

# EXPLORE!

## The St Michael's Geography Journal

WHAT IS  
HAPPENING  
AROUND  
THE WORLD?

What have  
we done this  
year?

**News, ideas,  
projects and  
more!**

Read this to find out more!

JULY 2017

# Introduction

Welcome to edition 3 of the St Michael's Geography magazine!

We have been busy in Geography over the last few months with some fieldtrips, both real and 'virtual,' and lots of interesting activities. Read on to find out more.

Thank you so much to everyone who has been involved in anything geographical, in class and extra-curricular, this year! We look forward to even more next year.

**\*Remember\*** It is your magazine so if there is any geographical news, event, theme or country that you would like to include, write an article about it.

We hope you enjoy reading it.



*Ms Folan*



*Miss Roberts*



*Mr Jankowski*

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# I GEOGRAPHY



To Geography,

What can I say?

Your never-ending love is out of this World, your knowledge is always the sun that brightens my day .

I cannot express how much I love you. It is bigger than the number of stars in the sky or grains of sand on Earth. Our conversations flow like the Nile River, day and night.

Although I only see you 3 times a week, I would not change you for anything, not History, Science, RE, because you are the one that gives me more butterflies than there are on Earth. You come 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in my life.

If I could describe you in one word, it would be perfection. No erosion could destroy us.

I will choose you for A-Level and GCSE, we can spend our lives together, you and me.

Sincerely,

Lauren Stewart, year 8.



# NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCE

RACHEL RWEHUMBIZA YEAR 7

Mount Etna is an active stratovolcano located on the east coast of Sicily, Italy. It lies above the plate margin between the African Plate and the Eurasian Plate.

Etna is Europe's highest and most active volcano and is famously known for its sudden, unpredictable eruptions.



*A map of Sicily*

Just on the sixteenth of March of this year Etna erupted. It 'pelted deadly, hot debris...Etna spewed magma from its south-east crater' says Rebecca Morelle, a science correspondent from BBC News. She and some colleagues were caught up in the eruption.

After a while, the lava mixed with boiling rocks, scorching boulders snow and ice causing a great explosion. Pieces here and there rained down in all directions. It was very difficult to see.

Luckily, there weren't any fatalities, and a volcanologist said 'it was the most dangerous incident he'd ever experienced at Etna, which he'd spent 30 years studying.' In terms as injuries, there weren't any serious injuries; the most was the volcanologist who had been hit in the head by a rock and dislocated shoulder of a guide. There were

some cuts, bruises and small burns.

In the footage recorded by a different correspondent, it was clearly a lucky escape for the news team. It just reminds us the danger nature can still inflict upon us.



*Mount Etna four days ago*



**To what extent is Bangalore representative of India as a whole?**



Bangalore - also known as Bengaluru - is a city situated in the

north of India – slightly closer to the India Ocean than to the centre of India. Since it is in India it is close to the equator and east of the prime meridian (an imaginary line from the North Pole to the South Pole). It is the capital of the state of Karnataka. The city shares a number of aspects in common with certain parts of India – particularly urban areas like cities – but less with rural areas. The dichotomies between urban and rural areas in India are a big factor shaping India’s growth into an MEDC.



Firstly, Bangalore like almost all of India has a diverse and interesting history. Up until 1537 AD the area Bangalore is presently located in was ruled by a succession of South Indian dynasties: the Western Gangas, the Cholas and the Hoysalas. It was in 1537 AD that a mud fort was built by an emperor called Kempe Gowda that the foundations of Bangalore were created. Over the following centuries it was captured by colonisers such as the Mongols and the British. It was home to a British military base until India’s independence in 1947. All of these events added to Bangalore’s culture as well as strengthen old traditions in the face of opposition to them. Due to globalisation cultures around the world are mixing more than ever. Some see old traditions as another culture to be added to the ‘global village’ but others believe it to be a hindrance with cultures clashing instead of mixing.



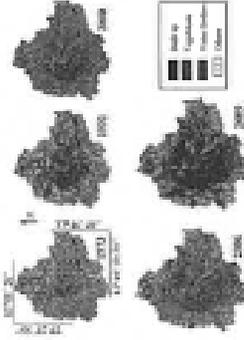
Today, however, Bangalore is no longer the prize of colonialists but the “Silicon Valley” of India. This title is unique to it and means that the city is very

*Silicon Valley Bangalore*



important to India's economy as well as a major factor in India's fast growth (which is the reason it is part of BRICS: Brazil, Russia India, China and South Africa). A lot of money is pouring into Bangalore from outside India and within . as the government prioritises it over rural areas. This is one of the aforementioned dichotomies between urban and rural areas. Resources are being turned away from farms - which have always been a risky business investment because of the monsoon - and put into infrastructure for the city like roads or schools. This can be seen as a good in that it raises the living standards in India particularly by improving education but, it also means that people are forced to migrate from rural areas to urban ones which is my next point.

