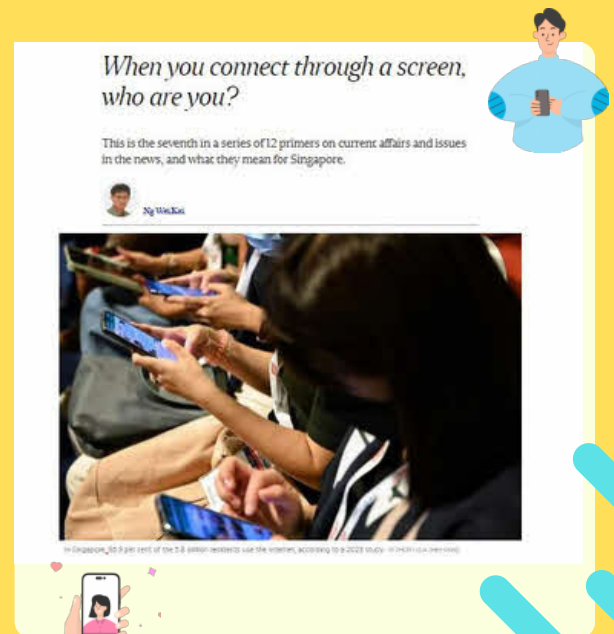


THE SEARCH FOR AUTHENTICITY IN AN INTERCONNECTED WORLD

Welcome to the Primer series. Here you will find the weekly Primer articles and some curated resources to support teaching and learning.

Does greater digital connectivity necessarily translate to stronger relationships? In this issue, we will explore if interconnectivity fosters deep authentic relationships.



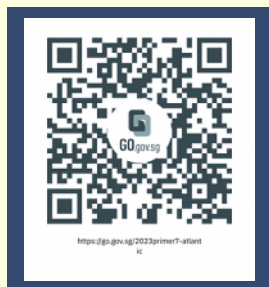
**Scan or click on the QR codes
to access the primers.**

In this issue, we will:

- explore the implications of digital interconnectivity on the nature and quality of relationships today;
- consider the extent to which technology has deepened interpersonal understanding; and
- analyse the significance of authentic relationships and connections in today's interconnected world.

How the Internet is Changing Friendship

How can the Internet help to make our friendships stronger? Watch this video to find out.



Social Media's Growing Impact



Does social media use impede meaningful interaction with people close to us? Read this article to find out.



80% of U.S. teens say that what they see on social media makes them feel more connected to what is going on in their friends' lives.

45% of girls and 32% of boys say they feel overwhelmed because of all the drama on social media.

Teen Life on Social Media

Do you agree with what U.S. teenagers say about their use of social media? Read this study to find out more.



PERSPECTIVES

Scan or click on the QR codes below to access the links.

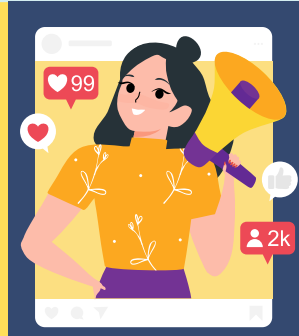
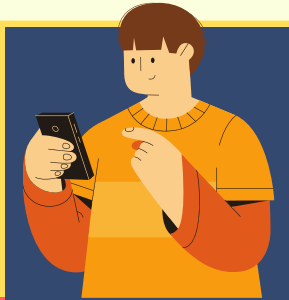
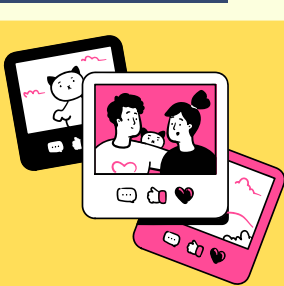
As you read these articles, consider the following:

- To what extent does digital connectivity help to foster authentic relationships?
- How far do you agree with the perspectives and how does each writer's view support or challenge the others?

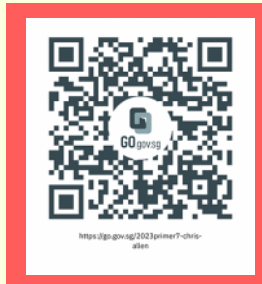
Take a Break from Social Media



Chen shares how we can choose to live life without being obsessed with social media.



Digitalisation and Loneliness



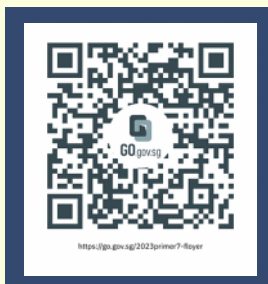
Allen puts forth the case that digitalisation and technology are not a cure for people who feel lonely.

