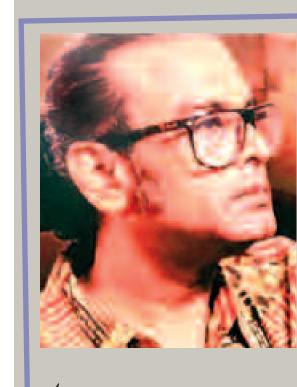
#### Follow us on @theglobaltimesne @the\_global\_times

"To be a writer, you must read a lot and then write. It is important

to understand that the words we write for ourselves are so much better than the words we write for others. So, if you think that your words can heal, can give hope, or can give voice to the ones you think need it, you will write well."

> **Shiny Varghese Senior Editor** The Indian Express



"As an artist, you should always aim to be original. You don't need

to copy any image or visual because humans have a photographic memory and each time you look at an object, your mind already memorises it by 75%. So, stay original. Keep going through newspapers, publications, magazines etc. and that will help you create a lot of good stuff."

Arya Praharaj **Chief Illustrator** The Times Group



**Newspaper Award** 

Winner AIS Noida & Saket First Runner Up AIS Gur 46

Second Runner Up AIS Vas 6

Jury Special Mention AGS Gur

**Best Editing Award** 

Winner AIS Noida First Runner Up AIS Saket

Second Runner Up AIS Gur 43 & Gur 46

**Best Design Award** 

Winner AGS Gur

First Runner Up AIS Vas 6

Second Runner Up AIS MV

> **Best Headline** Winner

> > AIS Noida

**Coming Next** 

YP Special Edition

## THE GLOBAL TIMES





MONDAY, JULY 18, 2021

Bhawna Tuteja, GT Network

s real pom-poms went up in the air, the excitement of the virtual audience went up even higher. As an emcee interacted with the audience on an online platform, the schools reverberated with applause and cheers in real time. As the nominations of a category were announced digitally, the students sitting inside the school premises could not hold back their excitement. And this is just a tiny glimpse of what went down at GT Awards 2022! The annual award ceremony, organised in hybrid mode – over a virplatform with simultaneous screening across all branches of Amity Group Of Schools, saw the intersection of real and virtual like never before. Read on for details.

#### On to new talents, Off to new paths

Organised by The Global Times, GT Awards is the culmination of Inter-Amity Making A Newspaper Contest. The competition, now in its 12th year, witnessed 10 branches of Amity make their own contest edition. The 10 editions were then pitted against one another to decide the winner of 12 categories (read page 3-6) along with the much-coveted Best Newspaper Trophy. Over the years, the competition has served as a conducive nurturing ground for countless writers and designers, providing them an op-

#### The 'On' And 'Off' Mix Of Two Worlds At GT Awards 2022!



portunity to showcase their talent whilst being lauded for the same.

#### On scale for inspiration, Off to see the inspired

GT is an inspiration for many; prodding one to look beyond the obvious, unearthing hidden talents and exploring new vistas. But this inspiration is merely a trickle-down effect, one that flows from its source Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF. As she graced the event, her online presence uplifted spirits, her words inspiring even the screens that resonated her voice. "Our Amitians for sure will change the country," she said. Adding to the inspiration was an eminent jury comprising Shiny Verghese, senior editor, The Indian Express, and Arya Praharaj, chief illustrator, The Times

WHAT: GT Awards 2022 WHEN: July 14, 2022 WHERE: MS Teams WHY: To mark the culmination of GT Making A Newspaper Contest 2021-2022

- Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan Shiny Varghese, Sr Editor,
- The Indian Express Ms Pooja Chauhan
- Ms Divya Chauhan
- Ms Jaishree Chauhan Ms Mehtaab Chauhan

Group. The event also graced by the presence of Pooja Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Humanity Foundation & ASFD; Divya Chauhan, Chairperson, ASFA, ASFT & ASPA; Jaishree Chauhan, Vice Chairperson, Amity Finishing School & Mehtab Chauhan, along with

school principals and heads of Amity institutions.

#### On top of the world, Signing off with love

As the competition switched on to a new format, its gears shifted towards a bigger and tougher road. While the number of participating schools went up, the number of nominations were restricted. The battle to the 'Best Newspaper Award' got edgier and fiercer. Each time a dignitary/special guest was called upon to announce a winner, one could see fingers crossed and hands intertwined in anticipation. The anxiety and nervousness met a jubilant end with AIS Noida and AIS Saket clinching the top spots. Eight Amitians, who had been worked throughout their student life for the newspaper, were bestowed with

the prestigious GT School Time Achievement Award. As the competition met its winners, it marked the end of another editorial sojourn, one that was dotted with thunderous cheers and roaring applause throughout.

www.theglobaltimes.in

#### On a bright high, Off to new start

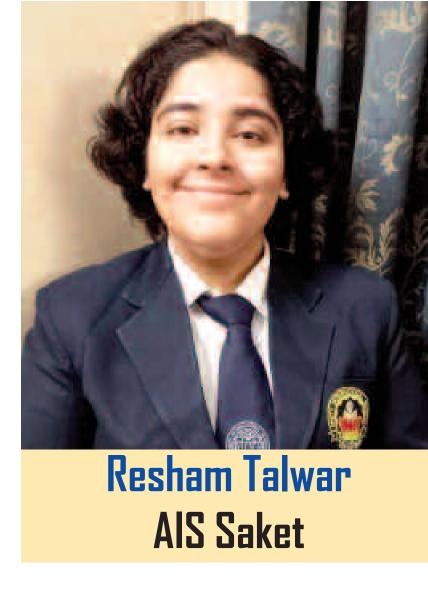
The thumping of hearts could be heard over the online platform of MS Teams just as conspicuously as the tears of nostalgia could be witnessed. Starting with a sweet video by AIS Vasundhara 6 that concluded with a smile on everybody's face and ending with a stand-up roast by AIS Pushp Vihar that left the audience in splits, and not to mention the rhyme enactment act by tiny tots of AIS Saket had everyone go awww! From the ecstatic happiness of winning an award to melancholic sadness of losing one; from pride of being a part of the school editorial team to the longing of one; from euphoria to sorrow; from amusement to anxiety; the event was the amalgamation of a wide range of emotions.

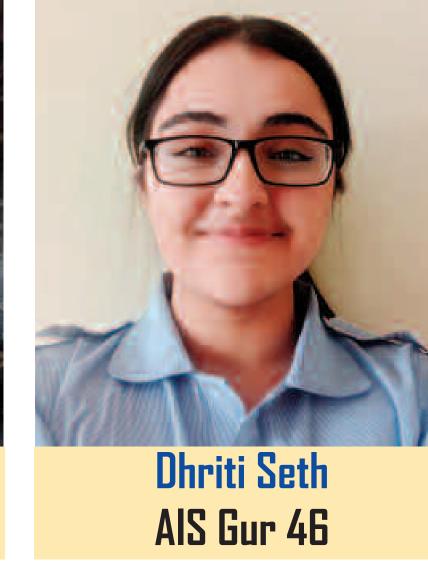
GT Awards 2022 was an intersection of old and new, joy and sorrow, cheers and applause, online and offline worlds, and a lot more, only to create a hybrid high that will be remembered for a long time to come. Speaking of intersections, there is one where the earth meets the sky, it's called the horizon, and that is where you will find us often! GIT

#### GT School Time Achievement Awardees



Aditi Banerji AIS Noida AIS Noida



















## Around I he

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

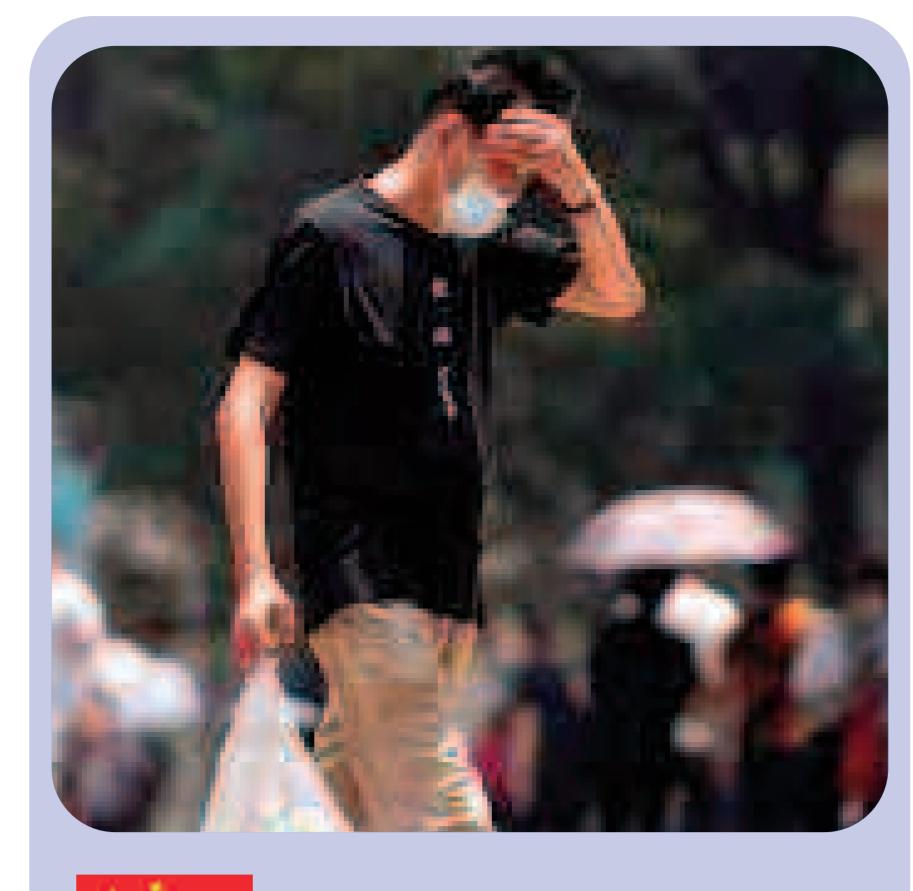


#### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

#### Two billion USD investment to set food parks

In the first ever virtual four-nation grouping I2U2 summit held on July 14, 2022, the country announced an investment of two billion USD to set up integrated food parks in India. The parks will use climate smart technologies to lower down food wastage, save fresh water, and utilise renewable energy sources.





#### CHINA

#### Extreme heat warning issued

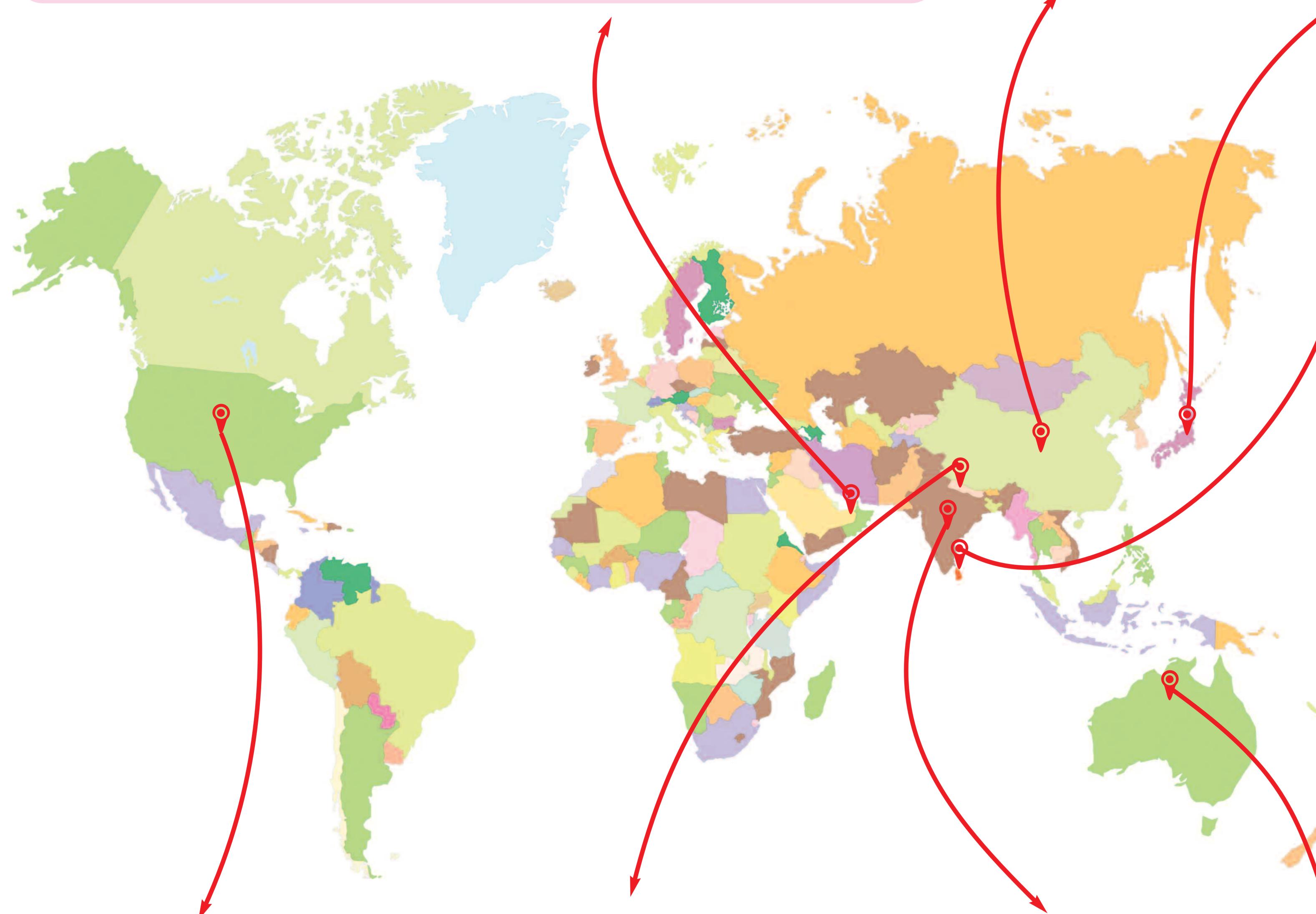
For the third time this summer, Shanghai has issued the highest alert for extreme heat as the temperature in the city break records. Housing more than 25 million people, the red alert was issued with expected temperatures of at least 40 degrees. Earlier also, the city had issued three red alerts, reducing all construction and outside work.



