

**INSIDE**



Photography 101, P5



History this week, P10

**AMITEpoll**

Do you think that international intervention in India's internal matters poses a threat to the country's sovereignty?

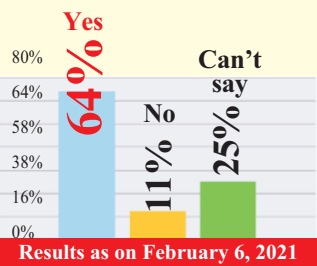
- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Can't say

To vote, log on to [www.theglobaltimes.in](http://www.theglobaltimes.in)

**POLL RESULT**

for GT issue February 1, 2021

Do you think the new Co-WIN app developed by the government would help in an effective vaccine drive across the country?



**Coming Next**

Pro@project

# The Indian toy story

A Look At How India Is On The Path To Become A Global Toy Hub

Illustration: Nishita Gusain, BFA(Sem VIII), ASFA, AUUP



ocean of the toy industry that is yet to be unleashed, as the youth is re-acquainted with the indigenous culture of India.

**An enormous win for employment**

Not many of us are aware of the market expanse of the Indian Toy Industry, to be precise- over 250 crores. The same industry stumps up an estimated 800-1200 billion INR to the national economy. Being a labour-intensive trade, it implies that this industry has the unrealised potential to generate huge amount of jobs in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), which could further balloon the industry size and also enable it to burgeon in the global charts, leaving behind toy manufacturing giants like China. As this fair aims to join forces with native and foreign exhibitors in copious amounts, it can be concluded with confidence that employment will see a major rise in the times to come. It is but a glimmer of hope for a sector that already engages 2.5 million population, 50% of which are women. Underscoring this is the fact that about 4 to 5 lakh Indian artisans will be re-skilled in accordance with the rapidly expanding technology of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Internet of Things (IoT). Thus proving that the magnificence and authenticity that is attained through the laborious manual efforts, simply cannot be accomplished by mere machines!

...continued on page 6

**Samiksha Dubey**  
 AIS Noida, XI J

Augmenting fuel prices, tumbling economy, environmental crises- while all these issues make their way to the headlines of GT more often than not, here's something that lightens the reader's head but is also earnest enough to be on the front page. As India is set to launch the first ever virtual National Toy Fair, to be held from February 27 to March 2, 2021, under the aegis of Ministry of

Textiles, this top story (read: toy story) sets the ball rolling already. And if you wonder why a mere toy fest has all the attention converged to itself amidst the more critical subjects of discourse, let's discover how it notches on every aspect of an Aatmanirbhar Bharat!

**A colossal win for our culture**

Contrary to what most of us think, toys are not mere playthings for impressionable children. Statistics say that 26% of

India's population is below the age of 15 years, so why not blend the entertainment factor with a little enlightenment, too? Fortunately, the National Toy Fair reinforces the same. From historical legends such as Rani Laxmi Bai to the valiant Param Veer Chakra awardees to the practice of Yoga, the motive is to ideate upon highlighting the long-standing history of our country. And with history comes culture, which is seldom found in the history books. Age-old art-forms such as puppetry, which

are now almost imperilled, are most likely set to be revived through this endeavour. With regional figurines like Kondapalli toys of Andhra Pradesh, Thanjavur dolls of Tamil Nadu, and Asharikandi Terracotta toys from Assam, this fair provides a platform to the various states of India to develop toys that embellish their heritage and bespeak their aboriginal history, further embedding the enriching culture in the young minds. Thus proving that this exhibition would serve as a drop in the vast

# Becoming a better 'me'

It's Time To Make Your Mind, Body And Soul Achieve Peace

**Anushka Ramesh, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI F**

The well-being of mind, body and soul should always be our priority, and nobody knows this better than Deeksha Mitra who has many feathers on her cap like being a TV host, anchor, make-up artist and a life skill coach. Presiding as a jury member at Youth Power Finale 2020, GT caught up the exclusive chance for a rendezvous with her where she shared her valuable thoughts on how to become a better version of ourselves.

**Towards a virtuous life**

We must first understand that all virtues and values are interrelated, and once we start on the right path and imbibe even one virtue in our life, the rest of them will follow. There are a lot of virtues we should imbibe in our life, the most important one being 'authenticity' - it brings out inner clarity which helps us to stay sane in the chaos and clutter of the outside world. Another virtue that helps us is 'courage' as it lets us stand up for our beliefs and dreams. What we need is 'intuition' that assists us to determine right from wrong, and also 'efficiency' as it helps us to utilise our resources like time, money and thoughts, properly. If we have these four virtues imbibed in ourselves, then there is nothing we can't achieve.

**Towards holistic development**

We call ourselves 'human beings' where we

know the reality of the five elements of the physical world that makes us human, but often forget the metaphysical entity that creates our being. If we want to move towards being a better version of ourselves, we need to understand that we are more than just our bodies. We need to create an amicable relationship between our physical self and mental self to truly reach a holistic level. Right now, we live in a world that practices cut-throat competition, but instead of getting too caught up in it, I think we need to liberate ourselves from our own limitations and focus on just doing our best. As a child, I used to be very scared of competitions but I told myself that I should focus more on giving my best than achieving the first position, and that helped me a lot. If we only focus on standing on the top, we will drown in the unnecessary pressure created by the society.

**Towards a happier self**

Society, nation and world - what are they if not just collection of individuals? So, if the individuals start focusing on their emotions and thoughts, caring for their happiness, the world will automatically become a happier place. In today's time, acceptance and accommodation are the two utmost qualities needed to achieve inner happiness and peace. To become a more content version of ourselves, we need to come to terms with the fact that the world around us will change constantly, and the only way to move forward is to go with the flow. We need to come to terms with

change, come to terms with our own ambitions and hope, accept and accommodate our emotions and help the ones around us. Once we start inculcating all these things, we will realise that our soul is attaining peace.

**Towards a responsible future**

Watching Amitians take a stand for various social concerns in the Youth Power programme was really heartwarming. Their projects were filled with so much dedication and compassion that their selfless intentions of wanting to make the world a better place were extremely clear. Not only so but they also came up with solutions to the problems the world is facing, proving that we can truly tackle any issue we face as long as we do it together. As individuals, it is important to listen to our own inner voice that tells us to do the right thing, and I think Amitians have really been taught to do that. If we want to succeed in life, we all must take responsibility for our own thoughts, words and actions. Like the Youth Power teams, we all must also do our best to achieve what we are aiming for.



Deeksha Mitra, life skills coach





# India This Week

Divyansh Khamboj, AGS Noida, VIII

While we sit on our couch just breathing, a lot of things happen around us, and sometimes in our very own country. We bring you the ones worth mentioning.



## Air bubble agreement to be signed

**News:** According to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, India will sign air bubble agreements with Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia. Notably, India already holds such agreements with 24 other countries. Indians can travel to more than 100 countries via connecting flights. The move has been planned to give a boost to the aviation sector, which has been badly hit due to the pandemic.

**Views:** The air bubble agreement is a temporary bilateral agreement providing benefit to the two countries who sign it, and enables easy transport of passengers where international flights are suspended due to the pandemic. As part of Vande Bharat Mission, special flights under this agreement will help to re-establish connectivity and re-open the travel corridor between India and other countries. Kudos to the government who is not only looking at tackling the pandemic but also rebuilding the Indian air transport industry. It is great to see India moving ahead, whilst prioritising safety.

Rohan Nautiyal, AGS Noida, VIII

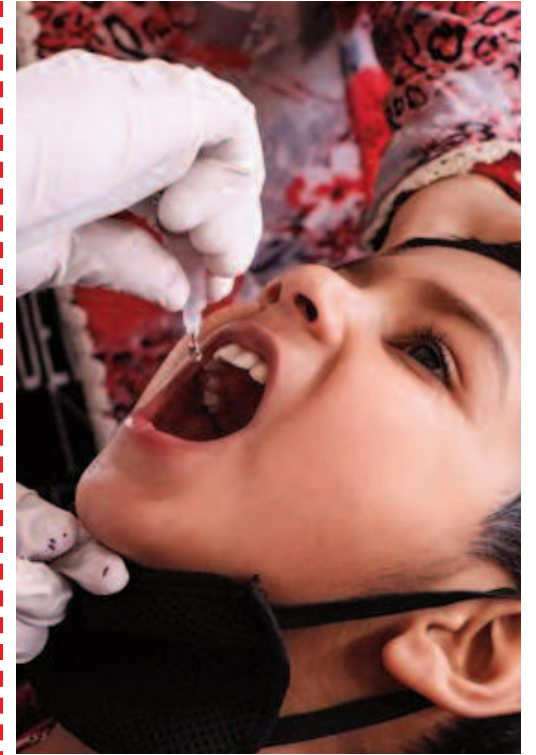


## 10.2% growth in India's power consumption

**News:** At a three-month high rate, India's power consumption grew to 111.43 billion units in January 2021. The power demand recorded on January 30, 189.64 GW, was also noted to be all time high so far. Even as the industry faced a slowdown in November, it is said that this growth is signaling the restarting of economic activities.

**Views:** Electricity consumption is considered one of the important standards of a country's development. The country's power consumption is indicative of India's struggle to keep the economy afloat. Since the lockdown in March 2020, India has fought tooth and nail to keep its economy in place. The increased power usage in the new year is reflective of economic activities picking up. We can now look forward to the pre-pandemic growth of the economy very soon.

Ananya Bhutani, AGS Noida, VIII



## 89 lakh kids given polio drops

**News:** As per Union Health Ministry, around 89 lakh children under the age of five were given polio drops on the occasion of 'Polio Ravivar' aka Polio National Immunisation Day. With 7 lakh booths, 12 lakh vaccinators and 1.8 lakh supervisors, the process was also followed by house-to-house surveillance over the next 2-5 days to identify and vaccinate children who might have missed the booths.

**Views:** India has been a polio free nation for a decade, with the last case reported on January 12, 2011. The government has left no stone unturned to maintain this polio free status. Through this campaign, India has strengthened the health care of all children below the age of five by building their immunity. The focus is on ensuring that children are safe from preventable diseases. For healthy children will ultimately be the country's assets when they become adults and perform productively in their chosen fields.

Anwasha Bal, AGS Noida, VIII

## Cryptocurrencies to be banned

**News:** The government has listed out a legislative agenda where a new law will soon prohibit all cryptocurrencies. However, certain exceptions will be made in areas that aim to promote its underlying technology and uses. The agenda also aims for an official digital currency that will be issued by the RBI and can be properly regulated by the government.

**Views:** Cryptocurrency is a digital currency that has no physical structure; it is encrypted and traded virtually. It provides better security, removes middleman from the transaction, thereby lowering cost and ensuring easy accessibility. The government's decision to create their own personalised digital currency shows that India understands that cryptocurrency is here to stay. India has always shown a strong resistance to cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, but in this innovative environment where technology is growing, it's great that our country is moving forward with it.

Nysa Yadav, AGS Noida, VIII



# Around The WORLD

GT keeps the newswire ticking by bringing you news from around the globe



## USA

### Jeff Bezos steps down

The founder of the biggest e-commerce giant Amazon, Jeff Bezos has announced that he'll step down from the position of CEO later this summer. He will take over as Amazon's executive chairman and focus on new products and longer-term projects at the company, including his rocket venture Blue Origin. Andy Jassy, head of Amazon's cash-cow cloud computing division, will take up the chair of CEO.

