

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

I am incredibly proud of the way our school community has responded to the significant challenges of online learning this term. Our students continue to amaze us with their creativity, grit and resilience and our parents and carers are doing a magnificent job on the home front providing support and encouragement despite working from home themselves. Of course, none of this would be possible without the professionalism and dedication of our staff. It has been so gratifying to read and pass on daily emails from parents expressing their appreciation of the lessons being delivered and for the way teachers have maintained routines and stability to ensure students remain connected and engaged.

HSC TRIAL EXAMINATION

Congratulations to Year 12 for adapting so quickly to online trial examinations. I am pleased to report that the exams are progressing smoothly and the special security software we installed is working well. A huge thank you to the Year 12 teachers for their care and concern for our students' wellbeing. I would like to make special mention of the Performing Arts staff who have had to find creative solutions to assessing student performance and to Year 12 Deputy Principal Ms Nilaufer Rajwar who has worked tirelessly to ensure our students feel confident and are well supported through this difficult time.

WELLBEING DAY

The return to remote learning this term has tested us all. After six weeks of Google Classroom and Zoom lessons the Wellbeing Team decided it was time to implement a catch-up day to give students a much-needed breather from the online world. Feedback has been very positive; many of our students spent the extra time with their family while others used it to catch up missed work or relax at home. Teaching staff also had time to catch up with lesson planning, marking, and getting ready for the coming weeks. A huge thank you to Deputy Principal Karl Pico, the Executive, and the Wellbeing Team for their support of this initiative. We have plans for another Wellbeing Day later this term.



Arlo Sim

We congratulate former NHSPA student, Arlo Sim who is showcasing his incredible talent to Australia on the television show 'The Voice'. Arlo has been selected to go through to the final round of the show and we wish him all the very best!

"Arlo immersed himself in music all through his time at NHSPA, looking for any opportunity to develop and display his musical abilities. Whether this was playing trumpet in large ensembles, singing in choirs, leading bands as a singer at Earthfest or performing in South Pacific,"

Chris Miller, NHSPA Head of Music

Read full article [here](#)



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

NEW STAFF WELCOME

It is with great please that we welcome two new staff members to the NHSPA family: Mr Benjamin Turner and Mr Dean Adams.

Ben is the school's new Technical Production Co-ordinator who will oversee technical aspects for live performances and events. Ben is highly experienced in this field having spent ten years at the Joan Sutherland Centre in Penrith. He will also be taking our co-curricular Tech Company and I have no doubt that our students will benefit enormously from his professional expertise.

Dean joins us in the newly created role of Student Support Officer. Dean has a wide range of experience as a Community Youth Worker and he will be a great addition to our Wellbeing Team.

We wish both Dean and Ben all the best for their new roles.

SCHOOL SUPPORT

With the closure of many businesses and incomes reduced or lost, we are very conscious that some of our families may be feeling stressed and isolated. If we can do anything to assist, please don't hesitate to contact the school on 95191544. If your child is sick and unable to engage in online learning, please advise the school using the usual attendance procedures. The Deputy Principals and Wellbeing Team will be making phone calls to the home if attendance concerns are raised. Our school counsellors are also available to take calls and offer advice and assistance. Please call the school during school hours and we will refer you to the appropriate member of staff.

Please stay well and take care

SHARON ROBERTS
PRINCIPAL

Congratulations also to Felix Fordham in year 8 for his work as a volunteer. Felix joined Kids Giving Back which is a charity whose mission is to Create the Next Generation of Generosity by providing hands on, age-appropriate meaningful opportunities for youth aged 6-18 years and their families to assist vulnerable people in the community.

Student Acknowledgements



Congratulations to Year 8 student Poppy McKinnon who has received a commendation in the Mosman Youth Awards for Literature. Special mention to English teacher Jess Brooks for encouraging Poppy with her writing.

One year, eight months and eleven days.

