

INSIDE



Bitty bitter gourd, P4



History this week, P7

AMITEpoll

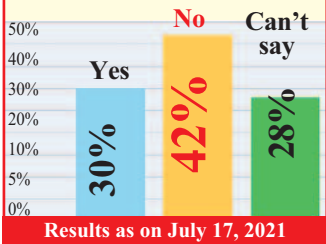
Do you think the European Union's ban on the sale of fossil-fuel cars, as part of the broad climate package, will be effective in reducing carbon footprint?

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

To vote, log on to
www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT for GT issue July 12, 2021

Do you think that the government should prohibit tourist travels now that tourist spots are overcrowded in India?



Results as on July 17, 2021

Coming Next

Cloud Kitchen

The midwife crisis

The Unsung Heroes Of Healthcare That We Usually Take No Notice Of

Mrinal Verma, GT Network

In today's pandemic-soused world, the professionals working in healthcare are no less than superheroes. But as we collectively bow in gratitude towards them, there is one group of the same heroes that we have conveniently ignored - midwives. 2020, the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife, proved that they are as essential as ever, playing an essential part of the history we have witnessed and the future we are working on creating, but are they actually given their due?

Efforts as old as human history, midwifery, as a profession, has been proven to be in existence since 5000 BCE, going as far as seeing references in the Old Testament. From Hippocrates, the father of scientific medicine, to Aristotle talking about it with utmost sincerity, the profession has been around for a long time, with even modern research in it being carried out since 1513. India, too, has a long cultural history of *dais*, who have seen various strategies being formed in their names in the current times like Janani Suraksha Yojna and Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram. According to the Indian government, the country has over two million nurse-midwives currently active, and they are committed to add at least

85,000 more by 2023. This proves that being trained health professionals specialising in child delivery and care, midwifery has been a part of the healthcare system for centuries, so why are we still minimising their gravity? Midwifery has always been seen as secondary, dubbed as an alternative to the advanced world of obstetricians, but we often miss that it is also a licensed field that requires just as much competency. Midwives need just as much expertise to operate, and in a developing society like India,

Imaging: Pankaj Mallik, GT Network

with around 65% of the population living in rural areas, the accessibility to midwives is better than private hospitals. However, due to lack of training, no formal course and license, the midwives in India are considered illiterate, unskilled women and are not offered any remuneration. Even WHO has stated that licensed midwives can "provide 87% of essential care" and can avert 83% of all maternal deaths. In the COVID-stricken world, it is they who took the reins of caring for the new-borns when the medical

fraternity struggled with an overburdened crisis. Flemish Professional Organisation of Midwives reported that with a fear of being infected, more than half of Belgium's mothers-to-be opted to give birth at home with the help of a midwife. Even countries like Germany, France, UK and Ireland saw women turning the same way as hospitals were overworked and understaffed.

Midwives, too, played their part at the forefront of COVID-19 response, going beyond their call of duty to not only safeguard new-

borns, but also to provide essential healthcare services, and yet their name is always amiss amidst the essential workers appreciated. As healthcare professionals, they still are struggling to gain proper PPE kits and other necessary items, which is why European Midwives Association, together with 11 other European health associations, are still urging authorities to take action and guarantee resources and protection. In developing countries, the case seems to be much worse where lack of doctors and hospitals in various rural areas have forced these midwives to don on the leader's cap and take care of the sick ones, risking their own lives. Even in the UK and Ireland, a fifth of midwife-led maternity units have been shut down since the pandemic started and redeployed to other areas of the hospital to deal with COVID crisis. Midwives have always played an essential part in our road to better child and mother care, and since the pandemic started, their efforts have doubled with concerns beyond infant care. Our archives are filled with their mentions, presenting a hand in not only shaping medicine but also our culture, which is why a question on their capabilities in the modern world comes as a surprise. But if a question is raised, it must be answered, and that is exactly why it is high time that midwives receive their fair share of the spotlight and due respect. 🇮🇳



Unfurling the Finnish talk

Joonas Könttä On Politics, Sports, And Everything In Between

Meet Joonas Könttä, member of Parliament for Central Finland, city councilor of Jyväskylä and provincial councilor of Central Finland. With a master's degree in social sciences and specialisation in Russian and European relations, Joonas Könttä has previously served as Secretary General in the Ministry of Education and Culture and as a political assistant in the European parliament. Inspired by his diplomatic career, Amitians grabbed the opportunity to interact with him during the virtual Indo Finnish Exchange Programme, organised by AERC. Read on to know more...

What inspired you to choose this demanding job of politics?

To begin with, I have always had an inclination towards social issues and have felt the urge to deliberate solutions for the same at a microcosmic level. Moreover, when I was in high school, we had a visit from an MP. Perhaps, that visit left an impression on me and reinforced my interest in the sphere of politics.

What has helped you don the role of a politician?

I was always involved in student politics. As a result, I learnt a lot on how to have meetings, how to make motions, etc. Besides, I got a grasp on how to deal with people who have differing opinions and how to find a middle ground that caters to both the opinions. Later, when I entered sales, I explored different positions in hypermarkets across 11 years; this was helpful in making me adept at handling people from various walks of life. Thus, all of these experiences collectively helped me a lot.

How exactly did your interest in sports develop?

As a student, I wanted to try my

hands at everything and so, I learnt Judo, which, taught me to respect my competitors and not give them a cold shoulder. Apart from this, my interest in sports is majorly owed to my father. We often used to go for fishing trips. And ever since, I have enjoyed retreating to nature because that's a major source of peace for me!

What causes Finland to be the happiest country in the world?

For the second time in a row, Finland stood first in the Happiness Index and it's a wonderful feeling. However, I attribute it to the fact that Finland is particular about the safety of its citizens. We have abundant access to nature and the pollution level is really low here. Plus, every citizen has equal principles. I believe when all these factors come into play together, happiness is but an obvious product!

What makes Russia gain a special place in your heart?

I was born in a small town at the Finnish-Russian border, so I have always had an interest in Russian culture. As an exchange student, while everyone was choosing either Germany or France, I chose to go to Rus-

sia as our culture is very different from theirs. There is so much to learn from different cultures, especially Russia's because it is our biggest neighbour. Although we've had our differences but there is nothing that diplomacy cannot solve.

How well-equipped is Finland now that education is digitised?

For many years, our discussions have revolved around digitalisation. With the arrival of COVID, we were left with no option than to go digital in a trice. Although there were initial hiccups, it would be safe to say that we have done very well. Technology can help us attain significant feats but I sincerely hope that education does not get overpowered by it. When it comes to education, I believe we must go offline as soon as possible.

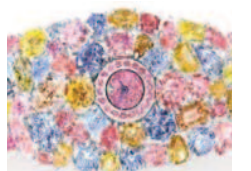
What is your advice to all those who want to become a politician?

You will be faced with obstacles but always try to look for the possibilities hidden within. If you want to be a politician, then take your time to figure out what makes you capable of being one. Remember, if you are dedicated, you can achieve anything! 🇮🇳



Joonas Könttä, MP, Central Finland

Costing 55 million USD, Graff Diamonds' Hallucination is the most expensive watch in the world, having 110 carats of rare coloured diamonds.



It's expensive!

Around The WORLD

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



UK

Ruckus after Euro 2020 loss

After England's football team lost to Italy at the Euro 2020, hundreds of angry fans took to the streets and the Wembley stadium, and started riot-like ruckus. Many climbed street lamps and damaged other public property, setting off flares, and an increase in racially charged acts was also observed. The police arrested at least 86 people, 53 at the stadium, after 19 officers were injured.



BELGIUM

First carbon border tax

The European Union, headquartered in Brussels, has planned for the first ever carbon border tax in the world. The tax will be applied on imports of carbon-intensive steel, aluminium, cement, fertilisers and electricity. In an effort to curb climate change, the initiative is being pushed forward to meet the new climate target. European Commission plans on phasing in the tax from 2026.



IRAQ

Fire at COVID-19 hospital kills 92

A blazing fire at the Al-Hussein hospital set up for treating COVID-19 patients in Nasiriya, Baghdad, killed at least 92 people and injured around 50. Officials believe the starting point of the fire to be oxygen tanks that exploded in an ICU. This comes as the second fire in months in Baghdad where exploding oxygen tanks at the Ibn Al-Khatib Hospital killed at least 82 people in April.



INDONESIA

Newest epicentre for COVID-19

Surpassing India's daily Coronavirus numbers, Indonesia has become the newest epicentre for the virus outbreak in Asia. The number of cases in the country, which were less than 10,000 a month ago, have soared to over 40,000 for two consecutive days, and the officials are not only concerned about the new variant, but also about exhausting supplies and hospital workers.



INDIA

Suo moto cognizance over Kanwar Yatra

Disturbed by the UP government's decision to allow Kanwar Yatra amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the Supreme Court has issued notices to both the centre and the state government. In response, UP Health Minister has claimed that the state is prepared for the yatra and "will make sure that all protocols are in place." In the year 2019, nearly 2-3 crore people had visited pilgrimage spots in western UP during Kanwar Yatra.



SOUTH AFRICA

Jailing President Zuma starts riots

A terrible series of ongoing riots were witnessed in the country after former President Jacob Zuma was jailed. The supporters of Jacob Zuma blocked the highways, looted the warehouses in small towns and major cities in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng provinces, causing a deadly stampede killing at least 72 people. To control the unrest, military has been deployed and a total of 1234 violators have been arrested till now.



ITALY

Ban of big cruise ships

After UNESCO's threat of putting Venice on its endangered list, Italy permanently banned big cruise ships weighing more than 25,000 tonnes from docking the world heritage site starting August 1, 2021. The PM has stated that the workers and companies affected by the change will be compensated, and the move means that only small passenger ferries will be able to use the Giudecca canal to enter Venice.



USA

Wobbling moon to cause floods

The NASA Sea Level Change Team at University of Hawaii has warned that a rapid increase will be seen in the number of floods to be witnessed in the 2030s due to the moon's wobble, that influences how earth's tides ebb and flow, combined with climate change. Calling it a 'double whammy', scientists have said that the coastal communities will either have to adapt or evict the land.





