

KANG CHIAO SPOTLIGHT

Issue 13



Digital Citizenship - Being Safe, Responsible and Respectful Online

~ Roland Claassen

Teaching Coordinator, International Department



Digital citizenship is an area that educators and administrators have to continue to promote and develop within classrooms. As so many tasks done today involve the use of technology, it is our responsibility to cover the fundamentals of digital citizenship so that students are safe and secure, as well as smart and effective participants in the digital world. This year we have made it our mission to make digital citizenship skills a part of our curriculum,

especially because we do so much project work that requires students to do research, to collaborate using online tools and perhaps even be involved in social media. Technology is a powerful learning tool. However, to make the best of this amazing tool we would like our students to use it safely, responsibly and respectfully. KCIS has developed a Digital Citizenship Policy and Agreement to outline those responsibilities and expectations that we have when students use technology in our school. We ask students and their families to review and sign this agreement every year they attend KCIS.

What does it mean to be safe?

Being on the internet is tons of fun but it does have its dangers and risks and we would like our students to be safe online. The first thing we emphasize when helping students set up their Google accounts is the importance of keeping personal information safe and not giving out their name, telephone number or passwords to anyone who they just met online.

What does it mean to be responsible?

The internet is open to all kinds of information and when students research for a project it's important for them to know which sites they can trust and which sites they cannot. It's also important for them to properly cite sources or use their own words to explain information they find on the internet. In grade 5, students have limited access to explore the web in order to ensure a safe environment for learning basics and fundamentals of internet research. As students move to grade 6 we allow more freedom as we open up the options for students to explore. However, with more freedom comes more responsibility!



What does it mean to be respectful?

Just like in real life, using the internet involves interacting and collaborating with other people, so educating our students to interact appropriately in collaborative online discussions is imperative. We have many projects that require students to leave comments for their peers so we encourage them to consider how they and others might feel after they've posted something. It's not always easy to take back what you've said online, and your online behavior can create a lasting imprint.

We want our students to continue to be curious creators who enjoy connecting with the world in purposeful ways. Let's help guide them to build a positive digital footprint as they explore the online world both inside and outside of the classroom. You never know what amazing opportunities could come of it!



From the Editor

Happy Holidays

國際處主任 賴國宜

With the increasing use of technology, the issue of digital ethics becomes more important. Mr. Claassen's article states how we teach responsible and appropriate technology usage. Besides air, there is nothing more essential to life than water. According to UNESCO, 3.6 billion people worldwide (nearly half the global population) are already living in potential water-scarce areas at least one month per year and this could increase to 4.8–5.7 billion in 2050. In the grade 6 *Water Scarcity Project*, students discussed the causes of fresh water shortages and looked for solutions to the problem. By exploring this world issue, we hope to broaden the students' view and prepare them to be responsible global citizens.

Christmas is around the corner and this year we extended our celebration to the entire month of December with Advent Calendar Activities, Christmas Stockings for Teachers and a Donation Drive. While celebrating the holiday, children also learn to be more caring and grateful. I would like to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

隨著資訊科技運用程度的增加，如何引導學生合宜合法的使用數位訊息，顯得格外重要，教學組長Roland Claassen闡述「數位公民」的重要意涵，帶您進一步了解我們如何培養學生正確使用資訊科技的態度和觀念。

由於氣候變遷與人口增加等因素，全球水資源短缺的問題日益嚴重，聯合國教科文組織已將水資源問題列為未來的全球危機之一。六年級的孩子化身缺水問題最嚴重國家的水利署官員，分析問題發生的原因和後果，並提出最迫切的解決方案。此專題讓孩子能更深刻的認識水資源議題，並且培養關懷世界的態度。

為了讓孩子能感受到更濃厚的節慶氛圍，今年我們以倒數月曆(Advent Calendar)將聖誕節活動擴及到整個12月，六樓走廊整排美麗的聖誕襪，裡面裝滿了孩子們利用下課時間，主動寫給老師們的祝福和感謝小卡片，希望在溫馨的歲末時刻，孩子們不只享受歡樂的節慶，也學會感恩和關懷。

最後祝福所有康橋家庭一起度過溫馨的耶誕佳節，並迎接嶄新的一年。



Preparing Students to be Global Citizens: Grade 6 Water Scarcity Project



~ Helen Lin
English Teacher, International Department

Throughout the ages, people have always formed communities. We work together to support the values of the communities in which we live. With the advent of technological advances, which has completely transformed the ways we interact with others, our previous sense of community has broadened. As teachers, how can we help our students to gain the skills and personality traits that will allow them to work effectively with others in the global community?

