

INSIDE



Warriors of India, P7



The cornfield, P10

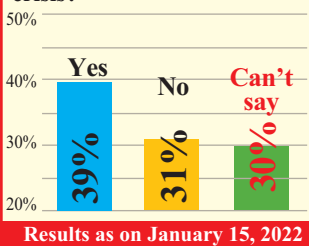
AMITE poll

Do you think the recent decision made by the EC to replace traditional means of election campaigning like physical rallies with virtual campaigns is going to affect the poll results?

a) Yes b) No c) Can't say
 To vote, log on to
 www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT
 for GT issue January 10, 2022

The Indian economy was able to stabilise itself after the first wave of COVID-19, but with the rising cases, will it be able to handle another crisis?



Coming Next

Republic day

A diplomatic meal

An Effort To Win Hearts And Minds Through Culinary Diplomacy

Swati Jha, AIS Gurugram 46, Alumna

Nothing says Indian more than a samosa. Nothing says American more than a hamburger and fries. Nothing says Japanese more than ramen. Food can say so much. Tapping this 'soft power' is gastrodiploacy, a tool that uses food to pursue diplomatic aims often in the government to public diplomacy realm. So, let us look into this case of belly over the mind in detail.

When it initially began as a means of relaying a message...

While gastrodiploacy as a term may be new, the practice remains age-old. Ancient Romans were known to make peace over a good meal. Travelling through the lanes of Spain, one can find ham hanging through the windows and aisles of various restaurants. The practice goes back to older times where the hanging meat intended to communicate that the owner was neither Jew nor Hebrew. Since forever has food been used to communicate messages of amity, negotiate complex business deals, or turn around the image of nations. The term, however, was coined by the culinary diplomacy expert Paul Rockower who described it as a "method of reaching the hearts and minds through people's stomachs."

When it turned perception around things for an entire nation...

Perhaps the first formal baptism of gastrodiploacy as a form of soft power came with 'Global Thai', a culinary diplomacy initiative by the government of Thailand in 2002. The aim of the programme was simple - to open Thai restaurants across the world in a bid to use food to change popular perception about Thailand and consecutively boost the country's tourism. From 5,500 in 2002 to 10,000 in 2013, the number of Thai restaurants internationally shot



Illustration: Amish Mamtani, AIS Gurugram 46, XI B

up exponentially via a government-funded diplomacy programme 'Thailand: Kitchen of the World'. The programme also made the import of Thai ingredients easier, facilitated hiring of Thai chefs, and created a loan financing module for those seeking to open a new Thai eatery. By the end of 2009, Pad Thai had become globally recognised. A survey ranked Thai food as fourth in recognition of ethnic cuisines. Thailand, that was thus far known for wrong kinds of tourism, became one of the most sought-after tourist destination, be-

cause its food had managed to give the country a complete image makeover.

When it helped strengthen identities...

Talk about using food for diplomatic purposes and there are a myriad ways of going about the same - gifting, serving food during diplomatic events etc. However South Korea was a tad bit more creative with the gastrodiploacy fare. In 2009, the first lady of Lee Myung-bak (South Korean president), had a variety of Korean dishes served to the American veterans of the Ko-

rean war in 1950s. On top of that, the government allocated a handsome amount of ten million USD to fund grants for South Koreans who wanted to attend culinary school, adding to 'the Korean wave'.

And that, dear friends, is how gastrodiploacy has played a key role in helping powers like South Korea, Thailand, Peru etc., in establishing their identity amongst a cluttered landscape by building a strong national brand. A stronger brand in turn means more power, money, and influence.

Continued on page 6...

In conversation with...

...Nitesh Bansal, Senior Vice President At Infosys Limited



Nitesh Bansal, senior vice president, Infosys

Anika Bansal
 AIS Vasundhara 6, X D

Being the senior vice president and the global head of engineering at an esteemed company like Infosys is not an easy job, but Nitesh Bansal does the task with his own style of perfection. In a conversation

sation with GT, he tells us about the hard work, struggles, and passion that made his career reach greater heights.

On the journey

I studied to become a CA and wasn't planning to pick up a career in IT, but when an opportunity came from Infosys, I became curious to see what the sector had to offer. I joined the company in 1998, and my journey so far has been very exciting. I have experienced and learnt so much. I got to work with some of the largest corporations in the world, the names you only read in Forbes. I also got to meet inspiring personalities like Roger Federer, Frank Sinatra, AR Rahman, etc.

On roles and responsibilities

I am responsible for strategy, marketing, delivery, recruitment, finance and pretty much everything. My operation is like a small company within Infosys, and since I run that globally, I am also responsible for ensuring that the revenue grows. Therefore, I

need to have people, get them trained, and ensure they have the needed skill set. I have a workforce of over 17,000 people spread about in over 43 countries. I have also undertaken a lot of projects over the years, like recently my team is working on designing the aircraft engine for Rolls Royce. We also have projects where we work on Cardiac Arrhythmia Devices which are put inside heart patients, and even a virtual reality-based viewing session we did for Australia Open Live recently.

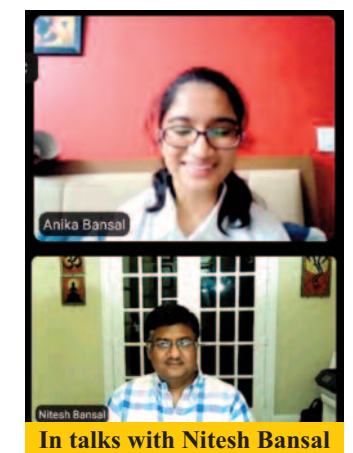
On the importance of tech

We are an IT company, and since technology has grown so rapidly, it is one of the world's biggest strengths in the time of the pandemic. It is because of such technology that even Infosys can offer customers virtual lab tours and many other services. The pandemic has forced humans to adopt to news ways, and now everything, be it entertainment, education, healthcare, retail services, banking etc., is done re-

motely and through technology. One of the very first thing that we needed when the pandemic struck us was staying connected, which has now become completely fundamental to our routines. Tech advancements like 5G and high-speed internet are enabling our groceries, education, entertainment, etc. We also have technology like IoT which enables data from machines to be captured and understood, and it is this tech that runs our smart fridges and watches.

On the growth of Infosys

Infosys has grown a lot since its beginning. We always want to give our customers the best, and the key for it is the ability to continuously do the research for the customer and bring them what they want. We also make sure that the products we provide are environmentally sustainable. Being in IT, our footprint is all in electricity; Infosys is a carbon neutral company and has been so for the last thirty years. Along with this, we ensure that the prod-



In talks with Nitesh Bansal

ucts we create can be reused or recycled in some way. It cannot always be carbon zero because of the work we do, but we try to keep it minimal as far as possible.

On message for Amitians

Follow your passion and be truthful to it, for the process of learning and the skills you hone are more important than just grades and degrees. Amity is a great platform for learning, and all those who are ready to learn will definitely achieve greatness in life. All the best! 🙌



Around The WORLD

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



UK

180 million year old fossil discovered

Believed to be 180 million years old, the prehistoric remains of a 10 meter long Ichthyosaur, also known as sea dragon, were discovered in Rutland reservoir, the Midlands, UK. As the biggest and the most complete fossil to date, the discovery of this warm-blooded, air-breathing predator, with its skull weighing approximately one ton, is marked as the greatest finds in the history of British paleontology. Ichthyosaur is an extinct marine reptile that evolved about 250 million years ago and disappeared about 90 million years ago.


 CHINA

Binance CEO becomes the richest man in Asia

The crypto exchange Binance CEO, Changpeng Zhao has surpassed Indian tycoon Mukesh Ambani to become the richest person in Asia. He has also been ranked as the 11th top billionaire worldwide, with an estimated net worth of 96.5 billion USD, excluding crypto holdings. Binance, launched in 2017, has now become the largest crypto exchanges in the world, with its fortune comparable to that of Mark Zuckerberg and Jeff Bezos.



SOUTH KOREA

Squid Game wins big at SAG Awards

The South Korean drama Squid Game made history at the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Awards 2022, by becoming the first non-English language series and the first Korean series ever to be nominated for these prestigious awards. The show has garnered three nominations - Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor, Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor, and an overall award for Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble Series.



COMBODIA

Magawa, the landmine sniffing 'hero' rat dies

Magawa, the renowned Gambian pouched mine-clearing rat born in Tanzania and deployed in Siem Reap, passed away at the age of 8. He was given the title of the 'hero rat' for his record breaking detection of over 100 landmines and explosives during a 5-year career. For his lifesaving work, he was awarded a gold medal by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals in 2020, before he retired in June 2021.



INDIA

PM Modi inaugurates 11 new medical colleges

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Jan 12, 2022, virtually inaugurated 11 new government medical colleges in the state of Tamil Nadu. All these colleges are planned and designed to have 33 specialised departments each, with an inbuilt Emergency Department and other medical care units. Apart from that, each college will also have hostel and residential quarter facilities for students and teaching staff alike.



BULGARIA

Anti-vaccine protestors storm parliament building

A massive rally of 3000 protestors gathered in front of the parliament building on Jan 12, 2022, to protest against the COVID-19 measures and restrictions in downtown Sofia. The anti-vaccine protestors clashed with the police and stormed towards the building, demanding lift of mandatory health pass which, as per them, undermined their rights. Few people have been reportedly detained and several others, including police officers, have been injured.



CANADA

Quebec seeks to tax the unvaccinated

As the fifth wave of COVID-19 hits and spreads across Canada, Quebec Premier Francois Legault proposed the implementation of a monetary penalty on anti-vaxxers in the province. Though vaccine certificates are used to prevent the unvaccinated from accessing public facilities, this is the first time that a 'vax tax' has been proposed by any country. The announcement itself has garnered enough criticism.



USA

Surgeons successfully implant pig heart in human

In a medical first, a 57-year-old David Bennett successfully got a genetically-modified pig heart implant done, making the surgery a major milestone for animal to human transplants. The patient was unsuitable for conventional human transplant due to medical complications and is now under observation to know if human body can accept such animal organs.



Tea sommeliers

Presen(tea)ing To You The Grand Career Of A Tea Taster



Mehak Duggal & Hansika Bhakri
AIS Pushp Vihar, XI C

Nothing can soothe your mind and soul as a cup of your favourite chai. The warm sips spread through your body, bringing a peaceful pause to the wandering mind. It can create an inner calmness and outer peace, which is why, we wish we could always have a cup in our hand. If you, too, are one of us, we have just the right career for you – a tea taster.

T(e)asty sip

Tea tasting is totally an art, but every art needs to be backed up by science, and that is also the case for the modern tea industry. Though it started with traditional tea tasters basing their skills on experience, the modern

ones talk more about scientific methodology when it comes to tea. So, as a tea taster, you will be responsible to take care of the smell and taste of the fresh product to determine its quantity and see if it is worth being put for further assessment. Most tea testers are specially employed by big tea companies for ensuring quality standards and to check for blended mixtures.

Brewing experience

There is no formal degree to become a tea taster. There are, however, some certificate courses which can help you understand tea testing techniques and scientific knowledge. These courses generally span from 3 months certificate course to 1 year diploma. Some institutes offering such courses are Department of Tea Husbandry and Technology, Assam

Agricultural University; Dipras Institute of Professional Studies, Kolkata; Darjeeling Tea Research and Management Association, Darjeeling; University of North Bengal, Darjeeling; Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bangalore. You can also achieve a better understanding of this field if you already have a bachelor's degree in food sciences, horticulture, agriculture or botany. Moreover, tea tasters need to have alive taste buds so as to differentiate the contents and flavours of different samples.