".....One of the last nights we were there I remember waking up freezing. I peeled the sheets off my dirty, skinny body and walked to the bathroom. It was completely black so I couldn't see anyone but I could hear my family breathing heavily from across the room. I felt the gravel pressing hard against my bare, bleeding feet. I got to the bathroom and turned on the dim light. I looked at myself in the mirror. My hair was, normally, long and down to my waist but the guards made me get rid of it when we arrived. I looked down at the cuts on my legs and my hands were wrapped in cloth to stop the bleeding. The hygiene at the camps was horrible and I was lucky I hadn't died yet. I thought about that as I tested to see if there was water left. There wasn't. I had guessed that. Tomorrow I will have to go and get more. I'll walk for ages just to walk all the way back with two heavy buckets weighing me down."



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

In the Words of ENGLISH



The English Faculty are incredibly proud of our Year 12 cohort, who have completed their English Trial HSC examinations online. They are to be commended for their efforts leading into these exams, as well as their ability to manage the pressures placed on them during this time. They are truly inspiring!

Reading is a key focus this term, with Years 7, 8 and 10 completing novel studies. Year 9 has been given the exciting opportunity to learn how to talk about themselves through the study of memoirs, biographies, journals and a variety of other texts. Year 11 is in the final week of their Preliminary HSC course, and like Year 12 will be sitting their first exam online before the end of term.

We also wanted to take this opportunity to thank all our students and their supports, including parents, caregivers and wonderful siblings. We have been thrilled and in awe of the creativity and energy students have been putting into their online work. Thank you to everyone for your time, commitment, flexibility and encouragement.

We have included some of our students' creative pieces for you to enjoy. The first is an inspiring and honest poem by Grace Irvine-Wales of Year 9 entitled "Our Generation", and the second a poem by Kieran Cashin of Year 7 called "The Library".

Finally, we wanted to applaud the efforts of Ms Chen who has been recognised for her online roll marking skills. Due to her accuracy and prompt delivery of her rolls, Ms Chen was proudly presented with the award of NHSPA's Best Roll Marker!

From the English Faculty



OUR GENERATION

we are judged and compared
we have to fit a certain standard
and look a certain way
we are never free in ourselves
and we are constantly being someone
we desire to be
rather than who we actually are
we have to hide
we have to hide not only from the
judgement of others
but from ourselves

Grace Irvine Wales - Year 9

THE LIBRARY

The endless shelves stretch before me,
Thousands of words, thousands of stories.
A multicoloured rainbow, alphabetically ordered
One hundred bookcases, ten thousand books
hoarded.

From books on entomology and books about bats,
From books on batology to books about fat,
I love the library so much I want to jump for joy
But I don't because rules say that is uncalled for.

In the fantasy section with dragons and swords
Daring knights attempt to protect their lords,
There's also a section that holds dvds,
But frankly who needs them with books about bees!

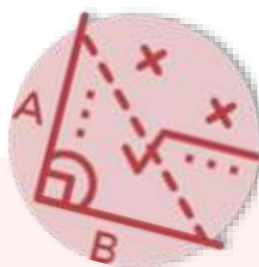
The library is definitely my favourite place to go,
And the best part is I can take the books I like home!

Keiran Cashin - Year 7

A virtual hello from the English faculty!



Maths



Taking Mathematics to the streets

Connecting the community to the ongoing learning taking place during Term 3 lockdown in Greater Sydney.

7MAN

For over a quarter century Gardner wrote a monthly column on the subject of recreational Mathematics for *Scientific American*.

Puzzles are a fun way to start creative thinking.

7MAN were asked to take puzzles to their local community, with parental permission. They could use chalk to draw a puzzle on the footpath.

Print one and put it on a fence (leave some paper in a plastic sleeve for passersby to write answers.)

Make a puzzle for younger students to solve or make one for their parents to solve (making sure you could solve it.)

The students were asked to take a photo of their puzzle on the street, in their backyard or at their desk.

One student, Lara, left her puzzles, and by the time she came back to take a photo, the puzzle was completed. What fun!

