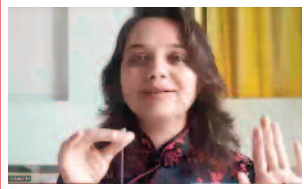


INSIDE



The magic of happiness, P3



A scientific marvel-itecture, P7

AMITe poll

With Joe Biden in office, do you think India's relationship with America will only get better?

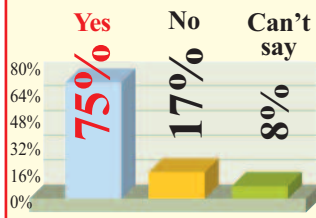
- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Can't say

To vote, log on to
 www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT

for GT issue November 9, 2020

As WhatsApp pay goes live amongst other virtual payment methods, do you think it will aid in strengthening the concept of Digital India?



Results as on November 13, 2020

Coming Next

Double celebrations cont.

The dynamic Diwali

Finding A New Way To Celebrate The Festive Season In Pandemic

2020 - a year that has taken humanity in its grip, and adventurously flipped it on its back. As our ways of everything we have ever done - from grocery shopping to workforce - seems to have been changed forever, soused in fear and anxiety, one can only wonder if any joy and happiness even remains to be felt this festival season while we cower in face of COVID-19. But humans are nothing if not adaptable, and just as we have learnt how to compress our entire lives within the four walls of our house, our love for Diwali is also filling up every room. Students from AIS Gwalior demonstrate how this festive season may be different but nothing less.

Swapping greetings for FaceTime

“Coronavirus brought the entire world to a standstill, confining all of us within our homes. Everything was done online, be it conducting classes or meetings, so why not wishes? With large social gatherings being a thing of the past, group calls on Zoom and video calls on WhatsApp and FaceTime are how we were all able to see our *dadi* and *nani* on Diwali, get the blessings of our *bua* and *chachi*, and chat up a storm with our dear cousins. The discomfort of not physically being with them was forgotten when we saw their faces on the small screen, realising they are healthy and secure within their homes. And I must say, this Diwali truly has taught us to be the ‘light’ in the life of our loved ones.”

Anika Vashishtha, AIS Gwalior, VII A

Swapping store-bought with homemade

“A big part of Diwali has always been the sweets and eatables, but Coronavirus changed things. People are wary of buying food from outside, and even the usual boxes of soan papdi and rasgullas we used to receive are nowhere to be found. But

every disaster carries with it a seed of opportunity, and for COVID, it has been the rising interest in homemade food. People, all over the country, found new and unique recipes to try out

this Diwali. Social media was laded with cooking tips, videos, and photoshoot of extravagant dishes. This Diwali truly has taught us that *ghar ka khana toh ghar ka khana hi hota hai!*”

Suryansh Chauhan, AIS Gwalior, VII A

Swapping smog for fresh air

“As everything in 2020 has changed, the one thing that really did need to be altered has sadly remained the same - smog. Every year around Diwali, the country chokes from polluted air, tainting our festive joy. This year with Coronavirus being in the air, along with the smog, the combination seems a little too deadly. Thankfully and finally, people are now taking this matter more seriously. With a ban on crackers in a lot of states, India finally swapped fireworks for diyas. People brightened up their Diwali with plants, LED lights, and natural rangolis. This Diwali truly has taught us the importance of our own health and the health of the planet we live on.”

Garvit Agarwal, AIS Gwalior, VIII A

Swapping online with offline

“There is no better feeling than arriving at the doorsteps of our relatives, holding gifts on gifts that are bound to bring a smile on their face. While the pandemic took away the joy of gifting, it gave us the chance to create new joy. With e-commerce taking over, customers got the chance to buy anything and get it delivered anywhere in the country. Even though we weren't the ones delivering it, the happiness of our loved ones receiving our presents was still the same. And as the same lovely smile flashed on their face when they thanked us, this Diwali truly has taught us that when there is a will, there is a way!”

Dia Agarwal, AIS Gwalior, VIII A



For the love of India

H.E. Marten van den Berg Talks About Friendship, Culture & More

Samiksha Dubey, AIS Noida, XI

As the Dutch Ambassador to India, H.E. Marten van den Berg holds the strengthened diplomatic and economic ties between the Netherlands and India as a feather in his cap. Bearing years of experience, Amityverse was blessed to be graced by his presence at the closing ceremony of e-AIMUN 2020 where GT caught up with him to know more about his valuable anecdotes.

For the love of friendship

The relationship between India and the Netherlands, since its establishment in 1947, has been very intense. With so many Indians living in the Netherlands and vice versa, the connections between the two countries have only grown stronger. In the private sector,

there are 250 Indian companies that employ the Netherlands as their European headquarters, and various Dutch ventures also have found a home on the Indian soil. Moreover, the approach towards tackling various issues that loom over the society also makes for common ground between the two nations. There has been a lot of collaboration between institutions, NGOs, governments, etc., to that effect, so that even during these virtual times, the world becomes better.

For the love of advancement

The partnership between these two countries in the field of technology is a two-way street. We always learn together, experience new ventures together, invest and trade together. Our goal is not just transferring knowledge but developing it together. The Indo-Dutch technology

summit was extremely successful and focused on collaboration in the area of agriculture, healthcare and water. Both Netherlands and India with their well-developed technological institutions and companies were able to share their expertise with each other.

For the love of a better world

To aid the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic, many alliances can be seen between Indian and Dutch researchers and companies. COVID-19 has made our circumstances very clear and shown us how there is room for improvement in how we treat this planet, which is why India and the Netherlands are working together to find solutions on climate, water and sanitation issues. The Netherlands can learn a lot from India when it comes to affordable innovations and making it

accessible. We are focusing not only on improving the society but also connecting the private sector as it is the key to creating a better cooperation and a better world.