Spoon of employment

For employment, one may go to tea estates and production areas or can even start their own retail outlet as a tea holder and seller. On the trading side, tea tasting plays an important role in fixing the prices. One may even act as a consultant because once tea is manufactured, the firms are on the lookout for tea tasters to certify the quality. Trainees can get, on an average, 5000 INR and after gaining some more experience the professionals can draw 25,000 INR per month. While some specialised professionals (tea sommelier) can earn in the range of approximately 40,000-50,000 INR per month.

Chai of the future

Among all the beverages, tea is the most everlasting one as it has a rich history of its own. Tea tasting career, is in great demand given India comes under one the world's largest consumers of tea. Big brands and hotel chains need an experienced professional who can give them feedback on their new flavours with respect to their quality standards. So far, there are only a few hundred professional testers around the world. It is an ideal career choice for wanderlusts with a knack for travelling and also being able to earn big bucks through their hobby. [GFI](#)



Book Review

Rake in that review

Book: My Sister's Keeper
Author: Jodi Picoult
Published in: 2004
Genre: Novel



Synopsis: Picoult's novel sheds light on what a thirteen-year-old girl named Anna Fitzgerald goes through. Unlike most teenagers, Anna from a very young age has undergone countless transfusions, surgeries and multiple shots to save her elder sister, Kate, from leukemia. Anna understands the importance of the situation and loves her sister but at the same time she begins to question who she really is? Is she just there to save her sister's life? Does she not have a life of her own? Does she not have any right on her own body? With these big questions, she decides to sue her parents for medical emancipation, a decision that tears her family apart. The novel traces the lives of the Fitzgerald family as they deal with the courtroom debates along with Kate's deteriorating condition.

Why it is worth reading: The book makes us think about what is justified - the determination of a mother to save her

daughter at any cost or the right of a girl to own her body and decide what to do with it. It is written from the points of view of all the characters, which brings out unique opinions on the situation of the Fitzgerald family and does not make the story biased. The structure of the book is easy to understand and the vocabulary is also rich. The book also offers information about the professions of the characters, which makes it a bit informative. The incidents of the plot are entirely captivating and definitely worth a read.

Iconic quote: "Extraordinary places are always hiding in places people never think to look."

Rating: 5/5

Review by: Akshita Shrote,
AIS Vasundhara 1, IX B

The perfect schedule

Are You Still Struggling To Make A Perfect Timetable? Well, Let Us Help You!

Tashi Shrivastava, AIS Gurugram 43, X D

Timetable – no matter which grade you are in or which stream you have picked; it comes as no surprise that this one little thing helps you keep everything on track. Following the same can make a huge impact in your way to stand out from the rest of the world, and who doesn't want to be their best version? Well, if you, too, have been inspired by your new year's resolution to shake things up a bit and make a timetable, we are rooting for you. But like others, if you, too, are struggling to make a practical and perfect one, well, allow us to share some of our insider tips!

Tip #1: A little work with little play

The most common occurrence in many failed timetables made is that students forget to ensure that they aren't just stacking their whole schedule with serious educational activities. To balance your schedule, you need to take some time out for recreational activities to clear and refresh your mind. Find something to give yourself a little charging up, and be sure to add something fun to do in between the gaps. Maybe

you can pick up a new hobby like dancing, painting, singing, doodling etc.

Tip #2: Find your flow

Before you even begin making a timetable, you need to understand your style and what works for you. Every student has a unique way of studying and operating through life, so what works for

someone else might not be the best thing for you and vice versa. Thus, instead of copying someone else's schedule and methods, find out what works for you and base your timetable on that. Do you prefer studying in the morning? Or in the evening? What is your pace? Find the answers to all these questions and then frame the timetable according to your preferences.

Tip #3: Take a chill pill

Working for several hours continuously will make your timetable less efficient and less effective, so if your schedule has you sitting in front of a desk for hours, then, we are sorry to say that it won't really work. To truly make the best of your abilities, you need to ensure that you add in a proper number of breaks in-between. A small break of 15-20 minutes as per your requirement is a necessity for your mind and body. Make sure you do utilise the break to energise yourself though! Stretch yourself, go for a brisk walk or grab some healthy snacks to munch on.

Tip #4: Keep a tab

Keeping a check on your progress is very important to understand if the timetable is working for you or not. You can lie to the whole world but not to yourself, which is why, it is necessary for you to keep a tab on your actions. If you have made a timetable, you need to ensure that you stick to it. Once you do that, you will see the results, and if the results are not what you wanted, you can always modify your timetable according to the shortcomings to increase your progress. But none of this will be possible if you aren't strict with yourself and keep yourself in check. Sounds harsh, but we know you can do it!





Aesthetics of Amed

Rivers, lakes, and wetlands are indubitably amongst the most biodiverse places on earth, but the diversity that dwells in them is often overlooked. As such, despite being vital for communities, economies, and ecosystems alike, scores of fish species today are heading towards extinction; fisheries that trade in them and provide employment opportunities to millions across the globe are increasingly shuttering down withal. Being mindful of the same, the United Nations has designated 2022 as the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture in order to make us au courant with the catastrophe that awaits these marine miracles and ensure their continuity for the foreseeable future. Aiming to make this vision a reality, GT presents a brand-new series, wherein each segment will either cover an endangered fish species on the verge of extinction or a renowned fishing village in any part of the world in need of immediate human attention.

Anya Malik, AIS Noida, VII E

Name of the village: Amed
This townlet is located in: Karangasem Regency, East Bali, Indonesia
Population: 4,92,402 (as per a 2020 survey)



About the village

- Amed is a 14 km long strip across Bali beach that consists of seven fishing villages, namely Amed, Jemeluk, Bunutan, Lipah, Selang, Banyuning and Aas.
- The word Amed comprises 'A' meaning 'not' and 'med' meaning 'boring'. The name was perhaps chosen to complement the rich heritage of the village.
- It is also one of the most famous diving sites as visitors come here to see the shipwreck of USAT Liberty and the vibrant underwater marine life.
- People from different parts of the world throng Amed to enjoy the breathtaking views and participate in a plethora of water activities like snorkeling, scuba diving, free diving, and many more sports organised by the locals.
- As a recent tourist development site, it was only in 2000 that tarmac was laid on the roads in Amed; here telephone lines were installed as late as in 2003 and in 2007, a bridge was built over a section of the main road for easy commute.
- People residing in Amed are into artisanal salt production to earn their livelihood.

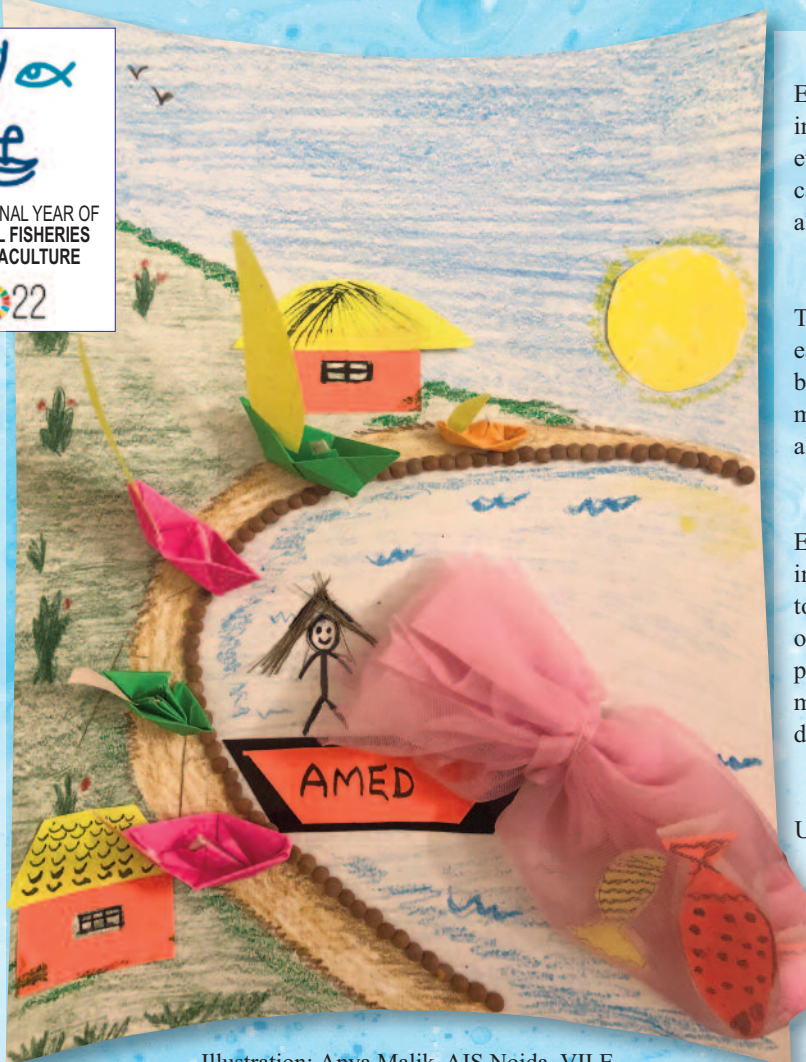


Illustration: Anya Malik, AIS Noida, VII E

About the fish population

Every day fishermen set out in their Jukung or Balinese traditional boats, in search of Cardinal fish, Goby, Flute mouth, Garden eel, fang blenny, etc., that are native to this area. It thus, won't be an exaggeration if we call Amed a 'real life aquarium', and if one is lucky enough, one might also spot parrotfish and pygmy seahorses on the seashores.

The life of fishers

The fishers residing in the village are usually busy. Their day starts early in the morning and ends only with getting a good catch. Once back home, females of the house sell the fish in the nearby markets to make a living. But they don't earn much, so most of the fishing families also depend on salt production and distribution to subsist and survive.

The hardships faced

Excessive tourism has led to a substantial rise in construction activities in Amed, which is a major point of contention in the region. Since tourism and construction are linked to real estate development which offers seasonal jobs, younger population in the region does get employed but only temporarily. Once the tourist season ends, unemployment is on rise. Besides, the village is also becoming a concrete jungle due to such 'development' projects.

The efforts made

Under the East Bali Poverty Project, efforts are being made by the regional government to develop marine eco-tourism as an alternative livelihood and help support the villagers. The Indonesian- Swiss Intellectual Property project, started in 2015, has successfully brought together investors to facilitate traditional practices for economic gain and international market access. Let's hope the area continues to progress and transform in a way that is beneficial for the ecosystem as well as the locals residing there.

