

**INSIDE**



A carrot affair, P4



History this week, P7

**AMITEpoll**

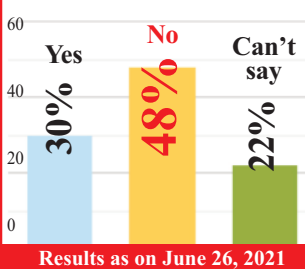
Do you think Google's cloud partnership with Reliance Jio will boost India's 5G plans?

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

To vote, log on to  
 www.theglobaltimes.in

**POLL RESULT**  
 for GT issue June 21, 2021

With new variants of corona virus emerging rapidly, do you agree with America's decision to allow those vaccinated to go mask-free?



**Coming Next**  
 The world underwater

# It's outdated!

## The Rise And Fall Of The Technological Elements We Used To Swear By

Aanya Narula, AIS Vas 1, X A

The innovative prowess of mankind has brought about ground-breaking strides, with these in turn becoming a catalyst in the technologically-driven world we inhabit today. To be precise, the bygone decade itself saw the rise of many technological services and applications that gave rise to amazing advancements, changing the course of what we do and how we do it. However, with such accelerating technological advancements, come the accelerated rate of obsolescence, yet again reminding us of the fast-paced nature of this constant called change. Case in point: Microsoft's recent announcement on bidding farewell to Internet Explorer 11 in August 2021. Thus, we remind you of certain examples of these once-upon-a-time marvels of technology that we have either parted with, or are soon going to bid our farewells to in the most bitter-sweet way!

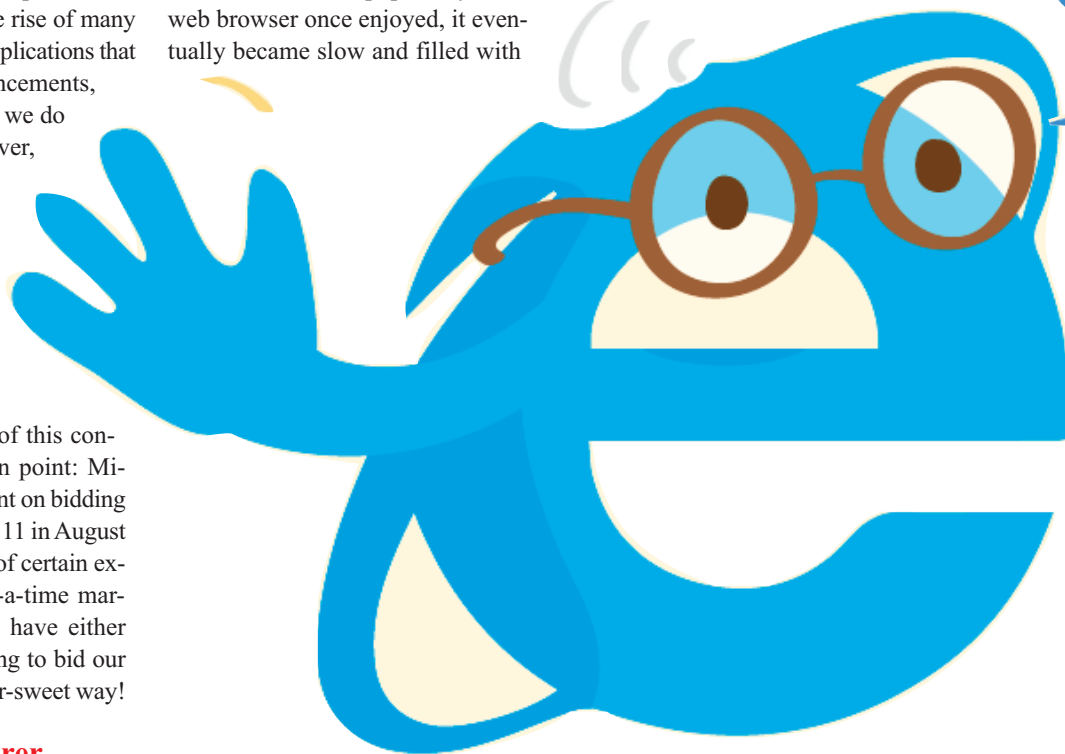
### Internet Explorer

**The rise:** Internet Explorer debuted in 1995 as part of Windows 95, when the world was witnessing a craze for the World Wide Web. Although it took a little time to overtake Netscape, the then-popular browser with 90% market share, the second version of Explorer, released in 1996, became an instant hit. Subsequent versions brought a sweeping transformation and Explorer achieved a virtual monopoly. By 2002, Internet Explorer owned

95 per cent of the browser market, broadly for about 2 decades.

**The fall:** Recently, Microsoft announced to cut off its support for the Internet Explorer 11 across all of its applications starting August 2021. Following the massive user base and popularity that the web browser once enjoyed, it eventually became slow and filled with

questionable name in the internet landscape, Internet Explorer was our good old friend. And today as we advance into the virtual realm, we pull the exit doors on the one that helped us foray into the vast world of web, in the first place.



blazing for its times, it instantly became a fitting computer application, attracting a plethora of people who were still exploring the web as a new medium for creativity. Supporting many popular games, animations, YouTube and other video streaming websites, Flash became omnipresent, seeing installation in 98% of all computers.

**The fall:** As the world saw the advent of smartphones, Flash could hardly adapt with the advancements, meaning that it couldn't find compatibility with most devices. To make things worse, Apple co-founder Steve Jobs announced the discontinuation of Flash in iOS devices, condemning it as a security threat. Soon Adobe, too, released a statement asking its users to uninstall Flash from their devices for several reasons including decelerated performance, extensive battery drainage on installed devices, and its closed platform nature, all leading to its demise on December 31, 2020. Software comes, software goes, but Adobe Flash player, which generously allowed creative thinkers to manifest their imagination through technology, will continue to live on in our minds.

Continued on page 6...

### Adobe Flash player

**The rise:** After its launch in 1996, Adobe Flash, also called Shockwave Flash, riveted millions with its versatile multimedia features. A computer software with a strong base on web then, Flash was a go-to choice for a large number of website builders who were looking for a blend of dynamism and brilliance, something that the web standards of the day lacked. Trail-

bugs, threatening the security of the device. With the birth of Mozilla Firefox in 2004 and then Google Chrome in 2008, along with Android and iOS operating systems, Internet Explorer failed to survive in the face of rising competition. Even after umpteen attempts to revive the dying browser in various versions and forms, its developers found it best to pull the plug on Internet Explorer. Once a staple in the web market, an un-



Abhinay Deo, Indian film director

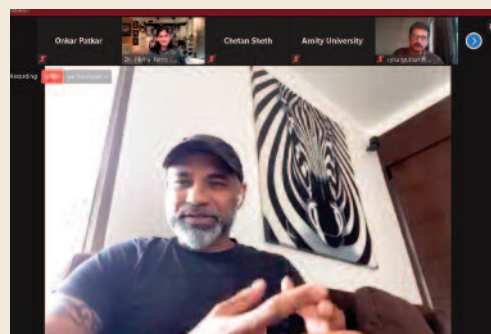
# Embrace the change

## Meet Abhinay Deo, Indian Film Director & Screenwriter

A proud recipient of over 70 awards including Cannes Lions International Awards, Spikes Asia Awards, Abby Awards, Abhinay Deo is an advertising whizz-kid turned film director-producer. Known for his radical directorial work like Force 2, Ankhen 2, Black Mail, he has also won Indian Television Academy Award for his much-acclaimed Indian TV series 24. He talks about his childhood, his craft and much more during a webinar on 'Contemporary Challenges In Film Making' organised by Amity University Mumbai. Here are a few excerpts...

### On early influences

I belong to a family of film actors. My parents, Ramesh Deo and Seema Deo, are well known in Hindi and Marathi cinema. I started off by admiring my parents. They are hardworking, talented and simple folks. Also, from a very young age, I used to watch cinema by stalwarts ranging from Bimal Roy, Satyajit Ray and Hrishikesh Mukherjee to Subhash Desai and Manmohan Desai. Anand by Hrishikesh Mukherjee and Star Wars by George Lucas - these were the biggest influences on me as a storyteller. Stories from the Mahabharata and Ramayana have also stayed with me till now. Absorbing all the stories that I



Abhinay Deo shares an anecdote

heard or movies that I watched from childhood really influenced me to become a filmmaker.

### On choosing different mediums

Almost two decades ago, when I was asked to make a short film on Mumbai's food during a Kala Ghoda festival, I chose to make an animation film, a format I was not familiar with at all. In fact, before starting my career in advertising, I had studied to be an architect. When I started doing films, the aim was to choose unique and relatable scripts. On television, we again set a new trend with the series 24 with a new format and execution.

### On what matters more- idea or equipment?

In 1996, when I was with Ogilvy & Mather, one of our clients 'Hallmark' wanted an ad campaign but had a very meagre budget. While all the creative people had given up, I thought this could be my opportunity to think out of the box. I borrowed a simple handycam from my MD, shot at three lo-

cations with a crew of just three people and came up with three ads at one-third the allotted budget! The films won all major international awards and for 'Hallmark', they became the best films ever made. While equipment is a must, it is the idea and the intent which really matters.

### On the shift from advertising to film making

From the beginning of my career, changing the format was never a big issue. My perspective is that you have only one life. If you have a skill-set, there should be no place for fear. I hear young people talk about anxiety, fear, depression, failure, but failure teaches more than success does. Making a career in any industry is not easy. Learn to take up challenges head on!

### On the philosophy of change

I rejected 42 scripts after Delhi Belly because I could not relate to them. When Anil Kapoor asked me to direct 24, I did not even think twice even if it was to be on television. The aim was to pioneer a new concept in storytelling and pave the way for OTT platforms. With time you need to change and rules too need to change.

### On advise for young ones

Don't let anything hold you back, stay true to who you are. Learn to adapt to be able to open new doors and windows and create new things. Be grounded but fearless. Know your craft and hone your skill to the utmost perfection possible.

Read more about the webinar on page 3...



Cardamom has been in use for more than 4000 years, and it comes in two types- Amomumsubulatum (black in colour) and Elettariacardamomum (green).



