



This week's stories from the media

- Day end of year concert because of teacher industrial action
- World Teachers' Day
- TAFE not just a 'fallback' for students, study confirms
- Two thirds of parents struggle to care for their own health
- Parent concern over TikTok
- Mobile phones banned in WA schools

### World Teachers' Day

The importance of teaching in shaping a highly competent, competitive and adaptable workforce for the 21st century forms the basis of World Teachers' Day on Friday October 25, a time when the efforts and expertise of nearly 330,000 Australian teachers is celebrated.

The theme for this year, in collaboration with the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL), is 'teaching a bright future'.

"Today we celebrate the bright future that our teachers give to their students, but also the bright future of the profession itself," said AITSL CEO Mark Grant.

He said that teaching is a "challenging but rewarding profession", and participating in World Teachers' Day shows appreciation for the hard work of teachers and its bright future.

"To coincide with Teachers' Day, AITSL is today launching a newly refreshed teacher induction app to help freshly graduated teachers gain the confidence they need to begin their career on the front foot," Grant said.

[Read](#)

### Daytime End Of Year Concert Because Of Teacher Industrial Action

**Union "grinches" are "stealing Christmas" from working parents by taking action resulting in end of year school concerts being held during the day, Treasurer Rob Lucas says.**

An SA primary school is moving its end of year concert to daytime, a move Treasurer Rob Lucas said was "mean-spirited behaviour".

Trinity Gardens School wrote to parents about events affected by teachers' actions to highlight workload issues as part of their industrial dispute with the State Government.

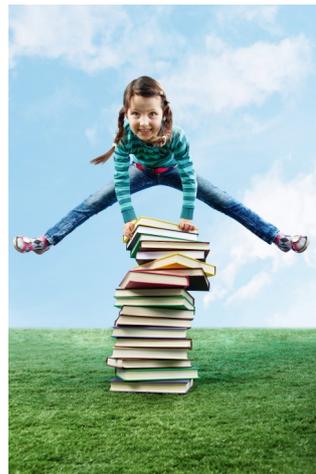
Parents say it has previously been an early evening event. The letter says the school's Union sub-branch decision to "restrict after-hours activities" also means discos have been "rescheduled to during the day" on November 29. Camps will have "modified" staffing.

Mr Lucas said it was "outrageous, mean-spirited behaviour from union bosses", but the union said it had made no direct suggestion to sub-branches to target school concerts.

"The union boss grinches within the AEU are trying to steal Christmas from working mums and dads," Mr Lucas said.

"Children and their families ... have become collateral damage in the union's infatuation with industrial action."

Parent group SAASSO's director, David Knuckey said: "Parents who can't attend because of work will miss out and it is particularly sad for children who will look out into the audience and not see mum or dad."



A letter from the AEU Trinity Gardens sub-branch, handed to parents outside the school yesterday, said it was one of many schools where members were acting on union advice to minimise tasks not related to teaching and learning. It described them as "extremely difficult decisions" and acknowledged the "inconvenience and disappointment ... for our whole community".

[More](#)

**“....Today we celebrate the bright future that our teachers give to their students....”**

### TAFE Not Just A 'Fallback' For Students Study Confirms

Students are deciding to study at TAFE rather than university for its merits – not as a “fallback”. That was one of the findings to come from Monash University’s Vocational Institutions, Undergraduate Degrees, Distinction or Inequality interim report.

Among the reasons students opted for TAFE were that they enjoyed their area of study, thought it would enable them to get a rewarding job, and that the course was part of their longer-term career plans.

The team said a key theme among the reasons for choosing TAFE given by those interviewed surrounded the student experience.

Another drawing card TAFE representatives and students floated was individuation and differentiation for learners.

“TAFE degree teachers are accessible and they know their students, adapting provision to individual needs,” the interim report read.

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### Two Thirds Of Parents Struggle To Care For Their Own Health

One quarter of working parents are considering leaving their job in the next year due to stress caused by the conflict between work and caring responsibilities.

The National Working Families Report found two thirds of working parents were struggling to care for their physical and mental health due to the tension between work and caring and one in four were thinking about quitting or “actively intending to” leave their job because of it.

Half of women and one third of men told the employer-sponsored survey they were under “a lot” or “a great deal” of stress and two thirds reported feeling too emotionally or physically drained when they got home from work to contribute to their family.

Professor Rae Cooper, co-director of the Women, Work and Leadership Group, said it was not surprising working mothers (who made up 80% of respondents) were expressing concerns about stress. “Full time working women with young children are among the most stressed members of the Australian labour force,” she said.

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### Parent Concern Over TikTok

Parents have raised concerns about the use of social media platform TikTok, after videos of school students imitating sex acts and miming to explicit songs surfaced online.

The ABC has been supplied several public videos of students from various South Australian schools filming content in uniform.

In one video which appears to have been filmed on the grounds of a regional state high school, two male students are simulating a sex act.

Other videos are filmed inside school bathrooms, on school ovals, and in classrooms, while others have been filmed away from school.

[Full Story](#)

### School Post

Keep your eye out for the Term 4 edition of School post!



### Mobile Phones Banned In WA Schools

Mobile phone use will be banned during school hours at West Australian public schools from next year, with the state government saying it will reduce distraction from studies and encourage face-to-face social interaction.

Students will also be prohibited from using smart watches, ear buds, headphones and tablets during class.

Pupils from kindergarten to Year 6 will not be permitted to have mobile phones in their possession at all, while students from Years 7 to 12 must have them turned off and out of sight.

Exemptions can be made by teachers, including for educational use or medical conditions.

[Read more](#)