The antibody squad

Witnessing A Battle Between Pathogens And Antibodies Inside A Human Body

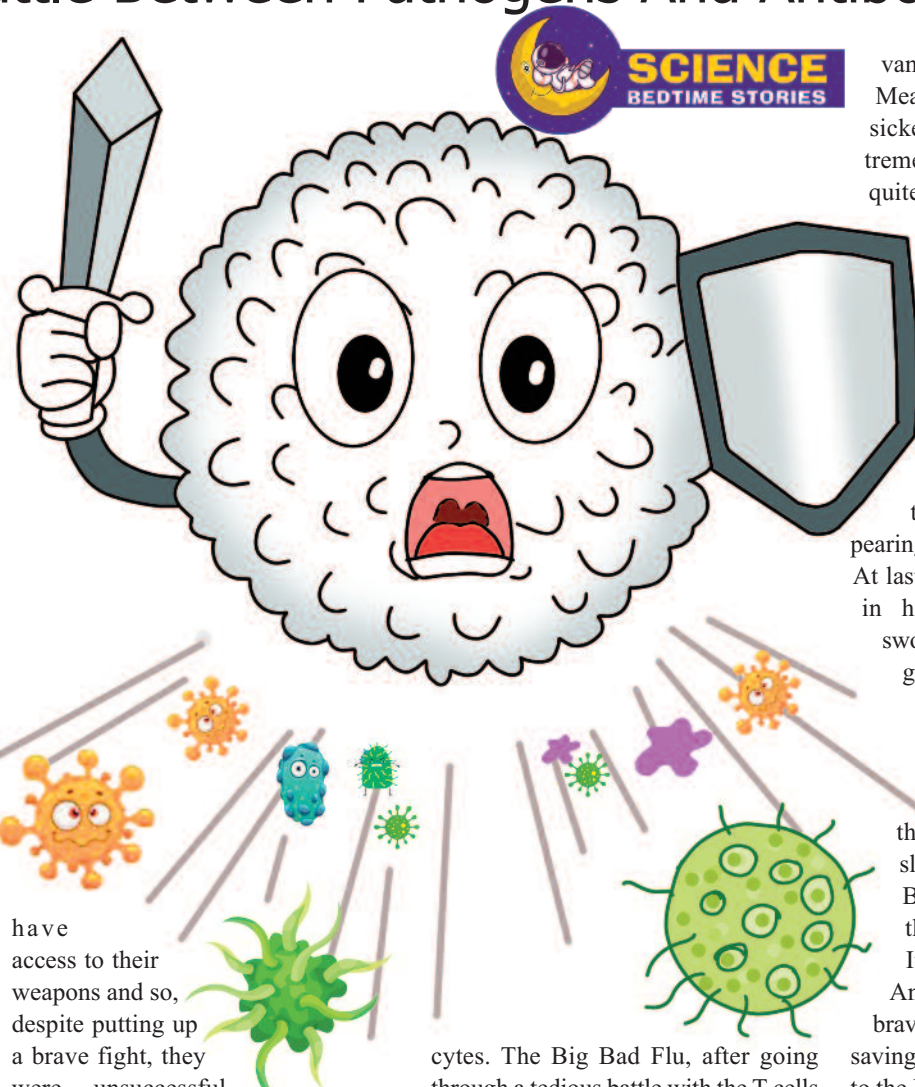
Tanya Ganguly
 AIS Saket, XI C

Atired Captain WBC was lounging in his hammock. It was just last month that he had led his squad against a huge army of pathogens who had given Rahul a major cold. Though his squad had won the battle, it had worn him out. Rahul had recovered since, giving the captain this much needed break.

But all good things must come to an end, and so did the captain's siesta, when one of his soldiers brought him the news that he dreaded the most. "Sir, it's here," informed a soldier with a rushing urgency. Captain WBC did not have to be told his nemesis' name for the Big Bad Flu had been doing the rounds for quite some time now. With all other children in the vicinity affected by it, Rahul had to be in tow sooner or later.

At once, he commanded his entire battalion – the T-cells, B-cells and lymphocytes. The enemy had strategically planned the attack, knowing that the internal security mechanism was down because of the illness Rahul had battled just last month.

Within no time, the war horns had blown. First, it was the T-cells ready to take on the enemy. But, since the internal security was down, they didn't



have access to their weapons and so, despite putting up a brave fight, they were unsuccessful and lay martyred at the Flu's feet. Next came in the B-cells and the lympho-

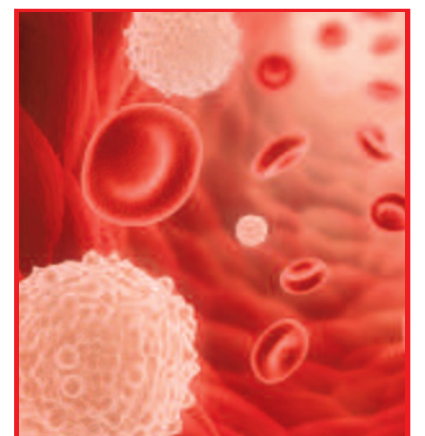
cytes. The Big Bad Flu, after going through a tedious battle with the T-cells was a little worn out and though he took some effort, soon enough, he had

vanquished the valiant soldiers.

Meanwhile, Rahul was getting sicker and his parents were extremely worried. But since it was quite late in the night, his parents thought of giving him a spoonful of cough syrup to subside the cough and take him to the doctor the next day. As soon as syrup went inside the body, the antibacterial and antiviral elements closed in around the Big Bad Flu and as he began tearing them down, more started appearing from nowhere.

At last, came Captain WBC, dressed in her shining white suit. She swooped down on Big Bad Flu and gave him a mighty kick on the face. The Flu fell down on its back, startled beyond his wits at having encountered someone so powerful. At that moment, Captain WBC, slammed her sword into the Big Bad Flu and he disintegrated then and there.

It was a bittersweet day as the Antibody Squad had lost a lot of brave soldiers, but had succeeded in saving Rahul and restoring order back to the Master Immune System. As the Antibody Squad commemorated the martyrs, Rahul and his family rejoiced



Whenever a pathogen enters the human body in the form of any disease, then the immunity system of the body produces antibodies to fight against the foreign invader (pathogen) and kill it completely. The antibodies act as a team of superheroes and consist of WBCs, T-cells, B-cells and lymphocytes who put a brave fight to keep human body safe and healthy.

at his recovery with no signs of cough the next day and all was well again.



Dubai was first established as a fishing village in early 18th century and was a town of 700-800 members of the Bani Yas tribe.

U, Me Aur Hum

Whose life is it anyway?

Myth Prodigal

Introducing The Royal Business Wiz Kids On The Block!



Ishita Gupta

AIS Gurugram 43, VII B

‘Wisdom to start a business can only come with age.’ Though the adage stands to be true in some cases, the

world, as we know it, is full of genius anomalies who have proved that a great entrepreneur only needs to worry about their idea and not their age. Don't believe us? Let these real examples teach you a thing or two about not underestimating young minds.

The app wizards

Shravan Kumaran and Sanjay Kumaran stand to be the perfect example of 'age is just a number' as the brothers were just 12 and 10 years old when they first started their own company in 2012. Known as the youngest mobile app programmers in India and one of the youngest ones in the world, they have been creating different android and iOS applications ever since. Just by mid-2016, they had created over 11 apps for phones and even a few for Windows, and by now they have various apps under their belt like Catch me Cop, Alphabets Board, Prayer Planet, Car Racing, Super Hero Jetpack etc., and even their own virtual reality device named GoVR. Wow, talk about talent!

The delivery specialist

A great idea can strike you at any age and time, and it is up to you if you want to let it go or bring it to reality. Tilak Mehta, a 15-year-old boy, chose to do the latter. The teen entrepreneur started Papers N Parcels, a digital courier company, in July 2018 that provides an assured one-day parcel service within Mumbai with the help of Mumbai *dabbawaalas*. Soon his company turned into a team of 200 delivery agents and 300 *dabbawaalas* who delivered around 1000-12000 orders in a day. With his wings spreading far, Mehta is currently aiming for a 100 crore INR turnover.

The web queen

The love for computers was something Sreelakshmi Suresh was born with as the prodigy started using computers at the age of 3, tried her hand at designing by the age of 4, and was ready with her first website by 6. Soon, she launched her own startup called eDesign in 2009 at the age of 11 and became one of the youngest CEOs and web designers in the world. For her work, she has been showered with various awards like National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement, Golden Web Award, Sixty Plus Educational Award, Feblemind's Award of Excellence, Webmasters Ink Award and various other international accolades.



At the young age of 14, Arjun Santhosh Kumar, a kid fascinated by science and tech, founded LateraLogics, a company focusing on app development and consultation. His journey, though, started at the mere age of 2 where he started experimenting and making electronic gadgets including robotic kits. His apps Ez School Bus Locator and iSafeGuard received various awards and praises, including one by MIT, and is used by many, proving that a great idea can come from anyone anywhere.

The tech guru

Though these are just some examples, there are plenty more kids motivating us to believe that if we dream it, we can do it.



Goodbye, postman

What We Lost When We Replaced Those Sealed Letters With Typed E-mails

Ridhi Chopra, AIS Vas 6, IX A

Dear Abbi,

How are you, darling? I hope you are doing well. I am fine as well, in case you worry about me. In fact, I am more than fine; I am very excited because you said you will come to visit me next week. I even have a surprise for you. Ah, I cannot hide it any longer, so I'll tell you! When you come to visit me then, I can spend the whole day with you! That's right! Not just that, but every time you come to visit me now, Baba will be with you the entire day.

Why? Well, I stopped working yesterday. Yes, after working at the Post Office for 45 years, I have finally said goodbye to the place. I have left behind all the envelopes, the letters, and the stamps. It was just a plain old retirement, but using that word depresses me, you know. It was hard for me to let go of the place; I remember when you were little, you'd insist on coming along with me. You'd wander off to different rooms and floors of the building, and ask me all about why delivering letters was so important that I had to leave you behind and cycle away with my bag full of undelivered letters. But as you grew up, you understood my job less and less. I remember the time when you asked me why people would send letters when they can just email something that can be delivered in a second. I wish I could make you and every other kid of your generation understand

the beauty of letters and all the emotions they are filled with. Sure, you can write a text or an email, but picking up a pen and paper and noting down all your deepest wishes, sealing it with all your love and sending it away has its unique

and special charm. In all these years, I have delivered letters filled with all emotions known to mankind, and yes, because of your high-tech world that does not want to wait for anything in the world, this art of writing and sending let-

ters is dying, sadly.