## UNITED KINGDOM

### COVID-19 UK variant mutated again

Scientists in England have warned the world that the deadlier variant of COVID-19 detected in England at the end of 2020 has showcased signs of further mutation called E484K. This mutation has already been detected in South Africa and Brazil with fears running high that the current vaccines will be less effective against it.



## MYANMAR

### Military takes control

After detaining Aung San Suu Kyi and other democratically elected leaders, Myanmar's military has seized power over the country where a one-year state of emergency has been declared. The army coup happened after the recent landslide election win by Suu Kyi's party which has been called a 'fraud' by the opposition.



## SAUDI ARABIA

### Entry banned of 20 countries

To contain the spread of COVID-19, the country has banned arrivals from 20 countries including India, US, Switzerland, Pakistan, Brazil, etc. The 'temporary suspension' exempts all diplomats, Saudi citizens, medical practitioners and their families, but will apply to all travellers who passed through these 20 countries during the 14 days before the implementation of the ban.



## AUSTRALIA

### Perth bushfire wreaks havoc

Hundreds of Australians have fled their homes as a bushfire on the outskirts of Perth continued to grow. The fire has already burnt through 9,000 hectares of land, destroyed more than 70 homes, and injured at least 6 firefighters. The city has entered a 5-day lockdown where officials have urged people to self-isolate in evacuation centers to stop the spread of COVID.



## DENMARK

### First energy island mapped out

The country is all set to create the world's first energy island in the North Sea. Aimed at covering the electricity needs of over three million European households and supplying green hydrogen for shipping, aviation and other transportation usages, this artificial energy island would initially be the size of 18 football fields and would cost around 33.9 billion USD to build.



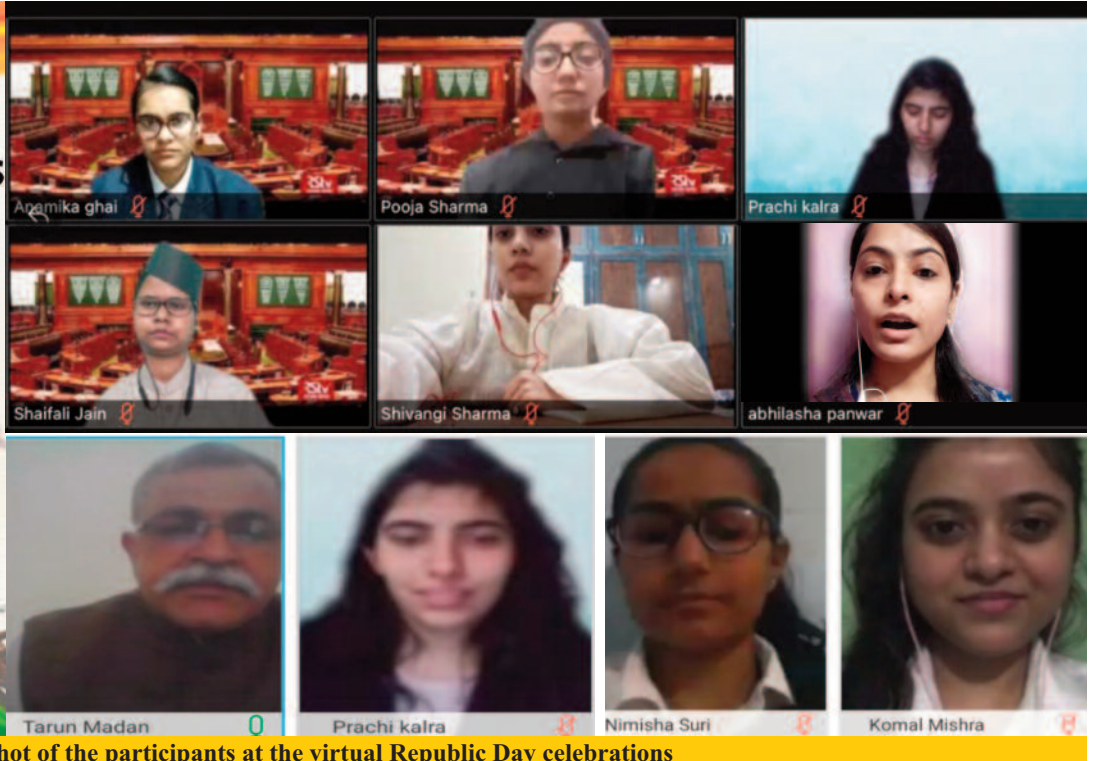


# Happy Republic Day

Commemorating The Glorious Constitution Of Our Beloved Motherland, Our India

## AIBAS | AUUP

To celebrate the 72nd Republic Day of India, Amity Institute of Behavioural and Allied Sciences organised a virtual programme on January 25, 2021. The programme saw the presence of Brigadier Tarun Madan as chief guest along with guests such as Dr Shruti Kant Pandey, head & assistant professor, AISSR, AUUP and Dr GN Tiwari, associate professor, AIE, AUUP as well as other faculty members and students. The event commenced with a virtual flag hoisting ceremony, which was followed by a welcome address by Dr Harish Kumar, HOI, AIBAS, wherein he highlighted the problems faced by our nation and the role of youth in overcoming these challenges. Adding to Dr Harish Kumar's address, chief guest of the day, Brig Tarun Madan, encouraged the audience to become dedicated and responsible citizens of the nation as youth are the harbingers of change. With the statement 'Do unto others that you would like others do unto you', he motivated the students to work hard towards creating a progressive, peaceful and harmonious society. The event also saw a skit performance by the students which conveyed the significance of Republic



A snapshot of the participants at the virtual Republic Day celebrations

Day, followed by a short play that depicted the making of the Indian constitution and the challenges faced during the process. A presentation was showcased that honoured the valuable contributions of all the leaders who played a role in drafting

the constitution, followed by another skit that portrayed the journey of B R Ambedkar, popularly called the 'Father of the Indian Constitution'. With a presentation on the Preamble of India and a melodious patriotic song that gave a glimpse of the

highly diverse culture and traditions of our country, the event came to an end. Dr T Beena, programme leader, AIBAS, concluded the programme with a vote of thanks as the audience buzzed with patriotism and love for their motherland.

## Learn from mistakes

The word 'entrance exam' is self-sufficient to make one feel nervous because it brings along an array of questions popping in your mind. Well, how about you get to listen from someone who has experienced it already? To all the young aspirants, GT brings to you a special column 'Amity Alumnus', where star performers from AICE will share tips and tricks to put an end to all the nervousness and fear associated with entrance exams. Read on...

### How did your journey for IIT-JEE began?

Right from an early age, I had an inclination towards mathematics and science. Eventually, I found my calling in the field of engineering and that's when my JEE preparations began.

### What role did AICE play to help you crack the competitive exams?

AICE constantly provided me with an extremely insightful platform which enabled me to pursue my goals. Since JEEs are known to be the most challenging competitive exams in India, I found myself just in the right place for all the guidance. The faculty at Synchro were always welcoming when it came to any doubts I had during my preparation.

### How did you prepare for IIT-JEE?

Initially, I focused on advanced concepts required for the exam, and solved problems related to those concepts in daily routine. And once I was sure about the entire syllabus, I started attempting question papers of previous years to see where I stand. Whenever I couldn't attempt any question, I would mark the queries and get them solved in the classes.

### How did you manage regular studies and prep-ups for competitive exams?

Synchro programme helped me create the



**Name:** Abhimanu Sinha  
**AICE Batch:** 2018 - 2020  
**AICE Programme:** Synchro two-year program  
**Currently pursuing:** B tech Electrical Engineering  
**College/University:** IIT Delhi

## AMITY ALUMNUS

needful balance between my regular studies and competitive exam preps. At the onset, the programme correspondingly divided the time into two slots- one for CBSE board preparation and the other for JEE preparation. This tremendously helped me focus only on the important areas in order to manage both of them.

### Are there some preparation strategies to crack IIT-JEE?

The foremost strategy is to maintain a proper schedule. A proper time table to revise the concepts taught in the coaching classes as well as in school classroom is a

must. Both the classes are important and skipping even one of them can add towards difficulty in understanding the complex concepts. In addition, follow your teachers' guidance; solve as many questions as you can, and analyse previous year questions.

### According to you, when should an aspirant start preparing for competitive exams?

Competitive exam preparations usually commence when one reaches grade XI. However, I feel that it is always better to start a little early, to be precise in grade IX, in order to acquire a good base.

### What are the key learnings that you would like to share with young aspirants?

Preparing for competitive exams is crucial. So, cut down on your screen time and manage sleep hours. Most importantly, self study and learn from your mistakes, because with these two things, you can crack the toughest of entrance exams. All the best!

## Rapid fire

**One word to describe...**  
**Your alma mater:** Memorable  
**The motto of your life:** Keep digging deeper  
**Your passion:** Inexhaustible  
**Yourself:** Enthusiast



## Job Festivals Met Classroom

### Pranjal Jain, AIS MV, Alumna

India is a cornucopia of festivals. From Lohri to Christmas, the Indian calendar is replete with all reasons to celebrate. And nothing emulates this celebratory fervour better than the Indian classroom, where each student brings in a reason to rejoice.

**Holi aka the artistic kid:** Armed with a pouch with colours of all kinds, be it pencil colours, sketch pens or doodle pens, this one can be spotted doodling on everything that ranges from notebooks to desks. Lose their colour pencil and watch them lose their mind.

**Diwali aka the popular kid:** Just like our favourite festival, this one lights up the classroom with their incessant energy. From glittering anars to cracking jokes on why the kid in the next class got scolded; they have it all covered.

### Eid aka the excuse me kid:

If you've ever wondered what is 'eid ka chaand', here's your answer. This one is usually sick and barely shows his presence in class. And since the teacher hardly gets to see this child, his once in a blue moon appearance is celebration-worthy.

### Lohri aka the on-fire kid:

Say Lohri and you immediately think bonfire, which is why this child is a true mascot of the festival. Always panicking about something from homework to class test to even the surprise assembly, their house is always on fire.

### Dusherra aka the multi-faceted kid:

Wait, wasn't he just sworn enemies with Varun? Looks like they are BFFs now. And he said he was never going for the camp, but is the first one to sign in. We bet even Ravana didn't have as many faces as this kid.





# The volcanic eruption

Here's An Easy-Peasy Trick To Make Mountains Go Off While Sitting At Home



The student conducts the science experiment in the school



The volcano model prepared by the student

Prayan Srivastava

## Science experiment

Prayan Srivastava  
AIS Vasundhara 6, II

**Aim:** To understand the scientific process of volcanic eruption and the various factors that trigger it

### Material required

#### For Volcano

- Cardboard box - 1
- Empty plastic bottle (1 litre) - 1
- Newspaper - 1
- PVA craft glue
- Masking tape

- Water - 1 cup

#### For Lava

- Paper funnel
- Bicarbonate soda - 4 tbsp
- Orange food colouring
- White vinegar - 1 cup

### Procedure

#### For Volcano

- Take a cardboard box, big enough to contain the volcano. Make sure there are no holes in it.
- Keep a plastic bottle in the middle of it. Remove the lid.
- Scrunch up some newspaper pieces and place them all around the bottle.

Using a masking tape, make a frame, running from the mouth of the bottle down to the cardboard platform. Make sure you trap the scrunched up newspaper pieces underneath.

