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AMITe poll

With Germany seeing a record 50,000 cases, do you think that the pandemic maybe returning?

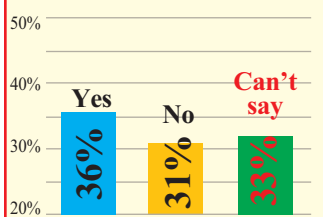
- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Can't say

To vote, log on to
 www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT

for GT issue November 8, 2021

Do you think PM Modi's pledge of India reaching net zero emissions by 2070 will actually stand true?



Results as on November 13, 2021

Coming Next

AIS VKC Contest Edition

Climate change on your plate

The Changing Celsius And It's Extensive Impact On Food Production

Anika Bansal, AIS Vasundhara 6, X

The recently held UN World Food Summit on September 23, 2021 explored various facets of the food we eat, including the effects of climate change on food production. Yes, you read that right and you read that again – climate change; the two all-pervasive words that seem to be seated rather opulently in every corner of our living. But, this isn't about melting of polar ice caps, submerging of coastal regions, extinction of species (all repercussions that we are likely to face). Instead, this one is going to leave a bad taste in your mouth....quite literally.

THE OBVIOUS

Climate change means erratic weather, which means droughts and floods, which means dwindling crop yields. A rather obvious relationship. The following numbers can help you understand the magnitude of this seemingly simple equation just a little better.

A rise in every degree Celsius, will result in fall of crop production by 5-15%. Closer to home, wheat yields have gone down by 5.2% from 1981 to 2009 despite adaptation. If current trends are anything to go by, global yields could go down by 30% by the end of 2050. And why just crops, climate change also affects livestock, an essential component of the food chain. Nebraska, US, alone lost an estimated \$440 million of cattle owing to flooding and storms, caused as a result of climate change. Milk and dairy products are going to be hard hit too. Cows will not just produce milk in lesser quantities- about 40% less, but also of poor quality.

In very bad taste: There are already 2 billion people on this planet without access to sufficient food. The pandemic has only made matters worse. With the current rate of climate change, the numbers are going to skydive.

THE NOT SO OBVIOUS

Now climate change and lower food production is a relationship that all of us are well-versed with. But global warming affects the food on your plate in more ways than you know. A report by the University of Melbourne talks about how increased mercury levels could lead to a change in the way foods taste, and make varieties of fruits,

vegetables and seafood harder to find.

Carrot may not have the same texture, eggplants could grow deformed, kale could become bitter and canola oil may not be as nutritious. In fact, our staple drink tea could also lose its flavour. Increase in temperature has led to an increase in overall precipitation, which leads to dilution of secondary metabolites in the tea – the same compounds that give tea its flavour and antioxidant properties. The taste of apple too is changing, with the firmness of the fruit and its acid concentration going down.

MAYBE A CASE OF BAD KARMA

So, now that it has been established that climate change is leading to a change in our palettes, let's look at the equation backwards. Our food system too is responsible for global warming. In fact, our food system accounts for approximately a quarter of greenhouse gas emissions every year. From raising and harvesting plants to rearing animals; all of it leads to global warming.

Forests are cleared on a regular basis to make way for

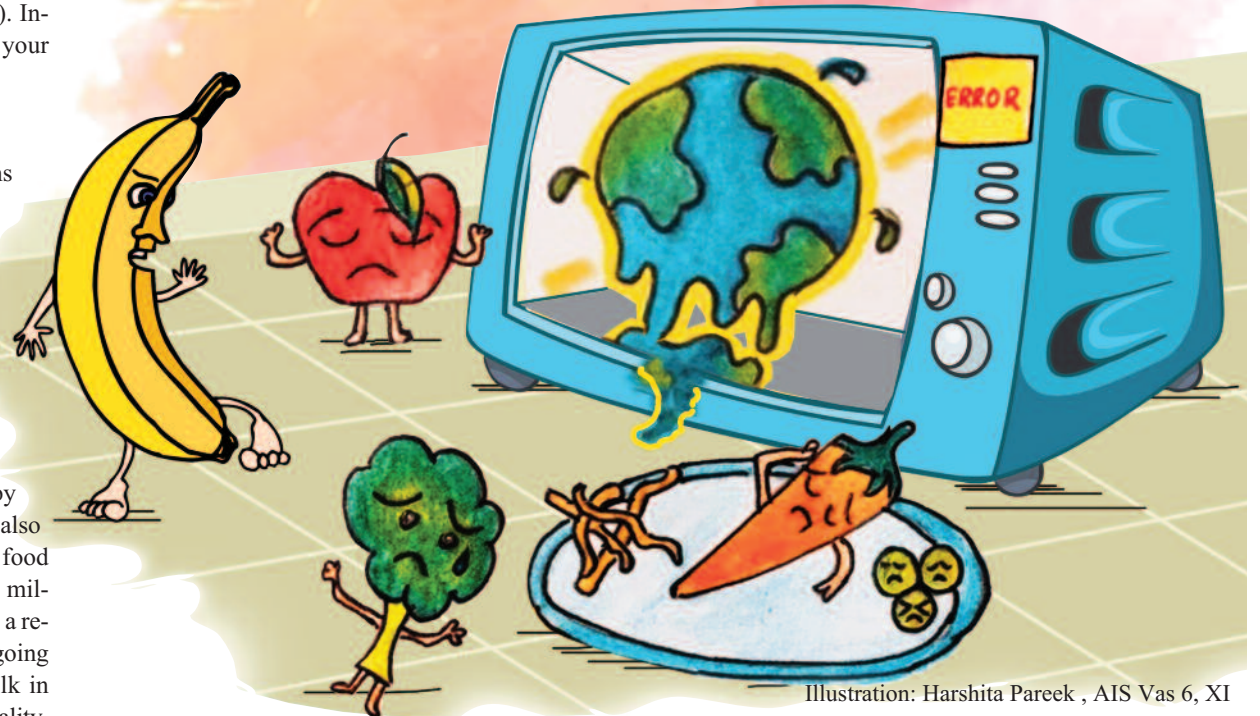


Illustration: Harshita Pareek, AIS Vas 6, XI

Many crops are likely to be less nutritious when grown in high levels of CO₂. Farmers would be forced to rear heat tolerant animals, meaning lower quality meat.

While the quality of food will take the downturn, certain foods such as coffee and chocolates are likely to vanish from our plate, becoming luxury items. Reason - half the land used to cultivate coffee will become unsuitable for production by 2050; courtesy – climate change, again.

In bad taste: There will be a day when that hot cup of cocoa will ring in nostalgia and the remnants on our plate will taste of compromise.

crop production. Cows, sheep and goats, release methane as a by-product when they digest their food. And not to forget the enormous carbon footprint produced as a result of transportation, storage and cooking of food.

Of course, the impact depends on the type of food. For instance, meat and dairy have a greater impact on the environment, with livestock alone accounting for 14.5% greenhouse emissions every year. Beef and lamb have the biggest climate footprint per gram of protein, while plant-based foods tend to have the smallest impact.

In bad taste: To eat or not to eat, the question remains.

Continued on page 6...

Fun with fiction

In Conversation With Children's book Author, Tina Stubbs

Rupal, AIS Gur 43, IX D

The author and book illustrator behind the award-winning children's book 'Life's Little Bugs', Tina Stubbs is the pioneer of children's fiction. Having completed her diploma in Children's illustration from London Art College, she has accomplished the art of helping young readers learn essential life skills in a fun way. Stubbs has also been awarded the prestigious "Sylvia Anderson Children's Author" award in 2017 for the same. As GT reporters caught up with her for an exclusive interview, here's what she had to say about her journey and the trials therewith.

Writing children's fiction

I have always loved reading new books. My mom inculcated the love for reading in me from a very young age. She would buy those pictorial books for me, much before I could even read. I feel that this early beginning ignited my interest in reading literature. I used to take my book under the covers of my bed with a

little torch and just escape into a completely different world. Growing up, I was and still am a massive Lewis Carroll fan. His books that have been illustrated by John Tenniel help the readers make a quick transition from the mundane reality of things to the fantastical through a creative touch of imagination. So as a parent, I realised more such books need to be made in order to engage and inculcate essential life skills in children via a fun yet informative manner.

Inspiration behind 'Life's Little Bugs'

As a working parent, I found it



Tina Stubbs with 'Life's Little Bugs' illustrations

to be quite a struggle to get my child into regular healthy habits. Basically, the characters of my illustrations are what ignited the idea of Life's Little Bugs. The title isn't about actual bugs; it's about things that we have to do that 'bug' us. It is an attempt to make those bothering habits fun. So, these habits that we should practice every day to keep us healthy and happy are represented by different characters. Three main aspects that are explored in my books are health, hygiene and social etiquettes.

For instance, the flu bug is all about respiratory hygiene and sanitation. Similarly, we have the litter bug which creates awareness about environment degradation, the doodle bug inculcates values of respect and kindness, the fitness bug which sensitises them towards the importance of a good healthy lifestyle and so on. All my illustrated books are of pedagogical importance; they contain fun activities that small children can perform in order to self-learn.

The creative process

Being the writer as well as the illustrator for my books was icing on the cake for me, because I got to develop characters according to my vision and choice. My characters were to be different, colourful and quirky. Many writers today take help of computer aided software or hire illustrators to develop what they desire, but for me both writing and illustrating have always been a part of the process. It is a learning curve, where I make mistakes but things do come together towards the end. One just has to keep look-



Tina Stubbs with GT Reporters

ing for new ideas and inspiration from around their surroundings and it all falls into place.

Overcoming challenges

Creating books for children, I had to put myself in their shoes in order to understand how they receive and react to any instruction. The books had to be all encompassing and yet not too crowded with information. To look out for creative ideas through which a child understands a said message was also challenging. But the different character illustrations created by me in Life's Little Bugs have successfully made children aware of their surroundings and cultures. I have also been able to include PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) educational model into the activities which helps the kids in strengthening core values and inculcating good habits, all of which is very important during the formative years of a child's development.

Advice for children

I would say simply follow your dreams. Just enjoy the process, take failures as part of your journey towards success. If you have a passion for something, you will always enjoy the work you are doing; not just with writing but anything. For it's said that if you are passionate about something, you will surely be successful at achieving it. [GT](#)

The original erasers were made of moist white bread, since they were cheap and easy to mold.



