



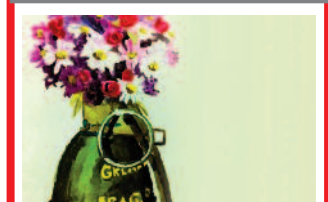
TEDx, P4-5



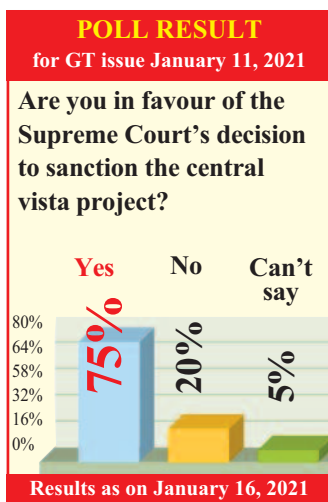
History this week, P7



Champions of innovation, P11



Beauty in crisis, P12



Coming Next
 Republic Day Special

Lights, camera, action!

Demystifying The Uncertainty Around The Fate Of The Big Screens

Nandini Sunil, XII E &
 Dhruv Banerjee, XI G, AIS PV

Trailer:

When the lights dimmed and the curtains parted, magic took over - a happy surrender of the self to partake in a 3-hour journey to the land of genres. Time changed; the surrender of the self now took place in a room with a remote in the hand.

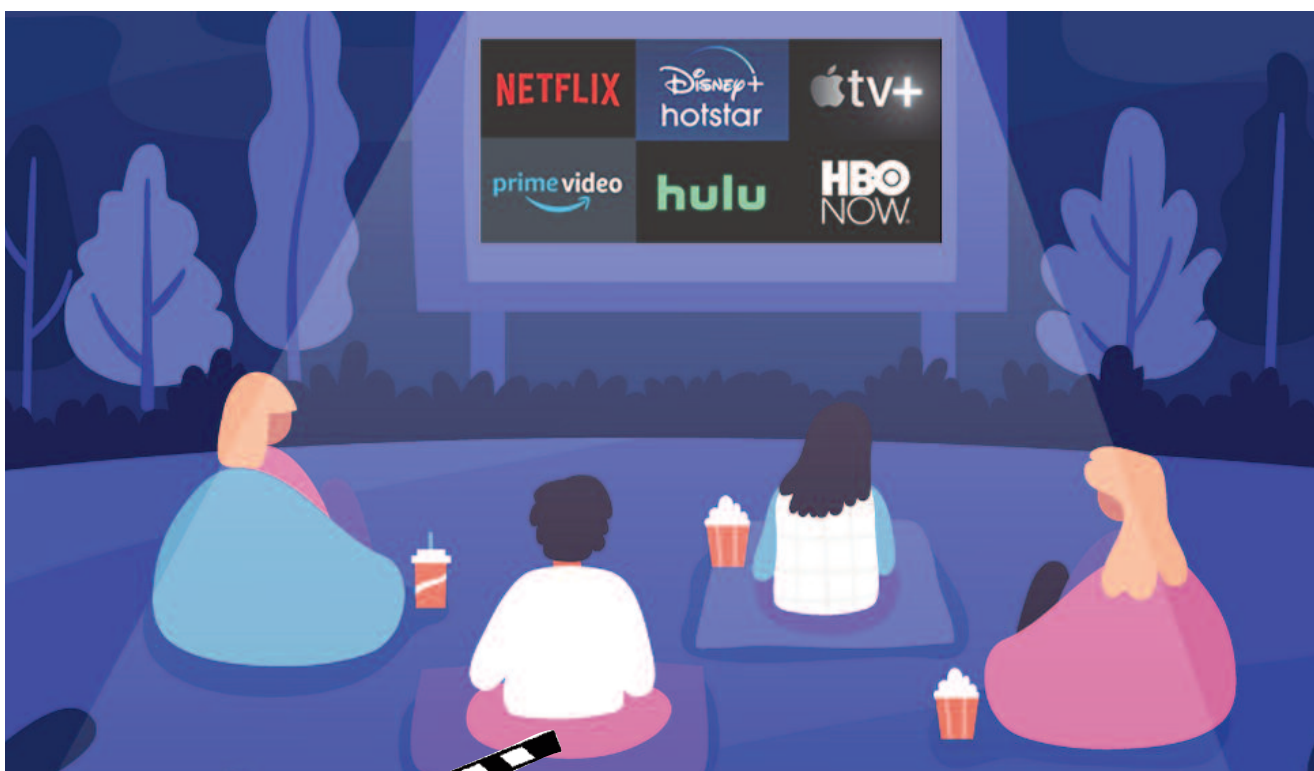
Warner Media made headlines with its pronouncement to embrace a dual-release strategy for all of its 2021 releases - 17 of their big-budget films would now play in the living rooms of the COVID-averse HBO Max subscribers and in theatres synchronously. The news came like a bolt from the blue, rendering the future of movie theatres obscure. A look at the stats, and the ambiguity rises further. Since the start of the lockdown, paid OTT subscriptions surged to about 100-125 million, up by nearly 60% from what was just 45 million subscriptions in 2018. Shuttered, theatres, au contraire, are feeling the pinch

with their current losses amounting to approx 10,000-15,000 crore INR.



Finance - To grow rich or be born rich?

Take 1: Big movies could make an extortionate amount of money or vice versa if released theatrically, but is the risk really worth it? OTT chips in undaunted with a solution - movie rights are bought at a fixed price with no linkage whatsoever with the performance of the film. Besides, streaming also saves on print and advertising costs. A plus for not just big budget films but also the small ones, both of which would now receive an assured revenue with a much wider audi-



Content - To be the monarch or the laissez-faire leader?

ence. With over 40 OTT service providers in India, it's expected that streaming would bring in a revenue of about 2.9 billion USD by 2024.

Take 2: The counterargument is simple yet effective - box office releases for big-budget films can bring in far more money than what movies receive by direct release on a streaming platform. Laxmi, for instance, made 140-150 crore INR through Disney+, an amount that could have been otherwise 200-300 crore INR, given the cast and star power. Movie hall releases are also economically important, since they bring in 15000 crore INR of yearly revenue, with employment opportunities for over 2 lakh people. Not to forget the incapacity of digital platforms to continue funding such big banner films repeatedly.

on the OTT platforms resonates with the phrase, "Content is the king". With affordable plans for as low as 199 INR per month, these platforms act as a repository of regional content or otherwise, including a bevy of movies and web series for its varied consumer base to choose from. As per a survey conducted by Open X, millennials who subscribe to at least one OTT service watch more than twice as much OTT content as they do live TV. Limiting their audience to a meagre 2-3 movie options with skyscraping ticket prices, theatres lag a lot behind in this respect.

created by the big screen is unsurpassed; content may be the king but it's not the only member of the court. Cinema chains have been working ceaselessly in an effort to provide cutting edge screens, good sound quality and other technical advancements to make for a much more enhanced movie-watching experience for their audiences. If it were not for these theatres, blockbuster movies, for instance Bahubali, with their mega opus production values, CG works, screenplay, etc., wouldn't have produced the same effect on the viewers as they originally did. Avatar 2, The Batman or Fast and Furious 9 for that matter, originally slated for release in 2020, have all been delayed over a year for the very same reason.

Take 2: Despite this, the magical effect

Continued on page 6...

A chemical alliance

The Father Of Chemistry States The Various Elements of The Subject



Prof Man Mohan Sharma

Known as the *pitamah* of Chemistry in the science fraternity, Padma Vibhushan, Professor Man Mohan Sharma, is not only adored for his upright values, in-depth knowledge and visionary ideas for a new developed world, but also for his various achievements. He is the first Indian engineer to be elected as a Fellow of Royal Society, UK, as well as the recipient of prestigious awards like Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, Leverhulme Medal of the Royal Society, SS Bhatnagar Prize in Engineering Sciences, FICCI

Award, Vishwakarma medal of the Indian National Science Academy, etc. As he enlightened **Amity University, Manesar**, during a webinar on 'Role of Chemical Science and Chemical Technology in Developing New India of Our Dream', GT got the chance to catch his precious teachings and bring you the excerpts.

On chemicals inside us

A lot is being said about how chemicals are not good for our health or our environment, but it is extremely important for people to realise that life itself will cease to exist without chemicals. Nature itself is the best chemist; look around yourself and you will find that all the alternatives to plastic and chemicals that people talk about, such as cellulose, silk, shellac, cotton, etc, are also, in reality, chemicals themselves. Our blood itself is a mixture of many chemicals, which proves that without chemicals, there can be no life at all. Instead of blaming them, what is actually required is an in-depth understanding of optimising chemicals in life, because if a malpractice of chemicals ends up hurting the world, you cannot blame the molecules, but the human beings who are misusing it for their own gain.

On using renewable stuff

According to me, there is no such thing as 'waste'; everything can be renewed provided we are ready to explore and make it utilitarian. In chemistry and in life, everything can always be salvaged, so what we look at as 'waste' needs to be looked at as raw materials with a negative past. Chemical sciences and technology have done a lot of good in renewable materials, and that is the lead, the rest of us need to follow. For example - if the world produces 30 million tonnes of sugar, out of which 30-40% is bagasse, we can extract it and apart from generating power from it, we can also separate cellulose and hemicellulose and make polymers out of it. This showcases that all we need is a little bit of effort and knowledge of how to use the so-called 'waste' as raw material to build new products.

On the shaping of humanity

Chemicals have always shaped the way the world works. To give an example, take the discovery of nylon 66 that changed the way the world dressed, packaged things, worked their logistic industries etc. There are various other chemical discoveries that have changed the reality of humanity like polymer and its different types like Teflon, low

density polythene, polyester, polypropylene etc. It is only because of chemicals that we have been able to create transparent plastic for fast luxury cars, control pollution via the catalytic process, create various new medicines and agro-chemicals, so chemicals really are doing so much for humanity.

On creating a new India

To develop a new India, one vital factor is the sharing of knowledge and education, and that depends on how the educators disburse it. As the harbingers of knowledge, they are the real builders of new India. If we want our country to succeed and touch new heights, we also need to start doing our own research and producing our own resources. We, as a country, need to invest more in fundamental research and ideological reforms. India, structurally, is big, and we need economists and industries to start talking about technology to create the change we want to see. We need more skilled labour in our industries because with chemicals, accidents are bound to happen if expertise isn't a part of the equation. We need a colossal change in our outlook as a means to ignite within us the fire of experimenting and creating new inventions and innovations. 🇮🇳

In 1842, William Buckland named 'Megalosaurus' as the first ever dinosaur to be described scientifically.