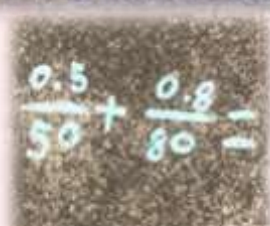
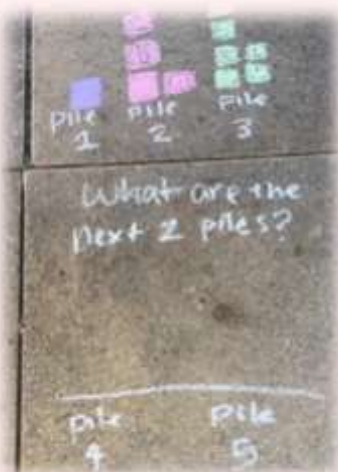
The students were also directed to an ongoing puzzle site created by Simon Singh <https://parallel.org.uk> This website provides an opportunity for students to stretch their thinking and broaden the way they think about maths via a series of weekly web-based puzzles. This site encourages students to examine their mathematical ability in a deeper way, encouraging students who have great logic skills and creativity.

I encourage them to keep going!

"A puzzle, in a sense, models what all scientists are doing." Scientists and mathematicians "are trying to solve puzzles about the nature of the universe."

"Puzzles can lead you into almost every branch of mathematics."

Martin Gardner, Author and puzzle champion



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Quick update from...



And for some student voices from lockdown learning in Year 8 Commerce.....

During lockdown in Commerce, I have enjoyed exploring the methods and advantages of investing in different ways, and have enjoyed beginning to apply my knowledge by playing the ASX sharemarket game.

Max Jackson

In term 3, we have been learning about two main topics, investing and law. These subjects went into the details we will need to know now, and as an adult. I thoroughly enjoyed these topics, as they helped me feel more confident in my knowledge of investing and law. In the investing unit, we learnt about all of the different types of investments, how to invest, and how different types of investments cater to different demographics and people. For our law unit, we have been learning about different laws and how they affect different people. We also learnt about a person's legal capacity, and how it relates to how you are treated and the things you can do.

Bonnie Kirgan

Something that I have enjoyed about lockdown commerce is the range of different work we have done and the way we do it. The topics we have covered during this is investing, law in action and the asx, all of which have been presented easily and I feel as if I have learned a lot. One thing I have found particularly helpful is the way I was able to use my understanding from the investing topic to work my way around the asx game.

Zoe Schacht

HSIE LOCKDOWN LEARNING

The HSIE teachers would like to congratulate our students for the resilience and creativity they are mustering to not only get on with their learning, but get really involved, and we'd like to give a bit shout out to all our parents and families who are helping them through these difficult times.

All of our Year 12 students are in the midst of their Trial exams and they are doing an amazing job under these trying circumstances – we salute you!

Year 11 are heads down and studying hard to complete their courses and prepare for their final exams as well – Good luck!

In Geography in Year 7, students have been investigating landscapes and landforms, and have kept their teachers entertained with their creative twists on household objects related to their landform, while in Year 8 it's all about Water and students have been finishing up their 'Water Conflict' projects, using generosity and resourcefulness by helping each other in their research, and culminating in some amazing insights into water issues around the world. In Year 8 Commerce, students have been learning about aspects of the law in relation to young people, and many students have begun the ASX Schools Sharemarket game, putting their 'Investment' learning into 'virtual' practice. In Year 9 students have been consuming a lot of 'Food for Thought' and are gearing up for their online test in Week 8, while our Year 10 Geography students have been exploring Environmental Change and Management and are also looking forward to their online skills and knowledge test on Marine Environments.

