



Teacher Resource

Focus Questions

As a class, discuss the stories featured in the episode of BTN Classroom and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following focus questions.

Gaza Peace Deal

1. In pairs or small groups discuss the Gaza Peace Deal story. What were the main points of the discussion?
2. What have Israel and Hamas agreed to?
3. How long has the war between Israel and Hamas been going on for?
4. What questions do you have about the story?
5. How did this story make you feel?

Social Media Q & A

1. Why is the government delaying access to social media accounts until you're 16 years old?
2. Give examples of platforms included in the ban.
3. How do you feel about not using social media until you turn 16?
4. Do you think the plan will work? Give reasons for your answer.
5. What do you understand more clearly since watching the BTN story?
6. Let us know what you think about the social media ban by completing the [BTN survey](#).

Nobel Peace Prize

1. Why did Alfred Nobel start the Peace Prize?
2. Name a past winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.
3. This year, the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to María Corina Machado. In your own words, explain why she won the prize.
4. Which world leader was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize this year?
5. Can you think of someone who deserves the Nobel Peace Prize? Give reasons why.

Check out the [teacher](#) resource on the Archives page.

EPISODE 28

14 October 2025

KEY LEARNING

Students will view a range of BTN stories and use comprehension skills to respond to a series of focus questions.

CURRICULUM

English – Year 4

Use comprehension strategies to build literal and inferred meaning to expand content knowledge, integrating and linking ideas and analysing and evaluating texts.

English – Year 5

Use comprehension strategies to analyse information, integrating and linking ideas from a variety of print and digital sources.

English – Year 6

Use comprehension strategies to interpret and analyse information and ideas, comparing content from a variety of textual sources including media and digital texts.

English – Year 7

Use comprehension strategies to interpret, analyse and synthesise ideas and information, critiquing ideas and issues from a variety of textual sources.

Pencil Pals

1. Summarise the BTN Pencil Pal story in three sentences.
2. What are the benefits of having a pen pal?
3. Do you think letter writing is important? Give reasons for your answer.
4. What do the students in the BTN story like about having pencil pals?
5. Have you ever written or received a letter? How did it make you feel?

Check out the [teacher](#) resource on the Archives page.



We're inviting schools around the country to tell us what their [passion project](#) is. Amazing artistic achievements? Super sporting success? Terrific technological triumphs? Enthusiastic environmental education! It could be anything but make sure it's something your whole class or school is buzzing about. We'll choose the best pitches and help you turn them into BTN stories to share with other kids around Australia.



Teacher Resource

Nobel Peace Prize

Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Why did Alfred Nobel start the Peace Prize?
2. Name a past winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.
3. This year, the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to María Corina Machado. In your own words, explain why she won the prize.
4. Which world leader was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize this year?
5. Can you think of someone who deserves the Nobel Peace Prize? Give reasons why.

Activity: Class Discussion

Before students watch the BTN story, ask them what they already know about the Nobel Peace Prize. Record their responses. Discuss the BTN Nobel Peace Prize story as a class. Ask students to record what they know about the topic. What questions do they have? Use the following questions to guide discussion:

- What is the Nobel Peace Prize?
- Who won the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize?
- Name some previous Nobel Peace Prize laureates.
- Why is it called the Nobel Prize?
- What are the different Nobel Prize categories?
- Can you think of someone who deserves a Nobel Peace Prize? Give reasons for your answer.

Nobel Peace Prize 2025

María Corina Machado has won the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize. Ask students to find out more about María Corina Machado and why she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize this year. The following questions can help guide students' research:

- Why was María Corina Machado awarded the Nobel Peace Prize?
- How did she respond when she found out she had won the award? Listen to her reaction to winning the prize, [here](#).

EPISODE 28

14 October 2025

KEY LEARNING

Students will learn the history of the Nobel Prize and explore the laureates of the Nobel Peace Prize.

CURRICULUM

HASS – Year 6

Develop appropriate questions to guide an inquiry about people, events, developments, places, systems and challenges.