For the love of culture

I have been in India for two years and I really like the hospitality and openness of Indian people. Indian weddings are a great affair to attend, and I love Indian food. I've been to many parts of India, from Ladakh to Kerala, and the diversity in people and landscape is what I will be sharing with my Dutch friends. India is a very rich society in so many dimensions, which makes it very special. My wife is also half-Indian, so I have an Indian family here, which means I will definitely keep coming back to this country.

For the love of diplomacy

The key, in diplomacy, is to be courteous. Don't make judgements too fast; have an open mind and accept different cultures, people and opinions. Differences can sometimes be difficult but they also are very fascinating and interesting. Curiosity is another important factor needed in this field as that is what will help you in understanding the differences and bridging the gaps between societies, countries and people.



H.E. Marten van den Berg



H.E. Marten van den Berg in conversation with GT reporter

Pic: Hargun Sodhi, AIS Noida, XII



Around The WORLD

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

ARMENIA

Protests over Nagorno-Karabakh deal

Scores of people took to streets in the country's capital Yerevan demanding PM's resignation over the Nagorno-Karabakh peace deal. The deal, signed by the Armenian, Azerbaijani, and Russian PM to put an end to the military conflict over the region of Nagorno-Karabakh, calls for the deployment of about 2000 Russian peacekeepers along with ceding of some Armenian territories to Azerbaijan, which the protesters see as defeatist and uncalled for.



CHINA

Pressure mounts on Internet giants in the country

To keep a check on the monopolistic endeavours in the internet industry, the country laid out a 22-page draft enlisting several antitrust regulations that are open for public review till November 30. These rules would restrict internet giants like Alibaba, JD.com, Tencent, Xiaomi, Meituan, etc from teaming up against small rivals and sharing private data of the consumers.

SINGAPORE

Travel Bubble to be launched soon

To give a much-needed push to the tourism industry that continues to suffer amidst the pandemic, the Singapore-Hong Kong travel bubble, agreed upon by the governments of both the regions, is all set to open on November 22. About 200 residents from one city would be able to fly to the other city daily, on the obvious condition that the boarders test negative for COVID-19. Cathay Pacific and Singapore Airlines will be operating these daily flights.



MYANMAR

New monkey species found

Using 100-year-old tissue samples, scientists in central Myanmar discovered a new species of monkeys, namely Popa Langur. Now nearing extinction due to habitat loss and hunting, this mask-faced, grey haired primate once populated the region of Mount Popa reclusively "hiding in plain sight". Faecal samples from the wild and the century old tissue samples combined, helped researchers conclude and categorise the new species.

PHILIPPINES

Typhoon Vamco hits the country

Typhoon Vamco, with winds of up to 155 kmph, swept across several provinces in Philippines' Luzon island on November 11, becoming the 21st cyclone to hit the already storm-battered country this year. Flooding the entire region, Vamco, according to the local authorities, has claimed one life so far, with three people still missing in Camarines Norte province, as rescue efforts are under way.



INDIA

BJP registers victory in Bihar

Bhartiya Janta Party-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) recorded a historic win in Bihar assembly polls '20 as it won 125 seats, 3 more than the required 122, out of the total 243 constituencies, and registered a clear majority in the state. The results paved way for Nitish Kumar, the JDU representative, to be the state's CM for the seventh time.

SAUDI ARABIA

Explosion at a war cemetery

As people gathered to commemorate the 102nd anniversary of the truce that marked the end of WWI and pay homage to the dead in the Saudi city of Jeddah on November 11, an explosion rocked the ceremonial site, allegedly wounding four. The attack came after a French consulate guard in the city was stabbed on October 29, heightening tensions.



USA

Joe Biden wins US presidency

After weeks-long election campaign, Democrat Joe Biden won the US Presidential race '20, along with his running mate Kamala Harris, who will now be the first woman, the first Asian American and the first Black American Vice President ever in US history. The duo crossed the threshold of 270 Electoral College votes required to win early on. However, Trump dismissed the result as "illegal" and challenged to move the court.



The magic of happiness

Highlighting Some Unusual Ways To Stay Positive And Exhilarated At All Times

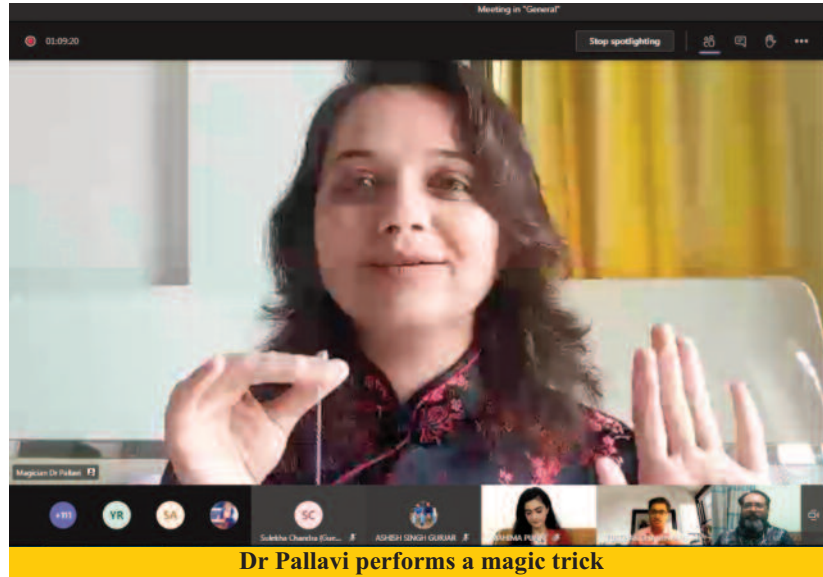
Amity Centre of Happyness

Tusshar Chandwani, BBA (Sem III) & Palak Verma, PhD (Sem I), AUUP, AIBS

To celebrate the art of thinking and its ability to change lives, Amity Centre of Happyness under the leadership of happiness proctor Prof (Dr) Nitin Arora, organised a Magical Happiness Show at Amity International Business School, (AIBS) on October 10, 2020.