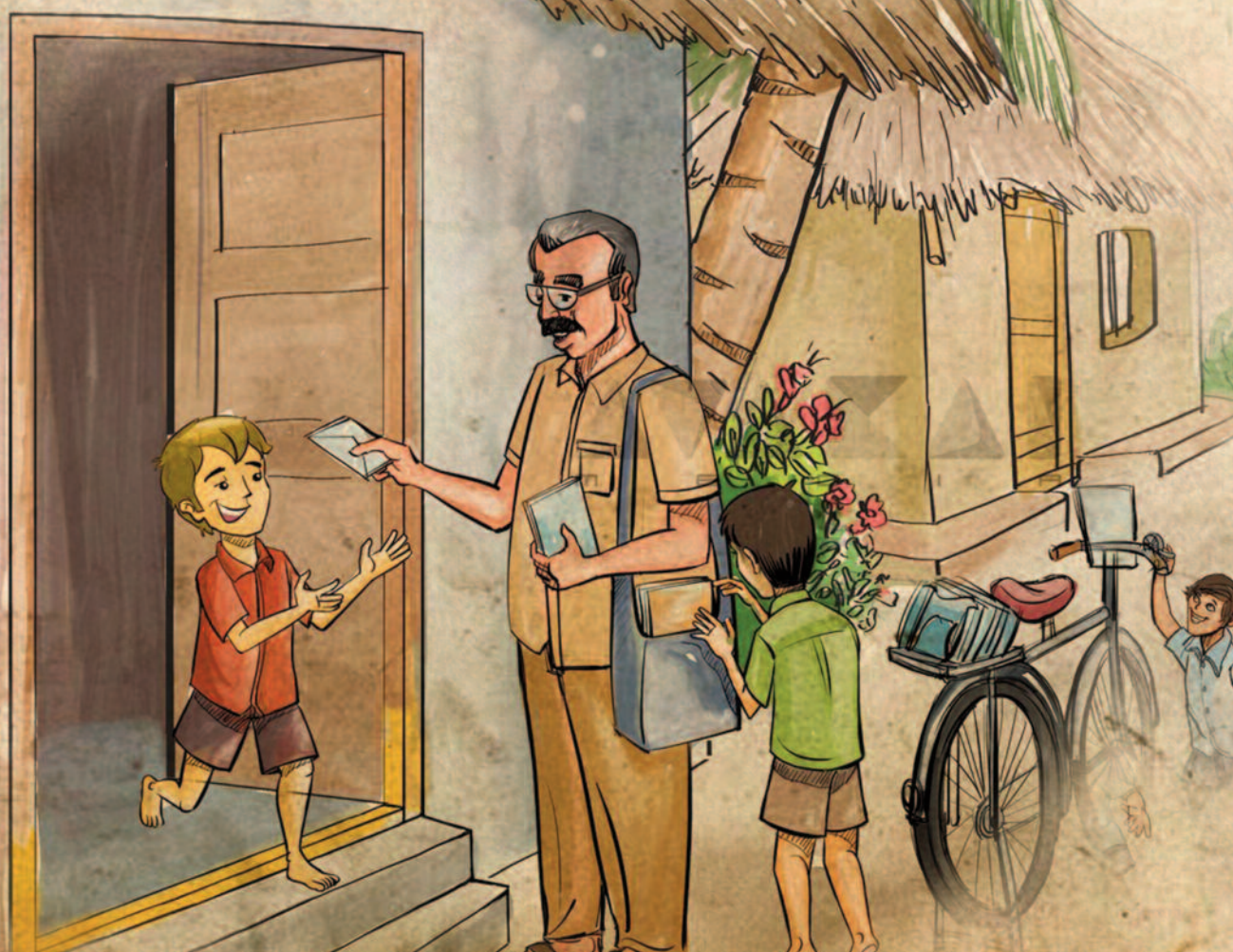
I know you don't understand when I talk about letters and post offices and my job, because you don't understand it, but for me, all the envelopes I have delivered have been super important. Every single

one of them has been filled with secret notes, messages of love, concern, sadness, happiness and everything else that human emotions can encompass. I feel proud to have been a part of the most widely distributed postal system in the world with a collection of 1.5 lakh post offices. But at the same time, I feel an ache in my heart when I see the immense shift where the importance of postal offices and letters have lessened with time. Every good old fantasy land indeed sees a new reign as a turning point, and this is ours.

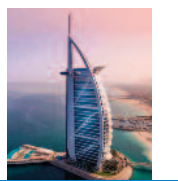
These 'brilliant and fast-paced' electronic mails are already running the world, and I won't argue that they don't make things easier for your new generation that wants to conquer everything and conquer it now. I can see why you all like it, and I will try my best not to be the oldie who doesn't accept that time and its customs are changing. It is a hard pill for me to swallow, but I wish that even though this art of letter writing and sending is dying, it doesn't completely die just yet. Let's hope that someone in your generation will also find the beauty in it. Until then, I will still be fighting for these precious letters.

Anyway, I'm sending you all my love in this envelope (because an email wouldn't fit my emotions right!), see you soon.

Your Baba



The emirate of Dubai shares its borders with Abu Dhabi, Sharjah and Sultanate of Oman.



Hello Dubai!

Sensitive Innovators



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

At Amity, my vision has always been to provide a stable and suitable environment for students to blossom and thrive as independent positive thinkers. One of the platforms we have created to fulfil this goal is the ATL inter-school Megathon.

The aim is to provide students, of Class IV to XII, an opportunity to explore technology with creativity. It also seeks to develop in them a conscientious approach towards their environment, community and the nation.

It gives me great joy to share that in the recently held Megathon, out of more than 250 students from Delhi-NCR region, Amity students came out with flying colours in all twelve events. While students from AIS Vasundhara 1, AIS Noida and AIS Gurugram 46 won the first, second and third prize respectively in an event called Software Ninja; AIS Mayur Vihar won the first place and AIS Noida the second in the Transform IT competition. AIS Saket came first in Jack in The App event, while AIS Mohali and AIS Gurugram 43 took home the top honours in events like ModPod and Healthians respectively. While it is not possible to applaud all the triumphs individually, I do wish to share that Amity schools were amongst the top three in every event they participated in.

Our students' success at such events proves that Amities truly imbibe the significance of sustainable development, one which is empowered by technology but honed with love and respect for mother earth. As educators, we must nurture these values while our children are in their formative years. After all, when it comes to working for the larger good, the earlier the better. [G](#) [T](#)

Sunny side up



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

Last week, India celebrated the vibrant festival of Makar Sankranti, or Uttarayan, which is dedicated to the worship of the Sun God. The day marks the northward movement of Sun on the celestial sphere and brings along with it the end of the winter solstice.

This transition results in warmer and longer days, giving us all respite from the cold and harsh winter season. It is also the beginning of the harvest season for Indian farmers, and in India, Sankranti is celebrated across India with different names such as Pongal, Maghi Sankranti, Ghughuti and Bihu. Apart from the fact that this is a time for joyous celebrations replete with bonfires and kite-flying, these festivals are also a metaphor for life, hope and rejuvenation. The dormancy nature faces during winter months slowly gives way to vitality and vigour stoked by the gleaming rays of the sun, the harbinger of life. This is the most vital message that nature provides us. That nothing remains static and even the darkest of times pass. All that matters is how we persevere through the harder times to begin afresh to reach our goals. There are other significant aspects of this festival as well. In Bengal, for instance, where the festival is known as Push Sankranti, donations to the needy form a large part of showing appreciation for Earth's bounty, while in Maharashtra, sharing of sweets with family and friends implies we should give up our grudges and live harmoniously together. Festivals, indeed, are a time for forgiveness and togetherness. Indeed, if there is one festival which teaches us all the humane aspects of life, from gratitude and humility to compassion and courage, it would surely have to be Makar Sankranti. [G](#) [T](#)

Adversarial enemy

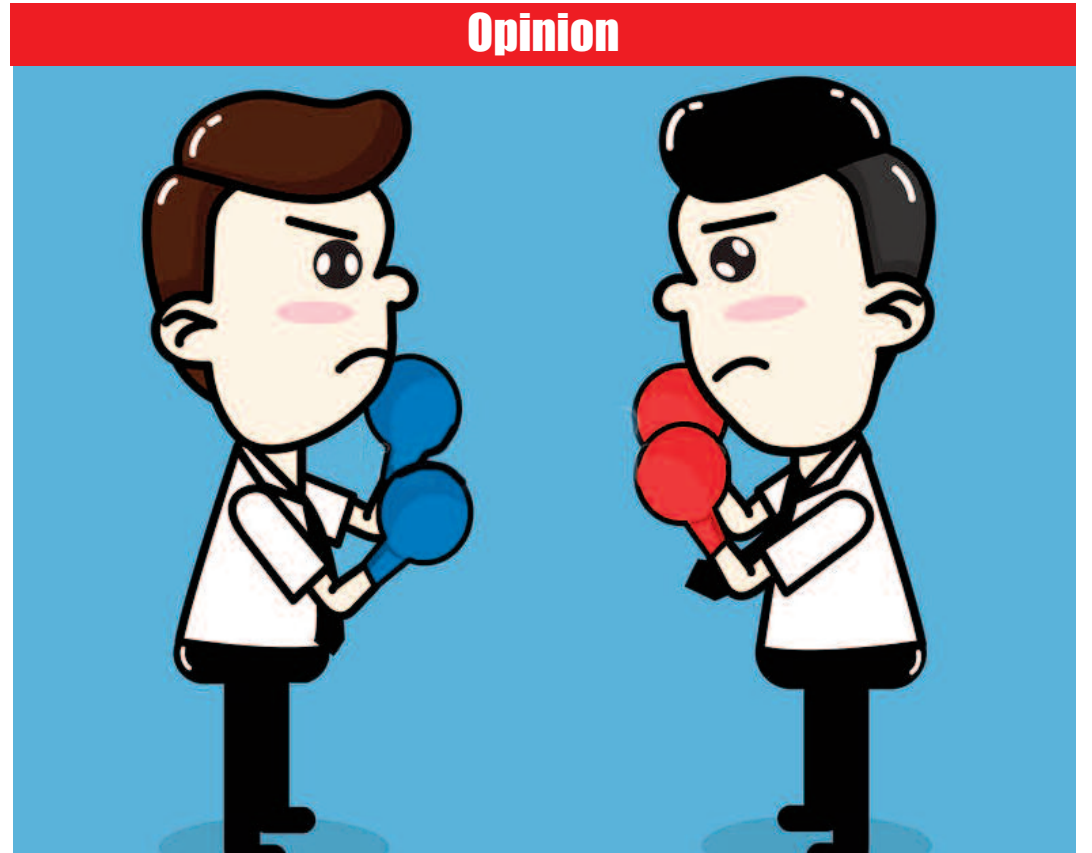
The Common Animus And The Will To Fight Prejudicial Bias

Sarthak Sahoo, AIS Saket, XII G

We often find phenomenon that's undecipherable or inconclusive, thus becoming a subject of our curiosity, for we are tempted to understand it. However, it often happens to be the case that such a realisation is unpalatable and repulsive to our sovereign subjectivity. This could be something as consequential as a nationally permeating political ideology or something as trivial as an up-and-coming student in your batch. At this pedestal of moral virtue, to engender a false dichotomy and ill intent of the other is the default reaction of our human condition.

Often dubbed the 'with me or against me' brigade, this idea neglects a fundamental distinction between an enemy and an adversary. An enemy, at least in the most tangible sense, is someone who acts callously and irrationally, perhaps with the knowledgeable agency of that fact. We often find unconditional obstacles, devoid of trustworthiness or sympathy, as enemies in due course of action. An adversary, on the other hand, is a challenge to develop and overcome. An adversary is someone who can be persuaded to be allied, perhaps even yield to you with mere persuasion, or maybe mobilise your identity for the better. It is a more briefly timed affair which has an underlying degree of respect. We all recognise both from the outset, but as we invest our emotions and passions into the transaction, that line gets blurred. This is as axiomatic as the football match with your friend, which may compulsively enrage you (albeit comically) to kick the ball afar. While there lacks certain malice in the act, its execution and impact are largely synonymous with what would be seen while facing an enemy. After all, the interlocutor is least aware of the standard set for him to conform to.

Opinion



This contingency begs the question - how does one maintain the distinction between an enemy and an adversary? The answer lies in the commonality of purpose. An adversary wishes something upon or against you but with a mutual understanding of good faith. For instance, no matter what political parties get elected, all understand that they have a responsibility to carry out and maintain civil liberty and the public good. This common cause can be our ethos, our relationships or even a different means to

a common goal. Alas! Opposing lawyers in a lawsuit may enjoy the state of inebriation in revelry together after sparring in the courtroom.

