

Success at da Vinci Decathlon

The da Vinci Decathlon is a rigorous academic competition designed to challenge and stimulate the minds of high potential students in Years 7 to 11. Students compete in teams of eight to complete complex challenges in eight disciplines: Art and Poetry, Creative Producers, Code Breaking, Cartography, Engineering, English, Ideation, Legacy, Mathematics and Science.

Meriden performed outstandingly well at the NSW State da Vinci Decathlon this year, with the Year 9 team becoming State Champions in their division. This is an exceptional result, and is reflective of the dedication, enthusiasm and excellent teamwork displayed by this team. The Year 9 team will now be competing at Nationals on Saturday 29 June to Monday 1 July.



The successful Year 9 team: Yiru Li, Vivian Liao, Eva Gao, Amelia Von, Chloe Zhou, Lisa Chen, Jasmine Yang and Olivia Kim

Adding to the above successes, each team performed extremely well in various subjects on the day of the Decathlon, earning every team a top sixteen overall placing.

All our teams trained hard to prepare for all ten subjects assessed in the Decathlon. I congratulate them on their outstanding efforts during training and on the day of the competition. I extend my thanks to the reserves who trained alongside the team with commitment and determination. The contributions of every student to Meriden's success are greatly appreciated. Members of each team, and highlights from the Decathlon, can be seen below:

Year 7 Team (74 teams in total)

Angel Chen Jialu (Zoe) Gao Yuri Han Mila Ke Elvia Lin Mia Liu Vicky Qian Maya Vojvodic Clare Yang (Reserve) Cynthia Yu (Reserve)	Overall: 8 th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathematics: 4th English: 6th Cartography: 7th Science: 8th Art & Poetry: 13th Code Breaking: 14th
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Year 8 Team (78 teams in total)

Simrita Baddam Alice Feng Danielle Ho Danielle Kim Emma Rose Koeswandy Serena Li Yumi Takusagawa Rochelle Tao Chloe Li (Reserve) Mandy Shi (Reserve)	Overall: 4 th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideation: 1st English: 5th Engineering: 6th Creative Producers: 8th Science: 8th Art & Poetry: 16th
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Year 9 Team (58 teams in total)

Lisa Chen Eva Gao Yiru Li Vivian Liao Olivia Kim Amelia Von Jasmine Yang Chloe Zhou Cindy Shen (Reserve) Miriam Shin (Reserve)	Overall: 1 st <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art & Poetry: 1st• Science: 1st• Legacy: 1st• Ideation: 2nd• Cartography: 3rd• Code Breaking: 4th• Mathematics: 11th• English: 12th• Engineering: 15th• Creative Producers: 16th
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Year 10 Team (60 teams in total)

Amy Chen Angelin Chen Michelle Lu Diya Maninathan Naomi Riaz Keira Waked Corrine Xu Qianqi (Christina) Zhou Kaitlyn Blair (Reserve) Anjali Popuri (Reserve)	Overall: 5 th <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art & Poetry: 1st• Cartography[”] 1st• Engineering: 3rd• Code Breaking: 6th
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Year 11 Team (40 teams in total)

Sabrina Cao Leah Har Olivia Lee Sophie Tan Meredith Xu Emily Yang Victoria Yenson Sophie Yi Selina Wang (Reserve) Melody Chia (Reserve)	Overall: 14 th <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cartography: 5th• English: 5th• Engineering: 6th• Mathematics: 9th• Science: 15th
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I wish to thank the following staff for their support: Mrs Priscilla Curran, Dean of Lateral Learning, for training the girls in Ideation; Mrs Sumudu Edwards, for aiding in Mathematics training; and Ms Sophie Wardle and Ms Phebe Lenthall for providing assistance in Science. I also extend my thanks to Dr Jocelyn Laurence, Miss Katherine Bull, Mrs Julie Shannon, and Mr Richard Hughes for assisting with supervision and marking on the day of the Decathlon.

As we bid farewell to another year of success in the Decathlon, we focus our attention to Tournament of Minds, our Term 3 activity in the High Potential Learning program.

Mrs Sharna Kershaw

Coordinator of Learning Link – High Potential Learning