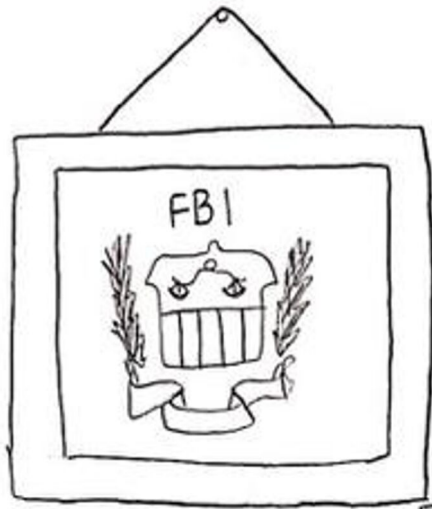


Meanwhile at the Pentagon....



THE NHJS COMMUNIQUE



So what's a
Naruto run?



EXTRATERRESTRIAL: BEYOND BOUNDARIES

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Dear PIAGETIANS,
Hey guys! The NH Communiqué is back with another issue to start off the school year. We've got a new team of brilliant writers and artists who are ready to provide the greatest journalistic content for you all to enjoy. So make sure to grab a copy and plunge into the diverse array of articles in this issue, ranging from the Area 51 raid to a near-death experience encountered by a Y10 student.

Happy reading everyone!

Your editor,
Putri

NH Communique Adviser:
Ms Mara Barbra S.
Nanaman

Meet the Team!



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Source: Las Vegas Review Journal



Lately, there's been a bizarre trend of social media users calling for the raid of a highly classified United States Air Force base: Area 51. Imagine seeing about two million people barge into the gates of the infamous base completely powerless compared to the heavily armed military officers inside the base. Well, you probably can't, but that's what everyone has been raving about on social media.

If you've been scrolling through Instagram, Facebook or Twitter these past few weeks, you've probably seen a growing spread of Area 51 jokes and memes. This trend stemmed from a Facebook event titled "Storm Area 51, they can't stop all of us". The goal of the raid is to supposedly "see them aliens" or simply find out the truth about the classified military base believed to be experimenting on extraterrestrial creatures or aliens. The raid is planned to be executed by breaking into the air force base with brute force. Two million people have signed up for the Area 51 raid and over one million have marked the event as 'interested.'

The highly classified United States Air Force base in the Nevada desert known as Area 51 has long been a controversial topic. The rumours take us all the way back to the 1950s which saw a few reports of UFOs (unidentified flying objects) emerging from residents living near the surrounding area of Area 51.

However, Area 51 still did not attract much attention until the 70s and 80s. More reports of sightings came up and former Area 51 workers told the press that while working in the restricted military base, they were asked to design and build "alien" looking spaceships. In fact, an ex-Area 51 worker, Bob Lazar, claimed in 1989 that while working in Sector four of Area 51, he was contacted by the government to work with an "alien spacecraft" that the government had in its possession.

Now that you know the history of Area 51, this brings us to the questions of who will be impacted by the raid, whether people are actually serious about joining it, and what the US government is going to do about it. A small town in Nevada named Rachel is home to ninety-eight people, four businesses and one motel. The town is preparing to house over two million people. Rachel's only motel has fourteen rooms and it is fully booked from eighteen to twenty September meaning that the remaining Area 51 invaders have to camp in the surrounding areas. The town's law enforcement is also warning and advising people to not swarm Area 51 because in the case of an emergency, first responders cannot get to Area 51 quickly due to its remote location.

In terms of how serious people are about this raid, people have been buying tents, renting trailers and booking surrounding hotels and motels. There is also a festival that is going to be held on the exact date of the raid near Area 51. The festival's name is Alienstock, which will feature camping spots, EDM, art installations and pop-up artists.

The US government is taking this raid seriously and has even issued an official meeting in the United States Air Force.

"Area 51 is an open training range for the U.S. Air Force, and we would discourage anyone from trying to come into the area where we train American armed forces," Laura McAndrews, a spokesperson for the USAF, told the Washington Post. "The U.S. Air Force always stands ready to protect America and its assets."

In this goofy and unpredictable world, whether the raid will actually happen on the twentieth of September is still a mystery and anybody's guess is as good as mine. The Area 51 raid truly showcases the power of the internet and that we should be more careful about discerning all the information it has. With over two million people planning to join this event, it truly shows the unbelievable influence of social media in our world today. See you all in Area 51 - save the date!