Now mix one-part glue to one-part water to make as much papier mache paste as required.

Take the remaining newspaper and cut out strips of about 12x4 cm.

Start pasting the strips all around the volcano using the paste. Check for any gaps and holes and make it as layered as possible. Let it dry for a few hours.

Now, paint it in a colour of your own choice and let it dry.

#### For Lava

- Fill the bottle with hot water.
- Using a paper funnel, add bicarbonate soda to it.
- Now, mix some orange dye in vinegar and pour it through the paper funnel.
- Stand back and watch as the volcano begins to erupt!

**Observation:** You will see that as and when you add vinegar to sodium bicarbonate, the mixture bubbles up and finally explodes.

**What science says?** Sodium bicarbonate is base in nature, while vinegar hap-

pens to be a diluted acetic acid. As these two combine, it results in the creation of an acid-base chemical reaction, forming water and also releasing carbon dioxide gas in the process. CO<sub>2</sub> pushes to the bottom of this bottled mix and builds up enough pressure inside the volcano, resulting in fizzing, bubbling, and hence, the final eruption. The more the mix (bicarbonate soda and vinegar), the bigger the explosion! Likewise, in a natural volcanic eruption, pyroclastic material (a mix of magma, ash, rocks, and hot gases) explodes upward owing to the pressure caused by underground gases and magma. [G I](#)

# An adventurous insight

As We Manage To Sneak Into The Kitchen Of The Mighty Plant Kingdom

Vishnu Shukla & Aarav Tandon  
AIS Gurugram 43, X A

As Nico tucked himself cozily in his blanket, his eyes shot open in an instant, suddenly remembering the Environmental Studies test tomorrow that had so easily slipped out of his mind till now. Fear overtook him as he realised that he hadn't studied for it and did not even have the time to prepare now. It was already past midnight and if he didn't sleep now, he definitely wouldn't be able to get up on time for school in the morning. Accepting his fate, he lay his head on the pillow again with his worries finally being clouded by sleep.

But as he snoozed on, an uneasy feeling took over him, waking him up. His eyes fell on the potted plant kept on the window sill of his room and he sighed, "I wish I knew all about you." "Well, you could learn about me now!" came the reply. Nico instantly sat up with his mouth wide open in surprise. "Ho-How can you talk? Plants aren't supposed to talk!" he finally replied. "Well, I am a living being just like yourself, so I can talk! But let's not waste time on such trivial things, because I know you have more important things to learn like photosynthesis, am I right?" asked the plant. "Please, please tell me all about how you cook your food. I have a test tomorrow and I don't want to get a bad grade," he pleaded. "Sure! I have just the thing for you," came the plant's voice, and in the next second, all Nico could see was a bright

glowing light that crowded his vision. He quickly covered his eyes and when he finally opened them, he wasn't in his room anymore.

He stood in a giant room that had green walls and witnessed an entire factory of green-skinned people walking in multiple lines, all of them carrying boxes of different colours like red, orange, yellow, blue and purple. "Welcome to the plant factory, Nico," called a familiar voice, and as he turned, he saw the same potted plant from his room. "What you see here are the workers carrying different components to the plant important for its survival." The plant started making its way through the crowd and Nico followed him into a large room where the ceiling was made of glass, but it also had holes in it through which various pipes ran. In amazement, Nico noticed how a golden fluid sort of substance flew through the tubes and was dropped in a huge container that was placed on the other side of the room. "That is sunlight," spoke the plant, "This is very important for my kind as it helps us generate food. All these workers you see in the room belong to the species called chlorophyll, and you will see how they are packing the sunlight in yellow boxes to be sent to Mr Leaf for preparing our



food." Nico nodded and followed him once more as they climbed the elevator to another floor which had two pipes. One of the pipes carried an orange substance which, as the plant told him, was carbon dioxide sucked into the plant using the pipes. "It helps us in the process of photosynthesis; the red boxes carry oxygen, which is the waste left behind so we use the second pipe to throw it out."

The plant, once again, guided Nico to another floor. "This is the root room," said the plant. "You see, this is the bottom-most floor of our factory, and these pipes are our roots that suck in water and load them into the blue boxes. Water is also responsible for carrying different nutrients to var-

ious parts of the plant. The workers that transport water are called xylem. Now, Nico, do you see the green man standing over there? He is Mr Leaf. He is the chef that uses all these ingredients to cook food for all of us. After he is done with his intense job, phloem workers then transport the food to different parts in the purple boxes, and that is how we make and consume our food! Do you understand the procedure now?"

Nico was amazed at the whole process and after learning about it all, he knew that he was ready for his test in the morning. [G I](#)





The world's largest weaving village is in Assam.

# Photography 101

## Some Tips To Go From A Beginner To A Pro

Ayushi Jain

AIS Gurugram 43, IX A

Photography - not just the art of taking photographs, but a journey of thousands of pixels that come together to give you memories. Taking photographs that you can look back on with love and admiration sure is a difficult task. But worry not! Here are some tips that all the budding GT photographers can follow to finally be featured in Camera Capers.

One of the biggest myths, when it comes to photography, is believing that the more expensive the camera, the better the photos. You can click beautiful shots even from a basic DSLR or your smartphone; don't worry too much about investing in an expensive camera that is too high-tech for you. Just

focus on your skills.

To take interesting photos, try to look at the frame holistically. Make sure your subject is in focus. Try to strike a balance between the subject and the background, and adjust your frame accordingly.

To learn more, just keep experimenting. Nobody is great at anything from the first try, so keep trying new shots, new settings, new setups, new subjects, and new features to see what your niche is.

Good lighting is very important for a good photograph, so make sure that your photos are taken in a well-lit setting. Also, ensure that the balance of the light on the subject and the background is suitable.

You might end up with dull photos if you only click from the same old

face to face level, so try moving your feet and explore new angles. Climb on top of things, change the height of your camera, go low, or try being a little too far from the subject - anything different. Experiment and you'll probably end up with some unique shots!

One of the easiest ways to keep yourself motivated to become better is to click what you love. If you are a reader, try clicking photos of your books. If you are going out with your friends, try taking some candid shots. If you love food, click your plate before you devour it whole. In doing so, you'll love the process even more!

You don't really have to be a professional photographer to click great photos; like any other art form, it only requires diligence, and that you have fun whilst engaging in it!

## It's not a joke...

### ...So You Better Take It Seriously

Anushka Puthran, AIS Noida, Alumna

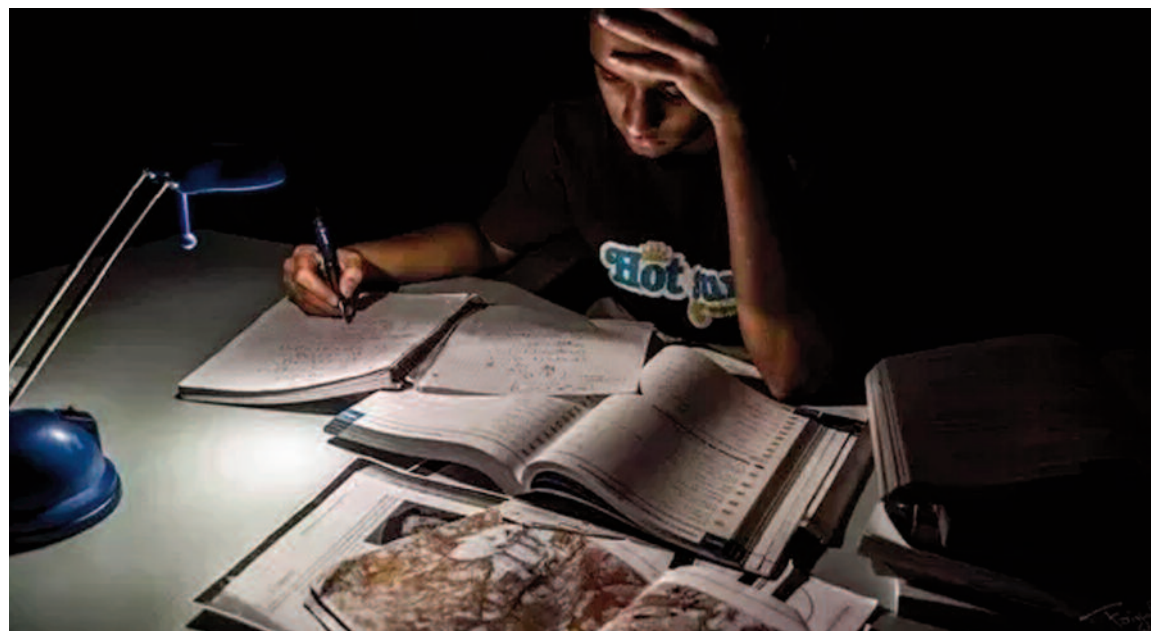
Knock knock! Who's there? Boo. Boo who? No need to cry, it's only me. Me who? Mr PJ, aka Mr Poor Joke. You all know me; I have been introduced to you at one point or the other. Some of you love me, the others roll their eyes in my presence.

"*Sher ke ghar mei kabhi chori kyu nahi hoti? Kyuki Sher-Lock Holmes.*" *Hasi nahi aayi?* So, you deem yourself very clever and imaginative and look down at me, but I have news for you, I am much more important than you think. My very presence is due to creative overload and wit. I may not always fit in your group, but there is at least one person who appreciates my being.

Do you know what makes a gloomy person happy? My existence! If you're sad and you know it, call me! \*clap clap\* Well, more like your friends dragging me with them, to get a smile on your face. They do succeed, don't they? Despite everything, there is at least one person in your friend group that always makes me tag along with you guys.

You may or may not be happy about that, but I see you trying to stifle that smile of yours. Secretly, somewhere deep down, you're all glad that I exist.

To be honest, if we look back in time, you all admired me at one point. It was my magic that made your happiness and laughter echo through the entire place. And now, look at you being utterly judgemental about me. Is this the course that our friendship has taken? But I guess it's okay. I know I am not alone. There is always someone new that is introduced to me, every single day. You may not like me anymore, but someone always does. After all, your dad loves me! Want proof? Don't you remember the last time you said "Dad, I'm bored" and he replied "Hi bored! I'm dad!" You did roll your eyes, but it also did make you laugh a great deal. You see, it requires a lot of intellect, knowledge, and a good sense of humour, to summon and understand me. I mean, if you miss even a single vital piece of information, you won't be able to get me! Not everyone can achieve this form of peak humour and wit that is me. 🙄



## The all-nighter paradigm

### How To Move Mountains Before An Exam

Sanya Kalra, AIS PV, XII C

It's that weekend you knew was to arrive but had been indifferent to it all this time; that dreaded weekend which is to be followed by an equally dreaded exam. While you had been sitting on the precious time (and syllabus) for months now, the time has come when you must pull through the impossible load in a single night. So, here we are in an effort to unroll the many phases to accomplish a successful (read terribly unsuccessful) all-nighter. The only saving grace to salvage all the time lost, here you go!

**Phase I: The preparation | Time: 2:03 pm**

Firstly, pull together all that you can for this impracticable mission. Plan an unrealistic and overly ambitious schedule-check. All the notes and books on the table-check. The worn out, unsharpened pencil, the pierced through eraser, all the unrequired stationery- check. All the snacks for interval munching- check. Nap for one hour in the afternoon- check.