India This Week

Adya Mishra, AIS VKC Lko, XI

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



Waiver on entertainment tax in Kerala

News: As cinema theatres in Kerala, reopened from January 13, being shuttered for almost a year owing to the pandemic, the government of Kerala proclaimed to exempt them from paying entertainment tax till March 2021. Along with, a 50% reduction in their electricity charges for the lockdown period last year. With only 50% occupancy rate permitted at all times, the theatres are strictly advised to act in accordance with the COVID-19 guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health.

Views: Having spent months locked inside the four walls of their home, majority of people across the globe have found better alternatives for their entertainment now, so the need to reopen theatres in the first place seems nil. However, looking at the losses incurred by the film industry thus far, the decision is one to be wholly appreciated. Not only will it provide theatres with the much-needed push, it will also help people adapt to the new normal, given that the COVID protocols are strictly followed.

Shristi Singh, AIS VYC Lko, XI A



National toy fair from February 27

News: In an attempt to promote the indigenous toy industry and to nurture scientific temper in students and teachers, the Ministry of Textiles in association with the Ministry of Education, has organised the first virtual toy fair from February 27-March 2, wherein over 200 toys developed by IIT-Gandhinagar's Centre for Creative Learning (CCL) will be exhibited. The entire programme will focus on conceptualising innovative toys using local and affordable material.

Views: As averred by PM Modi in one of his Mann Ki Baat episodes, our indigenous toy markets have a huge potential. Since toys play an important role in a child's overall development, nurturing creativity, and other problem-solving skills in them, this initiative to include students in the process to promote local toys and innovate them further would go a long way.

Akshat Gurnani, AIS VYC Lko, XI



Punjab imposes Special ID fee on fuel

News: Punjab Cabinet on January 11, gave its approval to charge a Special Infrastructure Development (ID) fee on the intrastate sale of petrol, diesel and immovable property in an effort to initiate infrastructural advancements within the state. The special fee would be imposed at the rate of 0.25 INR per litre on the sale of fuel and 0.25 INR per 100 INR of the value of purchase of property, and is believed to generate an additional revenue of about 216.16 crore INR on an annual basis.

Views: Good quality infrastructure in a state is indeed significant for its overall economic growth. Besides, it also ensures inclusive growth, wherein the benefits are equally shared by one and all. Thus, the noble thought behind this decision cannot be missed but what needs to be taken care of here is that this Special ID fee does not end up making fuel and property in Punjab expensive. For then, it would fail to serve the very purpose it intended to serve in the first place.

Harsh Gupta, AIS VYC Lko, XI B

DDC reservation for women, SC/ST in J&K

News: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on January 11, unveiled new District Development Council reservation rules for women, scheduled caste and scheduled tribe candidates. It reserved 33% of the total number of seats of the DDC chairpersons for women, with seats for the same office for those belonging to the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe being based on their population in such councils in the union territory.

Views: The inclusion of women, SCs and STs in administrative affairs is a huge step towards their overall upliftment in the 'society', as we know it. Subjected and limited to the peripheries since the beginning of time, these groups have long been denied top posts and positions of privileges everywhere. Not only will this decision give them what they rightfully deserve but it will also provide the world with the faculties it deprived itself of so far.

Yashi Singh, AIS VYC Lko, XI



Around The WORLD

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



USA

Trump's 2nd impeachment

Donald Trump underwent a second impeachment trial for inciting a violent insurgency at the Capitol to revolt against the US government. Soon to be replaced by Joe Biden, Trump has been reported to be propagating false information stating that the recent presidential elections were corrupted. The violent protests allegedly triggered by him took away the lives of five people.

SWITZERLAND

Support for underwater cultural

The Federal Office of Culture of the Swiss Confederation recently made a monetary contribution of 45,000 Swiss francs to support the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage Fund, ahead of its 20th anniversary. This endeavour aims to identify, protect and manage underwater cultural heritage and to combat its commercial exploitation.



NORTH KOREA

Launch of new SLBM

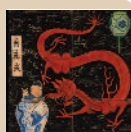
At a military parade in Pyongyang, North Korea leader Kim Jong-un unveiled a new submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM), namely Pukguksong-5. Referred to as the 'World's most powerful weapon', the new launch is in sync with the country's plans to develop more tactical nuclear weapons; and also a strong military in the face of what it calls a 'hostile policy' by the US.



FRANCE

Rare comic art creates history

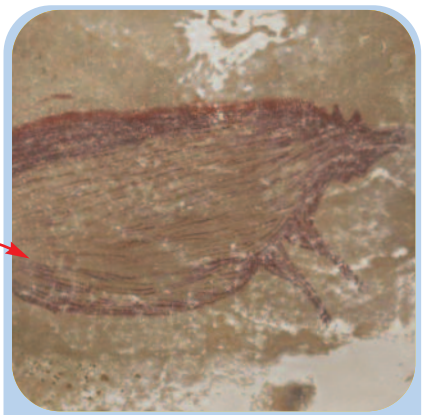
A Tintin drawing by the famous Belgian cartoonist, Georges Prosper Remi, popularly known as 'Hergé' was recently sold at an exorbitant price of 3.2 million euros in the city of Paris. The iconic art piece broke the record to become the most expensive comic book art in history. It has been created with the use of Chinese ink, gouache and watercolour.



ITALY

Biggest mafia trial begins

With over 350 suspected gangsters on trial, charged with several crimes dating back to the 1990s, the country began its largest mafia trials to prosecute organised crime in over 30 years. The trial attacks Italy's most powerful Calabria-based mafia group, namely Ndrangheta, with an estimated 900 witnesses to testify and support the myriad charges.



INDONESIA

Discovery of oldest painting

The world's oldest known cave painting has been discovered by archaeologists. Drawn about 45,500 years ago, it is believed to be that of a wild pig in the Leang Tedongnge cave on the island of Sulawesi. The painting serves as the earliest evidence of human settlement of the region. Measuring 136cm by 54cm, the Sulawesi warty pig was painted using dark red ochre pigment.



Dinosaurs had long tails in order to help them keep their balance while running.

For Education Is Not Just Bound To Textbook Pages

Aashraye Agarwal
AIS Gur 43, Alumnus

“When I was your age, I knew how to cook/clean/stitch.” “When I was your age, I had to cross rivers to get to my school.” Do these dialogues resound with you? Well, then we are all in the same boat (no, not the ones that our parents used to cross the rivers in). But have you ever pondered how during their school lives, our parents learnt about the most basic skills of life. Even though our education seems more holistic and advanced, it is our parents who were better equipped for life; thanks to a concept called ‘Socially Useful Productive Work’ or SUPW.

The birth

SUPW is a brainchild of Mahatma Gandhi, who opined that education should be based on socially useful productive work and that it would be instrumental in personality development and social transformation. The subject comprises a variety of vocational courses that instill basic life skills in students and equip them with the necessary practical knowledge that they require to survive and thrive. It was introduced in the school curriculum in the year 1978 by the Ministry of Education after several consultations from Kothari Commission

Education via

EXPERIMENTATION



(1964-1968) and Ishwarbhai Patel Committee (1977).

The rise

While classroom education was also given equal significance, other activities such as gardening, carpentry, knitting, painting, cooking, sewing, clubbed with community service, etc, was also treated crucial for a student’s overall progress. It was meant to inculcate Gandhian values of self-reliance and service in students as they were expected to

work as teams with deftness. SUPW stems from the ideology that not all things can be learned from books. It was meant to be a guiding light for students to realise the importance of hands-on activities, practical work, and the important fact that most of the learnings in life come from experiences.

The plunge

The practice of SUPW started to diminish in most education institutions with the passage of gen-

erations and the ever-rising competition. It can be said that the ever-advancing technology and the depleting need of manual labour that came as a consequence, was one of the reasons for SUPW to lose ground in the education sector, despite its practical approach. A more academic centered curriculum with little focus on life skills, became the new norm. Yet again, students became textbook bound or even technologically bound.

The revival

However, all is not yet lost. The anticipated implementation of National Education Policy 2020, which aims to fill in the existing shortcomings of the education system, has brought in vocational training which includes pottery, music, gardening, etc, for students in grade VI onwards, along with 10 days of bag-less education. This will give the students a chance to intern with local vocational experts as carpenters, gardeners, potters, etc, to imbibe textbook learning with practical knowledge.

In a nutshell, the need for education does not just limit itself to the four walls of a classroom. SUPW can serve as an important tool to provide learning beyond books. Here’s hoping that the revival of this subject that was lost somewhere in transition, will make education more holistic. 🇮🇳



A day in their lives

The Woes Of A Dyslexic Student

Kaira Prasad, AIS MV, XII G

11:00 AM

All of us have watched the saga of Ishaan Awasthi in Taare Zameen Par, whose daily struggles, viewed as mischief by his family, stemmed from a disorder which affects almost 10 million people in India per year - dyslexia. Dyslexia is a learning disorder that involves difficulty in reading due to problems in identifying speech sounds and how they relate to letters and words. Even though a whopping 10% of world’s population suffers from this learning disorder, there is a permanent stigma attached to dyslexia, something that even Taare Zameen Par couldn’t help overcome. Here’s another attempt at battling the stigma - unravelling a day in the life of Rohan, a student of Class XI and a dyslexic.

He sits for lunch with the hand-ful friends he has. They discuss history test, rejoicing how it was the easiest ever. Rohan knew all the answers too. He just couldn’t read the questions. This makes him angry.

11:30 AM

It’s the library period. As everyone rushes to grab a book, Rohan is made to sit on a different table where he listens to audio books. Even though the audio books help him comprehend the story better, the isolation and sneers from his classmates make him awkward.

12:00 Noon

Rohan smiles as he brings out his crayons. He loves his drawing class, and is good at it too.

6:00 AM

Rohan is woken up by the alarm. School again. He wishes he could skip school and all the bullying that comes with it.

6:30 AM

Anxious, he tells his mother he doesn’t want to attend school. Tired of Rohan’s everyday excuses, she just rubbishes it off as his lazy attitude.

8:00 AM

It’s the English class; couldn’t be a worse start to the day. Alphabet is not his best friend, for putting letters together to make coherent words is his biggest challenge. The teacher chides him yet again for ten spelling errors in a single sentence.

9:45 AM

The history test is no picnic. Reading is laborious today. But this isn’t the case every day, for some days reading is still relatively easier. He draws out his noise cancelling headphones from his bag to block out any noise that compete for his attention. But, he is able to attempt only three questions.

He decides to get some video games on his way back home from school. God bless the saleswoman who shows him the correct way to the aisle as he turned left when it was written right on the direction board.