The iconic 1963 Ferrari 250 GTO known as Holy Grail model, has the highest selling price for a car in the world with 70 million USD.

The ABC... ...Of Creating A Career In Biology



Resham Talwar
AIS Saket, XII C

Are you one of those people who believe that the only career you can have in biology is medicine? Well, we are here to burst your little bubble, because in the times we live in, biology has become an integral part of our life and there are a lot of domains you can explore in this field. Read on to find out exactly the career options you can explore!

Public health

The science and art of preventing diseases, public health deals with establishing healthy communities, expanding lifespan, improving the quality of life and creating a healthier society and its individuals.

Work to do: The field is valid in both private and social sectors and you can work at hospitals and other health facilities that are based on wellness, illness, nutrition, etc. You can also delve into social work or work at schools, NGOs or private organisations like epidemiologist, biostatistician, health educator, sanitarian, public health adviser, nurse, etc. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Public Health industry is expected to grow by 21% and is also expected to open more jobs by 2022 in all sectors. Average expected salary for a beginner in India is approx. 2.5 lakh INR per annum.

Institutions in India that offer a degree: PGIMER, Chandigarh; Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi and Indian Institute of Public Health, Gurugram.

DID YOU KNOW?

Greek philosopher, Aristotle is regarded as the ‘Father of Biology’. He discovered it during his visit to Lesbos, an island in the Aegean in 4th century BC.

Biotechnology

A vast field of biology that involves the development or manufacture of items using live systems and creatures. It frequently intersects with allied scientific subjects, depending on the tools and applications used.

Work to do: It combines the theoretical (genetics, molecular biology, biochemistry, embryology and cell biology) and the practical (chemical engineering, information technology and robotics) scientific aptitude, which is why career options like biomedical engineer, biochemist, medical scientist, clinical technician, microbiologist, process development scientist, biomanufacturing specialist, business development manager, etc., can be chosen. Private sector pharmaceutical companies generally offer a salary of 3 lakh INR per annum for an entry-level postgraduate.

Institutions in India that offer a degree: Amity University, University of Delhi, Banaras Hindu University, Anna University, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, amongst many others.

Bioethics

The ethical implications and applications of health-related living sciences are generally referred to as bioethics.

Work to do: A bioethicist examines the ethical aspects of a current or projected health-care action or choice and provides an ethical rationale for why certain actions or decisions should be preferred over others. Career options you can pick in the field are clinical ethics, bioethics law, genetics, precision medicines, research ethics, reproductive ethics, etc. One can expect an average starting salary of 3 lakh INR per annum in the private sector.

Institutions in India that offer a degree: Yenepoya Nursing College, Mahatma Gandhi Medical College and Research Institute, and PSG Center for Research and Bioethics.

Bioinformatics

Bioinformatics is basically the linguistics part of genetics. It is essentially a branch of computer science concerned with the study of biological molecular sequences using genetic algorithms.

Work to do: Bioinformatics experts look for patterns within sequences of DNA or protein. It's useful for comparing genes and other sequences in proteins inside and between animals, looking at evolutionary links between creatures, and figuring out what's going on by looking at patterns in DNA and protein sequences. Careers to pick in the field are bio-analytics, clinical pharmacologist, computational chemist, database design and maintenance, proteomics, pharmacogenomics, pharmacology and sequence assembly. The average expected salary in the field is 2.5 lakh INR per annum for a beginner.

Institutions in India that offer a degree: Jawaharlal Nehru University, Bharati Vidyapeeth University, India Institute of Technology and University of Delhi.

Book Review

Rake in that review

Book: Ikigai: The Japanese Secret to a Long and Happy Life
Author: Francisc Miralles and Hector Garcia
Published in: April 2016
Genre: Self-help



Synopsis: Ikigai is a Japanese concept that combines the terms ‘iki’ meaning ‘alive’ or ‘life’, and ‘gai’ meaning ‘benefit’ or ‘worth’. When combined, it refers to those things that give your life a meaning or purpose. The Japanese have practiced Ikigai for centuries, and it has not only helped them live longer but also lead a stress-free life. It also highlights the fact that life is nothing but imperfection and time is fleeting. Thus, holding onto the past and fearing the future will lead you nowhere. This is an interesting self-development concept: a prism for potentially seeing how to bring satisfaction and happiness to an individual's life.

Why it is worth reading: Ikigai is a great book as it is filled with nuggets of wisdom. It motivates you to live your best life and also gives you a much-needed shot of positivity with its coherent reasoning and lucid writing. The book wonderfully articulates how to face life's challenges without letting stress age you. Inspiring and comfort-

ing, this book will give you life-changing tools to uncover your personal Ikigai. It will show you how to leave urgency behind, discover your purpose, nurture friendships and throw yourself into your passion. The pace is unhurried, and that is precisely how you should read the book, not in a single sitting but over a week or ten days. You can savour each chapter, make notes, write things down when they touch a chord.

Iconic quote: “There is a passion inside you, a unique talent that gives meaning to your days and drives you to share the best of yourself until the very end. If you don't know what your Ikigai is yet, your mission is to discover it.”

Rating: 5/5

Review by: Janya Malkani
AIS PV, XII

Practice from the grassroots

“The Best Way To Predict The Future Is To Create It!”

Madhav Sharma
AIS Vasundhara 6, X D

For so long, governments, national bodies, and international organisations have understood and book-marked sustainable development as a crucial and non-delayable goal to achieve. And with years of experience, they have finally understood that to truly implement and foster it, one has to start from the grassroots! Teaching students by example will show them that a better future not only exists in their school books but also their school campuses. Various educational institutions all over the world have taken steps to contribute to safeguarding mother earth like...

Ramon C Cortines School of Visual and Performing Arts:

The school in LA, USA, created with a will to harbour art and love for life in students rather than standard memorisation, takes a different approach to their syllabus as

well as the campus. Studies have showcased that a natural environment fosters a better IQ development of students, and with the same idea, the school has a unique structure which focuses on outdoor space to allow students to exist freely. The campus was designed by internationally renowned architecture company Coop Himmelb(l)au, and is said to be one of the greenest schools in the world.

The Green School: With the entire campus structure made of bamboos, the school in Bali is definitely eco-friendly. The main school building is a spiralling structure and made by the firm PT Bambu. The campus overall has four classrooms, cafe, gym and housing, and it

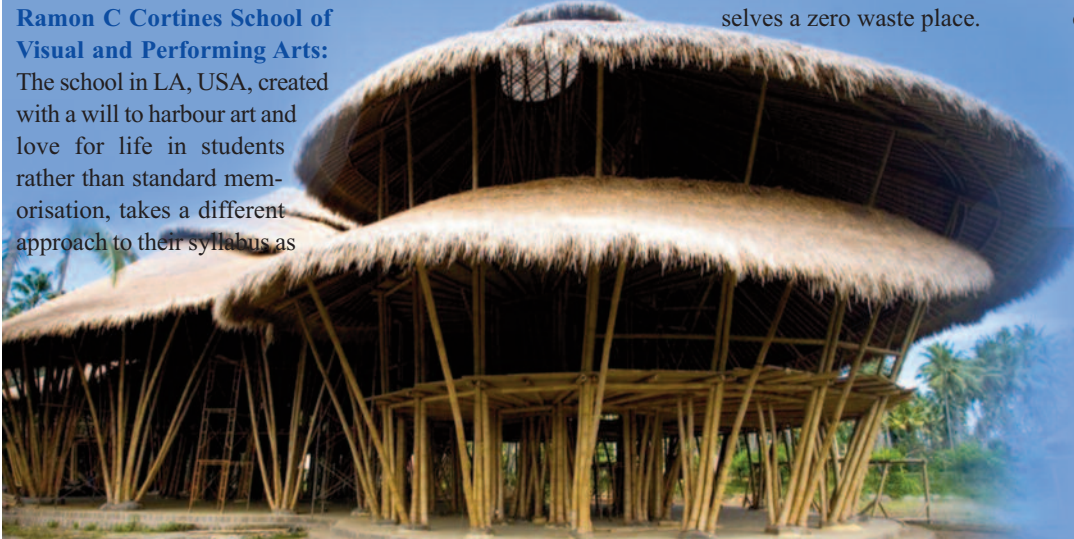
also runs on completely clean energy using solar energy, micro-hydro energy, and bio-mass boiler. The syllabus also ensures to teach students about sustainability and even offers scholarships to local children.

American University: Ever since the university was established in 1893, one of their main goals has been to present sustainable solutions to the world and promote a greener society. The university offers a number of courses to the students on green studies and also carries out regular solar energy and other green initiatives. Just in the year 2012, the institution offered 1079 sustainability-focused courses, and they are also working hard to make themselves a zero waste place.

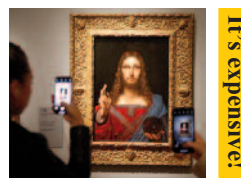
Watkinson School: Adapting to Project FROG, a kit which enables schools to become eco-friendly in the shortest time possible, Watkinson School quickly saw the results. The school's classrooms now are made up of 50% recycled raw materials and even contain 60 solar panels on the roof, which allows the school to generate electricity. The students and teachers are also driven for the cause and constantly take up various other environment-friendly initiatives.

Monkseaton High School: One of the best eco-friendly schools around the world, the school is built in the shape of an elliptical by Devereax Architects. The campus purposely has smaller classes to allow only a limited number of students, forcing a better communication between teachers and students. It also has 31 windcatchers which make the building not only beautiful but also heat resistant, and it also uses solar panels.

These institutions prove that everything is better taught when it is practiced rather than just preached, and using their examples, we can only hope that more and more people will start caring about the environment.



Leonardo da Vinci's 'Salvator Mundi' created a record for being the most expensive artwork sold at a public auction with 450.3 million USD.



It's expensive!

Losing its cool

Are We Running Out Of Time To Save The Planet?

Deetya Gambhir

AIS Pushp Vihar, IX C

"Climate change is already happening, and it's detrimental to human life, too."

Time and again, we all come across such disturbing and alarming headlines. With newspapers, magazines and web articles, flooded with facts and interpretations related to climate change, have we really understood the effects and actuality of it? Are we as aware and prepared as we should be? Truth be told, a large number of us are even unaware of the difference between global warming and climate change. Global warming refers only to the Earth's rising surface temperature, while climate change includes warming and the various effects of warming, like melting glaciers, heavier rainstorms, more frequent drought or acute water crisis. On that account, global warming is one indicator of the much larger problem of cli-

mate change.