**Phase II: The procrastination | Time: 5:16 pm**

So, what if you just misspent the entire afternoon napping on the study table? You've still got the entire night to yourself for studying, right? It makes perfect sense to start at midnight. Till then, you can catch up with your friends, right?

**Phase III: The realisation | Time: 11:45pm**

Okay, it starts to dawn on you that you have an exam

tomorrow. Time to be serious now. Hold on though, you should eat something before you start, or else hunger might distract you later. Much like a hopeless scavenger, you open the fridge only to find that your sibling has finished off your pint of ice-cream.

**Phase IV: The situation | Time: 3:00 am**

The guilt starts trickling in. In the blink of an eye, you're suffocating with anxiety, seeing your future fade away into darkness. You never completed your paper, you haven't studied for your test. You practically hear your grades hitting rock bottom. Grades. University. Job. Life. You realise what's at stake.

**Phase V: The resolution | Time: 3:15 am**

After vowing to never procrastinate (for the 79th time), you finally abandon all distractions and study. The stress has your heart racing and your focus at its peak. At an unprecedented speed, you finish the assignments, complete the research paper and revise for your test. What, really?

**Phase VI: The consolation | Time: 6:32 am**

Your frail self finds it nearly impossible to endure the cruelties of nature. Oh, my God! Why is the sun so bright? Why are birds chirping so loudly? You barely rip open your eyes before your head starts hurting a little too much.

You know it's the doom and try to recollect all that you saw in the movie 2012. You wish it upon yourself and how! 🙄





# Mind Your Toys



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore had once eloquently remarked, "The best toys are the ones which are incomplete and children complete them while playing. For, in doing so, they kindle their inner creativity and create the projection of the world as

they experience it. It makes it easy for elders and teachers to evaluate a child's mind and steer them in the right direction." The thought remains relevant even in the present times for learners, educators and parents alike. The toys children are given, or even the ones they choose themselves, play a significant role in shaping their personality.

While reading this week's top story on toys on Page 1, I couldn't help but ponder over how society continues to encourage boys to play with guns and fast cars, while choosing kitchen sets and pretty dolls for girls. That brings the question – have we as adults, and especially as parents, sown the seeds of gender inequality, starting from these ubiquitous toys? Well, surely, we need to be more responsible in how we are influencing and stimulating a child's vision of the world.

Encouraging gender bias is just one worrisome facet of this toy story. Alarming spurt in sale of violent and aggressive toys and games is another area that demands immediate concern. Instead of fueling creativity, these toys provoke unhealthy competitiveness and exclusivity instead of compassion and inclusivity.

We need to be mindful that the toys we choose for our children encourage innovation, build social skills and empower critical thinking. Toys should be tools for sculpting personalities rather than being mere objects of play. [GT](#)

## Painted Boxes to PS4



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

A friend's 22-year-old son recently announced that he wanted a Playstation-IV. After intense discussions between the two, it was mutually decided that mother and son would equally share the cost of this trendy, experiential game. I listened to my

friend's rant patiently, while being both amused and aghast at the idea of spending thousands of rupees on just a game. And then nostalgia hit. I was transported to the time when toys were more our friends than possessions to flaunt, when less was more and life was lived mostly in the 3-R (reduce, reuse and recycle) mode.

That was the era of little dolls and miniature kitchen sets, tiny trains and tinier cars, tinted sunglasses and pocket-sized binoculars, and many such simple toys. In fact, we were quite skilled at DIY toys and fashioned our own toys from toffee wrappers and shoe boxes. A childhood friend used to persuade her parents to buy shoes for her only for the boxes they came in. And the box would soon become a beautiful house for her dolls! Some used match boxes, some twigs and fallen leaves, some used pens and old paper clips – everything and anything that was found within our own home- was all it took to set up a complete office or home, and to script our own toy story.

Toys should be the tools of constructive engagement and should inspire creativity, no matter what the times are. I hope the lesson of minimalism we learnt last year can also be extended to weaving toy stories that require an investment of no more than just inner joy. [GT](#)

# Guts, grit and more

## Empowering Women Through Sport

Farhan Siddiqui, AIS Gurugram 46, X E

**S**ports; the word itself commands passion and devotion. The realm of sports is not governed by boundaries; it is sans discrimination and religion. It only sees talent and a hunger to win. Whether in our homeland or abroad, sports have always been a unifying factor, bringing people together regardless of their caste, creed, religion and age. Of late, it has also played a significant role in the empowerment of women.

In a country such as India, where in many areas, women are seen as the inferior gender and a burden on the family, sports has helped them obliterate the suppressive notions of patriarchy and achieve success and recognition. It has challenged gender norms imposed on women from a tender age and has helped them gain confidence. Furthermore, by participating in sports, women have developed leadership skills as well as strengthened their self-esteem.

Globally, governments and different organisations have taken significant steps to empower women in the field of sports. For instance, back in 2016, UN Women and In-

ternational Olympic Committee came together and initiated a programme 'One Win Leads to Another (OWLA)' during the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. The programme successfully combined life skills education with sports for marginalised girls and young women. At the end of the programme, the girls were more confident and self-aware.

Recently, the Brazil government announced equal pay for their men and women football team; a significant step in the fight for equality. The move, indeed is revolutionary because the most obvious and quantifiable manifestation of gender-based discrimination that women athletes face is the huge pay gap.

So, the next time you see Jhulan Goswami, Dutee Chand, Maria Sharapova and Serena Williams bring fire to their game, remember- it is more than a sport; it is a fight for equality, a chance to inspire and quell the fears of millions of young women who feel caged by their surroundings and their circumstances. You go girl!



# The toy story

Continued from page 1...

### An efficacious win for economy

India is home to 25 percent of children between the age of 0-12 years in the world, which explains why more than 85% of the toys are imported to the country with the maximum coming in from China. However, our own country's toy exports account for less than 0.5% of global demand, much indicative of the untapped potential of the country when it comes to domestic production, also suggesting that there is a multitude of opportunities to be grasped and utilised. As per sources, the local toy sector is slated to grow to \$3.3 billion by 2024 from \$1.75 billion in 2019, as PM Narendra Modi's Vocal for Local is being unfurled across the country. In addition, the government proposes to focus on helping the domestic toy manufacturers in scaling up their operations by increasing export of Indian toys, and finding new markets in countries like Australia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), South Africa and

Russia, whilst curbing the import of low-quality toys. The Indian toy industry is worth around INR 4,000 crore, with INR 1,500 crore from the organised sector, and INR 2,500 crore from the traditional sector. With the Department of Industry and Internal Trading collaborating with Indian manufacturers for investment in the local toy sector, efforts are being made to shift the concentration of manufacturers in the unorganised sector to the organised sector.

*Thus proving that the toy fair will be a catalyst in the process of the national market taking a massive leap towards progress, leading to a flourishing Indian economy.*

### An incredible win for innovation

In this fast-paced world, it has become paramount to embrace the young generation's growing predisposition towards technology. According to Statista, a database company, a population of 365 million online gamers was recorded in India in 2020. India also ranked the highest in

terms of the increasing number of online game downloads with a growth rate of 165% between 2016-18. While this inclination towards technology keeps on rising, there must be a symbiotic approach, entailing a healthy balance of online and conventional games. Bearing this in mind, the launch of this fair gives way to Atal Tinkering Lab or Walmart Toy Lab, which will lend support to educational tech-enabled toys, and will also provide a specialised toy marking for quality certification and original design. In light of the same, Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar's Centre for Creative Learning (CCL) has developed over 200 toys, for instance, a hydraulic JCB controlled using syringes, a robot made using a DC motor, easy learning of geometry through lamps, and many more.

*Thus proving that in order to move up the ladder of progress, technology and tradition must go hand in hand, with an increased focus on cognition, inventiveness and imagination.* [GT](#)



Dear Editor,

As an Amitian, I feel truly honoured to be conferred with the GT School Time Achievement Award. It is a dream come true for me. No matter how many words of gratitude I pick from the dictionary, mere words cannot express my gratitude towards our respected Chairperson ma'am and my teachers for constantly motivating me to be better. My heartfelt thanks to GT for giving me endless opportunities and for pushing me to think in vivid colours. Besides, how can I forget my valuable YP journey wherein I, along with my team, took up the important topic of air pollution and GT was there to help, support, and motivate. Thank you to everyone at GT for making my experience as a writer so fruitful and exciting. The yellow and blue hues of my beloved Global Times will forever run through the veins of my soul.

Megha Chatopadhyay  
AIS Vasundhara 1, Alumna



Issue: February 1, 2021

Dear Editor,

Even though we couldn't chant our school's name in unison through the screen, we could still feel our unity shining through. Truly, GT Awards 2019-20 will forever hold a sacred place in my heart. With bated breaths, we waited for the day the results would come, and winning the Best Newspaper Award has firmly cemented AIS Saket's continuous dedication towards GT. My sincerest thanks to our beloved Chairperson ma'am for being the guiding light, leading our ship to shore and my teachers and the GT team for always being a constant source of motivation.

Resham Talwar  
AIS Saket, XII C





Mawsynram, the world's wettest place, is in Meghalaya.

# HISTORY *this* WEEK

**W**eeks, years, decades, centuries...as time goes by day by day, the world keeps progressing into a newer direction. But as our eyes always stay glued to the telescope, trying to get a glimpse of the shining future we work so hard to create, it is important to take a break and appreciate how far we have come. Let us look back at the pages of history falling between February 8-14 that played their role in shaping our society.

## The world of Sports

FEB  
9  
1895

William G Morgan, director of physical education at YMCA, Holyoke, Massachusetts invented the sport of volleyball. His invention came from the realisation that basketball was too

strenuous of a game to be played by the elderly. He changed the ball and raised the height of the net and voila, 'mintonette', the earlier version of volleyball, was born. Mintonette did not have the rules that volleyball has today such as the limit on number of people on the court or limit on number of times the ball could hit before going over the net.

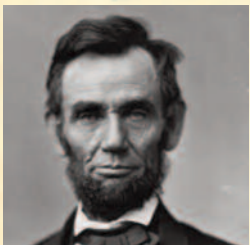


## The world of celebration

FEB  
12  
1809

Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States was born in

Hodgenville, Kentucky. Lincoln attended school only for a year, after which he self-studied to enlighten himself. Before entering politics, Lincoln held various jobs, from postmaster to surveyor and even a shopkeeper. During his presidency, he signed the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing the enslaved, which led him to be known as the Great Emancipator.



FEB  
13  
1879

One of the most prominent figures of Indian history, political activist and poet Sarojini Naidu was born

on this date. Known as 'Nightingale of India', she supported the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi and worked vehemently for India's independence. Naidu was the governor of the United Province, known today as Uttar Pradesh and was the first woman to ever hold the position of governor in India. At the tender age of 12, she started her career in literature. Her notable works include The Golden Threshold (1905), The Bird of Time (1912) among others.



## The world of entertainment



FEB  
9  
1964

Beatlemania officially reached the United States of America after their maiden performance at the Ed Sullivan Show, an American television variety show. The Beatles, an English rock band whose line-up consisted of John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, was formed in 1960 in Liverpool, England. Although popular in the UK, their performance on the Ed Sullivan show blew away the American audience as they belted out energetic numbers. Almost 74 million people, or 40 per cent of the US population, tuned in to watch them perform on the show, cementing their path to becoming one of the best-selling acts in the US.