#### JAPAN

#### Host for 2025 championship

Tokyo has been selected to be the host city for the 2025 World Athletics Championships, as announced by the World Athletics president, Sebastian Coe. With the event, Japan will be celebrating 100 yrs of Japanese Association of Athletics Federations in 2025. The announcement came a day before the onset of 2022 event.





#### SRI LANKA

#### President steps down

Sri Lankan president, Gotabaya Rajapaksa, has emailed his letter of resignation to Parliament speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena. The resignation came hours later after he flee the country for Singapore following mass protests over the economic crisis. Meanwhile, Sri Lankan PM, Ranil Wickremesinghe, has been sworn in as the interim president until the parliament elects a new candidate next week to help the country deal with the economic and national turmoil.



#### USA

#### New space images revealed

NASA, in partnership with European Space Agency and Canadian Space Agency, has revealed the first-ever images captured by James Webb Space Telescope. The images, which showcase SMAC S 0723, WASP-96b, Southern Ring Nebula, Stephan's Quintet, and Carina Nebula, are the first ever full-colour images and spectroscopic data of the cosmic creations that were elusive to humanity till now.



#### First citizenship amendment bill

On July 13, 2022, Nepal's parliament passed the country's first Citizenship Amendment Bill. The bill had been under scrutiny since 2020, and got rejected each time due to difference of opinions. The country's home minister said, "There are thousands of people who are deprived of citizenship certificates although their parents are citizens of Nepal which is further depriving them of education and other facilities." Hence, the amendment will help to create an allinclusive environment.



#### INDIA

#### 94-year-old wins gold medal

Bhagwani Devi Dagar, a 94-year-old woman, made history at the World Masters Athletics Championship, as she bagged gold medal in the 100meter race category with a record time of 24.74 seconds, and one bronze medal in shot put. Earlier she had also participated in Delhi State Athletics Championship and secured gold in shot put, javelin throw, and 100m sprint. Her grandson, Vikar Dagar, is also a recipient of the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award.





#### Lowest unemployment rate

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Australian unemployment rate took a 48-year low dive as the hiring opportunities in the country exceeded all expectations, and even recorded outstanding vacancies and largest increase in interest rates. As per the reports, the net employment surged to 88,400 in May and brought gain for the year to a rousing 4,38,000. The jobless rate has recorded to be the lowest since August 1974.

Flash

UK: Anne Winston becomes the youngest person to recite the capitals and currencies of 195 countries Germany: Aminata Toure becomes the first black member of the state government France: 1,000 firefighters battle two wild forest fires



Etruscan shrew is the world's smallest terrestrial mammal and has a heartbeat that can reach up to 1500 beats per minute.











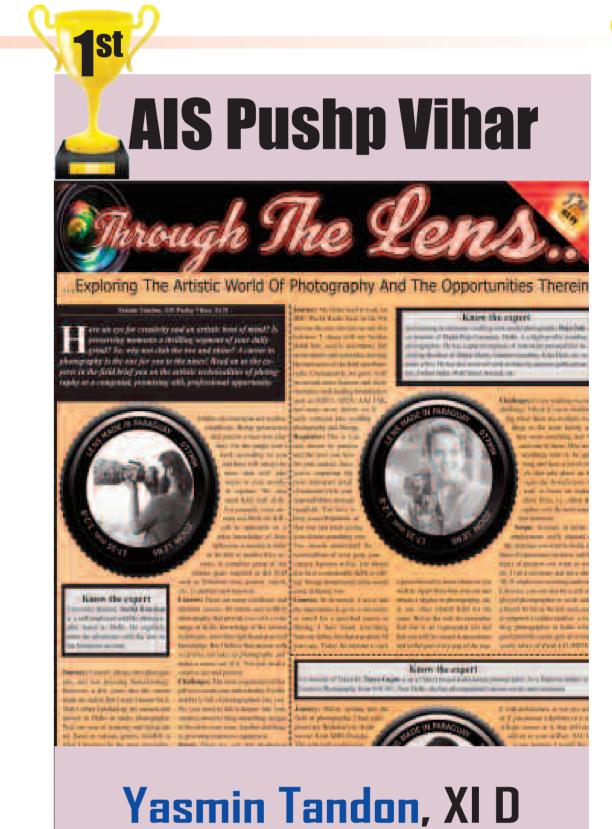




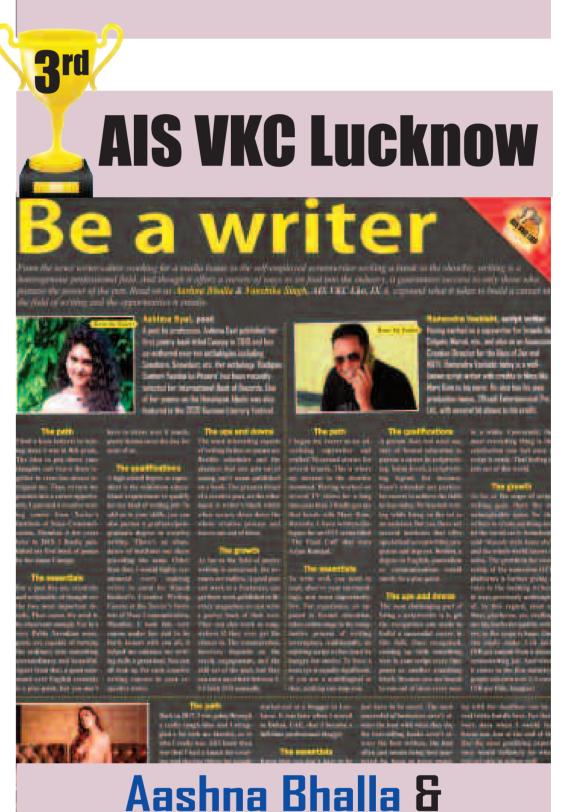
Anushka Ramesh, XI F



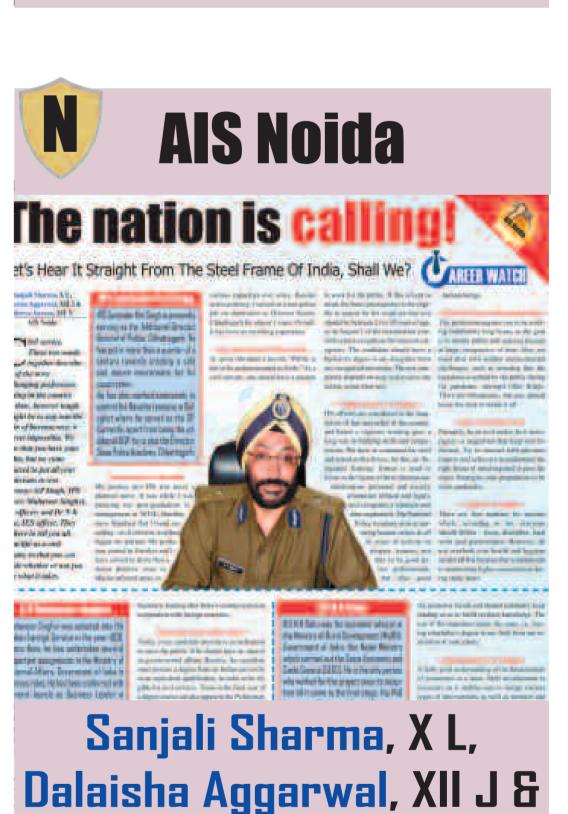








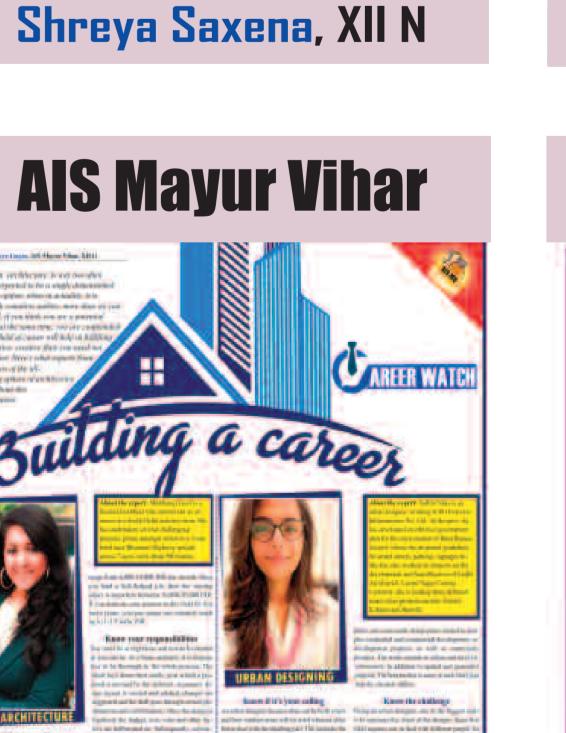




Shreya Srivastava, IX A

Vanshika Singh, IX A









Ananya Gupta, XII G





Aadya Kapoor, XI D

Madhav Sharma, X D

#### Best Interview





Samudi Ranawake, XII





N AIS Mayur Vihar



Nidhi Barthwal, GT TC, AIS VKC Lko Participating in the GT Making a Newspaper Contest for the first time and winning the coveted awards has been an incredible learning experience for the students of AIS VKC Lko.

2.5K likes

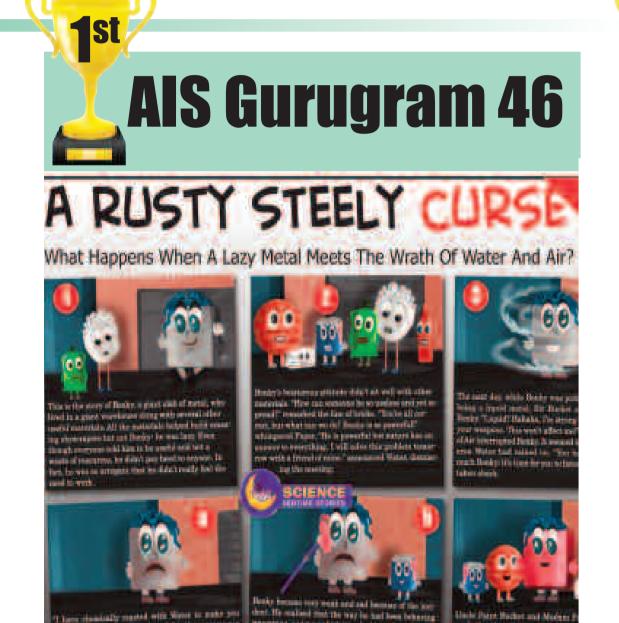
Reply



Divya Bhatia, Principal, AIS Saket It was truly heartwarming to be the winner of the coveted GT Best Newspaper Award. Winning it for two years in a row is truly a dream come true. 2.7K likes Reply

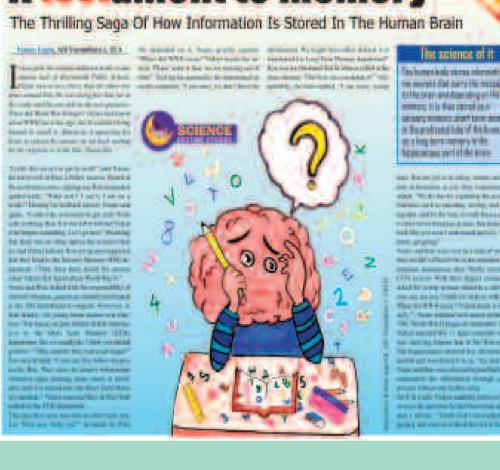


#### Best Science Bedtime Story

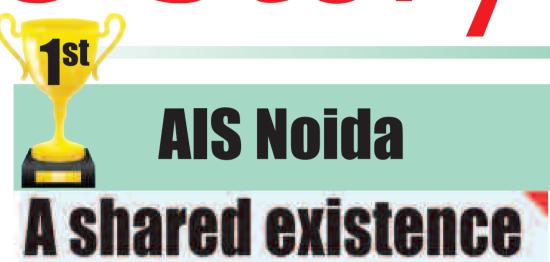


Aditya Pathak, XII B





Naman Gupta, XI A





Kavesha Raina, XII J

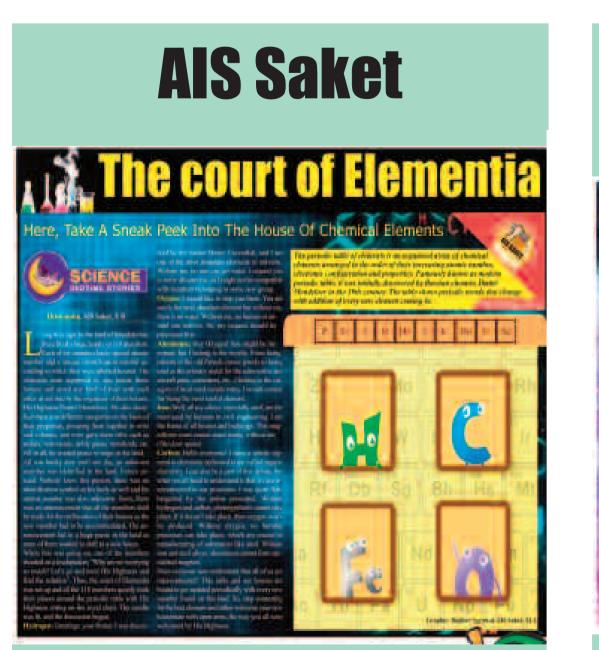


Kasak Jain, X



Ayushi Jain, IX A





Hridyanshu, X B

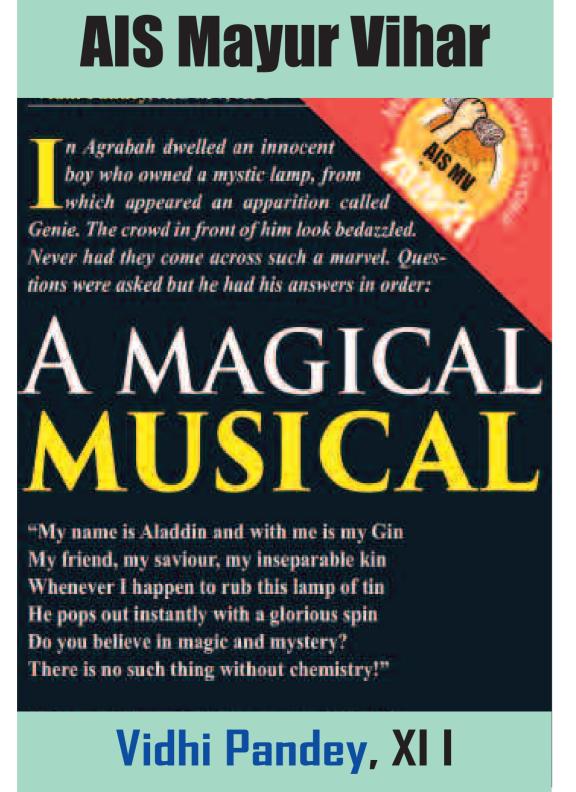




Shreya Biswas, XI C









#### Best Autobiography



Nandini Sunil & Harshaa Kawatra, XII E

N AIS Gurugram 46

cious tale

A Posthumous Note From A Specia

don't know you and won't even get to know you. our life pretty well, but then priso

dy, a dog just like you. And just like you, I, too. me at Gloegoer prisoner of war cum

Vanalika Maini, XI A



Ishika Sharma, XI D







bhbhai Bayerbhai Paiel. I am to be slowly yet steadily boosting the name of The Mighty Fountain Pen Tells Its Tale ad a major role to play in uniting the world situated?", the answer is our Bharat Supriya Dhingra, X B Eshaan Ramaul, X A











#### Best Perspective Story



















N AIS Gurugram 43

Jab we MET...