Source: Forbes

Hold Your Breath

News Article

By: Putri Aimee Srijaya

Perhaps some CCAs such as debate with Ms Mara or coding with Mr Stanley will not deprive you of oxygen. One CCA, scuba diving, however, brings you to the deep trenches of the sea where you will catch sight of breathtaking scenery, and in some cases like Jessica's, also get your breath taken away. Literally. Here is how Jessica from Year 10 survived a near-death experience not once, but twice, while attending a CCA.

The scuba diving participants had received their diving licenses after six sessions of training. It was finally time to head out and apply what they had been practicing for, in the actual waters of the ocean, far beyond the NH swimming pool.

However, after submerging twenty metres deep into the Anyer sea, Jessica found herself suddenly unable to breathe. In a frenzy, she removed her mouthpiece and put it back on. Instead of delivering a fresh dose of oxygen into her lungs, water rushed into her nostrils; water had entered the mouthpiece. She was immediately suffocated and started choking, holding her back at a considerable distance from the other divers.

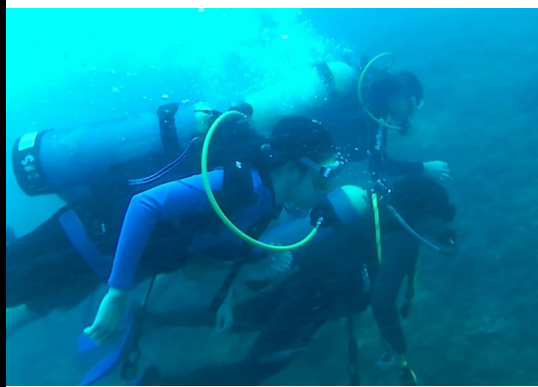
"[My tank was] Empty! Twenty metres down! I was so scared." exclaimed Jessica. Her tank had a hole in it, resulting in the rapid draining of its oxygen supply.

"Unfortunately, on the boat she was very excited so she didn't check her equipment seriously," Mr Eddie explained.

Frantically waving in hopes of garnering the attention of anyone, Jessica noticed that it was not working. She tapped Mr Eddie who happened to be within her arm's reach. He advised her to relax, but she could not. Fortunately, Jessica's ability to inhale excessive amounts of oxygen gave her the capacity to hold her breath for a longer period of time.

Mr Eddie immediately initiated the buddy breathing protocol where he put his mask over her mouth to give her access to oxygen from his tank. Yet another problem arose when she was about to rise to the surface of the water. She was going up too quickly.

"The thing is, when you're 20 metres down, you can't go [up] really quickly, or your lungs will explode (nitrogen gas will expand tremendously)." Jessica recalled. "I (tried to go) up really quickly... Laoshi Eddie pulled me down. But still, my vest was filled with air. He tried to pull me down, but I was still going really fast. My lungs could [have] burst. I could've died if laoshi didn't pull me down."



According to omegadivers.com, if a diver ascends too quickly, the nitrogen gas in his body will expand at such a rate that he is unable to eliminate it efficiently, and the nitrogen will form small bubbles in his tissues. This is known as decompression sickness or the bends, and can be very painful, lead to tissue death, and even be life-threatening.

You would think that after this traumatising experience, Jessica would never ever go near any sort of body of water again. Despite this, she jumped right back into the waters to give diving another shot, just an hour after the group resurfaced.

This time, as soon as she plunged into the ocean, Jessica heard a whooshing sound.

She said, "I looked up, because [you know] the whooshing sound? I thought it was a wave."



Out of nowhere, Mr Eddie instructed her to remove her mouthpiece and again share his mouthpiece. Mr Eddie signed for her to not fret and stay calm. She abided by the instructions and went with her partner, along with an instructor to the surface.

Turns out, there was no incoming tide or stream of water. The bubbles were coming from her tank that was escaping at an abnormally quick pace because of an apparent hole in it. She was inauspiciously the only one with a faulty oxygen

"I'm so freaking unlucky, like the first time I suffocate, the second one I [had a] leaky [tank]." Jessica recounted. Although she mentions that now, the seemingly immortal Jessica actually went down for a third time. Now, she used a different vest and tank that were a size bigger than hers. Ignoring the loose fitting gear, she explored the oceans one last time, finally getting to snap some photos.