Around The WORLD

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

FRANCE

Audrey Azoulay once again gets re-elected as UNESCO Chief

The United Nations cultural agency, UNESCO, has re-elected France's Audrey Azoulay as the director-general for the second time. Azoulay won her mandate at UNESCO's general conference with 155 votes in her favour, 9 against her and one in abstention. It is said that Azoulay's greatest challenge for this four-year term will be to woo Israel and the US back into the organisation.



MYANMAR

US journalist imprisoned for 11 years

Danny Fenster, the managing editor of the online magazine Frontier Myanmar, has been sentenced to jail for 11 years in the military-ruled country. He was first arrested in May whilst trying to leave the nation on charges of incitement and breach of immigration laws, and was held prisoner in Yangon's Insein prison. The US embassy now plans to push the country for his release and safe arrival back.

RUSSIA

New Forest plan to deal with climate change

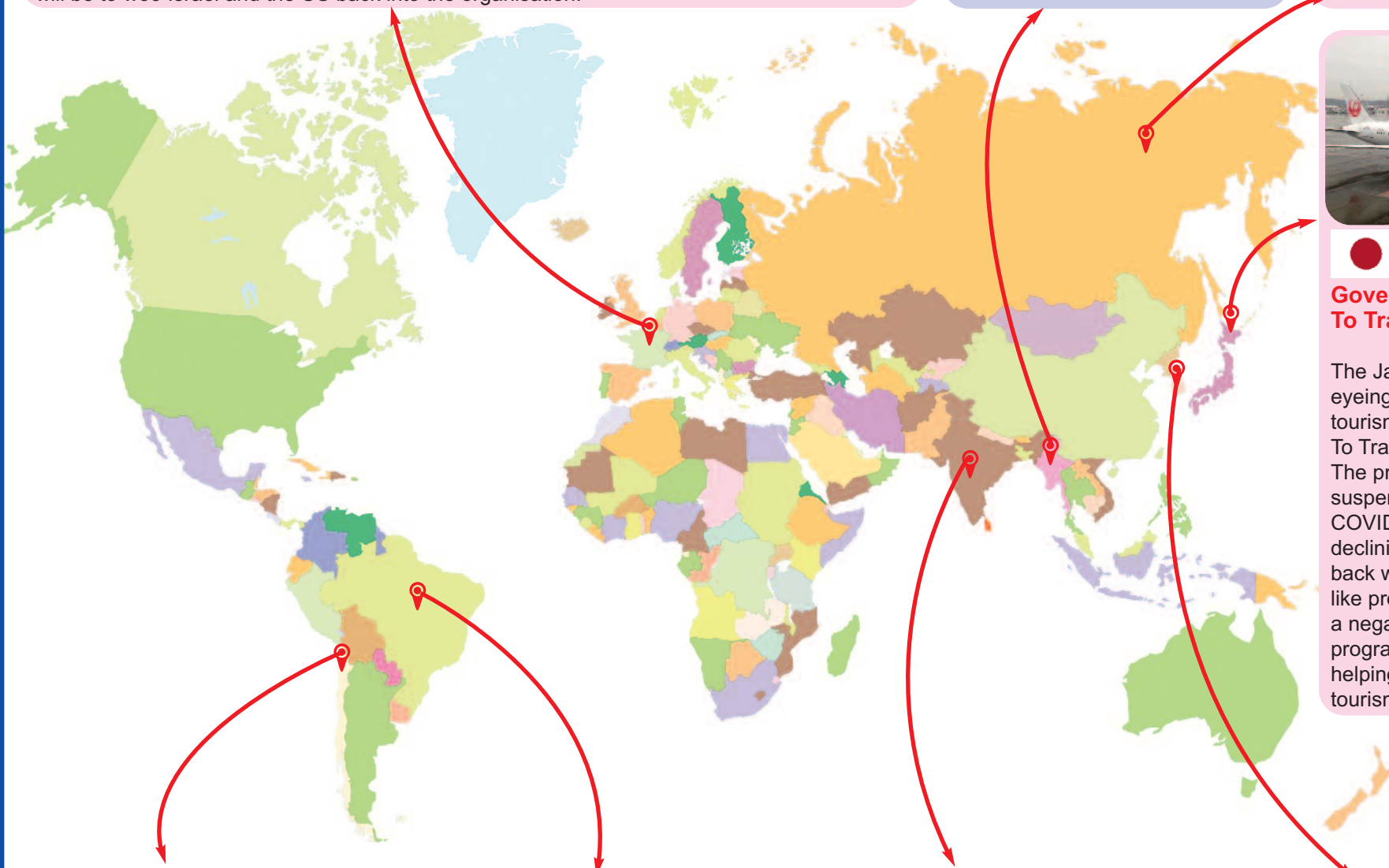
In order to combat climate change, the Russian government has decided to make Sakhalin, the largest island in the country, their testing ground to settle its vital fossil fuel industry. As two-third of the island is forested, the government hopes that the trees would absorb most of the carbon dioxide produced, and so the island aims to be carbon neutral by 2025. If the effort is successful, Russia plans on using the same model for the rest of the country as well.



JAPAN

Government to restart Go To Travel

The Japanese government is eyeing to restart their domestic tourism subsidy programme, Go To Travel, in February 2022. The programme was initially suspended last year due to COVID-19, but as the cases are declining, it is expected to come back with compulsory measures like proof of full vaccination and a negative virus test result. The programme will provide a great helping hand to the struggling tourism industry.



CHILE

President impeached because of Pandora papers

Sebastian Pinera, President of Chile, has been impeached by the Lower House of Chile's Congress after the revelation of Pandora Papers which supported the allegations that he favoured the sale of a family property whilst in office. The impeachment decision got the bare minimum of 78 votes needed, and now a trial has been set up to decide whether Sebastian Pinera should be removed from the office or not.

BRAZIL

Nine firefighters killed during training inside a cave

Nine firefighters died as the roof of the Duas Bocas cave collapsed itself in Brazil's Altinópolis. The authorities confirmed that the accident occurred as firefighters were on a training drill in the cave, and the rescue mission was made difficult due to heavy rains. In the end, the rescue team failed to save them, but the Governor of Sao Paulo, Joao Doria, announced that resources and help will be provided to the victims' families.



INDIA

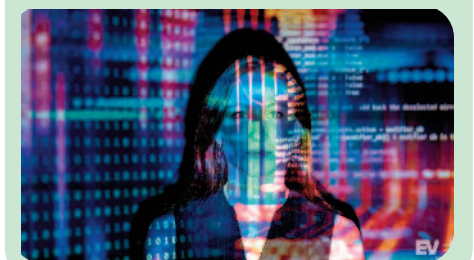
Registration of medical facilities begins under ABDM

The Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission launched by the Union Health Ministry will allow all Indian citizens to register their medical facilities and health records digitally. Every citizen will be provided one unique health ID to which their health records will be linked to. The vision is to create interoperability within the digital health ecosystem and to revolutionise payments.

SOUTH KOREA

The first city government to join metaverse

Seoul, has announced that it will become the first city government to step in the metaverse where all public services and cultural events will be accessible to the public through a portal. Once set up by the end of 2022, the citizens will be able to visit city hall virtually for their needs and be able to see various historic sites virtually. The decision comes as a part of Mayou Oh Se-hoon's ten-year plan for the capital.





Surprisingly, Joseph Priestley, the person who discovered oxygen, was also the inventor of the eraser.

Assessing the assessor

Nandita Bansal
AIS Saket, XII E

Ever wondered who determines the taxability and valuation of your property based on current market trends? Well, that is a Tax Assessor's job. Tax Assessment as a full-time profession has existed since the inception of civilisation, but it has hardly been explored as a profitable career option. Today, the role of accurate market assessors is increasing. So, let's take a deeper look into what this career option has in store for us.

WHO?

A tax assessor is a government official who evaluates the monetary worth of multiple properties in an entire neighbourhood. Based on these assessments or "appraisals", they determine how much property tax, owners should pay to the government. Confused? Let's break it down right from the 'Once upon a time...' of the story. The government of a country collects taxes from its residents. It uses this tax money to build infrastructure, clean the environment, reduce inequalities of the rich and poor, and so much more. We have a regressive taxation system which means that the government collects varying amount of taxes from people depending on their income level, property, assets, etc. This is where tax assessors come in. They find out the true value of a property based on which

Tax Assessment As A Lucrative Job Profile



the government charges property tax from the owners of different properties, such as residential properties or office premises, which are either self-owned or rented out to other people.

WHAT?

Tax assessors evaluate properties in a neighbourhood through field inspection, structural measurement calculation,

sales analysis, and market trend studies. They maintain maps of properties under their jurisdiction. Assessors also keep a database of every property, its characteristics, the owners, buying-selling history, and other information from any previous assessment. When the time comes, they calculate tax bills based on assessed values and present it to the owners. They have a regular nine

to five schedule and spend a quarter of the clock driving around neighbourhood and the rest working in the office. So, the next time you see a person outside your house with a pencil tucked behind their ear, a measurement tape in one hand, and a sheet of paper pinned to cardboard in the other, chances are that they might be a tax assessor, or they are planning a heist!

HOW?

While there aren't any government mandated educational pre-requisites for this job, but a bachelor's degree is preferable. A master's degree in either economics, finance, mathematics, computer science, business or even real estate law, and you'll be good to go! Although, a license or certification may be required in some states.

WHY?

A career in tax assessment can provide good paycheck returns, a stable lifestyle, and has an expected increase in employment opportunities by 14%, more than the average of other professions. With the "woke millennial era" kicking in and a positive growth outlook, you can bet on an increase in demand and supply of such jobs in the future. Besides, as an income tax assessing officer, you can make around 2.8- 8 lakhs per year.

WHEN?

This job profile could be a great career option for organisers and entrepreneurs who are skilled at time management, problem solving, analytics and mental math. Excellent listening and verbal communication skills will come in handy when responding to property owners' tax questions or even defending your case in court when Ms Verma, a factory owner, claims you overvalued her property to charge more for taxes! Talk about making enemies!

