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Dear diary,

Today is the International Day of Happiness!!! Isn't it lovely? But, then it hit me! What if schools would actually teach us to be happy, healthy and successful? A few days ago I came across an intriguing speech of Logan LaPlante who introduced me to the hacker mindset that enables you to be innovative in...education, for instance!

If I were to borrow this hackerish mindset to present my ideal educational system , I would say that the key concepts would be diversity, personalization & deliberate action and non-formalism! Let's elaborate on them, shall we?

In my estimation, diversity is crucial in social environments. I consider that teachers shouldn't nurture similar students, but cultivate and support divergent thinking, varied talents, distinct backgrounds. Thus, everyone would become more affable and self-assured.

This leads me to the 2nd concept! By exploring and actually sketching a self-oriented curriculum, eventually you will find your answer to the "Who am I?" question! And by doing pleasant things you feel both happy and healthy, as Epicurus preached! However, when undertaking deliberate actions, failure shouldn't be stigmatized, but encouraged as it represents a formative step.

Finally, by embracing complementary non-formal approaches in the learning process, like interdisciplinary themes, experiential classes or coaching sessions, scholars would not only start thinking outside the box, but quality in education would be fostered too and conduce to teenagers' personal development according to their interests.

So...Clap along if you know what happiness is to you! *me singing*

Ana