Indian spices

# Doordarshan: a new vision

## Expanding India's Global Footprint

Induja Tyagi, GT Network

In this epoch of constant and rapid vicissitudes, there is one thing that has managed to stand the test of time. While today's generation finds itself glued to the myriad of OTT platforms offered to them in a click, back in the 80s, our yesteryear counterparts would exclaim at the sight of a simple logo 'DD eye' aka Doordarshan, the only resort to digital recreation of the time. However, over the years, when many things come and go in a jiffy, this government-run television network has sought ways to keep in trend, and successfully so. The latest bid being DD International, an enterprise soon to be launched by Doordarshan to establish an international voice for India. The announcement came just after the growing criticism by international media on Indian government's handling of the pandemic crisis. But how will this move redefine the journalistic landscape for the world and project India's point of view? Let's hear what our fellow Amityans have to say!

**By presenting India's point of view**

Today, all major media networks func-

tioning internationally have their centres located in the UK or the US. As a result, international headlines are often influenced by the point of view of these nations per se, with only a little focus on what the rest of the world has to say in the matter. With Doordarshan going international, foreign countries would be informed about India's rich cultural and traditional bounty, as well as the economic and technological strides that our nation is making from time to time. This will provide an Indian point of view to international news and will help significantly in improving India's image on the global front.

Mrinalini Vajpayee  
AIS MV, IX B

**By being at par with the finest**

As Prasar Bharti, the parent body of Doordarshan, gave a nod to the establishment of DD International, it is no doubt that this channel will project India's opinion on several global and contemporary issues to a wider viewership. However, in order to co-exist with well-established news platforms such as BBC, DD International must present authoritative global media sources through credible and accurate global news serv-

ice for voicing India's perspective on the global front. Over the years, the viewership for Doordarshan has fallen and this new endeavour will revive the same by introducing interesting and unique segments to attract more viewers. So, the strategy is to be innovative, leverage digitally, and broadcast earnestly, in order to be out there with the giants in the international market.

Raaghav Agarwal  
AIS Vas 6, X C

**By making an imperative transition**

Since 1959, Doordarshan (DD) National has been providing the veracity of the current events to the citizens of our country. Now with the launch of DD International, it will certainly provide a platform that will give a voice to India's perspective across the globe through bilateral distribution arrangements. Apart from this, this move will be beneficial

**Vichaar Junction**

because it would also be a predominant platform for the exchange of crucial opinions, i.e., taking our country's crucial opinions to the world and vice versa. Statistics say that international broadcasting boosts the acceptance of foreign policies and social and political ideologies. I believe that expounding India's current affairs and problems would invite more support from other countries. Therefore, this unique approach of 'DD International' will be propitious for our nation.

Harshita Prasad  
AIS Noida, IX C

**By paving way for productive journalism**

With the technological algorithms'

hegemony and lacking multiplicity of thought representing India in the international community, DD International is definitely a welcome move. Doordarshan's positive record of balanced yet critical reporting credits it as a factually authoritative and accurate watchdog on India's affairs. With international-turned-vernacular government media precedents such as BBC News and BBC Hindi, Doordarshan can confidently attempt to bridge the diverse catena of opinions, both inside and outside the country. Its news can now subsume the aforementioned to deliver a neutral but eclectically informed stance without a prior disposition prevalent in popular yellow journalism, rekindling the narratives otherwise incognito to the global eye.

Sarthak Sahoo  
AIS Saket, XII F

## Around The WORLD

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



**ETHIOPIA**

**Dozens injured after bombing**

Dozens of people have been reportedly killed or injured after a bombing at a market in the northern region of Tigray. Eyewitnesses claim that it was the doing of the country's air force, but the military denies targeting civilians, saying the strike was to neutralise 'terrorists'. UN has called upon the government to investigate the reason behind air strike.

**SOUTH AFRICA**

**The oldest living snake in the world**

Guinness World Records has declared a 37-year-old anaconda named Annie to be the oldest living snake in the captivity. Currently at the Monte Casino Bird and Reptile Park in Johannesburg, the snake weighs over 40 kg and is more than 4 metres long. The reptile is said to have the diet of one huge rabbit every two weeks.



**FINLAND**

**Facing acute workforce shortage**

The happiest country in the world, Finland, has been facing a workforce shortage and is depending on immigrants. The government has warned that the nation needs to double their immigration to 20,000-30,000 a year to maintain public services and plug a looming pensions deficit. UN predicts that the old age dependency of the nation will rise to 47.5 by 2030.



**HONGKONG**

**Bidding goodbye to pro-democracy paper**

Apple Daily, a pro-democracy newspaper printed its final edition and closed its doors after 26 years. The event saw thousands of people gathering outside its office where a million copies were being printed. The closure is being seen as a blow to press freedom under the pressure of Beijing. Long queues were also seen at news stands which sold out the copies in minutes.



**AUSTRALIA**

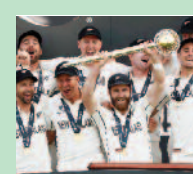
**Dispute over Great Barrier Reef**

Recently, UNESCO has claimed that the Australian government has not done enough to protect the Great Barrier Reef from climate change, and hence it should be put on a list of World Heritage Sites that are 'in danger'. The report mentioned that the key targets on improving water quality had not been met. The Australian government, irked by the statement has lashed out, calling it a 'political' move.

**NEW ZEALAND**

**Winners of inaugural ICC WTC title**

After beating India in a nail-biting finale, the cricket team of New Zealand have become the ICC World Test Champions. Skipper Kane Williamson and Ross Taylor led the Kiwis to victory with eight wickets in hand. The game was the first 6-day test match since 2005 and the first in English since 1975.







Saffron is the world's most expensive spice as each saffron flower is hand-picked to collect just three stigmas per flower.

Amity University Mumbai



An animation video being presented



Daniel Santos interacts with the audience

# Experiment and innovate

## To Be An Ideal Filmmaker

# Animate to create!

## An Insightful Session On Everything About Animation

An international webinar cum online workshop on 'Character Design and Motion Graphics' was organised by Amity School of Animation and Amity School of Communication on April 20, 2021. The insightful gathering saw animation students from across the world being addressed by various experts from the field. The event was graced by Daniel Santos, sales director, EMEA and APAC, Toon Boom Animation, Canada; Harry Ravelomanantsoa, technical software sales specialist, Toon Boom Animation, South Africa, and Sushil Pawar, sales manager, Toon Boom Animation, India, along

with other faculty and guests. Addressing the young animators, Daniel Santos discussed the enormous scope of animation in this era, and motivated them to explore the field. "2D animation is pandemic proof," he said referring to a recent research, apprising the students that people are spending five hours extra per week on animation as it acts as a stressbuster in these trying times. He also mentioned that it is in so much demand even during these stressful times, whilst emphasising on the widespread use of toon boom software across more than 130 countries and studios like Universal, Fox, Nickelodeon, NBC, etc.

"Dare to be you, dare to create," expressed Harry Ravelomanantsoa, sharing his knowledge on Story Board Pro and Harmony 20 software, developed by Toon Boom. He added that the software is flexible and will enhance one's artistry in this field. Adding to it, Sushil Pawar spoke at length about the various opportunities at Toon Boom. He shed light on proper training, careers, hiring of animators, storyboard artists etc. He told the students about the promising domain of animation and how it can be a satisfying area of work. He further advised them on having a professional approach right from the start. He also shared some an-

imation skills required for beginners, intermediate as well as advanced level of animation. In the end, Dr Nima J John, officiating head of institution, Amity School of Communication, Amity Film School and Amity School of Animation, AUM, thanked the international experts for sharing their knowledge and expertise. She also expressed her gratitude towards Dr Ashok K Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe; Dr Aseem Chauhan, chancellor, Amity University, President AUM; Lt Gen VK Sharma, vice chancellor, AUMP, and the entire team for helping the webinar turn out to be a great success.

Amity School of Communication (ASCO) and Amity Film School (AFS), Mumbai, organised an enriching webinar on 'Contemporary Challenges In Film Making' on March 18, 2021. The event was presided over by the versatile Indian film director Abhinay Deo. The session was attended by various students keen on learning the nuances of film making and contemporary challenges that young film makers are facing in the rapidly changing times. Addressing the young media students, Abhinay Deo shared some key insights about the field. He said, "It is okay to fail because you learn a lot from failure, but make sure you give your more than 100% in the work you do. Never fear from innovation and experimentation!" He also shared his experience of working on various formats from ad films to feature films to television to even docu-fiction, guiding the students on the various paths they can tread on when it comes to the media industry. Throughout the webinar, he constantly inspired the audience with his profound perspectives in film making. Students were extremely overwhelmed to learn from his experience and journey. It was a tremendous exposure for the students as they sought lessons from



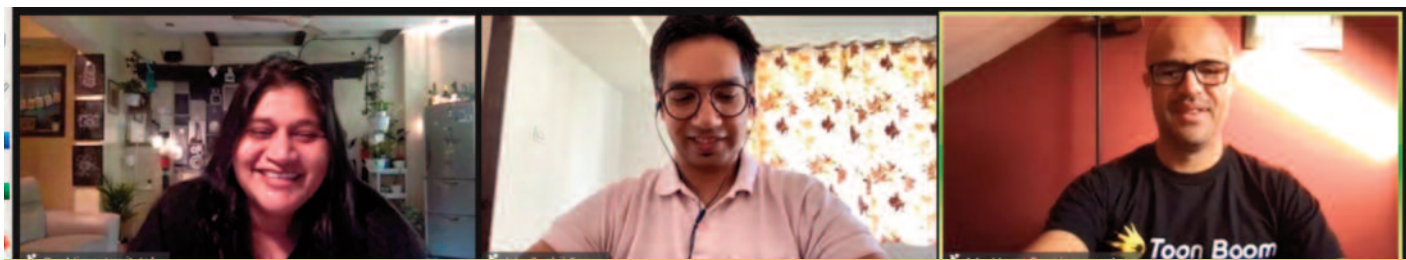
Abhinay Deo



Dr Nima J John

the multi-faceted man decorated with over 70 prestigious awards, including gold at Cannes Lions and Filmfare. Concluding his talk, he advised the youngsters to adapt to the changing times and keep chasing their dreams no matter what.

The session was moderated by Dr Nima J John, officiating head of institution, Amity School of Communication, Amity Film School and Amity School of Animation, AUM, and was attended by students and faculties from across the country from various institutions.