Iraq in a quandary

Barriers To Education In Conflict Affected Zones Of Iraq



Mahira Kapoor, AIS PV, X B

"It's around 9.30 in the morning here in Iraq. The scorching sun beats upon us mercilessly, as I rummage around the tent that I've called home for the past few months. Every day feels the same, hollow and derelict. Losing my parents to the vileness of this war has deprived me of any kind of attachment to life. This refugee camp has sucked out the innocence of childhood in me, leaving an empty shell of the person, a mere prey to the evils of this forsaken world.

I wistfully look back at better times, wishing that I could go back home, to the time where I could study with my Ammi under the flickering light of the lamp. I wish to be successful, to lead a normal life but Allah has other plans for me. Or is it even a part of his plan? Perhaps he has averted his gaze after all.

It has been 5 months and time hasn't healed any wounds. The void left by the loss of my parents only widens with each passing day. Memories of our late-night conversations, their preachings about my education and welfare keep me going still and one day, I shall honour their name and legacy. My Ammi always used to say, "I want you to be a great man, Ali and live a life most can only dream of". Her everlasting faith in me is a balm to my bruised soul, and I shall not falter from my course. Even if the idea of schools and books are an alien concept here, I shall persevere. I believe that one day, everything will get better and my suffering will end."

Just like 16-year-old Ali, close to 3.2 million school-aged children in Iraq are living without any access to education and other basic amenities. As per CNN, ISIS is using schools, the building blocks of one's childhood, as headquarters for their fighters, and

in others, they continue to exploit young children by inculcating subjects of religious extremism. For instance, Math is being taught by asking students to calculate the number of "unbelievers" who could be killed by a car bomber. In some schools, questions like 'how many explosives a factory could produce' are being given as homework. Through the aforementioned acts, only pure hatred is being embedded in a young naive child's mind in order to propagate conflict.

Iraq is at the risk of losing its entire young generation to conflict, says UNICEF. According to the body, nearly 1 million children have been displaced, 70 percent of whom have lost an entire year of school. Additionally, 67 attacks on schools and education personnel were reported in the last year alone. Some estimates indicate that about 1 in 5 schools or approximately 5,300 schools are either severely damaged or converted to shelter for displaced families or used for military purposes by subsidiaries to the conflict, making them rather unusable. Basic work is hard to find for refugees and are often forced to accept irregular, low-paid work they can get their hands on to make ends meet.

The situation in Iraq is disheartening and representative of everything that is wrong with the human race. Regulatory bodies like UNICEF have reaffirmed its commitment to increase children's education in Iraq by stating that it requires an additional 68 million USD by the end of the year to begin curbing this predicament even in the slightest. Given Iraq's lack of attention to the education sector, it is imperative that the concerned authorities take a look; and build a bright future of the young ones who at present are lost in the darkness of conflict and extremism. 🇮🇶



Book Review

Rake in that review

Book: All the bright Places
Author: Jennifer Niven
Published on: January 6, 2015
Genre: Young Adult, Fiction

Synopsis: Jennifer Niven's 'All the bright places' is a best-selling novel that mostly attracts young readers. The plot of the novel is replete with various emotions that keep on lingering in the reader's mind. It is an extremely impactful story of a young girl who is learning about loss and a boy who doesn't want to live anymore. Both the protagonists are battling their demons when they meet at the bell tower of their school. The girl is in a state of grieving but the arrival of the boy acts as an escape from her grief and sorrow. Contrary to which, the boy's world starts to crumble. The boy's inner demons and his deteriorating mental health goes unnoticed for a long time throughout the plot.

Why is it worth reading: Jennifer Niven has complete control over her story and style; and has portrayed the best of both characters in this novel. It gives an insight on the grieving state of an individual and how destructing and shattering it can be. Niven has wonderfully written the lines to make her readers go through the exact



similar emotional ride that her protagonists are going through. The novel is beyond the basic story line where it makes the readers understand that not everything is what it seems and has allowed the readers to understand the hidden meanings between the lines. The novel is based on the author's personal story and initiates discussion on taboo topics such as mental health and suicide by including them in the plot narrative.

Iconic Quotes:

"No longer rooted, gold, flowing. I feel a thousand capacities spring up in me."

"We do not remember days, we remember moments."

"I was here."

Rating: 5/5

Review by: Aadya Kapoor,
AIS Vas 6, XII D



Waste to Walls

An Eco-Brick For Building Sustainable Societies And Reducing Pollution On Earth



Testing of eco-brick prototype in progress at IIT Delhi lab



The compressive strength of eco-brick being tested at the lab

Pro@Project

Innovators: Deeppanita Mukherjee (XI), Anvi Chawla (XI), Arush Singhal (XI), AIS Gur 46

Stuti Kalra, GT Network

It all started in 2018 when two teams from AIS Gurugram 46, presenting their individual projects on sustainable living at 'Vasudha' an inter-Amity program for fostering scientific aptitude and innovation skills in young minds, were merged as one entity. This was done because most of their ideas complemented each other. What came next, was an award-winning project on sustainable cities that won stellar recognition at the National Children's Science Congress. The main aim of this project was to introduce houses that would be built with eco-friendly bricks. The genesis of this visionary concept happened when the team noted that the increased pollution in Delhi and its surrounding areas, especially during the time of Diwali, was due to fly ash. They connected this observation with another discovery they had made during the initial phase of their research for their project; that a brick could be created out of fly ash. The next step, naturally, was to make a prototype with fly ash, coco fibre and clay. The first brick was tested for strength at IIT Delhi and

its compressive strength was found to be 9 N/mm². They decided to work on creating better eco bricks by adding some more materials which would enhance its strength, with an aim to reduce pollution in the planet. Thus, they started innovating eco brick as a separate project which even got patented. GT brings you the story of hard work, diligence and courage behind the vision that hopes to build a far more sustainable society for all of us.

A Tale of Fortification

The team engaged in regular discussions with their mentors, and after long and meticulous research, it was decided in May 2019 that they would add two more components ie rice husk and plastic shreds to the eco-brick. Rice husk, a by-product of rice milling, had the potential for increasing the brick's compressive and tensile strength. Plastic shred, on the other hand, was flexible and provided great tensile strength too. Once more prototypes were created using these two additional elements and the new bricks were tested again at IIT Delhi. It was found, that this version was far better than the first one, as the compressive strength had increased by 1.5 N/mm².

The team accords gratitude and credits to their mentor Late Professor KC Iyer, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Delhi, for his phenomenal help in understanding sustainability and strength. He not only simplified the complicated



Deeppanita Mukherjee



Anvi Chawla



Arush Singhal

concepts of compressive strength and force for these then Class IX students, but he also encouraged them to experiment more to enhance their brick's strength. Finally, with their third prototype, the team hit the bull's eye, as it was found to have a compressive strength of 10 N/mm² with a standard dimension of 22 cm X 7 cm X 10 cm and weight of 2 Kg (average). The uniqueness of their eco brick lay in the fact, that earlier bricks were made with fly-ash or coco-fibre as main components, but the new one had four components together in one brick. This carefully-designed eco-brick also called sewer brick has four holes of 2.5 cm diameter. This helps in heat retention and insulation and also fortifies the building as bricks get interlocked with

concrete during construction. Motivated by the result of their hard work, in 2020, the team went ahead to register their brick for a design patent with the help of Amity University.

A Tale of Toil

For the three innovators, creating the eco-brick has been a memorable experience. They created each prototype from scratch, right from softening the clay and making the dough to adding husk and plastic shreds. From giving the brick a shape and drying it to baking and testing it - they did it all meticulously never missing a step. They spent several months working constantly and diligently in their school's ATL lab which helped them with all the right resources. The team expresses its gratitude towards

their teachers Sangeeta Malhotra, science coordinator, Richa Satyavrat TGT Science and Rajesh Kumar, ATL lab attendant, for their constant mentorship, support and motivation. The main challenge during this process of innovation was arriving at a perfect ratio of fly ash, coco fibre, rice husk and plastic shredding and by consistent experimentation they were able to create a prototype which could fit all parameters.

A Tale of Success

Teamwork, inquisitiveness, fearlessness and perseverance are the key virtues that have sculpted this success story. The team kept ideating and enriching their eco-brick, and even when they had arrived at the desired result, they kept reaching out to their pottery teacher for doing better. The team says that it has never been about winning or losing for them. It was always about learning continuously and consistently striving to build a better society and life for our planet. Their-eco-brick is a cost-effective sustainable solution costing INR 6 (approx) that can bring down the level of pollution especially SPM (suspended particulate mater), if produced on a large scale. Its design makes it a natural coolant, hence reducing the need for energy-guzzling air conditioners.

Message for Amitians

Think differently and be unique, so that you can stand out from the crowd. Be strong and believe in yourself, have the courage to step out of the comfort zone and be the changemakers who can build happy world.



Moulded brick for processing



Front view of eco-brick prototype made by the team using fly-ash, coco-fibre, rice husk and plastic shreds



The classic conditioning

How One Indulges In Various Actions One Has Been Conditioned To Do

Nandinii Tandon

AIS Pushp Vihar, XII

Even when we would all like to believe that we are free agents living in a free world, there are some things that are so deeply ingrained in our minds and souls that we do not even think twice before doing them. Sometimes we aren't even consciously aware while indulging in these pre-conditioned acts. We bring you some such examples of classic conditioning witnessed in our school life where certain situations automatically lead us to carry out certain actions throughout the day...

As the clock strikes 7:50 am, it is time for morning assembly. Everyone sits in rows and columns, talking to their friends at the top of their voices with all the teachers walking around trying to tame this scene, which is nothing less than a fish market. But soon the Principal walks in, and suddenly, word spreads from back to front. "Principal ma'am is here, shhhh!" As soon as we hear her footsteps walking towards the mic at the front,



there is silence all around, after all, it is the Principal. She speaks into the mic, a cheerful "Good morning, everyone!" and suddenly, all the backs are straight, all eyes in front and all voices chant together, "Good morning, ma'am!" in that exact

sing-song voice that we have been singing in since the first grade. It is a weird feeling, almost like our brains are programmed to straighten our backs and chant a sing-song and listen attentively. This scene doesn't last for long,

as we finally start moving up the stairs like a flock of cattle, just much louder. We say our good-byes, floor-by-floor, as some of our friends step out towards their classes. Eventually, we reach our class and make our way inside. The class teacher is

there with an attendance register in her hand. It's almost predictable, built into our psyche, that as soon as the bell rings, we should be in our seats for the first period to begin. The day passes, and the third period arrives. Looks are exchanged

among groups of friends and lunchboxes come out all over the class. The third period brings a pang of hunger and everyone wants a feast. Burgers, parathas, sandwiches - all is passed around the class and cleverly, no one gets caught. After a cold, yet, hearty meal, the bell rings again.