Discovering the effects of water scarcity on people

To help students gain a sense of their role as a global citizen, teachers must connect them to resources that will give them better insight into global concerns. While reading a persuasive text about water scarcity, students identified the four primary causes of water scarcity in the United States: geographical location, uneven distribution, weather, and pollution.

Extending from the text, our grade six teachers showed students a global water stress map, which led the students to gradually realize that water scarcity is not only a local but a global issue. To better understand the serious impacts of this worldwide problem, students watched videos about communities suffering from a lack of water resources. Some students were surprised to learn that children in Kenya walk miles each day to fetch water, and their search for water often forces them to miss school.

Identifying root causes of water scarcity

Using prior knowledge from the text and information in videos, students collaboratively organized possible causes and effects of water scarcity in their target countries on a mind map. Some students attributed the water scarcity problem in Kenya to uneven distribution, while others believed that global warming is the real culprit. Meanwhile, students representing China predicted that the water scarcity problem is going to take a toll on farmers' crops in the near future. Students who focused on Spain became concerned when they realized that water scarcity may even pose the threat of war.



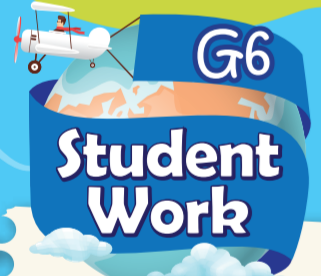
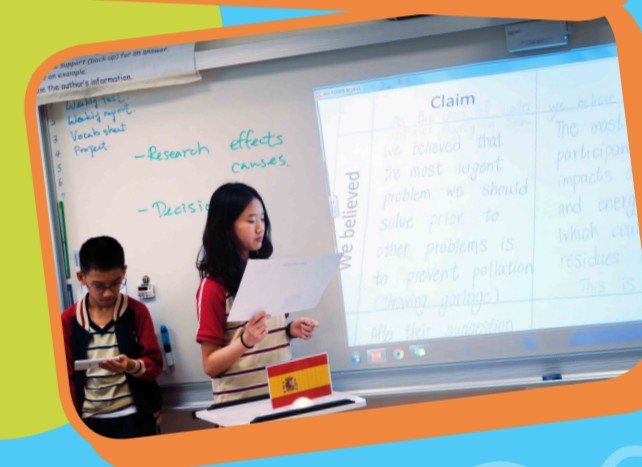
After forming these predictions, students checked them against credible information from Internet sources. They confirmed or rejected their predictions based on factual evidence. Each group worked on adding more supporting evidence to the cause-effect chains they had previously worked on, which allowed them to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the water scarcity problem in their target countries.

Next, students examined the mind map meticulously with the goal of prioritizing problems contributing to or stemming from water scarcity. Each group worked collaboratively to determine the most urgent problem in their target countries, be it a cause or effect of water scarcity, and made a claim to convince others that the chosen problem must be solved prior to all others. Students made their decision based on these two criteria: the root problem of the causes or the severity of the effects. Along with their claim, students provided evidence to prove that the problem in question required immediate attention; they also had to further explain why the evidence supports their claim.

Debating global issues

At the end of the discussion, students shared their decisions with the class. The teacher encouraged everyone who listened to assess these decisions from the perspectives of those living in the target countries of study. Some of the decisions received support and approval, while other groups' decisions were met with opposing views. When challenged, students defended their claims when they could. Those who could not, realized they needed more convincing evidence.