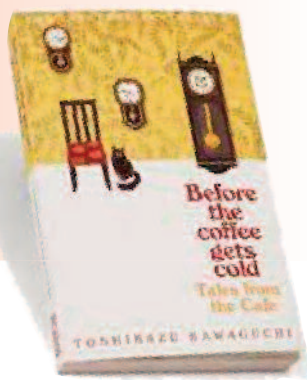


From L-R: Dr Nima J John, Sushil Pawar and Harry Ravelomanantsoa

## Book Review

### Rake in that review

**Book:** Before the coffee gets cold  
**Author:** Toshikazu Kawaguchi  
**Published On:** Dec, 2015  
**Genre:** Magical realism, Fantasy fiction, Time travel fiction



**Synopsis:** This story is set in Tokyo in a café that has been serving a special kind of coffee for more than a century. The narrative includes four different visitors who wish to travel back in time to talk to their loved ones: some who left and some whom they never met. What they don't know is that travelling in time comes with some very strict rules, which if broken can have some very bad consequences. They must sit in a specific seat, they cannot leave the café or meet anyone who has never been to the café, and they must return before the coffee gets cold.

**Why is it worth reading:** The premise is irresistible. The story is intriguing as this isn't your standard time travel story. Kawaguchi's method of pre-

senting the perspective of all four visitors while remaining attached to the main theme is astounding. The way this book takes us on a beautiful journey from giggles to tears, is very touching. The stories of all four visitors are beautifully intertwined and the overall message is of hope. Though the stories are interlocked, they still retain their individuality while depicting the main theme: travelling back in time.

**Iconic quote:** "Drink the coffee before it goes cold."

**Rating:** 5/5

**Review by:**

Ananta Taneja,  
 AIS Vasundhara 1, XII D

# Set your everyday goal

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...

**Name:** Harshit Bhardwaj  
**AICE Batch:** 2019-20  
**College:** IITD  
**Currently pursuing:** BTech Production and Industrial Engineering



AMITY INSTITUTE FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS

Amity Institute of Competitive Examinations (AICE), established in the year 2000 equips the students to excel in competitive exams such as IIT-JEE, NEET, GTSE, NTSE, etc. Diversifying its vision and objectives with competitive requirements, the institute primarily aims to enhance the knowledge base of students by developing their analytical skills, reasoning, and logical acumen, thereby giving them the winning edge over others.

To know more about AICE, visit: <https://www.amity.edu/aice/>

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

When I was in Class XII, my Chemistry teacher informed me about competitive exams that one must take to get enrolled in good engineering college. She also advised me to join Amity for the preparation of these competitive exams.

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

I studied regularly and set a minimum target for myself every day.

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

AICE provided me guidance from the best teachers. They helped me clear doubts and gave several easy methods to solve problems. Apart from 'what to study', they guided me on 'how to study' as well. The regular tests helped me a great deal to measure my preparation and made me immune to examination fear.

### Which field of engineering did you choose and why?

I chose Production and Industrial Engineering because this field will remain relevant in the future. Our country is on a growth curve, creating demand for this field. Also, it gives me time to focus on my interests, something more important than a degree.

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

Always set a daily goal. To achieve the goal,

## Rapid Fire

One word to describe...

Your Alma mater: Memorable

The motto of your life: Inspire

Your passion: Restless

Yourself: Learner

make a time table or, if you find that difficult, a to-do list. If you want more flexibility, set a time limit for each chapter. Also, clear all doubts by talking to your teachers. If you don't interact with the teacher, you will be losing out on most important things. Make like-minded friends who are dedicated as much as you or more.

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

I think Class XI is the correct time to start preparing for the competitive exams. You get ample time to ace these exams.

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

Don't miss out on studying just because you feel like sleeping or watching a movie. Also, if you are having a tough time and you cannot get even a simple answer correct, change the book or start doing easier questions. Once you get momentum, increase your level.



Coming from the dried fruit peppercorn (piper nigrum), black pepper was so valuable in the 4th century BC that it was known as 'black gold'.



# The other Corona

## A Dreaded Virus And The Two Marvels of Nature

Stuti Kalra, GT Network

It's been more than a year since the dreaded virus – that the scientists christened as 'coronavirus' – invaded and changed our lives. We have now learnt to live with what we usually call 'covid' or simply 'corona'. But did you know that along with this universally despised virus, our beautiful planet is also home to two beautiful miracles of nature that go by the same name? These little-known wonders have existed since the beginning of life, so let's get to know them.

### Sun's 'corona'

This 'corona' is scientifically understood as the outermost part of the sun's atmosphere. It consists of hot ionised gases and extends millions of kilometres into space. However, it is not visible to us because of the sun's brightness. One can see it only during a total solar eclipse. During the eclipse, the moon passes between the Earth and the Sun and blocks out the

bright light of the Sun. That's when this extraordinarily beautiful spectacle of the glowing white corona, like a classic diamond ring, can be seen. Corona around the sun is as mysterious as its viral namesake. It's still fully unexplained how it is 100 times hotter than the Sun's surface itself. Moreover, despite its abnormally high temperatures, it is much dimmer than even the moon. Also, the surface of the Sun is covered in magnetic fields which makes the charged particles in the corona create beautiful features known as streamers, loops, and plumes.

### Floral 'corona'

No occasion can be considered fully celebrated without a bouquet of flowers. But did you know that many flowers have a 'corona' as their integral part? This floral 'corona' is either crown-shaped, funnel-shaped or trumpet-shaped, and looks like an outgrowth or appendage. It can be found in flowers like passion flower, daffodil, gardenia, petullaria and

flowers of the lily family. It grows from corolla and is located on the perianth of the flowers. Mostly green in colour, it plays a key role in pollination. In fact, in desert milkweed flowers, it is the corona which modifies into white petals helping to attract insects. Horticulture scientists are still unravelling the mystery of corona in these flowers.

It seems then that the name 'corona' has more to it than what most of us have believed. Just because we know a name doesn't mean we know the whole story!



# A carrot affair!

Fruits and vegetables make up the largest chunk of our nutrition. However, their role is not just limited to a wholesome diet. Their significance permeates across economy, environment, health, and social impact, proving how they are, in fact, essential commodities to attain a sustainable world. Keeping the same in mind, the United Nations has designated 2021 as the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables to make us cognisant of the diverse roles that they undertake. Shaking hands with this goal, GT brings you a brand-new series, wherein every part will explore the various facets of one fruit or vegetable, highlighting why it is important to preserve these gifts of nature.

Akshita Bhandari, AIS PV & Arshiya Singla, AIS MV; IX

### About me

- I am a root vegetable that was first grown in Afghanistan around 900 AD.
- I am found in many colours, including yellow, white, orange, red and purple.
- The most popular is the orange variety that gets its bright colour from beta carotene, an antioxidant that your body converts into vitamin.
- Orange carrots were developed in Central Europe around the 15th or 16th century.
- I am a versatile veggie that may taste slightly different depending on the colour, size and where I am grown. The sugar in my body gives me a slightly sweet flavor, but I can also taste earthy or bitter.

### What I offer

I am a super-crunchy vegetable filled with nutrients like:

- Calories: 41
- Water: 88%
- Protein: 0.9 grams
- Carbs: 9.6 grams
- Sugar: 4.7 grams
- Fiber: 2.8 grams
- Fat: 0.2 grams
- Potassium
- Vitamin (A and K)
- Beta carotene
- Antioxidants

Illustration: Akshita Bhandari, AIS PV, IX

### I can also help you with

- Weight loss
- Control cholesterol
- Reduce blood pressure
- Lowering risk of cancer
- Relieve constipation

### My different avatars

- Danvers
- Nantes
- Imperator
- Chantenay
- Ball or Mini

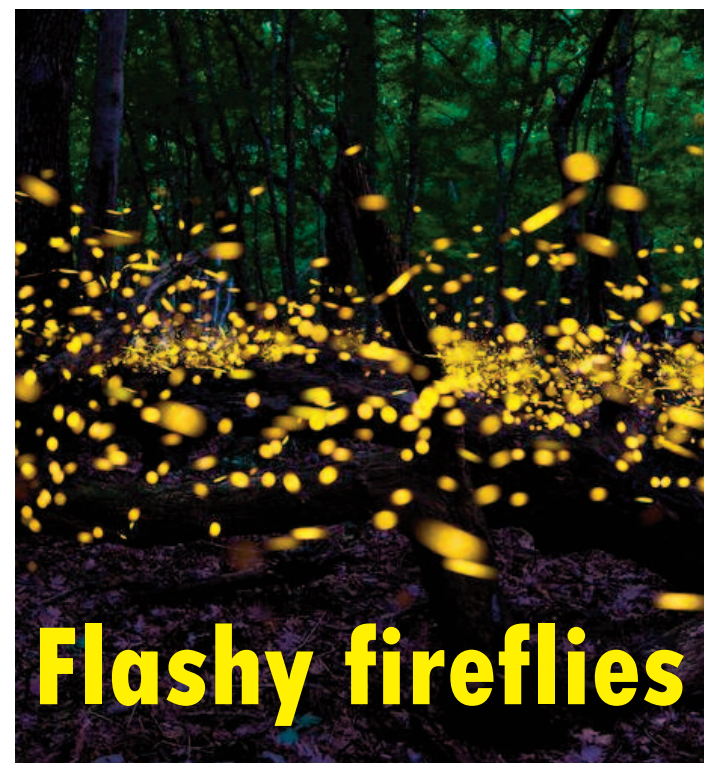
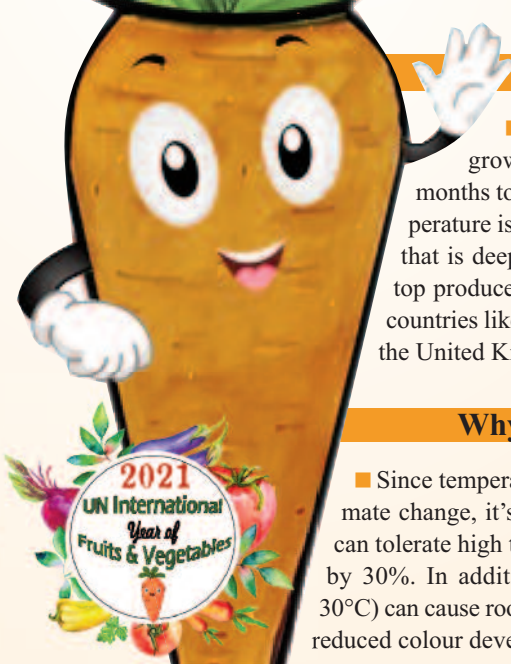
### Where can you find me

- Where there is full sunlight, I am grown from seeds and can take up to four months to completely mature. The optimum temperature is 16 to 21°C (61 to 70 °F) and I love soil that is deep, loose and well-drained. China is my top producer but I am also grown in abundance in countries like India, USA, Russia, Japan, France and the United Kingdom.