FEB  
10  
1940

Immensely popular cartoon, Tom and Jerry's first episode was released on this day. Created by William Hanna and Joseph Barbera, the cartoon series centers around the rivalry between the titular characters, Tom, the cat, and Jerry, the mouse. The original run of the cartoon had 114 episodes and won seven Academy Awards in the Best Animated Short Film Category. Since its release, many spin offs have been made including The Tom and Jerry Show (1975), the Tom and Jerry Comedy Show (1980) and many more. A brand-new Tom and Jerry movie is all set to grace the screens this year, continuing a shining legacy of over 81 years.



FEB  
14  
2005

YouTube, the most popular video-sharing platform in the world, was founded. Three former employees of PayPal, an e-commerce company, Chad Hurley, Steve Chen and Jawed Karim created the platform with an aim to facilitate the process of sharing videos seamlessly. Shortly after the site was created, YouTube generated traffic to the tune of 30,000 visitors per day. After its official launch in May, it served almost two million views each day. YouTube was bought by Google for a whopping 1.65 billion USD in 2006.

## The world of politics

FEB  
11  
1990



Anti-apartheid revolutionary figure of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, was released from prison after serving 27 years of a life sentence. He was charged with the attempt to overthrow the apartheid government in 1963 South Africa. During his decades of incarceration, Nelson Mandela remained a revered figure in South Africa; a symbol of hope, dignity and iron will who promised to bring an end to the abhorrent apartheid system.

## The world of Invention



FEB  
8  
1916

The invention of the electrical ignition or self-starting system eliminated the need for hand cranking and thus, completely changed the way people viewed cars. The brainchild of two engineers from General Motors, Charles Kettering and Clyde Coleman, the electrical ignition system consisted of a single ignition coil, breaker points, a capacitor and a distributor, and was considered to be a wonder of that time. This invention led to a boom in vehicular sales as it saved motorists from the often-dangerous job of crank-starting engines; the kickback of which could even break an arm. This crucial piece of technology was the stepping stone of how the world drives today.



FEB  
14  
1876

Applying for patent for the telephone, Alexander Graham Bell, at the young age of only twenty nine, revolutionised the way people communicated. Bell, with the help of machine shop employee Thomas A Watson, improved upon Samuel F B Morse's invention, the telegraph, and created a prototype for the telephone. Three days after the patent for the telephone was approved, Bell's famous call was made. Sitting in one room, Bell summoned Thomas Watson, sitting in the other room, with the now-famous words "Mr Watson, come here. I want to see you", confirming to the world that the incredible invention worked. Although, at that period of time, other scientists such as Antonia Meucci and Elisha Gray were working on technologies similar to the telephone, it is said that Alexander Graham Bell raced to the patent office to secure the patent before anyone else could.

FEB  
8  
1904



With Russia's rejection of Japan's plan to divide Manchuria and Korea into spheres of influence, Japan led a surprise attack against a Russian naval base in China's Port Arthur, marking the commencement of the Russo-Japanese War. After the mediation of a peace treaty between the two countries by the then US president Theodore Roosevelt, Japan emerged as a world power, with its sights firmly set on a greater expansion.



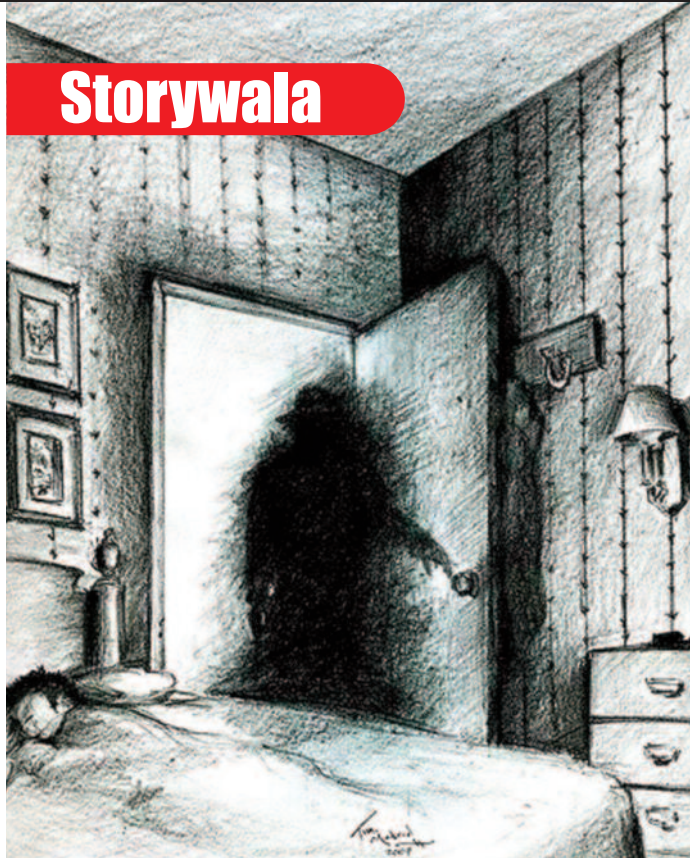


# Blood moon

Aryaman Sen, AIS Vas 6, XI A

A gentle drizzle pattered on the rooftop when Abhishek was disturbed by a knock on the door. He opened the door to find a short but thin man with a fancy plate containing some tea bags and milk powder sachets. "Any, sir?" the university staff asked. Abhishek smiled and took a few of them. "Thanks," he said politely and then threw the tea bags and sachets on a steel plate kept beside a Swiss knife. He sat on his bed and took out his cell phone from the pocket. As he opened Instagram, he found a recent post from the page named Daily Horrors. Abhishek smiled because he was fascinated with all things horror. He was even called a 'demon in the guise of a human' by his friends. The Instagram post had a frightening image with an eerie quote underneath.

"During Blood Moon, paranormal activities increase by ten times. The spirits become stronger at night. The next Blood Moon is nearing. If you can't sleep at night on that date, then something is amiss. Beware!" Abhishek smirked at the information and shrugged it off as fake. He had never witnessed any paranormal activity or faced sleeping problems in any of the Blood



## Storywala

Moons he had experienced in his lifetime. When his stomach groaned in hunger, he ordered rice and curry from a restaurant. The rain continued unabated, and after an hour someone rung his bell. At the door stood a drenched delivery boy clenching a big packet. Abhishek made the payment and acknowledged him. After devouring the meal, Abhishek felt as if his stomach

would burst. He put the plate on the sink and washed his hands. He then crashed onto his bed and went through his phone after which his eyelids felt so heavy that he fell asleep instantly.

At midnight, a crashing sound woke him up. Groggily, he got up to locate the source of the sound. Discovering that a steel tumbler had fallen off the sink, he sloppily placed it back where it was.

At midnight, a crashing sound woke him up. Groggily, he got up to locate the source of the sound.

Just as he started towards his bed, he heard the same sound again, which left him utterly confused. Upon placing the tumbler inside the sink again, he decided to wait for some time to detect the cause of its fall, but nothing happened. Just as he turned his back towards the sink, the tumbler had fallen again. Too sleepy to investigate, Abhishek ignored it and drifted off to sleep.

As the clock struck 3, Abhishek suddenly got up and heard footsteps inside his room. He opened his eyes and to his complete horror, he saw a white cloaked figure staring at him. The figure's face was hidden by the shadows of the cloak but the red scars on its face were unmissable. Abhishek's instincts told him to grab his Swiss knife and attack the figure, but he felt himself glued to the bed as his body turned cold due to fright. The ghostly figure walked towards him, disappearing and re-appearing out of thin air. Abhishek's eyes instantly filled with terror, and he was not able to budge an inch. Never in his life had Abhishek felt so terrorised. His room acquired a tinge of red, he was unable to demarcate whether it was a hallucination or reality. As he slipped into oblivion, all he realised was that it was the night of Blood Moon. 🇮🇳



Yashi Singh

## Flower vase

Yashi Singh, AIS VYC Lucknow, XI

### Material required

- Glitter sheets
- Googly eyes
- Coloured sheets
- Glitter tape
- Plastic bottle
- Super glue
- Scissors
- Wooden craft sticks



### Method

#### For the vase

- Take an empty plastic bottle and carefully cut it from the middle horizontally.
- Retain the lower half of the bottle and using glue, wrap it completely with glitter sheet of any colour. Let it dry for two hours.
- Once it is done, take two Googly eyes and stick them on the covered vase in the centre.
- On a different coloured glitter sheet, draw the shape of a mouth. Cut out the shape and stick it below the eyes in the centre.
- Keep the vase aside to dry.

#### For the stems

- Take wooden craft sticks and using scissors, make a few of them short and keep a few of them long.
- Using glitter tape, cover the wooden sticks completely, leaving no wooden part visible at all.
- Now, take green coloured sheets and draw the shape of leaves in different sizes.
- Cut out the leaves from the sheets and using glue, stick them on the stems in any pattern.

#### For the flowers

- Take different coloured sheets of your choice and cut out several squares measuring 6cmx6cm.
- Now, take one square sheet and using a pencil draw a circle of radius 4 cm. With the help of scissors cut along the outline of the circle.
- Place the scissors on the edge of this circle and cut a spiral shape (coil) till you reach the centre. The thickness of spiral can be of your choice.
- Hold the open end of spiral cut out, start tightly coiling the paper whilst rolling it inwards. You'll find the coil getting bigger and bigger as you reach the closed end of the spiral cut out.
- Once completely done, allow the paper coil to loosen up a little.
- Insert a glitter stem with leaves from the bottom side of the flower.
- Dab a little glue on the stick to help the flower stick to it.
- Follow the same procedure to make several paper flowers for the vase.

Once the flowers are done, carefully arrange them on the vase. Your flower vase is ready for display!

## WORDS VERSE

### Good wins over evil

Vedha Agrawalla  
AGS Noida, XI

Help them find who they are

It's time for triumph of truth

Let kindness triumph  
In the face of hostility  
Let go of all your fears

Fulfil an age old dream  
For life is not long, it seems

The journey is the real prize  
Where good triumphs over evil  
Brightening the night skies. 🇮🇳

To spread pure joy around  
And wipe someone's tears  
Don't suppress who you are



Jump and scream and shout  
Be someone's guiding star



### Our brave soldiers

Varada Kachroo, AIS VKC, IX

While I sleep comfortably tonight  
I ponder over their duties at night  
I took a blanket made of wool  
They walked the roads being all cool

While I disrespect food sometimes  
They learnt survival for every dime  
They carry their weapons along  
While their families are left forlorn

Thinking about their mothers  
And fathers who directed their path  
Those brothers always up for the win  
Bewildered together for their kin

My heart breaks just to know it  
That the enemies all revel in glory  
For all the cold bloodied stories  
Killing each other for no reason!

Guided by my heart for the gone  
To respect and pay them homage  
For their sacrifice won't go in vain  
Till the nation remembers their pain

Because peace is what we believe in  
Because love is what we want to give  
No more blood and soldier deaths  
For they protect us with every breath.

## BRUSH 'n' EASEL

Sohini Srivastava  
AIS VKC, IX A







Mizoram has the third highest forest cover in India with 159400 hectares.

# The gift of kindness



## Short Story

Nitya Jain, AIS Saket, VII

On a bright cheery morning, Caroline the angel was summoned by God. "My dear Caroline," said God, "Over the centuries, I have seen a moral decay in humankind. It saddens me that my creation only runs after material possessions. I want you to go down to earth and find hope for me that humans still have love, warmth and compassion." "But, what do you mean by hope?" replied Caroline. "Hope that the human race is still humane; that when given the best of things, they won't be greedy." Caroline was in a fix. Where was she going to find hope on Earth? Will she find it among the rich?