5:00 PM

HOMEWORK. The word gives him headache. It takes him an hour to complete two pages with the help of flashcards his parents made for him because that’s the only way to retain information. He makes his parents proofread the entire essay, but his handwriting makes it a task for them too.

7:00 PM

After exhausting two hours of homework, he finally has time to de-stress a little. He doesn’t text his friends because navigating through the tiny buttons gives him a headache. Video games are his only respite.

He still has homework to complete, papers to rewrite, diagrams to draw, but for now, he needs to unwind, for tomorrow is another struggle.

The eye of the teacher

How The Classroom Looks From The Other Side Of The Table

Dhriti Seth, AIS Gur 46, XII

As I stood in front of the blackboard with a piece of chalk in my hand and a duster in the other, I took a good look at the collection of students sitting in front of me. “Ma’am, ma’am,” they called again and again. The homogeneous assortment of students sitting in uniform, now segregated itself and I could clearly see the different groups that made up my class.

On the last bench sat the students who may seem like a nightmare but are the ones who truly make the class light and bright, the ones who are loved by everyone, even me, even though they never keep quiet and are always cracking jokes. These ones come with a great sense of humour and their banter leave everyone rolling on the floor, though I try my best to suppress my laughter.

The corner seats of the class, meant for students, are only occupied by school bags. The Mr Indias of the class, the owners of these bags, are the true cultural bees, hovering from one event to the other. Either they are practicing for a basketball match or a dance competition or science fair or a thousand other things. It is during the exams that I finally get to see their bright faces.

The middle row, too, is filled

with variety. Forget about the blank pages of the notebook when I could easily see the personification in the classroom. These true ‘Blank Pages’ are always sitting with empty hands and a bag full of excuses. Of course, I believe that they completed their homework but forgot to bring the notebook, or that their “dog” ate it. If I dare enough to ask them a question, their answer never is nothing more than “huh?”. Sitting next

to them are their perfect partner: the Daydreamer. These aren’t just lost in the class, they are Alice-in-Wonderland level lost. Ask them something and they probably wouldn’t even hear you calling as they are too busy living in the fantasy world they have created in their minds.

The front desks of the classroom are filled with the Wikipedias who already come prepared for the lesson to be taught in the class. Then, there is one group,

the ones who sit quietly and pay attention to my lectures. They sincerely listen and are always ready to help me, whether it is to carry notebooks to the staff room or to collect assignments from the class.

Even though the class is a cornucopia of all kinds of students, I have realised that all of them are unique and special in their own way, and this class wouldn’t be as lively if even one of them were missing. 🇮🇳





Rebooting life

TEDx is a global platform that invites motivational speakers from different walks of life. Here, each of the speakers, through their inspiring personal accounts, enables the audience to see the bigger picture of life. Every year, Amity International School, Gurugram 46 organises their very own version of TEDx, with an aim to encourage and prepare young minds for the hurdles they might come across in life. As the pandemic rages on, the first virtual TED talk on the theme 'Possibility ReBooTED' calls for the young minds to be trailblazers and bring a change.



Failures rebooted

Advocate: Aditi Arya
Actress & model

Advocating: "2020 has been an epitome of discomfort. But whatever I have today, in my personal and professional life, I have gained by throwing myself constantly towards a state of discomfort. I've pushed myself through nerve-racking experiences and situations and have tasted success on the other side. As an actor, I learnt how to equip myself, not just for failures but also reboot those failures and create tangential possibilities of success.



inculcate certain habits in ourselves, habits that will go a long way in the path for success. Firstly, being knowledge hungry is good, even for knowledge that may not suit our interest. Secondly, practice design thinking, which is indulging in divergent and convergent thinking. Third, travelling; it opens us to new experiences. Fourth, making fruitful connections. And lastly, spending time alone and organising our thoughts and ideas. Reboot your failures to recalibrate your future, and after

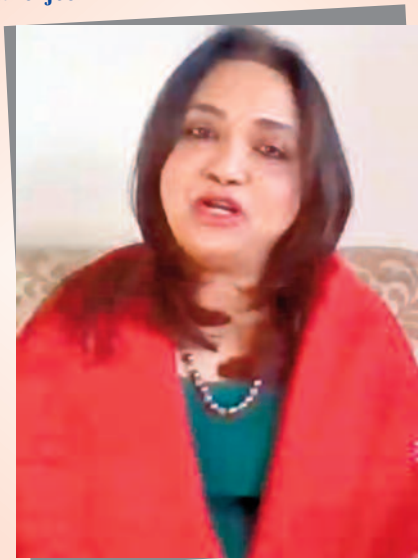
that, your failures will become your compass, leading you to success."

Well, to attain these possibilities, we have to

Creativity rebooted

Advocate: Dr Padmakali Banerjee
Pro-vice-chancellor & dean academics, Amity University, Haryana

Advocating: "We see a new world in front of us today, and it does feel as if in many ways, we ourselves have been rebooted. When you look at it closely, you'll realise that life is like this pandemic - there are many things that are uncertain. You will come face to face with a lot of good things and also a lot of surprises will be thrown at you. But, life will still go on. Through all this, you need to remember or carry one thing - creativity. I was born in a small town and as a student, I had interaction with the 'artistic' world in my town during the annual



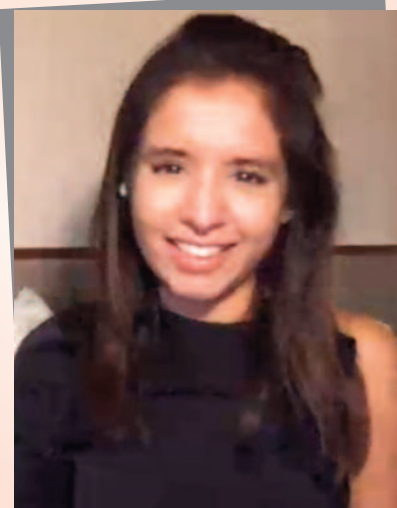
spring festival. Back then, we didn't have internet to connect to anyone in any corner of the world. When I came to Delhi and enrolled myself in University of Delhi, I knew, I wanted to grab all the chances to engage my creative dreams. And today in the academic and administrative position that I am in, it is the same creativity that helps me throughout in every task. Remember, as decision makers, you need to be creative and have empathy. For

even in tough times like pandemic, it is only our creativity that can help us stay secure, connected, and move onwards and upwards."

Inspiration rebooted

Advocate: Aishwarya Majumdar
Indian playback singer

Advocating: "When I think of the word reboot, the first thing that comes to my mind is a computer. And then it also occurs to me that the whole exercise of this pandemic is to reboot our computers, i.e., our lives. This unforeseen pandemic has enabled us to restart our lives and achieve some dreams that we probably thought would just exist in our minds and not in reality. In my opinion, this reboot is a pretty big and important one; one that will bestow us with a plethora of opportunities and more importantly,



inspiration. This reboot will indeed lead us into a bigger, better, grander and kinder future. Although it is going to be different for each one of us, yet it will be equally important. Because at the end of the day, it is positivity and inspiration that keeps us afloat and alive. Trust me, this reboot that we are experiencing right now should be more about self discovery and find the inspiration to work on ourselves. It

is time to think about the possibilities of today that can make our tomorrow better."

Confidence rebooted

Advocate: Ravinder Sethi
Founder, R.E. Rogers India Pvt (Ltd)

Advocating: "Being a diplomat's son, my early years were all about exploring the globe, studying in missionary schools and getting acclimatised with various aspects of societies around the world. As a consequence of all this, I turned out to be a very confident individual, because in my opinion the best form of education is interaction. After sometime, we moved to India and I completed the rest of my education here. I thought, I was ready to roar, to take on the world. But, at the end of



the first year of college, I flunked and that left me completely shocked. However, I took an immediate hold of myself and re-established my self-esteem, this time not letting it get to my head. I started fresh and repeated my first year yet again. It wasn't easy, but in the end, I came through. What helped me come through this failure was not just my determination but also the realisation that my overconfidence had gotten the better of me. I realised that the only way to touch the sky is to first remain grounded."



Some dinosaurs were carnivores, meat-eaters, and some were herbivores, plant eaters.

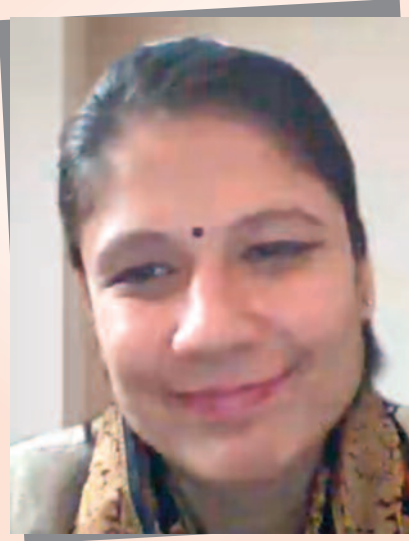


In dictionary, the word 'Reboot' is described as restarting something in a way that is new and interesting. With an aim to make people believe that setbacks are not the end of the journey but instead, a proof that their journey is on the right track, the TEDx talk on the theme 'Possibility RebootED', saw many inspiring comeback stories. The talk, organised by AIS Gurugram 46 on December 19, 2020, bore witness to inspiring stories from people who faltered and yet managed to rise from the ashes like a phoenix and restart their journeys, only to become who they are today.

Adversities rebooted

Advocate: Padmaja Joshi
News anchor & editor
Times Now

Advocating: "This year has been a year like no other. But we persisted. We turned a year rife with adversities into a year full of opportunities, with technology to ameliorate our struggles. In the beginning, there was a great resistance from the more tech-challenged generations like my own, when it came to adapting to technologies. We were so used to face-to-face in-

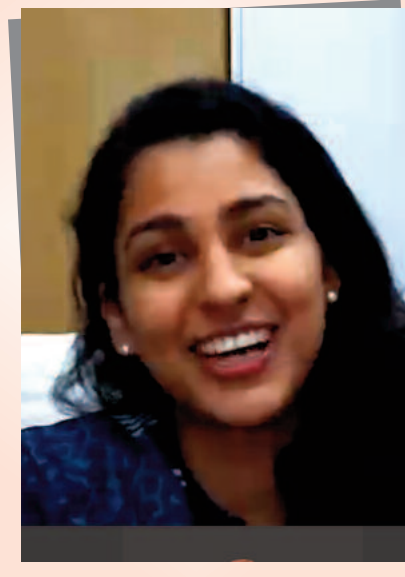


teractions and doing things in this way was something we never would have imagined a year ago. But, due to the demands of a job in the media industry, we adapted to technology, using it to navigate through adversities. Now, if we want to meet someone or get work done, it is difficult but quite possible- all because of technology. And using the same, we are ready to face whatever life throws at us."