According to the United Nations, climate change is a long-term change in the average weather patterns that have come to define earth's local, regional and global climate. The planet is warming, from the North Pole to the South Pole. Rising temperatures are affecting wildlife and their habitats. Vanishing ice has challenged species such as the Adélie penguins in Antarctica, where some populations on the western peninsula have collapsed by 90% or more. The heat is melting glaciers and sea ice, resulting in rising sea levels and shifting precipitation patterns, all setting animals on the move. It has been predicted by several climate experts that if we do not act now, cities such as Jakarta, Bangkok and Mumbai may submerge.

The climate clock is ticking. Before it gets too late, we must undo the most extreme scenarios of climate change and take coordinated and comprehensive climate action. The 13th Sustainable Development Goal from the list of 17 such goals given by the United Nations aims at and highlights the need to address climate emergency. The Paris Agreement, a legally binding

international treaty on climate change that was adopted by 196 parties on December 12, 2015, and entered into force on November 4, 2016, aims to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees. To achieve this long-term temperature goal, countries aim to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible to pave the way for a climate neutral world by mid-century.

But even when we take such steps, the question remains: are global agreements or initiatives enough to save our planet? Well, they are not! As nations are coming together to combat climate change, people also need to stand up as a community and search for reliable solutions or alternatives.

How long would it really take to completely get everything under control? Will we be able to reverse all the damage and prevent major changes in the near future? How has the pandemic impacted climate change? With all the time that we have lost, especially this year, how would we be able to achieve our aim in the estimated span of time? - these are some of the few questions that we need to ask ourselves and should strive to find answers for.



Bitty bitter gourd

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

Karan Kapoor, AIS MV, VII D

Hey! My name is: Bitter gourd

I am also known as: Momordica charantia

About me

- I am an edible pod belonging to the Cucurbitaceae family that also comprises cucumbers, squash, zucchini, etc.
- I am believed to have been originated in Africa as a dry-season staple food of hunter-gatherers.
- Green-skinned with white to translucent rind, I am filled with large, flat seeds, and have a taste that fits my name.

- I am cultivated around the globe, mainly in the tropical parts of the world, and I am considered a staple in various types of Asian cuisines.
- Regardless of the specific type, I am known by many names such as bitter melon, bitter cucumber, karela, bitter apple, balsam-pear, goya, bitter squash, etc.
- With summer as my peak season, I am usually available round the year.

What I offer

A little over 100 grams of my intake provides:

- Carbohydrates: 7 grams
- Fibre: 1.9 grams
- Calories: 34
- Total fat: 0.2 grams
- Protein: 3.6 grams
- Sodium: 13 milligrams
- Vitamins (C, A, B1, B2, B3, B9, etc.)
- Other minerals (Potassium, Zinc, Iron, etc.)

I can help you with

- Strengthened immune response
- Weight loss
- Blood purification
- Prevention of cell damage in HIV/AIDS patients
- Controlling asthma
- Prevention of hair loss
- Acquiring healthy and beautiful skin
- Reducing blood sugar level

Where you can find me

I am grown on approximately 340,000 hectares across the Asian continent, with India and China accounting for more than half of my production; the production credits for the remnant yield go to countries like Japan, Malaysia, Bangladesh, etc. In addition to this, other parts of the world where I am extensively cultivated are East Africa, the Caribbean, the Amazon, and also some parts of South America.

My different avatars

- Pusa Do Mausmi
- Arka Harit
- Coimbatore Long
- VK-I (Priya)
- MDV-I
- Pusa Vishesh
- Konkan Tara
- Hirkani
- Phule Green
- Kalyanpur Baramasi
- Preethi (MC 4)

Why I fear climate change

Since I am a warm season crop grown mainly in hot-arid regions, with an ideal temperature range of 24-27 degrees Celsius, climate change and the subsequent increase in temperatures is not only proving to be a huge hindrance to my growth, but the resultant high humidity is also rendering me vulnerable to various fungal diseases. Besides, I am highly susceptible to light frost if grown during winter months, so as the temperatures dip, my production capacity plummets too. For my seeds germinate best when temperatures are higher than 18 degrees Celsius. Thus, in order to avail my health benefits, humans will truly have to stand up and stave off climate change.





The costliest phone in the world is 'Falcon Supernova iPhone 6 Pink Diamond', priced at 48.5 million USD and consists of 24-carat gold and a pink diamond on the back.

Conserving the elixir of life

The Global Times is pleased to be a part of the The World Teenage Reporting Project on Climate Champions. An initiative of Youth & News Media Prize, the project showcases noteworthy stories by teenage reporters from around the world focusing on what their cohorts and other adults have been doing to save the planet. Presenting the story 'Conserving the elixir of life' by GT reporter, Ananta Taneja

Last year, The Global Times took part in the project that showcased stories by teenage reporters from around the world about what their cohorts were doing to help during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To know more about the The World Teenage Reporting Project visit - <https://www.globalyouthandnewsmediaprize.net/>

A Step Towards Saving What Facilitates Our Existence



The institutional and home set up model of 'Preservoir'

What started as a life hack has now achieved national recognition! We are talking about Preservoir, an initiative started by **Avishi Sahoo** in 2019 to save water, that has won the Pramerica Spirit of Community Award this year. Avishi is a student of Class XII at **Amity International School, Noida**, who launched Preservoir with an aim to reduce water wastage across households and communities in India. The initiative focuses on the core of household water usage: Reverse Osmosis (RO) water purifier by re-purposing the wastewater from these systems.

The inspiration came when Avishi noticed that during purification, the RO water filter in her house wasted a lot of water. On her suggestion, her family began to use the discarded water for everyday domestic chores. A few days later, when their water filter broke down, her family bought 20-litre Bisleri bottles as a temporary solution. It was when the water filter got repaired that Avishi finally hit on the award-winning idea. She proposed that the empty Bisleri bottles should be used to store wastewater from the RO system for later use. And this is how the basic concept of Preservoir was created. The name Preservoir is the brainchild of some of her closest friends who have also helped her in this initiative. "I was thinking of simple names like 'Zero water wastage' but my friends, who are extremely creative, came up with 'Preservoir', a smart wordplay with the words 'preserve' and



Ananta Taneja

Ananta Taneja, a student of Class XII at Amity International School, Vasundhara 1, is an avid reader with a flair for writing and experimenting with new ideas. Currently, she is the editor-in-chief of her school newspaper, The Global Times. She aims to make the world a better and safer place to live in, a passion she realised while serving as director of her school's Interact Club. Aiming to increase consciousness about the planet's alarming water crisis, she has also started the initiative 'Take A Stand' to raise awareness about saving water at an individual and local level in her nearby surroundings.

About the Author

'reservoir', says Avishi.

No success is devoid of obstacles and Avishi also faced some challenges along the way. Using a big bottle was difficult since taking water out of bulky bottles usually resulted in a lot of spilling. It was decided to attach a tap to the container for easier access and to reduce the waste. The second challenge was convincing other households to implement this system in their kitchens as well. "The bottles took up a lot of space and were not very pretty to look at. But then, we got suggestions to paint the bottles or put some pictures and stickers to make it more eye-pleasing," she says. So far, this system has been installed in 22 households, one residential complex and three factories - one in Noida and others in Dehradun - who have all pledged to join the 'Zero Waste Water Challenge'. These factories produce shoes, clothing and



shoe compounds. Avishi is also in talks with a few more factories which produce toys and deal in export and import of goods. She says that it is difficult to get the exact data from all users, but many are keeping her updated on how the system is getting a great response due to the large amount of water that is being saved. As on March 31, 2021, she has been successful in saving more than 6,00,000 litres of water through this initiative. Indeed, this is a great venture, especially for industrial units that have very large water purification systems. On an average, such units use 1,000 litres of water and waste more than 2,000 litres per day. With Preservoir, Avishi has also implemented a similar model for commercial set ups by setting up 2,000-litre storage tanks on the rooftop to collect wastewater from the RO plant and then connecting the wastewater tank to toilets flushing system and to the water reservoir for fire hydrants. This water is later used for flushing, recharging the ground water and even cleaning the premises. Though not fit for drinking, it can easily be reused for other chores without any required treatment.

Speaking about the importance of Preservoir at the micro level, Avishi gives the example of her own household. According to her, four people use approximately 10-12 litres of water every day for which around 20-24 litres wastewater is generated. This wastewater is then reused in her home. "Imagine, if one family can save so much water,



Water-conserving tank

sky is the limit if more and more families join hands to implement this project," she says, hoping that, in the future, she is able to convince more people and expand this initiative to other countries that use RO systems in their households.

Interestingly, Avishi did not expect Preservoir to become such a big deal and also that she would go on to win an award for the same! She smiles at the memory of how she was quite satisfied with applying this system just in her own home. "My family and friends convinced me to expand Preservoir beyond my four walls. In fact, this has now given me a new career goal. I now want to pursue sustainable finance and impact investing." She gives the major credit for her inspiration to her family and school. Her sister, especially, has been a role model for her when it comes to promoting a sustainable lifestyle.

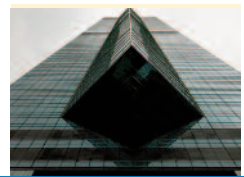
Her school has also played an important role as one of the important values always being nurtured at Amity is to develop sensitivity towards our environment. Avishi firmly believes that her regular participation in Vasudha, a science project-based event at Amity to encourage research and innovation among children, has played a major role in shaping her mindset. "I used to send e-mails about this initiative on a regular basis to my subject teachers and counselors and they always got back to me with suggestions and advice for improvement. I could not have done it without my school." She shows the same faith in the idea that even small steps can one day achieve major goals. And that change can happen even if one individual comes forward to begin with. Her message for the youth, therefore, is to start right away when it comes to conserving our natural resources. "Let's not wait for the day when we regret not taking that first step," she signs off.



Avishi Sahoo awarded Pramerica bronze medal for her project 'Preservoir'



With a whopping 7.6 million HKD paid, a parking spot in Hong Kong's The Center skyscraper is the highest-priced parking space in the world.



