to interested teachers from all countries, especially those who wish to submit a Discussion Paper on the three topics listed below.

The title of the TIPD Virtual Conference is 'Experiencing Change, Exchanging Experience'. Each of the three weeks of the Virtual Conference will focus on a particular theme. This will be explored through Discussion Papers, which address each week's theme.

Discussion Papers will be supplemented by a live 'real time' Online Discussion, where authors of Discussion Papers and other conference participants can actively debate and explore the ideas that emerge from the Discussion Papers.

TIPD participants, and all interested teaching professionals, are urged to actively contribute to the success of this innovative information-sharing opportunity.

1. REGISTER. You are now warmly invited to register for the TIPD Virtual Conference. Please email your name, the name of your college/school, its location/country, your role there and the country/countries you visited and when the visit/s took place as part of the TIPD Programme. Teachers who are not part of the TIPD Program should list any international teaching experience they may have undertaken in the past (although international teaching experience is definitely not mandatory for registration).

Email registrations to: Ms Debra Brydon, Virtual Conference Manager, at:

brydon@bigpond.net.au

* Please write 'TIPD Virtual Conference Registration' in the 'Subject' line of your email.

Thanks!

2. CONSIDER WRITING A DISCUSSION PAPER. You might consider writing a short Discussion Paper for possible publication in the Virtual Conference. There are three themes, which are described in more detail further on. Please select one, according to your own interests, background and expertise. The deadline for submitting a Discussion Paper is 14 May 2001.

3. VOLUNTEER TO BE A 'DISCUSSION STIMULATOR'. You may be interested in taking on the role of honorary 'Discussion Stimulator', and to actively stimulate the live online discussion of papers for one particular day of the Virtual Conference (you specify your preferred date and let me know).

Thank you for considering this invitation to be actively involved in this international Virtual Conference. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

DEBRA J. BRYDON
Virtual Conference Manager
(& Manager, CyberText)

GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF DISCUSSION PAPERS

Themes

Discussion Papers (up to 2,500 words) are invited from a practical or theoretical perspective (or both) on topics, which relate to the following three broad themes.

Week 1: Changing Classrooms

How do our classrooms need to change:

- * to enable all to achieve to their full potential and to experience success as learners?
- * to reflect the impact of development in Information and Communications Technology?
- * to take account of what we now know of preferred learning styles and the nature of intelligence?

Week 2: Changing Practitioners

How might teachers and others who work in schools need to change:

- * to enable pupils to develop as active learners and citizens?
- * to respond to new understandings of the way the brain works and learns?
- * to become better learners themselves and to model this for pupils?

Week 3: How can we network more effectively to support change?

B. Method of Submission

1. Email only. Please email your Discussion Paper by 14 May 2001 (no time extensions unless by prior arrangement) to the Virtual Conference Manager, Ms Debra Brydon, at:

brydon@bigpond.net.au

* Please write 'TIPD Discussion Paper' in the 'Subject' line of your email. Thanks!

Papers should be sent either as part of a regular email message, or as an attached 'Microsoft Word', or RTF file. Please do not send PDF files or HTML files (although HTML links within Discussion Papers is encouraged).

*IMPORTANT: YOUR SURNAME SHOULD BE INDICATED IN THE FILE NAME OF THE ATTACHMENT). It is important that you do not send attachments of any other type, as we may be unable to open them.

Presentation of Discussion Papers

1. Text should be single-spaced, with a single line space between paragraphs. Include bold and italics, as necessary. If you opt for this form of presentation, please do not include columns, graphics, tables or columns. All formatting and Internet publishing will be done by CyberText and the Virtual Conference Manager. This will ensure that all pages have a consistent appearance.

2. Discussion Paper writers are strongly urged to use their ICT skills to include HTML links in their document, to highlight, demonstrate or support the points they wish to make. It is expected that many of these HTML links will refer to the writer's school/college web site, to the web site/s of schools/colleges they have visited abroad or to other appropriate, highly relevant and useful web sites.

3. Although this will not be possible for all writers, it would be wonderful if your Discussion Paper could be presented as interactive presentation on your own web site, provided at your own, or your school's, expense. Your Discussion Paper would then be linked to the TIPD Virtual Conference web site, although the presentation would still be subject to the usual

preliminary editorial review and approval. A link would also be needed on your web site to take Virtual Conference participants back to the main TIPD Virtual Conference web site.

Discussion Paper Writer's Photo for Publication

Preferably, send a digital 'head and shoulders' photo of yourself as an attached 'JPEG' file to: brydon@bigpond.net.au

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT to use your surname, or the first few letters of your surname, as the title of the photo attachment. This will make sure we know which face belongs to which name! Please do not send photos in other electronic formats, as they may be 'unopenable'. If emailing a photo is not possible, post a clear well-contrasted photo (colour only) to Ms Debra Brydon, CyberText, 4 Susan Court, Mount Waverley, Victoria 3149, Australia. Please write your name, and the return address for the photo, clearly on the back, so it may be returned to you after the Conference.

Editorial Standards

All Discussion Papers will be edited for sentence structure, grammar, spelling and punctuation accuracy, as necessary, without consultation. However, where further editing is done to increase clarity of meaning, the author may be consulted via email, at the discretion of the Virtual Conference Manager.

Please indicate clearly at the bottom of your Discussion Paper if you wish to retain the right to approve or disapprove ANY suggested editorial changes (major or minor). If you wish to retain this right, please provide all necessary contact email details at home and at work, and all of the hours you are likely to be available for editorial consultation. However, if you choose this option, please be aware that your paper may not be published, if the Virtual Conference Manager is unable to contact you in a reasonable time, to seek approval for possible changes. Where no such editorial condition is provided in writing by the author, at the time of submission, it will be understood that the Discussion Paper may be edited, with sensitivity, for reasons of clarity, length, grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Selection of Discussion Papers

All Discussion Papers are submitted for possible publication only, and their final inclusion in the TIPD Virtual Conference will be subject to the joint decision of the Virtual Conference Manager and a nominated representative/s of the TC Trust.

Footnotes and References

Footnotes and references may be provided at the end of your Discussion Paper.

Author's Biographical Details and Professional Background

Details about the author should be included at the end of the Discussion Paper text (before the optional references/footnotes section) in an 'About the Author' paragraph. This text should not be included in the final Discussion Paper word count and should not be sent as a separate file. Please include your title (e.g., Dr, Ms, etc.), full name, current professional role, current work location, previous relevant professional roles, contact details (optional), and any other relevant information for the interest of readers. A 300-word limit applies to this section.

Ms Debra J. Brydon

MANAGER: CyberText (International Internet Conference Management and Internet Publications)

MANAGER: Captured Text (Paper Magazines, Journalism and Publication Management)

MANAGING EDITOR, 'ICP Online' <http://www.icponline.org>

POSTAL ADDRESS: 4 Susan Court Mt Waverley, Victoria 3149, Australia

PHONE/FAX: Int. + 61 (0)3 9888 1884

MOBILE: 0413 00 99 88

EMAIL: brydon@bigpond.net.au