The event, held on Microsoft Team, saw the presence of world-class magician Dr Pallavi Aalap Deshpande, a Limca Book of Records holder for Youngest Magician in the year 1996. Dr Pallavi, recipient of the APJ Abdul Kalam Award, Stree Shakti Award and more, was the first female magician to perform abroad and to be featured on Indian television. A physiotherapist by profession, she seeks to incorporate the power of energy, science and hypnotherapy to heal people and contribute towards developing the global health industry.

The Magical Happiness Show began on a slightly unusual note- with a magic trick. The audience was required to have a pendulum, using which they could measure the frequency of what's going on in their subconscious mind, and whether their



Dr Pallavi performs a magic trick



Amitians attend the online event

thoughts are negative or positive. With the switch phrase "Divine Magic begin now", the participants were to increase their vibrations and check them with the help of the pendulum. This was followed by a Q&A session wherein Dr Pallavi answered questions posed by members of the audience such as how to overcome the fear of exams, etc.

During the course of the event, Dr Pallavi guided the audience on how to cleanse their energy centers and get rid of certain fears. She enlightened the au-

dience about how acceptance is the base of healing and how one should celebrate their health and even magnify the smallest of improvements. She further emphasised upon how the universe plays a very important role in everything that takes place in one's lives.

The virtual event was also graced by distinguished guests Sulekha Chandra, CEO, Gyan Paradise, and a prominent personality in field of emotional intelligence; Jai Saini, assistant director, AIBS, and an expert in marketing, sales, business development,

PR, events and corporate communication and Dr Navita Mahajan, associate professor, AIBS, and an educator in the field of international business.

The online session, attended by hundreds of Amitians, including students, faculty members and alumni, concluded with the happyness song "Happyness Waali Kasam", composed by happiness proctor Prof (Dr) Nitin Arora.

The Amity Centre of Happiness continues to function in full swing, making wholehearted efforts to bring happiness in people's lives. [G](#) [I](#)



Faculty members and students attend the guest lecture

Enlightening sojourn

Making The World Better

AUUP

Mahima Punni, MBA (Sem IV) & Palak Verma, PhD (Sem I), AUUP, AIBS

Under the guidance of Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe and Atul Chauhan, Chancellor, AUUP, Amity Centre of Happyness, in collaboration with the NGO Deepalaya, organised an online guest lecture on October 21, 2020, to spread smiles. The event was graced by Jaswant Kaur, executive director, Deepalaya, who highlighted the importance of learning the art of managing projects for the welfare of the society. She provided the students with valuable insights on volunteer work, building efficient teams, managing financial constraints and much more. Another speaker at the event, AJ Phillip, president, Deepalaya, shared his valuable opinion on the role of NGOs, in making the world a better place, the importance of individuals and corporates in fueling the government's efforts in providing assistance to COVID-hit families, and the general social responsibility of helping weaker sections of the society. Through the session, the students were able to understand the importance of doing social work to uplift and benefit the society, and the need to be more conscious and sincere towards greater good in the corporate world.

A young start

Inculcating Discipline And Resolve In The Young Minds



Rajesh Jain, registrar, AUMP gives token of gratitude to Lt Col Singh



Basic physical test of cadets flagged off

AUMP

In September, the 8 Madhya Pradesh Battalion NCC* group Headquarters allocated a National Cadet Corps Unit to Amity University, Madhya Pradesh, under the Self-Financing Scheme. As part of this allocation, 53 seats have been procured under the unit, in which students can obtain the same on a first-come-first-serve basis. The main objective of setting up a new NCC unit is to awaken a sense of responsibility and purposefulness in the youngsters towards their motherland, along with helping the students imbibe important virtues such as leadership and disci-

pline in themselves.

Sharing his opinion on the importance of such a provision to the youth, Lt Gen VK Sharma, vice chancellor, AUMP said, "NCC instills a spirit of unity and enthusiasm in the young minds towards their country. It will also apprise the young citizens on various importance aspects such as yoga, environmental education, and health in a much more practical manner."

Adding to this Dr Sumit Narula, associate NCC Officer, NCC unit, AUMP, reiterated that it will be indubitably a unique experience for students to be part of such an initiative and that it will go a long way in shaping

up future citizens of our country, instilling in them a sense of duty in them.

*National Cadet Corps (NCC) is the youth wing of the armed forces and one of the largest youth organisations in the world where discipline and leadership is inculcated at school, high school, and college level. The various activities carried out under NCC aim at encouraging young students to build their careers in the armed forces. On passing NCC, the cadets will be awarded "B" and "C" certificates.

Along with this, NCC cadets are also given preference and bonus marks in the recruitment process of the Government of India and the state. [G](#) [I](#)

In northern India, Diwali is celebrated to mark the victory of Prince Ram and Lakshman over Raavan.



Bye bye rationality

Here Are Some Absurd Arguments Put Forward By Climate Change Deniers

Mehak Mehra

AIS Noida, Alumna

We are all well aware of the widespread actuality of different changes around the world, the thorniest of them being climate change. With the crisis of this change, come people with different takes on the issue; some of them even defying science on the subject. We bring you some of the most irrational ones.