The poor? The old? The young? Going down to Earth, she found herself lost among the chaos. Flying away from the dusty roads and **clamorous** surroundings, she found herself in a small village in the middle of nowhere.

From a distance, she could hear faint sounds coming from a small shaky, dilapidated house. A family of five sat huddled together, their hands folded in prayer. They were thanking God for whatever they had, and as Caroline noticed them closely, they didn't have much. Their house was bare and their clothes, tattered.

She observed them and thought to herself, "In a world filled with greed and falsehood, this family is a shining beacon of goodness.

They deserve better than this life of austerity and poverty."

However, Caroline was in a dilemma. What if she helped the family and they turn greedy and selfish? She planned a way to decide whether to help them or not. "Let me give them a few tests. If they pass, I will bless them with wealth greater than anyone else."

The next day, the family's only source of income, a cow was killed by a wild wolf. With no income, the family fell deeper into poverty and they barely had anything to eat. The next night, Caroline came to visit them.

Disguised as a beggar, she arrived at the house to test them just as they were about to eat their only meal of the day.

From a distance, she could hear faint sounds coming from a small shaky, dilapidated house.

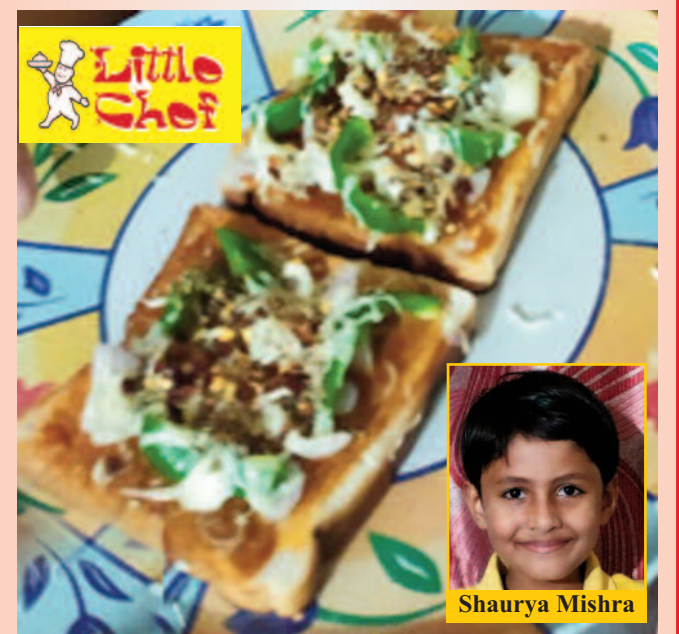
Knocking on their door, she called out, "Please give me something to eat; I haven't eaten for days. I am hungry."

Hearing her cries, the family ushered her in and presented her with whatever food they had with them. "But what about you?" she asked. The family replied, "Guests are next to God. So, please eat. We are sorry we couldn't offer you more."

Moved by their gesture, Caroline showed them her true form, engulfing the small house with a luminescent aura. The family was shell-shocked. "I am not a beggar, but today I have got the greatest gift, the gift of kindness. I am happy to know that I have found God's hope right here on earth." With these words, Caroline transformed the broken-down house into a luxurious mansion and filled it with all riches. The family turned to Caroline with folded hands and thanked her as she slowly ascended towards the heavens. **GI**

So what did you learn today?

A new word: **Clamorous**  
Meaning: Loud and noisy



Shaurya Mishra

## Bread pizza bites

Shaurya Mishra, AIS Jagdishpur, II

### Ingredients

Serves: 1 | Prep time: 15 minutes

Bread slice	2
Capsicum (diced)	1/3 cup
Onion (chopped)	1/3 cup
Tomato (chopped)	1/3 cup
Mayonnaise	2 tbsp
Cheese spread	2 tbsp
Mozzarella cheese (grated)	1/3 cup
Pizza sauce	2 tbsp
Salt	to taste
Black pepper	to taste
Chilli flakes	to garnish
Oregano	to garnish

### Procedure

- In a bowl, add all the vegetables, salt, black pepper and mix them together.
- Now take two bread slices and apply pizza sauce on them.
- Smear cheese spread on the bread slices.
- Next, add a layer of chopped veggies on the top of the slices.
- Take a pan and heat it on a low flame for about two minutes.
- Now carefully place the two slices on the pan, without letting the veggies spill.
- Sprinkle grated mozzarella cheese on the veggies.
- With a lid, cover the pan and let it cook for 2-3 minutes on a medium flame.
- Remove the lid when you see melted cheese popping through the veggies.
- Transfer them on a plate and garnish using some oregano and chilli flakes.
- Your bread pizza bites are ready to be devoured with some mayonnaise dip.

## All about water!

Solve The Puzzle And Unleash The Genius In You

Ridhaan Talwar, AIS Gurugram 46, IV A

**Across**

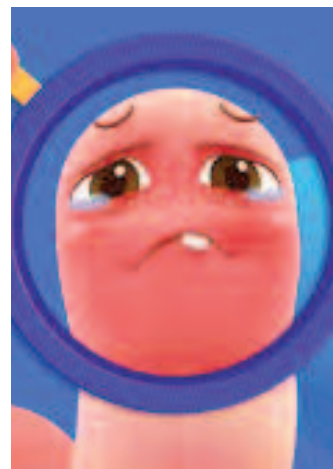
1. A manual device to remove ground water
2. A natural resource we use everyday
3. Water is made of two elements, oxygen and \_\_\_\_\_
6. Planned management to prevent exploitation and wastage

**Down**

1. The process of collection and storage of rainwater
2. A deep excavation created in the ground to obtain water
4. A fruit eaten as salad, having 90% water
5. The method of removing salt from sea water to produce drinking water
7. Saltiest pond in Antarctica that never freezes

**Answers:**  
Across: 1. Handpump 2. Water 3. Hydrogen 4. Cucumber 5. Desalination 7. Don Juan  
Down: 1. Harvesting 2. Well 4. Cucumber 6. Conservation

## POEM



## Be lost

Sayna Mittal

AIS Gurugram 43, VII B

Do you know the feeling?  
The feeling of being lost  
Darkness of your sorrows  
And shadows of your past

The breaking of your dreams  
The dying of your thoughts  
The frustration of failure  
And the destiny falling apart

As luck becomes your enemy  
The time when happiness falls  
You cannot feel the love  
Amid the growing hatred of all

Trying to hide your fears  
In the depth of your heart  
Where every breath is poison  
Guilt kills your soul with a dart

Cold emotions on your face  
When life is openly tossed  
Do you know the feeling?  
The feeling of being lost. **GI**

## PAINTING CORNER

Anika Gupta  
AIS Vasundhara 6, III B



## It's Me

### KNOW ME

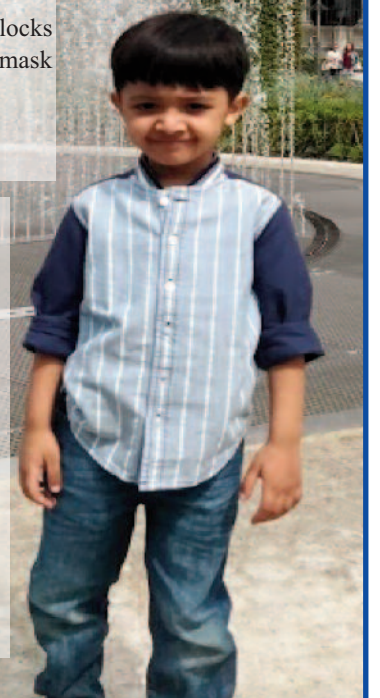
My name: Aayaan Raj Verma  
My school: AIS Pushp Vihar  
My Class: KG D  
Born on: October 29

### MY FAVOURITE

Teachers: Shilpa ma'am and Priyanka ma'am  
Subject: English  
Friend: Subhagya  
Games: Football and Lego blocks  
Cartoon: Ben and Holly, PJ mask  
Food: Broccoli  
Mall: Select City Mall  
Book: Gingerbread man

### MY DREAMS AND GOALS

Hobby: Playing with blocks  
I like: Playing with my friends  
I dislike: When my friend doesn't share things with me  
My role model: Soldiers  
I want to become: A soldier  
I want to feature in GT because: It has interesting stories that I love reading.







# The 'D' profession

Meet Dr Neetu Jain, A Shining Beacon Of Hope In These Trying Times

Ayushi Jain, AIS Gur 43, IX A

As despondency and gloom pervades the world today, there are some who act as beacons of hope, lighting up the world with their selfless endeavours. One such individual is Dr Neetu Jain, MBBS, DA, FIPM Anaesthetist, who continues to support humanity no matter what the circumstances are. To salute her undying spirit and strength of character, we at GT bring you excerpts from her conversation with GT reporter. Read on and get inspired.



GT reporter Ayushi Jain

## The motto that motivates

Keeping faith and fighting on are the essentials if you are a doctor. Without the courage and determination to serve humanity, one cannot become successful, especially in this field. I have seen many of my colleagues with the same degrees as mine, simply leaving their duties. I can understand how they feel and how they think of this as an avoidable occupational hazard, but let's be real, it's not. Every time I leave my complex for the hospital, I try to focus on the fact that I would probably aid in increasing a person's life span or save a family from lifetime distress for that matter. For in the end, it is all about being optimistic. Even if I contract the virus, I would have done so after

saving the life of a dozen more. And, that's how I win every day.

## The danger that details

Being an anaesthetist, I work as a freelancer in multiple multi-specialty hospitals, and am probably the closest person to the patients so, in case any patient is COVID-19 positive, there is 99.9% chance that I would contract the virus too. And so it happened once. Back in 2016, I had intubated a person who was later tested to be swine flu positive. By the time I realised it, I had already reached my house. I was so worried about passing it onto my husband and daughter that I had to isolate myself in a separate room until the hospital delivered the vaccines at my doorstep. It was an extremely stressful situation back then and I only have God to thank for helping me evade it.

## The stress that squires

Being a doctor can be taxing but about 40% of this profession depends on luck. I can inject drugs into the patient's body, ensure proper oxygen supply, and be prepared to give CPRs, but in the end, it is the immunity and resolve of the person's body to come out of the ailment that saves him/her.

So, whenever I read about incidents wherein doctors are blamed for not being able to save a particular patient, I feel devastated. I wish people understood that no matter how experienced or learned the doctor is, s/he is not God. We do not have a say in who lives and who dies. We try our best, and provide all the required medications to the patient but, in the end, destiny prevails over it all.

## The intrepidity that inspires

Gravely distressed to see a particular religious community being shouldered with the blame for the spread of coronavirus in India, I resolved to start my own YouTube channel, 'Samvedna by Dr Neetu Jain', in an effort to eradicate such prejudices, and further spread veracious information amongst the masses. Quite unexpectedly, within a few hours, I found people increasingly connecting to my channel and chain of thought. Some even called me to share their own experiences and thoughts on the same. My professors, my fellow doctors and even my students who had been victims of various biases in the society, heartily endorsed and approved my initiative. For if you do good, you get good! And I guess that is exactly what keeps us going. [GT](#)

Dr Neetu Jain, MBBS, DA, FIPM Anaesthetist

## THE GLOBAL TIMES QUARANTINE Special



## Missing school days

Chehak Maheshwari  
AIS Noida, IV L

Going to our precious school  
Used to be so much fun  
Without the fear of a virus  
We could talk to anyone

I miss all my good friends  
Teachers and school days  
All the extra homework  
Friendly chats, games and plays

Now there is no excitement  
In even having tasty lunch  
Because I truly miss all  
Naughty friendly buddy bunch

Oh, how I wish that I could  
Go back to my school again  
Because I miss sitting in class  
And the ground outside the pane

Going to my precious school  
Is truly what I miss the most  
And I know that once we go back  
We will all finally raise a toast!