Notwithstanding Jessica's unfortunate experience, there are still those who signed up for the Diving CCA this term. According to Ms Mara who just received her license via the school's after-school diving programme and who dove with Jessica last November 2018, "Admittedly, diving is not without a lot of risks. You must be very responsible and aware the whole time and not panic when things go sideways underwater. This is actually a challenge for me because diving triggers my anxiety. But the key is to never dive by yourself, always with a group with an experienced diving guide or instructor. Also, never go far from your diving buddy. Jessica was really brave and was amazingly upbeat about what happened to her but the reason she was safe despite all that was because she was diving with a group of experienced divers like Laoshi Eddie and our instructor Pak Kardi."

"Any sports have a risk, that's why we have to really learn and keep practicing," emphasises Mr Eddie.



BLACKOUT BONKERS!



Source: JP/Jerry Adiputra

What were you doing on Sunday, 4 August at around 11.50 a.m? Maybe you just woke up from a really long and much needed sleep. Maybe you were having lunch in the mall with your family. Perhaps you were even in your car on the way to go somewhere. Wherever you were or whatever you were doing, surely, you must've experienced the sudden loss of all electricity and mobile phone signal. You probably freaked out from being suddenly plunged into darkness (especially if you were in the mall or a windowless room) or from how your Instagram suddenly bewilderingly refused to load new memes even though you definitely have enough data. Did it worry you to find out that everyone else in Jakarta and in fact, Banten, West Java and parts of Central Java was experiencing the same dilemma?

You probably still remember the misery experienced throughout that day caused by the largest blackout in Indonesia since 2008. Suffering the pervasive August heat in Jakarta with barely any air conditioning, not being able to watch Pewdiepie's new Minecraft video due to the loss of Wi-Fi or even trying to finish your school assignments in the dark. The list of issues goes on and on. A blackout in a very-electricity dependent metropolis like Jakarta is not fun at all.

The massive power outage left Jakarta and many other cities with no electricity for more than six hours until well into the evening and even until the next morning in some areas. Entire cities were plunged into chaos as traffic lights and trains stopped functioning for the day. Numerous passengers were forced to leave commuter trains and the MRT as the blackout disturbed the transportation services.

Severe traffic congestion arose in many places as traffic lights stopped working throughout the day, forcing ordinary citizens to help direct the traffic at intersections.

With millions of homes left with no power, shopping malls and hotels soon turned into an ocean of people, as if Tiger Sugar just opened 5 stalls in every mall, as a multitude of people decided to seek refuge in such places. Furthermore, many households even had no clean water as there was no electricity that was needed to pump clean water. To add on to the list of jeopardies, businesses were also impacted as banking services such as online payments at mall stores stopped functioning. Some had no choice but to wait in long lines to withdraw cash from ATM machines, which were also going through some problems due to the power outage, as their credit cards were declined by EDC devices at mall vendors.

The state-owned electrical company eventually issued a statement saying how the blackout was caused by disturbances in electrical transmissions between the towns of Ungaran and Pemalang in Central Java, which led to another problem in transmissions between Depok and Tasik in West Java. These caused the blackouts in Banten, West Java, Jakarta and even some locations at Central Java.

Although, this seemingly apocalyptic incident only lasted for approximately a day, public reaction and the chaos caused surely seemed as if half of the world's population actually raided Area 51. Perhaps, we should just be grateful that such wild occurrences only happen very rarely and now, we can go back to peacefully watching Tik Tok videos and Pewdiepie crying over his Minecraft pets for three hours straight.

Student testimonies

"I was playing piano and eating" -Jaden Ng, Y71

"I was asleep." -Brian Mualim, Y10G

"The blackout made my day very unproductive as I could barely do anything with no electricity." -Cintana Yingwattanathaworn, Y10E

SCHOOL POLICIES

Opinion Piece

By: Nadine Kei Inara

School policies were essentially established to create a safe and effective learning environment, in which students, teachers and staff practice socially acceptable behaviour. They are implemented to benefit the school community, but in my opinion, not all school policies actually do so.

Most of the school policies here at NationalHigh are quite different from those in other schools. NationalHigh school policies are often seen as more 'rigid' or 'strict'. Take for example, dyeing our hair. If a teacher catches students with their hair dyed, then they will make us dye it back to our original colour, usually black. Whereas in other schools, students having dyed hair is a common privilege and is considered normal.

Based on an informal survey conducted among secondary students, these policies are seen as unfair and unnecessary. When a teacher sees a student going against the rules, the student gets reprimanded, scolded or punished. And the teacher usually says something along the lines of "you must face the consequences of your actions", "you know the school doesn't allow this" or "you should understand that this rule was made for your own benefit".