Sequence information about people's lives, events, developments and phenomena using a variety of methods including timelines.

Civics and Citizenship – Year 7

Identify, gather and sort information and ideas from a range of sources.

Activity: Nobel Laureates

Students will complete the following table to learn more about Nobel Peace Prize laureates.

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate	General Information	Why was this person awarded the prize? What was their motivation?
	Name: Birth date: Place of birth: Year they won:	
	Name: Birth date: Place of birth: Year they won:	
	Name: Birthdate: Place of birth: Year they won:	
	Name: Birth date: Place of birth: Year they won:	
	Name: Birth date: Place of birth: Year they won:	
	Name: Birth date: Place of birth: Year they won:	

Activity: Timeline Poster

Students will research the life and achievements of a Nobel Peace Prize laureate. Students will create a timeline poster and prepare an oral presentation summarising key events in their life and their contributions to society. Below are some examples of well-known Nobel Peace Prize laureates or choose one from the full list of laureates [here](#):

Albert Einstein

Martin Luther King Jr

Mother Teresa

Nelson Mandela

Barack Obama

Malala Yousafzai

World Food Programme

Theodore Roosevelt

Timeline Poster

Your students' task is to create a timeline poster, responding to the following areas of research.

Research

- Early Life - Information about the person's parents. When/where were they born? What type of education did they receive?
- Family - Personal information; were they married? Did they have children?
- Legacy - What event and/or action led to them becoming a Nobel Prize laureate? What did they do that had an impact on the lives of others?
- 'Where are they now?' If they have died, you can outline where they are buried. If they are still alive you can outline what their life looks like now.
- 2 x 'Interesting Facts' and 2 x 'Did You Know?' A minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 photos with captions. Include a bibliography on the back of your poster.

Oral Presentation

Students will prepare a short oral presentation, speaking in 'first person'. They will speak about their life, their family, character, the decisions they made and why, and their impact and influence on society.

Further Research

Students will choose one of the activities below as a further investigation.

Interview

- Imagine you could sit down and talk to a Nobel Prize laureate.
- What questions would you ask about their life and achievements?
- Find answers to your questions.

Portrait

- Plan and create a portrait of a Nobel Prize laureate.
- Explore and experiment with different techniques and mediums to produce a portrait.
- Organise a class exhibition of your artworks.

5 w's

- What are some of the key events in their life?
- Write a summary for one key event, which answers the 5 W's – Who, What, Where, When and Why?

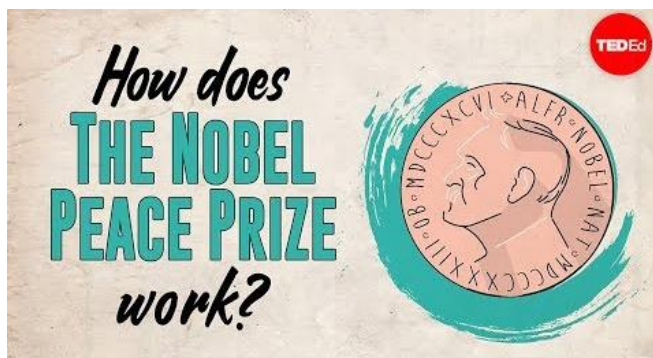
Activity: TEDEd

Students will watch this [TEDEd video](#) to learn more about Alfred Nobel and how the Nobel Peace Prize works.

Students will use the facts they have discovered about the Nobel Peace Prize to create a quiz and then test their classmates. Students will include a range of quiz styles, for example:

- Multiple choice
- True or false
- Fill in the blank
- Use photos or pictures
- When an answer is revealed, provide extra information to explain the answer.

Students can make their quizzes in [Kahoot](#) or [Quizizz](#). Make it fun, engaging, and educational!



How does the Nobel Peace Prize work?

