

YOU'RE SODIUM FINE

+ **LOOKING AT** the scenery, Aquatic and Environmental Science students prepare to take a dive at Barton Springs. The students spent time with Barton Springs employees learning more about the popular site during the field trip. | PHOTO BY JAMIE DORSEY

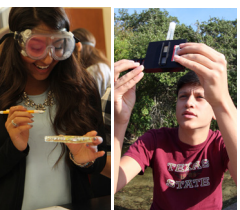


+ **IN THE** smoke, sophomore JoJo Wei uses the hot plate in a chemistry lab. Wei was melting a sugar cube wrapped in tin foil to test it's reaction. "It's interesting learning about the world and how it works," Wei said. | PHOTO BY JESSICA LEONARD



+ **OBSERVING THE** reactants, sophomore Celeste Alvarado mixes phosphorus with acid. Students tested different reactions for a Chemistry lab. | PHOTO BY SARAH BABER

IN MY ELEMENT



+ **AT SLAUGHTER** Creek, senior Justin De La Rosa analyzes the amount of nitrates in the water. The class tested to see how clean the water was. | PHOTO BY JAMIE DORSEY



+ **GETTING INTO** action, Aquatic Science and Chemistry teacher Mrs. Laura Merino observes alongside her students. The students spent a class period studying at Slaughter Creek identifying macroinvertebrates for water quality. | PHOTO BY JAMIE DORSEY

DON'T OVERREACT

+ **GREEN GIRL SENIOR LILI BENITEZ IS DETERMINED TO MAKE POSITIVE CHANGES**

Spread by Katie Norris and Kendall Franz

WHY DO YOU WANT TO MAKE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE A REQUIRED COURSE?

"Even if someone doesn't want to go into environmental science or conservation, it doesn't mean that they should be ignorant of the way our environment works and the effects of our impacts," Benitez said.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO WORK ON MAKING THE SCHOOL A CARBON NEUTRAL SITE?

"This is very much theoretical as of right now. I am hoping to research this for science fair and propose a plan at the end of the project. Many colleges have made plans to be carbon neutral, and I thought it would be really cool for Bowie to do something similar. Going carbon neutral is a huge task, but I believe that simply bringing up the idea and creating at least a basic theoretical plan would help push Bowie to a more earth-conscious state of mind," Benitez said. **WHY ARE YOU SO PASSIONATE ABOUT THIS?** "Sustainability is an incredibly important part of our future, and it is time for Bowie to embrace it. The students at our school are the future generation—we and our children are the ones who will be impacted by the consequences of the degradation of the environment and so we need to make an effort to create change in the moment. Just because we are students, doesn't mean we can't be more than just students," Benitez said.

+ **HELPING OUT,** teacher's assistant Peter Carlson builds an eco-column with Ms. Nikki Vohl's Environmental Science students. Carlson is a geologist and a student at UT. "He brings academic knowledge and real life situations to the classroom and is an overall big help to the class," Vohl said. | PHOTO BY KENDALL FRANZ



AROUND THE WORLD | SPREADING SCIENCE ACROSS THE GLOBE

+ "I taught in China and Thailand. I really enjoyed living and working in Thailand and have been back to visit. Overall, it was extremely rewarding."



MR. DUSTIN MAYFIELD

+ "I have studied French, Russian, Spanish, Ladino, Yiddish, and Japanese. The science behind language is fascinating."



MS. ASHLEY SPIRO

+ "I worked in Nepal for an agriculture and nutrition project for the University of London. The culture in Nepal was so rich, and the experience was fantastic."



MR. ADAM RICHTER



PHOTO COURTESY OF [HTTP://LOCALCOLOUR.NET/](http://LOCALCOLOUR.NET/)

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SEPTEMBER



TESTING THE LIMITS



+ WORKING WITH care, senior Hailey Horton experiments with various materials. Aquatic Science students mixed pond water with sulfate to test water quality. "Going back to the creek brought me back to my childhood because my grandmother used to take me there a lot when I was younger," Horton said. | PHOTO BY JAMIE DORSEY



+ READY TO spray paint, senior Gabi Feltner works on a logo. Feltner spray painted "save water" logos on reusable bags. "Environmental Science is cool because we actually relate to real life situations," Feltner said. | PHOTO BY JAMIE DORSEY

+ RECORDING THE data, sophomores Trevor Vandenberg and Raven Rehm write down their results for a chemistry lab. The classes had many stations where they observed different types of reactions. | PHOTO BY KENDALL FRANZ

+ HOLDING THE test tube, seniors Cole Evans and Lauryn Kendrick mix substances at Slaughter Creek. Students were measuring the dissolved oxygen levels. "This experiment interested me because it affects animals and their living conditions," Kendrick said. | PHOTO BY JAMIE DORSEY



HOSEI NAKAJIMA, 11

"ABOVE ALL, SCIENCE IS AWESOME."

WHAT SCIENCE COURSES ARE YOU ENROLLED IN? "The science classes I'm taking are AP Biology, AP Chemistry, Pre-AP Physics, Science Research and Design, Medical Microbiology, and Anatomy," Nakajima said. **WHAT KIND OF EXPERIMENTS DO YOU LIKE TO CONDUCT AND WHY?** "My experiments are usually just me testing silly ideas. I never use graduated cylinders and other fancy equipment, I just do things to my brother, ants and sometimes squirrels to see their reactions. For now, experiments are just for fun," Nakajima said. **WHAT ABOUT SCIENCE ARE YOU SO PASSIONATE ABOUT?** "I believe strongly that science is the gateway to everything. We can reach another dimension, obtain immortality, and time travel as well. Time travel is actually really close to becoming true, and immortality has always been the dream for mankind. Science solves everything! Science gives us everything! Science is everything!" Nakajima said.

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SCIENCE CLASSES