Almost like we're conditioned to do so, the tiffin boxes are packed away and the books for the next period are out. Eventually, period-by-period, the same monotonous yet fun day passes. Now comes the last period, the second-best part of the day (after lunch break, of course). No one is focused on anything that is being said in the classroom at this point, and all eyes are on the clock. "Wow, time really is slow," we think, as slowly but steadily the seconds pass and the final bell for the day rings. "That's all, we're free," the thought runs through all our heads as we head outside the classroom after a long-yet-fast day, and soon the hours pass and we are back again repeating the same cycle with the same quick unconscious responses.

A mysterious affair

Possible Questions, Plausible Answers On Deaths Of Great Writers

Adya Srivastava, XII D & Anjali, IX

AIS Vasundhara 6

From mysterious deaths to sudden disappearances, some authors managed to embody the mystery of their characters in their real lives too. The list is long, when we look into the number of authors who have managed to arouse our curiosity and suspicions, with not just the stories they drafted but the stories of their real lives too.

Casefile no: 1

Person in question: William Shakespeare

Pending since: April 26, 1616

Questionable events: The date of the World's greatest dramatist's death is still unknown to us. He has left the upcoming generations with mysterious questions; 'How did he die?', 'Why did he prepare his will twice?'

Plausible suspects: The widely accepted reason for his death is a hungover fever, which has been questioned by several people. While some claim that he had died of syphilis, some even suspect foul play given the short time span that preceded his death following the redrafting of his will.

Casefile no: 2

Person in question: Oscar Wilde

Pending since: November 30, 1900

Questionable events: Oscar Wilde, died at the age of 46, and was suspected to have syphilis. However, the lack of medical documents proving the same, says otherwise. Even his medical check-ups from his time in prison reflect no such discoveries. He is now believed to have self-diagnosed his own cause of death, making

it seem all the more questionable.

Plausible suspects: People still haven't been able to figure out if the cause was meningitis or the proposed ear infection. Ironically enough, his father was an Irish ear and eye doctor; if any of us died of what our parents specialised in, what would our society's "chaar log" say?

Casefile no: 3

Person in question: Edgar Allen Poe

Pending since: October 7, 1849

Questionable events: The oddities don't start at his death, but to the days preceding that fateful day. He visited a doctor for fever and had turned up in a tavern in Baltimore on 3rd October in a bad shape, nearly unresponsive. In the hospital, he was unconscious; even though he reeked of alcohol even though, Poe was not seen drinking. Another oddity was, the always sharply dressed Poe was found in a cheap ill-fitting suit and a straw hat near a polling booth.

Plausible suspects: Considering diseases ran rampant during those times, medical reasons might be considered, but the official records couldn't determine the medical cause of death. Moreover, the evidence of him being the victim of a violent crime aren't few either.

Casefile no: 4

Person in question: Agatha Christie

Pending since: January 12, 1976

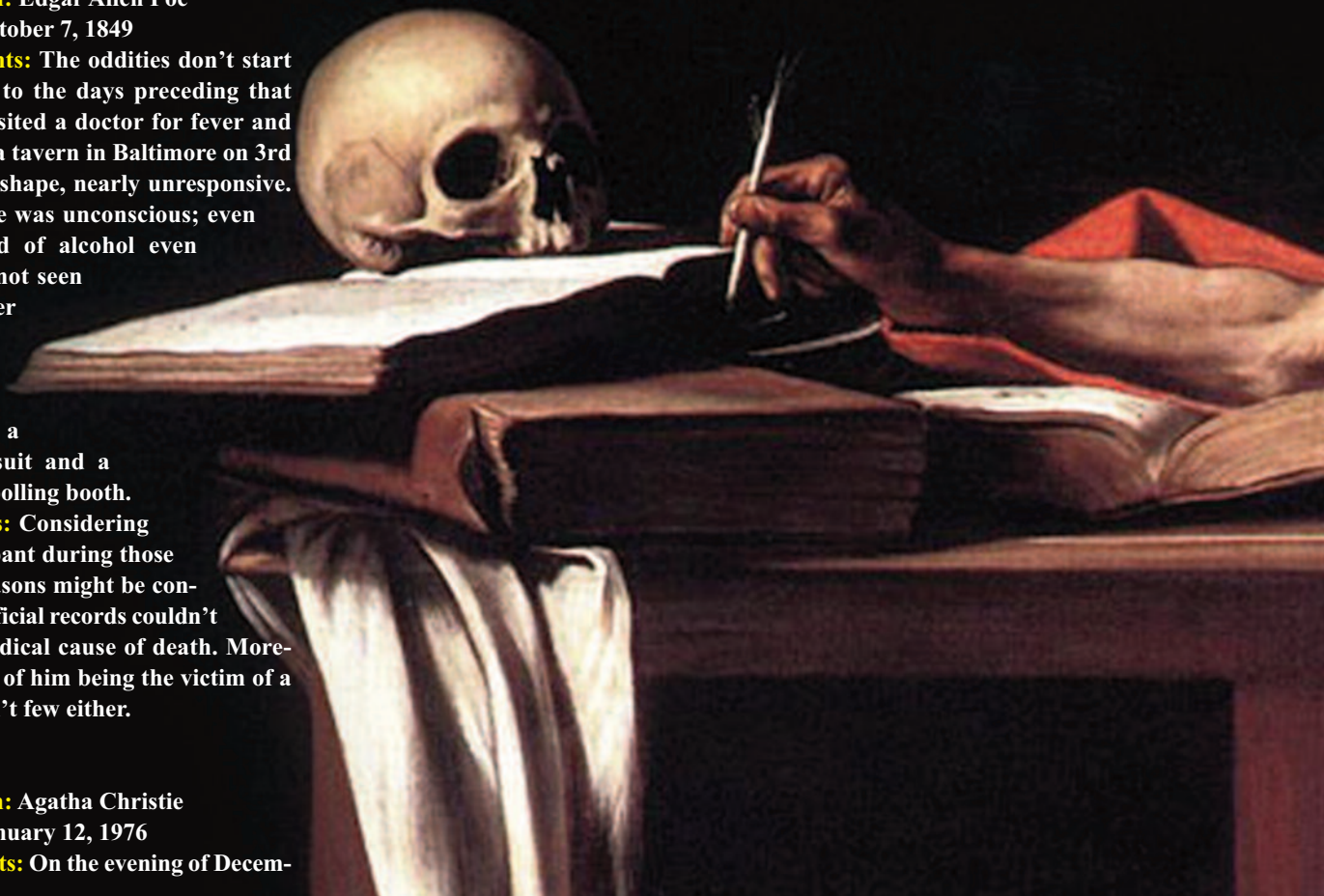
Questionable events: On the evening of Decem-

ber 3, Agatha and her husband had an argument following which, Archie (her husband) left their home with his mistress. Agatha is then said to have departed the house that same evening. Later, her car was found abandoned in some bushes. Thus, began one of the most enduring mysteries she ever masterminded.

Plausible suspects: People have questioned it

being a publicity stunt as post her disappearance and during the course, the sales of her books shot up. She made the main headline news for a couple of days.

Also, her not remembering anything when discovered after 11 days at a Yorkshire spa, answered nothing and raised more questions and eyebrows. *wink*





The change-makers



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

By observing Children's Day on Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday, we pay tribute to India's first Prime Minister who was well-known for his affection for children. In my opinion, children need to be celebrated every day, for they

bring unparalleled joy. This is because a newborn child is like a clean slate, endowed with unconditional love for everyone and a natural curiosity to learn. Given the right environment and support, every child can grow up to become a harbinger of change and progress.

Kids around the globe have proven that they are leading from the front when it comes to initiating ground-breaking transformation. We all know about Malala Yousufzai's tireless efforts towards women empowerment or about our very own Om Prakash Gujjar, who began his struggle to protect the rights of children when he was himself just a young boy.

Another example of this spirit to usher change is that of our young innovators at Amity who recently secured all the top positions at the National Innovation Competition organised by CSIR. This unique programme witnessed 3,000 students from across the country develop scientific projects and innovations. The achievement is indeed a matter of immense pride for all of us at Amity.

While it is natural to feel proud and elated each time a child achieves a milestone, the love of a mother transcends these triumphs. My Amities are my children, and so while I feel ecstatic at their wins, my love for them remains unconditional, even when they don't. Indeed, children need to be celebrated every day, just the way a mother cherishes them each day, each moment. [GT](#)

Beyond Boundaries



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

This is indeed the season of festivities. Having celebrated a string of festivals in the last few months, we have already started planning for the forthcoming year. However, what draws my attention to these special occasions is not just the celebratory mood that

they put us in, but also the fact how our festivals are no longer confined to a region, state, and in the special case of Diwali, the country.

Indeed, the festival of lights has crossed all geographical boundaries, as is evident from the recent legislation introduced in the United States Congress to declare Diwali as a federal holiday. Closer home, Chath puja, which was hitherto mostly restricted to the state of Bihar, is now a holiday in many states. Or take for example, Ganesh Chaturthi. Who has not seen the plethora of Ganesh idols now dotting every market lane even in northern India, even though traditionally the festival used to be celebrated in our western regions?

This trend of our local and regional festivals going far beyond their place of origin can be explained in only one way. People who have moved out of their hometowns are rediscovering and reviving their roots. No matter where they go, they want to remain connected to a childhood replete with tradition, dance, music, and home-made delicacies. So, the most important message here is that we all are but one; one nation and one world. These festivals have united us with a bond that transcends all distinctions, be it of place or people. [GT](#)

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The heroics of Harsha

A Tale Of The Greatest And Most Generous Of All Emperors

Viwaswan Jha, AGS Gur, XI

Even a cursory glance at ancient Indian history will tell us that our great land has produced several mighty warriors, impressive statesmen and, above all, visionary kings, many of whom continue to inspire us even today. One such name that stands out for me is that of King Harshavardhan, whose remarkable achievements and strong character can definitely teach us how to lead a successful life. Harshvardhan belonged to the Vardhana dynasty (606 to 647 CE) and was forced to ascend the throne at an early age, having lost his family in a series of unfortunate incidents. To his credit, he never shied away from taking on this huge responsibility. His devotion towards his duties and his people demands both appreciation and adoration. And so, I am here to pay homage to this great leader as he consistently...