# List of learnings

How The Last Few Months Transformed Us As Human Beings

Moksh Gauri, AIS PV, IX A

Life is a journey - an amalgam of rainfalls of happiness, blistering winds of sadness and regret, and blossoming flowers of joy and excitement, all at once. The COVID-19 pandemic, however, can be easily enlisted as the worst of it all. But is it? Here's why we think otherwise.

1. Completely altering the way we live and thrive, this pandemic taught us the value of maintaining personal hygiene, and the value of giving prominence to a good healthcare system in a country over investing money on calamitous, cata-

clysmic weapons like missiles, etc. *A learning we shall cherish forever.*

2. It reminded us the value of all the frontline workers, be it nurses, doctors, policemen, etc., who risk their own lives to shield ours. We have also understood the importance of the different government and non-government organisations which work constantly, even in such unfavourable circumstances, in order to ensure the welfare of one and all. *Homage we shall pay forever.*

3. The pandemic has also changed us all as human beings, giving us a better understanding of our responsibilities towards ourselves, others, and our na-

tion. *A change we shall admire forever.*

4. Prior to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, most of us suffered from what is called 'obsessive consumerism syndrome'. We bought things which were not important or useful to us in any way. We never stopped collecting more and more. But now, we have realised the need to be content and satisfied with what little is important for us and our families. *Less is more, a motto we shall adhere to forever now.*

5. We have now started to dis-

cover our inner selves and nurture the talents/abilities we never knew we possessed. *A passion we shall revere forever.*

6. In a fix to know what our future holds for us, we were, until now, neglecting what it means to live and enjoy in the present. But things have now changed for good. *Living in the moment, an ideal we shall uphold forever.*

7. We have learnt the value of remaining resolute and unnerred in face of adversities. *Courage we shall command forever.*

8. We have learnt how to respect our fellow human beings and

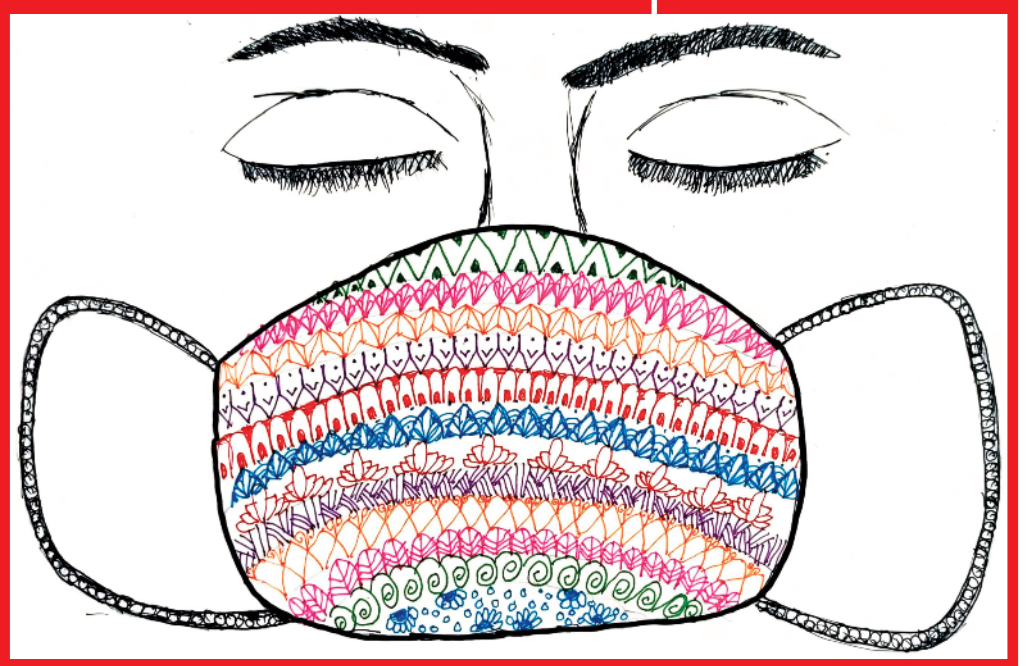
empathise with their sufferings by practically observing the values of fraternity and fellowship that the world is currently emanating in its fight against the lethal virus. *Togetherness we shall nurture forever.*

These are unprecedented times, which are not going to end any time soon without the continuous determination, dedication, unity, and perseverance of all humankind. Thus, all we need is to gradually and diligently move forward as a 'human being' to 'being a human'. [GT](#)



## PAINTING CORNER

Kiara Bhagat  
AIS Saket, IV C







The corridor joining the rest of the mainland India with North East is called the "Chicken's Neck".

# Republic Day @ Amity

The Celebratory Spirit Of Patriotism And The Zeal To Uphold The Democracy



AIS Gurugram 43 students discuss the importance of Republic Day

## AIS Gurugram 43

School celebrated the 72nd Republic Day virtually for the first time with grandeur and patriotic fervour on January 25, 2021. The virtual assembly commenced with a virtual salute to the national flag and rendition of the national anthem. Heart-throbbing musical renditions and poems were presented by the students. The students also spoke about the importance of the day. The event came to a solemn end with the entire school pledging to strive to protect the integrity of the country.



School principal AIS Gwalior hoists the national flag in school premises

## AIS Gwalior

School celebrated Republic Day with the underlying spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshta Bharat' virtually. The celebrations began with the hoisting of national flag by school principal Manju Singh and the rendition of national anthem. All the students from Class Nursery-X participated in the programme. Khushi Dantre (X) shared her thoughts on Republic India and Aditi Sikarwar (VI) gave a patriotic dance performance. Adhyan (III), Mireya (III), Arihant (I), Roshan (I), Himachal (IX), Asmi (VII) and Amog (VIII) shared their Republic Day messages in different regional languages.



Students of AIS VKC Lucknow present a musical performance

## AIS VKC Lucknow

School celebrated the Republic Day online with great fervour wherein students from Class Nursery-XII performed patriotic dances, sang songs, played instrumental music, presented skits, made art and craft items, and recited poem and speeches. The virtual function started with school principal Rachna Mishra, unfurling the tricolour and the rendition of the national anthem and patriotic slogans like 'Jai Hind' and 'Bharat Mata ki Jai'. In her address, she also urged the students to pledge to serve the nation in every way they could and make their motherland proud of them.



Tri-colour dishes prepared by AIS Vas 1

## AIS Vasundhara 1

Children from Class Nursery-IV celebrated virtual Republic Day through various activities held from January 21-26, 2021. A craft activity was held for the students of Class Nursery and KG in which they made tri-colour flags and badges. The students also pledged to uphold the democracy of the nation. They were also told about the importance of celebrating Republic Day, and heartily sang the famous song, 'Nanha Munna Rahi Hoon'. Class I and II enjoyed preparing different tri-colour dishes as a part of fireless cooking activity. Class III students delivered speeches and slogans based on patriotic fervour while Class IV students participated in role play, dressed as different freedom fighters.



Tiny tots of AIS Noida on Republic Day

## AIS Noida

Students from primary and senior wing celebrated Republic Day virtually on January 21 and 22, 2021 with immense patriotism. Class Nursery-V were apprised on the significance of Republic Day during their virtual classes followed by informative talks to instil patriotic feelings in their little hearts. They also acquired knowledge about the Indian Constitution and were encouraged to appreciate the honour, integrity, diversity and uniqueness of India. A gamut of activities like creative expressions, rhymes, glimpses of the Republic Day parade and reading of the Preamble also took place in different classes. Students from the senior wing attended their online classes wearing tri-colour badges and caps. They also discussed and expressed their opinions about numerous issues in India and around the globe, along with presenting probable solutions on this occasion.

## AIS Gurugram 46

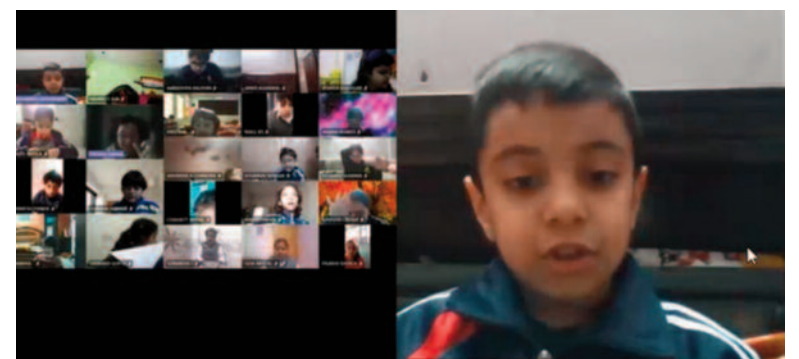
Republic Day was celebrated virtually with students sharing a thought about India in their respective classes. Students from Class I-V presented various patriotic songs, poems and dances in their online classes. During their art classes, students from Class VI-VIII partook in clay modeling, painting, drawing, etc., based on the spirit of democracy and patriotism. Students from Class IX-XI discussed the parade, tableaux and various gallantry awards presented on Republic Day. School principal Arti Chopra addressed the students and teachers and inspired everyone to work hard and strive to make India a superpower.



Class IX-XI students of AIS Gurugram 46 discuss the parade

## AIS Mayur Vihar

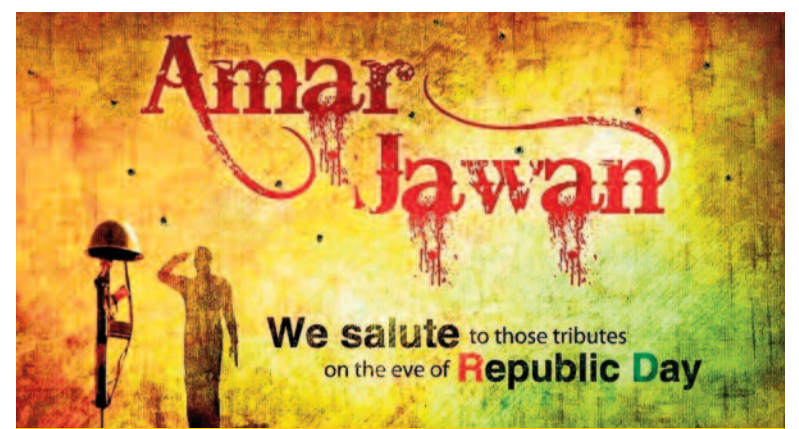
A virtual Republic Day was celebrated by the students of Class I to V from January 19-22, 2021. They took part in different activities with great zeal and enthusiasm. On the occasion, students of Class I and II engaged in a creative writing activity, based on the significance of Republic Day. Celebrating the spirit of being a republic, the students made beautiful paper kites and wrote creative messages on them. They also discussed the importance of Republic Day and watched various informative videos. Class III children made tri-colour cards and bookmarks using waste material. Some children also made paper balloons and flowers with reusable material and pasted them in their cards. The use of waste material in a myriad activities helped reiterate the significance of adopting the three Rs - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. In class IV and V, children sang various patriotic songs and made beautiful posters enlivening the spirit of democracy and unity in diversity. They also discussed the lives and times of the scriptwriters of the Indian constitution.