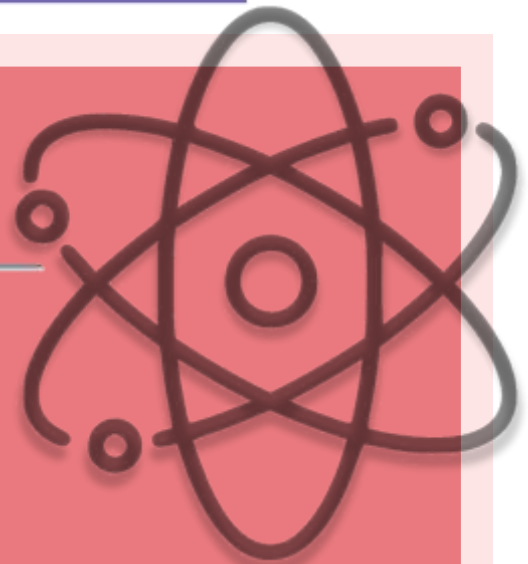
AND finishing with a big thankyou from Ms O'Neil, Head Teacher HSIE, to my amazing HSIE staff who always strive for excellence, creativity and fun in learning whether in the classroom, out in the field or online!



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

science

We have been extremely pleased with the way that all students have adjusted to online learning again. They have still been doing some amazing work despite the difficult circumstances, being very creative and resourceful in the projects they have undertaken. Please enjoy some photos of student work created during this period.



Sample of Year 7 Learning Portfolio reflection about a virtual simulation on energy transformation

Year 10 Student Research Projects — individual experimental research of their own choice. I suspect some parents might be relieved to see these projects cluttering the house no longer! Students showed great creativity in not only the ideas they came up with, but how to use materials at home to perform these experiments without access to scientific equipment.



Year 8 Cell Model Project — Students created models, then video presentations that they shared with each other online. The models were extremely impressive and creative, despite the limited resources available at home and the level of professionalism of their presentations was inspiring.



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

News from the TAS Department



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

TAS *cont.*



Stage 5 Food Technology and Hospitality are putting up some great dishes whilst in lock down as they continue to work on assessments and theory.

We are sure that many families are appreciating the additional volunteers to cook for the family! We are certainly enjoying the Zoom lessons where everyone gets to share their experiences of the latest food challenge.



Year 9 Design and Technology students have undertaken a new unit titled, 'Choose Your Own Adventure Tasks'. The unit is giving students autonomy over their learning and allows them to undertake different challenges with the support of their teachers and numerous resources. We are looking forward to showcasing their work at the end of the term.



Year 8 students are also completing various design challenges. Of highlight were some of the ideas' students came up with for an extension activity. Students designed and implemented a community activity to bring some joy to their local community during lockdown. Illy Hodge's presentation titled, 'Chalk on the Sidewalk' is a snap-shot of her slideshow detailing her community engagement project.



Our **Year 7** students are proving themselves as innovative designers as they design an app for the 'App Lab unit.' These have been very impressive with World Travelling apps, Learning to Bake apps, Jazz and Movie Trivia apps, and Choose your Own Adventure Story apps, to name a few!

We can't stress enough how amazed we are with the resourcefulness NHSPA students are demonstrating in TAS. We can't wait to get back into our specialist rooms at school but for the mean time we want you all to know that we are very impressed!

Ms Aynsley, Mr Collings, Mr Ivison, Ms Meimaris, Ms Milos, Ms Saravanos and Ms Radojevic

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Keeping the

music

going in lockdown

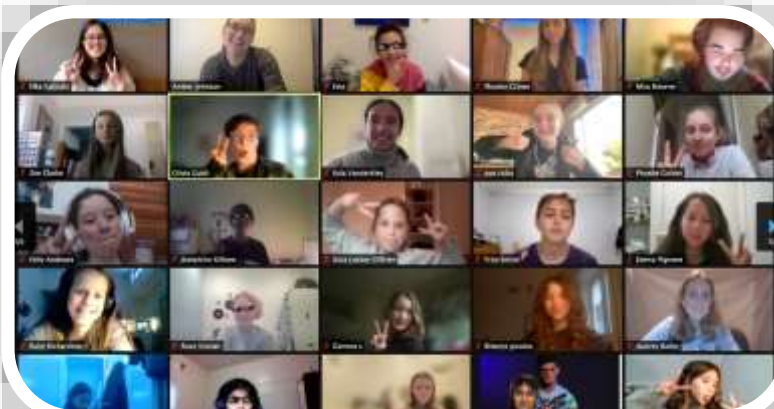
The music students, tutors and teachers have been showing immense creativity to continue our musical experiences in lockdown.