...displayed valour

His province was one of the most powerful during the 6th and 7th century. Having successfully expanded his territory by acquiring the neighbouring Sindh and also conquering a large part of Bengal, his empire stretched from Kamarupa in the east (modern day Assam) to the eastern boundary of Thar; from Kangra in the north to the banks of the Narmada in the south.

Owing to his vast kingdom, he was deemed one of the most successful kings of Pushyabhuti dynasty until he was defeated by Pulakeshin II of the Chalukya clan. Post this defeat, Harsha decided to direct his strength towards protecting the weak, the ones in need and the poor.



...championed hospitality

India's trade with China prospered under his regime as he maintained good relations with the Chinese. The famous monk and traveller, Xuanzang, was given proper hospitality and respect under his rule, as evident from his travelogues that provide great details about the king and his generous nature. Xuanzang was also conferred with the title of the most brilliant scholar at Harsha's court.

...showcased unorthodox thinking

He understood the importance of education and built various schools during his reign. Also, he was intolerant about the malpractice of animal

slaughter, and he passed severe laws in order to ban it in his kingdom. Like King Ashoka, he made proper arrangements for free supply of food, basic amenities and medicines to the poor and the destitute wherever possible. Under his rule, there were no slaves, neither did he levy any heavy taxes on his community. He never ever misused the royal funds and often utilised personal reserves for the development of his empire. He also built a strong army whose only goal was to protect their land and its people from outside conquistadors.

...lived as an omnist

Harsha was devoted to Lord Shiva

and regarded himself as his supreme devotee. But, during the course of his life, he also became a patron of Buddhism. He respected all religions and did not believe in imposing his religious views on anyone. In fact, during his reign, he installed several Buddha statues in his empire. He is remembered with utmost respect even today for his secular outlook.

For these qualities and many more, King Harshavardhan is marked in history as a valiant vanquisher and a humble provider who donated wealth to scholars, priests and the poor. Would you follow suit? Because I most definitely would! [GT](#)

The taste of climate change

Continued from page 1...

THE SOLUTION

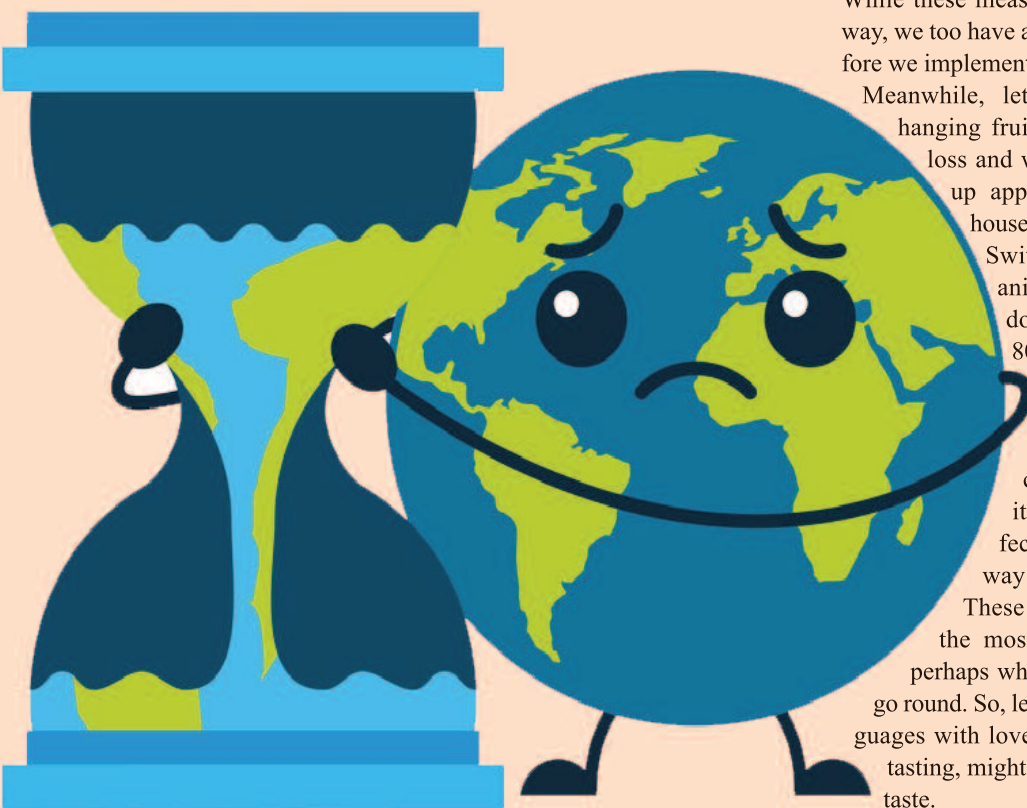
In this mutually damaging relationship, how does one put an end to this vicious cycle? Mostly hinging on technology, the solutions are far and wide. Adapting to superior supply systems and weather resilient food processes and crops is the need of the hour.

Today, farmers, entrepreneurs and academicians are radically rethinking the national and global food systems. They're critically studying the principles of old-world agroecology and state of the art technology to create what is called a third way to our food future. Use of technologies like CRISPR that can help produce weather resilient crops is one way to go about it. Prac-

tices like agroforestry that create carbon sinks in farms and cut down emissions significantly can also benefit a great deal. Better soil management on farms, including practices as reduced tillage, also aid in keeping carbon in the soil, whilst increasing the productivity. Higher yields could, in turn, help ease the pressure for more deforestation, thereby avoiding emissions.

While these measures can go a long way, we too have a long way to go before we implement them to full effect. Meanwhile, let's grasp the low hanging fruit of reducing food loss and wastage that makes up approx 8% of greenhouse emissions globally. Switching to vegetarianism too could cut down emissions by 80%.

Food is a universal language. And climate change with its far-reaching effects is already on its way to becoming one. These two interlinked at the most intricate level is perhaps what makes the world go round. So, let's master these languages with love, and things worth tasting, might actually be in good taste.



Issue: P3, November 8, 2021

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'The new superheroes' on page 3 published in the GT edition dated November 8, 2021. The article sheds light on the lives of doctors who have indeed become a hero-like figure for this new generation fighting the pandemic. It elaborates on the journey of different doctors; the challenges they faced and why they wished to become a doctor in the first place. It also shows us how despite all the obstacles they face every day, they always smile for the world, helping the patients in every aspect they can. Thus, we ought to treat doctors with respect and be grateful towards these diligent workers. Thank you, GT, for showing us the path paved by them and reminding us of how they are continuously inspiring us to strive and to become superheroes of the society like them. [GT](#)

Laural Jacob, AIS Vas 1, X E



AMITY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

An Institution of Ritnand Balved Education Foundation

AMITY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL'S BRILLIANT STUDENTS HAVE WON ALL TOP FIVE POSITIONS IN THE COMPETITION ORGANISED BY COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC & INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (CSIR) - IITR



EMPOWERING PUPIL
INNOVATION & CREATIVITY (EPIC 2021)
COMPETITION, PART OF CSIR - "JIGYASA"
(STUDENT - SCIENTIST CONNECT PROGRAM)

*THIS IS A TESTIMONY TO AMITY'S
FOCUS ON INSTILLING SCIENTIFIC
TEMPERAMENT AND INNOVATIVE
SPIRIT AMONG ITS STUDENTS.*

AMITY STUDENTS HAVE ALSO SECURED TOP RANK IN INDIA IN
**THE CSIR INNOVATION AWARD FOR
SCHOOL CHILDREN**



**JAISAL
KOTHARI**
AIS, Saket

**ALL INDIA
RANK 2
FOR APP
FLIKCER**



**ADITYA
CHUGH**
AIS, Pushp Vihar

**ALL INDIA
RANK 4
FOR PROJECT -
"HRIDAY"**

The whole Amity fraternity applauds the brilliance, innovative talent and acumen of our students and congratulates them as well as expresses the compliments for its parents, family and for the sincere help and guidance from Amity's dedicated teachers.



WINNER

Dhruvi Gupta

AIS, Sec. 6, Vasundhara

PROJECT -
Innovative Easy Brush



1st RUNNER UP

Abhinav Prem

AIS, Saket

PROJECT -
Agriculture Robot for
Managing Stubble



2nd RUNNER UP

**Gunek Singh
Chaddha**

AIS, Pushp Vihar

PROJECT -
Heat disinfectant Kit



3rd RUNNER UP

Adite Sharma

AIS, Sec. 6, Vasundhara

PROJECT -
Suraksha Box



Yash Wadhwa

AIS, Pushp Vihar

PROJECT -
Ultraviolet Sensor
Sanitizer

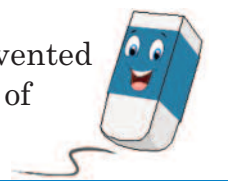


4th RUNNERS UP

Diya Mahalwal

AIS, Pushp Vihar

PROJECT -
Ultraviolet Sensor
Sanitizer



The letter of joy



Storywala

Yashasvini Verma
AIS Noida, IX C

The usual soft pitter-patter of the rain on the grey tarmac gave way to a loud, chaotic storm. An occasional thunderous boom frequented her surroundings, along with swift cracks of lightning that lit up the dark gloomy sky. Amanda sat on the steps of the porch, shivering. She was waiting for her elder sister, Rhea to return from the post office with her father's letters. Usually, the postman delivered them every Monday but with the rain pour-

ing down for the last few days, the postman didn't show up. Unwilling to miss their father's letters, the two sisters decided that one of them should go and retrieve it. Being the protective sister, Rhea was absolutely against Amanda going out in the rain alone and went to the post office all by herself.