The best education is to care for all



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

While we are experiencing the pitter-patter of monsoons, bringing relief to the relentless heat in Northern India, what brings true comfort to my heart is that it's raining awards at Amity as well. Just as we acclimatise ourselves to the changing weather, and

sometimes even look forward to it, our children at Amity have also shown that they can adapt to any change life throws at them, no matter how difficult it may feel in the beginning.

When education went online last year, it was a test of how our children would perceive their new role and responsibility in this changing scenario. I am delighted to share that Amity students have proven again and again that nothing can stop them from achieving both academic and artistic excellence. One such student is Prisha Verma, of Class IX from AIS Noida, who has won the Lenovo SmarterEd scholarship organised by The Hindustan Times. She is amongst the top 100 children at the national level to have won the award. What makes this honour special is that she has won it for her ideas on making online classes available for under-privileged children. What makes me even more proud is that this award reflects Prisha's compassionate side of wanting to make education available for all. A young person, who wishes to share the gift of learning and cares enough to try and make it accessible to all, is a ray of hope for the society, the nation and the world. At Amity, we constantly strive to nurture our children as socially-aware, compassionate global citizens who understand the importance of inclusive growth. I am glad Amitians have imbibed this thought in their being. Such an achievement tells us that we are on the right path. 🇮🇳

Wonderful wordsmiths



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

This edition is truly special as it carries impressions scripted in ink by the young authors of Amity who have a flair and passion for writing. They are now being regularly featured in GT's new series titled 'GT Author's Desk'. Their contribution is

even more valuable because their creativity took wings when the rest of the world was bracing under the impact of multiple lockdowns.

These wordsmiths have impressed us with their deep and insightful thoughts which are reflected in each and every word of their authorship. Moreover, the writing itself is diverse and imaginative, ranging from being hilariously comical to evocatively poetic. For those who thought that the pandemic has pushed learning back by two years, these books are an appropriate response which proves that intuitive learning never ends.

Also, writing a book takes more than just good writing skills and a command over vocabulary. It requires one to be artistic and original at the same time. It pushes one to observe the world more intimately, ask questions and seek answers. In fact, writing is a life-long pursuit that enriches not just the mind but also the intellect of an individual. Writing also needs discipline and dedication. Hence, this achievement of having published material at such a young age speaks volumes about their hard work and perseverance. No wonder then, these talented children are already an inspiration for other aspiring writers. I am convinced that these books are just the first steps our gifted authors have taken in the world of literature. There is so much more to come from their bouquet of creativity! 🇮🇳

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Published for the period July 19-25, 2021

A SMART move

If Technology Is The Way Forward, Then Use It The Right Way

Dhruv Jain & Aman Thukral
AIS Noida, Alumni

They say, 'where there is a will, there is always a way.' But if you are 'smart' enough, the way itself finds its way to you. This is what the founder and CEO of Ajeevi Technologies Pvt Ltd, Vishal Gupta, believes. His imagination of a 'smart' city has led to many initiatives that have helped India reach its stage as a developed nation. And this very imagination inspired the young GT reporters to indulge in a 'smart' conversation with this maverick at Confluence 2019 held at AUUP.

S - Simple yet effective solutions

The concept of smart city might sound a complex term to understand. However, it is all about making our lives hassle-free using simple ways. The word 'Ajeevi' translates as 'long life' and this is what our organisation endeavours to do. We try our best to build smart cities that are also sustainable. A smart city is that which makes the life of its citizens easier and we, at Ajeevi, are striving to achieve it one 'click' at a time.

M - Maintaining the balance

There are several factors and necessities which come into play when we talk about living in the urban city. For instance, when you wake up in the morning, the first thing that you need is water. We just make sure that the water is available and we use technology and innovation to do that. Even if it is available, it should be pure and consumable, and we consider ourselves responsible to take care of that. Therefore, at Ajeevi, we deliberate on the basic needs that are necessary to run daily routines and work on improving the quality and availability of each of them.

A - Adoption of technology

Although we have come a long way in terms of tech-



Vishal Gupta, CEO, Ajeevi Technologies Pvt Ltd, interacts with GT reporters

nology, people are still sceptical about relying on it. And this is a major obstacle that comes in our path of building a smart city. Many people have the impression that technology is not the road to development but destruction. Only if they realise that it helps curb a lot of problems, including water scarcity and waste management, which are some of the major problems today. Ajeevi helps tackle these issues with a smart approach, i.e., with IoT, mobile and web applications. It is with the adequate contribution of manual efforts and technology that we can come up with apt formulas.

R - Revolutionary ideas

With our services like e-governance, bus and ambulance tracking, water and waste management, etc., we also try to promote the mission of 'Go Green Planet'. These services aim to conserve the natural resources for the coming generations. Simultane-

ously, I think automation is the key to the future. If we take the simple matter of ensuring the availability of parts of your vehicle, human error at the store is highly plausible. If we automate the store, which in turn allows us to know the status of availability among many other things, the efficiency increases manifold.

T - Taking the onus

Everyone is concerned about the current environmental conditions, and conveniently pin the blame on the government. However, we do not realise that we are the foundation of that very government. If every person takes care of small things like switching off electrical equipment, closing the taps when not required, then half of our problems will be solved. Every single drop counts. The analogy here is that every citizen is the single drop, and each effort counts. So, do your bit to build a smart world. 🇮🇳

A brave new world To Care Or Not To Care, That Is The Question

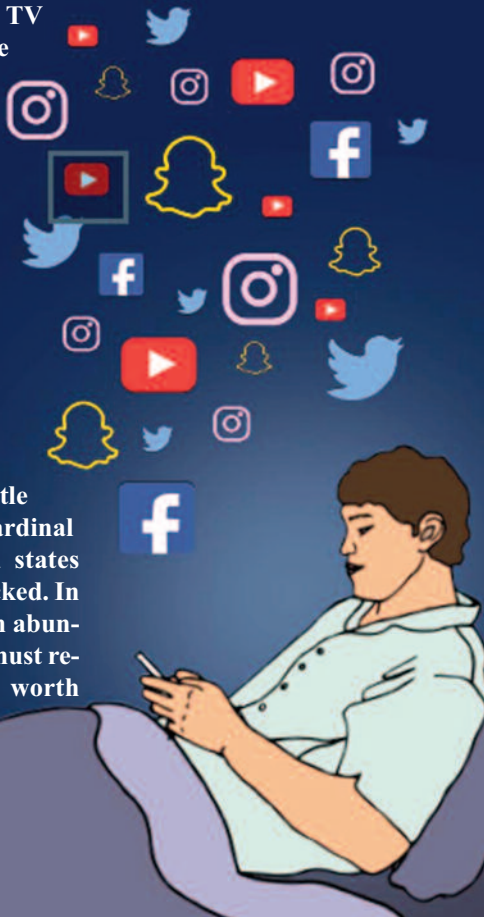
Sanah Munjal
AIS Gur 46, Alumna

Thoughtful Opinion

We live in a new world, a world where social media reigns supreme and we find ourselves chasing dreams and aspirations the world of the internet taught us to follow, even if they weren't our first preference. If a lifestyle blogger has it, then we must have it too, even if we weren't interested in it before. If a celebrity says we must live a certain way, then we must, without a question! We live our lives in the perpetual effort to fit into someone's else idea of perfect, and when we care too much about this 'perfect', it ends up taking a toll on us. A brave new world indeed! But what stands to be the alternative? Not caring is not the key to success either. If you don't care, then it reflects poorly of

your commitments. If you do not care about what happens in the society, then how will you make it better? How will the new wave of change come? How will the world go on? Not caring may seem like a hip and cool idea, especially portrayed on TV screens and our mobile phones, but in reality, not caring will never be an answer. It just leads to a point where instead of being productive, we end up being a complete nuisance. What must be done to truly create a brave new world is to find the true balance between the defiant act of not caring and the subtle art of caring. The real cardinal rule for the new world states that struggles must be picked. In an environment where an abundance of issues exist, we must realise which fights are worth

fighting, which issues are worth following, and which trends we should definitely do away with. So, let's find the perfect amalgamation of caring and not caring to create a brave new world, shall we?



Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'It's tough at the TOP' on page 3 of the GT edition dated July 12, 2021. The article sheds an entirely new light on the lives of students, and how even the sharpest of them can sometimes succumb to peer pressure. Through it, the readers not only gain an insight on the thoughts and feelings of a student, but also the unrealistic expectations our society has established for them. Just like the surface of a rock is not entirely smooth and has jagged edges, even the most 'perfect' people have their imperfections. I would like to thank GT for helping us realise that our identity is so much more than what our class rank or percentage is. It's our passion, our hard work, and most importantly, our happiness that makes us who we are!

Endri Agrawal, AIS Saket, X C



The Dream Jet 'BBJ 787' with a price tag of 300 million USD, is the most valuable private jet in the world. It has private dining areas, master bedroom, bathrooms, etc.

HISTORY *this* WEEK

Weeks, years, decades, centuries...as time goes by day by day, the world keeps progressing into a newer direction. But as our eyes always stay glued to the telescope, trying to get a glimpse of the shining future we work so hard to create, it is important to take a break and appreciate how far we have come. Let us look back at the pages of history falling between **July 19-25** that played their role in shaping our society.

The world of sports

JULY 22 1923

The Washington Senators' pitcher, Walter Johnson, became the first player in Major League Baseball's history to record 3000 strikeouts. Johnson achieved this feat in a match against the Cleveland Indians where his team won 3-1. In his entire career, Johnson had 12 20-win seasons, 10 of them being consecutively from 1910-1919. Not only so, but he is also the only player in the history of the game besides Cy Young to win 400 games throughout his career. Johnson was one of the first five players that were inducted to the Hall of Fame in 1936.



The world of celebration

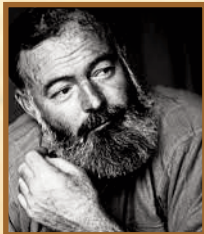
JULY 21 1969

Neil Armstrong became the first human to walk on the moon because of the Apollo 11 mission. The mission consisted of three members - Commander Neil Armstrong, Lunar Module Pilot Aldrin and Command Module Pilot Michael Collins. Armstrong and Aldrin spent two and a quarter hour on the moon collecting 21.5 kg of lunar material to bring back to Earth. Armstrong's first steps on the lunar surface were broadcasted on live TV to a worldwide audience where the events were described as 'one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind'.