In the most polarised state of affairs in cultural history, the volatility of name-calling and resentment is a common sight amongst sophisticated intellectuals to student activists alike. The heat of the matter often promulgates antipathy and makes conversations nebulous. To discern the adversary from the enemy is hence the cornerstone of the solution. [G](#) [T](#)

A diplomatic meal

Continued from page 1

When it shed light on important issues that mattered...

Nothing captures attention like food. So, it makes sense to use food to draw attention to pertinent issues. Conflict Kitchen, a takeout restaurant in Pittsburgh, USA did just that. The restaurant features a rotating menu, with each menu showcasing the cuisine of a nation that the US is in conflict with. To add fuel (read discussion) to the fire, special events as panel discussions and performances are planned to spark discussion over issues that matter. The restaurant also makes use of food wrappers that feature quotes or stories from the country in the spotlight. For instance, when US was in conflict with Iran, the wrappers featured quotes from Iranian citizens on topics that varied from poetry to women's rights. Gastrodiplomacy as a means to communicate and spark dialogue may not be routed just through the government to citizen channel. The citizen to citizen format works just as well and conflict kitchen is a fine example. This gastrodiplomatic initiative goes beyond what is called as apprising the audience on ethnic cuisines and instead engages diners in true guerilla diplomacy.

When it helped strike a good deal (or not)...

Several researches have shown that agreeable behaviours tend to increase during meals. This explains why a great deal of thought is put into curating menus at diplomatic events, especially when leaders of two nations come together.



Examples of when food subtly acted as a symbol for strengthening bonds run aplenty. Take the case of Estonian President Kersti Kaljulaid offering rose honey to French President Emmanuel Macron in 2017, Or the meeting between Kim Jong-Un and South Korean president Moon Jae-in in 2018, where the menu featured meals that made them feel nostalgic and brought their childhood back. And let's not forget the state dinner hosted for former US president Obama that saw a splendid showcase of mustard fish curry and *achari paneer*. While the Obama dinner was well received, things didn't go down as well when Trump visited the country; courtesy - the infamous broccoli samosa. Too bad given the popular knowledge of the erstwhile president's carnivorous food preferences. Hence the aphorism 'the deal soured'. So, while serving food maybe a great idea, what you are serving should entail equal amounts of great thought.

When it is the perfect platter...

In a world that aims for peace and harmony, the role of gastrodiplomacy is undebatable. But is it really the perfect

platter that we hope it is? Case in point - Japan. Sushi, a Japanese dish, gained popularity so much so that even American restaurateurs were trying their hands at this dish. As Americans flocked to these so-called Japanese restaurants, they took home the taste of not just Sushi, but also what Japanese people are like.

It was only much later that the Japanese government realised the role this dish was playing in shaping popular opinion about the nation. The government intervened offering certifications to select restaurants along with a host of other measures.

Differentiating between cultural tropes based on food consumption and the complicated business that is "culture" may not be easy. It is easy for a diner to consider an ethnicity as hostile after not being served well by an ethnic eatery of the same cuisine. The risk always exists as it does when you are cooking - the dish may be a Michelin star or might make its way to the sink.

That said, there is no questioning the power of good food. It has turned around pages of history and history is known to repeat itself. [G](#) [T](#)

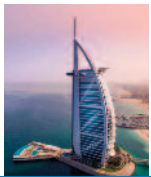


Issue: Page 5, Jan 10, 2022

Dear editor,

This is in reference to the article 'The legendary sword' published on page 5 of the GT Edition dated January 10, 2022. The article is from the perspective of the legendary sword Excalibur, taking us through years of its rich history. Aside from the fascinating story, it highlights the camaraderie it had with King Arthur - the one who wielded the sword, the ruler of England in the Middle Ages. Both have depended upon each other on the battlefield and had several bards sing their praises over the country. The mighty sword was only ever trusted in King Arthur's capable hands, and he was quite fond of it too - no one has wielded the sword since him. Numerous tales are scattered throughout history books and fiction, talking of the sword's supposed magical powers and unmatched strength. The article emphasises how we can find a friendship rooted even in an inanimate object - after all, the sword itself is quite the legend too, isn't it? Centuries after the sword was forged, it remains relevant even today in the themes of history and mythology.

Shyla Basu
AIS Pushp Vihar, XII C



The braveheart Sanga

The human heart has always been stirred by tales of valour and adventure, and whenever we hear such stories, we cannot help but look up to those heroes who have chiseled their names onto the stone of history with the weight of their accomplishments. Such legends deserve to be celebrated and remembered for their bravery and all that they have done in the past to make the present better. Here's presenting the saga of one such warrior, **Rana Sanga**, who changed the course of history for the better.

WARRIORS of INDIA

Part 1

Name: Sangram Singh I aka Rana Sanga

Born in: 1482

Died on: January 30, 1528

Position held: Ruler of Mewar, Sisodia dynasty
Noteworthy achievements: Fought successfully against the ruler of Gujarat; conquered the Lodi empire; reunited several Rajput kings to defy Babur; removed Jizya tax

Biography to watch: Bharat Ek Khoj

Biography to read: Rana Sanga: The Valiant Warrior-king by Rajendra Sanjay; Maharana Sanga, the Hindupat: The Last Great Leader of the Rajput Race, by Har Bilas Sarda

The roots of a warrior

Sangram Singh I, or more popularly known as Rana Sanga, belonged to the Sisodia Dynasty, a very well-known clan that traces its origin back to the 13th century. Sanga was born in 1482 to the king of Sisodia Rana Raimal and his queen, Ratan Kunwar, and was the grandson of Rana Kumbha, a ferocious brave Rajput ruler who had fought several battles. Though the date of his actual birth is unclear, most sources believe it to be April 12. As a young boy, he had an interest in politics and sword fighting. He was the youngest of the four siblings, all sons, and all four of them were up for the position of the successor to become the next king. Because of the same, a fierce battle and war between the brothers broke out to see who would win the throne, and in the battle, Sanga even lost one of his eyes. Nonetheless, he proved his mettle and finally succeeded to the throne of Mewar in 1508 at the mere age of 26. After his ascension to the throne, he was named a very benevolent leader who was successful in re-establishing Rajput rule in Malwa for the first time after the fall of Paramara kingdom in 1305 CE, in reuniting the Rajput clans—a very difficult task in itself—through the power of diplomacy and marital alliances, and in removing Jizya tax imposed on Hindu subjects by previous Muslim rulers. Soon, he established his supremacy over almost all Rajput states in Rajasthan and was ready to carry forward his journey as one of the greatest rulers of India.

The sword of a warrior

It comes as no surprise to anyone that history records him as one of the greatest warriors in India and in the world. It is said that he had fought around hundred battles in his lifetime and only lost one of them. Even after losing his eye, wrist, and a leg, and having over eighty wounds on his body, he defeated the Sultans of Delhi, Malwa, and Gujarat in eighteen battles and soon expanded his reign to areas that today lies in Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat and Sindh. He had fought the Muslim forces on various instances, which is why he was named as one of the last great Hindu emperors. In his illustrious career, Sanga aided Medini Rao against Mahmud and other Muslim forces trying to conquer the throne of Malwa in 1518-19, a war that ended in his favour. Another one of the Muslim forces he fought, and fought repeatedly in his lifetime, was Ibrahim Lodi of Delhi. Lodi, after hearing of Sanga's tales and encroachments of territory, marched against Mewar to start the Battle of Khatoli, only to be defeated. He

returned again for a battle at Dholpur which bore the same result, and again the same fate awaited him when they fought at the siege of Mandsaur. Even though all these fights ended with him as the champion, Sanga did pay for the victory by losing an arm because of a sword cut and an arrow making him lame for life. But his tale of conquest carried on, and soon his influence extended up to Agra, and he also invaded Gujarat with an army of at least 40,000 Rajputs, three vassals, and many allies, who helped him defeat Nizam Khan. The last significant chapter in his tale of heroics was noted in 1526 when Sanga again built an army of Rajput, this time around 100,000 of them, and marched to Agra to fight Babur and the Mughals for once and for all.

The legacy of a warrior

Unfortunately, his bravery alone was no match for Mughals' cannons, matchlocks and other firearms that were too advanced and unknown to the Rajput army. Sanga was also injured in the middle of the battle, struck by an arrow, and had to be removed by his brother-in-law. This war, although the last for Sanga, was the start of the Mughal empire in India, yet many historians comment that if Sanga had not been injured, the pages of Indian history books would have been completely different. A true warrior till the end, he spent the last days of his life under a vow to defeat Babur and conquer Delhi, and he even stopped wearing a turban and rather wrapped a cloth over his head to prove his dedication. But even before he could wage his second war, he was sadly poisoned by his own nobles who did not wish for another conflict with Babur. He took his last breaths in Kalpi in January 1528, and was succeeded by his son Ratan Singh II. Though he was gone, his legacy lived on. He was considered to be one of the greatest powers in Northern India of his time and one of the greatest rulers of India in general. His own enemy and the reason for this death, Babur, described him as the "greatest Indian king", and even the Mughal historian Al-Badayuni described him as the "bravest of all Rajputs". He was the last independent Hindu king to control a large territory before the rise of Mughal Era. Today, even after he is gone, his stories and tales of bravery are still whispered with great admiration. Mentions of him can still be found in various books, movies, and TV shows like Bharat Ek Khoj on Doordarshan where he was played by Ravi Jhankal, or even in Bharat Ka Veer Putra – Maharana Pratap by Sony Entertainment Television, where his character was portrayed by actor Aarav Chowdhary. Statues of him can also be found in many places in Udaipur and the rest of Rajasthan. Multiple books tracing his lineage and history have been scribed, proving that Rana Sanga was truly a man of steel, a warrior of great vigour and valour, and a name that shines bright even after all these years.





The final moment

Storywala



Sharanya Arun

AIS Saket, Alumna

The bench on which the sympathetic God of destruction- Beerus was sitting was probably once frequently visited by people. He recollected children enjoying on the swings, men and women performing day to day activities. Nothing remained as such except for a man- George, standing at a distance, staring at things cluelessly. The man locked eyes with Beerus. His eyes looked as if they

were pleading for help. Beerus could hear the desperation in his voice, strained with fear, as though he was speaking without air in his lungs. George knew God would end humanity, descend from the heavens to avenge earth, and restore her to her former glory. But he did not know that the end would come so soon. All of a sudden, natural disasters struck every corner of the Earth, one by one, taking everything that came its way. The earth had avenged herself, and her fury was far more power-

ful than anything Beerus or any other God had imagined. The Gods did not avenge Earth, they merely aided her. As for the human beings, they destroyed themselves. They brought upon their own destruction.