Climate change is natural

Let's start with a theory which doesn't necessarily deny the fact that climate change exists. According to this theory, climate change has been around even before humans existed. This goes back some 5 billion years ago, when Earth had just formed from the explosion of a huge star. In fact, back then CO2 levels were so high, that it made impossible for the humans to exist. Earth underwent some serious natural atmospheric changes for it to be fit for humans. As life formed, from plants, microbes to finally humans who didn't appear until some 200,000 years ago, CO2 levels plummeted causing cli-

mate change. This change occurred even then. So, what's the big deal if it makes a reappearance again? Only that it was natural then, and man-made now.

Climate change is a hoax

One of the most startling theories to exist for climate change states that the entire concept of climate change and global warming is a hoax. Yes, a hoax. There have been allegations of malpractice by the scientists which argue that climate change was brought up by the science establishment for ideological or financial reasons, or both. It has been described as the greatest scam in history as there are also reports that say that glaciers are not melting but growing; that sea ice in the Arctic is not shrinking but increasing, even though evidence shows otherwise. Now, if we choose to be blind, that's an altogether different matter.

Climate change is a UN product

According to the United Nations, climate change is something which cannot be solved by

a single nation; it is a collaborative effort. Several UN agencies have been at the forefront when it comes to evaluating the climate change situation, and raising awareness. But deniers

being, well, deniers have taken this simple argument to an altogether different tangent. They

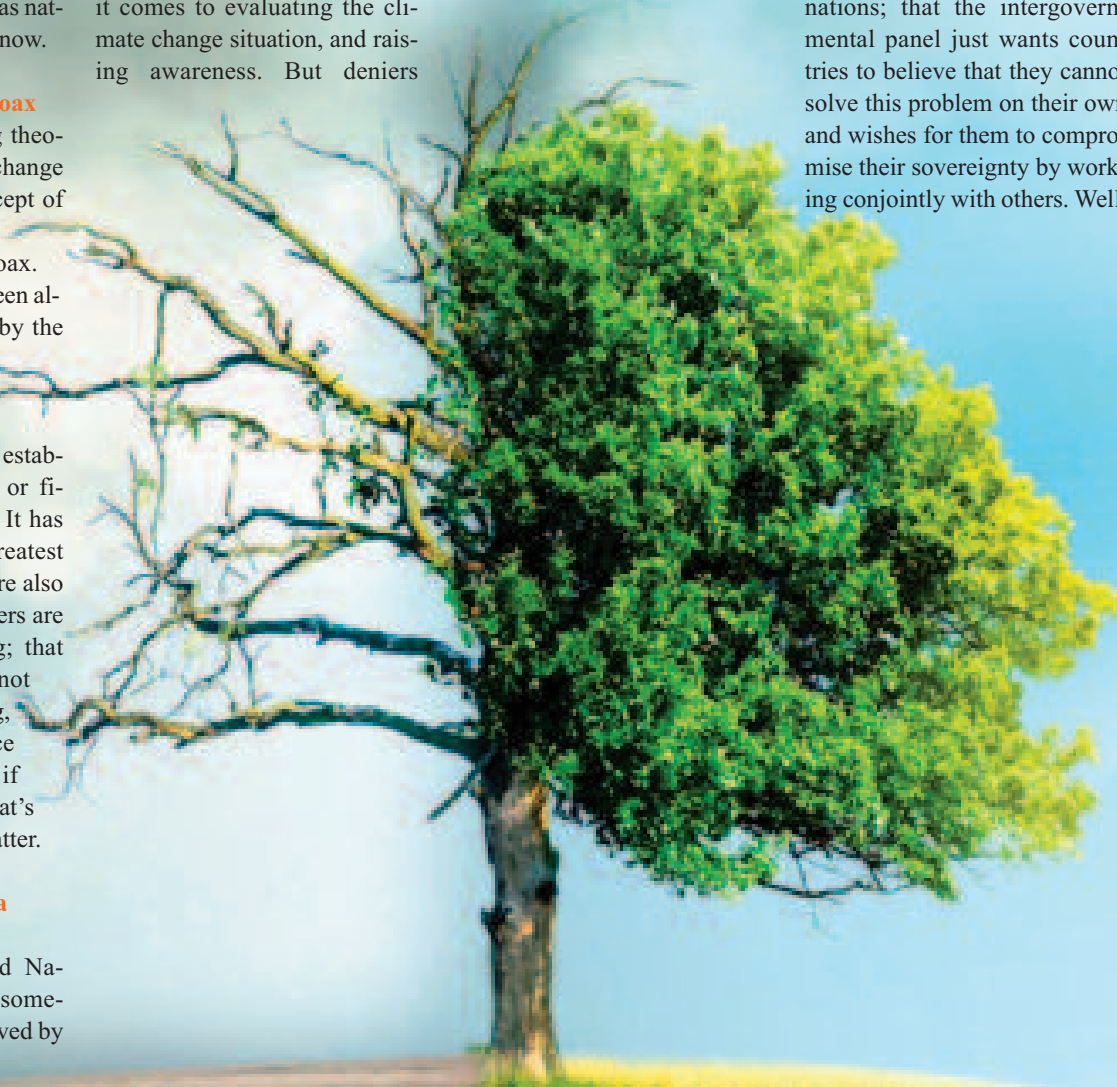
believe that climate change is just a very desperate attempt by the UN to conquer its member nations; that the intergovernmental panel just wants countries to believe that they cannot solve this problem on their own and wishes for them to compromise their sovereignty by working conjointly with others. Well,

is it, now? What about the fact that the whole of humanity, in fact, shares one atmosphere?

Climate change is chemtrails

Let's get right into the theory. The theory here states that high flying aircrafts leave a trail of chemicals which dissipate relatively quickly into the atmosphere. The supporters of this theory believe that these chemical trails lead to climate change. Now, it is a different thing that this section of the people also believe that these chemtrails are used by governments for purposes varying from weather manipulation to the more nefarious ones such as poisoning humans on earth. However, it has been scientifically proven time and again that this theory stands no relevance and that even with the current technology, it is nearly impossible to spray large amounts of chemical into the atmosphere, forget about hiding poison dispensers in the planes. Moreover, to implement such a scheme and hide it from the public seems a bit too unrealistic, don't you agree?