AIS Mayur Vihar students speak about leaders of India

## AIS VYC Lucknow

Students from Class VI-XI celebrated the spirit of democratic republic of India through myriad enthralling virtual performances on January 26, 2021. Srijal Verma (IX) compered the event which comprised a dance by Vaishnavi Yadav (VI) followed by eloquent speeches by Harsh Gupta (XI Humanities) and Pragti Singh (IX) on the history of the constitution of India and the rights and duties of Indian citizens respectively. Yamini Bhatt (VII) recited a patriotic poem. The event ended with school principal Sakshi Gautam Mishra urging young Amityans to strive to be creative and critically thinking nation builders of tomorrow.

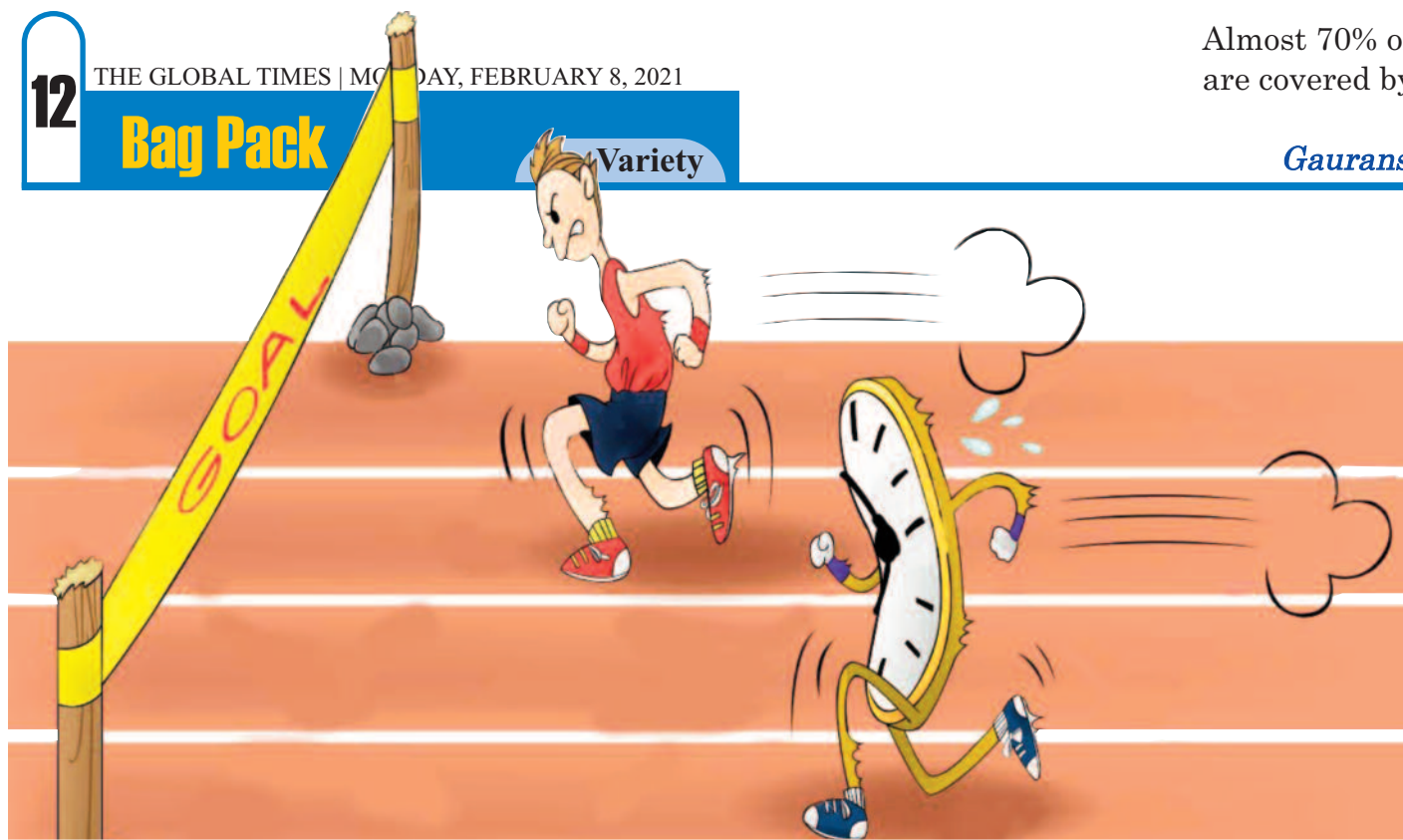


AIS VYC Lucknow pay virtual homage to the soldiers of the nation



Almost 70% of North-East India's terrains are covered by hills.

All top quotes contributed by Gauransh Varshney, AIS Vas 6, VII C



# The tide of the times

## A Guide To Be The Archetype Of The Teenage Kind

Sarthak Sahoo  
AIS Saket, XI F

The odyssey of adolescence is no easy a voyage. One must toil and fight against the tides of uber notoriety while also pacing ahead in the race to be popular in face of such adversity. In such a compromising state, one must resort to means best described as unconventional to keep the ship at sail. Read on as we lay them out for you.

### Sleepless nights

Imagine the scene; it's the brink of the witching hour and your arduous scrolling and tiresome binge-watching throughout the day is now easing you into giv-

ing rest to your mind and body. Woah! Calm down there, Oscar Wilde! For this is one temptation you must not yield to. Want a shot at bragging rights the next day at school? The languid effort to stay up must continue, all for a discussing conflict in front of your fellow late-night owls over who slept for the least number of hours. After all, what sounds cooler than, "Huh! 4 hours? I only slept for 2 hours."

### Racing with time

Mankind, since times immemorial, was faced with the task to transmit information across long distances, all for a prompt reply. Thanks to technology, we have achieved this ideal by the virtue of texting. However, you cannot

reach the zenith of coolness with your conformist and responsible behaviour; it is heretic and laughable if you dare reply timely. Who even does that today? Duh! If you see a message, especially by the one who you wish takes you in good regard, you must put an eye on the clock and not reply any sooner than a couple of hours. Your ruse, all for delayed deception has succeeded!

### Breaking new grounds

Think you have the dynamic territories of social media all figured out? The teenage life is a novel reintroduction to the space you thought you knew. One must incline all creativity of their being to the design of the most

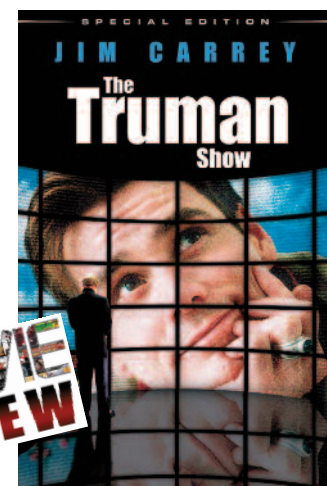
congruous feed, with consistent colour grading and white bars. As all things go, innovation must be accompanied by diligence. This unsaid pact demands that the daily reciprocatory ledger of Snapchat streaks must be maintained. To miss a day would amount to your inexistence within the social bourgeoisie of high snap-scores. And can we afford that? Oh, hell no!

To strike a balance between time, hard work, and projecting effortlessness and nonchalance all throughout is a feat very few can achieve. The teenager, au contraire, makes it their bread and butter; a lifestyle too perplexing for the rational and banal kind to let go.

## Rake in that review

**Synopsis:** Truman Burbank is an insurance salesman who leads a mundane life and is looking for an escape to Fiji. However, he feels blocked at every turn. Numerous instances such as unavailability of flight to Fiji, a sudden nuclear leak at the border of his town or his ginormous fear of the sea, stop him in his tracks. Turns out, he is living in a fabricated neighborhood. Yes, he is the lead star of a TV show: The Truman Show. His life is a reality show, broadcast 24x7 to the entire world. It is up to Truman to single out the impostors and escape the set.

**Why is it watch-worthy?** Watch it for Jim Carrey's impeccable acting and the ingenious concept the film puts forward. An original idea paired with brilliant actors sends chills down the viewers' spine. The story is chock-full of twists and turns, leaving the audience anticipating Truman's every move and whether or not he'll discover the truth. A must-watch for anyone looking to be surprised, entertained, and impressed by a lovely story and hilarious tropes. Rewatching the masterpiece is as enjoyable as the first time. When one already knows the climax, they savour the details foreshadowing the



**Title:** The Truman Show  
**Director:** Peter Weir  
**Released on:** June 1, 1998  
**Starring:** Jim Carrey, Ed Harris, Laura Linney, Natascha McElhone, Noah Emmerich  
**Genre:** Psychological Thriller/Satire

conclusion; like Truman's wife telling him all about (read: advertising to the audience) Moco-cocoa - all-natural cocoa beans from Mount Nicaragua. No artificial sweeteners!

### Iconic dialogues:

"Why do you think that Truman has never come close to discovering the true nature of his world...?"

"We accept the reality of the world with which we're presented. It's as simple as that."

**Rating:** ★★★★★

**Review by:** Aarushi Aggrwal  
AIS Mayur Vihar, XI C

# As the old adage goes

## Common Sayings We Have Been Terribly Misquoting Since Times Immemorial

S Mysha Urooj  
AIS Noida, X

We use various expressions to assist us in our daily lives. However, over the years, people have modified the usage of common idioms to suit their needs. Here are some instances where meanings of popular sayings have been manipulated to mean something different by simply removing a few words:

### Great minds think alike... but fools seldom differ

This exhibits that conformity isn't always a good thing and just because two people's views match, doesn't mean they are right. So, the next time you feel happy about you and your partner in crime thinking along the same lines, remember that a flock of sheep also thought alike and things did not end particularly well for them.

### Curiosity killed the cat... but satisfaction brought it back

The 'cropped' proverb suggests that curiosity is a bad quirk and might land you in danger. However, the original expression completely twists the whole idea. It simply says how finding answers to questions can cultivate thought. Ultimately, the satisfaction of knowing something or acquiring new knowledge requires a curious mind. Stay curious!

### Jack of all trades, master of none... but oftentimes better than a master of one

This phrase refers to a person who fiddles in a lot of fields but is not an expert in any one. Regardless, the extension implies how having an idea of various domains is more useful than being a specialist in one skill. Though, it is arguable whether being a generalist is better than being a specialist.

### Birds of a feather flock together... well, until the cat comes

This expression is often used by teachers who despise trouble-making groups. The extension of the proverb denotes that mischief makers are only together till they are doing the crime, not when they land in crisis. Just like the flock, the gang also scrambles once the cat comes along.

### The early bird catches the worm... but the second mouse gets the cheese

The first set of words support the 'first come first serve' mentality. But in the case of a mouse, being second would obviously get him the cheese as the first mouse will get trapped in the rat trap. Therefore, sometimes being smart is more important than being on time.

### Rome wasn't built in a day... but was burnt in one

As alarming as the extension may sound, the comprehension is true to the core. Building, creating, developing are all time-consuming and nerve-wracking tasks. On the other hand, destroying is not that hard, is it? Well, a bad joke is sufficient to spoil a perfectly good mood.

So, next time someone says 'as the saying goes' check if it actually does. After all, a half-truth is more dangerous than a lie.