In this water scarcity project, students learned to *communicate effectively* about a real world problem and the course of action required. Using their research information, students were able to confidently state their claim, give solid evidence, and provide logical reasoning. More importantly, this project taught students a valuable lesson—that of *empathy by taking perspective*. It allowed students to look at the world through the lens of those who are less advantaged in some way, which is often a vital first step towards compassionate action.



The Global Water Crisis

High and Dry in China

Kloe Tsai 蔡家艾 602

Water shortage is a serious problem. The usable water on Earth is becoming less and less, but the population is exploding. Water pollution, air pollution, global warming and explosive population growth are some causes to the global water crisis. We now can't take water for granted. For example, China is a country that suffers from a water shortage.

There are many causes of the water shortage in China, including water pollution and an exploding population. In China, water pollution is a serious problem because some factories in China keep dumping trash and polluted water in rivers. However, the government doesn't have a proper way to catch the factories that dump trash. China's exploding population is also very serious because China is home to 7% of the freshwater supply, but it also holds 20% of the world's population.

As a result of the water shortage problem in China, people have less water to drink, so they might die from hunger or from drinking polluted water. According to my research, hundreds of millions of people are getting ill every year or dying from pollution in China. When people have less water to drink or use, they might fight for water. Because of this, more people might die!

After discussing, my group believes that water pollution is the most urgent problem to solve in China. Some factories keep dumping trash, polluted water, or poisonous chemicals into rivers. However, the government doesn't know which factories are polluting the water, so they can't stop the polluting. It makes water sources poisonous and freshwater less, so there isn't enough water for the people in China to use. If the farmers don't have enough water to plant crops, we don't have enough food to eat, and some people might die from hunger. This is why we believe that water pollution is the most urgent problem to solve in China.

High and Dry in Egypt

Angelina Hsu 許庭瑜 603

People always think they will have enough water. If they need it, it will always be there, forever. Therefore, people start wasting water, like brushing their teeth while the tap is open. But, the carefree days are gone. Egypt, for example, is one of the countries that doesn't have enough water.

There are two main causes why there is a water shortage problem in Egypt. First, the population in Egypt is growing. Around 4,700 babies are born each week. Some professors said people might have at least three children in every family in 2020, and the population will double by 2050. Second, water pollution is also a very serious cause of the water shortage. The Nile River, which is the longest and the most important river in Egypt, has been polluted. 90% of the pollution comes from factories, and 10% comes from household chemicals, animals' dead bodies, and trash.

As a result of the water shortage in Egypt, people have less usable water. These days, there is only 20 cubic meters of water per Egyptian. Another effect of the water shortage in Egypt is that people are using polluted water. Research shows that 38 million people drink polluted water, and 15,000 people in Egypt die each year because of drinking and using the polluted water.

We believe that water pollution is the most serious problem that is causing a water shortage in Egypt. People throw pollutants that are used in the factories, such as heavy metals. Because of that, Egypt has less and less clean water that can be used. Thus, the price of clean water keeps going up, and many poor people can't get clean water. Water pollution means that Egyptians don't have enough clean water to use in their daily lives. The problems of the water shortage are very complicated, but if we don't waste water, and don't throw pollutants in rivers, maybe the pollution of water will be less, and we will have more clean water to use.

High and Dry in Spain

Emma Liao 廖昱喬 608

Water shortage is a serious problem for all countries in the world. People often underestimate the problem, but water shortage already affects people's lives. The water is distributed unevenly. Some people have enough water, but some people don't. Some people don't have clean water to drink or use. Countries have started to fight for water. A water shortage is usually caused by pollution including water pollution and air pollution. Many countries in the world are affected by a water shortage, and Spain is one of them.

Overuse is one of the main reasons why there is a water shortage in Spain. People in Spain waste hundreds of gallons of water per day. 75% of water was registered as water distributed for use in homes. Another reason for the water shortage is that the Abra River ran out of water supply. People in Spain wanted to pump more water from the Abra River, so the water in the Abra River has slowly declined.