So, don't worry you all, our actions are still the only plausible reason behind climate change.



Secrets of the brain

Let's Delve Deep Into A Stream Of Imagination That Has All The Answers We Seek

Gauri Singh, AIS Vas 6, XII

Let the wave of imagination enrapture your sail and take you away, so far away that you are no longer afraid to look up and bring the change. Our mind never sleeps, it keeps on creating and showing us images, whether we want to or not. Strange, isn't it? Awake, we find ourselves being pushed into experiencing different situations; asleep, we tend to dream about our deepest desires. This is the power of our brain, our imagination. Human imagination has changed the course of our lives. We often end up imagining ourselves living in a completely different country or on a different planet, or an entirely different universe! This very imagination gives rise to what we call The Law of Attraction- the ability of attracting into our lives

what we focus on. Law of attraction is one of the biggest secrets lurking in the shadows of sciences. Most of us are unaware of our own capabilities to get what we want; every second of our existence we act as magnets, transmitting our thoughts and feelings while attracting back more of what we have put out. The most convincing evidence for the Law of Attraction has been the discovery of mirror neurons, a neuron that fires up, when a person observes the same action being performed by other people. For instance, when watching a movie, the emotions transmitted by the actor triggers the mirror neurons of the spectators as a result of which the same emotions, sometimes even

heightened versions of it, are felt and many of us end up shedding tears or laughing uncontrollably.

Our imagination interprets intentions and attentions and enforces our actions, thereby resulting in the Law of Attraction. The regions of the brain involved in 'intentions and attentions' are connected to those regions responsible for actions. In a difficult situation, if we imagine ourselves to be in pain, despair or guilt, the feelings are likely to worsen. The old, sick and tired, start connecting themselves to God, to attract positivity to their lives so that they can raise their diminishing abilities and rid themselves of their aching bones and weakening body. The scientists working at the

Institute of Neurology, London have discovered that the people who visualise themselves leading a better life are likely to improve their conditions, while the psychologists at the University of Exeter believe in the power of 'affirmations'. People telling themselves constantly to achieve a goal is likely to get a positive result. Our brain holds so much power, but we tend to overlook it. We get so lost in the deep ocean of sorrows and burdens that we are often blinded to the bright light that is the Law of Attraction. We always imagine ourselves to be in worse-off conditions while there is so much more to hope for. Always remember, the power is within us. We have the power to imagine even the most impossible scenarios and make it come true. We have the power to change our lives for the better.





In the Bengal region, Diwali is celebrated to illustrate the win of Goddess Kali over the demon Bakasura.

U, Me Aur Hum

Whose life is it anyway?

Well played ~~learned~~

Parents: "Video Games Ruin Your Life"; "Well, We Have Two More," Say Freaks

Pratham Sharma & Ananya Sharma
AIS Vasundhara 6, XI

The perpetual fight between video game freaks and their parents rages on. Parents continue to list all the ways gaming is a hazard to their eyes...and mind...and body...and soul. Err... moving on. And the freaks, I mean the gaming geniuses point out all the life lessons video games have taught us thus far...err... wait, life lessons?

Anger anger mein

Who likes throwing righteous birds at greedy pigs? Yeah, me too! So, the whole concept of Angry birds is for them to protect their eggs from non-vegetarian pigs who want to eat them. And if those pigs succeed? Well,

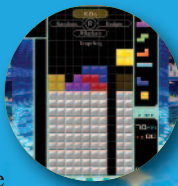


throw even more birds at them. Go on, be a hero!

Lesson of the story? If someone takes something from you, take it back by hook or by crook. They take money from you and refuse to return it? Throw birds at them! (They'll probably fly away mid battle but you get the sentiment, right?)

Raining bricks

Tetris is all about multi-coloured tiles falling on the floor. It's like gravity, only slower! Anyway, so the frustrating thing about this game is that the more lines you clear by placing the similar coloured tiles to-



gether, the more tiles there are to pile up on top and make you lose.

Lesson of the story? No matter how much homework you complete, there will always be more to do!

Dinner for winner

Teams, ammunition and an eagle eye. That's PUBG for you. In one line, it is a bunch of crazy people shooting at each other, until only one of them is left. Sounds like apocalypse, doesn't it? Nevertheless, the most shocking moment in the game is when you run forward to snatch more items for your survival and end up getting

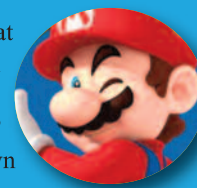


killed instead!

Lesson of the story? Too much greed is bad, how much can you carry in a full bag!

Of princesses and dragons

Do you remember that short, stout man with brown hair and black moustache? Yes, it is our very own Mario who keeps going on long exhausting quests to save the princess. Of course, he gets eaten by a



dragon instead. Every! Single! Time!

Lesson of the story? The princess will always need saving. No matter, how many times you come out of a difficult situation, life is ready to throw a new challenge. It is annoying, right?

And while we are talking about wasting time, just make sure you don't spend all your time playing these video games. After all, there's only so much you can learn from interaction with a user interface that generates visual feedback on a two or three-dimensional video displaying device. Okay? Okay!



Did you hear?

Gossip: Food For Body, Mind, Soul And What Not!

Navya Nayer & Ahaan Bhandari
AIS Pushp Vihar, XI

We all know that high schools are usually prone to this sickness called 'gossip.' Of course later in life we realise that not just schools, gossips are a part of our family functions, friendship circles, and even work environment. But the question is how come every single person in this world (because if you're telling me that you've never gossiped, I know you're lying) has the same problem? We have brought the answer to you right here, it is five-fold!