(Source: [TEDEd](#))



Activity: School Awards Ceremony

Hold your own awards ceremony at your school to celebrate the special talents, achievements and contributions made by people in your school community. Alternatively, you could hold an award ceremony for students just in your class.

- What categories will you give awards for? It could be for your school's core values, for example Respect, Kindness, Excellence, Resilience and Innovation. Or you could make up your own categories, like "Mentor award", "Entrepreneur award", "Creativity award".
- Who can be awarded? For example, it could be an individual, group or an entire class.
- What will the criteria be for each award? For example, for the respect award the recipient needs to show compassion for others and helps others in the school community. Design a template which you can use to document examples of how the recipient has met the criteria for each award.
- Design an award for each category. Include text, images and symbols which reflect each category and your school.
- How often will the awards be given? (for example, at each assembly, at the end of each term or at the end of the school year). Who will be invited to your awards ceremony? Consider inviting parents, friends and your local MP.



Useful Websites

- [Venezuelan opposition leader María Corina Machado awarded Nobel Peace Prize](#) – ABC News
- [Nobel Peace Prize 2025](#) – The Nobel Prize
- [The man behind the Prize – Alfred Nobel](#) – The Nobel Prize
- [Nobel Prize History](#) – BTN
- [What is the Nobel Prize, and how do you win it?](#) – BBC Newsround
- [Minecraft Peace Builders](#) – Nobel Peace Center
- [Introducing Alfred Nobel](#) – Nobel Peace Center
- [How many peace laureates can you match?](#) – Nobel Peace Center



Teacher Resource

Pencil Pals

Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Summarise the BTN Pencil Pal story in three sentences.
2. What are the benefits of having a pen pal?
3. Do you think letter writing is important? Give reasons for your answer.
4. What do the students in the BTN story like about having pencil pals?
5. Have you ever written or received a letter? How did it make you feel?

Activity: See, think & wonder?

After watching the BTN Pencil Pals story hold a class discussion, using the following as discussion starters:

- What do you **THINK** about what you saw in the story?
- What does this video make you **WONDER**?
- What did you **LEARN** from the BTN story?
- Think of three **QUESTIONS** you have about the story.

Activity: Class Discussion

After watching the BTN Pencil Pals story hold a class discussion, using the following questions to start the discussion:

- What is the purpose of a letter? Why do people write letters instead of sending emails or texts?
- What are some examples of different types of letters.
- Who do we send letters to?
- What makes a letter interesting to read?
- Have you ever written a letter?
Have you ever received one? How did it feel?



EPISODE 28

14 October 2025

KEY LEARNING

Students will learn about letter writing and examine the difference between formal and informal letters.

CURRICULUM

English – Year 4

Plan, create, edit and publish written and multimodal imaginative, informative and persuasive texts, using visual features, relevant linked ideas, complex sentences, appropriate tense, synonyms and antonyms, correct spelling of multisyllabic words and simple punctuation.

English – Year 5

Plan, create, edit and publish written and multimodal texts whose purposes may be imaginative, informative and persuasive, developing ideas using visual features, text structure appropriate to the topic and purpose, text connectives, expanded noun groups, specialist and technical vocabulary, and punctuation including dialogue punctuation.

Activity: Letter Writing Research

Students will choose one of the questions below to explore in more detail or they can develop their own questions to research.

- What are the different parts or features of a letter? For example, date, postal address, greeting, signature.
- What type of language would you use in an informal letter to a friend or relative? Compare the language used in an informal letter to the language used in a formal letter. Give examples.
- Investigate the history of letter writing. When and why did people start writing letters?
- Why are letters useful primary sources? Investigate how letters can tell us about the writer's opinions and personality and tell us more about the past. Choose an important letter in history to research.
- How has technology changed the way we communicate? What impact has technology had on letter writing?

When you're writing formal or informal letters or emails, what should you include in it?

Watch the following Everyday English videos to learn more.

Formal letters

Watch the video and respond to the following questions:

- Give 3 examples of people you would send a formal letter or email to.
- When might you need to write a formal letter or email?
- Write a short formal letter or email using the tips that Sarah and Jack talk about in the video.