JULY 21 1899

American novelist, story writer, journalist and sportsman, Ernest Miller Hemingway, was born. His style, often termed 'iceberg theory', influenced 20th century fiction to a great deal, making him one of the most respected writers of the time and even today. Hemingway published seven novels, six short story collections and non-fiction works, out of which three novels, four short story collections, and three non-fiction were published posthumously. For his excellent work done between 1920s-1950s, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1954.



The world of transportation



JULY 19 1843

The longest passenger ship in the world, SS Great Britain, was launched to the public eye. Designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel for the Great Western Steamship Company's transatlantic service between Bristol and New York City, it was a museum and passenger steamship which was considered advanced for its time. Unlike the ships seen till then, Great Britain was the first to combine iron and screw propellers in its large ocean-going body. It was also the first iron steamer to cross the Atlantic Ocean, which it did in 14 days in 1845. Currently, it rests as an attraction in Bristol Harbour and attracts 150,000-200,000 visitors annually.



JULY 21 1987

One of the most iconic cars in the world, the Ferrari F40, was unveiled to the world. It was a mid-engine, rear-wheel drive sports car engineered by Nicola Materazzi with styling by Pininfarina, and took around six years to be built. Designed to celebrate the company's 40th birthday, it was the last Ferrari automobile personally approved by Enzo Ferrari. The car debuted with a planned production of 400 units and a suggested retail price of 400,000 USD. One of the units, which once belonged to the Formula One driver Nigel Mansell, was sold for a record of 1 million GBP in 1990, creating a world record.



JULY 25 1909

The world's first overseas flight took off from France and landed in England, and the feat was achieved by French aviator, Louis Blériot. The flight was 22 miles and it took him 36 minutes and 30 seconds to complete the journey. For his accomplishment, the London Daily Mail awarded him 1000 GBP, he became world famous as well as emerged as the leading aircraft pilots and manufacturers of the era. Blériot was also the first one to make a working, powdered, piloted monoplane. For the same, he tested a variety of powdered aircraft, ranging from box-kite biplanes to a tail-first (canard) monoplane, before finally coming up with his own Blériot XI.

The world of entertainment



JULY 23 2010

The boyband, One Direction was formed by Simon Cowell on The X Factor UK with Zayn Malik, Niall Horan, Liam Payne, Harry Styles and Louis Tomlinson as the members. One Direction was the first band in the US Billboard 200 history to have first 4 albums debut at #1, and their 'Where We Are Tour' was the highest-grossing tour by a vocal group in history. Even though the band has been on hiatus since 2016, as of 2020, they have sold over 70 million records, won around 200 awards, and were also named Global Recording Artist of the Year by IFPI.



JULY 24 1985

The Walt Disney feature animation film, The Black Cauldron, was released by Walt Disney Pictures. Loosely based on the first two books in the series of The Chronicles of Prydain by Lloyd Alexander, the film was directed by Ted Berman and Richard Rich. It was the first Disney animated film to receive a PG rating as well as the first Disney animated film to feature computer-generated imagery. The film, on its release, received mixed reviews because of its dark nature, but with time, it has developed its own cult following.



JULY 21 2007

The final installment in the Harry Potter book series, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, was released by JK Rowling. The book already had an awaiting audience and instantly went on to become a bestseller with an initial print run of 12 million copies in the US alone. The series, which highlighted Harry Potter's fight against his enemy, Lord Voldemort, sold over 400 million copies worldwide and has also been translated to more than 60 languages. The popularity of the novels also led to movies, video games, websites, theme parks and other merchandise being based upon it.

Valued at 71.2 million USD, The Pink Star, an oval-shaped diamond with 59.6 carats, is the most expensive jewel sold in an auction.



It's expensive!

The will power

Storywala



Prisha Gangwar
AIS Noida, X

Justin was a curious teenager with a zealous inclination to learn new things. However, there were many hindrances impeding his inquisitive nature. His life was abundant with hardships, and his parents were fighting each day to make ends meet. To make things worse, Justin was partially blind. He could overcome this impairment after some rounds of surgeries, but it was a farfetched dream as such expensive surgeries could hardly be afforded by his family. However, even though Justin's sight was challenged, his inner vision was invincible. One day while lying on his bed, Justin, who was figuring out the objects in his surroundings with his partial sight, thought, "So, what if my parents can't afford my eye treatment? I will study

hard, get a good job and pay for my treatment myself!" Truly ecstatic about this newly formed idea in his mind, Justin went to sleep peacefully.

The very next morning, Justin gathered all his courage, walked up to his father and said, "Dad, I was wondering if I could enrol myself in the nearby school. I know it would be difficult for you and mom, but I will work hard to make it worthy of all your struggles, I promise." The next thing Justin knew was that he would begin his classes from the following week. Justin was elated yet grateful to know that his parents were doing everything so that he could pursue his dreams. "I will make them proud one day," he said to himself. School wasn't as easy as what Justin thought it to be, especially the first day. He had difficulty acclimatising himself to the new

scenario because there was no one to empathise with his trouble with sight. In the evening, looking at a despaired Justin, his father consoled him, "It was just your first day, my child. Give it some time; things will get better." With much hope, Justin geared himself for the next day of school, and wished that his teachers and classmates were supportive and sensitive towards his situation. The school did not have proper arrangements to cater to partially blind students; besides, he was being bullied, too.

Despite the adversities, Justin continued to attend the school and went to public libraries post school hours to read books available in Braille. He made it a point to read as much as possible, no matter what the genre was. He read encyclopaedias, novels, research papers, whatever he could get his hands on. In

Truly ecstatic about this newly formed idea in his mind, Justin went to sleep peacefully.

fact, at times he would surprise his teacher by explaining the concepts he wasn't even taught earlier! Soon, Justin became a class-favourite, with his mates and teachers supporting him. Eventually, Justin won several awards and made himself worthy of full scholarship from the authorities. As years passed, he made it through school and even graduated from college with flying colours. His determination and hard work got him a great job, much better than he had expected. After getting his eye surgery done, he ushered in a new life for his parents and himself, each of them content that their perseverance had paid off. Nonetheless, there was one thing that Justin had yet to accomplish. Although he could now see clearly, his mind was stuck at the situation faced by people who were still struggling for inclusivity with their impaired visions. Working toward the same, in a few years, he built a school for people struggling with vision. He ensured that nobody went through what he did back in his time. This is when his hard work did indeed pay off! Looking at the newly constructed school building, Justin gave out a sigh, thinking, "Where there is a will, there is a way!" 🇮🇳



Koena Malhotra

3D bookmark

Koena Malhotra, AIS Pushp Vihar, VIII

Material required

- White sheet
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Water colours
- Paint brushes

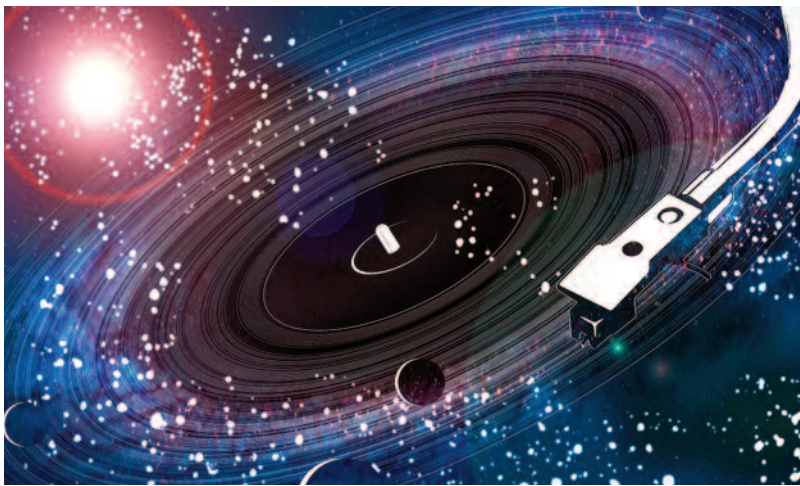
Instructions

- Take a plain white sheet and from it, cut out a rectangle of dimensions about 30cm long and 7cm wide.
- Press fold this rectangular cut-out in half.
- Now, draw the outline of a flower and a butterfly on it as shown in the picture.
- Cut out the outline of the butterfly, but don't detach it from the sheet entirely.
- Now that you have a rough idea of the shape, replicate the same sketch on the other side.
- Open the fold to find a mirror image of the butterfly and

- the flower.
- Using water colours, paint the shapes in the colours of your choice. Here, blue has been used for the edges of the bookmark; blue, black, green and grey for the butterfly; and yellow, orange and green for the flower.
- Once dry, flip the bookmark and paint the wings of the butterfly visible on this side. Let the paint dry.
- Your bookmark is ready! Use it to keep a track of your progress as you read your favourite book next!

WORDS VERSE

The song of universe



Prisha Prasad, AIS Gur 43, X B

Our universe is full of weird things

In this grand scheme of God's art
Earth is nothing but a tiny part
We experience days, nights and noon
Even have our own beautiful moon

Mars is only a step away
Venus is closer to sun's rays
Hot Mercury makes us swoon
Revolving this planet, is no moon

Uranus is a big ball of gas
Neptune still has ice to amass
Not even a planet, is the poor Pluto
This isn't anything new though

This is our great solar system
One of the houses in universe
Each day, it is known to expand
All but thanks to the Big Bang! 🇮🇳

Anywhere you see is a new beginning
There's Jupiter, as strong as a king
Look at Saturn dancing with its ring

A shattered place

Tavishi Duggal
AIS Saket, Alumna

The clouds are weeping again
Howling winds are piercing my ears
I try to shelve my despair
As my heart drowns in tears

What have we settled for?
Hatred burns the Elysian hope
While the fire in our hearts dies

Keep on dreaming to elope

God painted a pretty landscape
Who dropped black ink over it?
Redemption is an illusion
We'll pay for crimes we commit

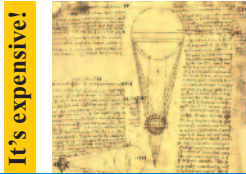
The world is now a terrible place
We shouldn't take long to realise
Hide away in our shells if afraid
Or make a big change if wise. 🇮🇳



BRUSH 'n' EASEL

Kuhu Saha, AIS MV, XII G





Leonardo da Vinci's 'Codex Hammer' is the most expensive illustrated manuscript sold in the world, bought by Bill Gates for over 30 million USD.