The NHSPA symphony orchestra is in the process of creating a virtual performance of the first movement from Mozart's Symphony #2 in G minor. Each student will record their instrumental part to a click track which is available via the Orchestra's Google Classroom. Using a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) such as BandLab, GarageBand, Cakewalk etc. They will then upload their audio file to Google Classroom and the various parts will be edited and arranged together to create a full orchestral performance. This will be a fabulous concerted effort that will have students producing fine music together in a virtual digital world. The final outcome will be published for all to enjoy.



The choirs have been working hard with their directors providing engaging Zoom sessions, and students working individually with learning tracks and other resources provided through Google Classroom. It's been amazing to see all the choristers work on their singing technique and gain confidence in their solo singing skills. It's a fun way to destress after the school day and we've even had a few pets join as guest choristers!

The Vocal and Instrumental Tuition programme has also pivoted to online learning. Tutors are successfully adapting to providing online lessons and are finding new technologies to facilitate quality learning and creative activities to engage students. Learning an instrument/voice has always been important to emotional and social health, not to mention the discipline and cognitive advantage it can provide. If you are interested in starting lessons please contact Deborah McGowan.

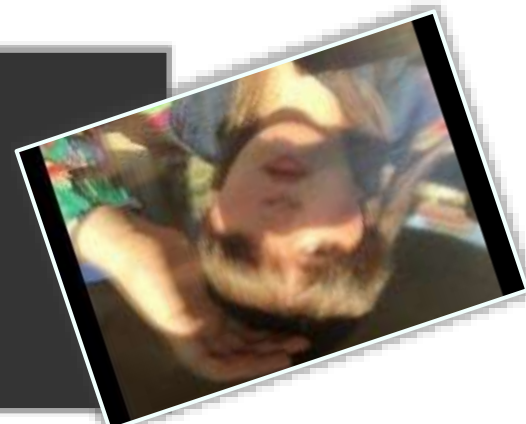


In these challenging times the enjoyment of playing and making music as well as keeping up the discipline of practicing, provides positive effects for the students now and into the future. Well done to all students and staff who have been involved in *keeping the music going during lockdown!*

As we also settle into working in creative ways in **Song Writing**, some students are also finding other creative avenues. Farrah Dise in Year 9 and Sienna Langenheilm in Year 10 have just released their entries for Triple J's 'Unearthed High'. If you are wanting to take a listen and support their efforts you can access this via the links below:

<https://www.triplejuneearthed.com/artist/farrahdise>

<https://www.triplejuneearthed.com/artist/sienna-langenheim>



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Dance

Congratulations to all the wonderful dancers who have been engaged and working hard online this term! Many dancers have also continued taking online Ballet Sport classes on Tuesdays and it's fantastic to see everyone working away in all their different available spaces.

Company and Ensemble members would have recently received an email providing access to the professional semester 1 Dance Showcase photos. Please take a look and feel free to purchase through the site.

Year 7 have been introduced to Dance Composition learning about the Elements of Dance that make up choreography. They are now beginning to learn more about strength and flexibility and how these apply to everyday life. Well done year 7! Keep up your great work!



Year 8 were introduced to one of the world's best choreographers 'Nacho Duato' this term. Through their study of his work 'Jardi Tancat' they are learning to analyse and evaluate dance 'works' of art. Year 8 Classical Ballet have been learning repertoire over zoom and have been introduced to nutrition for peak performance. Well done year 8!

Year 9 and 10 have been extremely creative in continuing their choreographic skills this term. They have been working to compose movement that is site specific in response to a chosen area of their home. We can't wait to see what they come up with.

Classical Ballet and Dance Extension classes in year 9 and 10 have been learning performance choreography through zoom to keep up their skills along with Classical Ballet classes and repertoire guided by their class teachers.



Year 11 are undertaking their preliminary study of Dance composition over zoom and google classroom. They have been extremely dedicated to creating original movement and refining it in line with their 2 unit course syllabus. We are very proud of their dedication in this remote learning period - well done year 11!