Informal letters

Watch the video and respond to the following questions:

- Give 3 examples of people you would send an informal letter or email to.
- What sort of language do you use when you're writing an informal letter or email?
- Write a short informal letter or email using the tips that Sarah and Jack talk about in the video.

Activity: Practising Letter Writing

Students will practise the art of letter writing. Below are some letter writing activities.

- Connect with a class from another school - they may be in the same city or in a different state or country and ask if they would like to become pen pals with your class. Students consider the following when planning their letters to a pen pal.
 - What do you want them to know about you? What information would you like to share? Think about possible topics to write about (hobbies, family, pets, school).
 - What questions would you like to ask them? What interesting information would you add to your letter?

- How do you keep a pen pal conversation going over time?
- Design and create your own letter head or writing paper and write a letter to someone using their paper.
- Make a time capsule which includes a collection of letters handwritten by students. Students can write to future students at the school telling them what school is like for them and then make a prediction about what school will be like in the future.
- Write a letter to your future self. Include personal highlights or challenges from the past year, what you're currently interested in and any goals or ambitions you have for the future.
- Interview a friend or relative about letter writing. Has letter writing changed during their life? Do they send and/or receive letters? Do they think letter writing is important? Why or why not?

Useful Websites

- [Letter Writing Class](#) - BTN
- [Future of Letter Writing](#) – BTN
- [World Letter Writing Day](#)



Teacher Resource

BTN Transcript: Episode 28 – 14/10/2025

Yaama I'm Jack Evans with your first BTN of the term 4. I hope you had a great holiday, let's see what's coming up. We'll answer some of your questions about Australia's social media ban, find out the fascinating story behind the Nobel Peace Prize and meet students who are passionate about letter writing.

Gaza Peace Deal

Reporter: Wren Gillett

INTRO: But first, after two long years Israel and Hamas have agreed to stop fighting in Gaza. Last week the two sides met with negotiators in Egypt after the US drew up a peace plan. Here's Wren to tell you what happened.

WREN GILLETT, REPORTER: Across Gaza, in Israel, and around the world, there were celebrations.

PERSON: It's a perfect morning. It's miracle.

PERSON: I am super happy for the first time in my life. I am 40 years old, and today I am happy. It's as if I was born again.

On the 9th of October, Israel and Hamas agreed that they will stop fighting and to let hostages and prisoners go home.

PERSON: There's no better joy in a holiday than to hear that our brothers are going to come back home.

PERSON: I hope that this happiness will be fulfilled, and the ceasefire deal will last.

The announcement comes after two years of intense fighting in Gaza, which was sparked by the deadliest attack in Israel's history. On October 7th, 2023, armed fighters, led by Hamas, killed almost 1,200 people, and took another 251 hostage.

ISAAC HERZOG, ISRAELI PRESIDENT: Two years ago on October 7th, Israel was brutally attacked, savagely attacked.

Hamas is the group that governs Gaza, one of the three occupied Palestinian territories. A number of countries, including Australia, call Hamas a terrorist organisation because of its use of violence against civilians. And after October 7, Israel declared war against it.

BENJAMIN NETANYAHU, ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER: Citizens of Israel, we are at war. Not in an operation, or in rounds, but at war.

Israel launched air strikes, and sent soldiers into Gaza, saying they wanted to destroy Hamas and bring Israeli hostage's home. But it wasn't just Hamas that was affected by the war. Gaza is one of the most densely populated places on Earth, and since the fighting began, more than 67,000 Palestinians are thought to have been killed, many of them women and children. The war has forced almost everyone living in Gaza to leave their homes, and more than 90 per cent of those homes have been destroyed.

PERSON: Gaza is the place that I've been born into, that I grew into, my school in Gaza. Everything that makes me happy is in Gaza, and now everything is gone, everything is destroyed.