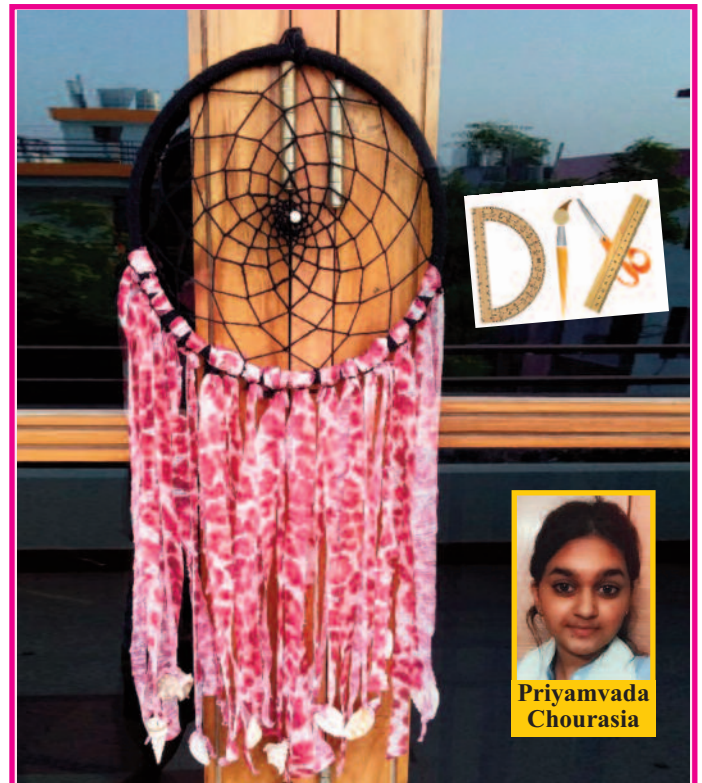
Beerus though was a little sympathetic yet everything was not in his hands. It was mutually decided by all the Gods that an apocalypse would come no matter what. Beerus recollected those days when laughter and joy was a constant part of the environment. He closed his eyes and

Beerus recollected those days when laughter and joy was a constant part of the environment.

pretended to be a part of it. He remembered George's face, the shock and fear and pain in his eyes. He particularly did not do anything wrong, but he was paying for the sins of his forefathers. Then, Beerus stood up, stretching his old, tired body. There was nothing to be done about it. "Maybe one day, another hundred years from now, some new species would tell tales about the old Gods, and how the Earth was cleansed of the evil that inhabited it," he thought to himself.

With one final look at the destructive beauty around him, Beerus closed his eyes yet again and felt the tingling in his body. He was the last of the Gods to fade and could relate to the problems George faced even more now. But all that begins must end. Too much heartbreak, too much loss, it begins to add up. And it had become more than he could carry now.

Beerus turned away, a knife twisting in his heart, he let the world fall to fire and ashes, while he disappeared into thin air. 🇧🇩



Dream catcher

Priyamvada Chourasia, AIS VKC Lko, Alumna

Material required

- Wooden/metal hoop-1
- Wool
- Beads
- Laces
- Shells
- Scissors
- Glue
- Needle

Procedure

- On the wooden/metal hoop, tie a double knot using black wool.
- Now, using hot glue, wrap the black wool over the hoop to cover it whole. Secure it with a double knot at the end.
- Then to weave the web inside the hoop, tie a knot with the wool at the top of the hoop and ensure it's tied securely.
- Now, working clockwise, loop the wool string inside the frame in the pattern of your choice. As you do this, go slowly to make sure the loops are evenly spaced. Plus, each time the wool reaches the edge of the hoop, wrap it around once or twice on that spot to make sure that it stays still. You can add a bead in between the loops.
- Once you reach the top of the hoop where you started, create a hitch to secure the web. Cut off the extra thread.
- To decorate it further, take the laces and tie them on the lower part of the hoop.
- Then carefully trim the laces in a V shape.
- Once done, take small shells and tie them to the laces hanging at the bottom.
- Your dream catcher is ready for use!

WORDS VERSE

New beginnings

Ishita Sood, AIS Gur 43, X

Listen to your beating heart
Try and find the right path
And when you find that road
Don't wait up, say "Let's go!"

Start with what pleases you
What you dig the most
Not what you often see
As a journey full of lows

Forget the sighs of the past
Forget what tingles your toe
Just change your mindset
And make a list to let go

And maybe you shall fail
And maybe you shall cry



But even after various failures
It's always worth another try

Beginning of something new
Doesn't always mean tomorrow
Doing it right away could
Dispel your riptide of sorrows

So, befriend your sharp intuition
Make thyself wary against lure
Just stand at the right station
And wait for your commendations! 🇧🇩

Nostalgia

Samiksha Dubey

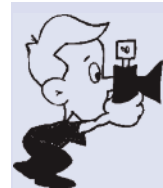
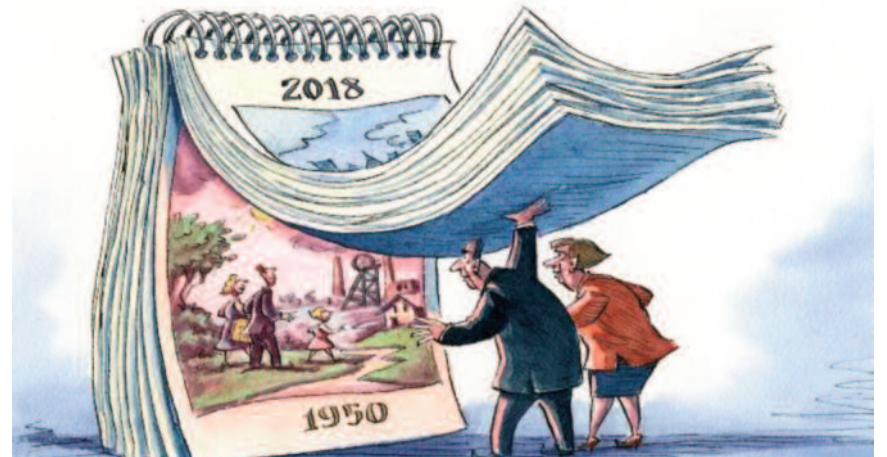
AIS Noida, XII J

Gone are those good old days
Living life in our carefree ways
Dancing whenever a song plays
No matter what anyone says

Playing with friends, day and night
Doing what we think is right
Daring to jump from any height
With no inhibitions in sight

Innocence filled in those little eyes
Too adorable to obey parents' advise
No worries of life's lows and highs
All ready to touch the distant skies

Too many beautiful memories to collect
Life back then was almost perfect
Many photo albums to protect
Tears falling down in retrospect. 🇧🇩



CAMERA CAPERS

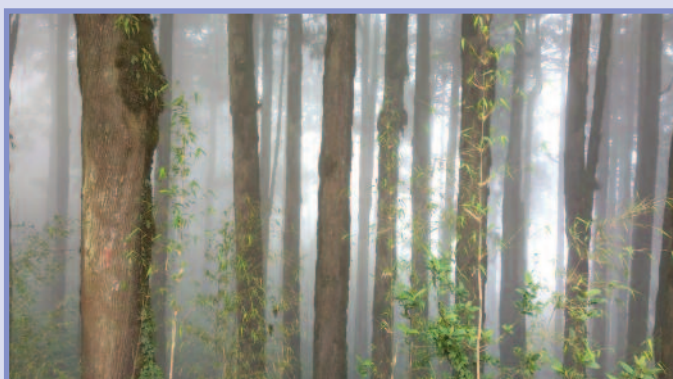
Send in your entries to
cameracap@theglobaltimes.in



Navya Nayer, AIS Pushp Vihar, XII B



A one-horned beauty



A peak through the branches

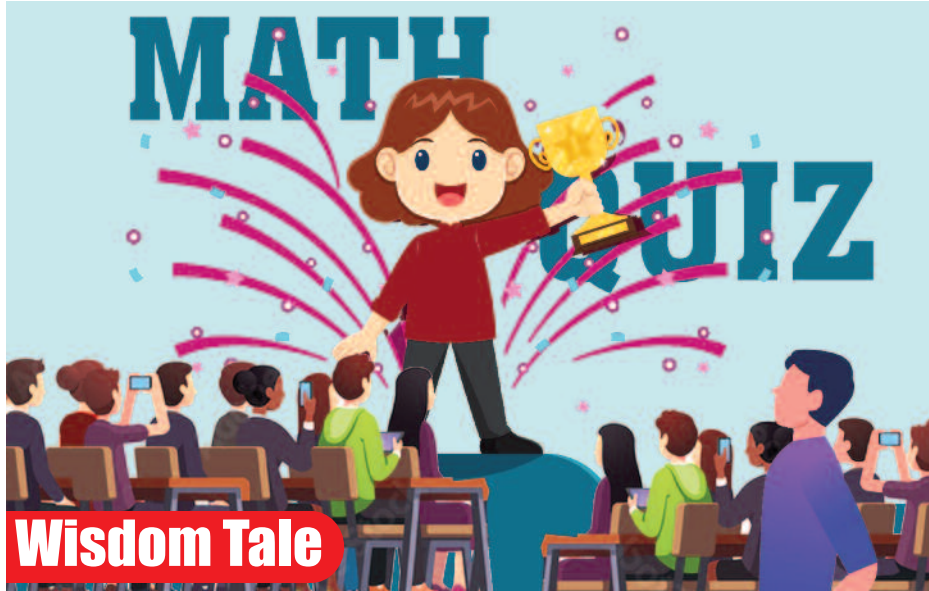


A glimmering ray of hope



It has one of the lowest crime rates in the world and was even ranked the 7th safest city in the world in 2019.

The math quiz



Wisdom Tale

Advik Duhan, AIS Gurugram 46, VIII D

Once upon a time, in a town called Bethlehem, there lived an educated and well-respected man named Suraj. He had a 14-year-old daughter named Riya, who was exceptionally bright. Though Suraj struggled to make ends meet, but like all fathers, he had set his heart on one thing - seeing his daughter become successful some day. So, one evening when he was heading back home after work, he saw a large board advertising a huge and exciting math quiz. Suraj was overjoyed as he read the board. He believed this to be the opportunity for his daughter to showcase her brilliance to the world. The quiz had various prizes for the winner including cash prizes and scholarship

programs by top universities. So, as soon as he reached home, he informed Riya about the same. Riya was super excited to hear this. She started her preparations for it immediately. When word spread that Suraj's daughter was participating in the math quiz, Rajat, a man jealous of Suraj, signed up his 20-year-old son Rakesh for the competition. Knowing that Rakesh was older than Riya, Rajat was sure of the fact that his son would win. When Rakesh got to know about his rival, he laughed it off, saying how easy it would be for him to defeat Riya. He fantasised about winning all day long. The only thing he didn't do was to prepare for the competition. As time thus passed, with only four days left for the event, Riya was working hard. On the other hand, Rakesh was relaxed and could not

And so, one evening when he was heading back home after work, he saw a large board advertising a huge and exciting math quiz.

be bothered to study. As such, one evening while he was on his way to the park, his mother stopped him and inquired, "Rakesh, why don't I see you preparing for the quiz?" "Chill mom, I don't need any practice. I am going to win the quiz since I am the eldest and have more experience than any other kid participating in the event," replied Rakesh in a somewhat arrogant manner. Shocked to see her son's haughtiness, she preached, "My dear boy, I can see that you are over-confident. This attitude won't bring you victory." "Only time will tell," Rakesh retorted.

The day of the competition finally arrived. There were many participants in the early rounds but both Rakesh and Riya were excelling. As a result, both of them reached the finale for the final face-off. Rakesh's confidence was through the roof as he daydreamed of the award ceremony. Riya, on the other hand, was calm. As the final questions were given, Rakesh was shocked to see his inability to answer many due to lack of practice and over confidence. In the final round, Riya was declared the winner of the competition. [G I](#)

So, what did you learn today?
Confidence is the key to success, but over-confidence leads to failure.