Persistence rebooted

Advocate: Purva Garg
District collector cum
district election officer
Puducherry

Advocating: "In my first attempt at UPSC exams, I had crossed 2-3 levels, but wasn't able to clear it, which was why I was pretty confident that I would be able to crack it in the subsequent year. But as fate would have it, the syllabus for UPSC exams was completely revamped by the government starting the next year. I was completely stunned; I had no idea how to approach it. The

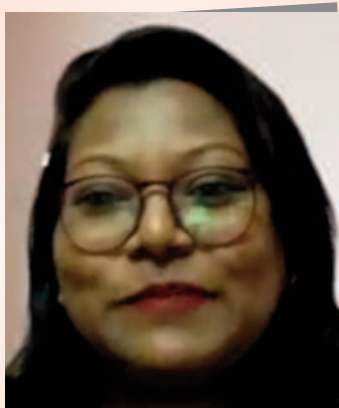


only thing, I had was my own persistence and will to get over this hurdle in life; I made sure nothing deterred my motivation. Through this incident, I realised that you should have confidence in yourself and be methodical in your work; keep your mind cool, even in the hardest of situations. Also, learn to take things one step at a time with persistence. Once you do that, you will see that persistence can take you anywhere."

Potentiality rebooted

Advocate: Bipasha Lakra
Assistant professor
Dept of political science,
Jesus and Mary college
(JMC), Delhi University

Advocating: "Ye toh kaali hai, isse kon dosti krega," being subjected to such contemptuous slurs in my pre-teens, colourism proved to be the bane of my existence for a long time. What added to it was my bald look then. Being a Bengali, I was kept bald most of the times. Together, these factors contributed towards my exclusion; I was kept at the periphery of every engagement, which not only scarred me as a child but also affected my academics. So much so, that I eventually failed in



grade five. It was then that I decided to assess my shortcomings and work on them; I practiced discipline and perseverance in everything I did. As a result, I passed my school with distinction, got enrolled in Miranda House and later, in JNU for my masters. But as things were sailing smooth, rheumatoid arthritis caught me off guard, leaving me completely bed-ridden. It was claustrophobic, both mentally and physically, but I overcame it all. Just don't let failures prevent you from achieving your goals. Reboot your potential and use your failures as a ladder to climb and achieve success."

Perseverance rebooted

Advocate: Sahil Verma
Actor & assistant director
The Viral Fever

Advocating: "It goes without saying that 2020 rendered us all incapable of accomplishing our goals, but trust me when I say this, things are still under our control. The process might have been delayed a bit, but if we are passionate enough, our dreams would actualise soon. Nothing can stop us! Back when the lockdown was imposed, I was in Mumbai with no hopes of surviving inside the four walls because I had no patience to do that. Being coerced into it, I did survive and how! In fact, we all did. We just had to

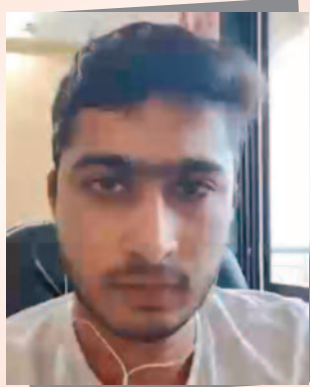


keep our thoughts straight. For to control our body is one thing but to keep a check on our mind is a difficult one. Thus, the best bet is to try and direct our mind towards the positive bits of life. I still remember how scared I was to confess my inclination towards acting and direction in front of my parents. But eventually, I did. Today, even if I fail, I won't regret or be disheartened because at least I am trying. Remember, everything is just a phase and with a little grit, we'll get over it all, a hundred percent."

Relationships rebooted

Advocate: Jeetmanyu Singh Chauhan
Alumnus, AIS Gurugram 46
& MBBS student, Bharati
Vidyapeeth Medical College
(BVMC), Pune

Advocating: "As a child, I was studious, athletic, and living a normal life, but all of that changed when I was diagnosed with cancer shortly before my 16th birthday. I found myself going to the hospital four times a month, with some chemo sessions lasting an entire day, after which I felt extreme nausea. I couldn't taste anything anymore, my hair fell; I couldn't go to school. But even as I was going through such



a tough time, it was my friends and family who stood by me and poured all their happiness and well wishes into my life. I believe that it was because of their prayers and motivation that slowly, the drugs started to take effect. In 6 months, I beat my condition, and rebooted to normal life only because of the ones holding my hands. In life, you will face many challenges, but what will help you pass the hurdle are the people around you who are willing to stand by your side when the tidings get rough."

Challenges rebooted

Advocate: Dr Biswajit Saha
Director, CBSE

Advocating: "I was not a very good student in school. Instead of academia, I found myself captivated by works of literature, story books and political autobiographies. Studying in a small government school in Tripura, we did not even have a proper library, but I continued to immerse myself in books. After a dismal 10th board result, I faced my first rejection in life when I failed to secure a seat in a Polytechnic college. In my bid to overcome this challenge, I made my way to Bangalore and



from there started another phase of my life. My journey took me to Delhi, Arunachal Pradesh and back to Tripura, where I was inducted as a faculty member at the same Polytechnic college which had rejected me. Looking back, my life would have been quite different if I hadn't rebooted my rejection as a challenge and embraced that challenge wholeheartedly. For every challenge, there is threat, but there's opportunity too. Just listen to your heart and embrace every challenge with vigour."

Some dinosaurs walked on two legs, while others walked on all four legs. Some had horns and spikes, others had thick bumpy skin, and some even had feathers.



'Give' happiness



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

In my last column, I had shared my thoughts on happiness and my dream of nurturing Amitians as happy children, who will build a happy nation and consecutively a happy world. Happiness may be a single word, but its expanse is as vast as the ocean, which is why today I wanted to share more about the art of being happy.

While happiness is unique for everyone, certain things form the very core of this emotion, prime among them being 'giving'. Our ancient wisdom and vedas enunciate that happiness lies in giving. However, giving should not be confused with materialistic objects. It is actions, experiences and gestures that bring real joy. Giving a gift of time to a lonely elder, a gift of listening to a bereaved soul, gift of love to an orphan, all these gestures are what constitute true jubilation. While giving certainly brings happiness to the recipient, it also makes the giver happy.

Even hearing from your loved ones brings immense joy. For instance, each time I hear from my alumnus and get to know about how they are doing in life, it makes me happy.

The art of giving is a beautiful route to take on the journey of happiness. However, many a times, as people give, they expect something in return. But, for giving to bring you happiness, it needs to be unconditional. On several occasions, I have heard parents tell their children about all that they do for them. While the intent may be right, it may end up with the child not paying heed to their parents' efforts at all. Parents need to realise that by giving their children love and care, they are also striving for their own happiness, for the happiness of parents lies in the joy of their children. So, the next time you are doing something for someone, do it without conditions and feel the happiness within. 🇮🇳

Cinematic love



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

While discussing the top story of this edition, I was truly intrigued about the future of Indian cinema. Having been lucky enough to have witnessed the metamorphosis of cinema across the 20-21st century, I can confidently say that while the medium of

viewing and experience has changed, people's love for cinema has only grown. From silent cinemas to roaming theatres (RK Theatres by the legendary Prithvi Raj Kapoor), community cinemas with hand operated projectors, single screens, VCRs to DVD players, multiplexes and OTT, the way people soak in the cinematic experience has evolved, but cinema has stayed evergreen.

We know of multiplexes today where one can watch three movies in a day at the same place, but there was also a time when people watched one movie in two days because power failure would disrupt the screening and they were required to go again the next day to watch the rest of it.

Cinema has indeed walked many miles to be a part of our being in more ways than one. I once had a friend who burnt the midnight oil to top her school exams only because her mother had promised to let her watch her favourite star Amitabh Bachchan's movie Shahenshah on the DVD player, if she did so. It was a rewarding experience for a teenager back then, as DVD players had just debuted in the market, and were the new cinematic experience. In those days, friendly get-togethers over movie screenings on DVD and VCR were organised, the way we do today over OTT streaming.

Indeed, through all these years and its transformations, cinema still means sharing good times. There is nothing quite like breaking out the popcorn and letting the credits roll. 🇮🇳

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Published for the period January 18-24, 2021

Advocating for equality

Ilona Rezzo Talks About Working Towards A Better Tomorrow

Saanvi Vaish & Arshya Gupta
AIS Pushp Vihar, XII

Meet Ilona Rezzo, president of the Founding Committee of Skilled Women Worldwide, and Associate Judge for the Justice of Peace, Protection Authority for adults and children. In a career spanning over a decade, she has been working diligently towards the betterment of women and rights of children and adults in every sphere. Presiding as guest of honour at Founder's Day celebration 2019 held in AIS Pushp Vihar, she engaged in a conversation with the GT reporters, where she shared her zeal to work for those sidelined in the society.

Women for women

Being a woman, you cannot disregard your duty towards other women. This becomes even more imperative when half of the women worldwide are underprivileged and struggling. Women earn around 18% lesser than men for the same work. To be quiet at such inequity is not something I would ever advocate. We need to make sure that both, men and women have equal rights in everything. All these women need to come out of their cocoons and take the world by the storm with just a little push and encouragement from their fellow women consociates. I consider being able to work towards their betterment as an absolute privilege.

Women for themselves

Women want to break through the glass ceiling and I believe they definitely will. This is not to say that we haven't done that already, but until and unless each and every woman out there rises above it, we cannot count it as a true success. Women today are leading the world. However, if such educational and work opportunities are provided to all, the



Ilona Rezzo with GT reporters

Pic: Mrinal Verma, GT Network

shelled ones too, will be better equipped to challenge the patriarchal norms stopping them. This underprivileged section too has it in them to make a name for themselves. All they need is an opportunity. That's exactly what I am trying to do, for it is the only way to change the society at large.

SWW for women

Skilled Women Worldwide (SWW) is working with multiple vocational schools and universities for the welfare of women. It financially supports highly motivated but financially challenged fe-

male students who are unable to meet the cost of their training programs. SWW provides them with scholarships so that they get good educational opportunities. The organisation also ensures they get good work opportunities that secure not just them but their families and their future.

Message for Amitians

You all are studying in one of the best schools in India. Don't let this privilege slip by. Make the most of it and I am sure you are going to have a great future ahead. All the best! 🇮🇳



The theatre threat

Demystifying The Fate Of The Big Screens

Continued from page 1...