### Why I fear climate change

- Since temperatures are increasing majorly due to climate change, it's a bane for my growth. Even though I can tolerate high temperature, my yield could be reduced by 30%. In addition, sustained high temperatures (27-30°C) can cause roots to develop abnormal shapes and have reduced colour development.

Hey! My name is: Carrot  
I am also known as: *Daucus carota*, subsp. *sativus*



## Flashy fireflies

### Did You Know?

Nurina Amin  
AIS PV, VIII

- Mostly found in North America, Photinus pyralis fireflies are about half an inch long and produce a yellow-green light.
- The nocturnal glow-worm fireflies, Microphotus are commonly found in southwestern United States.
- Pyraetomena fireflies are known to produce a yellow-amber flicker that resembles a spark from a campfire.
- Found in Central America and North America, Tenaspis angularis fireflies belong to the beetle family Lampyridae.
- Photuris fireflies are about an inch long and are known to emit a darker green light.

- Also known as blue ghost fireflies, Phausis reticulata do not flash but glow with a blue or green light.
- Forest fireflies, Photuris frontalis are about 9-11mm long and have a unique flash pattern that differs according to the location and temperature.
- Peroptryx fireflies, commonly occurring in tropical Asia, coordinate their flashes until thousands of them are flashing to the same rhythm.
- Commonly referred to as the Japanese fireflies, Luciola are believed to represent the glowing souls of the dead.
- Pollaclasis fireflies are primarily found in Eurasia and are considered to be the most primitive species of fireflies in existence.
- About 20mm long, Lampyrus raymondi fireflies produce a continuous glow and belong to the order of Coleoptera.





Cinnamon sticks, which are called quills, come from the bark of the cinnamon tree that can grow up to 60 feet.

# Showing the way, one river at a time

The Global Times is pleased to be a part of the The World Teenage Reporting Project on Climate Champions. An initiative of Youth & News Media Prize, the project showcases noteworthy stories by teenage reporters from around the world focusing on what their cohorts and adults have been doing to save the planet. Presenting the third story 'Showing the way, one river at a time' by GT reporter, Riddhi Rastogi, featured in the first set of stories along with other 13 stories by student reporters across the world. Previously, The Global Times took part in the project that showcased stories by teenage reporters from around the world about what their cohorts were doing to help during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Scan QR Code to read the story

Link to the story: <https://bit.ly/3w27Wno>

## One Small Step For Man Is A Giant Leap For Mankind



Campaigns undertaken by eArth Samvarta Foundation

**A**bhishek Singh Bias (age 32) and Chandraprabha Sharma (age 29) are engineers by training; however, they have found their true calling in saving the environment. They started the environmental NGO eArth Samvarta Foundation (eSF) three years ago with a vision to educate people about the dangers of climate change and also bring about necessary policy changes to protect our natural environment. The impetus to start eSF came when their attention was drawn to the highly polluted Saryu river in the city of Ayodhya which also happens to be Abhishek's hometown. "People in Ayodhya don't even know that the river flowing next to them houses Gangetic dolphins," he says, "then we cannot ignore the fact that there are hundreds of gharials in danger. Unfortunately, we don't even know what we are losing." Unlike most people who prefer to be armchair activists with only social media posts to show as their achievement, these two took upon themselves the task of cleaning, restoring and reviving the heritage of Saryu. They commenced with clean-up drives on the steps of Guptar Ghat (riverside) every Sunday under the 'Swachh Saryu Abhiyan' translating to Clean Saryu Campaign. Since Ayodhya is a centre for religious pilgrimage, the waste comprised mainly of ceramic sculptures and photo frames of deities. There was also a large amount of household waste in the river. "Even the people of Ayodhya cooperated and participated widely in these drives, especially because this holy river is very important to them emotionally," says Chandraprabha. The consistency of these drives has converted Saryu into a well-maintained and clean river today. The duo has been able to inspire peo-



### Riddhi Rastogi

About the Author

Riddhi Rastogi, a student of grade XII and the editor-in-chief of Amity International School, Gurugram 43, a prime school in the state of Haryana, India. An enthusiastic reader, her pen finds passion in writing for social issues. Socially conscientious, she tries to do her bit for the society wherever possible. She organised webinars on digital awareness and mental health during the pandemic as the secretary of her school Interact Club (the school's social welfare club). It is her interest in issues afflicting mankind at large that also makes her a keen MUNer. Other than writing, Riddhi is also extremely passionate about kathak, an Indian classical dance form that she has been learning professionally for almost 12 years now. She also runs a music channel on several social media platforms.

ple to clean, reclaim and conserve the wetlands of Ayodhya. The importance of wetlands can be gauged from the fact that wetlands have ten times better carbon sink than even dense forests. "There was an entire wetland in the heart of Ayodhya that people didn't know about because it was covered in trash and medical waste. It's called the Lal Dighi pond." This initiative uncovered not only groundwater but also precious bird life. Waste management was the biggest challenge. "We think of many things like flowers and clay pots as bio-degradable but in actuality, they are not." Also, most of the religious idols are manufactured using complex polymers that are toxic, and eventually find their way to landfills, posing hazards on marine life. To ensure correct disposal and recycling of waste, eSF will operate the first Material Recovery Facility in Ayodhya, wherein their research team will implement innovative solutions for waste management. They will be starting a rubble to brick facility which will convert construction and demolition waste, especially ce-



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1-12 NOV 2021

ramic and cement, into bricks. Another unique initiative undertaken by them has been to motivate and convince residents in adopting discarded religious statues. "We were worried about resistance initially, but people came forward and supported us without much reluctance. During the river clean-ups, they would take back an idol and re-establish it in their places of worship." At the same time, the focus is also on building awareness on segregation of waste at its source and reducing waste generation. 'Saying no to plastics' is

also a big part of awareness campaigns by eSF. The foundation has also carried out numerous plantation drives. 30,000 trees were planted in the first year itself and 50,000 more in the second year. "We were aspiring to reach the magic number of 1,00,000 by 2021 but that has taken a hit because of the pandemic," they say. Another feather in their cap is that they have convinced the local government to include animal birth control in Ayodhya's smart city development plan. One can wonder how this is connected to environment. "Well, if you have 50,000 dogs, six lakh cows and 25,00,00 monkeys excreting everywhere on the roads and around your homes, can you really call that city smart? It was a big challenge and we personally consider this policy inclusion as our biggest victory." Not just animal birth control, the foundation's work covers several other areas like water scarcity, clean fuel and education. "All these fields are interconnected. You cannot address the issue of water scarcity or bio-degradable fuels without understanding the concept of women's rights and welfare. For instance, if you don't promote clean energy like clean gas, used by women in a cook-

ing stove, you cannot look after women's health who in rural areas, spend their maximum time in the kitchen. Taking up a lot of intersectionalities ensures that the development that happens is sustainable," says Abhishek. eSF ensures that it tackles every new problem that comes up, especially when it is related to environment. Case in point is the inflow of oxygen concentrators during the pandemic. "We are working on a policy to develop a system on how to distribute these concentrators across the country so that there is no surplus in any institution after the pandemic. A surplus is not an ideal scenario as they will just gather rust and become electronic waste. This policy will take into account the environmental impact of these machines." Another response to the pandemic has been to start 'Phoneshaala', an audio service that provides free education for underprivileged children missing school due to Covid lockdowns. "These audio lessons focus a lot on environment protection and climate change along with regular lessons," says Abhishek. And even though they claim that they are "just a small organisation in a small city", the fact is that any change starts with one small step. It's going to be one river at a time and one city at a time. And that's what eSF aims at.



Volunteers join for the river cleaning campaign



Chandraprabha addresses the need for environment protection



Cumin seeds, the second most popular spice in the world, come from the *cuminummimuni* plant.



Indian spices

## Cyber Shakti



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

This week gives me yet another reason to rejoice. I am extremely proud that the Amity family can together celebrate a new milestone in its long list of achievements. Somya Jha, of Class XI, AIS Vasundhara 6, has won the national award at 'Women in Cyber - Making a Difference' under the 'Cyber - Promising Newcomer' category. This award conferred by ASSOCHAM, honours women achievers working in the field of cyber security.

In the present-day scenario, everything is happening virtually - from online classes and meetings to e-commerce and monetary transactions. Whilst this ever-increasing significance of online realm has had its fair share of ups; on the flipside, it has led to a spurt in cyber crime. Even though none of us are immune to cyber frauds, the ones who are not very tech-savvy, especially the elder generation, happen to be the most vulnerable. Thus, the need for cyber security today is more than ever.