Little Chef



Avishi Shankar Srivastava

Cookies

Avishi Shankar Srivastava, AGS Gur, VI

Ingredients

All-purpose flour (<i>maida</i>)	.....	2 cups
Baking powder	.....	1/2 tsp
Salt	.....	1/4 tsp
Unsalted butter	.....	3/4 cup
Sugar	.....	1 cup
Eggs	.....	2
Vanilla essence	.....	1/2 tsp
Melted chocolate	.....	for garnishing
Fondant	.....	for garnishing

Procedure

- In a small bowl, mix all the dry ingredients like flour, baking powder, and salt together. Keep it aside.
- Now take a large bowl and put some butter and sugar in it. Using an electric mixer at medium speed setting, beat it until the mixture turns light and fluffy.
- Gradually, add all the wet ingredients like eggs and vanilla essence into it and whisk well.
- Now, sift the dry ingredients into this batter and knead them to make a dough.
- Wrap this dough in cellophane sheet and keep it in the refrigerator for about 3-4 hours.
- Once done, preheat the oven to 375°F, and simultaneously, grease two baking trays with butter.
- Roll out the dough using a rolling pin, and with the help of fun cookie cutters, cut out pieces of dough in different shapes.
- Arrange these raw cookies on the baking tray about 1 inch apart from each other, and bake them at 200° F for about 10 minutes or until their edges turn golden brown.
- Place the cookies on a cooling rack and let them sit for some time. Roll out some fondant and cover the cookies with it.
- You can also decorate them with melted chocolate. Your cookies are ready to be devoured!

POEMS

Grandparents

Avika Agarwal, AIS Vas 6, VI

Grandparents are special people
With so much wisdom and pride
They give us much care and love
And are always there to guide

I know my papa is a good man
And it is only because of you
You've taught him nice traits
You were his first ever school

Thank you for being by my side
In all of my ups and downs
You always make me smile
Even when I have a frown



Thank you for accepting me
Teaching me important things
You are the true life savers
My queen and my king! [G I](#)

This time too shall pass

Aahlaadita Bhardwaj, AIS Gur 43, VI D

Difficult times will come and go
Remain calm and don't let it blow
We know this time too shall pass
Let's be resolute and show our class
When was it that you spent time alone?
To nurture a hobby while staying home
Every crisis brings out the best in us
It evolves us without creating a fuss
This is His way to show who's the boss
So, we should accept this gracefully
And remember this time too, shall pass! [G I](#)



Riddle fiddle

Arshia Vishnoi
AIS Vasundhara 6, V

1. You'll find me in Mercury, Earth, Mars and Jupiter, but not in Venus or Neptune. What am I?
2. What are the two things you can never eat for breakfast?
3. What has one head, one foot, and four legs?
4. I am an odd number. Take away a letter and I become even. What number am I?
5. What gets bigger the more you take away?
6. What has four wheels and flies?

Answers: 1. Letter 'R'
2. Lunch and dinner
3. A bed
4. Seven
5. A hole
6. A garbage truck

It's Me

KNOW ME

My Name: Mohammad Ali Jamee Saeed Khan
My class: VI A
My School: AIS VYC Lko
Born On: February 27

MY FAVOURITES

Teacher: Anuradha ma'am and Abha ma'am
Subject: English and Science
Friend: Habib
Game: Football
Cartoon: I don't watch cartoons
Food: Biryani
Mall: Pillassio mall
Book: Diary of a Wimpy Kid

MY DREAMS AND GOALS

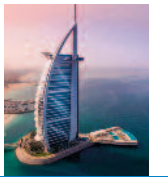
My hobbies: Gaming, drawing and baking
I like: Researching about Space-X and the solar system
I dislike: Veggies and Pizza
My role model: Elon musk
I want to become: An astronaut
I want to feature in GT because: I want to represent my school and make my teachers proud



PAINTING CORNER

Zara Kumar
AIS PV, IV B





The cornfield

It Is Quite An Amaize-ing Produce

Avni Munjal

AIS Gurugram 43, X D

The queen of cereals, corn enjoys the highest genetic yield potential amongst cereals and has a wide adaptability under varied agro-climatic conditions. With such wide diversity of soil, climate,

biodiversity, and management practices, corn found its largest producer in the US, whereas, in India, it is the third most important food crop after rice and wheat. And so, true to its name and fame, corn comes in several varieties, each of which possesses unique and interesting features. Here, take a look...

Flint Corn



Tum corn? This variety of corn has a hard outer shell and is distinguished by a wide range of colours. It is grown mostly in Central and South America, and used primarily for decoration in North America around the autumn season. The fall harvest season wouldn't be complete without Indian corn ears embellishing home décor and creating fall vibes. From wreaths to centrepieces, it seems to be everywhere in October and November.

Amaize-ing facts: According to folklore, these colourful corns were named after the indigenous people of North America, but it grew in China, India, and South America for centuries. And our ancestors didn't use it for decoration purposes, they ate it.

Dent Corn



Tum corn? Dent corn, also called field corn, is the most widely grown corn in the US. Though primarily used for livestock feed, it is also used in some food products. Grown for over 8000 years now, this variety contains a mix of hard and soft starches that become indented once the corn is dried.

Amaize-ing facts: It was named thus because it develops an indentation at the crown of each of its kernels when it's ripe.

Sweet Corn

Tum corn? Sweet corn or 'corn on the cob' is almost all soft starch and will never pop. It contains more sugar than other types of corn. Unlike other corns that are picked when the kernels are dry and mature, sweet corn is picked and eaten while the ears are in the immature milk stage and the kernels are tender.

Amaize-ing facts: Sweet corn is a relative newcomer. It first appeared in Brazil as a spontaneous mutation on field corn about 1000 years ago, then slowly spread through the New World. The Iroquois, indigenous confederacy in northeast North America, gave the first recorded sweet corn called 'Papoon' to European settlers in 1779.



Pod Corn



Tum corn? This is a variety of corn where each individual kernel is enclosed in long, membranous husks known as glumes. Its kernels are naked or exposed.

Amaize-ing facts: Pod corn has a corn ear that forms leaves in the 'wrong' place, owing to which, it was once thought that pod corn was a wild ancestor of maize. Recent genetic research has, however, shown that pod corn ears are the result of its genetic mutation. And since it's difficult to uncover each individual kernel, it is not commonly eaten.

Popcorn



Tum corn? Popcorn is a type of flint corn but has its own size, shape, starch level, and moisture content. When heated, the natural moisture inside the kernel turns to steam and builds up enough pressure to eventually explode. Other types of dried corn may also burst open slightly when heated, but popcorn is unique in its taste.

Amaize-ing facts: Popcorn pops in two basic shapes, butterfly and mushroom. Butterfly popcorn has a very irregular shape with large bumps. It has a light crispy texture but can break easily. Mushroom-shaped popcorn, on the other hand, has a spherical centre with a rough surface. This shape makes it sturdy enough to stir when adding flavourings.

Flour Corn



Tum corn? Flour corn has a soft starchy endosperm. Its soft starchy composition makes it easy to grind into finer cornmeal compared to other similar types. Moreover, flour corn is one of the most planted in the southwest region of the United States.

Amaize-ing facts: This variant comes in all colours. The colour is contained within the outer layer, while the interior soft starch is white. You are in for a huge surprise with this one!





Dubai is also known as the 'City of Gold' as a major part of the economy is based on gold trades with its total gold trading volumes reaching 580 tonnes.

GoCoDE 4.0

ATL Interschool Megathon For Techies



Chairperson with senior members of Amity



Announcement of the ATL Megathon

AMS Vasundhara 6

Leapreneurs, the ATL Club of the school organised 4th ATL inter school Megathon titled GoCoDE 4.0, from October 22-30, 2021. The aim of the event was to provide students from Class IV-XII, a platform to explore new frontiers of knowledge and technology with creativity. It sought to hone 21st century digital skills for sustainable societal, environmental and economic development.

The valedictory ceremony of the week-long event was graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF with R Ramanan, former mission director, Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog, as the chief guest. The event received an overwhelming re-

sponse with more than 250 students from Delhi/NCR competing in 12 events such as Software Ninja, Transform IT, Jack in The App, Oxygenerate, Earth Station 4.0, Teleport, Be a Minimalist, Renew Power, Wise Tech, Pure Drops, ModPod and Healthians. Amity Group of Schools won laurels in all the events. AIS Vasundhara 1, AIS Noida and AIS Gurugram 46 won first, second and third prize respectively, in Software Ninja. In Transform IT, AIS Mayur Vihar won first prize and AIS Noida bagged second prize. AIS Saket won first prize in Jack in The App, while, AIS Mohali and AIS Gurugram 43 won first prize in ModPod and Healthians, respectively.

In Oxygenerate, AIS Gurugram 46 bagged first prize and AIS Gurugram 43 bagged second

prize. AIS Mayur Vihar won first prize and AIS Saket won second prize in Earth Station 4.0, and AIS Gurugram 46 won first prize and AIS Noida won second prize in Pure Drops.

First and third prizes in Teleport again went to AIS Noida and AIS Mayur Vihar, respectively. AIS Vasundhara 1 bagged second prize in Be a Minimalist, with AIS Gurugram 46, winning third prize in the same. In Renew Power, AIS Vasundhara 1 won first prize, AIS Noida won second prize and AIS Gurugram 43 and AIS Gurugram 46, tied for third prize. AIS Gurugram 43 won first prize again in Wise Tech, with AIS Pushp Vihar winning second prize in the same. All the winning young tinkerers were awarded e-certificates for their creative abilities. 📸



Sports champs of Amity

Young Amitians Win Medals Galore

AIS Mayur Vihar

Gymnastics Championship.

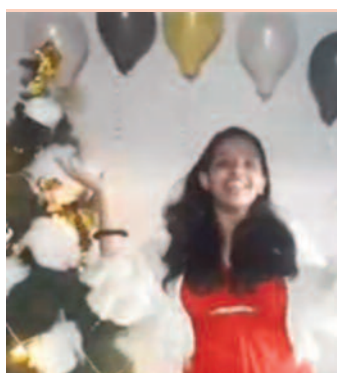
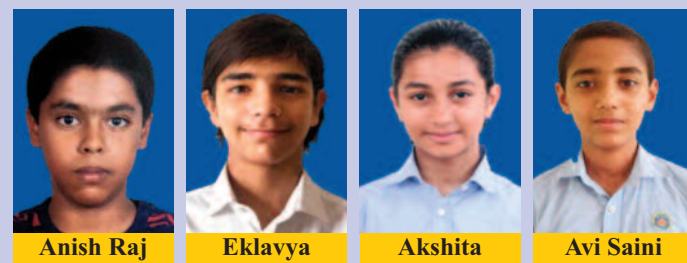
The school won accolades at the Delhi State Gymnastics Championship held from November 7-11, 2021. Gymnast Divya Prashant Moundekar of Class XI, put up a spectacular performance and bagged prizes in various categories. She secured first position in Hoop and Ribbon as well as second position in Ball and Clubs, and got overall 2nd position. She also qualified to participate in the 25th Junior National Rhythmic

AIS Noida

Eight skaters of the school brought home 26 medals (6 gold, 10 silver and 10 bronze) at the 7th UP State Roller Skating Championship, held from November 11-14, 2021. Total 400 students from different districts of UP participated in the tournament. In 300m, 500m and 1000m rink race, Bhavya Singh (III) won 3 gold medals and Atharv Arvind (III) won 2 silver and 1 bronze

medal. Anvi Verma (IV) bagged 2 bronze medals in 1 lap rink race and 1 lap road race. Anish Raj (IX) won 1 gold medal and 2 silver medals in 500m D, 1000m and lap road race. In road elimination 10k, rink elimination 15k point to point rink race and point to point road race, Eklavya Jagal (IX) bagged 1 gold and 3 silver medals. Akshita Chauhan (IX) bagged 1 silver and 3 bronze medals in point to point road race, road race (100m), rink race (200m) and 1 OK elimination race. Avi Saini won 2 silver and 1 bronze medal in Inline, 1 lap (300m), 1000m, and 500m. Mishaya Panigrahy won 1 gold medal in Inline 1 lap (300m).