Gazans are also facing famine, and according to the UN, one in three people have been going entire days without food. These conditions have led to protests around the world.

PROTESTORS: Stop starving Gaza!

NAVI PILLAY, UN COMMISSION CHAIR: The goal of the Israeli government is abundantly clear as we continue to witness the destruction of Palestinians in Gaza.

In September, a major United Nations report said Israel was committing genocide, which is the intentional effort to destroy a group of people, based on their identity. The report found that the Israeli military had targeted civilians, destroyed homes and blocked aid. Israeli officials rejected this, saying the claims were false and biased, and that Israel has been acting in self-defense.

Within Israel, protests against the Government have been growing, and one of Israel's most important allies demanded an end to the war.

DONALD TRUMP, US PRESIDENT: It's a great deal for Israel, but it's a great deal everybody, for Arabs, for Muslims, for everybody, for the world.

The US drew up a 20-point-peace plan. Israel publicly supported it, and while Hamas wasn't part of making the plan, they did agree to meet with negotiators in Egypt.

KHALIL AL-HAYYA, HAMAS LEADER IN GAZA: We presented a response that would fulfil the interests and rights of our people and save their blood.

Israel and Hamas agreed to a ceasefire and to begin releasing hostages and prisoners. Israel also agreed to remove some of its soldiers from Gaza and allow more aid into the region. But the rest of the peace plan, including what happens to Hamas and how Gaza will be governed long-term, hasn't been confirmed yet.

Some are worried the plan won't lead to long-term peace and doesn't pave the way for Palestine to become a separate state, something a lot of countries, including Australia, have said they support. There are also concerns about Israel's security, and whether the two sides can ever move past the damage that's been done. But for now, many people are just happy to have the chance to be together again, and to feel safe.

News Quiz

The government is making changes to Australia's emergency network which you reach by dialling which three numbers? It's 000. And it's been in the spotlight after an Optus outage that stopped people from being able to reach emergency services. Last week the government introduced a bill that will bring in a Triple Zero Custodian, who'll oversee the emergency network and make sure things are working as they should.

Do you know why some national parks and monuments in the US are closed at the moment? Is it because of a heat wave, because government workers aren't being paid or because government workers have gone on strike? It's because government workers aren't being paid. Around 40% of them were temporarily suspended because of a government shutdown, which happens when US lawmakers can't agree on a bill to keep spending the country's money. It's not just tourists being affected, the shutdown could impact everything from tax collection to air traffic control.

PERSON: It's all the services the government provides that we forget about. You know, travelling. You know, everything from your travel and other things is going to be impacted. So I think it's a serious thing.

Can you name this pioneering Primatologist who died recently at the age of 91. It's Jane Goodall. She became famous for her field studies of chimpanzees and gorillas which changed our understanding of the animals and their behaviour. She also spent a lot of her life advocating for animal rights and the environment.

JANE GOODALL: If we get together, if we roll up our sleeves and take action, there is hope for the future of the planet.

Social Media Q & A

Reporter: Joe Baronio

INTRO: Over the holidays we got some new details about Australia's social media ban for under 16s. But we know that a lot of you still have questions. We know because you told us. So, with the help of the eSafety Commissioner, Joe's done his best to answer some of them.

STUDENT: Why are you banning social media for under-16s?

STUDENT: How will completely banning social media fix the problem?

JULIE INMAN GRANT, ESAFETY COMMISSIONER: First, what I'd like to say is it's not a ban, it's a delay to having accounts.

JOE BARONIO, REPORTER: Yeah, as you probably know, lots of experts are worried about the effects that social media can have on the mental health and well-being of young people.

JULIE INMAN GRANT: And so, by delaying access to holding a social media account until you're 16, we can spend that time building your digital literacy, critical reasoning skills, but also your impulse control skills.

STUDENT: What platforms will be banned?

STUDENT: How are you going to, like, choose those apps and make sure those apps are the correct apps to choose for the ban?