Her father, an officer in the Army and a single parent, had to frequently travel to distant places. Besides the usual calls, he communicated with them through these letters. By now, the two sisters had a box full of postcards. Their father would often talk

about the distant lands he visited in his letters - the icy peaks of the Himalayas, the scenic tumbling waterfalls of Norway, and the seemingly endless desert of the Sahara. The sisters could not wait to explore this exquisite world that their father would describe in his letters. But more than that, the two waited for the return of their beloved father.

"Rhea!" Amanda yelled as she saw her sister running back in the pale glint of the streetlight. In her hands was just one envelope. "Just one?" Amanda questioned. Her sister nodded dejectedly. Both of them quickly stepped in-

"Rhea!" Amanda yelled as she saw her sister running back in the pale glint of the streetlight.

side and sat by the fireplace, where Amanda had kept two mugs of hot cocoa, besides a framed picture of their parents looking lovingly at each other, a moment frozen in time.

The postcard this time was a picture of the Alps. Rhea quickly broke the wax seal. "I just hope there isn't a note that says he's sick again," she said.

"Dear girls" Rhea started. "I will not be writing another letter for a while now." She looked up, shocked. "But, why? Is something wrong? Go on," Amanda urged. "I have decided to take a small vacation to attend Amanda's sixteenth birthday." Their faces lit up as swiftly as they had darkened. "I should arrive within two days. We will go for shopping and celebrate the birthday in a grand manner."

Gleaming with happiness, Amanda picked up the golden framed picture and kissed it. "He's coming back, mom!" she spoke happily and tightly hugged the letter of joy. 🇮🇳



Kush Gupta

Choco mug cake

Kush Gupta, AGS Gur 46, X

Ingredients required

All-purpose flour	.....	3 tbsps
Granulated sugar	.....	2 tbsps
Cocoa powder	.....	2 tbsps
Baking powder	.....	1/4 tbsps
Salt	.....	1 pinch
Milk	.....	3 tbsps
Milk chocolate	.....	1 bar
Vanilla essence	.....	1/2 tbsps
Vegetable oil	.....	2 tbsps
Vanilla ice cream (optional)	.....	1 scoop
Chocolate sauce (optional)	.....	as desired
Whipped cream (optional)	.....	as desired

Procedure

■ Pour each powdery ingredient ie all-purpose flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking powder and salt into a cup. Give the dry ingredients a good mix to ensure a uniform mixture. Also, ensure that the cup you are using is microwave-safe.

Chef's tip: You can use brown sugar instead of white to give the cake a nice gooey texture.

■ Now, slowly pour the milk into the mixture. Add vanilla essence and oil to the mix. Mix all the ingredients properly until it is well combined.

■ Break the chocolate bar into small chunks using a rolling pin., Mix it into the batter and microwave it for over 1 minute.

■ Take out the cup and let it cool for a few minutes.

■ Finally, dust your cake with some icing sugar and drizzle chocolate sauce over it.

■ Your choco-mug cake is ready to be devoured. Serve it with whipped cream or vanilla ice-cream and enjoy!

Chef's tip: The cake tastes best when served hot.

WORDS VERSE

Winter

Ananya Sharma, AIS Gur 43, IX

The season with a frosty tether
Winter comes after rainy weather
When we wear shoes of leather

Dawns in Oct, dusks in February
Dec is the coldest in our country
May and June are its contrary

Rays of the sun are not high
It's the winter factor that qualifies
That the snow is in oversupply

During this, days are quite short
Cold winds blow from the north
Which makes some people snort

People cover themselves with wool
To feel all cozy and cool
If they dislike it, they overrule

It's a little rough for poor people
They don't get food as usual
For food and water, they duel

Wheat and maize are harvested
Many kinds of fruits are vegetated
All of which are then grated

Many festivals come with this season
This is what makes it a reason
To indulge in joy and celebration. 🇮🇳

Winter wonders

Avani Goel, AIS VKC Lko, IX

The season has just arrived
After the rains have thrived
When there is a chilly weather
And heavy snowfall that hinders

Scour every winter gear out
Shrugs, jackets to woollen snouts
Repay the winter's frosty debt
Tugged inside a heavy blanket

For we, the young, are rough
We might bear the cold
However, it might be tough
For the ones who are old

Some prefer the warmth over cold
Homely fire over winter's hold
The rest willingly face it first hand
For their love for winter wonderland! 🇮🇳

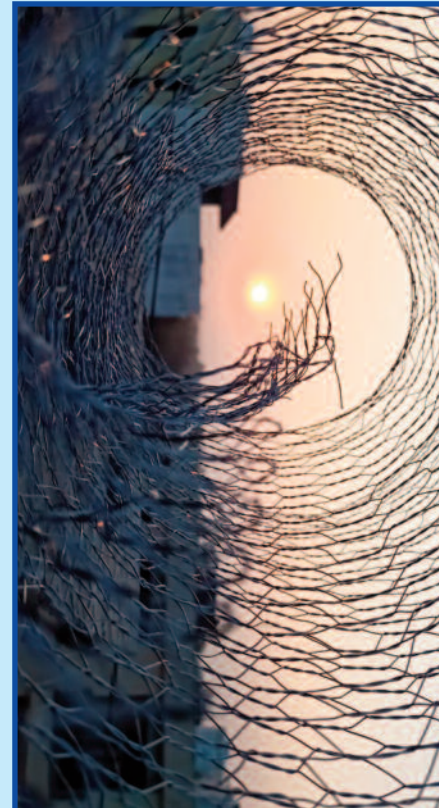
CAMERA CAPERS

Amish Bhatnagar, AIS Saket, XII C

Send in your entries to
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in



The river rendering worlds apart



The tunnel to the solarus realm



The mark of new life and growth



The largest collection of erasers belongs to Petra Engels (Germany) with 19,571 non duplicate erasers from 112 different countries.

Saving the dreamland

Short Story



The ninjas have captured dreams of small children and aliens are destroying their imaginative powers.

they were ready for the battle. Hobi was to battle aliens, while Bruno was to fight ninjas. After a whole night of battling, the duo emerged **triumphant**. Their victory revived all the destroyed dreams, restoring the imaginative capabilities of children all over the world, and brought everything back to normal in the land of dreams. All the residents of dreamland thanked Hobi and Bruno for their courage and selflessness.

Later, they both woke up to a beautiful day in the real world, a world still struck by the pandemic but free from the negativity that came with it!

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

So, what did you learn today?
A new word: **Triumphant**
Meaning: Having won a battle or a contest



Handmade flower pot



Harsh Rana

Harsh Rana, AIS VKC Lucknow, VI

Material required

- Balloon
- Newspaper
- Fevicol
- Water
- White cement
- Brush
- Acrylic colours
- Paintbrush
- Decorative items

Methodology

- Take a balloon and inflate it to its maximum. Secure it with a tight knot.
- Pick some old newspapers and cut them into very small pieces. Keep them aside.
- In a bowl, pour some fevicol and water, and mix it well.
- Now add all the newspaper pieces into the fevicol mixture.
- One by one, take out the bits of newspaper dipped in the mixture and paste them overlapping each other on the surface of the balloon. Make sure you only cover three-fourth of the balloon so that it creates the shape of a pot or a bowl.
- Once it is dry, cover it with white cement. For the same, take white cement powder in a bowl and add water into it. Mix it well until a thick paste like consistency is formed. Apply it all over the newspaper layer.
- Let it dry completely until the surface becomes hard. Once done, burst the balloon and take it out.
- Paint the pot with different acrylic colours and designs as per your choice.
- You can decorate the flower pot with threads, beads or stones as well.
- And just like that, your beautiful handmade flower pot is ready.

Saanvi Sharma
AIS Vasundhara 6, VI

Hobi was a 10-year-old happy-go-lucky boy, who lived with his parents and his pet dog named Bruno. However, the year 2020 took away his happiness for, the year brought along unforeseen circumstances in the form of a pandemic. And it wasn't just Hobi, other children his age too experienced unhappiness. As a result, Hobi and other children had zero creativity and imagination. Locked inside his home, Hobi found himself thinking about aliens and ninjas all the time. So much so, that he even started dreaming about them. It was in one of these dreams that

he met Bruno. Surprised to find his beloved dogs amongst these unearthly creatures, he asked Bruno what he was doing there. "Hobi, we have been assigned an important task, of defeating ninjas and aliens that have invaded the land of dreams. The ninjas have captured dreams of small children and aliens are destroying their imaginative powers. This is why children across the town are unable to do anything creative, and are acting dull. If this continues, they will soon lose all their imaginative powers and will be filled with negativity," Bruno answered.

Hobi understood the assignment and could not wait to help save the inhabitants of dreamland. He started his training as he was de-

termined to restore order back into the land of dreams.

The following day after school, curious to know what would happen next, Hobi decided to take a nap in order to visit dreamland and started preparing for the battle. As he slept, Bruno appeared in his dream and said, "I was waiting for you, Hobi. It's time!" They started the training process. Later they both returned to the real world. Upon returning, Hobi finished his school homework, while Bruno played with Hobi's dad in the garden. This whole afternoon napping and training session went on for a month or so. It was as if they were in two parallel universes, one in reality and the other in an alternate world. Finally, one day,

POEM

Metamorphosis

Anvi Bhatnagar
AIS Saket, VI

It crept in with magical stealth
Oh no here we go again
Do I have to save myself
From becoming a lizard's gain?

Witness the world of a beautiful
Colourful butterfly that is me
All my childhood, I wasted
Imagining how pretty I shall be

When I was a caterpillar
I could have played outside
Instead, I shut in my cocoon
Bloating vehemently with pride

I am unique in every way
Yet no time for attention to pay
Because I need to save myself
From becoming a predator's prey

A message I want to convey
Let tomorrow bring what it may

Enjoy your time as they say
The future is distant away

Don't waste your prized present,
As it is the time for you to sway
Now if you'll excuse me
I have some valiance to display.



It's Me

Know me

My name: Rishaan Bakshi
My Class: I
My school: AIS Gurugram 43
Born on: April 10

My favourites

Teacher: Mrs Geeta Bhambani
Subject: EVS
Friend: Samarth Malhotra
Game: Football
Cartoon: LEGO Jurassic world
Food: Butter chicken
Mall: Cyber Hub
Book: The Children's Ramayana by Upendrakishore Ray Chowdhury

My dreams and goals

Hobby: Cycling
I like: Singing and playing harmonium
I dislike: Porridge
My role model: My father
I want to become: Astronaut
I want to feature in GT because: The encouragement given by my school newspaper will push me to do better.