The water shortage problem in Spain has some serious effects on its residents. First, people use polluted water because of the water pollution. People get sick or die if they drink the polluted water. Second, people have less usable water, so the water price is rising. In the last 20 years, Spain has lost 20% of its fresh water. People fight to get more water. Less usable water also destroys the ecosystem. If one ecosystem dies, all the animals that are related to it will die too, then more ecosystems die.

In conclusion, water pollution in Spain causes a lot of problems, such as less usable water. People can only use the water that is polluted. Spain has lost 20% of its water, so the water price has increased. People fight for the freshwater. If we don't solve the problem, many ecosystems will die, too. We should stop wasting water, or these problems may never be solved.

What's New?

- ★ It's Christmas time! There are many fun activities at school. Check out the Christmas Advent Calendar that the teachers prepared for you!
- ★ The final assessment is just around the corner. Stay focused and give it your best shot!



Making a Difference this Christmas!

Most of us wake up in the morning in a warm bed, have a nice breakfast and comfortably make our way to work or school in our own transportation. Sometimes we forget how privileged we are and how much we have to be thankful for. We forget that there are people in our community that would do anything for a nice meal and warm bed.

Our sixth graders are busy with their annual poverty project and after learning about the topic of poverty and the effects of poverty, students are motivated to make a difference in our community. They have decided to help a charitable organization named *Taiwan Fund for Children and Families*. TFCF is an international non-governmental organization that dedicates itself to award needy children and their families with welfare and benefits. Groups in grade 6 classes decided what they will collect for their donation drive and presented the topic of poverty and their idea for the donation drive to all classes from grades 2 to 5.



It's wonderful to see our sixth graders making a difference in the lives of low-income families during the holiday season.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's donation drive a big success by donating extra clothes, toys and stationery.



Help is always available to you! Drop your questions in the postbox outside the ID office at any time.

Dear Abby,
I go to many different classes after school and they make me very tired. I told my mom about it, but she is worried that if I don't go to these classes, I might fall behind. What should I do?

Thanks,
I'm Worn Out



Dear Worn Out,
It is exhausting to have to keep studying from morning till night. Your parents want you to become the best person that you can be. A good night's rest, healthy food, and wise time management is important. Have a nice talk with your mom and let her know about the classes you like and look forward to the most. Take some time out for a hobby that you enjoy and don't forget to have fun times. Always share how you feel with a family member or friend. You are not alone in this!

Love,
Abby



Muggles
News

Muggles News is organized by a group of KCIS students from the Reporter Club. We provide the latest and most exclusive reports on what is happening at KCIS.

Interview: Mr. Bergeron



By: Jubilee Yu and Fifi Chiang

Mr. Bergeron is an English teacher in Kang Chiao. His classroom is E509. He teaches grades 3 and 4. This is his second year teaching at KCIS. He likes to work in Kang Chiao because he likes teaching skills and he likes his co-workers.

Mr. Bergeron's hobby is hiking because living in the city makes him want to go out in nature. He thinks Taiwan's mountains are beautiful, especially Taroko.

Christmas Stockings for Teachers

By: Coco and Alisa

Christmas is coming soon! Did you know that KCIS is holding a special event for teachers? The ID office will put stockings with teachers' names on them, outside the ID office. Students can put cards in to thank their teachers for teaching them. Teachers will pick up the cards from the students on Christmas, which is December 25th. A lot of students didn't join this event last year. If you want to thank your teachers for teaching you, you should go write a beautiful thankyou card to your favorite English teachers. Merry Christmas to everyone!



Christmas Donation Drive

By: Bill, Brian and Ansel

Grade 6 students are holding a Christmas donation drive to help children in poverty. Poverty means not having enough resources for things you need to live. All the students in KCIS can participate in this special event. If you want to help the children in poverty, you can bring stuff you don't need and donate it, such as stationery, clothes, and toys. The things you donate shouldn't be wrapped, but you can put the donation in a bag. Also, the gifts cannot be broken. The donation ends on Tuesday, December 18th. Double-check if you have anything you don't need, and donate it before time runs out!

