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Attention: Principals, IT Coordinators, SSO's.

As part of my role of IT Support Officer I am keen to keep you informed through newsletters of any IT news, department information, curriculum and administration IT issues.

EDSAS Finance

EDSAS Finance has been working well at Kenmore Park as a standalone version. The SSS module (School, Staff, Students) is still being accessed through Terminal Services however the Finance package has been setup to run from a workstation. The decision has been made to setup all sites this way, so I shall contact each site and organise a visit.

There are initial and on-going issues that will need to be addressed. The most important issue I can see is a backup procedure for your finance data. The backup devices in the servers at a number of sites are not working, I have contacted DELL to enquire about replacement devices and the cost involved. Kenmore Park has their data on a machine that has a CD R/W driver and Watarru has purchased a new DECS administration machine with a tape backup unit installed. Both will work well. I will not be loading data as a standalone until the backup procedure is determined.

The on-going issue will be the management of EDSAS and your workstation. This includes upgrading the new versions of EDSAS that are sent to schools approximately twice per year, downloading updates from the EDSAS web page, ensuring your virus software is up-to-date.

If you believe it would be beneficial to run a short training session after all the sites are setup on general workstation maintenance issues, virus management, EDSAS procedures please let me know.

I would encourage you all to join the EDSAS talk list. To do this you need to go to the EDSAS Home Page <http://www.nexus.edu.au/schladmn/edsas/edsas2.htm> scroll down to select EDSAS Talk List, enter your email address and click the Submit button. It would also be worthwhile to add the EDSAS Home Page to your Favourites in Internet Explorer.

Another site you may like to add to your Favourites if you have not done so already is the SSONet web page <http://ssonet.sa.edu.au/>.

Please contact me if you need any assistance.

SINA (Schoolsnet Internet Network Administrator).

I have noticed that each site had the SINA admin account forwarded to David. As I am unsure of who the SINA contact person at each site is, I have forwarded the admin account to each of the Principals. This means that the Principal will receive information from SINA concerning any slowness in the network, any down-time, usage stats etc. I believe this is important information for the school to manage. I am also receiving this information as administrator of the aeseo site. If you wish this account to be forwarded elsewhere then please either contact me, or your SINA administrator at the school.

I would appreciate feedback on how schools manage SINA as in adding new users and setting up their access privileges.

WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION

I spent 3 days in Adelaide in the first week of the school holidays attending workshops and meetings. One interesting afternoon was spent on Wireless technology. Matt Tonkin from the e-education team presented us with their latest information on Wireless Technology. I am sure this can be used most successfully in conjunction with hard wiring at our sites. He distributed documentation on Wireless Networking which will soon be on the e-education website (see below). I have photocopied this documentation and will forward it to all sites via Courier.

<http://www.e-education.sa.edu.au/>

TSOF – Technology School of the Future – EDC Building, Hindmarsh

We also spent a day at TSoF looking at the EDULAN Project, achieverSA software, Max's Sandbox software. TSoF is a staff training and development centre within DECS. The Technology School of the Future (TSoF) is a state-of-the-art research and application centre in the use of computers in education for teachers and for students. Courses are offered for both teachers and students, both on-line and on-site. It is a brilliant building both for the design and the services it offers to us and well worth a visit when in Adelaide. The website offers various teaching units under the Curriculum tab.

Visit the site at <http://www.tsof.edu.au/lt.sa/>

MAX'S SANDBOX

Max's Sandbox is a Microsoft Office interface predominantly for children between the ages of 3 – 10. The new version requires Microsoft Office 2000 or XP to run and has the features of Maxwrite (Word) Maxcount (Excel) and Maxshow (Powerpoint). It is a great tool for encouraging children to use Word, Excel and Powerpoint. The CD also contains User Guides, Hints and FAQ. The CD should be at your site, I have a few copies if you cannot locate the CD.

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