TYPES OF AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEMS
There are many different types of automated information processing systems that assist us in our daily lives, whether at school, work or play.

**Examples**

Traffic lights and robots are examples of information processing systems that are referred to as control and monitoring systems.

Automated Payroll system and Personnel system are examples of Transaction Processing System (TPS).
This activity will help you to discover other types of information processing systems.

1. Make a list of computerised systems that your school office may use in its operations.

2. For each system identified, you should specify the type of information processing system. You may use your recommended texts to assist you.

3. What are other types that you could find in any organisation?
Feedback

Types of systems typically found in schools are:

- **Transaction Processing Systems** such as an Accounting package and Student Records System which are used to collect, store, modify, cancel or delete, and print accounting transactions and student records respectively.

- **Management Information Systems (MIS)** such as a School Administration System which uses the data collected by the School Records System, but manipulate that data to create reports for the Principal and School Board so that they may make routine decisions in response to structured problems.

- **Office Automation Systems**, for example, a Word-processor (MS Word or WordPerfect) or Spreadsheet (Excel or Lotus 123).

Other types to be found in offices are:

**Decision Support Systems (DSS)** and **Executive Information Systems (EIS)** that allow top managers to manipulate data directly, to incorporate data from external sources, and to create data models of ‘what if’ scenarios.

**Expert Systems (ES)**, also referred to as ‘computerised experts’, that permit managers to make recommendations or decisions based on the data that they supply in the form of answers to questions.

**Control and Monitoring Systems**, typically used in manufacturing companies, to influence how processes advance by the use of data received from sensors.
THE END