Sometimes, they may explain why. For example, if you use your phones to play games during class hours, it was explained to us that playing games on your phone will not help your learning and is disrespectful to the teacher. This is understandable, but more often than not, the reason behind some school policies that students find unreasonable are not explained well. This is why I do not believe that certain policies should stay.

Why are we not allowed to stay in our classrooms during break or lunch times, or if there are no teachers present? One teacher said that we are not permitted to stay in the classrooms because if natural disasters strike (knock on wood), there will not be a teacher to help us. Another teacher said that a case of theft may take place. Yet another teacher tells us that accidents, such as injuries will happen and fights may possibly occur.



"No, you can't stay in the classroom during break time!"

"No, boys can't have long hair!"

"No, you can't dye your hair!"

SCHOOL POLICIES

Opinion Piece

By: Nadine Kei Inara



All these reasons, though may be deemed as valid by some, are questionable. Firstly, in the event of a natural disaster, students can easily carry out the safety procedures of 'duck, cover and hold' and evacuate the building. Moreover, accidents and fights also occur in the hallways. Staying in the classroom when no teacher is present, especially during break or lunch times gives students the opportunity to complete their assignments and study for their subjects or exams in the comfort of their desks. This gives them the ability to be productive and study comfortably, instead of having to do so in cramped, crowded hallways with a high risk of getting their books stepped on or stained by sweet drinks. Rather than having to sit on the uncomfortable floor that has been the victim of many spilled food, drinks and vomit remnants, students could sit down on their chairs when they stay in the classroom. These are just a few of the many benefits that come with letting students to stay in the classroom when there are no teachers.

Why are we not allowed to change our hairstyles, specifically dye it and have long hair for boys, as we please? The only explanation we received from a teacher regarding dyed hair is that during Ujian Nasional, the students taking it cannot have dyed hair and boys are not allowed to have long hair. If found with dyed hair or long hair for the boys, it will go into the government records of the school. This is understandable but Ujian Nasional is not a year-long examination, it only spans weeks at most. Furthermore, it does not involve all grade levels either.

Some may argue that dyed hair is distracting and affects students' learning. This is true, to some extent. Take for example a student who dyes their naturally brown hair black as opposed to a student with naturally blonde hair. In this case, the blonde student's hair would be more distracting. Thus, we cannot conclude that dyed hair itself is distracting, but rather bright hair colours. At the very least, students should be allowed to dye our hair to a neutral colours, such as brown.

Perhaps our school is just preparing us for this world full of rules and procedures, where we're constantly told what to do and what to not, and where there are very real and dire consequences to breaking rules and laws. Perhaps the real world doesn't even give us space to complain. Whatever they're doing this for, I guess my only advice is to dye your hair during the summer or winter holidays, and revert back to that brown once school starts, making sure to stay in the hallways during break and lunch.

Adultcentrism (noun) - the exaggerated egocentrism of adults, including the belief that an adult perspective is inherently better

In the hierarchy of today's society, teens are often viewed as inferior to adults. We're constantly put down, shut off from conversations, and told to just accept our elder's words as the ultimate truth and move on. It's almost as if we are all merely irresponsible, hormonal non-adults, incapable of taking charge of important matters. However, from what we have seen in the news and even how teens are portrayed in the media lately, this is obviously not the case.

Take Emma Gonzalez for instance. A 19 year-old activist and gun control advocate, she co-founded the group Never Again MSD; which started the March For Our Lives movement that demands change for gun control laws. Another force to be reckoned with is Swedish teen activist Greta Thunberg who began advocating climate change and inspiring millions around the world when she was just fifteen years old, the average age of NH's secondary population.

If we are expected to act like responsible adults, then why not treat us like one? The school assumes that because perhaps 10% of the student population misuse their phones in class, the entirety of the student body would follow suit. One group of students does not represent the entire school population. The same goes for the "no drinking beverages in class" rule. You'd think that with our 15 years of life experience, we would be responsible enough to clean up or call the cleaner if we spilled our drinks in class.

Around the world, students have been addressing world issues some grown ups don't even think about. On the fifteenth of March, 2019, hundreds of thousands of students across around 125 countries abandoned their classes for the sake of going out on the streets and demanding action to combating global warming. Since then, students all around the world have been taking a stand. In fact, another demonstration is set to happen very soon on the twentieth of September this year.