Some (all) people are just hungry for attention

Everyone wants attention and wants to be in the limelight! People try to get this 'temporary' attention and become famous amongst

their friends by divulging a piece of gossip. Yet, this temporary attention is like iPhone's battery, it never lasts.

We pull people down to look taller

Gossip mongers believe that by judging someone or by passing comments on them, they would look somewhat better in the eyes of other people. What they don't realise is that gossiping is the perfect way to ensure that no one tells you their secrets anymore.


Envy; one of the seven deadly sins

When people envy a person's lifestyle, personality, or talents, they try to emulate the person and throw obstacles at them. And this is exactly how Ekta Kapoor got the script for 'Kasauti Zindagi Ki', people!

They yawn and the next gossip falls out

When people are bored, they often tend to observe their surroundings with a keen interest. Often, a certain gossip rouses their interest and because they're bored (certainly that is the perfect excuse), they carry that gossip forward like a mosquito carrying Malaria (of course, that poor guy does it for survival instead).

The high league

Gossiping is perceived to be cool as per students of high school and hence, to be a part of that "cool group", they gossip. But then one day, they become a victim of that very same gossip and finally say to themselves 'never again', which lasts for about whatever amount of time it takes for them to get bored again. 




A tiring afternoon But A Delightful Escapade

Aruneet Mathur
AIS Noida, XI

This incident happened when I was around 3 or 4 years old. Everyone in my home was sleeping and I had a lot of free time on me. Being the naughty kid that I was, I decided to entertain myself by building a train out of utensils. So, I started taking out utensils from our kitchen one-by-one and placed them on the floor. I managed to get a trail that went on till my grandfather's room, but of course, it wasn't long enough for the toddler me. It had to be stupendous. So, I made it long enough to the front porch. While the length of it seemed just right, it wasn't perfect.

To take my magnanimous train to the next level, I decided to fill the empty vessels with whatsoever I could get my hands on – pulses,

spoons, glasses and God knows what not! And as soon as I was done, I heard a door open. I turned around and saw my grandpa. At that moment, I almost said my last prayers.

To my surprise, grandpa found it funny and went into a laughing fit when he saw my train – my mammoth, amazing, not-a-laughing-stock train. Once he managed to control his laughter, he did yell at me and told me to put everything back. It took me hours to get the job done, but I did it nonetheless. At last, my grandpa, though furious, agreed to keep this a secret. In return, he made me promise that I would never go about such afternoon adventures. I took his advice seriously (I had to) and never got into such ventures again, but I must confess that even today when I think of that day, a mischievous smile spreads all over my face. 



Southern India celebrates Diwali as the day Lord Krishna defeated the demon Narakasura.



Children – The real light



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

It was such a beautiful coincidence last week when we celebrated our festival of lights, with the same day being Children's Day too. What a beautiful windfall, that the day when colourful lights light up the world, also rejoiced the lights

which light up our lives – 'Children'.

Each child born is a unique shining beam of life, a ray of hope, a light of love for not just a family but the society, the nation and the world. Each child is the celebration of innate passion that strives to unravel beautiful mysteries of the world. That's because like light, the element of fire, the purest of all the five elements, a child too is purest with heart, mind and soul.

This year, as Diwali lit up our world outside, our children world over displayed extreme resilience, inner strength and courage to adopt, adapt and achieve, and be their own light within. When you read the top story of this edition, you will see how as the world scrambled to face a new kind of darkness, children kept it lit up with the light of hope, love, compassion and creativity.

Examples of these young lights could be seen across the world. Whether it was making beautiful e-cards to motivate pandemic warriors or reaching out to the frontline workers with innovative smart masks; creating sanitiser dispensers or designing apps to facilitate elderly; supporting healthcare workers or forming communities to spread the light of education in the remotest areas; our children kept the world beaming with the light within.

For such a lovely gift of light by God it is also up to us adults, to keep fuelling it with education, empowerment and freedom to choose their dreams and fly high. 🇮🇳

A lot needs to be done



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

Just last week, I stepped out in my balcony with newspaper and coffee, and in five minutes I came back into the room. Reason - I felt fresher inside than outside. Ironical, isn't it?

Newspapers too reported AQI of northern India especially Delhi/NCR at more than the dangerous levels, just like last few years. In fact, winter smog has now become a kind of an annual ritual. Only this time, I was hoping that the situation would be different because more and more people are observing Green Diwali, and that due to the pandemic, the number of vehicles on road has been fairly less. With more people working from home, infrastructural pollution would be less and with tighter regulations on stubble burning, things might look up. But, the haze and smog decided to make an early comeback this year, as if less traffic on roads made them run their Ferrari on top speed and hit North India much ahead of when normally it did all these years.

Having seen five decades of my life, winters in North have never been as poisonous as they have become in the past decade. It made me ponder and I found that probably the underlying reasons are not just at social level but also at individual levels. While we have done a lot like going green, adapting 3Rs, saying no to crackers etc, we also need to look into our daily habits which directly or indirectly contribute to carbon footprint. We need to be more observant of our habits and only a cumulative effect of such observant behaviour can bring a larger change. We have done a lot but a lot still needs to be done. 🇮🇳

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The new pacifiers

Gadgets Are The New Knights In Shining Armour. Aren't They?

Illustration: Mehal Kumar, AIS Gur 43, XII C

Sanskriti Dev & Ayushi
Goel, AIS Gur 43, XII

It was a late Sunday afternoon. I was sulking, this time not out of habit, but the fact that I had a math tuition to attend. And to add to the misery, we had a math test today. Nonetheless, I trudged along toward my final destination, slow as a sloth.