SCENE 3: Experience - a homely affair or an elitist affair?

Take 1: With Covid-led restrictions in place, viewers saw OTT as the only convenient alternative and why would they not? Giving precedence to safety and well-being, as time demands, an estimated 70% people chose to watch movies from the comforts of their home as compared to watching them in theatres (survey by Variety). And even if things settle for good, theatre-going would still be back-burnered for a long time, owing

to the fear that this pandemic has ingrained in us all. If predictions are anything to go by, the OTT segment in India, currently pegged at 0.5 USD billion, is poised to grow to about 3.22 billion USD by 2025.

Take 2: Looking at it the other way, watching films in theatres remains a popular pastime amongst people across the globe. In the year 2019, movie ticket sales in India alone amounted to a whopping 1.03 billion. Moreover, as elucidated by film critic and journalist Murtaza Ali, "In the times to come, we will see more experiments like the Warner-HBO deal,

a win-win situation for the various stakeholders, but it is entirely improbable to assume that cinema would go down the path of print media. The concept of going out for this collective experience and social occasion that we call cinema has been here since the beginning of time and has evolved like no other." Video hiring system of the 1980s, DVDs, high definition TVs, widescreen smartphones, etc., have all put up a great fight over the years, but it is most definitely an uphill battle. *Kyunki picture abhi baaki hai mere dost!*

What do you think? 🇮🇳



Issue: Page 3, Jan 11, 2021

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'Journey of ambitions' published on page 3 in the GT Edition dated January 11, 2021. As a student of Class X, I could completely relate to the author's message. Each one of us has had a phase in our childhood where we had unrealistic and absurd career dreams. The author's dream of being an *autowallah* made me chuckle, while also reminding me of my childhood, when I had similar goals. Of course, our vision of the future changes as we mature. Childhood is often dotted with illogical ambitions and naive aspirations that may seem impractical. However, these dreams stay with us throughout our life, making us laugh at our immaturity, smile at our innocence and sometimes, making us feel the pinch of an unfulfilled dream.

Naina Srivastav, AIS MV, X A



The largest dinosaurs on the planet, Brachiosaurus and Apatosaurus, were actually plant-eaters.

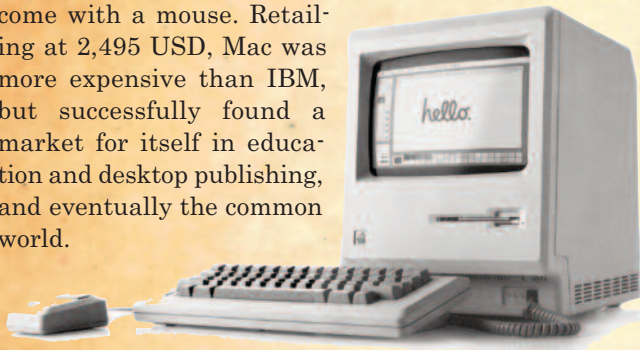
HISTORY *this* WEEK

W eeks, years, decades, centuries...as each day passes, the world keeps progressing into a newer direction. But as we keep trying to get a glimpse of the shining future we work so hard to create, it's important to take a break and appreciate how far we have come. Let's look back at the pages of history falling between January 18-24 that played their role in shaping our society.

The world of inventions

JAN
24
1984

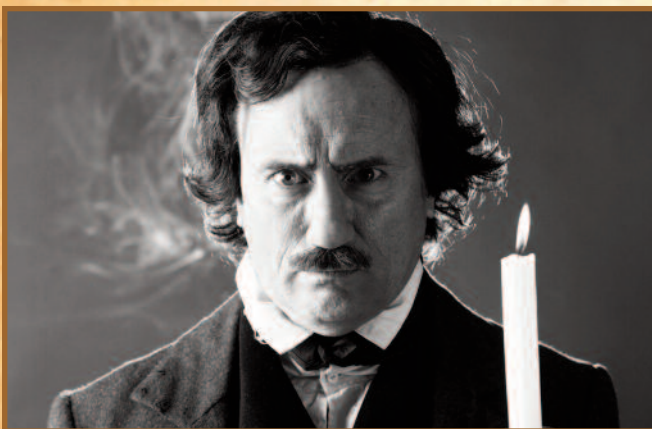
Apple sparked a revolution in the world of computing with the launch of its Macintosh computer. The Mac, as it is now known, simplified the task of using a computer for the common man by providing a graphical user interface (interacting with the screen using graphics instead of tricky text-based command navigation), and was the first ever mass-market PC to come with a mouse. Retailing at 2,495 USD, Mac was more expensive than IBM, but successfully found a market for itself in education and desktop publishing, and eventually the common world.



The world of celebration

JAN
19
1809

The American writer, poet, editor, and literary critic, Edgar Allan Poe, was born on this date. He was best known for his poetry and short stories that highlighted the theme of mystery and macabre. A central figure in US romanticism and American literature, he is credited with giving birth to the genre of detective fiction and has contributed a great deal to science fiction. His poem, The Raven, is considered his magnum opus.



The world of entertainment



JAN
21
1846

The very first edition of The Daily News, originally titled The News, was published. The newspaper agency was founded by famous English writer and critic, Charles Dickens, who also served as its first editor. The paper was launched as a radical rival to the right-wing newspaper, Morning Chronicle, and wasn't a commercial success in its initial stage. After editing 17 issues, the position of editor-in-chief was handed over to John Forster, a friend of Dickens who was a more experienced journalist.



JAN
22
2018

Netflix became the first and the largest digital media company in the world to have a market value of 110 billion USD. The streaming service crossed the 100 billion dollar mark in market capitalization, securing rank 59 in the US S&P 500 index, widening its gap with other Hollywood content companies like CBS, Sony, etc. Later in the year, the production company's value ballooned to 153 billion USD and eclipsed Walt Disney Co. for the first time, making it the world's most valuable entertainment company.



JAN
24
2006

In a 7.4 billion USD deal, Walt Disney Co. bought Pixar Animation Studios Inc. to restore Disney's animation dominance, while vaulting Pixar CEO and Apple co-founder, Steve Jobs, into a powerful role at the media conglomerate. The merger was initiated due to clashes between Jobs and Disney's chairman and CEO, Michael Eisner, who was later stripped of his chairmanship. After the deal, Disney-Pixar released many successful movies like Ratatouille, Up, Inside Out, Coco, Finding Dory, etc.

The world of politics



JAN
19
1966

Indira Gandhi was elected as the Prime Minister of India in succession to Lal Bahadur Shastri, making her the first and, to date, the only female PM of the country. Daughter of Jawaharlal Nehru, the first PM of India, she served in the position from January 1966 to March 1977, and again from January 1980 to October 1984 (until her assassination), making her the second longest-serving Indian PM after her own father. She was also named as the 'Woman of the Millennium' by BBC.



JAN
20
1945

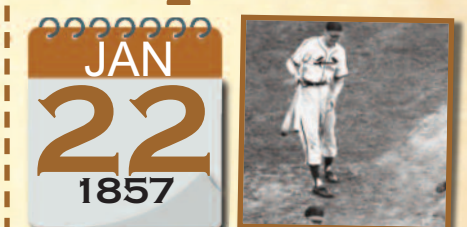
Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the only President in the history of the US to be elected thrice in office, was inaugurated for his fourth and final term. Roosevelt was first elected to be the 32nd President of the US in 1933, before which he was the governor of New York. His New Deal policy (expansion of the federal government as an instrument of employment opportunity and welfare) proved progressive and improved America's economic climate, which led to this re-election.



JAN
21
1952

Under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru, Indian National Congress won the first General Election of India held in the country after independence. It took 4 months to organise these elections that were held in 26 states; symbols were used on the ballots for the ones who couldn't read and the voter turnout was around 45%. Around 170,000 candidates campaigned for the state assemblies and 1,800 for Lok Sabha seats. Nehru, in his election campaign, approached around 35 million people, and emerged victorious in the end.

The world of sports



JAN
22
1857

The National Association of Base Ball Players was founded and became the first organisation governing American baseball. Its first convention of 16 New York City area clubs ended the Knickerbocker era, where the rules of the game were largely set by individual clubs. NABBP also established official scoring and championships. The last convention was held in 1871 where the establishment was dismantled, creating National Association of Professional Base Ball Players.



JAN
23
1984

Hulk Hogan beat Iron Sheik to win the first World Wrestling Federation title at Madison Square Garden. Escaping the "camel clutch", the signature move of Sheik, Hogan was also given the spot to compete at the last minute as Bob Backlund, who was scheduled to fight Sheik, was injured. Though Sheik had the lead in the beginning, Hogan soon turned the match around and became the first WWF champion.

The jaw muscles of Dinosaurs passed through two holes attached directly to the top of the skull, which enabled them to open their jaws wide and clamp down with more force.



Another world



Storywala

Jaya Verma
AIS VKC Lko, IX

A thunderstorm raged on wildly. Lester, a young scientist, reached his laboratory to work. His experiment was a bold one, one that warranted the use of a particle accelerator. Using this piece of technology, Lester was attempting to reconstruct the proceedings that took place when the world came into being. Suddenly, a bolt of lightning struck his lab. Just as he was about to relocate the particle ac-

celerator to the underground bunker, another bolt struck the place. This time, it hit the particle accelerator that Lester was clinging to. Everything went black and Lester felt as if he was falling into an abyss. "Has a hole opened up in time and space?" he thought to himself. All of a sudden, the falling sensation stopped. Through his half-closed eyes, Lester was shocked to see what lay before him - a world that didn't seem like planet Earth at all. He had arrived on an alien planet. But this time, he was not

alone. He had his entire lab too. Puzzled and confused, he tried to locate the planet. Soon, he came to the conclusion that he was in Vega, a planet far away from his home - Earth. Humongous trees filled the space as far as his eyes could see. Into the distance, he could see red mountains with fiery red clouds. "Time to get out of here," he thought to himself. But before he could he think of a plan, something struck the back of his head and he fell with a loud thud. When he woke up, he found himself tied up and surrounded

Soon, he came to the conclusion that he was in Vega, a planet far away from his home - Earth.

by small beings with odd faces. His nose and throat were attached to an array of tubes that seemed to be sucking blood out from his body. Desperate and scared, Lester flailed his arms about, in an attempt to escape. He somehow managed to break free from the tubes and ran for his life. The aliens followed him too. Racing for life, he saw the door of his laboratory. "Thank God!" he muttered to himself. With the aliens still following him, he sprinted and flung the doors of his lab open. To his surprise, he found a dozen aliens, working in the lab. Shocked to see the aliens, he dropped unconscious.