The government hasn't actually got a list of platforms that will be banned. It's just got legislation that defines what social media platforms are. That pretty obviously includes Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, TikTok, and X, but the government has flagged that it could also apply to YouTube, Discord, and even Roblox.

JULIE INMAN GRANT: Ultimately, what this means is that the list of platforms that are covered is going to change over time. They're never going to be able to say that this is the list; it's going to be a very dynamic process.

STUDENT: How is the age verification going to work when you first download a social media platform?

STUDENT: What technology will I be using to verify age other than facial recognition?

STUDENT: How do we know kids aren't going to find ways around this?

STUDENT: For example, I could get one of my older siblings to create an alternate account and give it to me.

Like restrictions on things like cigarettes and alcohol, no solution is likely to work 100% of the time, and some under-16s may find their way around the ban. But platforms have to show that they're taking multiple steps to stop that happening by using technology and looking out for red flags, like how long an account has been active, whether the account interacts with content targeted at children, connections to other people under-16, even the language style used, and activity patterns that line up with school schedules. The government says it knows some under-16s will still use social media, but it hopes the ban will relieve some of the peer pressure kids feel to be on social media and make it easier for their parents to say no.

STUDENT: If you get caught, what would be the punishment?

Don't worry, you won't be going to prison, or anything, actually. There aren't any penalties for under-16s or their parents who access restricted social media platforms.

JULIE INMAN GRANT: This is about putting the onus on platforms, not the people who use them. And the legislation isn't about punishing you; it's about protecting you.

The companies could face huge penalties if they don't try to stop young people from using their platforms. *Can I have these taken off? These are just really awkward. Yeah, thanks.*

STUDENT: How will they keep all of our private information safe?

That's a good question, and one that many people worried. The government says it has legislation that forces companies to protect people's private information, but, as we've seen in the past, things can go wrong.

STUDENT: What if I have close friends only online and that's the only way of communicating with?

STUDENT: Why are they banning young creators who dream to become a full-time content creator?

Those are really good questions, and quite a few experts and young people have spoken out against the ban for those very reasons.

LEO PUGLISI, 6 NEWS: And I completely, you know, acknowledge not all experiences are going to be positive. Certainly I've had my fair share of that online. But a blanket ban doesn't take into account any positive experiences at all, which has been another key problem.

But the government says the risks of social media like cyberbullying, harmful content and online predators outweigh the positives.

JULIE INMAN GRANT: But it's important to remember that there still are online gaming platforms and messaging apps such as WhatsApp or iMessage that aren't affected, so you can still use them.

STUDENT: Will social media accounts be deactivated?

Yes. Or at least they're supposed to be. But it'll be up to the platforms to make that happen.

JULIE INMAN GRANT: We've also recommended that they offer you the option to deactivate your own account, which means there may be an option to reactivate your account once you turn 16.

STUDENT: Why can't TikTok just create a teen TikTok and an adult TikTok?

Good question. That might happen. We'll have to wait and see. A lot of other countries are watching Australia's social media ban closely to see what impact it has here, and if social media companies change the way they offer content to kids.

JULIE INMAN GRANT: There's nothing stopping technology companies from offering services like this that are age appropriate. If TikTok, for instance, is creating a separate service, it would have to be completely separate, and we would have to assess it separately, and they can't just shunt you over from this into this one without getting your explicit consent and possibly the consent of your parent.

STUDENT: Will the restrictions and apps change over the time?

STUDENT: Will this last forever or will this just be a temporary one?

JULIE INMAN GRANT: They're permanent, I'm afraid, and there will be legislative review in the next 2 years to see how it's going. But I think the good news is that your age isn't. So, believe us when we tell you that 16 will come around pretty quickly, and in the meantime, we'll be standing alongside you, your parents and your teachers to make sure that you're ready and doing all the healthy, fun things that your parents probably talked to you about back in the day.

We want to know what you think of the social media ban, so we've started an Australia-wide survey. Over the next few weeks, you can jump on our website and answer some questions. We'll give you the results at the end of the term.