A huge congratulations to year 12 who have completed their practical HSC trial exams over the past week. We are so proud of how you have applied yourselves over this difficult period and we are here to support you all the way... well done! Thank you to the composition dancers who were able to stay committed to helping the year 12's complete their trials too - well done!

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

The Visual Arts faculty are sending you all our best wishes in this crazy and trying time. Whilst lockdown and online learning has had it's challenges, we also feel that there have been many positives. We love our lunch breaks!! And can't wait to share some amazing learning with you, from students across all stages. Please have a look at our website here: <https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/nhspvisual-artselectives/home> and in particular our online learning 2021 page.

ART

We hope this covid edition of 'The Voice' finds you all well and safe - The Visual Arts Faculty.

Year 7



Dylan



Cooper S

Juliette



Daniel H



Choa J

Year 8 - Photo Paint & Print



Mila Smith



Imogen Linklater



Guiseppina Braithwaite - painting progress and process



Billie



Cassidy



Alice

Year 8 - Film & Animation



Rafi - mood board & location scouting



Ayla

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

ART

continued...

Year 9 - Graphic Design



Alex W

Millie Y



Tex D-M

Year 9 - S tarstruck (has its own website: [click here](#))



Sophia Morley



Conor Parkinson-Brown



Taj Phillips-Wallace

Year 10



Lily H



Asha Snell



Arwen Beaven

Year 9—NAIDOC week



Kip Robinson



Tex Dorratt-Mavin

Year 11



Jasmine J



Gaby F-P



Lulla F



Siobhan



Will B



Aisha M



Phoebe G



Willow D

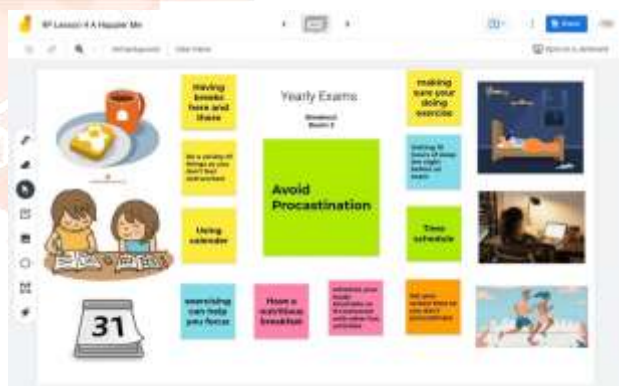
Year 11 - Photography

VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

PDHPE

During remote learning, PDHPE students have engaged with Jamboard, an online learning platform that allows students to collaborate ideas

Year 11 PDHPE students studying the 'First Aid' unit have demonstrated their application of various assessment procedures; DRSABCD and STOP to theoretical scenarios.



Year 9 students studying the unit 'A Happier Me' have also utilised the platform to promote positive strategies students can use to strengthen their Mental Fitness when faced with challenges, such as exams or auditions.

Special Guest Appearance!

On Monday 9th August, the Year 8 Sports Science elective had the pleasure of Cameron Girdlestone, Olympic Rowing Medalist, join their zoom for a Q and A. The students developed their own questions relating to rowing whilst also linking it to the content they had learnt in Term 1 and 2. The students were very excited to meet Cameron and dressed in the appropriate green and gold attire. The experience was a nice change to remote learning and allowed the class to hear the perspectives of a professional athlete negotiating training and performing during COVID and lockdown.

Keeping Fit

Whilst completing 'Fitness Choices' Year 11 PDHPE have been enjoying engaging in online workouts using the Vodshow App. The 20 minute workouts allow students to physically explore movements related to content and discuss the use of various exercise settings and individual and group activities keeping us motivated during remote learning.



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

from the NHSPA Symphony Orchestra...