It is, indeed, heartening to note that even at such a young age, Somya is already a part of this info-tech revolution that will help so many people. Her achievement has helped break several age and gender based stereotypes. Being the youngest professional in India to have won this award, she has testified that age is no barrier when it comes to fulfilling one's passion. Besides, mathematical algorithms that dominate the virtual world have mostly been considered a man's domain. Somya's win, however, has proven that intelligence is not gender dependent at all, nor is computing. Such an achievement is a motivation for all of us to keep nurturing young innovators like Somya who can make a difference in creating a safer and happier world. [G I](#)

Returning to your alma mater is always a bittersweet moment, a kind I experienced as I returned to National School of Drama after 10 years. I felt at home as I reminisced about all the time I spent here, but I could not turn a blind eye to the plethora of things that had changed. Students ran around to prepare for the theatre fest with splendour and fervour. As soon as I entered the main theatre, the aura overwhelmed me. The ruffling of the classic red curtains, the peculiar sound of tapping of the feet on the stage, the content face of Ashok *bhaiya*, the electricity operator, the 20-in-each-row-arrangement of chairs looked as new as they did a decade ago. The only difference I

# The final curtain

## A Hope To Resuscitate The Splendid Ambience Of The Theatre



Yavnika Garg

AIS Gurugram 46, Alumna

could see was the dwindling audience and the decreasing popularity among the youth with the advent of Netflix and cinema. I could hear the stage responding to all my queries. "Well, this place used to reverberate with multiple rounds of applause, but now we have sufficed ourselves with a handful of audience. I hardly get to see the innocent faces of budding artists. Even when they come, they are just dragged in by their once-too-enthusiastic grandparents!" said the stage in disheartenment. I poked around backstage to notice that a lot of the props used were in a poor condition. The corner right stage light being fused came as another shock. This clearly reflected the fading glory of theatre! "Last year, I heard two ladies talking to each other about the ticket being

expensive due to which Mrs Sharma couldn't accompany. We are never able to meet expenses as we had to cut down the price to catch more audience. When will they realise the value of art?" complained the stage. Disturbed, I went on to check the condition of the green room. As soon as I entered, all that could be heard was the Tata Sky Channel Number 315. 'Tata Sky Theatre, now enjoy the beauty of theatre at your home' were the words flashing brightly on the fluorescent screen. I couldn't believe my eyes as the irony was so stark that any attempt to prevent theatre would only disrespect its austere form. "Tata Sky *laga dala, toh life jingalala*," sarcastically remarked the stage. The Hall of Fame did not fail to disappoint me either. All I could see there were celebrities from the film indus-

try. I searched intently for names and faces which have taken the world of theatre to another level, but as far as my eyes reached, I saw faces that I had only seen on big screens and not on a stage. I turned back and made my way to the auditorium. It was time for the show to begin, and as the curtains unfolded, the lights glowed and I could feel a wave of energy rushing through me. The power of theatre is beyond measure. The talent of these budding artists motivated me to keep up my work. "Every time they perform, I feel so proud. It's an honour," exclaimed the stage. I walked out, gleaming with pride, with the hope to revive the fading sheen of an art form as original and powerful as theatre, keeping up with the strong belief that the show must go on! [G I](#)

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## Taking to the new



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

Remember the erstwhile mobile phone that existed several decades ago? Do you know that these were so bulky that you felt you were carrying a wallet around? Well, even this model made the younger generation of that time happy. So, when a friend

gifted one such phone to her father, expecting him to be also overjoyed, she was surprised to be met with huge resistance. Her father belonged to the generation that used only landline phones, but at my friend's insistence, he finally gave in. A few months down the line, he was handling his cell-phone like duck takes to water. Then came the era of the sleeker smartphones. With the goal of making her father change with the times, she gifted him a smartphone. This time, his reason for not moving on to a newer technology was a preconceived notion that smartphones had a harmful effect on humans. Not one to give up easily, my friend gently eased him into this new phase by introducing to him several useful features of a touchphone. This time it took just three months for him to become tech-savvy. So much so, that he attended his granddaughter's wedding in the USA on a video call all by himself. The joy and pride of every family member was evident. The story of my friend's father is the story of most elders in our society. Even though a little apprehensive, the elder generation too wish to adapt to new technology, seeing how it makes life easier. So, let's all learn and, also teach others, to adapt to change, as that is the only way forward. [G I](#)

## It's outdated

Continued from page 1...

### Orkut

**The rise:** The brainchild of Turkish engineer and former Google employee, Orkut Büyükkökten, Google's first social networking site, Orkut, came into being in the year 2004. With its birth, it transpired an inception in the world of social media. With its novelty, the networking platform struck the chord with myriads of users instantly. Building a colossal community of over 300 million people, Orkut, with features such as testimonials, scraps and communities, along with a colourful semblance, gained unprecedented popularity across the world, especially in Brazil and India.

**The fall:** Enter Facebook, the social media giant which painted the whole world blue with its minimalistic display and extensive features. It managed to drive most of the audience to an advanced platform of communication, subsequently surpassing the user base of Orkut. In the year 2014, exactly ten years after it was born, Orkut went permanently offline as it was unable to render a more user-friendly interface or features when compared to its extraordinary contemporary.



While Orkut could not last longer we hoped for it to, it did bring forth the indispensable instinct of humans to remain connected with their family and friends, reiterating the actuality of phrase that we say too often- the world is a small place.

### AltaVista

**The rise:** Today's generation can never even imagine a world before Google. However, to their surprise, that world was called Altavista and with its one of its kind abilities for its time, this search engine took the world by storm. Introduced in 1995 by Digital Equipment Corporation, it was one of the first fully searchable, feasible interface. It was an immediate success- amassed about 300,000 users on the day of its launch. It was indexed about ten times the number of pages that its rival web could manage to do. Its irreconcilable features such as the

no-frill interface made it immensely popular as it coincided with the rising curiosity for the internet space.

**The fall:** AltaVista, though conceivable, was shut down in the year 2003. In 1996, it started providing supplementary results for Yahoo's search portal queries. In 2003, Overture Services Inc, bought AltaVista for \$140 million, and in turn Overture was subsequently acquired by Yahoo later in the same year reasoning it as a security threat. Altavista soon lost its identity as it became part of its rival search engine.

Well, Google may dominate the search engine domain today but AltaVista was the first to revolutionize the search, by trying to make it simple and effective. This was crucial at a time, when most other search engines were simply about making it technical and complex for the end user. Hasta la vista, we say!



Issue: P5, June 21, 2021

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'Vikramjeet Singh Kanwar - The innovator untethered by age' on page 5 of the GT edition dated June 21, 2021. Getting to report for the World Teenage Reporting Project through The Global Times was an enlightening experience. The background research enabled me to learn extensively about waste management and its necessity in the present day. Speaking with Vikramjeet Singh Kanwar about his start-up was eye-opening and undoubtedly inspirational. It is an empowering story that would certainly encourage readers to take up their own initiatives in the future. It also emphasises the need to acknowledge and encourage such projects created and run by younger people and sheds light upon the pivotal role of the youth in environmental protection. [G I](#)

Yashasvini Verma  
AIS Noida, XI J





Turmeric is antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and boasts of digestive properties. It is also considered to be a cure for Alzheimer's.

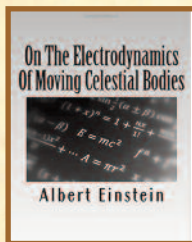
# HISTORY *this* WEEK

**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 June 28-July 4 that played their role in shaping our society.

## The world of inventions

JUNE 30 1905

Albert Einstein sent his article titled 'On the Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies' for publication in Annalen der Physik (Annals of Physics), a scientific journal. This article on special relativity was one of the four papers composed by Einstein, often known as Annus Mirabilis Papers, and all of them were published in 1905. These papers are considered major contribution to the foundation of modern physics, and revolutionised science's understanding of the fundamental concepts of space, time, mass and energy.



## The world of celebration

JULY 04 1776



American Independence Day is observed in the United States as the annual celebration of nationhood. It commemorates the passage of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. On July 2nd, 1776, the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson, was adopted by 13 US Colonies. This day has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941. July 4 is celebrated with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

JUNE 29 2007

National Statistics Day is celebrated on this day every year in India to mark the birth anniversary of the Father of Indian Statistics, Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis. A Bengali scientist and statistician, he is best remembered for the Mahalanobis distance, a statistical measure, and for being one of the members of the first Planning Commission of free India. He made pioneering studies in anthropometry in India. The very first National Statistics Day was celebrated on June 29 in 2007.



## The world of entertainment



JULY 01 1979

Sony introduced the Walkman. It was Andreas Pavel who had come up with the idea in 1972. However, Sony developed the Walkman TPS-L2 and began selling it in Japan in 1979. After a lengthy legal battle, Pavel was finally credited for the idea in 2003. The Walkman is known for its grassroots marketing campaign where the company had people use it on busy trains and students try it at festivals and on the streets. The Walkman sold 50 million units in 10 years, revolutionising portable music that continues today in digital form with MP3 players and portable music players.

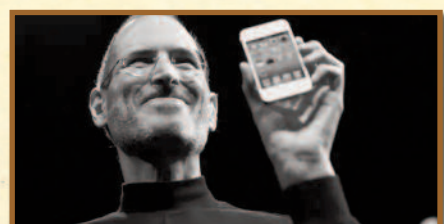
JUNE 29 2007

Apple Inc. released its first mobile phone, the iPhone. Released in the United States on June 29, 2007 at the price of \$499 for the 4 GB model and \$599 for the 8 GB model, both required a 2-year contract. Thousands of people were reported to have waited outside Apple and AT&T retail stores, days before the device's launch. Many stores reported stock shortages within an hour of availability.



JUNE 30 1936

American author Margaret Mitchell published her novel Gone with the Wind, a sweeping romance set during the American Civil War; which later won a Pulitzer Prize and was adapted into a hugely successful film. The story set in Georgia depicts the struggle of a young Scarlett O'Hara who must use every means at her disposal to claw her way out of poverty. This historical novel is a coming-of-age story.



Off-duty police officers were hired to guard stores overnight to avoid burglaries. It was later made available in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Portugal, the Republic of Ireland, and Austria in November 2007.

## The world of sports

JUNE 28 1897



In Wimbledon Women's Tennis, England's Blanche Bingley-Hillyard won her 4th title beating Charlotte Cooper 5-7, 7-5, 6-2. Hillyard was an English tennis player who won six singles Wimbledon championships (1886, 1889, 1894, 1897, 1898, 1900). She was also a runner-up seven times. Her professional career in Wimbledon spanned almost 30 years, longer than any other woman to date. In 1884, she competed in the first ever Wimbledon championships for women, and two years later she captured the first of her six singles titles. She also has to her credit winning the Irish Championships thrice and German Championships twice.

JUNE 29 1958



Vavá & Pelé each scored 2 goals at the FIFA World Cup Final, Råsunda Stadium, Stockholm, Sweden, as Brazil beat Sweden 5-2. The 1958 FIFA World Cup was the sixth FIFA World Cup, a quadrennial football tournament for men's senior national teams, and was played in Sweden from June 8 to June 29, 1958. It was the first FIFA World Cup to be played in a Nordic country. Brazil beat Sweden in the finals to claim their first title. The tournament also marked the arrival of the 17-year-old Pelé on the world stage.

## The world of politics

JUNE 28 1938



Queen Victoria's coronation took place on this day in 1838, just over a year after she succeeded the throne of the United Kingdom at the age of 18. The ceremony was held at Westminster Abbey. Victoria was queen of the United Kingdom that included Great Britain and Ireland until her death in 1901. Known as the Victorian era, her reign of 63 years and seven months was longer than that of any previous British monarch.