A strange birthday

Illustration: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network



Short Story

Kashvi Dev Kashyap, AIS Gur 46, VII

As Florence sat on her desk in the classroom, she noticed a storm brewing outside. "Great! Now it is going to rain," she mumbled to herself, irritated. Just as she had predicted, a moment later, the **downpour** started outside. Florence groaned, and for the rest of the school day, she kept hoping for the rain to be done with by the time it was her turn to walk back home. But when the last bell of the day rang, signaling that students were now free to go back home, the rain had not stopped. The students rushed outside, eager to get drenched in the rain, but Florence stuck to standing in a corner, wondering what to do. She absolutely hated rain and getting drenched in it was not something she was looking forward to. "It is raining cats and dogs, and I don't even have an umbrella. How will I go back home

now?" she cried to herself. "Why don't you join me?" came a voice from behind her. Florence turned to look at Tessa, one of her classmates. Florence had never really talked to her much before, but she had always caught her attention. Her behaviour always felt weird to the rest of the students, but Florence always liked her, even when they had not interacted much before. "I have an umbrella and I am sure it can keep both of us safe," Tessa said. Together they walked to Florence's home, and even though the rain was getting worse, not a single drop ever landed on Florence and her dress. "Wow! Your umbrella really must be something. I did not get drenched at all. Even my brand new dress is fine, thank God for that! My mom got this dress for me yesterday because today is my birthday, you know!" Florence said. "Yes, I know! You just turned 15, right? And today has been going very weirdly

The students rushed outside, eager to get drenched in the rain, but Florence stuck to standing in a corner, wondering what to do.

for you?" Tessa replied. Florence was a little taken aback. Yes, everything today had been a little off for her - her mother, as soon as she saw her in the morning, had started crying about how she would miss her even though Florence was not going anywhere. The rain, too, was out of season today and it definitely irritated her more than it usually did. Even her hands had been burning and itching a little all day and she could not figure out why. "Ho-how do y-you know?" Florence asked. "I know it, because I have been waiting for this day to come for a while now, for you to turn 15, so I and your parents could tell you the truth about who you are! You are a witch, Florence," Tessa replied. Florence gasped, and quickly ran to her house to talk to her parents, but when she reached home, she saw her mother standing in the living room with a suitcase full of Florence's stuff. "It's time for you to know your real self," her mother smiled. Florence looked back at Tessa standing behind her, and realised that both of them were right. She had always felt like an outsider in her life, so maybe she really was someone else. Nodding to Tessa, she followed her to the new world, ready for the adventure that started on her 15th birthday.

So, what did you learn today?
A new word: Downpour
Meaning: A heavy fall of rain



Chocolate tart

Aarna Malasi, AIS Mayur Vihar, IV

Ingredients

- Oreo biscuits.....2 packets
- Butter (melted).....1/3 cup
- Chocolate bar.....340 gm
- Amul cream.....1 cup

Procedure

- In a bowl, take Oreo biscuits and break them into small pieces with the help of a rolling pin.
- Once done, transfer the crushed biscuits in a mixer jar. Grind them into fine powder.
- Transfer the fine powder in another bowl and now add melted butter to it. Combine the mixture well.
- Put the mixture in a tart pan. Spread it to fit the entirety of the pan and ensure a smooth texture on the top. Refrigerate it for 30 minutes.
- Now, break chocolate bar into pieces and melt it in a heatproof pan on medium flame. Set aside.
- In a small saucepan, bring the heavy cream and butter to a low boil on medium flame. Remove from the flame and pour it over the melted chocolate.
- Using a spatula, stir the mix well until smooth with no lumps.
- Now take out the chilled tart pan from the refrigerator and pour the filling over it evenly.
- Again, refrigerate it for at least 4 hours or leave it overnight.
- When done, unmould the chocolate tart from the pan and place it on a serving dish.
- Your chocolate tart is ready! Treat your patience with this easy yummy dish!

POEM

Beloved grandpa

Avika Agarwal
AIS Vasundhara 6, VI

My beloved grandfather he was
Always held my hand, broke my fall

He always made me smile
And told me stories every night

He guarded me against anything bad
He made sure that I was never sad

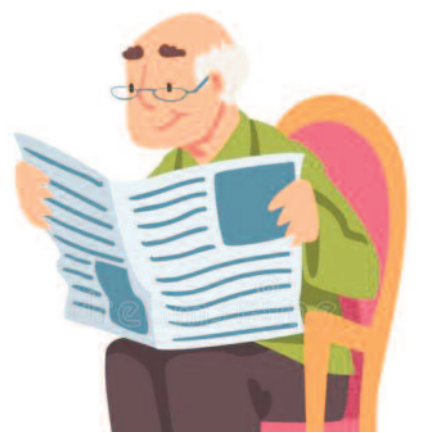
He was a great teacher, my grandpa
I wished that he would never go afar

A loving, caring and witty person
My grandpa was a man of great reason

He gave me wings and let my fly
Now I am here without him in my life

I do miss him every minute of the clock
I keep wondering where he has gone

He now enjoys in the company of God
My beloved grandpa, I love you a lot!



Riddle fiddle

Akshra Rana
AIS Gurugram 43, VII

1. I start with an E and end with an E. I have various countries inside me. What am I?
2. I build bridges of silver and crowns of gold. Who am I?
3. I am an odd number but remove one letter and I become even. What number am I?
4. I have hands and I can move them, but I can't clap. What am I?
5. A one-seeded fruit I may be, but all the calendars are full of me. What am I?

Answers: 1. Europe 2. A den-
tist 2. Seven 4. A clock
5. Dates

It's Me



Know me

My name: Daivik Singh
My class: I
My school: AIS Gurugram 43
Born on: November 12

My favourites

Teacher: Sinchina ma'am and Ritu ma'am
Subject: EVS
Game: Football
Cartoon: Masha and the Bear
Food: Paratha and cream
Mall: Ardee Mall, Gurugram
Book: The Lion and the Mouse

My dreams and goals

Hobby: Gardening
I like: Cars
I dislike: Sitting idle
I want to feature in GT because: I want everyone to know me


PAINTING CORNER

Sachi Pandey
AIS Vas 6, VIII



A million queries


Addressing Various Doubts The General Public Have When It Comes To Vaccines



Deetya Gambhir
AIS Pushp Vihar, IX C

The gruelling fight against COVID-19 continues on as we dream of getting our old normal back. All this while, the only sliver of hope we’ve had is the development of effective vaccines by different scientists of the world. In December 2020, UK became the first nation to give a nod to the Pfizer vaccine. Soon, other countries followed suit and allowed the inoculation drive to begin in a phased manner, but as different countries in the world are in a race of creating their own vaccines, the general public have a few doubts.

What is vaccine efficacy?
Many people, whilst comparing, confuse vaccine efficacy with vaccine effectiveness, which leads them to harbour incorrect opinions and to spread them amongst their contacts. While vaccine efficacy refers only to the degree to which a vaccine can prevent the disease during its clinical trials, vaccine effectiveness means the ability of a vaccine to give desired results in the real world. An efficacious vaccine is expected to be highly effective. However, its impact cannot be predicted as it may



fairly compared, especially when they get different COVID vaccines created by different nations, for each trial involves different people living in different parts of the world. And a true comparison can only be done when two or more vaccines go head-to-head in the same trial. But such a comparison is a challenge to be performed, especially in such tough times when the prime focus is to save as many human lives as possible rather than making comparisons and delaying the whole process of vaccination altogether.

In December 2020, UK became the first nation to give a nod to the Pfizer vaccine.

Which COVID vaccine is the best?
Like all other vaccines, COVID-19 vaccines are not 100% effective. Thus, the most important thing to look out for is how well a vaccine keeps hospitalisations and severe infections at bay. Health officials say that the best vaccine is the one currently available in your particular country and is offered on the day of the appointment, so don’t be picky and get yourself vaccinated ASAP!


vary from person to person.

Do these quickly produced vaccines work?
Every time a comparison is done, timing is always taken into consideration. People wonder if these quickly-made vaccines are effective or not. Well, even after the human trials, many have argued that a ‘safe’ vaccine can’t be developed in such a short period of time. In response, experts have clarified that a vaccine with minimum efficacy rate of 50% is enough to reduce global transmission of the virus. Therefore, the vaccines available in the market are effective and simply rule out the doubt of being produced quickly. Besides, it’s better to have something in hand than nothing.

Are the numbers lying?
Scientists suggest that statistics can’t be

Poetic Expression

Let us all pray!



Ojasvi Singh, AIS VYC, X A

The shelter is all warm and nice
To stay at home is only much wise
Though I can’t be in for so long
But going out will only be wrong

Spending these days in anticipation
Till when, there is no explanation
Exploring the world virtually
Be it through smartphone or the TV

Be it north, east, west and south
For now, there is simply no way out
But I wake and hear the bird’s chirp
The only good thing in this massive curb

Wash your hands a hundred times a day
This is the time to keep COVID at bay
This maybe a sign to be considerate
So, let us all pray and not go astray. 🙏🇮🇳

Riddhima Sharma
AIS Vas 6, VI D

The ocean we drown in
Is made up of our tears
The fire we are burning in
Is made up of all our fears

Melancholy is everywhere
Gloomy is the atmosphere
We are all losing patience
Is the end here and near?