Online Worlds and Social Withdrawal

Lewis invites readers to consider if social withdrawal would still be problematic with new technologies and the metaverse.



Can Online Friends be the Answer to Loneliness?



Floyer discusses different expectations of online and offline friendships, and argues that we do not necessarily need to be with people to connect with them.



EXTEND YOUR UNDERSTANDING: RESOURCES FOR BLENDED LEARNING

Scan or click on these QR codes for more information.

Human Connection in the Digital Age



<https://go.gov.sg/2023primer7-connection>

Tech Solutions & Emotional Connections



<https://go.gov.sg/2023primer7-gentle>



AI Technology & Companionship



<https://go.gov.sg/2023primer7-landau>

Chatbots & Relationships



<https://go.gov.sg/2023primer7-clark>

GP SLS

AI Resource Bank



<https://go.gov.sg/artificialintelligenceresources>

OTHER ST RESOURCES

ST GP Resources



<https://go.gov.sg/st-gp-resources>

ST IB Resources



<https://go.gov.sg/st-ib-resources>

ST-MOE NEWS OUTREACH PROGRAMME 2023 PRIMER TOPICS

| | |
|--------|--|
| 20 Mar | <u>Resource Scarcity, Climate Considerations and Implications on Geopolitics</u> |
| 27 Mar | <u>Budget 2023</u> |
| 3 Apr | <u>Wildlife Conservation</u> |
| 10 Apr | <u>The Value of International Sporting Competitions Today</u> |
| 17 Apr | <u>Regulation of Medical Technology</u> |
| 8 May | <u>Fame and Celebrity Culture</u> |
| 15 May | <u>The Search for Authenticity in an Interconnected World</u> |
| 22 May | Strengthening Intergenerational Bonds |
| 17 Jul | Words Matter: Language and Power |
| 24 Jul | The Place of Museums Today |
| 31 Jul | The Sharing Economy |
| 7 Aug | Doing Good |

WEEK 6 READING CHAMPS!

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|----------------------|----------|
| KENNAN NEO KAH DEE | ASRJC | CHONG ZI HUI | NUS High |
| KENNETH HUBERT SUHARDJO | ACJC | NICOLE CHUN SI EN | RI |
| HANNAH CHOI YNG SHUENN | ACS(I) | BEVERLYN LIU JIAYING | RVHS |
| NARASIMHAN VENKATESHWARAN | CJC | TOH SER JUN CLETUS | SAJC |
| OON ZHENG KANG | DHS | JAIME CHEW CHIEN YEE | SOTA |
| PECK YI XUAN | EJC | RACHEL KOH RUI JIE | SSP |
| SNG JIE QI NIDIA | HCI | TAN JER MIN TRINA | SJI |
| FUN WAI MAN, CHARLENE | JPJC | ISABEL POH LU TING | TMJC |
| SEE JIAN LIANG | MI | AUSTEN TAN TING LUN | TJC |
| YU YU XIN, VANESSA | NYJC | MUHAMMED TALHA MEMON | VJC |
| TAN WOON TECK | NJC | TNG WEE BOON AMOS | YIJC |



READING CAMPAIGN

Organised in conjunction with the Primer season
(over 12 weeks from 20 March to 7 August)

PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

- One winner per school per week*
- Winners are determined based on the total number of articles read in each week.
- Each winner will receive a prize from SPH Media Limited.

*Past winners will not be eligible in the following weeks but will qualify for the final round.

FINAL ROUND

- The top three students who read the most articles over the 12 weeks will be identified from the weekly winners and they will receive attractive prizes from SPH Media Limited!
- The school with the highest average number of articles read during the Primer season will also be announced at the end of the campaign.



Take part in
FUTURE FORECAST
A storytelling competition jointly organised
by Temasek and The Straits Times



- Submit a short essay, an illustration or a video on how you picture the future in 30 years.
- Your entry should be based on one or more of these themes: digitisation, longer lifespans, sustainable living, and the future of consumption.
- A total of 20 winners will be selected from two categories:
 - 10 from secondary schools, junior colleges or their equivalent, and IP or IB schools; and
 - 10 from institutes of higher learning.
- Winners will each receive a cash prize of \$1,000 and get the opportunity to attend workshops conducted by ST and Temasek.
- The student behind the entry with the most public votes from each category will win an iPad Pro.
- Entries must be submitted by July 31.



<https://go.gov.sg/futureforecast-com-petition>

**Scan or click on the QR code
for ideas, prompts and
competition details.**

ACCESS TO PREMIUM ARTICLES



**Scan or click on
the QR code for
step-by-step
instructions on
how to log in to
ST Online.**



<https://go.gov.sg/2023-stonline-log-guide>