JULY 03 1866



The Austro-Prussian War was decided at the Battle of Königgrätz, resulting in Prussia taking over the prominent German nation from Austria. Also called the Seven Weeks' War, this pitted Prussia against Austria, Bavaria, Saxony, Hanover, and other minor German states. The issue was decided in Bohemia, where the principal Prussian armies met the main Austrian forces and the Saxon army.

JUNE 29 1949

South Africa began implementing the rules of apartheid and passed a law, titled The Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act, Act No 55, that banned mixed marriages between Europeans and non-Europeans. It was among the first pieces of apartheid legislation to be passed following the National Party's rise to power in 1948.



JULY 04 1932



Sir Donald George Bradman scored a record 260 runs in a match against West Ontario during Australian cricket team's Goodwill Tour of North America in Guelph. Nicknamed The Don, Bradman was an Australian international cricketer, and widely recognised as the greatest batsman of all time. Bradman's career Test batting average of 99.94 has been dubbed to be the greatest achievement by any sportsman in any major sport. Throughout his career, Bradman was also said to be 'worth three batsmen to Australia'.



100 gram of asafoetida contains 39mg of iron, 690mg of calcium, 68g of carbohydrates, 4g of protein, 4g of total dietary fiber, 50mg of phosphorus and 1g of fat.



# The love of a dog



## Storywala

**Aadya Kapoor, AIS Vas 6, XII**

The moment that Kavya was dreading had finally come. She had to bid goodbye to her lovely Simba. She buried her face into his soft fur, petting his neck softly and whispering in his ears, "I love you, my baby. I'm so sorry, I have to let you go. But I'll always love you." She handed a bag of treats to Mr Tyagi, who would be taking Simba to his new home.

She remembered vividly the day Simba was brought home. It was a lovely morning. She was in her room and studying, when she heard her mother calling out her name, "Kavu, come here fast and see who's here!!"

Kavya rushed outside, excited to see who it was. And there he was, in her mother's arms. A beautiful Indie dog with beautiful, golden fur. She carefully took him from her mother's arms and looked into his eyes. He stared back at her, his beautiful big brown eyes looking at her with admiration and fascination. She brought him closer to herself and hugged him tight while thanking her mother profusely. Her mother just smiled and softly kissed her forehead.

That evening, when Kavya's mother went to get some food for the dog from the pet store, she saw a half-bred German pup sleeping in a cardboard box and she couldn't help but ask why he was there.

The shop owner told her that the pup's mother had died. They had rescued him from the streets and named him Cookie. Her mother decided to bring Cookie home, thinking that the two dogs would enjoy each other's company.

When her mother returned home, Kavya thought she had a fluffy toy in her hands. But when she came closer, she saw it was another dog!

Kavya shrieked with happiness, "Mom!! we have two dogs now!!" "Yes, I couldn't have left him there, his name's Cookie," said Kavya's mother.

In the beginning, both Simba and Cookie got along pretty well. But soon, everything started to go downhill. One day Kavya returned home from school, she

**He stared back at her, his beautiful big brown eyes looking at her with admiration and fascination.**

heard loud barking noises. She burst into her room and the scene before her eyes shocked her. The room was in complete shambles and Cookie was growling in Simba's direction. Simba's neck and Cookie's ear were bleeding as well. They had been fighting for a while now.

Everyone had thought they were having fun initially but now it was apparent that the fight had turned dangerous. Both the dogs had to be kept in separate rooms that night.

In the morning, the vet told them that Cookie was older and, therefore, trying to exert his dominance over Simba. He suggested that the family should give away one of the dogs. Kavya tried to convince her parents not to send Simba away. But her mother explained that this was for Simba's better future. Also, her father assured her that Simba would never forget her even if he was far away because dogs always remember those who love them. Even though it was painful to part from Simba, it taught Kavya a precious life lesson. Sometimes you have to let go, not because you don't care, but because you do with all your heart. 📺



Agamya Doharey with her recipe

## Stuffed garlic bread

Agamya Doharey, AIS VYC Lko, X

### Ingredients

#### For bread

All-purpose flour	.....2 cups
Crushed garlic	.....2 tbsp
Dry yeast	.....1 ½ tsp
Oregano	.....½ tsp
Sugar	.....1 tbsp
Salt	..... as per taste
Black pepper powder	..... ½ tbsp
Olive oil	..... 1 tbsp

#### For stuffing

Mozzarella cheese (grated)	..... ½ cup
Sweet corn(boiled)	..... ¼ cup
Capsicum (chopped)	..... ¼ cup
Onion (chopped)	..... ¼ cup

### Procedure

- Add flour, crushed garlic, oregano, black pepper, salt, and sugar in a large bowl and mix them thoroughly.
- Now, pour in some dry yeast and olive oil and give the mixture a good stir.
- Add about a cup of warm water in this mix and make a smooth dough.
- Apply some oil on the dough and let it rest for a minimum of one hour.
- After the wait, punch the dough and knead it for another minute.
- Then divide the dough in two equal parts and roll each to the size of a thick flatbread using a rolling pin.
- Take one flatbread and put some capsicum, onion, sweet corn and cheese on it. Leave the edges bare.
- Now, bring one side of the flatbread to the other (fold it into a semicircle) and seal the edges using your fingers.
- Brush some olive oil on its surface and then season it with some more oregano.
- Now, using a knife, make some parallel indents on it.
- Repeat the same with the other flatbread.
- Bake both at 250 degrees Celsius for approximately 15-18 minutes.
- Serve hot with cheese dip or mayonnaise, and enjoy!

## WORDS VERSE



**Gurashima Kaur**  
AIS Noida, XII D

Under the bright white light  
Of the shining moon crescent  
She took small timid steps  
To finally be up and descend

With darkness and gloom  
Lurking in from all directions  
And killing fear was dropping  
Slowly in tiny small fractions

The blunt creaking sound  
Of the broken and tired wood

And the loud deafening rushing  
Thoughts had her left stood

"Am I prey to someone outside?  
I can't even go and seek help!  
For there is no one here who  
Will come and hear my yells!"

She steadily climbs down  
Careful not to make sound  
Outside, someone talks aloud  
For her, it's hope newfound

To get rid of the haunts  
She rushed towards the door  
But the shadow wants more  
As it pulls her to the floor

With jerk, she is dragged back  
The man outside, taken aback  
He turned to face the house  
From where came a shout

Worried, he stepped on porch  
Concerned, he flashed a torch  
Finding a girl playing with dolls

Sitting on steps, facing the wall

With fear, he returns to his chore  
It wasn't a place to wait at more  
The girl had a worried wilted face  
And no shadow around her space

Her eyes yellow and hands red  
Her feet burned, tangled strands  
Laughter filled the dark place  
As she climbed the staircase! 📺

## Bhagat Singh

**Rajbir Singh**  
AIS Gur 43, IX

I gave my life for my country  
My nation had been my priority

The British guns never scared me  
The tricolour was all I could see

They tried to divide and rule us  
We fought them as warriors robust

With a saffron dastar on my head  
I'd proudly twirl my mustache

The war did prove to be fatal  
But in the end, we won the battle

For the tears shed by my country  
We shed blood and sweat in return

When I died, I did so in fervour  
In your hearts I'd live forever 📺



## BRUSH 'n' EASEL

**Saatwik Chatkara**  
AGS Gurugram, X







The fruits of nigella plants are large seed capsules with around 7 follicles that contain small, pear-shaped white seeds that turn black when exposed to air.

# Hobi and his vision

Imaging: Dinesh Kumar, GT Network

## Short Story



Regardless of what they felt, I always believed in my capability to predict the future.

out. People were utterly overjoyed to hear this news. Seeing them jolly, even I became happy! I was motivated to attend my online classes and started taking my school work seriously. When I went to sleep, happy that things were improving around me, I started to get the visions again. This time, it was a really great one. I saw all of us getting vaccinated and my country becoming COVID free! Honestly, I never expected this to happen but it did! So, my advice is that no matter how evil the situation may seem to be, good always wins over evil and hard times always pass. Stay home, stay safe! 🇮🇳

(The above story is one of the entries received as part of the story writing workshop conducted during GT Summer Workshop 2021. The participants were given a setting and characters to weave a gripping short story.)

**So what did you learn today?**  
A new word: **Retching**  
Meaning: **Vomiting**



## Money box

Rakshit Goyal, AIS Pushp Vihar, II

### What you need?

- Waste cardboard boxes-2
- Fevicol
- Tape
- Scissors
- Paper cutter
- Newspapers
- Decorative tape
- Decorative stickers

### What you need to do?

- Take a cardboard box and cut out two large rectangular pieces measuring 20 cm in length and breath.
- Take another cardboard box and cut out four rectangular pieces measuring 20 cm in length and 5 cm in breath.
- Using tape, join all the sides together until you finally have a closed rectangle box. The two large rectangle pieces would be the walls of the box and the four shorter pieces would be the sides.
- With the help of cutter, make an incision about 5 cm long and 1 cm wide in the center on one of the larger sides of the box. Please take help of an adult for this part.
- Using old newspapers and fevicol, completely cover the edges of the box in a neat manner.
- Next, use decorative stickers to cover the rest of the box. You can even doodle your own designs, colour them, and paste them on the box.
- To make it look more colourful, you can cover all the sides of the box with colourful tape as well as the main incision made for the money hole.
- Your money box is ready, so keep adding your notes here and save up. Once it is full, you can break it and splurge!

## It's Me

### KNOW ME

**My name:** Ayana Yadav  
**My Class:** I  
**My school:** AIS Gurugram 43  
**Born on:** August 10

### MY FAVOURITES

**Teacher:** Swati Cansal  
**Subject:** Drawing  
**Friends:** Maitrika and Krishna  
**Games:** Carrom and Ludo  
**Cartoon:** Masha and the Bear  
**Food:** Paneer and Butter  
**Book:** Peppa Pig Mini books

### MY DREAMS AND GOALS

**Hobby:** Painting  
**I like:** Dancing and singing  
**I dislike:** Monsters  
**My role model:** My mother  
**I want to become:** A doctor  
**I want to feature in GT because:** I would love to see myself in my school newspaper.