Meet Zojila Tunnel

#### Best ABC Of News



















Brookesia Micra, also known as Nosy Hara Leaf Chameleon, is the smallest reptile in world. It can fit on the end of a human fingernail and can only get as big as an inch.







#### Best Fictional Story





Sauryi Valsh, A1S-PV/XII C

To the flea call that made are question the caucign of time and evalue...

For how could Jeliney Webs the legend of speed racing, call me, Mark Daniel, a 20-year-old working in the same field! Weish had disappeared 13 years ago after winning the first speed-racmy chartpropagip. But that isn't the most shocking part. The fact that he questioned we about call-

that were "recently" held. How- about of his. On that, he print-

for the doubt that planted itself when I was a kid. She handed to

Saanvi Vaish, XII C









AIS Gurugram 46

God made us all with hearts alike

If black is so unacceptable, then

Why apartheid doesn't meet its end? Why is white pure and black impure?

What would be the colour of sky at nigh

Jaya Jha, AIS Gurugram 46, XI J

Blood cut through racial divisions

The deep black colour of my skin

Caused my community's setback

I have dreams of being equal

For I am the dark vast sky

Inder which your stars shone

Bright and what you call "white"

dy blood too is red in colour

But I've starved several nights

For I was racially discriminates

gainst the powerful whites

too have dreams of flying high

I hope one day I will become bold

Who are supreme for being white

and stand against the many

Vinition of liberty, Lenvision





**AIS Noida** 

Aditi Banerji, XII I

AIS Vasundhara 6

I thought and cried

I missed my parents

Naisha Das, IV E

min op die wiede Autran



N AIS Mayur Vihar

Ridhima Pant, IX A

My bean was gripped with fright My minn has dather dun ever

Down my spine, it sent a shire

mountais was hitting me hard

peopled mut, since a heighing grant Wondering what was going on

I lay on my cold-beil, awaiting dawn

that a phantom was totally insane.

fulfing the riched blanket over m fried to recall a happy menning

Subconsenously, I started to dream

Halfway interrupted by a scream

I felt my foruse was haunted

To run at once was all I wanted

But my whole hody turned sumb-

As from the corner, a form arrive

Believe me as to what followed

line my eur, whispered the ghost

Bizarre, I saw it was hollowed

Couldn't sense my tocor my thomb

**AIS Saket** 

'Is there no one here right now? This is an didn't show it. He just pretended to v

breathe and then took out the thick dusty file on Business address/Office address: The

'Okay, name of the missing person," asked In-tious man," Rohan anxiously stated

"Lam a student at Pure Medical Univ

The Inspector choked on his tea, paused to formio, United States of America

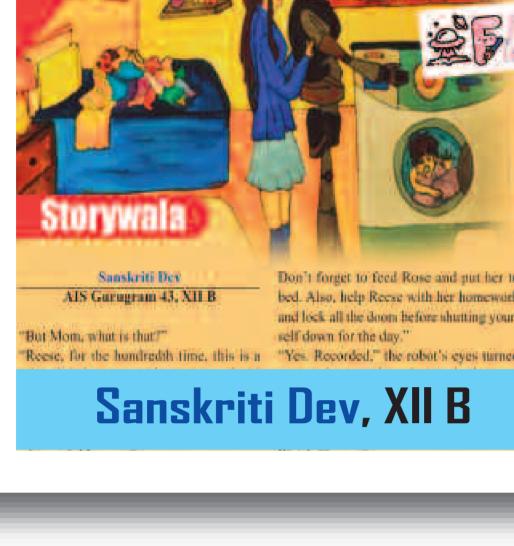
nussing people. Full of yellowing, half-tom nia Hospital, California.

Missing since

tion. "Good evening, Sir, I am here to

emergency!" Roban almost screamed at the po-

spector Kulkarni said, sipping his evening tea-









auri Shaema, AGS Gurugram, VIII

ending my very last goodbyes

ar a little kid watching curtoons

th, how beautiful he truly look

Vrapped micely in mir tranga-

but how painful a seems to be

o watch him moved with gamps

did not even get to witness

Vhat they say was his last smile

lut how was I supposed to know

le'd said he'd be home in a while

t when did I sak you, my son

retarn at this domestry like this

when did I ask you, my son

great the altimate death's kiss-

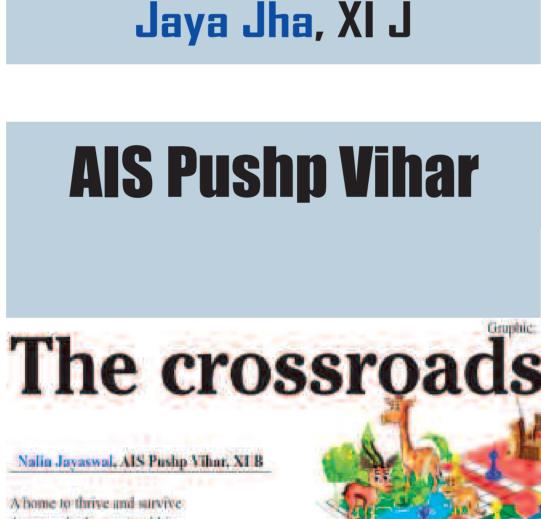
o a beloved bedeaked in festimin-

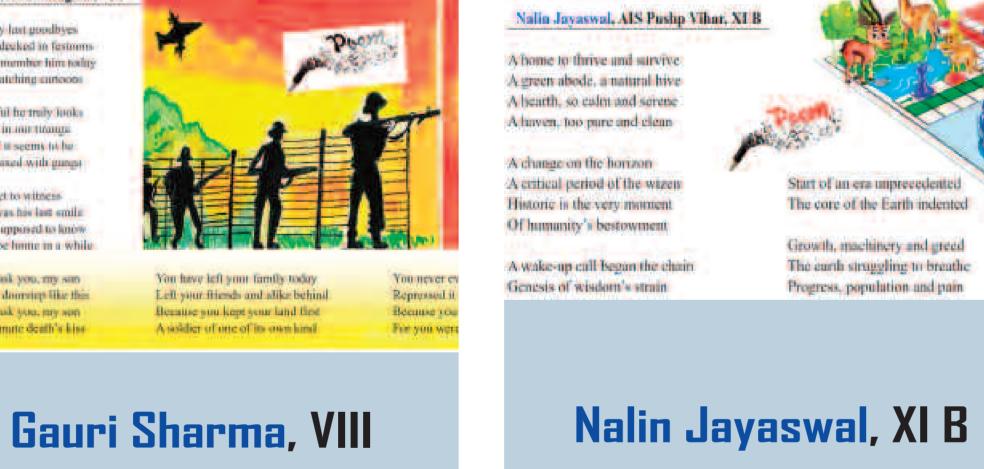
bough I still numember him today



Varada Kachroo, IX B









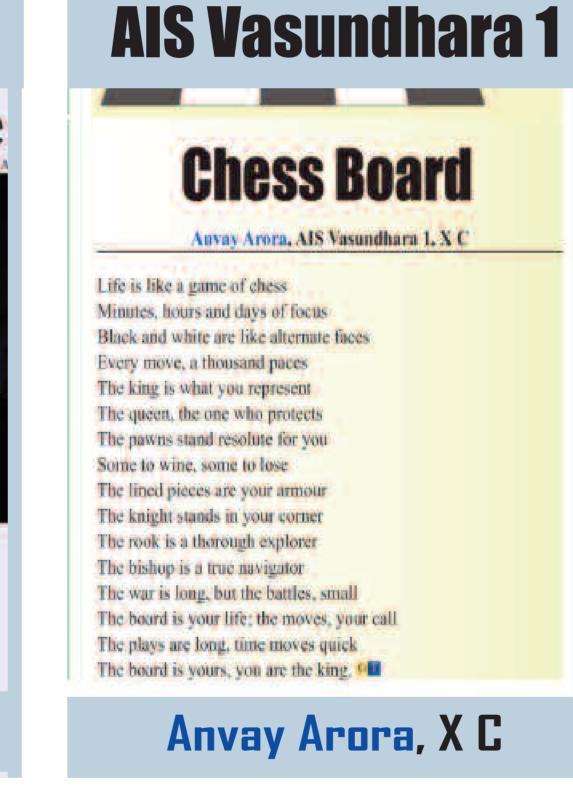


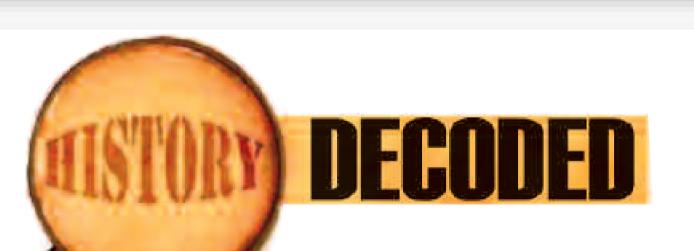
AIS Vasundhara 6, IV E

Flying high and free

Looking down with glee

On the things below me



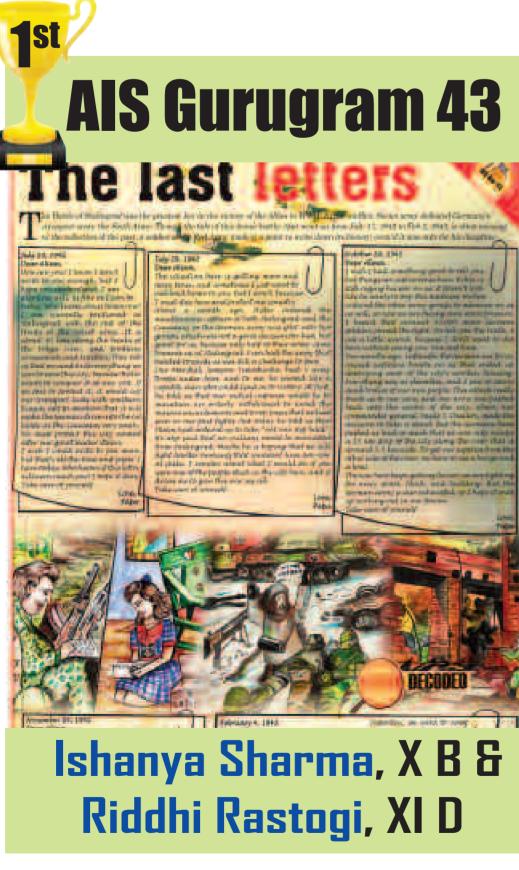


#### Best History Decoded



Ayush Soni, X

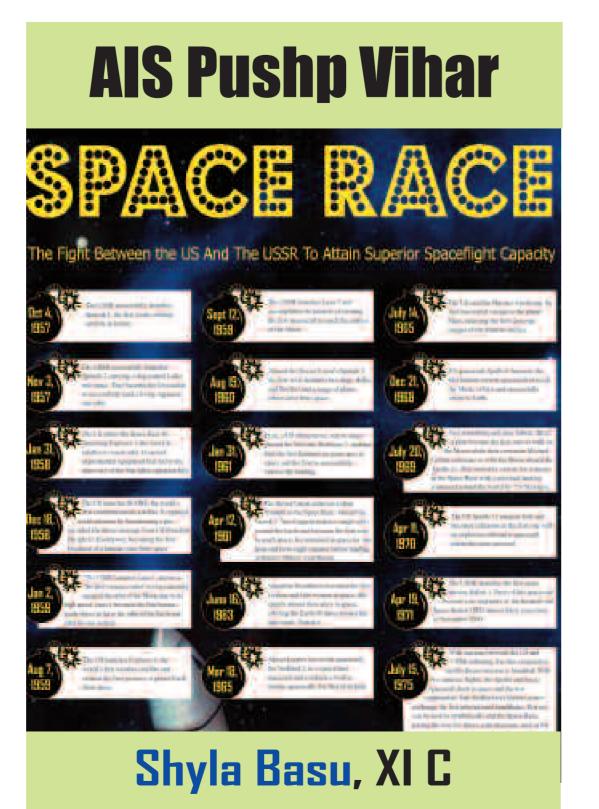






Dhriti Seth, XII I















#### Riya Kharyal & Anshita Kumar AGS Gurugram, XII

And the nominations are...

Preparing our first contest edition was one bumpy ride. Nevertheless, with the constant push from our mentor, our eyes never left the prize, and we made sure to put our all into the edition.