PAINTING CORNER

Advaita Puri
AIS Mayur Vihar, III





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

In my opinion, effective implementation of commitments is what transforms visions into reality. In the short film released by UNDP, we witness a CGI dinosaur rampaging through the UN aisles revealing eye-opening truths about the impact of fossil fuel subsidies on climate change. The reptile gives a stark warning regarding the impending demise of the human race. I believe that taking into consideration the carelessness of the current generation, extinction isn't unimaginable. But with the timely execution of net-zero pledges, we can head off this catastrophe. Billions of dollars are spent annually to subsidise fossil fuels. This is four times the amount contributed to eradicating poverty. It is high time that every nation set aside their petty grievances and disputes, and come together to achieve salvation. It is our collective and individual responsibility to wake up to this imminent peril and take immediate action.

Riya Jain, AIS Noida, XI K

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, the average surface temperatures have already risen by 1.09°C between 1850-1900 and 2010-2019, and could go up to 1.5 degrees in less than 20 years. All of this is due to the human activities which have been driving the temperature, the emission of greenhouse gases being one of the major causes. The report also says that unless immediate reductions are made to check emissions, a red line that could help us avoid catastrophic consequences would be beyond reach. This means that heat waves, rain and droughts will become more frequent, the water level will rise more and more, glaciers will continue melting, and food and water will become scarce. While it is too late to avert some dangerous consequences of climate change, our actions can still make a difference.

Maahi Ahuja, AIS Pushp Vihar, X C

Humanity has a 95% probability of going extinct in 7,800,000 years. The greenhouse effect impacts climate change that could directly cause human extinction. Though human extinction sounds extremely odd and impossible, the future appears bleak. If we continue to pollute our environment at this rate, the whole planet will absorb more heat than it loses, causing ocean water to evaporate, to a point where the Earth will no longer be able to sustain life. A 300-year long drought, for example, contributed to the downfall of ancient Greece about 3,200 years ago and the same is bound to happen again if we do not act up. Across the world, billions of public fund wasted by the governments on major pollutants like fossil fuels should be closely monitored.

Raabia Ali Abidi, AIS Saket, VIII B

Humans are perhaps the only species on earth that are currently on a self-destructive path. The act of 'development' in recent times is in no way considerate towards the resources the planet has, be it fossil fuel reserves, water, or the vast expanses of forest, which the planet once used to boast of. The rapid consumption of fossil fuels will only cause the climate shift to worsen and the fossil fuel reserves to be bled dry. Unless nations shift to renewables, research on renewable energy, make its generation affordable for the developing nations, and redirect funds to resolve water insecurity and disparity, the human race is bound to go extinct since humanity only prevails when humans help one another.

Viwaswan Jha, AGS Gurugram, XI

Who'll win the race if humans become extinct in just 70 million years whereas dinosaurs were able to survive for 165 million years? Human beings investing in subsidising fossil fuel is like dinosaurs working towards subsidising meteorites, i.e., investing in their own cause of destruction. Subsidising fossil fuels is an activity of secondary importance and money invested in this is not only being misused, but is also making global challenges like poverty take a backseat. The concerned officials need to recognise the fact that pollution-prone activity of extracting fossil fuel is not more important than taking measures to reduce poverty, and only then the human species might have a chance at saving themselves from going extinct.

Sudiksha Sarcar, AIS Gurugram 46, XII H

Recently, in UN General Assembly, an extremely rare visitor and extinct species, 'Dinosaur', made an appearance. The dinosaur urged human beings "to not choose extinction and work towards it before it's too late" as part of the 'Don't choose extinction' campaign launched by UNDP. It highlighted how the amount spent around the world to subsidise fossil fuel for consumers can be utilised to eradicate global poverty and save the planet. Do you think this change is possible or the human species will go extinct like the dinosaurs?

The prompt BOX

Without subsidised fuels, industries and manufacturing units would move away from the country, thereby affecting the respective economies. At the same time, it is also true that the money spent on fuel subsidies can be channelised instead to fight global poverty. Yet reducing poverty by losing secondary sector profits isn't really an intelligent approach to the problem. What can be done instead is to use the assets spent on subsidies and utilise them for research and adoption of cleaner fuels. Once the cleaner fuels hit the market, there would be no going back, and from that point forth, those yearly assets could be devoted to eradicating global poverty. The problem in front of us is not as white and black, but rather grey, which is why we need to be smart when trying to solve it.

Ayushi Jain, AIS Gurugram 43, X A

Fossil fuels are one of the major reasons behind the growing environmental decay today. And if we think about it a little, their reckless usage can actually be deemed as one of our guilty pleasures. For, despite being well aware of the fact that they have the potential to be the cause of humankind's fall into the crevice of non-existence, we just can't let go off their temporary "usefulness" and "convenience" in our day-to-day life! However, to tackle this conundrum, the campaign launched by UNDP can certainly be a step in the right direction if planned and executed with dedication. The path ahead will indubitably be lined up with challenges but, according to me, anything that can provide the next generation with a chance at a better future must be given a go-ahead. For anything is better than extinction, isn't it?

Gouri Srivastava, AIS VKC Lko, X B

They say, "We have not inherited this earth from our forefathers; we have borrowed it from our children". Since it is not ours to keep or claim, we need to restrain ourselves from exploiting its natural reserves to the point of extinction. However, the rate at which human activities have been consuming fossil fuels and degrading the environment is alarming, to say the very least. And if we fail to come up with a solution for the same in the near future, the day won't be far when humans would go extinct just like the dinosaurs did millions of years ago. So, let's not rob our future generations of their right to live in a healthy, sustainable world. The least we can do is to cooperate and comply with whatever measures our governments come up with.

Ashwin Rajvanshi, AIS VYC Lko, XI A

Frankie the dinosaur reminded the UN General Assembly of the grave threat of climate change that may drive the human race to extinction. He urged more climate action from global leaders by cutting down on fossil fuel subsidies and using that money for alleviating poverty. The biggest subsidisers of fossil fuels are China, US, Russia, India and the EU. Thus, even the developed nations continue to subsidise fossil fuels, and that needs to be changed. An effort should be made to conserve natural resources and develop safer alternatives like renewable energy. Clearly, the developed countries with their better technologies and financial strength should lead the way. The world is waiting to watch some real action towards building a better tomorrow and each of us need to contribute for this positive change.

Akshita Shrote, AIS Vasundhara 1, IX B

UNDP's new 'Don't choose extinction' campaign is a step in the right direction, but so have all their past pursuits which have not had the desired outcome. UNDP found that the world spends 423 billion USD every year to subsidise fossil fuels, a number that is contributing, like the dinosaur rightly said, "to our own extinction". Money which could have covered the cost of vaccinating every person in the world for COVID-19, or paid for three times the annual amount needed to eradicate global poverty. Although, from experience we know how difficult it is to strike a balance between environment and economy, and push for a world where poverty and global warming, are not a looming threat over our heads every day. In my opinion, unless the governments of UN affiliated countries deal with a heavy hand, we might as well be the next dinosaurs now.

Ananya Mittal, AIS Vasundhara 6, X B

A significant crisis that we are dealing with currently is the overuse of fossil fuels. Despite being aware that our dependency on non-renewable energy sources is proving disastrous, we spend around 1 million USD every minute on subsidising fossil fuels! There is no doubt that this expenditure needs to be eliminated. However, in underdeveloped regions of Africa and Asia, fossil fuels account for 84% of all energy sources. Setting up infrastructure for use of renewable energy is expensive. According to The Economist, the capital required to do so would be around 4-5 trillion USD per year. So, in countries like India where a huge population is employed in or dependent on fossil fuel industries for their livelihood, a sudden shift from fossil fuels to alternative energy sources is impossible. Developed nations need to pitch in and provide support to poorer nations in order to help them overcome this crisis. The world needs to come together, or else humans will meet a fate similar to that of the dinosaurs.

Mrinalini Vajpayee, AIS Mayur Vihar, IX B

Question: Will EV business boom in Indian market or will scarcity of charging hubs, shortage of Lithium-ion batteries and high costs act as barriers to progression in this sector?

Send in your entries in 100-150 words to the Editor in Chief/GT Teacher Coordinator of your school latest by November 21, 2021.



The important raw material in an eraser is rubber that is obtained from latex, produced by the rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*).

Stories that matter

GT Journos Shine At World Teenage Reporting Project



Stubble trouble written by Anushka



Jaya Jha's story on bricks from waste



Ayushi and Riddhi wrote on trash park



The Global Times

It is a matter of immense pride for Amity Group of Schools that six stories of The Global Times, reported by young GT journos have been published on the World Teenage Reporting Project website under the head Climate Stories 2. The feat has been achieved under the guidance and leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, who envisioned The Global Times as a boulevard to nurture creative, caring and re-

sponsible global citizens. The World Teenage Reporting Project > Climate Champions, showcases stories by adolescent reporters around the world, of other teenagers or sometimes children and adults who have succeeded in the quest to save and nourish the planet. In its 2021 edition, 'Who is Saving the Planet?' the initiative focusses on climate champions as a lead-up to the 26th UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow. An initiative of Global Youth & News Media, founded in 2018, The World Teenage Re-

porting Project aims to strengthen the linkages between young people and news media through honouring news media that truly serves the young, promoting media literacy through a journalistic prism, and amplifying the journalism of and by young people. It seeks to empower the youth to use news media and journalism as tools to help safeguard and advance their society, democracies and planet. The students whose stories were published for World Teenage Reporting Project – Climate Stories 2 are:

Anushka Ramesh (XII), AIS Mayur Vihar; Jaya Jha (XII), AIS Gurugram 46; Ayushi Jain (XII), and Riddhi Rastogi (XII), AIS Gurugram 43; Suhani Sirohi (XII) and Shubhika Garg (XII), AIS Noida; Ananta Taneja (XII), AIS Vasundhara 1 and Niharika Roy (XII), AIS Saket. <https://www.globalyouthand-newsmediaprize.net/climate-stories-2-india>. **GT**

The stories of these young GT journos profiling the earth savours can be read on the following link:

<https://www.globalyouthand-newsmediaprize.net/climate-stories-2-india>.