During this tricky time of lockdown and online learning one of the biggest losses is live music performance - both in the classroom and the concert stage. We were very lucky to have scraped in some performances earlier this year. One of the highlights was of course the concert with renowned Greek artist Dimitri Basis and we've been reliving our last performance. Here is a small snippet from the second half of the concert featuring the symphony orchestra and accompanying choir (directed so wonderfully by Ynping Mak). Special shout out to Izabelle Zammit for the beautifully sung soprano solo. It was a seriously great night - an over flowing full house - great lights and sound - wonderful memories. **Watch here!**



Unfortunately (but understandably) our concert at Sydney Town Hall had to be cancelled so the orchestra has tried to create an online digital performance of the first movement from Mozart's Symphony No. 25 in G minor. Students have recorded their part along with the click track and then the recordings have been combined together. If you'd like to listen to where we are at so far **Click Here**

We are all looking forward to getting back together and to start making music again. Until then, our students should keep practicing and developing their technique and facility. If an orchestral member has yet to add their recording - it's never too late. Keep safe and cheers.

South China Sea Dispute Conclusion – Alec Ceci, Year 8 Geography

This terrible dispute has occurred because of how many big Countries are located around the amazing South China Sea, this Sea has the most trade on ships for the entire world out of all the Seas, this Sea has loads of oil and gases for economies, this Sea has many islands featuring many reefs, coasts and more importantly lots of fishing spots. This Sea offers so much to all the Countries around it and it's too much that everyone became greedy and led into a massive fight/war containing fleets, ships, and nuclear weapons. It first started as a dispute between China and the Philippines because the Philippines complained that Chinese patrol boats had harassed Philippine oil exploration vessels in disputed waters near the Spratlys. Some countries are too involved, some countries need to get involved, some countries are too greedy and some countries need to stand up for themselves. These countries need to think with their brains and they need to collaborate/work together. If individuals, communities, and leading organizations take their role seriously then this tragic dispute can end! Also the poor and rich are often separated over water.

Here is the China nine-dash line which has a big impact on the South China Sea dispute:



Snippets from...
Year 8 Geography

Mekong River Dispute – Vietnam Country Profile – Gloria Hanna, Year 8 Geography

VIETNAM COUNTRY PROFILE

Vietnam, formally known as the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, a country located in Asia, specifically Southeast Asia and has a population of around 97 million people. The capital of this country is Hanoi and the official language of Vietnam is Vietnamese. Many people see this country as the shape of the letter S; it curves around its neighbouring countries, which include China, Laos and Cambodia. There are many rivers in Vietnam but some of Vietnam's major rivers include the Red River, the Ma River, the Perfume River and the Mekong River. The Mekong River is a major and vital part of Vietnam as it provides a major source of many resources including many agricultural aspects of the country like farming and fishing, 70% of Vietnam's tropical fruits like bananas, durian, jackfruit, sapodilla, papaya, mango, tangerine, dragon fruit, cashew, litchi, rambutan, guava and many other fruits as well as 60% of the country's rice. So as pointed out Vietnam's access to water from the Mekong River is a major part of how many Vietnamese people live through their day to day lives. During this dispute, Vietnam has fought for their rights to the access of water from the Mekong River just like Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and Cambodia, Vietnam makes their main points by showing evidence of the impact the Mekong River has on their country and why it is such a major part of Vietnam.



VOICES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

SCIENCE WEEK 2021

We may be in lockdown, but we still managed to celebrate **Science Week 2021**. This year's theme was "food, different by design". With Year 8 looking at body systems, and in particular, the digestive system, it was a great opportunity to look at healthy and sustainable food options. Some students redesigned a meal they cooked to include five different ways to make it healthier or more sustainable. Some of the meals looked absolutely delicious! There were also a couple of competitions including a Science Week kahoot, treasure hunt and best joke award. So many to choose from, but here's a few to coax a smile out of you during lockdown (hopefully I don't have to explain them!)

A photon checks into a hotel and is asked if he needs any help with his luggage. He says, "No, I'm traveling light."

What do you call an atom with a split personality? A nuclear bomb.

I was reading a book on helium. I couldn't put it down.

Did you hear oxygen and potassium went on a date? It went OK.



NHSPA
careers

From Ms George to
Year 12 during
their TRIALS and
TRIBULATIONS!