Nobel Peace Prize

Reporter: Tatenda Chibika

INTRO: Over the weekend the winner of this year's Nobel Peace Prize was announced. Here's Tatenda to tell you who it is and why the award is such a big deal.

TATENDA CHIBIKA, REPORTER: They've helped end wars, spoken against nuclear weapons, fought for children's rights, women's rights, and civil rights.

These are winners of the Nobel Peace Prize, one of the most famous awards in the world. It's given out each year to a person or organisation that's seen to have done the most to promote peace and human rights or resolve conflicts. And there's a pretty interesting story behind it.

It all started with this guy called Alfred Nobel. He was a Swedish chemical engineer and inventor who created a little thing called dynamite. While the invention came in handy for lots of things like clearing roads and mining it was also used as a deadly weapon in wars. The invention made Nobel very rich, but he was a pacifist meaning he didn't believe in fighting. So, before he died, he wrote in his will that part of his fortune would go towards rewarding people and organisations that have given 'the greatest gift to humankind' in the areas of physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature and peace. The first Nobel Prizes were awarded in 1901 and the rest - as they say - is history.

The prizes are decided by panels of experts in Sweden and in the case of the peace prize, Norway. It's a decision that often causes debate and occasionally controversy. And this year, there was a lot of talk about one particular nominee, US President Donald Trump.

SHEHBAZ SHARIF, PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER: Pakistan nominated him for Nobel Peace Prize.

BENJAMIN NETANYAHU, ISRAEL PRIME MINISTER: ...the letter I sent to the Nobel Prize Committee. It's nominating you for the peace prize which is well deserved.

DONALD TRUMP, US PRESIDENT: They will never give me as Nobel Peace Prize... I deserve it, but they will never give it to me.

And well, they didn't. Instead, this year's Nobel Peace Prize went to Venezuela's Opposition leader María Corina Machado for her work promoting democratic rights in the country.

KRISTIAN BERG HARPVIKEN, THE NORWEGIAN NOBEL INSTITUTE: Warmest congratulations to you, Maria.

MARIA CORINA MACHADO: Thank you so much, but I hope you understand this is a movement. This is an achievement of a whole society. I am just, you know, one person.

Known as the 'Iron Lady' in Venezuela Maria Corina Machado was blocked by Venezuela's courts from running for president in 2024, after challenging its current President Nicolas Maduro who has been in power since 2013. She currently lives in hiding where she continues to fight for the rights of Venezuelans.

JOERGEN WATNE FRYDNES, THE NORWEGIAN NOBEL INSTITUTE: She embodies the hope of a different future, one where the fundamental rights of citizens are protected and their voices are heard. In this future, people will finally be free to live in peace.

In a statement, Ms Machado dedicated the prize to the people of Venezuela. As for the other Nobel Prizes, they were awarded to scientists who helped to explain the human immune system and described the weird phenomenon of quantum tunnelling.

JOHN CLARKE, 2025 NOBEL PRIZE WINNER FOR PHYSICS: Never occurred to me in my entire life that anything like this would ever happen.

Australian professor Richard Robson was amongst the team who won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for his work developing a new type of molecular architecture that can help produce fresh water.

ANDREI CHABES, NOBEL COMMITTEE: It's very dry air in the desert and it's difficult to get water, but with this material you can do that. You can capture water at night and then when the sun comes out and the temperature rises, the water comes out.

And finally, the Nobel Prize for literature went to Hungarian writer Laszlo Krasznahorkai, known for his dystopian novels. Each winner gets a medal, a fancy diploma, 1.7 million Aussie dollars and of course, a place in history.

Quiz

Which of these is not a category of the Nobel prizes? Mathematics, Literature or Medicine? It's Mathematics. There are five original Nobel Prize categories, Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature and Peace, plus a Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences that was added to the list in 1968.

Sport

COMMENTATOR: This place is epic!