I reached the class, everyone looking as dejected as me, each expression saying the same thing "kuch nahi aata yaar!" We had barely settled in our chairs, when the roaring cries of Saanvi were heard. Now, before you jump the gun, Saanvi wasn't one of us martyrs, ready to be sacrificed in the name of Math. She was, in fact, my tutor's two year old daughter.

Part embarrassed, part flustered, our teacher ran out of the class to pacify Saanvi. But no toy, no amounts of cooche-coos seemed to help. And then our teacher whipped out her magic wand – her phone. What followed was sheer magic. Saanvi stopped crying. It was as if she had almost forgotten what was ailing her.

Kids these days, I tell you!



Anyhow the silver lining being that all this crying drama had wasted almost half an hour, and the test had to be called off, at least for today. Delighted at this stroke of luck, my friends and I decided to celebrate. Consequently, we reached the nearby momos joint,

As we were gorging on a hot

plate of momos, a loud shriek interrupted our joy. This time it was a cranky toddler with his bewildered father. This kid knew what he was crying for, unlike Saanvi. "Papa, I want the new Peppa Pig toy."

"Not now beta, you already have enough toys." The decibel levels of the child

shot further, and what followed afterwards was predictable. The parent, tired of the child disturbing him, and not to mention the vexed looks shot towards him by onlookers, gave in and handed the boy his phone in a desperate attempt. "Take this for now, I'll buy you the toys later," he said in a pleading tone. We pitied the father, just

like we did for our tutor.

How mobile phones had taken over and gone beyond being just communication tools, amazed me. Out of all the things in the world that could actually give you joy, the children in both cases, chose the modern gift of mobile phones.

I finished my plate and bid my friends goodbye. Today was fun. I walked back to my home with a rather happy disposition. I reached home and although I did practically nothing, I was exhausted. I did recollect today's events though, of how my own plight of going to math class was overshadowed by two cranky kids, for whom, life had not even begun yet and yet were held by the powerful force of technology.

Yes, times have changed. A two-year-old me could be so conveniently consoled with the mere promise of a park visit, or substitute it with a drawing book and pencil colours. But this is where we are now, and from here we are to go.

Enough said, got to go. It's Netflix time! I took my phone in hand, waiting for the day to lapse in my head. 🇮🇳

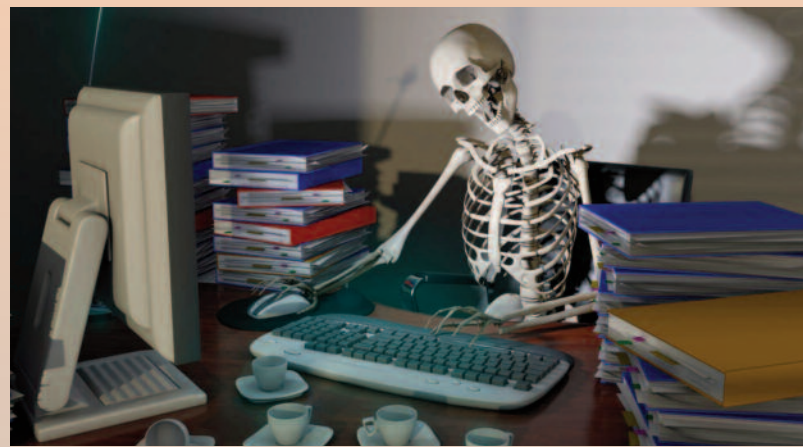
The burnouts

Oh Millennials – So Young To Be So Exhausted

Siya Dulari, AIS Mayur Vihar, X

Everyone has bad days. But what if this bad day turns into a bad week, bad week into a bad month, and the bad month into a never-ending cycle of one bad day after another where you are too stressed, too exhausted, and too tired to do anything substantial like finishing a project for work or even something mundane like buying groceries? Will the entire world come and try to help you get back up (if that is even possible), or will they label your entire generation entitled, lazy, and "a bunch of snowflakes"? The millennials of the world are standing face to face with the same question.

Contrary to popular belief of baby boomers, researchers claim that one of the reasons why millennials (born 1981–1996) are already burnt out at such a young age is because they are workaholics. 53% of millennials don't care about work-life balance, giving their work the upper hand. Growing up with the internet and smart phones at their fingertips, they are the first generation to take their work with them wherever they go, whether they stay sick at home or vacationing on the other side of the world. This blurs the 9-5 routine the previous generations worked so hard to create, also doing away with 'no shop talk at home' policy. According to The Boston Globe, this generation is so obsessed with their career that nearly half of the millennials consider themselves 'work martyrs', indispensable and dedicated workers who



are filled with guilt if they take time off from work, which is why they are more likely to forfeit paid days off than their older counterparts. As their careers become their one and only priority, everything else goes on the backburner.

Gone are the days when one college degree was enough to get you a high-paying job and even set your retirement in order; nobody knows this fact better than millennials. Growing up in a world where there is cutthroat competition for every extracurricular activity, every college seat, and every job opportunity, millennials have to work thrice as hard to make sure they get the spot, and even after that, they fall short. Working endlessly ever since they were kids and still being on the treadmill to land a job, it hardly comes as a surprise that the generation that has been burning their midnight oil for so many years is finally running out of fuel. Since 2013, there has been a 47% increase in the major depression diagnosis amongst millennials. "Life is not that hard. You're over-

reacting!" says grandpa, but the truth is, 'adulting' has always been hard, and it is even harder for millennials.

People outside of this generation ask – how can kids born in better healthcare system, finances, technology, and opportunities be suffering so much? But the rat cage wheel life of millennials proves that they do. Financially, the generation is worse off than their parents when they were their age. With poor salaries, skyrocketing living costs, less to no equity, and expensive amenities they can't afford but have to keep up appearances of their lifestyle, this generation is drowning in student loans, still recovering from one financial crisis or the other, and is dealing with decline of the middle class and the rise of the 1%. Add to this, the stress of deteriorating ecosystem, global warming, and climate change, and we have ourselves a recipe of a generation that is too young to be going through so much, a generation that burnt too bright, too fast and is now totally burnt out.