## POEMS

### We the future

Kanishka Sharma, AIS Vas 1, VII

How amazing is being a child  
To be so playful and wild  
Emotions all swirling up inside  
To reminisce in the coming times

Many ambitions, many things to be  
In a bid to follow an array of dreams  
To smash the highest glass ceiling  
Breaking every stereotype there is

As glimmering as the shining sun  
Our future will prove to be golden  
A future that rests on our shoulders  
For us to fulfil as we keep getting older

Let's lock our motives and goals  
Learn from the past and move forth



Childhood will be part of our memories  
As it will become just one of our reveries

Let's gear up for the days to come  
Let's define the world together  
Life is going to be what we make it  
Because we are the future of the society 🇮🇳

### Beloved India

Anamika Pandey  
AIS Jagdishpur, VIII

Every day in our lives  
We all proudly smile  
Proud to be happily alive  
With all the human rights

Every day in our lives  
We fly high like birds  
With peace, courage, flight  
And all loved ones in sight

But not every day in our lives  
We applaud our heroes  
Who give foes a tough fight  
No eulogies could ever recite

And not every day in our lives  
We all unite and be grateful  
For our most beloved nation  
Why? Ask yourself this question 🇮🇳



## PAINTING CORNER

Anika Jain, AIS Mayur Vihar, VI





Fenugreek is an important source of diosgenin, which is why it is used in the production of steroids, oral contraceptives, veterinary medicines, and hormonal pills.



*Writing is an art and there's no better platform to exercise it than your own beloved GT! Just to unleash the writer in you, GT brings you a new topic every time and asks for your views on the same. Here are some intriguing responses from young writers at Amity for the prompt...*

"Recently, when the tennis champion decided not to appear for the post-match press conference, she was fined and criticised by the organisers of the tournament. Why? Because addressing the press is said to be 'part of the job'. But the question that really arises is that isn't it unreasonable to expect athletes to fulfil their media obligations regardless of how it could affect their mental well-being? While it is true that the public image of such known personalities is usually based on what the media writes and says about them, the pressure to interact with them at all times must not come to an extent that it takes a toll on players' mental health. Rather, it takes a remarkably brave person to come out and share one's experience with social anxiety and depression with the whole world."

**Deetya Gambhir**  
AIS Pushp Vihar, X A

## Do you think Naomi Osaka's decision to quit French Open due to the pressure to answer insensitive nature of questions posed by tournament media justified?

The prompt

# BOX

"Naomi Osaka's withdrawal is serious since it reflects the mental disharmony caused through the razzmatazz of the 21st century media. Perhaps the media needs to take a step back and contemplate its position and limits. In current times, we really need a renewed definition of freedom of press and speech. It's sad too see that Osaka is facing criticism for sharing about her own mental health. However, it is not she who needs to apologise for backing out, but the media who needs to be more empathetic. I can only hope that Naomi overcomes this battle."

**Gauri Srivastava**  
AIS VKC Lucknow, XII E

"Naomi Osaka's decision to withdraw from the French Open is absolutely justified. If there's anything that's negatively impacting her mental health, news conferences or media interactions in this case, she has all the rights to completely shun it. For emotional or mental well-being is just as important as physical health, especially for a professional tennis player like her who is constantly under media surveillance. The pressure to not only be satisfactory in the game but to be extraordinary is real and concerning. Besides, neglecting mental health for long may lead to serious problems, so it is better to head it off as early as possible."

**Agamya Doharey**, AIS VYC Lko, X A

"On one hand, I respect her decision to put her mental/physical well-being before anything else, but on the other hand, her stance is a little problematic too. Repetitive questions from the media may cause annoyance and it is understandably hard to come in press straight after a match, but for a player at her level, it is really important to make yourself available to the media no matter how irritating, intrusive, insensitive they at times be. The profession calls for it."

**Shruti Tiwari**, AIS Jagdishpur, IX

"Ever since she debuted as a professional tennis player, Naomi Osaka has been a magnetic figure and a magnificent player, which is how she has also become one of the highest paid female athletes in the world. So, it is only natural for her to feel the pressure and intensity of being an athlete. The negative questions about her game have a deleterious impact on her mental well-being, which is an undisputedly normal pattern in every human's equation. Osaka has been soldiering through the anxiety she experiences during interviews for a long time, so her decision to put herself first shouldn't be questioned and is completely justified."

**Savyasachi Singh**, AIS Noida, XI H

"One's position in front of the media does not matter until they are the same in their real life. As a renowned tennis player, Naomi is a celebrity, and her fans would not want her to suffer from depression just to get answers to a few questions which indeed aim directly to her personal life. She said that these encounters are mainly about the lowest moments in her life. Withdrawing was the option she chose to minimise her stress and it is still justified as she explained that she suffers from depression and is struck by anxiety before press encounters."

**Avni Munjal**, AIS Gurugram 43, X D

"As someone rightly said, 'Mental health is as important as physical health. You wouldn't dismiss broken bones so don't dismiss broken minds.' Naomi Osaka's decision to withdraw from the French Open is completely justifiable. During the pandemic, common man alone has gone through major setbacks such as unemployment, reduction of salary, and most importantly, mental health issues like depression, anxiety, etc., so Osaka quitting under the pressure of the insensitive questions posted by the tournament media makes absolute sense."

**Diya Arora**, AIS Saket, X B

"Naomi Osaka's decision to quit the French open is indeed a welcome one, considering the fact that her mental health needs to be taken care of. Not everyone has the capacity to face the preposterous media all the time. She has stated that facing their allegations only bother her troubled mind further because they bombard her with questions about her personal life as well as intentional ones intended to throw her off her game. Why, then, should she go through such a horrendous ritual? Naomi has set an example for people to prioritize mental health and to take good care of their mind."

**Viwaswan Jha**, AGS Gurugram, XI

"The world preaches about how we can avoid negative, inconsiderate interactions to preserve mental health, but when it comes to the actual story of a tennis star, many well-known journalists shamed her for taking care of herself, by calling her a 'petulant little brat' and an 'arrogant diva'. The saddest part is that when lack of mental health affects a player's game, they call her incompetent and at the same time act in ways that they know are so inhumane. It's about time that we give precedence to our mental health over anything."

**Anubha Mathur**, AIS Gur 46, IX H

"Under the guise of candidness, post-match press conferences are sometimes almost toxic. It is not fair to expect players to publicly discuss their defeat, form, life choices, etc., especially after losing a match. Four-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka quitting the French Open is a wake-up call to the sports sector. Athletes should be considered a person first. Tournament organisers should ensure that players are not harassed by the insensitive media. Naomi is just 23 years old and needs a break to focus on and improve her mental health before stepping up again. We should support her decision."

**Akshita Shrote**, AIS Vas 1, IX B

"There is a huge stigma around mental health and getting help for it and Naomi's decision will urge others to follow her and put themselves before everything. The media is undoubtedly highly insensitive and will go to any lengths for more headlines and 'tea' on the lives of people. Naomi quit the French Open partly due to the media and I stand by her decision. Mental health needs to be prioritised and needs to stop being put on the back burner."

**Ananya Mittal**, AIS Vas 6, X B

"Press conferences have a knack of nagging and pulling players down when they are at their worst. When players refute something due to a physical ailment, they are showered with all the support but when Naomi came forward with a hurt that was not physical but emotional, she was shoved down with a fine. The game is not confined within the boundaries of the court; communicating with the audience is an integral part of the game but it should be done in ways that make the players feel comfortable, too, because essentially, it is their game."

**Anushka Ramesh**, AIS MV, XII E





Nutmeg is obtained from the seed of *Myristica fragrans* tree; it is used to flavour puddings, baked goods, sauces, vegetables etc.

# YRoNS 2021

A New Age Symposium of Exploration And Innovation



Kuchipudi dance by Samaya Chauhan and Sanjana Chauhan



Istvan Sandor addresses audience at the opening ceremony

to build a long-term, successful youth-enterprise, where one opens a partnership and builds the youth for a better future. At the conference, HE Dr Marjan Cencen, ambassador of Slovenia in India, shared about Slovenia's contribution to the understanding of natural sciences for promoting 'Green economy'. Key note speakers, Dr George Veni, executive director, National Cave and Karst Research Institute and Dr Cyril Mayaud, researcher of Hydrogeology, University of Graz, Austria, discussed about the importance of study of caves and karsts in saving environment. Participants from all the nations showcased their presentations on interesting experiments in natural sciences done by them at home during the pandemic times. Students from Amity gave presentations on innovative experiments like Azadirachta indica as a natural soil pH maintaining herb, organic immunity booster kit, types of bacteria that grow in homes, combating micronutrient deficiency in kitchen garden through biofortification, changing agro-waste into disposable plates, herbal shelf liner to prevent household pests, and smart bus shelter to fight the coronavirus. Other prominent projects on display

were, a simulated model of the coronavirus, chemical cryptography, plastic pollution free world - a commitment, working of the Rube Goldberg Machine, visualisation of fingerprints by super glue etc. All the presentations were followed by Q&A round with audience. Guest speakers, Prof (Dr) Peter Paul Verbeek and Lea Jaeger also shared their own studies in the fields of scientific research. Dr Maan Singh Sidhu, counsellor for Science, Technology & Higher Education, Royal Norwegian Embassy, New Delhi, India, interacted with the participants while Dorina Czak presented a talk on 'Why enthusiasm is your super power?'. Dr Halvor Knutsen, principal scientist, IMR, Norway, delivered a talk on marine world and Isac Knutsen, who has been a part of previous editions of YRoNS shared about his experience of a member of the youngest team which walked the length of Norway independently. The conference concluded with a cultural extravaganza during which Amitians presented classical raga, gid-dha, kathak, a poem on COVID-19, and played musical instruments. The second virtual YRoNS was indeed a holistic inter-cultural learning experience for the young ones.