Suhani and Subhashika wrote on scrap



Ananta Taneja's story on recycling water



Niharika Roy wrote about climate



The goodness of honey ginger



The three pillars of good life

Ramleela @ Amity

Epic Presentations Of The Epic By Zealous Tiny Tots



The little Sita, Ram, Bharat and their little soulful devotee



Shabri the epitome of devotion, love and dedication

Growing up Grooming The Little Ones

AIS Vasundhara 6

A virtual session, 'Groom to Grow' was organised for Class Nursery-KG from October 20-22, 2021 to sensitise them towards personal hygiene, good manners, etiquettes and self-grooming. Numerous activities were conducted in a simulating hands-on learning interactive environment to create awareness about everyday things like, buttoning-up shirt, tying shoelaces, combing hair, eating balanced diet, *dadi ke nuskhe*,

dental care, cleaning knees and elbows using lemon, etc. These activities also play a vital role in improving gross and fine motor skills of children in formative years. Children also enjoyed making string phone using paper cups and learnt telephone etiquettes and conversation. Life skills training was also imparted during circle time wherein, videos and powerpoint presentations on good human virtues like respecting elders, sharing is caring, being humble and compassionate etc. was shown to the children. **GT**

AIS Noida

Keeping in sync with the Dussehra festivities, the school staged Ramleela, a theatrical extravaganza by children of KG. As each episode unfolded, the children effortlessly took everyone on an enchanting odyssey, unravelling the rich *Guru Shishya Parampara* that is embodied in Amity's spirit. The portrayal of Ram and Raavan

was a symbolic representation depicting 'Victory of good over evil'. The Ramleela enactment through role play, narration and dance performances helped children develop their communication skills, confidence and imbibe values of truth and compassion. It was a beautiful experience of reliving the legacy of Lord Ram with the finale witnessing the enthusiastic rendering of the bhajan, 'Ek they raja Ram'. **GT**



Little Ram, Sita and Laxman at AIS Vas 6

AIS VYC Lucknow

On the auspicious and joyous event of Dussehra, students from Classes Nursery-X presented an online Ramleela assembly on October 14, 2021. Students staged a skit titled '*Ram Lila : Ravan Dahan*' and sung the song, '*Jai Ram Sada Sukh Dham*' with the spirit of devotion. An animated film on the life and adventures of virtuous Lord

Ram, was also shown to the students to inspire them to aspire to live a virtuous life. Abha Shukla, TGT Hindi delivered an eloquent speech emphasising on the key moral values and teachings like the victory of good over the evil, in Ramayana. At the end of the event, school principal Sakshi Gautam Mishra addressed the students and urged them to strive to discover the Ram within, in their daily lives. **GT**

AIS Vasundhara 6

Setting the tone for the festive season, were the students of Class Nursery who dramatised one of the world's greatest epics *Ramayan*, virtually on October 12, 2021. The drama unfolded in eight scenes depicting Lord

Ram's life, his 14 years in exile, his friendship with Hanuman, and his victory over evil Ravan. The extravaganza culminated with an e-exhibition wherein, the children displayed their creative art and craft works like torans, diyas, rangoli, Ravan & Hanuman masks and paper lanterns. **GT**



School principal addresses members of Interact Club

New leaders

Interact Club Installation

AIS Saket

The school organised an installation ceremony for its Interact Club on Oct 1, 2021. The virtual ceremony was graced by the presence of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. It commenced with the virtual lamp lighting ceremony. A melodious rendition of *Ganesh Stuti* by R Agamyia (Class IX) set the tone for the grand and momentous occasion. School principal, Divya Bhatia, addressed students, motivating them with her words of wisdom. The outgoing president of the Interact Club Shrishti Malhotra from the Class of 2020, shared the key highlights and activities of Interact Club, during the academic session 2020-21. A small video made by the members of Interact Club was presented as a token of appreci-

ation for the selfless warriors of pandemic. Current president elect, Ananya Agarwal from Class XII, gave an insight into the Interact Club's activities planned for the academic year 2021-22. The newly appointed members of the Interact Club received their badges of responsibility and pledged to work hard to serve society above self. Yatin Wadhwan, president, Rotary Club, Delhi Midtown District 3011, appreciated the endeavour of the outgoing club members and congratulated the newly appointed Interact Club cabinet of office bearers. Chairperson in her address during the ceremony blessed the newly elected members and thanked The Rotary Club of Delhi, for providing the students of Amity with a benevolent opportunity to perform humble duties and services for building a happy community, society and nation.

Erasers were invented by accident when their creator inadvertently picked up rubber instead of breadcrumbs, thereby realising its erasing properties.

All top quotes contributed by
Mahtavi Gupta, AIS VKC Lucknow, VIII B



Be a SPORT!

Surprising Sports That You Didn't Know Existed

Mrinalini Vajpayee, AIS MV, IX B

Sports is an integral part of our lives. From cricket to badminton, football to tennis; sports has always been an engaging source of entertainment across the globe. While popular sports like football and cricket attract huge masses every year, some sports are so eccentric that many of us have not even heard their names. Here are the top five weirdest sports that are played around the world, believe it or not!

CHESS BOXING

The sport of chess boxing, as the name suggests, combines both these well-loved sports, creating an altogether interesting event. Chess boxing came into existence in 1992 and has been globally played in countries including England, Germany, Netherlands, France, Russia and Japan. 'Wit with grit' is what this game needs. The players of this game are required to be skilled in both chess and boxing, as the game entails the opponents playing

alternate rounds of speed chess and boxing, until one of them finally wins the game by either a knockout or checkmate.

TUK-TUK POLO

Tuk Tuk polo is variation of the game of polo, wherein the players are piloted on vehicles similar to an autorickshaw, called tuk-tuk. Each tuk tuk carries a driver, who is responsible for driving the vehicle and a player, who is responsible for striking the ball. The field on which this game is played is similar to that of polo ie two goal posts on both ends of the field. A short mallet like stick is used by the players to wield the ball. This sport came into existence fairly recently in 2016, and is popular in Sri Lanka where major tuk-tuk polo events are also held. Prior to this, polo in the country was played on elephant bags. However, this elephantine version of the sport was discontinued in 2007, after some elephants went on a rampage during a game.

CHEESE ROLL

Who doesn't love cheese? This delicious sounding sport is organised by the South West England Gloucester region every year during spring. As the name itself suggests, this game requires the participants to rush down the hill for a round of cheese. Around 9 pounds of double Gloucester cheese is rolled down the hill, which is chased by the competitors. The sport is surprisingly popular, given that it witnesses participation from people all across the

world. So, if you are looking for a cheesy win, a round of cheese roll is all you need.

EXTREME IRONING

This sport was invented by Tony Hain, in the year 1980, in Yorkshire Dales National Park, near Settle, England. This game enrolls both danger and excitement and thus is considered an extreme sport. This is an exciting game where each player takes an iron machine to some remote location to iron a few items of laundry. The remote locations can involve ironing on mountain site, iron skiing, scooting or canoeing. The first Extreme Ironing World championship was organised in the year 2002. It gained a lot of popularity from the very first championship and is now played on a very large scale. It is attended by millions of sports enthusiasts.

BED RACING

Believe it or not, this is a real sport. Invented in 1965, it was the game played by the people of the north Yorkshire town of Knaresborough and was open only for Army, Navy and American marines. Later on, it was opened for everyone to participate and gained popularity. In this game, the competitors race in teams of six plus one on the bed. Each team provide their own bed which is decorated according to the theme of the competition for that respective year. The beds are designed to run on four wheels as well as to float. The 3 km run race begins and ends at Conyngham Hall.



Epic then, epic now

Popular Characters From Various Hindu Epics And Their Modern Fate

Yasmin Tandon, AIS PV, XII D

We have all grown up hearing tales from Mahabharata and Ramayana - the great wars, the trickery and deceptions at play, the numerous sacrifices made for the establishment of *dharma* or righteousness, and the great men and women who made them. But have you ever wondered how these same men and women, if given a chance to be reborn that is, would fare in the modern era? We did some guesswork coupled with imagination, and here's what we think.

Daanveer Karna: Despite being one of the greatest warriors of that era, today, he would be known for his charitable nature and generosity. Thus, vowing to give away whatever is asked of him as alms, he would most likely be a social worker running an NGO, helping the underprivileged and the needy, and would one day end up giving it away, the NGO we mean, because someone asked for it. If only we had a friend like him.

Shakuni: The brother of the blindfolded queen, if there is one thing he is more famed for than his strategies and crafty nature, it was his ability to throw dice. He was believed to have a magical dice which obeyed him and gave him whatever numbers he needed and hence, he never lost a game. What can a man like him do but run a chain of highly profitable casinos in the modern society, like running Las Vegas. If not that, he would surely grab the role of that cunning antagonist in our daily TV soaps whose only job is scheming and making his 'enemies' suffer. The best part is that he wouldn't even have to act the part.

Queen Satyawati: A less famous but very important figure in the Mahabharata, she was the wife of King Shantanu and the great grandmother of the Pandavas. She was known for her cleverness, political strategies, ambition, and her ability to achieve any goal she set her mind to (at times, employing rather unethical means to do so). Today, she would most likely occupy a very high position in the government and

run the country with an iron fist. All hail the queen!

Yashoda: She, who raised Lord Krishna (which, legends say, was no easy task) needs no introduction. Known for her patience, loving nature and the cute punishments she gave her son, she would probably be every student's favourite teacher today. She might as well get promoted to the position of the school head if students are ever given the right to vote and decide it for themselves, which in itself makes it a fantasy. Now, who does not love some free marks? Not us, for sure! Just kidding.

Yudhishtira: It is difficult to imagine the great king Yudhishtira who vowed to never lie (and never did) being involved in anything but politics. However, he probably wouldn't have the same success in this era. For politics today is too political for somebody as sagacious and virtuous as him. His 'too good to be true' nature thus will simply lead the public to believe that he is either a crook, a phony or too naive to be given responsibilities.

Now, their presence would surely alter the modern scene (or them, who knows), but it's best if they all just stick to their own life and times, ain't it? What do you think?

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she would most
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