Wake up from your slumber
This, too, shall pass away
Let Almighty be the charioteer
And keep misery at bay! 🙏🇮🇳

The Almighty





Beating the blue

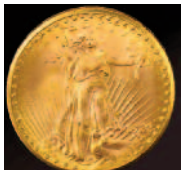
Art Is Certainly The Only Way To Do It

Roshni Debaja
AIS Noida, X B

It’s been more than a year since the virus and as an inevitable result, the lockdown dawned on us. A species that used to thrive in socialisation, was now forced to survive in isolation; and all of us experienced the feeling of nothingness, almost giving up on everything that made us feel good. True, at first, it seemed temporary, but these fleeting moments soon became the reality, and here we are, ushering in a new normal. Now, while we all must have thought that there is nothing to

do, it was indeed a challenge for us to overcome in our own ways. Without many choices at hand, it was a tad frustrating and torturous at first, but it wasn’t long before each one of us discovered a new potential, a new desire, or maybe a new talent. I did, too! Although at a point like this, the willingness to do something productive also goes away, but it was at this very point that art came to my rescue. Personally speaking, sometimes just doodling or picking up the brush to paint your emotions is the most refreshing thing. I truly believe in the power of art as it stimulates an individual’s

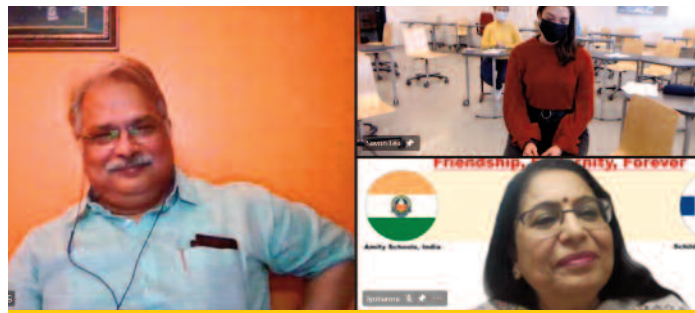
thoughts, emotions, or ideas through the senses. You may not realise it but sometimes sitting by the window and painting in bright daylight with some music in the background might turn out to be the best experience in times like these. It does not have to be perfect, it just needs to be something that you love to do! Now, everyone has their own definition of art. For me, it is doodling and painting, for you it might be cooking, dancing or even singing; but whatever it is, it will give you a reason to get through each day with a lot more strength and meaning. So, let your art define you! 🙏🇮🇳



The 1933 Double Eagle, a 20 dollar USD gold coin is the most extravagant coin in the world which was sold for over 7 million USD.

Indo-Finnish exchange

An Intercultural Programme To Strengthen Diversity



Devesh Kumar interacts with a Finnish student



Joonas Könttä interacts with the students of Amity

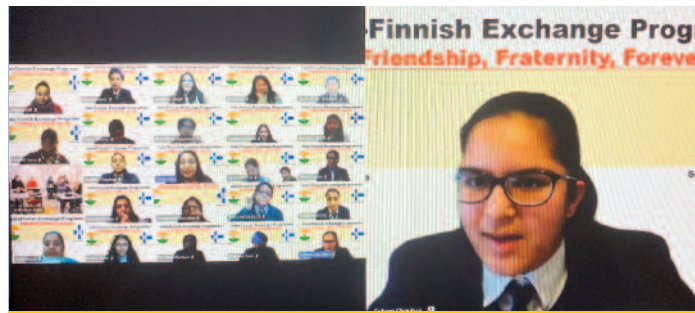
AERC

The first ever six month long intercultural exchange programme between Amity Group of Schools, India and Schildt High School, Finland culminated with a virtual Indo-Finnish meet held on May 26, 2021. The exchange programme, held from December 16, 2020 -May 26, 2021, was organised to enhance the knowledge of students regarding Parliamentary systems of India and Finland. A total of 15 students from Amity Group of Schools and 14 students from Schildt High School, Finland, participated in five virtual Indo - Finnish meets. Envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, as a platform to enrich global cultural awareness, the programme was facilitated by Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC). The first virtual meet commenced on December 16, 2020

with a virtual introduction of students from both the schools. Mentors of Schildt High School, Lea Savon and Kaisu Ikaheimo, heartily welcomed Amitians with a video presentation on the beautiful summertime midnight in Finland. Following which students of both the schools interacted with each other about their life, study and school, etc. The second virtual meet took place on January 27, 2021 wherein students from both the schools interacted about their families, cultures, traditions, hobbies, etc. Amitians showcased many videos on various topics like Indian traditional dance forms, pets, family, music and art, Bollywood, etc. They also showcased videos of their homes, wherein their mentors also mapped their houses. A gripping Q&A round was also held where the Amitians learnt more about their lifestyle,

dreams, culture, customs, traditions and family. On February 24, 2021, the third meet happened where the students discussed about their school life and celebrations in India and Finland. They shared the curriculum, exam pattern, structure of school days and holidays, assessments, assignments, awards and recognitions, etc. A video based on events and happenings at Amity as well as awards and accolades won by Amitians was also showcased to highlight life at Amity. The fourth meet was held on April 19, 2021, to get an insight into Finnish Parliamentary system to the students. It was graced by Joonas Könttä, Finnish Member of Parliament and city councillor of Jyväskylä, and Member of European Parliament, Henna Maria Virkunen. During the meet, the parliamentarians apprised students on the electoral procedure and parliamentary system of Finland. Students of Amity also asked about

policies, procedures, laws, etc., in Finland during an interactive Q & A session with both the parliamentarians. The fifth and the culminating meet based on Indian Parliamentary system was held on May 26, 2021. The meet was graced by Member of Bihar Legislative Council, Devesh Kumar, an acclaimed politician and journalist as the chief guest. In his address to the students, he highlighted cultural and political similarities between India and Finland while focussing on their rich diversities. During the Q&A session, he answered the queries of Finnish students about his life as a journalist and his political career, and also apprised them about Indian Parliamentary system and the electoral process. The exchange programme gave Amitians an opportunity to understand the functioning of schools as well as life of students in Finland. It also enriched their knowledge about the culture and lifestyle of Finnish citizens. [GFI](#)



Students of Amity interact during the meet



Finnish students present a dance performance



Students express their opinions on telecommunication

Communicating lines

Role Of Telecommunication

AIS Vasundhara 6

Students of Class V D observed World Telecommunication Day through online class assembly held on July 7, 2021. Aimed at enhancing awareness about the impact of telecommunications in life, students were apprised about the role of telecommunication in 21st century digital world. They sang a song and organised a quiz based

on the importance and evolution of telecommunication. As they marveled about the benefits of telecommunications, they also pondered upon the negative effects of excessive use of gadgets. To mitigate the same, they took a pledge to check their use of gadgets. The assembly concluded with words of appreciation from parents, encouragement and wisdom words by school principal Sunila Athley. [GFI](#)

TED session

All About Studying Abroad

AIS Mayur Vihar

A virtual session on 'Pursuing education abroad - challenges and solutions' was held for Class IX-XII on May 21, 2021, by TED Club and Crossfire, the debating society of school. Aditi Sinha, alumna from AIS MV, currently pursuing BS (Managerial Economics Major and Technology Management Minor) at University of California, Davis, presided over as the resource person for the session. During the interaction, she shed light on the significant aspects like admission process in the universities abroad, skills young students should cultivate, how to build and write an impressive resume, how to draft application, etc. She also shared her experiences at school and University of California, challenges she faced and how she overcame those. She emphasised



Aditi Sinha, Alumna, AIS MV

upon the importance of hard work, gaining diverse skill sets and maintaining strong network. The presentation was followed by an interactive Q&A session, where she answered all the queries posed by the students. The session primed students for world that awaits them, as they fly to pursue new vistas in life. [GFI](#)



Chairperson addresses educators during the training

Designing ideas

A Virtual Training Session

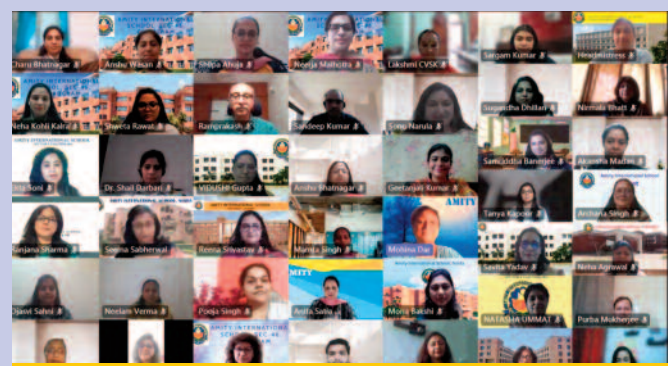
HR and Training

A virtual training programme on Design Thinking was conducted for middle school educators of Amity Group of Schools from June 1-7, 2021. The programme, organised under the leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, aimed at enriching the educators' understanding of Design Thinking and its application in classroom and education. Facilitated by Ramprakash K, director, Qatapult Learning Solutions, the sessions were attended by 40 middle school educators from different branches of Amity Group of Schools. During the seven-day session, educators were divided into eight groups comprising five members in each group, to understand various phases of Design Thinking Cycle. The sessions were a mix of group discussions and activities, where the educators learnt to identify the problems and apply design thinking process to reach most promising solu-

tions for the same. The programme concluded with presentations by all the eight groups on their chosen problems and their solutions based on design thinking. During the presentation, a couple of problem statements such as how to nurture both teachers and students as reflective practitioners and how to ensure mental well-being of teachers and students for happy learning were shared. The presentations were evaluated by an esteemed jury comprising school principals from all the branches of Amity Group of Schools. The concluding session was graced by Chairperson, who in her address urged the educators to adopt design thinking technique in an interactive and creative manner to solve the problems both in classrooms and life.

About Design Thinking

Design Thinking is a creative problem-solving technique that is based on prioritising one's need. It is a human centric concept, which involves all stakeholders at various steps of problem solving.