Since school is all about teaching us to take responsibility for our actions, then by all means impose consequences on those who break the rules, but don't punish those who did nothing wrong. Instead of prohibiting everyone from using their gadgets, only take away the phones that have been misused. When a mess is made in class, teach us how to clean it up instead of running away from the problem and banning beverages in class completely. Provide an online platform where all students can give their opinions at any time of the year, not just at that one time where student surveys are done. As expected, teens are not just looked down upon in the school environment. At home, parents sometimes unknowingly take away their teen's rights to make decisions for themselves. When it comes to choices specific to the teen's life, such as their friends, career path, and love life, they should be allowed to make those decisions themselves.

Most Asian parents want their children to go into the stereotypical "successful" majors; medicine, law and engineering. But at the end of the day it is not their choice to make. Parents understandably want what's best for their children, but sometimes it's time for them to hand over the reigns and let their kids write dictate their own lives. It is after all the teen's life we are talking about, not theirs.

As Adam Osborne once said, "The most valuable thing you can make is a mistake, you can't learn anything from being perfect". For all the parents out there, even the little things count in giving your child more control such as deciding where to go on a holiday, where to eat, what school to go to, what hobbies they get to pursue, and many many more.

While it is true that some adults may have more experience than teenagers, that does not give them an automatic pass assume what they're saying is indeed the optimal way to go about things.

So much has changed since they lived their own teenage lives decades ago. A life in the 1990s is incomparable to a life in 2019 which us teens live in now. Since adults seem to love the phrase "when I was your age" so let us use it here shall we? When the Generation X were our age, social media had not taken over, global warming was not a haunting close future, terrorism wasn't a constantly looming threat we have to look over our shoulders for, and far much more to say the least.

If you're a teenager and you feel like you're being put down, just know that you are still right and your opinions do matter. Find an outlet to let your frustrations out on; write your feelings down, write a song, talk to a close friend. Whether you've lived on this earth for four years or four decades, you deserve to say what you think is right. For now, just hear everyone out, but remember that in the end no one writes the story of your life but you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUSTAINABILITY CLUB

Introducing you all to: Sustainability@NHJS, NationalHigh's first sustainability club! Founded last year by Andhika Tirtawisata, Caitlyn Prabowo and Richelle Hanusi, which aims to raise environmental awareness and promote sustainable lifestyles through simple steps such as recycling and segregation.

Wouldn't it be cool if NH's garden waste could be used as fertiliser? Well, that's exactly what the club is doing through composting! Sustainability@NHJS figured that the club could also reduce the amount of waste the school sends to landfills through Eco-Drive, where all of your scratch papers and used bottles will be recycled into other products. Also, the club is hoping that soon enough, disposable plastics won't be a thing in NHJS anymore through a zero-plastic initiative.

So, come and be a part of the cause! Drop by the Y12 classroom or DM the Instagram at @sustainability_nhjs to get your metal and bamboo straws, and make sure not to miss the cute T-shirts and stickers the club will be selling!

For anyone who wants to volunteer or design merchandise: don't hesitate to approach Jasmine (Y9) or Andhika (Y12) or just slide into the club's DMs at @sustainability_nhjs. Duties will include monitoring the compost pile and collecting Eco-Drive boxes! Sustainability@NHJS warmly welcomes you all.

Stay tuned to find out more about future projects!



KOKO

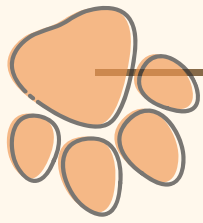


Hello, students!

If you all don't already know, this academic year's musical production will be 'KOKO', an Indonesian twist on Disney's wildly loved and appreciated animated movie, Coco! To add to the excitement, KOKO will be NationalHigh's very first student-led musical! We, the Koko Production Team, will be in charge of all the aspects of the production—the visuals, script, directing, marketing and music! We hope that you all will continuously support us and look out for our work. For updates on rehearsals, artwork and others, please follow our Instagram @nhjsproductions!

The musical itself will be held on the 7th of March 2020, Saturday. We hope you'll be there to watch the product of our hard work!

Neo Narmada & Ferril Sucahyono
NH Drama Club



STUDENT PET APPRECIATION



Submit photos of your pets to : nhcommunique@gmail.com
(specify name, age, and breed)



Bucky

1 YEAR OLD
MINI RED
POODLE



Bubble

8 YEARS OLD
SHIH TZU



Bruno

2 YEARS OLD
PUG



7 YEARS OLD
LABRADOODLE

Amity