Many people who used to work in farms are moving into places like Bangalore in hopes of obtaining a better life. Practically, however, although some will succeed, possibly by securing a well-paying job as a business manager, hotel manager or IT consultant, not all will. A report in 2015 showed that 1.4 million people sleep in the approximately 600 slums in Bangalore. Recently, the number of slums has been counted as 862 out of the 2000 in Karnataka. 42% of the households in the slums migrated from other parts of India and 43% have remained in the slums for over 10 years. Many are not ready to move into temporary centre. This is directly linked to rural to urban migration. Other places in India have slums like the massive Dharavi slum around Mumbai. These places are mostly large cities. It could be argued that life on a farm is better than life in a slum where diseases or fires



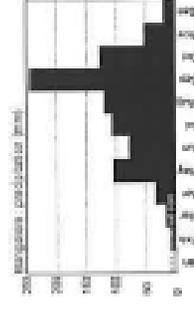
could spread easily and houses are makeshift and therefore unsafe. Big TNCs (transnational corporations) or soon to be TNCs in some cases explore workers for cheap work by enticing them into low paying, dangerous jobs like manufacturing clothes in improperly built factories. Slums themselves are becoming over populated and are constantly expanding which hardly makes anything better.



Bangalore has a population of 8.42 million people and growing due to migration from rural areas and high

birth rates (a common property of LEDCs). It is the third most populous city in India and the 18<sup>th</sup> most populous in the world. Being densely populated (especially in the slums) amenities such as water and food are a problem for some. Those who live closer to the centre of the city generally have more as the houses there are expensive for a reason. People in the slums located in and around the outskirts of the city. The city as a result of all of this is getting more and more built up over time and it is time that will tell if this urban expansion has a limit or can catch up with the growing population and slum creation.

Bangalore has a tropical savannah climate since its wet seasons are distinct from its dry seasons. Its elevation is high meaning that is has a moderate climate throughout the year. There are other places like the Western Ghats monsoon rainforest and the Thar deserts with much harsh climates. There are quite frequent thunderstorms. Occasionally, there are heatwaves in summer.



Like the rest of India, the majority of people in Bangalore are Hindu. They make up 78.87% of the population. After that come the religions Islam at 13.90%, Christianity at 5.61%, Jainism at 0.97% and other religion make up 0.65% of the population.



Bangalore PPP GDP has recently been estimated to be \$45-583 billion. It has been ranked the third to fifth most productive metro area in India. Much of its money comes from the IT sector.

To conclude, Bangalore has much in common with the rest of India. It has a rich culture, a fast growing economy, a large population, slums and a large Hindu populous. It is mostly representative of big cities in India - not the whole of the country. It particularly does not represent rural areas. We can, however, learn about the dichotomies between rural and urban areas and therefore a lot about India that way.

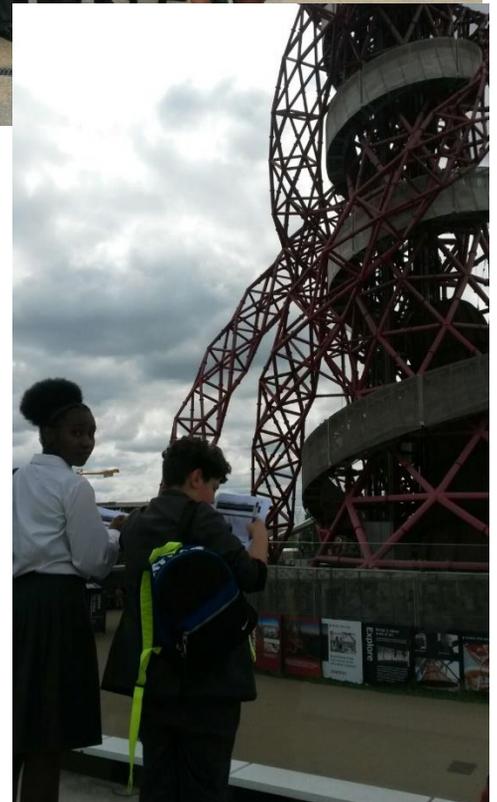


# Year 10 fieldtrip: Dorset

Year 10 went on a three day residential trip to Dorset, to research the coastal management. They worked hard, but saw some beautiful sights!