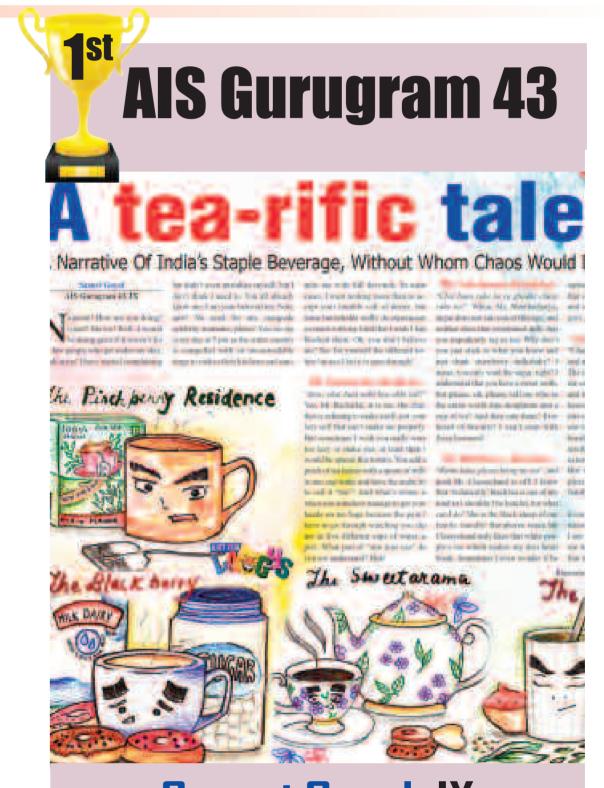
2.5K likes



Aditi Banerji, AIS Noida, Alumna From doubting ourselves initially to finally taking the Best Newspaper Award home, GT Newspaper Making Contest 2021-22 has been one hell of a ride; a roller coaster we wouldn't have survived, were it not for our teachers.

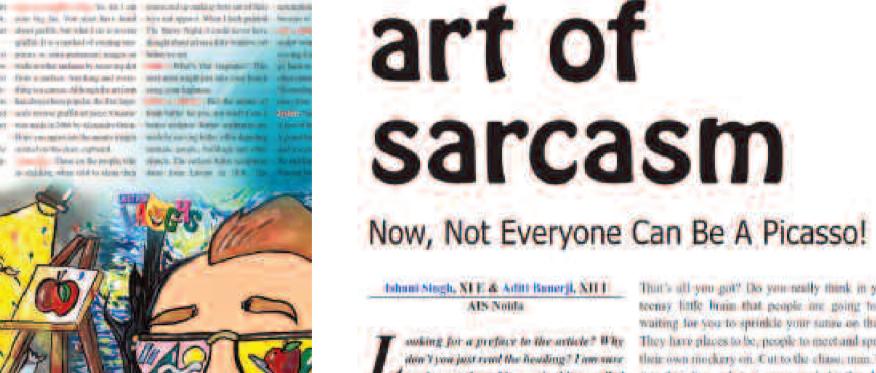
2.7K likes











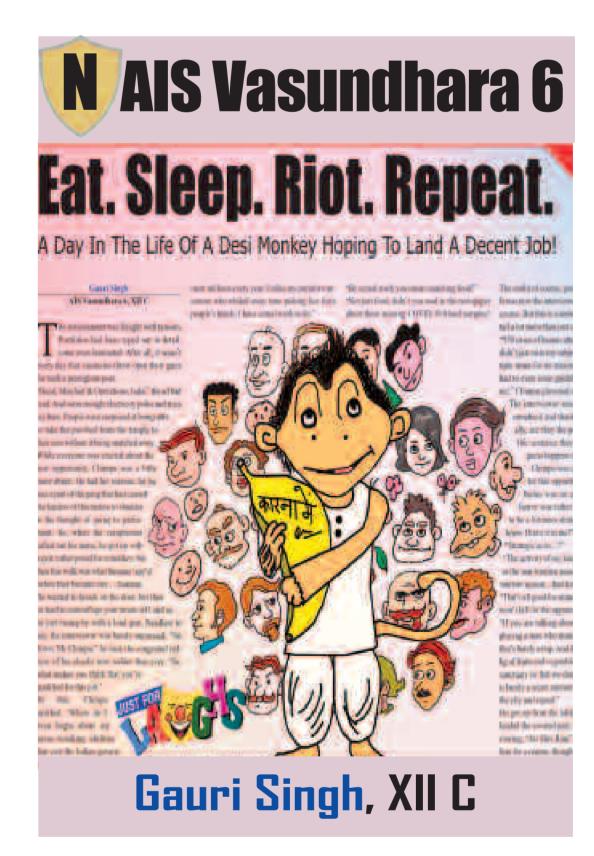
And that, folks, is surcasm for you, in its purper

**AIS Noida** 

he subtle

**AIS Pushp Vihar** 

Ishani Singh, XI E & Aditi Banerji, XII I









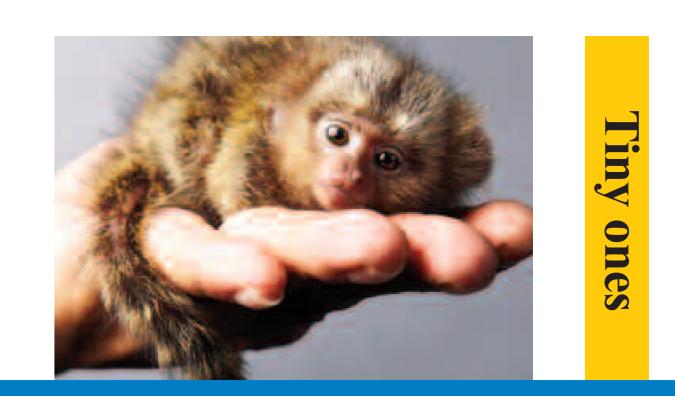


**AGS Gurugram** 



Resham Talwar, XII C







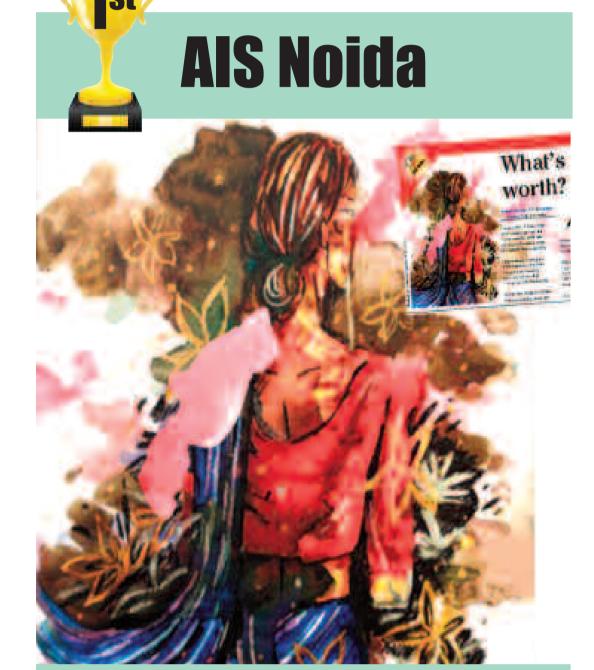
#### Shweta Tomar, GT TC, AIS Vas 6

Exhilarating awards, enthralling performances, and excitement galore who wouldn't fancy being a part of it all. Once again, as always, the GT Awards left everyone mesmerised. Team Vas 6 is beyond thrilled as they have added another feather to their hat. 2.5K likes



Swati Jha, AIS Gur 46, Alumna Ever since I saw Megha di get on the stage to receive the schooltime achievement award, it has been on my bucket list. I could not absorb the reality of the win until today when I saw that beautiful video. I am grateful to have been a part of this amazing journey. 2.7K likes Reply