Aussie motorsport's holy grail, the Bathurst 1000 put on quite a show over the weekend. It was anyone's race to win as the weather sent the race into chaos and lots of front-runners dropped like flies.

COMMENTATOR: It's like a shark attack. Look at this.

With just 5 laps to go it was a fierce battle between Cooper Murray, James Golding and Matt Payne when disaster struck Murray as he was bumped by Golding. While James Golding crossed the finish line first, he was given a five second penalty for the shunt handing the win to second across the line Matt Payne, and co-driver Garth Tander.

In Netball, Australia's Diamonds have wrapped up a 3-nil clean sweep of their three game test series against the South African Proteas. The Diamond's comfortably led the final test from start to finish with standout Sophie Garbin sinking 29 goals to help the team to a 65-42 victory. The Diamonds will now face New Zealand for the Constellation Cup on Friday.

Heading now to Melbourne, a record 50,000 runners hit the pavement for this year's Melbourne Marathon. The race goes all the way through the CBD to St Kilda foreshore and finishing in the MCG. Jack Rayner took his second win for the men's competition crossing the line in 2 hours, 15 minutes and 2 seconds. As for the women's race, the honours went to Caitlin Adams with a time of 2 hours, 30 minutes and 26 seconds not bad for someone who had never completed a marathon before.

Finally, we're going international for this last event. This is the Dance Your Style World Final in LA where a crowd of 10,000 people watched as the best street dancers from all over the world performed in 1 on 1 mixed style dance battles. In the end, it was the Netherlands' Jaira Joy whose moves took her all the way to first place.

JAIRA JOY: I will be awake the whole night like, "What has just happened?"

Pencil Pals

Rookie Reporters

INTRO: This term we've been asking kids around the country to tell us about the things they're passionate about and today we're going to share the passion project of some South Aussie students who are bringing back the art of old-school letter-writing. Check it out.

TEACHER: OK, we've got our next lot of Pencil Pal letters.

CLASS: Yaaaaay

STUDENT: The story of Pencil Pals began with my teacher from this school and a teacher, a different teacher from a different school. We decided to do this fun little experiment that could connect us with different children.

STUDENT: Nowadays, the idea of writing a letter to someone, it's kind of outdated because we have so much technology.

TEACHER: We always joked about, "Oh, we should write to each other, our kids should write to each other." And then the idea of Pencil Pals happened because they write with their pencils and not pens.

STUDENT: When I first found out that we were doing pencil pals, I was shocked because it's a new thing, but I was also excited.

STUDENT: My pen pal and I write about like what's your favourite food? Do you play games at home? And I figured out they do Indonesian online.

STUDENT: When we finish writing our letters, we send it to the office and put it in a green bag, a postman comes and collects it and sends it to Reynella South Primary School.

TEACHER: I decided to start Pencil Pals with my year 3-4 class because I really wanted them to have an authentic way of writing and reading with a real person, someone that they've never met before.

STUDENT: My reaction when I found out that I was going to have a pencil pal was like exciting because you get to meet new people and making new friends.

STUDENT: Our pencil pals write like, what's your favourite animal? Like what did you do at camp, and they write, what's their routine at school.

STUDENT: My pencil pal's name is Dawson, he likes drawing and his favourite animal is a stringback lizard.

STUDENT: My pencil pal, Pencil pal's name is Amelia and what I learned from her is she draws really good, and she drew me a little alien on the moon.

STUDENT: Writing to my pencil pal has helped me write neatly and reminds me to do capital letters.

STUDENT: It feels exciting to know what the person likes and more personal information or information about them.

STUDENT: Other schools should definitely have pencil pals because they can commute with, communicate with each other, and they can also meet new people they haven't met before.

Closer

Well, that's all we've got for you today, but next week we'll have a special episode for Media Literacy Week where we'll be digging into digital media. In the meantime, you can jump online whenever you like to check out more BTN and Newsbreak and BTN High. Oh, and don't forget to fill out our Social Media Ban survey. Have a great week and I'll see next time. Bye.