This time when he woke up, he found himself in his lab. "Did I pass out?" he said, scratching his head. Everything seemed to be in place, even the particle accelerator. "I must have fallen asleep. What a dream!" he muttered to himself as he went back to his work. Unknown to him, ten pairs of red eyes stared at him from the wide window. [G U](#)



Flavoured chocolates

Shreya Mohan, AIS Noida, VIII F

Ingredients

Dark chocolate compound.....100gm
Milk chocolate compound-100gm
Oil based essence(different flavours)as desired

Procedure

- Take two medium sized bowls, break dark chocolate compounds in one and milk chocolate compounds in another bowl into small pieces.
- Microwave both the bowls one by one, for 3 minutes each until the chocolate compounds melt completely.
- Now, in a big bowl, transfer both the melted chocolates and mix them well.
- Take another small bowl and add two tablespoons of melted chocolate mix with two drops of orange essence. Mix well and transfer the orange flavoured chocolate mixture into a transparent chocolate mould.
- Similarly, prepare chocolate mixtures with other flavours like mango, pineapple and transfer them into the mould.
- Tap the mould lightly and refrigerate for 25-30 mins.
- Once done, take them out of the refrigerator and store them in a jar.
- Your delectable flavoured chocolates are ready!

WORDS VERSE

A request to 2021



Diya Arora
AIS Saket, IX B

I sit on my rustic chair and write
As I used to do once below
The same time, the same place
But it feels like forever ago

It was New Year's Eve of 2019
A new year, a whole new decade
Along with it a new hindsight
Was just about to commence

Soon the banner of '2020' flashed
Who knew the world would crash?

With fires along the forests south
Rendering the Mambas all thrashed

All the children were locked down
As they gazed out of the casement
The world's economy took a plunge
And that is a big understatement

And now, came another eve
'2021' every single banner flash
Maybe the world will re-attach
Call me optimistic or idealistic

As I step into this eventful year
With my family sitting by my side
We spent the last eight months
Singing, dancing and eating together

This year we hope to get
Out of our home every evening
No, maybe not work from home
Maybe explore the world in real

Like a beautiful scenic rainbow
After a gloomy monsoon rain
Please 2021, this is a humble plea
You shall not bring us more pain! [G U](#)

Poetic jingle

Anika Bansal, AIS Vas 6, IX

When the trees are green
The rivers are crystal clean
And the blue sky gleams

The water is nothing but pure
And super healthy for sure
Because it is the only cure

The streams are pristine
With their shine and sheen
And life is totally marine

The prosperous fertile land
With its glistening sand
Oh, the sight is too grand

But the dirty brown soil
Polluted with plastic & foil



Makes everything look spoiled

But the speakers that blare
Reducing somber silence's flair
It has to stop now, right here

Mother Earth gifts her creatures
With some amazing features
Let's revive and respect nature

Think! Where are we heading?
Or where are we going?
Ill effects are already showing

It's time to reverse this trend
Let's wake up my dear friend
Or this might just be the end! [G U](#)

CAMERA CAPERS

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

Send in your entries to
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in



It's all about sweet adventures



The hope to fly high



Tomorrow is another day



Measuring about 19 inches long, the eggs of Segnosaurus, are considered to be the biggest dinosaur eggs.

The ticket

Rama boarded the bus without buying a ticket. He was a bundle of nerves because he had never ever cheated or lied in his life.

Short story



Naima Oberoi
AIS Saket, VI

In a small town there lived an honest and diligent man, Rama. He had only known hardships ever since his father passed away, but that did not deter him from working hard. Every day, he would forgo the bus ride and walk all the way to his workplace in a nearby city, just to save money and utilise it during crucial times. One balmy summer evening, Rama reached home to find his mother in a gloomy state. On enquiring, Rama found out that Baiju, his next-door neighbour was unwell and in need of money for his treatment. His mother asked him, "Do you think we can lend some money to Baiju?"

Rama replied, "Mother, I hardly have any savings left and there's still time before I get my bonus." Rama's mother heard him but insisted that he help Baiju. After much cajoling, Rama decided to give 500 rupees. "Here you go. Please tell Baiju, this is all I could help with. I hope he gets well soon," said Rama. With no money left in his pocket, the next day Rama walked to work. It was a long, tiring walk and the weather was especially humid as the town was experiencing heat waves. He somehow managed to reach office. His clothes were all doused in sweat. In the evening, while Rama was on his way home, he spotted the bus that would drop him directly to the bus stand near his home, saving him from the heat wave.

"How I wish I could hop on and go back home comfortably," Rama thought wistfully. Then, another thought struck him, what if he traveled without buying a ticket? He decided to give it a try. Rama boarded the bus without buying a ticket. He was a bundle of nerves because he had never ever cheated or lied in his life. As the bus rolled on, all seemed **hunky-dory** until the conductor came forward and began checking the tickets randomly. All hell broke loose in Rama's mind; he was full of fear. He saw the conductor coming towards him and then much to his surprise, the conductor suspected the man seated next to him. He heaved a sigh of relief. But it wasn't over yet. The conductor stopped the bus and took the suspected man to

the enquiry office. Rama watched through the window as the accused tried to defend himself saying, "I had bought the ticket; it must have fell somewhere. Let me search it", but to no use. Witnessing the fate that befell the man next to him, Rama now worried for his life. As the conductor came back in the bus and walked towards him to inquire whether he had the ticket, Rama buried his head into his hands and wished to be invisible that very instant. Out of nowhere, a boy seated three rows behind Rama, having closely observed the entire situation, came forward and sat next to him. Not only that but he also bought a fresh ticket for Rama, leaving him perplexed. Rama, baffled but grateful for what just happened, heartily thanked the boy for saving him from disgrace. The boy responded saying, "It was my pleasure, Rama uncle." Confounded as to how he knew his name, Rama looked at him in disbelief. It was then that the boy disclosed he was Baiju's son, returning from boarding college, and that he was aware of what Rama did for his dad. "Uncle, this was the least I could do," added the boy. A tear ran down Rama's cheek as he realised good deeds pay off. 🇮🇳

So, what did you learn today?
A new word: Hunky-dory
Meaning: Fine; going well

Lava lamp



Shaurya Jain

Shaurya Jain, AIS Pushp Vihar, V A

Material required

- Vegetable oil
- Vinegar-2 tbsp
- Food colouring-2-3 drops
- Tall glass beaker-1
- Small cup-1
- Spoon-1
- Baking soda-3 tbsp
- Torch

Method

- In a tall glass beaker, add baking soda.
- Now, fill two-third of the beaker with vegetable oil. Let the baking soda settle at the bottom; do not mix it with the oil.
- Now in a small cup, add vinegar and then add the prescribed amount of food colouring.
- Slowly, add drops of this coloured vinegar mix to the beaker and watch globules of bubbly coloured water pop out.
- This happens due to the formation of carbon dioxide gas which bubbles it way out when vinegar and baking soda chemically react with each other.
- Lastly, for a glowing effect, put the flask over a torch, more conveniently a phone's flashlight and turn off the lights in your room.
- Voila! Your lava lamp is ready!

POEMS

Welcome New Year

Ridhaan Talwar, AIS Gurugram 46, IV A

The new year angel is here
She whispers in my ear

The year will be joyous
And it will bring happiness

With new hope and resolutions
We'll work hard with patience

Being caring and more kind
We'll have a positive mind

No more fear or dismay
Happy New Year, we say! 🇮🇳



Kyra Bhat, AIS Vas 6, VII D

Going outside without a clue
Trying something very new
Far up in the sky, an eclipse
The view of perfect bliss
It was time spent well with you!

Little sister was back home

Time with you

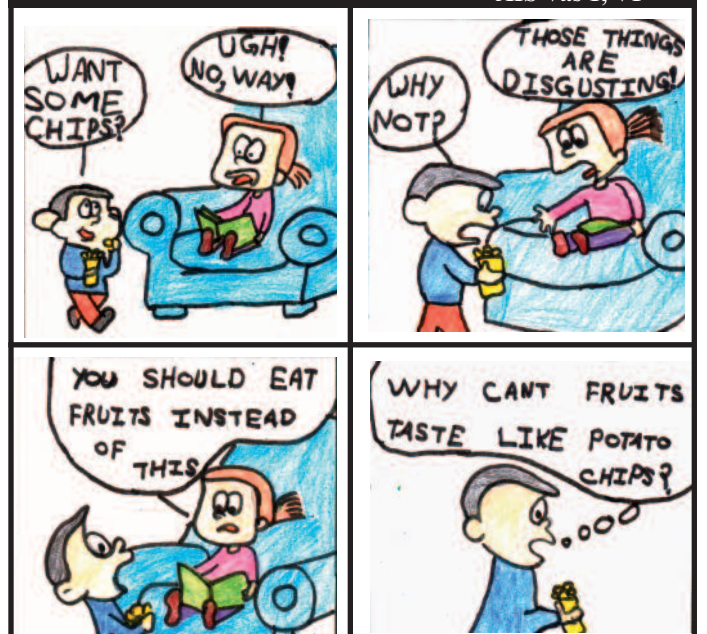
She wanted to go out and roam
You took us to a nearby mall
Then to a restaurant not so far
It was time spent well with you!

Guiding me in the darkest times
Protecting me at every climb
From the cruel world outside
I listen to stories of your life
It is time spent well with you!

Every moment of my day, night
I never want to lose your sight
All these memories besides
Dad, never ever leave my side
It is time spent well with you! 🇮🇳

COMIC STRIP

Ishaan Garg
AIS Vas 1, VI



It's Me

KNOW ME BETTER

Name: Rishita Sunny
Class: I
School: AIS Vasundhara 6
Birthday: October 12

MY FAVOURITES

Teachers: Vipula ma'am & Meenakshi ma'am
Subject: Mathematics
Friend: Adit
Game: Hide and Seek
Cartoon: Peppa Pig
Food: Doughnuts
Mall: Shipra Mall
Book: Magic Pot

MY DREAMS AND GOALS

My role model: My mother
I want to become: A supergirl
I want to feature in GT because: GT is the best!



PAINTING CORNER

Pradnya Arora
AIS Noida, I F





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 very first prompt

"Life is forever changing, a lesson that I finally learnt in 2020. But with each change comes a wave of possibilities. The pandemic was life-altering, but the advancements the world discovered during lockdowns in order to make life as normal as possible, were revolutionary. None of us had ever thought that virtual school or office or for that matter online events and webinars would be possible. These virtual events opened up new realms of possibilities. For instance, virtual schooling allowed for classes to be more streamlined. At present, social distancing is seen an unfavourable situation. However, in a few years, it may be seen as the trigger of a revolution."