## Best Illustration

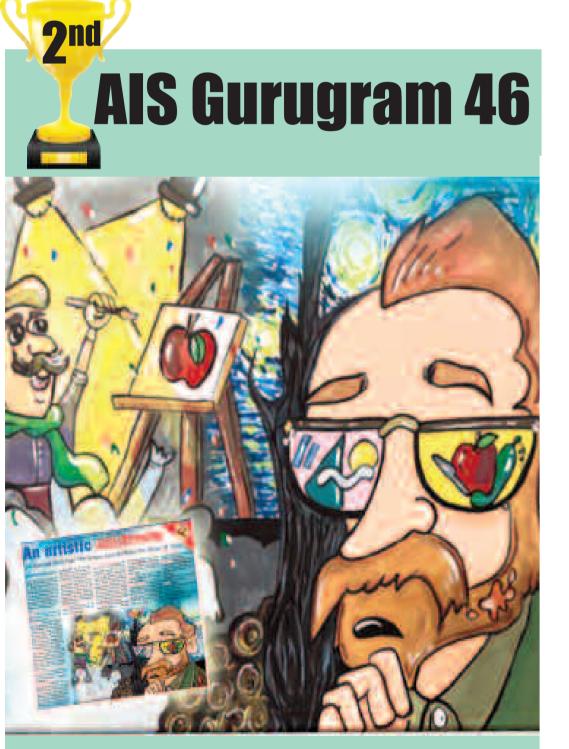




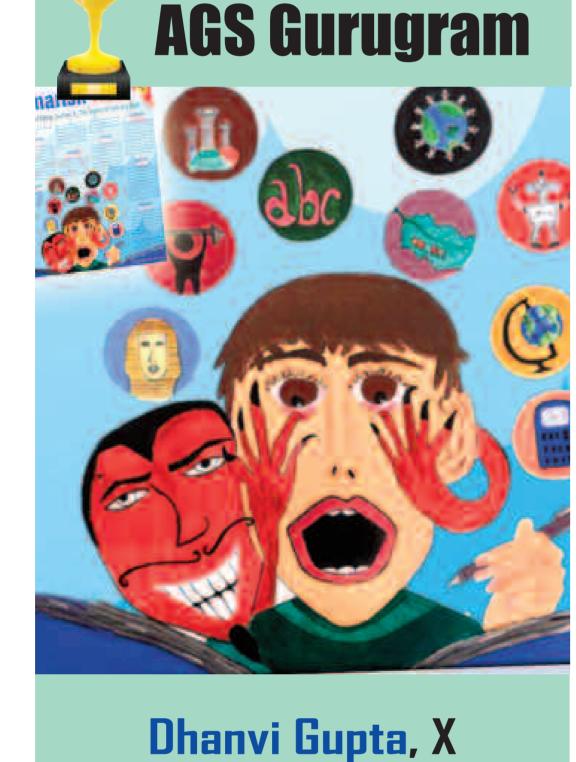
Yana Bhanot, XI D

AIS Gurugram 43

Swadha Tripathi, XII J



Nayonika Mavuri, XI



N AIS Vasundhara 6

Harshita Pareek, X E

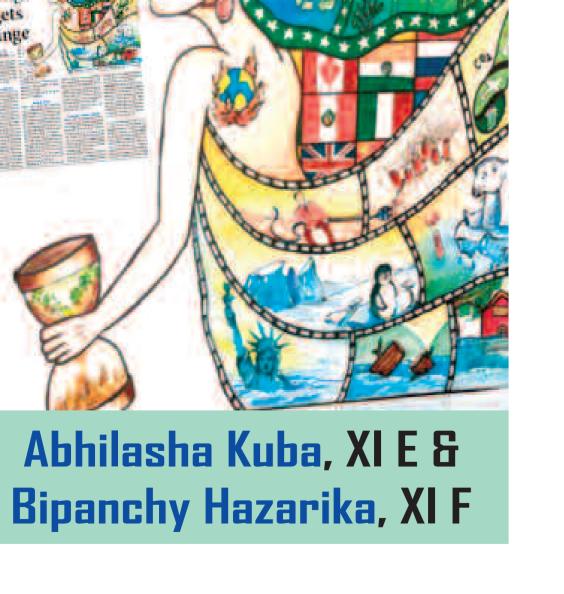
**AIS Pushp Vihar** 

N AIS Mayur Vihar



Ananya Arya, XI C

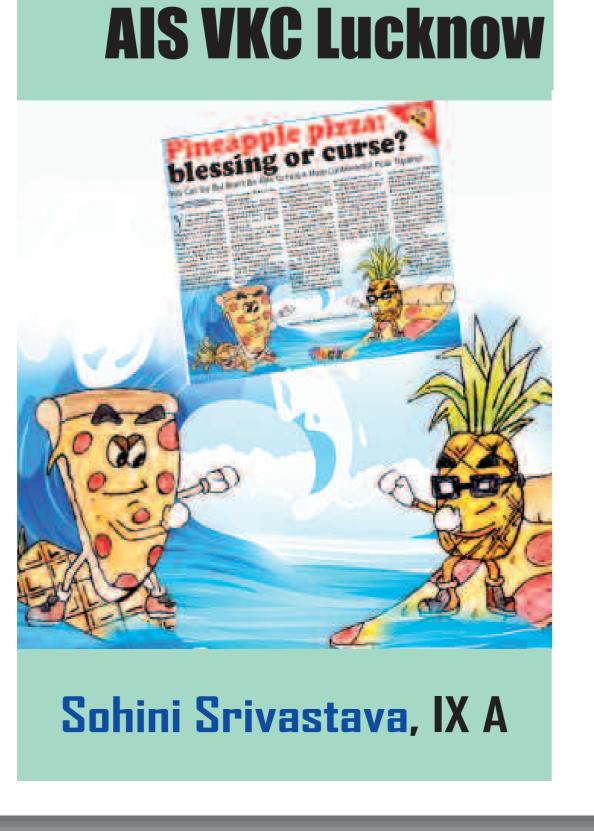




AIS Vasundhara 1



Agrima Ahuja, IX B



Nainika Gupta, IX B

#### Best Graphic/Imaging



Amrit Warwal, XI G

Chahat Garg, X C





Riya Kharyal, X

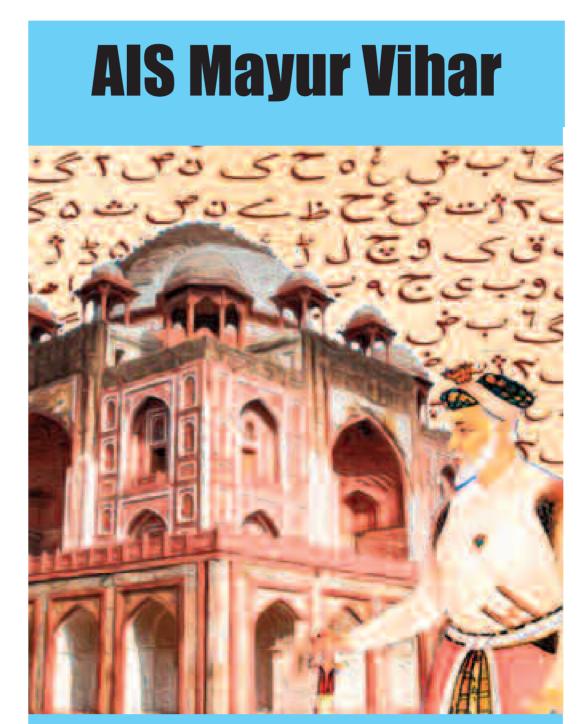


Raghav Agrawal, XI C

N AGS Gurugram

Kasak Jain, X





Ananya Jain, X A



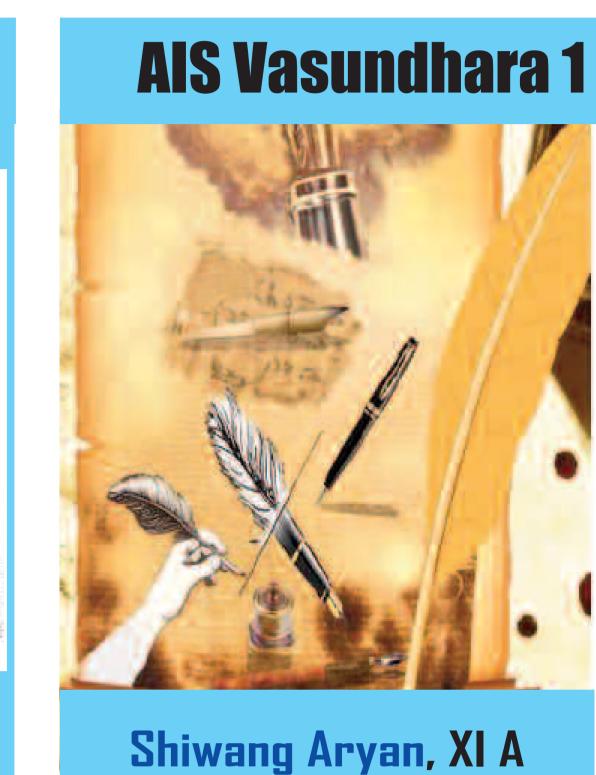
Eshaan Ramaul, X A



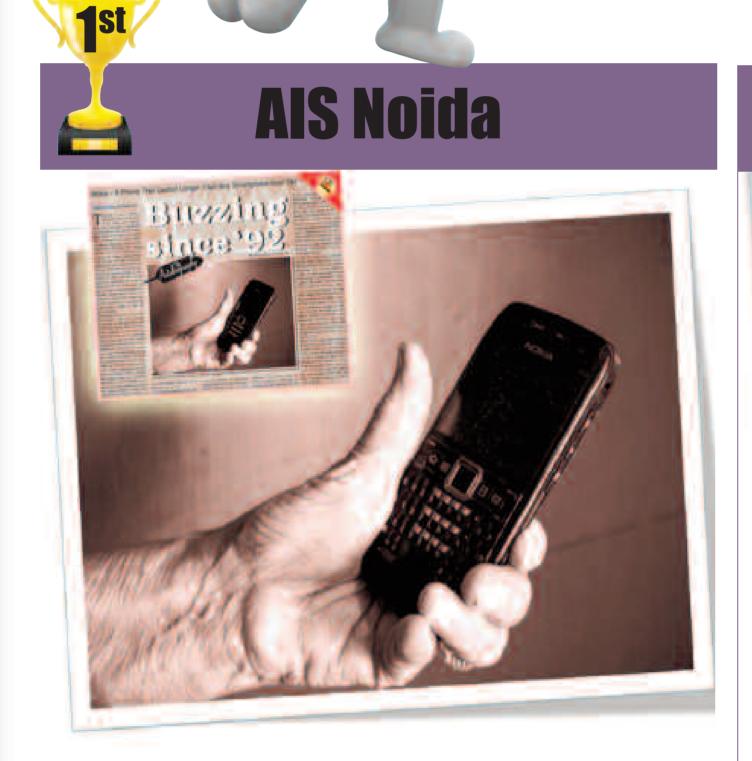
Ananya Mittal, IX B



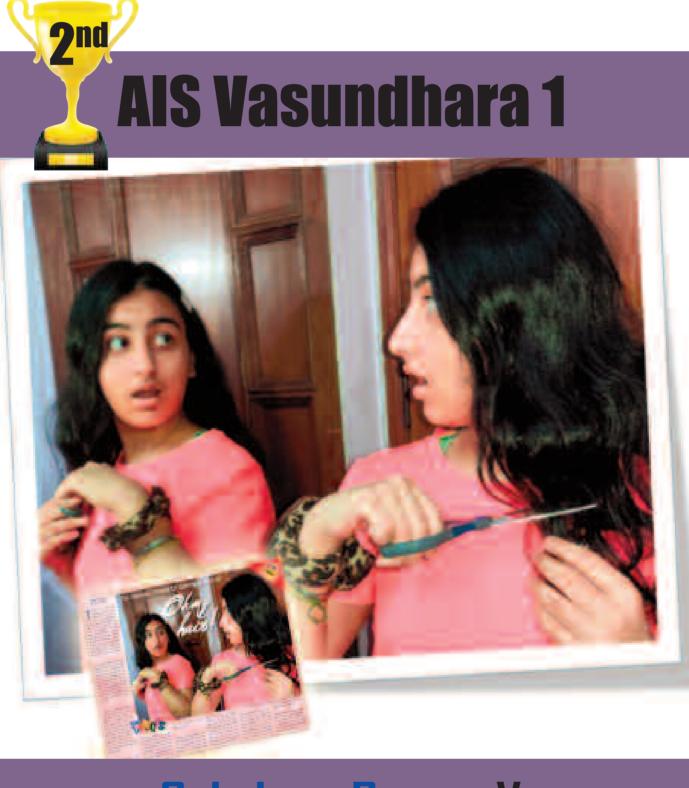
Jaskeerat Sarin, XII D



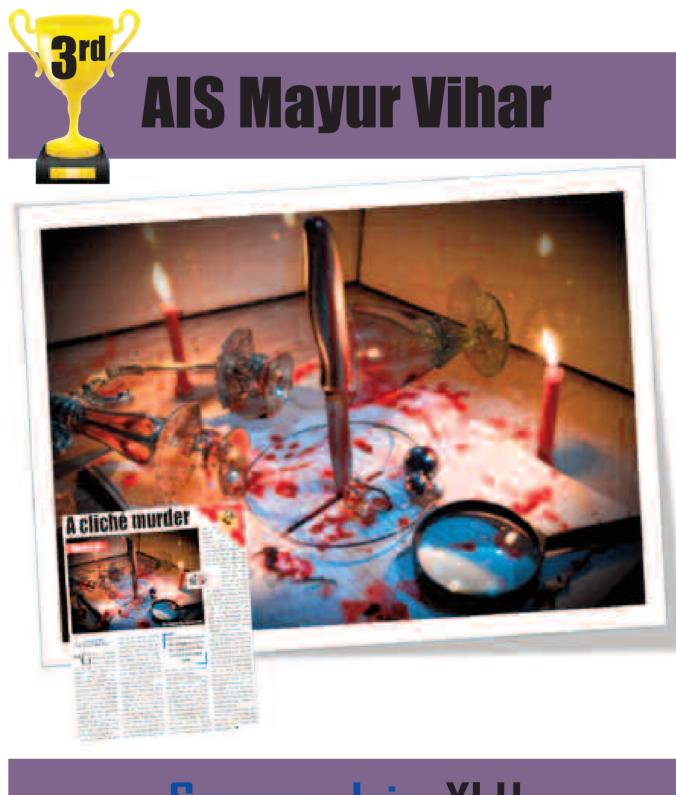
Best Photography



Pranav Arora, XII G



Saksham Bagga, V



Sanyam Jain, XI H



AIS Gurugram 46



Pratham Sharma, XI A



#### Best Headline







Shagun Jain, XII D



**AIS Saket** 

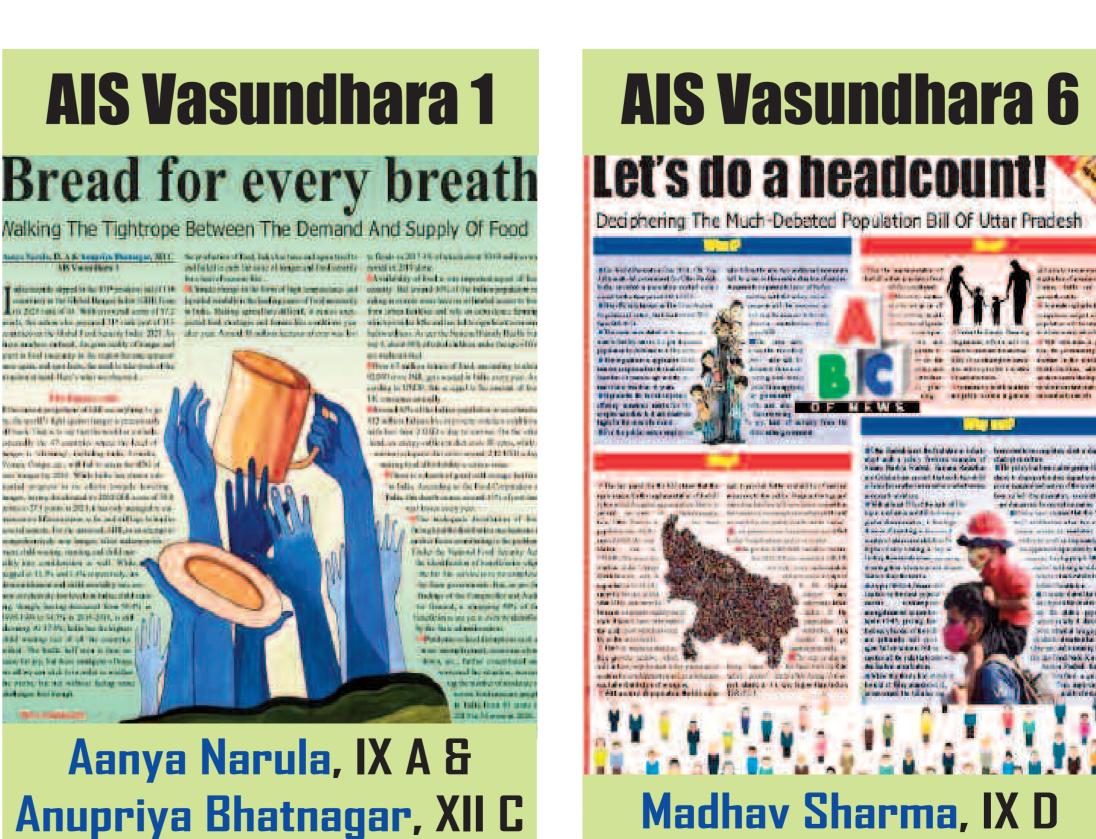
AGS Gurugram



Resham Talwar, XII C







presents, "Record Reportertained accorded to 24-40 for plant tools," 7%

on their title wat to Ferror, Separate







Dr Amita Chauhan Chairperson

"This is better than a live event." These were my first thoughts as I logged into the virtual GT Award ceremony. Seeing my young Amitians cheering for their respective school, with their principals and teachers joining in, shining pom-poms swinging in

the air; I was almost transported back to the prepandemic era when all of us witnessed the magic of loud applause and cheers in the F2 auditorium at Amity University. This event though conducted digitally, brought back the euphoria of real interactions, as students enjoyed a screening of the award ceremony in their respective schools.

My heart swelled with pride each time an Amitian stood in front of the camera in their respective school on bagging an award. My eyes welled with emotion when I saw my Amity Alumnus join the event from different corners of the world. My happiness knew no bounds when I saw the whole of my Amity family come together, including heads of various departments who announced winners of different awards. GT Awards, in its hybrid version, was truly a treat for all of us.

But what makes this event truly special is that it celebrates the talent of young Amitians. I have always believed that written words have great power to transform not only individuals and societies, but also the nation. I wanted to create a platform, for my Amitians, which could hone and enhance their written and communication skills. In 2007, this idea took shape in the form of The Global Times, which was born as the first-ever registered student newspaper of India. In the last decade and half, it has evolved into a creative space that is not just about penmanship, but also about diligence and passion. I vividly remember a guest journalist telling me that he envies GT students, as they have already become journalists, while he earned this distinction only when he entered the industry after finishing college. I, too, believe that children who are active in GT defi-

sition from the virtual to the real world. A full 100 to the winners and the entire GT team for showing us that the path ahead is bright indeed. GIT

## Afull Like father, like son

#### From Father Of The Nation To All The Millennials And Gen Z

Madhav Sharma, AIS Vas 6, XI E

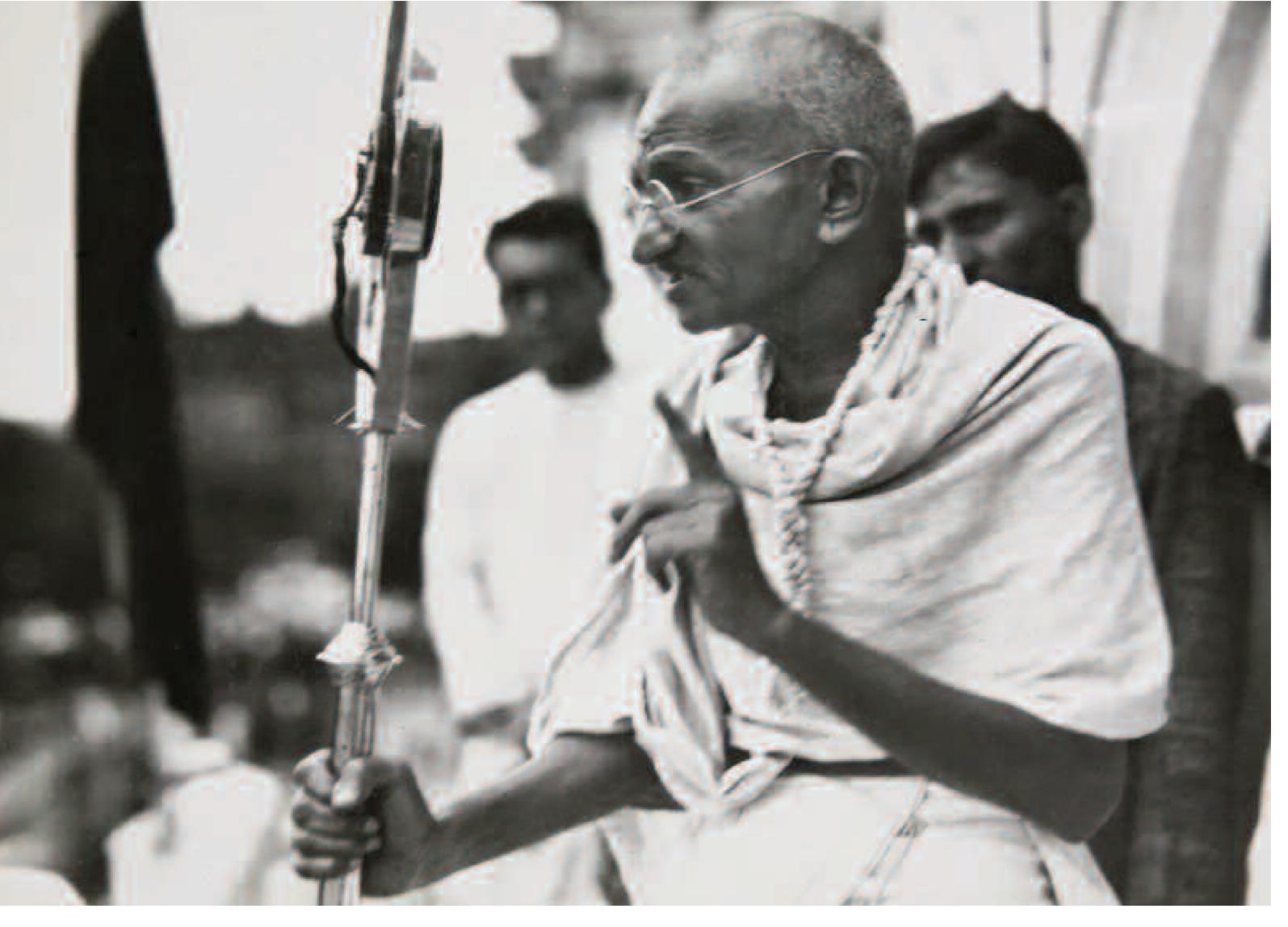
'Change is the only constant', some may say. But some things choose not to change anyway. From the ancient times to the modern, some ideologies are definitely here to stay!