All the sports champions of Amity stood testament to the motto of holistic learning and development of every child studying at Amity.



A student sings Christmas carol

Festive joys

Let's Enjoy

AMS Vasundhara 1

Students of Class IX conducted an online assembly to celebrate 'Christmas and New Year', on December 24, 2021. The assembly compered by Ridima Agarwal, Roshni Sarangi, Ananya Vij and Tanvi Agarwal commenced with shloka sung by Samaira Verma. Latest headlines were read by Venya Verma, Aarav Malhotra and Krishna Aditya. Pranjali Aggrawal read the message by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, where she wished happiness and prosperity for all. Melodious christmas carols were sung by Samaira Verma, Kratika and Khanak Lal. Akshita Vij, Khanak Lal, Yati Sharma, Shreshth Ranjan, Sarah Zaidi and Himangi Kuman, presented a skit based on the birth of Christ. Samaira Verma, Shivanshi Chakraborty, Ojasvi Bhat and Pari Singh gave a spectacular dance performance and Arunava Dutta delivered speech about New Year. 📸

Skating the heights

Gold Medal At RSFI Nationals

AIS Noida

Anish Raj of Class IX M won gold medal at 59th Roller Skating Federation of India Nationals (RSFI), held from December 11-20, 2021, by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. He rode the crest of the winning wave with first position in the 1000m rink race with a stunning timing of 1:35.75. With this victory, he also became the youngest skater,

among over 2000 participants in the country, in 14-17 years age category to win a medal in the entry group of the race. It is indeed a great honour for Amity and the state of Uttar Pradesh as Anish represented team UP, at the event in which skaters from 27 States and 5 Union Territories participated. The young skater has now become eligible to participate in the Indian team trials for the upcoming Asian Games to be held



Anish Raj receives gold medal at the competition

in China this year. It is notable that last year also, in 58th RSFI Nationals, held in Mohali, Anish

Raj had won 3 gold medals in under-14 years age category at the skating competition. 📸

Thank you farmers

A Special Assembly For The Ones Who Provide Us Food

AIS Vasundhara 6

To celebrate the birth anniversary of Late Choudhary Charan Singh, the 5th Prime Minister of India, who immensely contributed to the development of India and its farmers, the students of Class II B

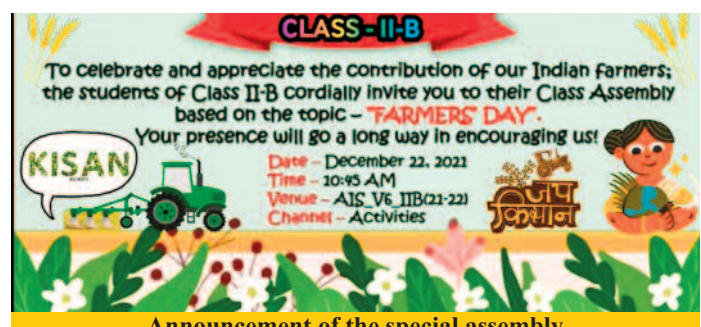
presented a virtual assembly on December 22, 2021, also celebrated as National Farmers Day. The objective of the assembly was to make students aware about the vital role of our Indian farmers in building a healthy India, for they are the ones who grow the food we eat. The cele-

bration commenced with a prayer 'My God is so big', followed by sharing of the thought of the day, Hindi *svichaar* and news. The highlight of the assembly was a visual tribute paid to thank the local farmers for their tireless efforts and dedication, through a video titled, 'Thank you kisan'. Some students dressed up as the

renowned Padma Shri awardee farmers who through years of efforts have transformed the Indian agriculture. These students, also dedicated a poem to the farmers. Through this assembly, the students urged everyone to be thankful to farmers for their hard work, back-breaking labour and lifelong struggle to feed the nation with healthy food. 📸



Young ones express their gratitude to the farmers of India



Announcement of the special assembly



Math Magician, Akansh

Math magicians

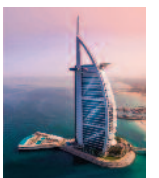
AIS Vasundhara 1

Akansh Varshney (VI E) and Ishaan Garg of (VII E) were bestowed with 'Certificate of Winner' at the 5th BRICSMATH competition, an international online event held from October 19-December 22, 2021.

Ishaan scored 70 out of 80 possible points in 43 min 3 sec and Akansh scored 66 out of 80 possible points in 26 min and 56 sec at the prestigious global level competition of mathematics. BRICSMATH is an online international competition for Class I-XII, which is globally recognised by nations like India, Brazil, Russia, China, South Africa, Indonesia and Vietnam. 📸



Math Magician, Ishaan



The new age Wordsmith

The Journey Of A Young Girl Metamorphosing Into An Author

Vrinda Sethi

AIS Mayur Vihar, XII A

Reading a book takes us on a journey filled with emotions and adventures, but behind those pages is another journey of an author trying to pen down countless thoughts and emotions. **Deepika Bharadwaj, an alumna of Amity International School, Mayur Vihar,** has completed this sojourn at a young age. The prodigal writer, who is currently pursuing MBBS from Rama Medical College, has mesmerised everyone with her book 'Subtle: Love and its afflictions', a collection of poems that celebrate love. Read on as we take you through the road less travelled with the wordsmith herself.

What inspired you to write?

The journey started back in class IX and X when I hopped onto the trend called blogging. It was through my blogs that I discovered my passion for writing. I have always been an avid reader and reading did play a major role in my journey of writing. The lockdown got me active on social media, which, then, helped me fetch references to convert my manuscript of thoughts into a well-written and published book.

How has the journey been?

I would say it was a dual spur from something within me and my publishers. Since the theme of the book was given to me by the publishers themselves, I united it with my feelings and

came up with this volume. However, writing during the lockdown came with its limitations; I couldn't go out to seek inspiration and had to sit back at home binge-watching different TV series several times to analyse it with a perspective. The writer's block was a frequent visitor during the whole period. Writing a hundred poems on the same topic and still not getting the perfect one can be exhausting with no more ideas left to pen down. But I pulled myself together and finally found the true emotions I wanted to portray in this book.

Could you give us a glimpse of what your upcoming project will be?

Now that the poetry collection is done with, I am currently working on my new book of short stories describing the societal norms that have been twisted over the years like the Sati system. I do know that this may turn somewhat controversial, being a taboo topic. However, I believe that past traditions and practices should be uncovered in front of everyone, especially to my younger readers.

What helped you discover your keen interest in writing?

I feel that The Global Times newspaper has been a huge help in discovering my interest in writing. It has been teaching us what we need to know at a very early age and provides a lot of exposure to the outside world as Amityans. It has enabled us to write and express our thoughts properly. Not just this, but it has also encouraged us

GT Author's Desk



Title: Subtle: Love and its afflictions

Author: Deepika Bharadwaj

Price: 220 INR

Available on: Amazon (Paperback)

by publishing our articles and making us want to write more.

Your piece of advice for all the budding writers out there?

For all the budding writers, all I can say is - listen to your thoughts. Go over what you feel. Don't let the theme of your book be a copy of somebody else's. Get inspired but avoid plagiarism. Follow your zeal and look for opportunities around you. Amity provides you with great opportunities so use them wisely, and you will be all set to fly high.



If babies could talk

Revealing The Secret Language Of A Newborn



Varada Kachroo
AIS VKC Lko, X B

“Congratulations! It's a baby boy!”

The labour room brimmed with ebullience as the doctor delivered the news and me, of course! The sole inheritor of Sharma clan, their *budhappe ka sahara! Swaagat nahi karoge humara!?*... Wait, what's happening? Before I could figure out something, my world turned upside down (not that I wasn't used to that, considering where I am coming from, but I was out now, right?); that devil of a doctor was holding me mid-air by my feet and in a flash, began belabouring me hard on my bare bum. I mean, what is

this behaviour, uncle? I surely didn't wait nine months for this? No way! Also, men's rights, anyone? I ain't playing. I am going cry and eat your brains the entire day. *sobs*

As I fussed over the sheer incivility of the events that unrolled (so much for a red carpet entry), I was gently put in my mother's arms. The feeling I tell you was surreal and by far the best, but only lasted a while, before a long line of my lineage barged in wanting to see Yours Truly- *Aankhon ka taara* *laughs nervously*

Exhilarated to meet some hundred thousand strangers at first, I eventually gave in. As I was changing hands (not on my own accord) every few minutes, it felt like a round of passing the parcel. I am sensitive, jeez! Keep off me! Whatever happened to “do not touch a neonate!” Also, here's some extra fine for all the unwelcomed wet kisses! Wait! I am hungry and I am going to cry first! *whines and cries incon-

solably* “Shush, shush, my tubby-chubby. Don't cry, your aunt's here!” came a voice. But? How does that help, auntie? I need mommy. Where is my MOMMY?

“Pammi, he looks just like you. Though his nose resembles that of his father a bit,” continued my aunt as all others jumped in to share their (not so) valuable inputs on who I resembled the most. Now, what part of I-need-mommy didn't you all understand? Also, can I just not be labelled as yet? I mean, come on, just look at me, what more than a slab of ginger do I look like to you all? And, no, I won't be an engineer; have seen 3 idiots on repeat, ask mom! *screams and cries continue*

“Peekaboo, peekaboo!” tried another stranger. Well, kid you not, he certainly had me in the first half! I mean, are you telling me you are hiding behind your hands, stranger? Woah! Do that again! Once more! And now a thousand times over! Okay, I am bored!

cries again

As I continued to cry, my dad (as they all addressed him) entered the room. I was elated to know that this unnamed-little-coochy-coo now had his dad to protect him from this crazy lot of visitors. Well, that's what they have been teaching me since forever...er...9 months, I mean! (no offence to mommy, obviously).

“You are my boy! Say p-a-p-a...” were my father's first words. Well, clearly it didn't take much for him to burst that bubble, right?

That was some stunt you pulled there, dad! I mean, you are asking a new born to speak, not cry? Wow! Here, sending some appreciation your way! *howls and poops on dad, oops*

As I grinned, my mom asked for me. I could almost sense (read smell) what was about to happen next. No! Mommy, you won't, not at any cost, check and change my diaper in front of everyone! NOOOOOO... *stares embarrassingly*

