Can the newsletter please provide hints on what the algorithms for murder and the tutor booklets are?"

"I just want it [the virtual assistant] to make you question your existence"

"I like the concept of tea. I want to like tea!"

"this newsletter is getting more meta by the day"

"I love the aircon, it reminds me of home!"

"lock tags are the new hash tags"

"He’s literally addicted to grok"

"You’ve gotta become the robot"

Things are growing tense as the 20 survivors wonder when their time will come. It would be wise to fear Evan Lee, who has been responsible for 11 kills so far.

Both streams got stuck into the projects today, learning what’s involved and coming up with creative ideas.

“We also learned how to draw diagrams that represent the conversations we will be having with our bot” one student explained “Query diagrams help you visualise what you’re going to code to make the bot easier to build”.

At the same time, the embedded teams were hard at work, learning about filtering data and working on their Bit:Bots.

In the evening students had free time and most played board games or participated in Renee’s awesome Swing Dancing class!

Good luck to all the teams for the project!
Planning the video for our project involved lots of different people coming together with a single idea, only that did not happen. We had ideas for a horror movie aspect, memes and dancing frenzies. Alexa play Despacito was a popular idea which we enjoyed messing around with, considering that we were designing chat bots!

A huge congratulation to the Teachers team for coming 3rd in the Scavenger hunt! The scores were updated as Team 2A lost 1000 points for dropping their mascot in a puddle!

Name: Tejas Margapuram
School: Baulkham Hills High School
Hobbies: Playing video games, making medieval weapons and watching magic shows

Oh really? So you’ve programmed before? The programming part not so much, but I knew the basics of programming. When they started explaining all the electronics and physics behind some of the embedded systems, I knew all of it already.

What’s something exciting you’ve done in the past 2 months? I built a bow in my backyard using fiberglass rods and PVC.

How are you enjoying embedded so far? It’s pretty fun. Sometimes the programming gets a bit hard because you get a bracket wrong and you have to look around the whole code trying to find it.

Best Avengers movie? Thor: Rangarok

Tell me about yourself? I’m from Sydney, my parents come from an Indian heritage but I was born here.

What year are you in at school? Going into year 11

How was trivia? It was really good. I thought it was really funny how the teachers had restrictions and stuff. The charades part was also really fun, it should have counted towards the trivia I think.

What’s been the best part of the camp so far? When they started teaching the lectures, I felt really good about myself because I knew a lot of it already since I’ve done it at school.
Hello Group 2’s fearless leader! What’s your favourite place to eat out and why? I love Bar Luca because they have the best burgers ever.

Favourite board/card game? This is a tricky one. I will say Jungle Speed.

If you could be a professional sportsperson what sport would you play? I think tennis. I used to play tennis when I was a lot younger but then I stopped. But I think I would love to get back into it.

What would you do if you had a whole day to do anything you wanted? I think I would go to a beach, go for a surf, eat a lot, relax, and catch up on all my sleep.

Are you still alive in murder? What’s your biggest kill streak at NCSS? No, I am dead. I did make one kill this year, which is exciting. My biggest kill streak was three, that was when I was a returner.

How do you think the new stream will challenge the students at NCSS? I think this year with having a more open theme that’s going to be challenging, figuring out which features we want. And I think also bringing a virtual assistant to life, that is also tricky.

What are you looking forward to in the new ChatBot Stream? So I think what is going to be exciting is being able to have a bit more flexibility with a theme. We are going to be able to find different features to implement. We are going to be able to learn about API’s and how to use them, and I think that these are really important skills to learn because it is likely if you get a job in IT you’ll be doing things like this. These skills you are learning are something you are going to be able to build on top of.

You already mentioned some of the new skills that the ChatBot Stream will help develop in students, can you expand on some of these? So I think that learning to use API’s is really important. How we can use different data from different websites and how we can use it to build our own application. For example, maybe we want our application to interface with Spotify and Facebook. So bringing two existing applications together and maybe doing data visualisation or recommendation systems as well. I think that there is so much to be learnt. It is definitely hard to pick one skill you are going to learn because it is so open-ended.

If you were doing the ChatBot project, what type of chatbot would you make? I think I would like something that would help me with transport, waking up on time, getting to work on time, figuring out when there is trackwork. Making it easier for me to get through my day, so maybe something like a day planning system or a transport system.
Today

9am   Lecture
10am  Masterclasses
1pm   Lunch
2pm   Excursion / Free time
6pm   Dinner
7pm   Cryptography

8:45am Site visits
2:30pm Project
4:30pm Special presentation
5:30pm Free time
6pm   Official dinner

What's on tomorrow?

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