Tot only India, but the entire world held him in high regard, learned immensely from him, and tried to follow in his footsteps! For however old he may have been, however archaic his ideologies may seem, but they have withstood the test of time, to such an extent that even the millennials and generation Z swear by what he preached, even before half of us had breathed. I know you know him - the father of the nation - our very own Bapu. And here are some of the ideologies he passed on to us as his timeless legacy!

#### Cleanliness

*'Been there, done that!'* From Gandhi to Modi!

In Sabarmati- his abode, in India- his motherland, in all the foreign countries- his allies, wherever he went or lived, he ensured that he spread the message, 'cleanliness is next to godliness', far and wide. Bapu was emphatic about his belief that 'sanitation was more important than independence'. He never felt a hint of shame in cleaning the dirtiest of places and was



always seen promoting good hygiene habits amongst people around him. There is no denying the fact that even today cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation stay on top of a person's list, even more so after COVID-19 happened to humanity. For one should take pride in staying and keeping one's surroundings clean. Not only the citizens but the government, too, gives top priority to projects like 'Namami Gange' and 'Swachch Bharat Abhiyaan'. So, let's all pledge to be in it together and make our country clean!

#### Sustainable development 'Earth is ailing, thought of a cure?' -From Gandhi to Greta!

Aren't we all going nuts over this one?

And why not!? If we want to survive, we need to make sure that the planet we stand on can breathe. Use of Charkha, promotion of cotton, trying to reduce wastage, sensitivity to technology, etc., is all evidence enough to showcase that Bapu wanted to fulfill the SDG requirements. In the current times, increased plantation drives, reduced deforestation rates, eliminated plastics, concept of 3Rs, are all hot favourites of every human being. From school kids to adults, people are in fear of existence and extinction, and hence are trying to leave no stone unturned in ensuring that earth does not become a boiling cauldron and is handled with caution. So. let's all pledge

to be the torch bearers for posterity.

'Age is just a number!' From Gandhi to Malala!

Though it's easier said than done but still the world is trying to put its best foot forward in eradicating geographical boundaries and creating one large happy family. Gandhi believed that the rule of law and accountability should be established within our country and amongst all countries. And so, it shall be. Be it the United Nations, other peace ambassadors or people like me and you, everyone prefers to hear the birds chirruping rather than gun fires roaring. Sounds of pleasant laughter are balmier than the shrill sobs of disdain. So, let's all pledge to embrace humanity with open arms.

#### Gender equality

'Be the change you want to see in the world!'-From Gandhi to girls! "We should not say that women are inferior to men. It would be a libel and it is a sin," he uttered on innumerable occasions. In an attempt to advocate social positioning of and right to education for women, he moved many a mountains. And here we are, in the 21st century, witnessing a sea of change in the social stature of women in the country. For not less, not more, all we want is an equal stance for all the genders. Even as per our constitution, every person has the right to equality. So, let's all pledge to not look at women any differently. GIT

## believe that children who are active in GT definitely have a head start. GT Awards 2022 too was a great head start, a perfect stepping stone as we slowly but steadily tran-

#### An Online Threat Looms Over The Offline World



cheerleaders, dance gigs,

high-fives and on-ground interviews, this year's GT Awards had it all! My heartiest congratulations to those who won in various categories and also my admiration for those who may not have bagged an award but were equally responsible for the success that GT has become. And this resounding success is all due to the creativity and hard work put in by each of its contributors.

Last time when the GT Awards were held online for the first time, we could not include as many children as we wanted. This year, we were determined to bring back the JOSH into the event, and better armed with technology this time, a plan was formed to hold the event in a hybrid mode. The result? Student and teachers from all the schools across India were able to attend the live ceremony. This was for the first time in the that radiate everywhere with an ever-in-15 year long history of GT that we had almost every branch of Amity - from the new ones at Gwalior and Lucknow to Amity Global Schools

– taking part in the awards ceremony. In fact, this year the number of schools participating also increased. This is a happy evolution for us because more competition not only helps children develop important skills like resilience, perseverance and tenacity, but also prepares them for wins and losses later in their life. They learn how to take turns, encourage others, and develop empathy. This is exactly what GT wishes to do, so more power to our GT stars! GT

Shreya Madheshwaran AGS Gurugram, Alumna n a world running on technology, it cannot be denied that AI has revo-Llutionised our society. From how the wheels of the professional world turn to ways of lifestyle, the two types of AI - Artificial Narrow Intelligence (ANI) and Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) have powerful influences creasing intensity. But even when AI has transformed our lives in ways our ancestors couldn't have fathomed, it does come with its own grey clouds, raising the question of whether it is all

ANI, used by the world for search engine algorithms, GPS, and facial recognition technologies has worked hard to make our daily life easier, but a doubt cannot help but be raised if this smooth sailing is silently taking away our pri-

good news or are these techie wires hid-

ing something behind them.

vacy. With it knowing our current location at almost all times, to the rich database of digital photographs available on social media, websites, surveillance cameras, and so many other sources nothing is no longer hidden. A report by Freedom on the Net claimed that 89% of the world's internet users are being actively monitored. Facial recognition, a feature once thought simple and effective, has been brought into light for being misused by many governments and companies to breach privacy and as a tool of authoritarian control, has raised many eyebrows against the evil of AI. Even with the T&C of various famous social networking sites and apps being very dicey, like TikTok and Instagram that can access the user's camera and microphone even when the app is not being used, AI seems to be tripping here and there, crossing the threshold of ethics we should abide by.

Even if we were to conclude that the pros of ANI outweigh its breaches, AGI

comes at us with far more questions of drawing the line of control. With every sci-fi movie ever made warning us about the AI gone bad, the days of it becoming a reality are not so far away. Although this may seem improbable at first, these same ANI have been trained to solve a problem as efficiently as possible, whether it is by causing destruction or not. So, for a pandemic plaguing the world, their simple solution will be to kill all the infected individuals, which sounds the biggest red alert alarm from an anthropological perspective.

As we rejoice in the potential of AI solving large-scale global issues, a worry for it gaining too much lurks in the back of our minds. With the predictions of robots doing 30% of human work by 2050, even if we create supercomputers that can reach 33.86 quadrillion calculations per second, what use will those calculations be when it ends up putting the same being who created it out of business? GI



Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'The crown' published on page five of The Global Times edition dated July 11, 2022. The humorous piece beautifully encapsulates the vivid past that the British crown has seen in its 183 years of living in striking detail. Not only are the crown's origins illustrated masterfully, but the long history of the British crown also finds itself succinctly summarised with great skill. The lighthearted and humorous retelling of history is pleasing, as the article bridges the gap between the past and present, making it easier for the students to learn about history which is often considered boring. Thank you, GT, for bringing such informative write ups. Yashi Sharma

AIS Noida, XI C

## Shattered memories



Avikshit Sahil Upadhyay
AGS Gurugram, XI

here are several moments in life where one has an epiphany. As I rummaged through my attic one fine day and found a brown tattered box there, little did I know that it would become one such reality-defining moment for me. The box had 'Coral movers, the greatest movers' printed on it in faded black letters. Curious, I cut it open with a knife, and what I found next brought back several fond memories of my childhood back to me.

As I rushed to investigate the contents of the box, having hurriedly wiped off the dust that

blew in my eyes while opening it, a wooden ukulele became my first find. One look at it and the memory of every single agonising lesson that I took to learn how to play this thing for more than three years came running back to me. As I pulled one of the strings, vibrating the dust off it, it produced a sound that reminded me of my parents' proud smile every time they heard me play it. From my first pitiful attempt to my last recital in front of the whole school, they always supported me and referred to me as a musician. It's crazy to me how we forget about things, and how one item from our past has the potential to reassemble so many shattered memories. "Ab-

solutely, crazy!" I uttered to myself, smiling.

The next thing that I found in the box was my debating trophy! "Oh, how could I ever let such a prized possession of mine to collect dust?" I thought out loud. Though that debate competition wasn't really the hardest thing I have done or even the most lucrative one, it was something I was most proud of. My parents did not know that I had signed up for it and one day, I brought home a plastic trophy, not worth anything literally, but for me, it was worth more than everything lowned. My parents shared the same feelings; they were so proud of me that we went to a Chinese restaurant the very next

And it was also when I met Joshnua O Neill, my best friend and rival, for the very first time.

day and feasted like royals. It was also when I realised my passion for debating, English, and literature. And it was also when I met Joshua O Neill, my best friend and rival, for the very first time. He became an inspiration to me almost instantaneously, not because he was a great person or a genius, but because we shared an intrinsic desire to outperform one another in every manner. As a result, we both elevated each other to levels I could have never imagined. But unfortunately, he died of leukemia a year after I moved out of the country. Though we weren't really in touch or even the best of friends, I still wish I could have told him that he made me who I am today. I will never forget him and it's a pity the world couldn't see his potential realised. "Miss you, Joshua," I whispered, as I placed the box away and returned to my room. For this moment was my epiphany and is solely responsible for making me understand the impermanence of everything, even memories. The oddments of the latter, however, can be resurrected through old souvenirs, no matter how shattered or decrepit they might be. GT



## Chocolate popcorn

Aadya Roy, AIS Saket, XII

#### Ingredients

Corn kernels	kt
Cocoa powder	sp
Milk	SD
Oil 3 t	SD
Dairy milk chocolate	<sup>2</sup> P
Daily 1111111 0110001ato	• • 1

#### Procedure

- In a saucepan, heat some oil on medium-high heat.
- Now, pour the corn kernels in it and cover it with a lid. Let the kernels pop.
- Once the popcorn is ready, pour them in a bowl and keep it aside.
- Now, put chocolate in another pan and heat till it
- starts melting.
- Quickly add milk and cocoa powder to the pan else the chocolate will starts drying.
- Once done, add the cooked popcorn to this chocolate mix. Stir till they get covered in the syrup.
- Voila! Your chocolate popcorn is ready!

#### WORDS VERSE

## In the nature

Ashee Srivastava, AIS MV, IX

The rustling leaves whisper so
Tenderly padded the mother doe
In the scintillating greens around
To listen for any threatening sound

To nurture her young with love
And lead them hand in glove
To teach them that life's a maze
When to run and when to chase

What to do and what not to do
How to make do with what you've
How to know and how to care
Where to find and when to share

A little prod, a slight nudge
Is everything and more than above
Even if it is a fleeting touch
It is all for love, only for love!



# All for culture

Ayden Sharma, AIS Gurugram 46, XII

India is not just any country
It is a paradise of dreams that
Evolve themselves as cultures
Because of its unified structure

These cultures cannot be missed
For they make India stand out
With Kathak and Odissi in the list
Of Indian dances that never miss

Our handicrafts are invaluable
With khadi as our unity symbol
Not just citizens, but comrades
We live so, without any façade

Tabla and flute make all Indians sway
Like tunes of the wedding days
Our varied cultures blend in such way
That makes India best place to stay

Madhubani revives our rich past

Our folk songs make all dance
Our festivals make our lives sweet
Like Telangana's payasam kheer

We join in each other's festivities
Be it of Hindus or of Christianity
We also worship our Mother Earth
On Telangana's Bathukamma Parva

For Telangana's not just any state
But a joint family where in harmony
And hand in hand, people stay joyfully
Enjoying life in its full pomp and glory

In this lockdown, we got separated
Yet our cultures connected every life
Hyderabadi Biryani travelled every day
To all corners of India in this internet age

India's unity, thus, is not a result of wars
But of these rich cultures and art forms
India's unity binds everyone together
Making it the greatest democracy ever!

#### It's anagram time!

Yasmin Tandon, AIS PV, XII

An anagram is a word/phrase formed by rearranging the letters of another word. Can you jumble the following to find more words using the exact same number of letters? Let's see!

**PS:** Don't stray far from the original and look within to find the answers.

1. Silent

2. They see

3. Dirty room4. The classroom

5. Voices rant on6. Moon starer

7. Here comes dots

8. Twelve plus one

Answers

1. Listen 2. Conversation 1. Londersation 2. Conversation 2. S. Satronomer 2. S. The Morse code 3. School master 8. Eleven plus two 4. School master 8. Eleven plus two





Madame Berthe's mouse lemur, the world's tiniest primate, is over one cm in length and can leap up to three metres.

## Long live Tae

#### Wisdom Tale

Navika Kharbanda AIS Noida, VI G

appiness had always been present in abundance in the small village of Tae Town, all thanks to their beloved superhero known as Super Tae. Having the power to read people's minds, Super Tae would use his gift to assist people who faced any problems in their life. Because of this, Super Tae was very much loved by the people around him, and to thank him, the people decided to dedicate an entire week named Tae Week to him. With flowers, ribbons, and photos of him, the villagers decorated the town.