**AERC**

Fourteen Amityans from different branches of Amity Group of Schools participated in the 14th international conference of Young Researchers of Natural Science (YRoNS) held virtually for the 2nd consecutive year from April 13-15, 2021. The annual conference based on theme 'Stay-at-Home Lab-Science Experiments At Home', saw participation by 83 students and mentors from eight nations namely Hungary, Germany, Norway, France, Slovenia, Netherlands, Russia and India. It was hosted by Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC), under the visionary leadership and guidance of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, in an endeavour to create a dynamic learning environment juxtaposed with cross cultural interactions. The virtual opening ceremony was graced by the presence of

Chairperson and eminent dignitaries from various nations. The ceremony began with the virtual lamp lighting followed by a mesmerising Kuchipudi dance recital by Sanjana Chauhan and Samaya Chauhan, both students from Class VIII of AIS Pushp Vihar. In her inaugural address to the gathering, Chairperson emphasised on Amity's mission to nurture scientific temperament of young minds while fostering their inter cultural bonding for enhanced learning and enriched explorations, leading to new innovations and ideas. Istvan Sandor, founder, YRoNS, in his address, reiterated the aim of YRoNS ie



HE Ambassador of Slovenia



Experts interact with the students to read and grow

## Interact and grow Experts Talk To Learners

**AIS Vasundhara 1**

School hosted a series of online interactive sessions for students by experts in various fields ranging from sports to linguistics during the months of May and June, 2021. In his interactive session with Class IX-X, Col B S Ahluwalia (Retd), senior consultant sports, Amity Group of Schools, shared his views on leadership skills and how sports play a major role in building physical and emotional health. He also shared with them his real life 'war front' experiences to kindle their inner strength. Ranjini P Singh, primary English head, Amity Group of Schools, shared tips on how to inculcate good reading habits with students of Class I-VIII. She also encouraged them to read Hindi books for holistic personality development. Dr

Gagan Gupta associate professor of Physics, Department of Education in Science and Math, NCERT, held an interactive science session for Class VII-X and cleared several concepts with hands on experiments and examples from science and math in daily life. An amazing 'Hindi par charcha' for Class IX-X was held by Murtazakhodjaeva Maktuba (Lola) Maxamatjonovna, a specialist in Hindi and Urdu from Uzbekistan and a teacher in Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies. Neeraj Sharma, a Microsoft professional shared the dynamics of IT with Class IX-X. On the occasion of Mother's Day, a special interactive session titled 'To serve with love' was held for mothers and conducted by nutritionist, Gunjan Mittal. She apprised mothers with right nutrition and diet tips for children.



A student with her DIY experiment during science session

## A promising newcomer

Making Cyber More Safe

**AIS Vasundhara 6**

Somya Jha of Class XI won 'Cyber: Promising New Comer' award at 'Women in Cyber - Making a Difference' awards instituted by ASSOCHAM (Associated Chamber of Commerce) in collaboration with Ernst and Young (EY) as the Knowledge Partner. She is the youngest professional to receive the annual award series instituted to honour and felicitate women in India doing exemplary work in the field of Cyber Security. She was felicitated by Jyoti Arora, special secretary and financial advisor, Ministry of Electronics and IT, Govt of India, in a virtual award ceremony held on May 13, 2021. She made it to the top on the basis of her impressive works in the fields of cyber security, cyber



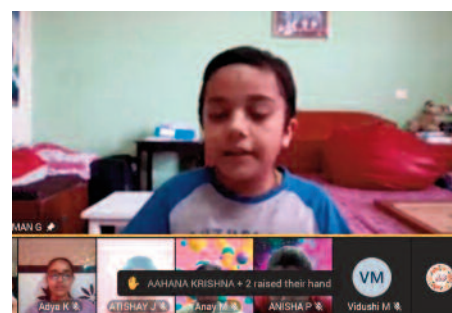
Somya Jha, cyber champ

awareness and app development as a societal campaign. Her contribution to various school level programmes like Technovation also added to her worthiness for the award. The aim of this unique award is to increase women representation in the field of cyber security especially during pandemic times.

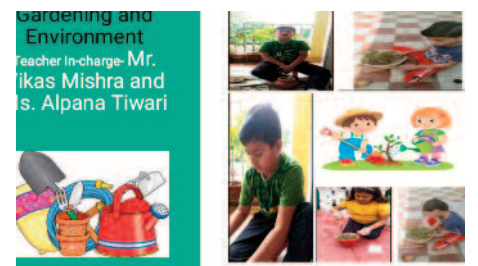
**Amity Group of Schools**



A student participates in fireless cooking



Participant from AIS Noida at the camp



Teacher in-charge- Ms. Suchika Sumeet and Ms. Twisha Mishra

## Fun at summer camp Amitians Learn, Play And Sing

**AIS Saket**

The school hosted an online summer camp for the students of Class II-VIII, from May 17-29, 2021. The camp included a gamut of activities like creative writing, story telling, GK quiz, coding, fireless cooking, painting, music, karate, Ted Talk, yoga, etc. Eminent guest speakers such as Dr Himani Bhatia Sarbadhikary, clinical dietician; Bhawna Tuteja, associate editor, The Global Times, and Parul

Garg, an Amity parent and noted alumni from various fields also interacted with students, enriching them with various skills.

**AIS Noida**

A host of fun-filled creative virtual activities for the students were curated by the middle wing of the school from May 24-June 5, 2021. A plethora of activities held by summer clubs ranged from debates, creative writing, and healthy

cooking, to film making, dance, maths wizard, music, and origami, etc. Students chose activities as per their interests in the camp.

**AIS VYC Lucknow**

A number of virtual fun and learning activities was held for all classes from May 21 -28, 2021. Students participated in yoga, zumba, debate, science in daily life, mental math, life skills programmes, cooking and photography, etc.



Glimpses of AIS VYC Lko summer camp



Dating as far back as 1550 BC and having been mentioned in the Bible, Coriander is believed to be the oldest herb used till today.

All top quotes contributed by  
Shailain Bose, AIS Saket, VI C



# WOMEN WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

While there is no denying that gender inequality remains a matter of global concern, one can take heart in the fact that there have also been exceptional women throughout history who have shown exemplary courage and determination in the face of all injustice. Their contribution to society has been remarkable, whether it is in the field of science, literature, mathematics, media or social life. **Phoebe Hegeler and Maya L Joshi, AGS Gurugram, IX** bring you eight such warriors whose inspirational stories you should know about.

## Kate Sheppard, New Zealand



*"Do not think that a single vote does not matter, the rain that refreshes the parched ground is made up of single droplets."*

Sheppard was a prominent leader of the women's suffrage movement in New Zealand. She spearheaded the move-

ment by organising petitions and public meetings, writing letters to the press and developing meaningful dialogues with politicians. She was the editor of The White Ribbon, the first woman-operated newspaper in New Zealand. It was her skilful writing and persuasive public speaking skill that turned the tide in favour of women in the country. As a result, New Zealand became the first country in the world to grant women the right to vote. She was also a pivotal figure in getting women to run for Parliament.

## Kathrine Johnson, USA

*"You are better than anyone else, and no one is better than you."*



Johnson, a mathematician and a pioneer in space science and computing, calculated the path for a spacecraft to orbit Earth and then land on the moon for important NASA missions including the Apollo missions. Being an African-American woman, she had to battle a great deal of workplace discrimination. Nevertheless, despite all odds, she made NASA's early history a great success. Johnson co-authored 26 scientific papers. One of her several honours include the Presidential Medal of Freedom, conferred upon her by then US President Barack Obama on November 24, 2015.

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## Manal Al-Sharif, Saudi Arabia

*"How beautiful it is to live in a world with no walls."*

Al-Sharif initiated and led a campaign to grant Saudi women the right to drive in 2011. Following her driving campaign, Al-Sharif remained an active critic of the Saudi government, tweeting on issues including imprisoned female foreign workers and other political matters. According to The New York Times, Al-Sharif 'has a reputation for drawing attention to the lack of rights for women'. Regarding the 2011 women driving campaign, Amnesty International stated that 'Manal Al-Sharif is following in a long tradition of women activists around the world who have put themselves on the line to expose and challenge discriminatory laws and policies'.

## Kamla Bhasin, India

*"Often religion is used as a shield to justify patriarchy. When you question something, you are told - this is our culture, our tradition."*

Bhasin is a feminist activist, poet, author and social scientist whose work focuses on gender, education, human development and the media. She is best known for her work with Sangat (a feminist network) and for her poem *Kyunki main ladki hoon, mujhe padhna hai*. She has been writing songs on pertinent themes like violence against women, unfair laws, the burden of household work, etc. She works with underprivileged women from tribal and working communities, often using posters, plays and other non literary methods to get through to communities with low literacy rates. She has always maintained that in order to usher effective change, sloganeering must be accompanied by community mobilisation.



## Anna Politkovskaya, Russia

*"What matters is the information, not what you think about it."*

Politkovskaya was a Russian journalist whose fearless reporting about the political events in Russia, in particular the Second Chechen War (1999-2005), earned her world-wide acclaim. Despite repeated threats on her life and continuous intimidation, she never gave up reporting on the war. Many of her articles about the condition in Chechnya post 1999 were converted into books and she received numer-



ous awards for her courage and authorship. Unfortunately, she died under mysterious circumstances, but will always be remembered not only as a journalist, but also an author and human rights activist who left a mark on the world.

## Yaa Asantewaa, Ghana

*"If you, the men of Asante, will not go forward, then we will. We, the women, will."*

Yaa Asantewaa was the queen of Ghana who led the Ashanti Rebellion against British colonialism to protect the Golden Stool. When the British first attacked the land of Ghanaians, the male warriors and councilmen wished to surrender. However, Asantewaa stood her ground and urged that if the men would not fight, she would gather the women to fight for their land. She is remembered for her resolute courage and determination. The impact of her legacy is such that the Yaa Asantewaa Girls' Secondary School was established at Kumasi in 1960 to encourage more female leaders in Ghanaian society.



## Irena Sendler, Poland

*"I was taught that if you see a person drowning, you must jump into the water to save them, whether you can swim or not."*

A Polish humanitarian and nurse, Sendler helped rescue Jewish children during the holocaust. She saved 2500 children by giving them Aryan names and fake birth certificates and settling them into



Christian orphanages and convents. When the German occupiers suspected her involvement in the Polish Underground, and arrested her in October 1943, she never gave away any information about the rescued Jewish children. She withstood torture and imprisonment. In 1946, Sendler received the Gold Cross of Merit for saving Jews and the Order of the White Eagle, Poland's highest honour, awarded late in Sendler's life for her wartime humanitarian efforts.

## Maya Angelou, USA

*"Prejudice is a burden that confuses the past, threatens the future and renders the present inaccessible."*

Angelou had a broad career as a singer, dancer, actress, composer, and Hollywood's first female black director, but became most famous as a poet and civil rights activist. She published seven autobiogra-



phies, three books of essays, several books of poetry, and is credited with a list of plays, movies, and television shows spanning over 50 years. Her books majorly focus on themes including racism, identity, family and travel. She was respected as a spokesperson for the Black people. Notably, she was also chosen by US President Bill Clinton to recite her poem 'On the Pulse of Morning' during his inauguration in the year 1993.