Avikshit Upadhyay, AGS Gur, IX

'What is something good that has happened to you in the year 2020?'

The prompt

Prompt Box

"This year was full of lessons for me. One of the lessons was that life is like a mirror; if you smile at it, it will smile at you. Practicing social distancing was not easy, but like many others, I utilised my time at home in honing my prowess in various artistic and technical faculties. As my horizon of experiences expanded, I also found myself getting closer to my family; not just those who live under the same roof as me, but also those cousins who joined fun Zoom calls!"

Vanshika Sharma, AIS Saket, V B

"2020 was like a gigantic wave, washing us over with uncertainty while upending our lives. My ray of sunshine came in the form of my pet dog, Theo. He was undoubtedly the best thing to happen to me. Hailing from a nuclear family with working parents, my pleas of getting a dog were always met with a stern refusal. "Who would take care of it in our absence?" my parents would say, while I struggled to answer. This year came to me as a blessing in disguise as they finally consented, realising that a positive force was needed. Theo walked into our lives, spreading happiness all around."

Dyuti Sood, AIS Gur 43, X B

"Whatever the general notion may be, in my opinion, 2020 wasn't so bad. The best thing that happened to me in this year was the starting of my journey towards self-development. The colossal change that I brought about in myself was becoming more disciplined and organised. Along with time management, I even organised my personal space. The change allowed me to be more productive and accomplish more tasks in a day than I would generally do. Truly, the lockdown helped me stand strong and undeterred on this path."

Ipsit Mittal, AIS Vas 1, IX D

"Certainly, 2020 was a year full of challenges, doubts, difficulties and what not. But despite everything, we did not give up. We humans found new courage. Humanity while being stuck at home, rose to new heights when it came to being productive and working on our aspirations and talents. Not only did the year give me enough time to channelise my inner artist and discover my passion for painting, singing, writing poems and creating stories, but it also helped me grow as a person. The year inspired me to hustle in any and every situation, to madly pursue my interests come what may. While it most definitely deprived us of a lot of things, it was overall a good year, full of learning and unforgettable experiences. Thank you, 2020, you will be remembered!"

Shakti Shukla, AIS Jagdishpur, XI

"2020 has been a roller coaster ride through and through. But I wasn't the only passenger on this crazy ride, because I had the whole world with me. And of course, just like the world is divided into the optimistic and the pessimistic, some chose to scream while the others enjoyed this thrilling journey. Well, I belong to the latter lot. Being a glass-half-full person, I saw this lockdown as an opportunity to know myself better, to know my potential and particularly, to pursue my interest in creative writing. I also thank The Global Times for that. This year also gave me a chance to persevere, learn and grow into a stronger and more grateful human being. For the challenges and adversities we face and the resilience with which we respond to them has the power to shape our lives and that's exactly what 2020 did for me."

Mariam Fatma, AIS VKC Lko, IX B

"I, unlike so many others, am in a privileged position to be able to say that I enjoyed 2020. Social distancing which became necessary due to the pandemic turned out to be a boon for me. Without the worry of my imperfect self being constantly perceived by the world (something which used to hang over me like the sword of Damocles), I was finally free to focus on what I wanted to do, not what I was expected to do, to find out what was right and wrong myself and not blindly refer to the moral compass decreed upon us all at birth. To put it simply, I found myself instead of impersonating the person I was "supposed" to be. This was the gift 2020 bequeathed on me and I shall strive to cherish and remember it every step of the way."

Kainaat Arif, AIS VYC Lko, IX A

"The best thing that happened in 2020 was finding more time for myself. This newfound time took me to a whole new realm through books. I have always been an avid reader but only stuck to a select few genres. But, this time of quarantine took me to my mother's library and her wide array of books; books I never thought I would cherish. From 'Talking to Strangers' by Malcolm Gladwell to 'And Then There Were None' by Agatha Christie, reading these books was a journey I will never forget. For between the pages of a book is a lovely place to be."

Chitralkha Achinta Borah, AIS Vas 6, VIII C

"For most of us, 2020 and optimism are quite contradictory to each other, almost like an oxymoron. But for me, this year brought joy in so many ways. I got to spend the summer in my hometown in Amritsar with my grandparents, aunts, uncles and my cousins- all living under the same roof! Since none of us moved out of our home, my cousins and I had developed a routine of our own where we attended our classes in the morning and then kept waltzing around the house joyously. It was the best therapy that my family could get. As the rest of the world was hoping to escape the daunting paths of 2020, I was cherishing precious times with my loved ones. Thanks to the bygone year, I value my family even more."

Aayushi Bawa, AIS Noida, XI F

"Despite the setbacks, 2020 was a year full of achievements. It gave me the opportunity to be the chief director of our school's TEDx event, wherein I got the chance to connect with so many inspirational people and hear about their struggles. It really gives one a new perspective to see people coping with and conquering problems unheard of. It was unbelievably rewarding when the event was executed perfectly and everyone took something back with them from the inspiring talks!"

Prabha Jha, AIS Gur 46, XI J

"What is the best thing that happened to me in 2020? I survived. This year has been extremely difficult for many around the world. Several lost their loved ones, while others grappled with issues pertaining to physical and mental health. In such circumstances, I cannot thank God enough for keeping me safe, connected to my family and friends who got me through this year amidst the uncertainty. I have begun to appreciate things more and count my blessings every single day. Prioritising self-care, finding happiness in the smallest of things, feeling proud of myself for little achievements were my most cherished learnings this year."

Naina Srivastav, AIS MV, X A

"Covid-19 barged into our lives like a bolt from the blue and scared the bejesus out of us all. However, it managed to become a blessing in disguise for some like me. I got an opportunity for self-introspection and to prolifically manoeuvre through my areas of interest, unexplored thus far. Be it culinary skills or my interest in music, especially playing piano, I pursued it all. Additionally, ingraining a healthy lifestyle became a priority during the lockdown. I strived to switch fast food with healthy meals and practiced yoga, to improve my physical and mental well-being. I also got a chance to tutor an underprivileged kid and engage in voluntary service for six months."

Janya Malkani, AIS PV, XI E



Based on the bone evidence, scientists estimate that some dinosaurs could have lived for a life span between 75 and 300 years old.



A glimpse of the virtual India International Science Fair 2020

Champions of innovation

Budding Innovators Shine Bright At Virtual IISF 2020

ACSF

The young scientists of Amity etched the imprints of their innovative genius at the India International Science Fair (IISF 2020) held virtually on Dec 22-25, 2020.

The core theme was 'Sustainable Sanitation and Waste Management' including many sub themes. The opportunity to participate in the prestigious festival was extended by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, and facilitated by Amity's Children Science Foundation (ACSF), to kindle scientific temperament in young minds.

A video on the topic 'Herbal Biodegradable Sanitary Pad' under the sub-theme health, hygiene and sanitation, prepared by the students of Class XII, AIS Vas 6 namely Riddhi Nair, Chhavi Sharma and Krishi Bhatt, was selected by the Ministry of Science and Technology to be uploaded on the CSIR portal SWASTI. The video prepared by the students under the guidance of their mentor Poonam Bhat was one of the three videos selected from school level nationally to be displayed on the portal.



Chhavi Sharma



Krishi Bhatt



Riddhi Nair

Besides this, a total of six projects- two from AIS Vas 6 and four from AIS MV bagged top laurels at the prestigious annual science fest in different categories. Vaishnavi Garg (IX) from AIS MV and Kartavya Parashar (VI) from AIS Vas 6 won first and third prize respectively in the category 'Innovating ideas for habitat and water resource management'.

In the category 'Promoting innovative ecosystems for affordable renewable and clean energy solutions', Apar Khare (IX) and Anshul Tripathi (VIII) from AIS MV bagged the second and third prize respectively. Mrinalini Vajpayee (VIII) from AIS MV bagged second prize in the category 'Strategic climate action

plan for sustainable future' while, Dhruvi Gupta (IX) and Hitika Mathur (IX) from AIS Vas 6 bagged second prize in the category 'Nature Based Solution and Circular Economy'.

The event was inaugurated by Dr Harshvardhan, Union Minister of Health. It was divided into sub-themes with session talks on Health and hygiene, Waste-Water management, Concept and technologies for waste management, Solutions for implementing circular economy, Diaspora contribution, Improved and equitable sanitation.

The sessions included discussion forums, workshops, panel discussions, presentation of case studies and innovative technologies, big idea submission and so-

cial media awareness. The event was attended by eminent scientists, researchers, consultants of start-ups and industries, NGOs, local body representatives, parliamentarians, and college and school students.

About IISF

India International Science Festival (IISF), launched in 2015, is one of its kind platform which intends to inspire curiosity and make learning more rewarding. Its aim is to engage students to celebrate the joy of science and show how STEM provides us solutions to improve the lives of common people. It works in collaboration with Ministry of Science and Technology DST and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA).

Winter carnival

AIS Noida

Little kids from Class Nursery to KG spent a joyous time during the first ever virtual winter carnival, held on December 23, 2020. The event brought joy and big smiles on their face as they participated in different online games and activities such as puppet show, bingo, spinning the wheel and stacking

the glasses. They feasted on yummy snacks and danced to joyful tunes. The celebrations culminated with the tiny ones wishing Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to their peers. The zeal of the students was unmatched, even though the carnival was virtual and made the event indeed a memorable one. School principal Renu Singh lauded the high spirits of the tiny tots at the winter carnival.



Little ones participate with zeal at the virtual winter carnival

Christmas talks

AIS Gurugram 46

Children of Class I participated in a virtual 'Christmas talk time' held on December 24, 2020. The tiny ones described how churches and homes are beautifully decorated with christmas trees full of lights, stars, flowers, toys and bells; along with star shaped lanterns hanged on the doors during the festival.

They even shared how to offer prayers to Mother Mary and Jesus Christ, and prepare delicious food items like chocolates, cakes and cookies. During the talk, the tiny ones reiterated the life of Jesus Christ and the good human values to be imbibed from Jesus. The talk concluded with students singing melodious Christmas carols like 'Jingle Bells' and wishing one and all Merry Christmas.



Tiny tots share their Christmas stories during the talk time



Agamya

Atharv

Ishika

Pratyush

Ripunjay

Young scientists

Amitians Reach Nationals Of CIF 2020

AIS Vasundhara 6

Five budding scientists from AIS Vas 6 brought home laurels by getting shortlisted for the national round at the prestigious Children Innovation Festival 2.0, held from December 8-17, 2020.