Super Tae was very touched to see the love his friends and neighbours were showering on him, but on the other side, Terrible Tangy was burning with jealously. Terrible Tangy lived in the nearby village where he was just as popular as Super Tae. He even claimed to be a good friend of Super Tae, but, he was jealous of how loved Tae was, and wanted to take him down. He wanted all the glory for himself, so he devised a plan to capture Tae Town, thinking that if he did so, he would somehow also inherit Super Tae's superpower.

On the last day of Tae Week, Super Tae was called in the town assembly to give a speech. Then,



Super Tae held the mic and his speech moved everyone to tears. He thanked all the villagers for loving him, and who had come to the event especially to see him. As he thought of neighbouring villages, his mind went to Terrible Tangy, and he was shocked! With his superpower, he could see that Terrible Tangy was hiding behind the stage, ready to pounce on Super Tae and take him down. He gasped, and Terrible Tangy took this as a cue to attack. Since, both of them were strong, so the fight went on for a long time. The villagers

Week, Super Tae was called in the town assembly to give a speech. Tangy, a blinding white light

On the last day of Tae

shone in everyone's eyes.

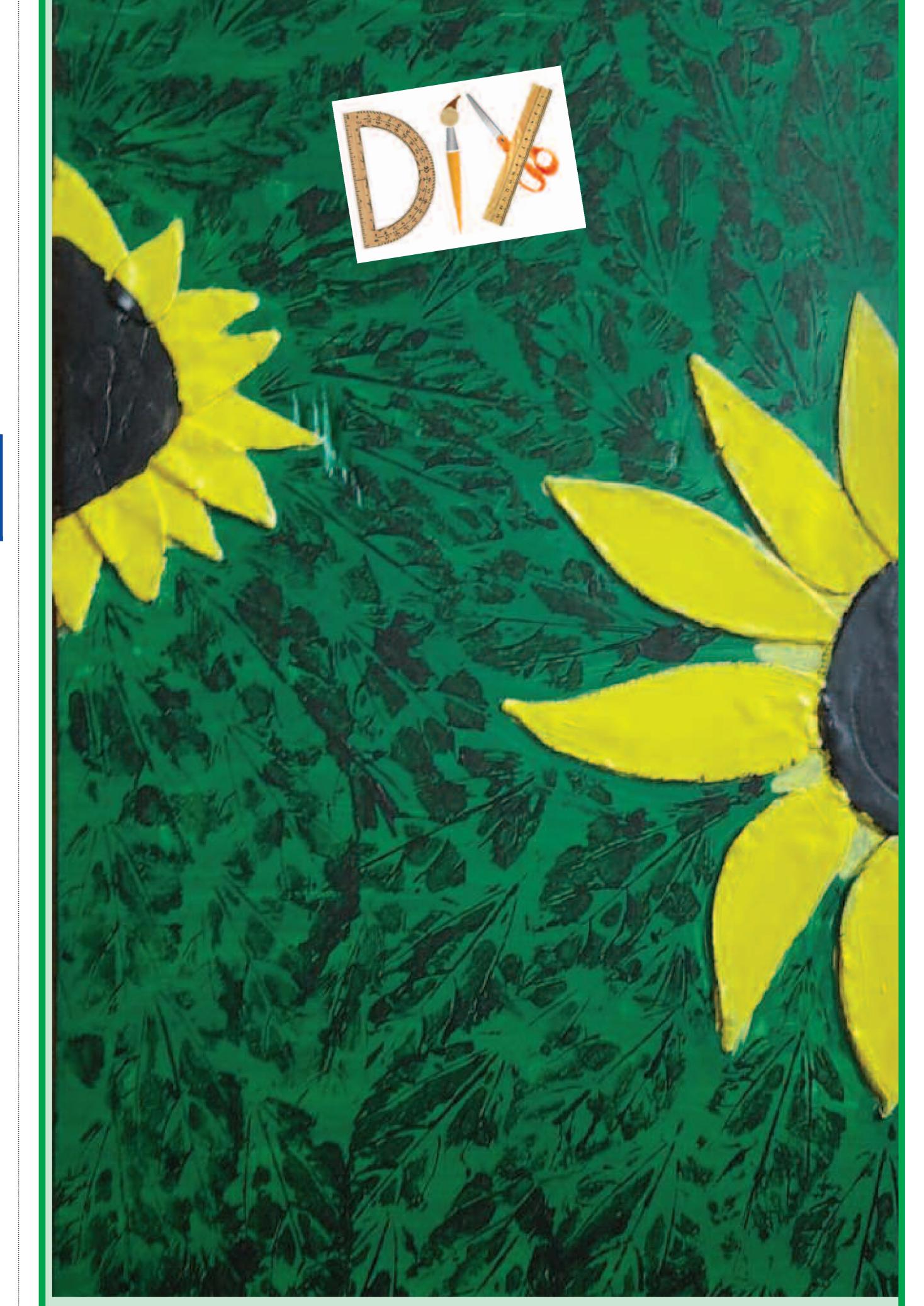
"What? God?" Super Tae called, in immense surprise.

"My dear Tae," said God, "you are exceedingly brave and strong. I have noticed that with perseverance and determination, you always fight for your town and protect the people, which is why I am granting you a wish!" "God, I already have everything I want, but if you are to give me a wish, I wish for the happiness of everyone in this world."

Tae's response made God happy and in return he blessed the whole town and told him to keep up his good work. As for Terrible Tangy, God took him with himself to teach Tangy a lesson he would never forget. GI

(The above story is one of the entries received as a part of the story writing workshop conducted during GT Summer Newspaper Making Workshop 2022. The participants were given a setting and characters to weave a gripping short story.)

So, what did you learn today? Too much greed will always land you in losses.



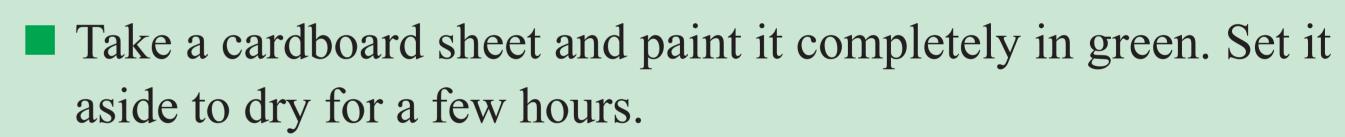
## Sunflowers on top!

R. Agamya, AIS Saket, X

#### MATERIAL REQUIRED

- Air dry clay (Fevicryl) .....1 packet
- Rolling pin ......1
- Acrylic paints .....any colour
- Leaves of any plant ......2-3

#### METHOD



R. Agamya

- Next, take your clump of clay and keep it on a flat surface. With the help of a rolling pin, flatten the clay out.
- Once it is flat and even, cut out two semicircles with radius 8 cm from it. You can change the size of the semicircle according to your preference.
- From the same clay, cut out 10 petal shapes. Make sure the petals are not taller than 8 cm.
- On your dry cardboard sheet, paste the semicircles on two opposite sides (refer to image).
- Paste the petals around the semicircle to make it look like half sunflowers (refer to image).
- Let it dry completely. Once done, paint the semicircles in black acrylic paints and petals in yellow colour.
- Cover the remaining area of cardboard sheet with imprints of leaves of any plant. For the same, take one leaf and apply a small amount of black paint on its surface, and then imprint it in any pattern on the blank green space on the cardboard sheet.
- Let it dry, and your sunflowers are ready to shine. You can hang it on your favourite wall!

#### With biodiversity

Vanya Khurana

AIS Gurugram 43, VI D

We started civilisations with biodiversity And living things with heterogeneity

Now piles of junk are across the streets We overlook and pass by with our feet

Fields of green are now filled with doom

#### POEMS

No one knows exactly who ruined whom

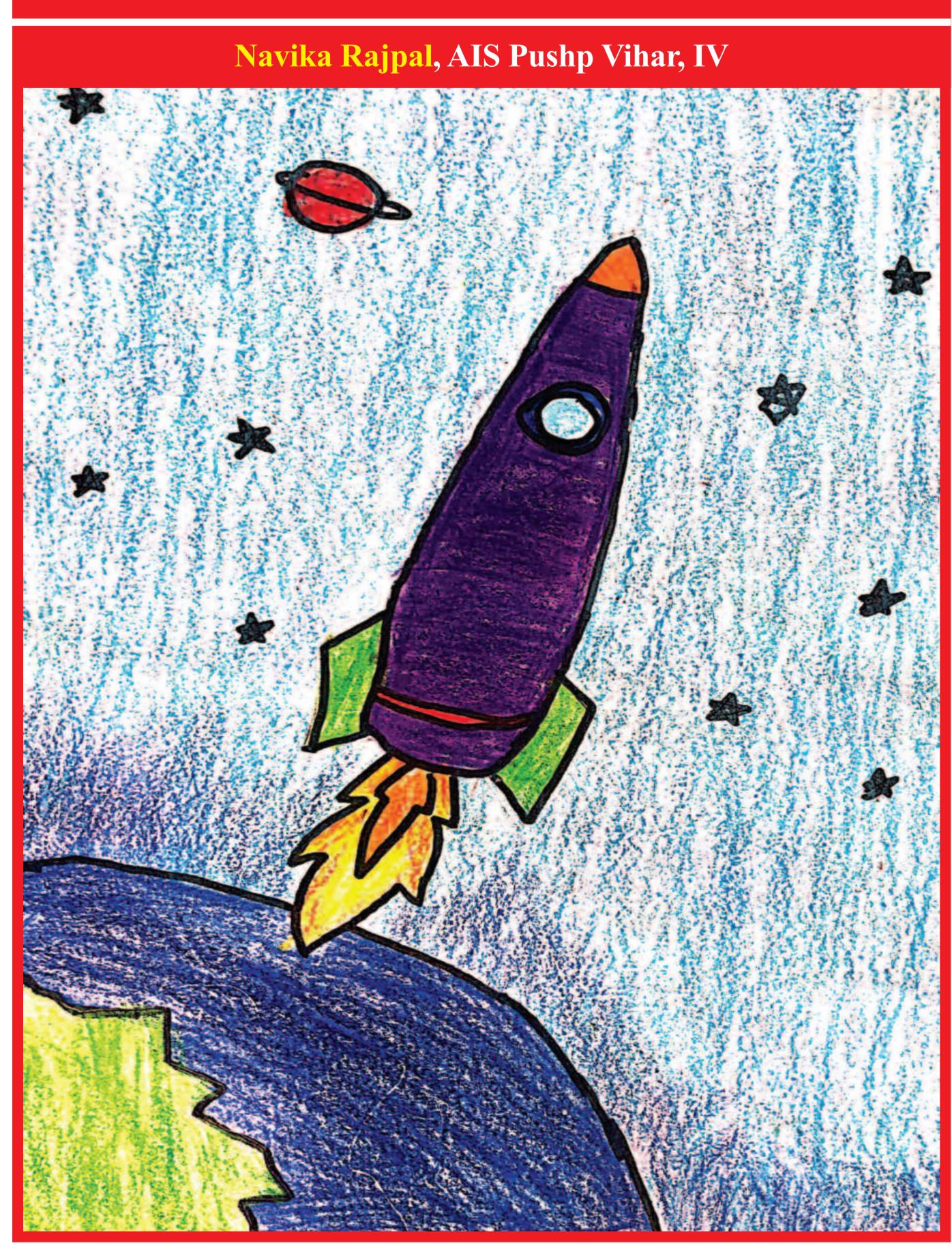
Rivers of life are now the rivers of death When I realise it, I can't catch my breath

Forest is a place where animals can breed But trees are all gone because of our greed

There must be something that we can do But do you care about things around you?



Let's give mother nature a life that's new With species, animals, plants, and you! G T



### PATTING CORNER Like a bird

**Divit Sen** 

gathered around to help Super

Tae, and in the end, Terrible

"I have given you so many

chances to be a better person and

to be my friend, but you do not

deserve my kindness anymore,"

With utter bitterness, Terrible

Tangy replied, "If only you

weren't here! I would be the

"People would celebrate you too

if you used your powers to help

Just as Super Tae was about to

land the last punch on Terrible

others, not to attack them."

Tangy was defeated.

said Super Tae.

most popular one."

AIS Gurugram 46, VII F

Bound with colourful feathers They engulf the limitless sky Their sweet melodious tweet

Breaks the silence of the dawn As they sing in perfect harmony I don't know which symphony

They fly high into the blue sky With no stress of virtual classes I wish I could be free like them

To spread my wings far and wide And take off on my first flight I do not know where they go

Into a paradise of their very own I, too, want to fly like a bird and Fulfill my dreams unheard! G T



#### It's Me



MY DREAMS y hobbies: Dancing and drawing

ABOUT ME

I like: Dancing and playing I dislike: Fighting My role model: Geeta ma'am I want to become: A teacher I want to feature in GT because:

I want to be popular.

'For me, it has to be Elle Woods from Legally Blonde. She is ambitious, intelligent, inspiring and, at the same time, unapologetic for being feminine. Despite being ridiculed and stereotyped for being a 'dumb blonde', she works hard and gets into the prestigious Harvard Law School. Throughout her journey, she faces numerous challenges like being treated as an outcast, being bullied by her classmates, and even getting picked on by her teachers. Still, she keeps her head high and shows everyone her tenacity and quick-wittedness amidst difficult situations. She is a great inspiration for young girls who are often pressurised by the society to act in a certain way and are forced to lose their own identities to fit in." Tarishi Agarwal, AIS Noida, XI C

"My favourite fictional character is Merit from the book Without Merit by Colleen Hoover. I must admit that I disliked Merit at the beginning of the book; everything she says is mean-spirited and she is rude to her family and strangers, but it's her character development which engrossed me and led me to find out how she copes with life. She sorts out all the differences with her family and realises the impor-

tance of family and self-love."

Riddhi Sharma, AGS Gurugram, XII

"One name that stands out in my list of favourites is definitely Harry Potter's Hermione Granger. Hermione is not only booksmart, but also street-smart. She thinks on her feet and saves herself and her friends from various dangers. She is also a risk taker; be it setting Snape's cape on fire or brewing the Polyjuice potion in secret, she always portrays her ability to take calculated risks. She is brave and courageous, proved by her action of punching Malfoy, creating one of the most epic scenes in the saga. She has some of the most iconic dialogues in the series as she is never afraid to speak her mind."