Educators learn the nuances of Design Thinking

Winning writer

AIS Noida

Avni Jain, AIS Noida, X A

Prisha Verma of Class IX won the Lenovo SmarterEd scholarship organised by Hindustan Times as per the results announced on June 25, 2021. She is one amongst the top 100 students all over India to have won the prestigious reward for her impressive essay on her thoughts about online classes. Along with scholarship, Prisha also won a Lenovo laptop as reward. The competition saw registration from a total of 61,270 students from 1375 schools all over India, out of which only 100 were selected for the reward after an online exam and an interview. The interview round, conducted by Sunita Aron, Senior Editor, Hindustan Times, comprised



Prisha Verma

thought provoking questions based on the essay written by Prisha, along with social topics such as dealing with orphaned children, how to provide online education to less privileged children, etc. Prisha marveled the jury with her answers. [GFI](#)



Up and coming authors

Young Prodigies of Amity Showcase Their Authorial Prowess

Vedi Jain, AIS Vasundhara 1, XI C

Age is no barrier when it comes to authoring a book, but it certainly makes the feat momentous, especially when you are just a ten-year-old like **Samarth Tyagi**, a sixth grader from **Amity International School, Vas 1**. With his debut novel, *Loyle Cupcott and the Dragon's Myth*, not only has Samarth ushered into the world of words, but he has also *drumrolls* proven his mettle as an author who's here to stay. When wordsmanship is so immanent in an individual, to the level where it's hard to differentiate the artist from his art, one cannot help but stop, stare and appreciate in awe. That's exactly what we did. Here take a look!

Title: *Loyle Cupcott and the Dragon's Myth*
Author: Samarth Tyagi
Price: 139 INR
Available on: Notion Press and Amazon

The inception

During the lockdown, when the lives of students everywhere turned upside down, Samarth continued his habit of reading. With the likes of JK Rowling, Ruskin Bond, etc., being his absolute favourites, he couldn't help but be captivated by the fantastical world of words, and that's where his inspiration to write comes from. "Time played a huge hindrance though. It was difficult to manage the whole writing process along with the homework and other school work," says Samarth, highlighting how being a child author isn't a piece of cake for it not only requires dedication and sincerity towards the art, but also commands great time managing skills and an effective plan of action.

The development

"When I told my parents about my wish to write a book of my own, they were amazed. They were very supportive throughout the process, waiting eagerly to see the finished project," explains the young writer

A writer's saga

when asked about his parents' initial thoughts. Despite the pandemic, "I was in constant touch with my class teacher, Mitali Saxena, as she guided my creative instincts and provided me a clear picture of things related to the art of fiction writing," he adds, appreciating the role Amity played in transforming his interest in fiction into a full-fledged career prospect. He also took the opportunity to thank his dad's colleague for proof reading and editing his work, to make it worth publishing.



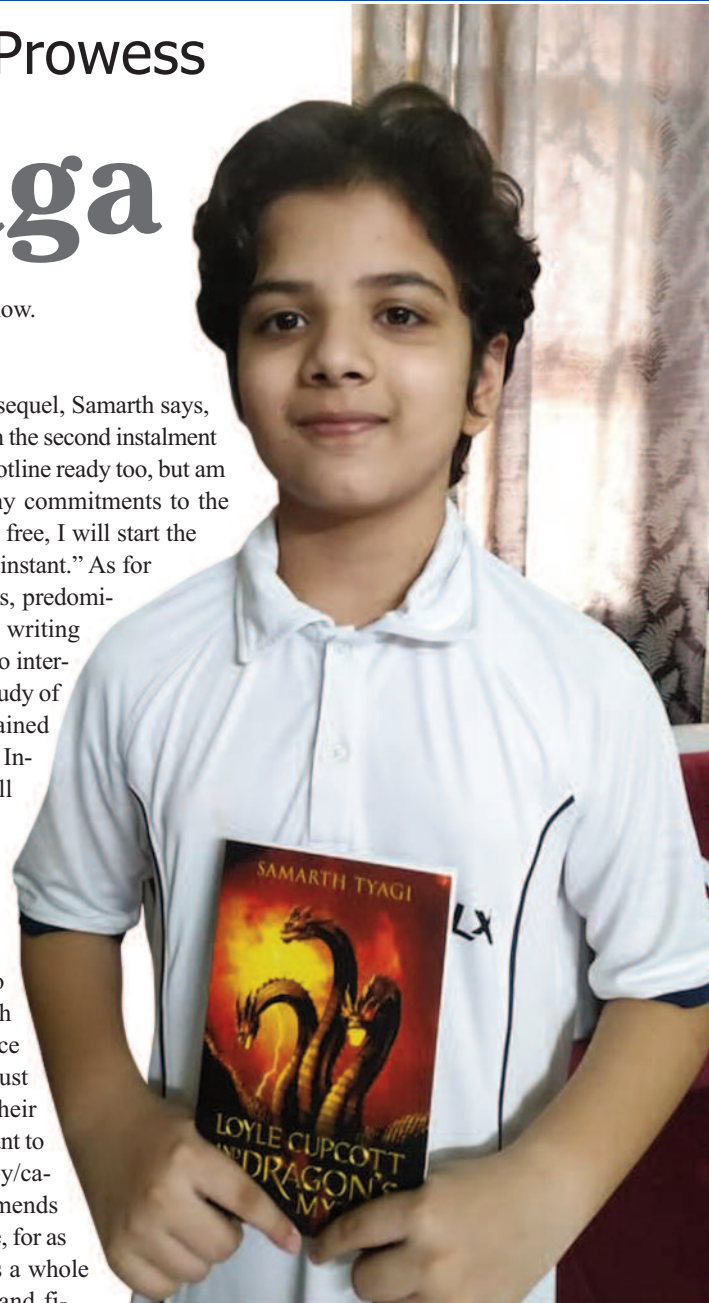
copies of the book right now.

The way forward

Already up for writing a sequel, Samarth says, "I eagerly want to work on the second instalment in the series and have a plotline ready too, but am currently restricted by my commitments to the school. Once I get a little free, I will start the writing process that very instant." As for his long-term career goals, predominantly divided between writing and sports, Samarth is also interested in cosmology, the study of space, an interest he gained after watching the movie *Interstellar*. Guess we will have to wait and watch what lies in store for our talented writing prodigy!

The final words

For all those who desire to be successful, Samarth shares his own experience to suggest that "one must never give up on their dreams"; to those who want to pursue writing as a hobby/career option, he recommends reading as a daily exercise, for as he puts it, "every book is a whole new world to explore"; and finally, for those dealing with writer's block, he proposes taking it all one day at a time. [GT](#)



GT Author's Desk

An author's epic tale

The prologue

Ananya Agarwal got into literature so early on that she does not even remember the first book she ever read. Simultaneously began her penchant for writing which serves as a medium of recreation for the brilliant writer. Her favourite genre is fantasy, as it allows her to visit and experience fantastical realms. Apart from this, she loves the works of Rick Riordan, attributing to his graceful accommodation of diversity. Heavily inspired by a quote from one of Riordan's protagonists, Annabeth Chase, "Even strength has to bow to wisdom sometimes..." Ananya understood how words, when woven with wisdom, can be powerful enough to change the world. "I wanted something to look back to, something which I had made and which I can be proud of," she says. For her, the hardest part about writing is the forethought it requires. She has to deliberate for weeks in advance, however, it is a challenge that she loves to take on!

Act I: The commencement

The young author conceived the idea for her book when a teacher introduced to her the 'Write Now' programme launched by Scholastic India. An initiative that helps budding writers to explore their creative flair by empowering them to write short stories of their own, Ananya instantly signed up owing to her love for writing. During the programme, she learnt a lot about the subtleties that go into writing. Hence, this process provided a great platform for Ananya to execute her imagination. "The writing process and discipline was monitored constantly throughout the entire course," recounts the author.

Act II: The conflict

"Writing is a tremendous challenge in itself," is what Ananya believes. During her Write Now stint, she composed an author profile and this was followed by a plotline that she wrote with great detail,

somewhat inspired by the Harry Potter books. The little girl has always wanted to write a book which delves into real world topics and issues, to be precise- betrayal. However certain she was about the theme of her book, Ananya was faced with the dilemma of coming up with an idea that will highly resonate with the masses, which, she feels, was the trickiest part of the process. She remembers the point where she became conscious that weaving a story was not a piece of cake. "Before the programme, I made stuff up as I went along, but I realised that wouldn't work here. My work had to be well-thought of and different," sums up Ananya.

Act III: The confrontation

After overcoming the challenges that came her way while realising her story idea, Ananya proceeded to write an entire book in record time under her instructors' supervision. She deliberated even the smallest details of her book and a plot that would entice the readers. Subsequently, she went on to complete her first ever story which was then published by Scholastic in *Pastel Sky*, an anthology of brilliant stories penned by story-tellers like Ananya, entailing all the hard work and ingenuity that she had channelised towards her work.

However, she owes this chance to her teachers who always encouraged her writing and nudged her to participate in the platform.

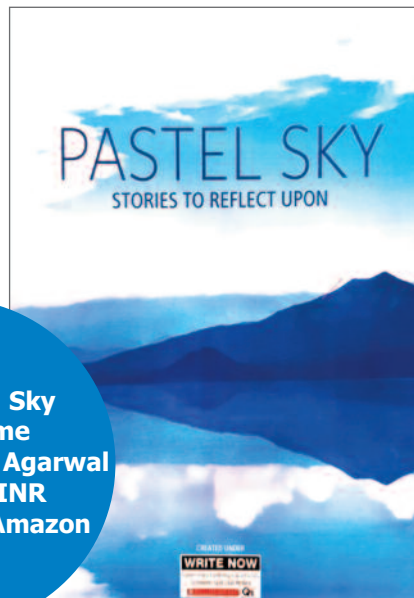
The epilogue

That said, the young accomplished author also believes, "This feat wouldn't have been attainable if it weren't for my parents and teachers who always fostered my flair for writing and encouraged me to overstep the boundaries and publicise the work." Ananya's remarkable achievement, thus, stands true to the saying that unhindered willpower and determination are bound to lead you to your accomplishment! [GT](#)



Shikhar Srivastava, AIS Gurugram 46, XI B

In a world dominated by a great deal of conundrums, we all strive to find that one passion that helps us elude to a space of our own, one that lets us be ourselves, that we love to do more than anything. While we all are fervent about something or the other, for **Ananya Agarwal, AIS Gur 46, VI D**, this passion is writing, which enables her to not only transcend to another realm, but indeed create one of her own. As an ardent architect of wonderful stories, this young author has got her first story 'Fame' published at the tender age of nine. Without further ado, let's hear the epic story of the amazing story-writer that Ananya is!



Title: *Pastel Sky*
Story: Fame
Author: Ananya Agarwal
Price: 399 INR
Available on: Amazon