# Year 8 fieldtrip: Olympic Park



**REMEMBER! Bring your workbook to a Geography teacher and you could be in with a chance to win a prize!**

# Year 12 fieldtrip: Stratford



# Virtual Fieldtrip

Google came in to visit us in the Geography department with their virtual reality headsets. They visited most year groups and took the students around the world within the four walls of our classroom!



# NEWSROUND

## **Greece earthquake: 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

A strong earthquake struck off the Aegean coast of western Turkey and the Greek island of Lesbos, with tremors felt in Istanbul and Athens.

The epicentre of the 6.3 magnitude quake was 5km (3 miles) south of Plomari, a town on the coast of Lesbos, the US Geological Survey said.

Several buildings were damaged but the village of Vrissa was worst hit with 10 people taken to hospital.

Turkey and Greece sit on significant fault lines and earthquakes are common.

The initial quake struck at 15:28 (12:28 GMT) on Monday and was followed by two aftershocks minutes later.



## **Giant Antarctic iceberg 'hanging by a thread', say scientists**

A giant section of an Antarctic ice shelf is hanging by a thread and could break off at any moment, researchers have revealed.

The split in the Larsen C ice shelf of the Antarctic will release a huge iceberg 5,000 sq km in size – an area about a quarter of the size of Wales.

“The rift is nearly 200km long now, and it has turned towards the ice front, suggesting that it has only got that last piece to go – and that last section is only 13km,” said Professor Adrian Luckman, a scientist at Swansea University. Luckman cautioned that it was not possible to say whether the fracture was a result of climate change.



## **Trump Will Withdraw U.S. From Paris Climate Agreement**

President Trump announced on Thursday that the United States would withdraw from the Paris climate accord, weakening efforts to combat global warming.

The Paris agreement was intended to bind the world community into battling rising temperatures together, and the departure of the Earth's second-largest polluter is a major blow.

“We are getting out,” Mr. Trump said Thursday. “But we will start to negotiate, and we will see if we can make a deal that's fair. And if we can, that's great.”



# NEWSROUND

## **Receding glacier causes immense Canadian river to vanish in four days**

An immense river that flowed from one of Canada's largest glaciers vanished over the course of four days last year, scientists have reported, in an unsettling illustration of how global warming dramatically changes the world's geography.

The abrupt and unexpected disappearance of the Slims river, which spanned up to 150 metres at its widest points, is the first observed case of "river piracy", in which the flow of one river is suddenly diverted into another.

"We found that all of the water that was coming out from the front of the glacier, rather than it being split between two rivers, it was going into just one," said Best.

## **Where can you find Geographical news?**

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/geography>

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/latest-stories/>

<http://www.independent.co.uk/topic/Geography>

[https://www.sciencedaily.com/news/earth\\_climate/geography/](https://www.sciencedaily.com/news/earth_climate/geography/)



## **Everest No Filter do it again!**

In 2016, Richards and Adrian Ballinger, a professional mountain guide from Squaw Valley, California, set out to climb Everest without using supplemental oxygen—a feat only an estimated 197 climbers out of the 4,469 who have stood atop the summit have achieved. The duo also documented their journey on Snapchat via the account [@EverestNoFilter](#).

Richards summited. However, his phone died—and therefore he blew that golden opportunity to take a summit Snap.

Come 2017, and they've tried again. This time they both summited the World's tallest mountain, Richards using oxygen, and Ballinger without, and they finally managed to get their long awaited snapchat from the summit!



# Geography Quiz

1. What is the capital city of Suriname?
2. What is the name of the highest volcano in South America?
3. Which biome is Antarctica a part of?
4. Vaduz is the capital of which country?
5. Which currency do they use in Gabon?
6. Which island of the Caribbean has the highest population?
7. Which country has the lowest population per square mile?
8. Which country did Singapore used to be a part of?
9. How many countries are there that end in 'stan'?
10. What is the largest country that is completely in Europe?



The first 3 people to return this with all questions correct will win a prize!



Doing anything Geographical this summer? Get a picture of it and send/show it to Miss Roberts. The best ones will receive a prize!

# DO YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN THE NEXT EDITION?

- Find Miss Roberts to find out about becoming part of the editorial team
- Email Miss Roberts a geographical article you have written
- Email Miss Roberts an exciting geographical news story you have seen