TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION

Music Bonus

Along with all the new features in iOS 8, we received a U2 album, *Songs of Innocence*. While some of us might be thrilled to get some free music on our iPad or iPhone, others may not like the fact that this album takes up space an on already memory-depleted device.

If you would like this album removed from your iPad or iPhone, send Sheila an email and she will send you the link to send the album back to Apple. If, however, you later decide that you want this album, it will cost you to download it again after October 13.

New iOS 8 Features

Battery Information…

In iOS 8 it is easy to see which of your apps are draining your battery. Go to Settings>General>Usage> Battery Usage. It gives you information about the last twenty-four hours and the last seven days.

Recover deleted photos…

If you've ever inadvertently deleted a photo you really didn't want to lose, now there is a way to recover photos. To retrieve photos just go to the Recently Deleted folder, select the photos you're missing and tap recover.

iBooks…

Apple decided to make iBooks a default feature in iOS 8 and there are some new organizational features to go with it. Your books can now be organized by series and the categories button now filters sections by titles, authors, or categories.

Manage your Apple ID…

Rather than managing your Apple ID through iTunes or the App Store, iOS 8 has a new section under iCloud settings that lets you view and edit your personal information. You can also change your password, add credit cards and add members to your Family Share Plan.

Updates

Updating laptops and other devices is an important task that should be undertaken regularly, especially when your device tells you that **updates** are needed. Delaying **updates** can affect the performance of your laptop or device.

On your iPad, a number will appear on your App store icon or your Settings icon to indicate that you need to update. Updates fix bugs in the apps you're using or make them more compatible with your iOS 8.

On your laptop, you'll see a message on the top right side that indicates updates are available. The Tech Department periodically updates your laptop for you. If you see that a Java, Adobe Flash, or Adobe Reader update is needed, please place a ticket on the HelpDesk immediately. If you ignore the update indicators, you will see your laptop performance getting slower. Not updating Adobe Reader can cause your laptop to crash. Please take care of updates quickly.

NETWORK: A WORK IN PROGRESS

Now that the APs (Access Points) have been installed and we can operate wirelessly, you may think that the network is complete. We have all new switches except for the core switch, new firewall, and, of course, wireless VLANS for Faculty, Students, and Guests. What else could there be?

If the Tech Budget doesn't suffer a drastic cut, next spring and summer will see a few additional APs to provide wireless where the signal is weak and an additional core switch. The additional core switch will have two functions: a redundant switch in case the present core switch fails and ports to plug in fiber optic cable. In 2016, again if the Tech Budget can handle it, fiber will be run from each of our switch closets to the core switch in the main switch closet. Presently, each closet is daisy-chained so that data from one sector must pass through several closets to get to the main switch. For data to flow seamlessly (without looping) and quickly under pressure (testing), fiber should be run directly from each closet to the main closet on the second floor of the high school/middle school. Testing situations require heavy bandwidth and speedy data flow. At other times our data flows pretty well.

We limit the bandwidth of non-testers during testing situations. Even with a bandwidth of 75 mbps, video and audio streaming will still need to be limited at times. A network is never finished…it's a work in progress!