Koyal Das, AIS Gurugram 43, XI

The Trials of Apollo series by Rick
Riordan, is a 4000-year-old God stuck in the body
of a 17-year-old teenager as punishment from his father, Zeus, the king of Gods. I adore the character because of his relatable humour and his immense
character development throughout the series. As he navigates the human world which comprises both the good
and the bad, he realises how wonderful it is to be human
and how resilient humans truly are, despite lacking
godly strength and immortality. I find it fascinating how
the many triumphs and tragedies he faces on his path to
regain immortality transform him from a vain, arrogant
God into an empathetic and brave human being."

Arushi Jain, AIS Gurugram 46, X H

"Ari and Legs from Aristotle and Dante Discovers the Secrets of the Universe are incredibly close to my heart. I relate the most with Ari, a 16-year-old boy, who discovers the world and all its mysteries. His thoughts and questions about life and himself are very similar to mine, and his growth is beautiful. His dog, Legs, is a symbol of hope and happiness. I believe that good characters never leave our side; they become a part of our conscience."

Aadya Kapoor, AIS Vasundhara 6, Alumna

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...

"The world of fiction has offered the audience a wide range of characters. Which fictional character you like the most and why?"

The prompt

"My favourite character is
Nazeera Ibrahim from Tehereh Mafi's
Shatter Me series, which centers around
Juliette Ferrars and her struggle to gain
control over the thing she fears most: herself. She and
her brother are sent to battle Juliette and Aaron, who is the
male protagonist, but Nazeera quickly changes her allegiance to the
good guys. She fights for religious freedom and personifies a true

millions of people, including me."

Naavya Lodh, AIS Pushp Vihar, IX C

fighter. I like her as she exudes a sense of cohesion, intelligence, athletic

prowess and quick wit. She is a courageous woman who inspires

"In this huge world of fiction, Harry Potter is my favourite character. Harry's defining traits are bravery, determination and self-sacrifice. No matter how scary the situation may be, he faces it with a collected determination. Apart from these characteristics, Harry is loyal towards his teachers and friends. He is kind, forgiving and good in all the aspects of life. All these qualities are quite necessary to lead a successful and joyful life and I truly try to imbibe these qualities in myself."

Chavi Agarwal, AIS MV, VII C

"My favourite character has to be Elizabeth Bennet from Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice. Elizabeth aka Lizzie is a witty, clever and outspoken woman. What makes her so compelling is her nature of being smart and downright incisive, and yet so gullible and trusting at the same time. She never questions Wickham's agenda or his indecency in revealing improper information about Darcy until much later, when she experiences it first-hand. It is at such moments we experience Austen's genius. For Elizabeth's character speaks to me as a message of being human. Yes, she is witty, stubborn and independent, but also so beautifully-flawed and vividly-alive. Instead of being the perfect woman, she is a contrast to society's idea of a 'lady', and that's why, even two hundred years later, people still identify with her." Varnika Pradhan, AIS Saket, IX B

"Who cannot love
Hermione Granger from the
Harry Potter Series?
Hermione's charm, aura, and wit
are a delight for anyone. She carries herself with confidence and is true to herself all
the time. Hermione displays courage in dire situations and exhibits traits like companionship,
determination, resilience and kindness, all at
the same time. A character like Hermione,
who is valiant, quick witted and charming, is rare to come across."

Aanya Narula, AIS Vas 1, XI B

Kafka's symbolic novella Metamorphosis is my favourite fictional character. He is portrayed as an overworked salesman who transforms into an insect at the beginning of the story. But despite his complete physical transformation, Gregor changes very little as a character. He does not bemoan his condition, wonder about its cause, or attempt to rectify it in any way. On the contrary, he quickly accepts that he has become a bug and tries to go about his life as best he can in his new condition. Most notably, both as a man and as an insect, Gregor patiently accepts the hardships he faces without complaint. And that's something kids my generation need to learn, since we give up on stuff quite easily. I aspire to have the kind of endurance he has."

Aadyaa Agrawaal, AIS VYC Lucknow, XII C

fictional character has to be Forrest Gump, the protagonist of the 1994 American film that goes by his name. Forrest is a character who undergoes great physical, relational, emotional, and philosophical transformation as the novel progresses. For one, he goes from walking with braces on his legs to becoming a fast runner. The character beautifully portrays how determination can help us overcome all odds in life. Besides that, his optimistic and cheerful personality makes us love him even more. And while he may have a low IQ, he proves that having a high IQ is not the only thing you need to succeed in life!"

Gouri Srivastava, AIS VKC Lko, XI A

"Iron Man will remain my favourite character forever. I admire him for his superhuman strength, agility and resilience. He is one superhero who can only have a positive influence. As a fanboy, I am highly influenced by his creativity, generosity, warriorship and, most importantly, his ability to admit his flaws, and the will to try harder each time."

Rohit Gurjar, AIS Gwalior, X

## Future bureaucrats



#### Learning To Govern At MUN Summer Camp

**AERC** 

E-MUN summer camp, a five day event, was organised by Amity Educational Resource Center (AERC) from May 23-27, 2022. The camp saw participation from 141 students of Amity Group of Schools pan India. The closing ceremony was graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of School & RBEF, who addressed the children on the importance of such camps to hone the negotiation and diplomatic skills of the students, thereby making them ready for the real world.

The event commenced with the director, AERC, apprising students about the objective of the camp, the meaning of MUN, and various MUN related competitions. Thereafter, several sessions were conducted by experts, students, and Amity alumnias resource persons on different days of the workshop.

Amity alumnus Anupriya and Arushi Anand gave an insight about United Nations and its various organs. Hridyanshu and Yash Jain, students of AIS Saket, explained in detail about the flow of the debate, and the procedures of documentation, amendment, and discussion. They both, alongwith Shreeman Tripathi of AIS Gurugram 46, conducted an Indian committee simulation based on the agenda of global warming and its impact on Indian cities and agricultural output.

The teacher advisor from AIS Saket emphasised on the importance of effective communication, good public speaking skills, and even shared some tips on the same. MUN coordinator and a team of students from AIS Gurugram 46, Gatik Yadav, president, MUN society and Pranav Aggarwal, vice president, MUN society, discussed the need to reform UN Security Council, especially in the wake of Russia-Ukraine War.

The MUN advisor from AIS Noida

gave an introduction about UNESCO and held a simulation of the international committee based on the agenda - 'Sri Lanka Economic Crisis', which gave students a hands-on experience regarding MUN.

The sessions were also graced by many stalwarts from politics, defence and bureaucracy who apprised the children with different issues. Major general, Nalin Bhatia spoke about the impact of Russia-Ukraine war on India and the world's economy. Imrich Milo, director, Zilina School, Slovakia, spoke on the issues related to global security and global policies. Devesh Kumar, general secretary, BJP Bihar and MLC Bihar, spoke on Atma-Nirbhar Bharat and the Indian economy. Ashok Sajjanhar, former diplomat, India, enlightened students with his rich knowledge about the Sri Lankan crisis. The summer camp proved to be a primer for the young minds in honing their negotiation and diplomatic skills. GT



#### Innovation with waste

#### Amitians Sign MOA With IPCA

ACSF & AIS Noida

hree students from Class X, namely **A** Akshita Singh, Saachi Singh and Tuvijeet established memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the Indian Pollution Control Association (IPCA) on June 8, 2022, for their project 'Ecolution', a handmade, eco-friendly, biodegradable, non-toxic cup prepared using waste materials. Converting waste to wealth, the bottom of these cups contain dormant seeds which can germinate under suitable conditions after being thrown away. The project was presented to IPCA in April and was

evaluated. It was also showcased at 'Plastic Vikalp Mela', a three-day expo organised at Thyagaraj Stadium, New Delhi, from July 1-3, 2022. Through this MOA facilitated by Amity's Children Science Foundation (ACSF), the IPCA will fund the project and will help the team to commercialise it with the help of Department of Innovation and Technology Transfer (DITT), Department of Science and Technology-Technology Enabling Centre (DST-TEC) and Amity University, Noida.

This progress towards providing a platform to students for tinkering the path of innovation, experimenta-

Geographic Indications (GI)

A Geographical indication (GI) is an indication that identifies a product that have

a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due

tion, and using wonders of science to change the world has been achieved under the visionary guidance of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF.

#### **About IPCA**

Indian Pollution Control Association (IPCA) is a non-profit, non-government organisation (NGO) established in the year 2001 with the support of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi. It is India's first registered Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO) with Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) for managing plastic waste at the national level.

## Stress management workshop

AIS Mayur Vihar

workshop and a poster-making activity on stress management was organised for the students of Class VIII by the Life Skills Club of the school on May 11, 2022.

The workshop, held under the guidance of the school counsellor and psychology teacher, aimed at helping students cope with stress and anxiety they face due to exam pressure, peer pressure, parental pressure, societal pressure and various other reasons. A pen-and-paper stress test was also conducted to evaluate the presence



or absence of strees in children. They also participated in many activities, like body scanning, I am grateful, breathing and visualisation exercise, etc. Following which, the counsellor

briefed them about the symptoms of stress, and gave them suggestions to avoid stress. A poster-making activity on fighting stress was also held after the workshop.

## Understanding IPR

Geographical indications showcased during the workshop IP expert, Prachi Prateeti

ACSF & AGS Noida

RAJASTHAN

workshop on Intellectual Property Right (IPR) was conducted at AGS Noida on April 28, 2022, to apprise the students on various elements of IPR and how to utilise them for innovations. Prachi

Prateeti, examiner of patents and designs, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce, was the resource person for the workshop organised by Amity's Children Science Foundation in collaboration with Ministry of Commerce.

The session was extremely enriching and highlighted

key aspects of intellectual property right such as geographical indicators, benefits of filing a patent, criteria and fee for filing a patent, requirements for filing applications for trademark and copyright, protection rules and legal discourses, and careers in IPR.

## Special speaking buddy

AIS Vasundhara 6

eam Physics Challengers, comprising school teachers Deepali Chauhan, Ekta Soni and Suniti Gupta, was selected in the first round of Toycathon to present their toy 'Speaking Buddies' in the Grand Finale held at the Panipat Institute of Engineering and Technology, on May 24, 2022.

They were the only school teachers' team who competed against the well-established start-ups and corporates in the finale, making it a competition between innovators and professional entrepreneurs. Their toy, 'Speaking Buddies', is a phonic reading toy for English that can be incorporated with other regional languages as well. It caters to the needs of the visually impaired children and is vital in order to build an inclusive education.

Earlier the project had also qualified nationwide for Toy-



cathon 2021, an inter-ministerial initiative by Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell and six other ministries under the aegis of Atma Nirbhar Bharat organised to challenge India's innovative minds to conceptualise innovative and learning-based toys and games.

## World Population Day

AIS Gwalior

o increase awareness among students on various population issues such as the importance of family planning, gender equality, maternal health and human rights, a special assemly on World Population Day was conducted by the students of Class I-V. The assembly began with the lighting of the lamp amidst the chanting of *gayatri mantra*. Sarvi Yadav of Class I presented thought of the day and a melodious song on overpopulation was presented by students of Class IV. Following which, Rishaan Dixit of



Class IV presented his views on the issues related to overpopulation. Moving on, Class III presented a skit and Class II showcased placards with messages to control population.

## The pandemic diaries

The Live Play Of An Ordinary Home During Lockdown

Sejal Suri, AIS Vas 1, VIII C

drowsy morning begins with all my staples – a glass of milk, switching on the laptop for my classes, and stretching my limbs to finally wake myself up. The impromptu yoga session is broken with the teacher's voice presenting a question, ascending a blanket of silence on the session. I mute the screen and move to the other room to inspect the house.

Did I think dad would be on an important conference call? Maybe. But did I think he would be dressed in a unique attire of a well-ironed formal shirt mixed with baggy pajamas? Maybe not. Though it does seem the appropriate pandemic uniform assigned to us all! And, as expected, as soon as his meeting is over, he is back to WhatsApp forwards. Well, at least he is comfortable. Let's check out what my dear mother is doing. Umm, what's that? She is cooking chowmein. Is that for me? Oh my goodness! So nice of her. But why is she recording? Ah, nevermind! What I thought was a gesture of her love towards me turns out to be her newest attempt at being a YouTube chef. Well, as long as her dreams of being the next YouTuber lives on!

After inspecting all the rooms of the house, I move back to mine to see the teacher ending the oh-so-important lesson. Maybe I should have paid attention? Oh, well, I must promise myself to be extra vigilant the next time. Should I start right now? Yes, let's start the actual day with some homework.

look back on my day that even though it might seem a little dull in comparison to the old days, I am thankful that everyone I love is safe inside the house.

I pick up my laptop and sit down in all seriousness but being on the device does not help my focus; there are way too many temptations just a click away. So, I check out my Twitter, Instagram, Twitch, Discord, as well as Facebook accounts. Must not let any social media networking site go untouched!

After a few (or a million) scrolls, my eyes start twitching, and I am reminded of how blindness doesn't seem too far off in the future. I should start taking care of my eyes, especially with our entire life being uploaded on a screen now. Giving my eyes a break, I drag my body to the kitchen to eat the delicious chow mein, but one look at it and I am shooed away by my mother, muttering something about how she hasn't clicked all the pictures and made reels yet. I grab whatever packet of chips I get my hands on and get out of the active zone. As the evening comes, I don my mask, hand

gloves, and put my sanitiser in my pocket – the needed ritual before going outside in a pandemic.

The time passes and I am back in the house again, scrubbing my hands for at least twenty seconds. What's for dinner, I wonder; intercontinental, Mughlai, Italian, or Chinese? Of course. The dinner table in front of me holds peas, carrots, and beans! The thought of takeout food crosses my mind, but I see my mother's face in front of me, scolding me against it. "The delivery guy could be carrying a

who knows!" And so I eat my healthy meal and retreat in front of the TV that my brother has switched on. It's time to watch TV, or rather read it, because he is watching the new Kdrama that I need to read the subtitles for.

As no one has to get up early in the morning, we all gather in the living room and soon find ourselves chit-chatting and playing a hearty game of ludo. I look back on my day that even though it might seem a little dull in comparison to the old days, I am thankful that everyone I love is safe inside the house. We might have lost many things in the pandemic that we held dear to us, but it has also given us an opportunity to get closer to the family we love.