The innovative project ideas- 'Brain O Bin- A smart garbage bin' by Atharv Gupta (VIII C), 'Eco-friendly Bicycle' by

Agamya Jain (VIII B) & Ishika Mittal (VIII D), 'Tilted Tank' by Pratyush Khare (IX C) and 'Support System Kit for Visually Handicapped' by Ripunjay Vashisht (VIII C) were shortlisted. These ideas will be given incubation support, mentorship, and government grants. Further, the innovators will attend a boot camp and a conclave wherein they will showcase their ideas and will be felicitated.

About CIF

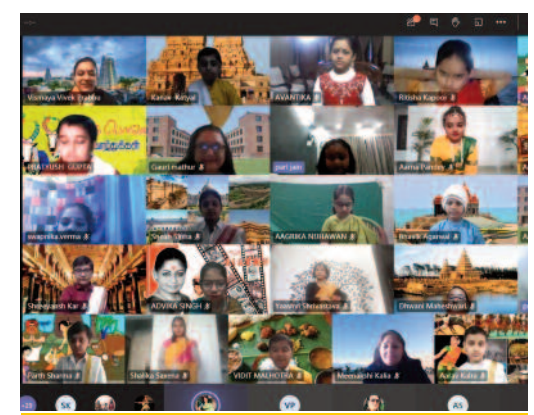
Children Innovation Festival is a unique initiative of Gujrat University in collaboration with Atal Innovation Mission, Niti Aayog and Gujrat University Start Up & Entrepreneurship Council (GUSEC) partnered with UNICEF. It aims to identify, nurture and support children with innovative ideas and hone their entrepreneurial skills.

Class presentation

Sanskriti, A Show On Culture And Heritage

AIS Vasundhara 1

On December 23, 2020, students of Class IV organised a class presentation 'Sanskriti' based on the rich heritage and culture of the states such as Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Maharashtra. The presentation began with a virtual lamp lighting ceremony followed by unveiling of the hidden treasures of India by four sections of the class. Students from Class IV A portrayed a colourful melange of stunning palaces, massive forts, delectable cuisines, diverse cultures and warm people of Rajasthan as 'India's glory'. The students of Class IV B took the audience on a journey from Sangam era to the modern day Tamil Nadu through dance, narration and a virtual tour. They also traversed through the history, geographical locales and the cuisine of the state. Class IV C presented facts about the state of Maharashtra, its famous street food and rich culture, beautifully in the form of a story. Students of Class



Students present the rich culture of Tamil Nadu

IV D visualised West Bengal by presenting facts about the state, Nobel prize winners of West Bengal, famous street food and sang a song written by Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. The presentations were a visual treat for one and all as the students showcased the same with exuberance.

Fossils of dinosaurs have been found on every continent on Earth, including Antarctica.

All top quotes contributed by
Tarush Sharma, AIS Noida, VII L



Beauty in crisis

Art- We Need It Now More Than Ever

Buyisiwe Dlamini, AGS Gurugram, XII

Art. One word that simply defines a form of human expression and is seen all around us in many forms such as paintings, drawings, poetry, songwriting, architectural designs, graffiti, etc. In most countries, art was passed down from ancestors whose unique and imaginative thinking structured and shaped the culture we cherish today. Most European artists such as Vincent Van Gogh and Leonardo da Vinci remain iconic due to their alluring portraits that were flooded with unique styles and breathtaking brushstroke techniques.

However, at a time like this, we are compelled to long for every kind of art that was put out there for us to admire. We now dearly miss the frames of art hung on the walls of our school art rooms, and the statues of our heroes built in the centre of our cities, honouring their legacy. But does this mean that we stop creating?



In the words of a great man, Pablo Picasso, "Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up." Creativity never leaves us. No matter what predicaments force themselves into our lives, we manage to preserve this gift of innovation given to us. Art is a form of intelligence; it takes a great deal to master the art of brushstrokes, shading and media usage. However, it was not how stunning the painting looked that rendered great artists like Picasso, but it was the messages buried in the depths. Picasso's most famous painting 'Guernica', which is now worth 200 million USD, discloses the explicit tragedies of war, inspired by the horrors he witnessed during the Spanish civil war.

Another esteemed work of art is the 'Starry Night' by Vincent Van Gogh. Although the meaning behind this particular painting is not as daggering as Guernica, its history of how the painting was born is wonderfully emotional and inspirational to most of the people who still treasure it. It was created by the artist through pure memory of how he envisioned the night sky of Saint-Rémy-de-Provence through his asylum window.

Even Norwegian painter, Edvard Munch found himself making his two famous paintings, 'Self-Portrait With the Spanish Flu' and 'Self-Portrait After the Spanish Flu' in the times of a pandemic where he details his own experience of being infected and still surviving the disease. Art has always been a way to describe trauma and despair, but, it has also been a way to ease the same feelings. George Grosz used the same feelings to paint 'The Funeral', which depicted distorted human figures haphazardly overlapping one another, showing how 'humanity had gone insane'.

From Shakespeare to Picasso, there had been multiple artists from the past and present who have used every difficult situation as a fuel to fire the artist in them. Art is what carries us forward in life, and even in lockdown and pandemic, it is time for us to rely on it once again, whether it is simply admiring the ones created hundreds of years ago or creating the ones that will be remembered hundreds of years later. No matter what the choice is, the answer to creating a better world is always art.

The pantomime of 2020

Ashish Magoo, AIS Saket, Alumnus

With responsibility
And without any fear

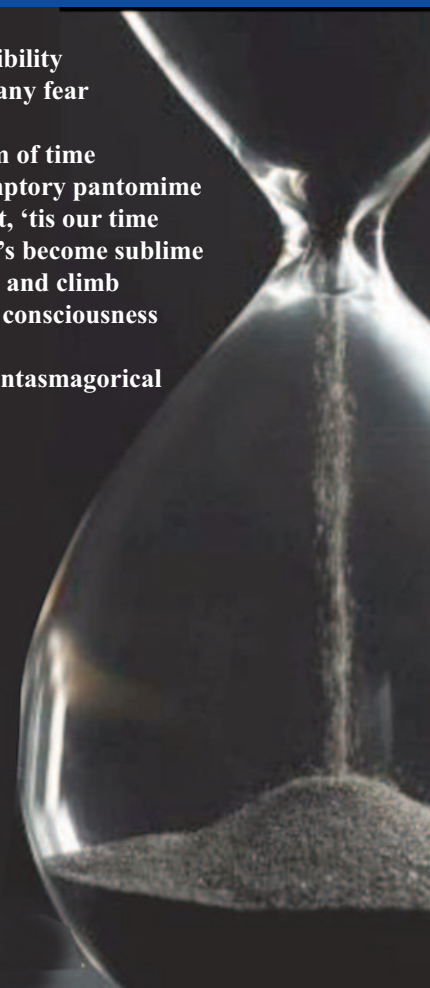
In the vacuum of time
2020, a peremptory pantomime
Exterminating or edifying
But for sure ensuing
A hapless haemorrhage
Of human lives and heritage
Wrecking and roiling
Virulently vandalising
Legions of livelihood
That otherwise would've stood
The vagaries of the world
That hitherto have unfurled
With more commiseration
And less trepidation

In the vacuum of time
2020, a peremptory pantomime
On this planet, 'tis our time
In quality, let's become sublime
Let's scale up and climb
Acmes of our consciousness
And rhyme
With this phantasmagorical
pantomime

The throes of 2020, notwithstanding
Mother Earth is flourishing
Replenishing her blemished bounty
Fawning her fiefdom with fertility
As dull humanity hibernates
She sequesters, her land
Her water, her flare
It's time to pay her the debt
With sanguine sangfroid, set
The destiny of all life
In harmony, bereft of strife
And usher in the New Year

AMITY
ALUMNUS

This poem is a contribution by Ashish Magoo, an alumnus of AIS Saket. He held the position of editor-in-chief in 2008, when The Global Times was just born. He is currently serving as assistant manager, Credit and Fraud Risk, American Express.



Writing is an art and there's no better platform to exercise it than your own beloved GTI! Just to unleash the writer in you, GTI brings to you a new column 'The prompt box' where a topic will be shared. Tell us your views on the given topic in 100-150 words. Send in your write-ups to the Editor-in-Chief/GTI Teacher Coordinator of your school, and the best ones will be published in the newspaper, so grab your laptops and get typing...

The prompt BOX

How do you think vaccine nationalism could effect us all?

Last date of submission: **January 23, 2021**

Curb your fears of missing out

Because e-MUNs Are Here, With A List Of Pros To Make You Forget The Cons!

Anushka Ramesh, AIS MV, XI

With MUNs going online (all thanks to the tiny virus!) there has been a fear of missing out in the minds of everyone. Worry not! This article is here to ward off that feeling. With ten layers of heavy sugarcoating, we present you the pros of an e-MUN:

- This one is for all the Cinderellas in the house, usually seen running down the staircase in their faux glass stilettos; you can take out your chappals and save yourself a week full of shoe bites. You're welcome :)

- Zoom's gallery view accommodates 49 thumbnails in a single screen. No one is ever going to notice which brand of shirt you're wearing and if it matches your pyjamas or not.

- Shout out to all the foodies on the floor. You now won't have to go around fussing about the food. Download Swiggy,

Zomato or UberEats and get authentic Mughlai food delivered at your doorstep.

- The introverts will have the time of their lives- getting to experience the euphoria of MUNs without having to force themselves into having real time human interactions.

- "My mic is not working", "Sir, you are not audible", "Ma'am, my Wi-Fi is acting up" are some of the many lines that will work in your favour if you want time to think about how to answer a question directed at you.

- Every committee has its own share of members with drastically opposite body temperatures. From those who think that "it's too cold outside, for angels to fly" to those who sing along to "it's too hot", all the members of the committee can now adjust the room temperature according to their own convenience.

- Over 1000 acres of high-tech campuses, spread over 4.5 mil-

lion sq. ft. of built up area; figuring out the way to your respective committees takes at least two days. Since now all you've got to study is the blueprint of your bedroom, you will be left with more time to focus on your background guides.

- Online MUNs mean that the logistics team will finally save a lot of time and effort. Actually, all of their time and efforts.

- You won't have to spend time looking for the perfect background while you pose for social media selfies. The only background you'll be getting is your committee logo. Your committee will always have your back, quite literally.

- The huge wave of claustrophobia hitting us while we make our way through the cramped desks in the assigned committee makes our anxiety go haywire, but thanks to e-MUNs, all that's been taken care of.

See, it's not all that bad. Is it?

Illustration: Abhilasha Kuba, AIS Saket, XI

