I use 3 tricks to notify me of events:

1. xosd
2. festival
3. notify-send

For Notify-send, I simply do:

```
notify-send 'Hello world!' 'This is an example notification.' --icon=dialog-information
```

For it to work under fvwm/Archlinux I have to add the 2 tweaks from my xinitrc (xinitrc.d folder reading and start daemon the xdg way)

Reference:

- https://wiki.archlinux.org/index.php/Desktop_notifications
- http://standards.freedesktop.org/icon-naming-spec/icon-naming-spec-latest.html
- http://unix.stackexchange.com/questions/89016/notifications-and-notification-daemon-not-working-on-window-manager

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