

10/11/2008



What's happening with ARISS? International Space Station project: 2008 update #14

After a long wait the ARISS team has recently been notified that there is a good chance the date for St Thomas' contact with the International Space Station may be confirmed in the next few weeks. We know everyone at St Thomas is very keen to find out exactly when this will be. Tentative advice (again, please remember that this is subject to change by NASA) is that this may happen before the end of the school year! Fingers crossed all our stars and the moon align in our favour. Stay tuned for an update in the near future.

And just to get everyone back into space mode again this week and find out a little more about what may be in store for us, Catalyst on ABC TV is this week featuring a live video link with the ISS. Turn onto ABC TV on Thursday night at 8pm for the link up with Canadian astronaut Dr Gregory Chamitoff. He launched to the station with the crew of STS-124 on May 31, 2008 docking with the station on June 2, 2008 and will serve a six month tour.

And finally, with a bit of luck the slow scan TV system on the ISS will be switched on in October - this will allow us to download live images of earth from the ISS when it passes overhead! Again, stay tuned for an update in the near future!

From the ARISS Team

What is the St Thomas Space Station Project? Last year St Thomas successfully applied to NASA to host a direct radio link between the school and an astronaut on the International Space Station. This contact is part of a project called "ARISS" which is supported by amateur radio operators and NASA's education division. Updates on the project will continue to be provided in Thomataalk in the lead up to this exciting event. For further information contact Morry Clark Ph: 3901 4634 or email morryclark@optusnet.com.au. Messages can also be left at the school office in an envelope marked Attn: international Space Station Project team.