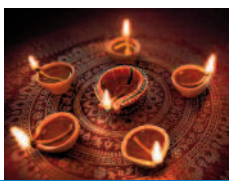
More than words



Issue: P3, November 9, 2020

Dear editor,
This is in reference to the article 'More than words' on page 3 published in the GT edition dated November 9, 2020. It goes without saying that reading a good book allows us to teleport to a whole other dimension, where all our dilemmas and problems are mere speed bumps on a road. And it is always a work of pure fiction that keeps us on our toes. This tremendously compelling article immediately captured my attention and reminded me of the power of immersing oneself in a story bursting at the seams with entities of fantasy and eccentric storylines. And then this article told me about the step beyond compelling narratives, wherein authors were employing gimmicks to engross the readers further. These smart maneuvers along with great writing is all what needs to get lost in a far away world. In this far far land, it feels ethereal to imagine that there is no conflict. Thank you GT for giving me this transcendental feeling through your article. 🇮🇳

Samudi Ranawake
AGS Gurugram, XII



Diwali is a five-day long festival that starts with Dhanteras and ends with Bhai Dooj.

A scientific marvel-itecture

Jantar Mantar, An Icon of Astronomical Ingenuity Traversing Through The Ages

India is a land abounding with wonderful UNESCO heritage sites to feast one's eyes on. Some of them being natural wonders to some being exquisite architectural marvels to many being a reflection of magnificent history and some even a sanctuary for biodiversity to flourish. Here's presenting Part X of the Heritage Series, giving an insight into Jantar Mantar, which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2010.



Swarnim Yadav, AIS Gurugram 46, X D

Jantar Mantar, Jaipur, at first glance might look like one of many architectural phenomena, but when we look closer, this observatory is a scientific marvel. Built in the early 18th century, it was designed to observe astronomical positions with the naked eye. Comprising some 20 fixed instruments, it is an amalgam of both architectural and instrumental innovation. Jaipur is home to the largest and most elaborate of the five observatories with 19 instruments in total.

Before the inception of these observatories' astrolabe, an ancient instrument was used to map the local sky and make astronomical calculations, but these brass instruments became inaccurate with time due to wear and tear of their moving parts. Between 1724 and 1727, Jai Singh II of Jaipur constructed five astronomical observatories in his native territory of west central India, and named all of them Jantar Mantar. The observatories offered the stability and permanence of stonework, and the capacity for accuracy arising from large scale.

What makes Jantar Mantar so different is that it provides an outstanding testimony of the culmination of both scientific and technical conceptions of the great observatory devised in the eighteenth century, which is why it is also registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Read on to understand the Jantar Mantar's most important instruments, known as yantras.

The Samrat Yantra

The largest sundial in the world

Largest stone sundial in the world, the Samrat Yantra is 9 feet in width and rises over 73 feet in height. The primary motive of a Samrat is to tell the apparent solar time or local time of a place. As the Sun journeys from East to West, its shadow sweeps the quadrant scales below from one end to the other, on a clear day. The time is indicated by the position of the shadow's edge on the quadrant scale.

During the night, if someone wants to find time using the instrument, one has to know the time of the meridian transit of a prominent star. By observing the angle of the star or its angular distance from the meridian, the measurement of time is made. Like any other sundial, Samrat only measures the local time, a correction has to be applied to its readings for IST. The correction for Indian Standard Time is as follows: Indian Standard Time = Local Time \pm Equation of Time \pm Longitude difference.

Shasthansa Yantra

An arc in the darkness

Shasthansa Yantra is a secondary instrument placed within the towers that support the quadrant scales. It is used to get accurate measurements of the Sun's angular diameter. It's essentially a 60-degree arc facing south, placed within a dark chamber. The arc is divided into de-

grees and minutes and on top is a pinhole to let sunlight in. When the sun passes across the meridian, the image of the pinhole falls on the Shashthansa scale, enabling the measurements.

The Jai Prakash

Mirror of the heavens

Jai Prakash is loosely based on the hemispherical sundial by astronomer Berosus, but much more complex and versatile. It is a pair of bowl-shaped instruments built partly above and partly below ground level. Working at night, the observer sights the object in the sky through the circular aperture plate at the intersection of the crosswires. With the aid of a sighting device attached to the concave surface, the position of the celestial object is then read from the engraved coordinates. Since both of them are exact complements of each other, if one of the engraved surfaces was to be transposed above the other, they would represent a single complete surface. In practice, when the shadow of the sun cast by the crosswire, or the coordinates of a celestial body observed at night, moves past the edge of one of the engraved surfaces, the observer walks to the other instrument and continues the observation there.

Rama Yantra

The cylindrical walls

The Rama Yantra, similar to Jai Prakash, was built in cylindrical pairs. Its cylindrical structure is open

at the top, and its height equals its radius. It has a vertical pole or pillar of the same height as the surrounding walls at the center.

Both the interior walls and the floor of the structure are engraved with scales that measure the angles of azimuth and altitude. To measure the azimuth (angle between a celestial body and the North), circular scales with their centers at the axis of the cylinder are drawn on the floor of the structure and on the inner surface of the cylindrical walls. The scales are in turn divided into degrees and minutes.

For measuring the altitude, a set of equally spaced radial lines is drawn on the floor. These lines emanate from the central pillar and terminate at the base of the inner walls. Further, vertical lines are inscribed on the cylindrical wall, which begin at the wall's base and terminate at the top end.

Kapala Yantras

The identical twins

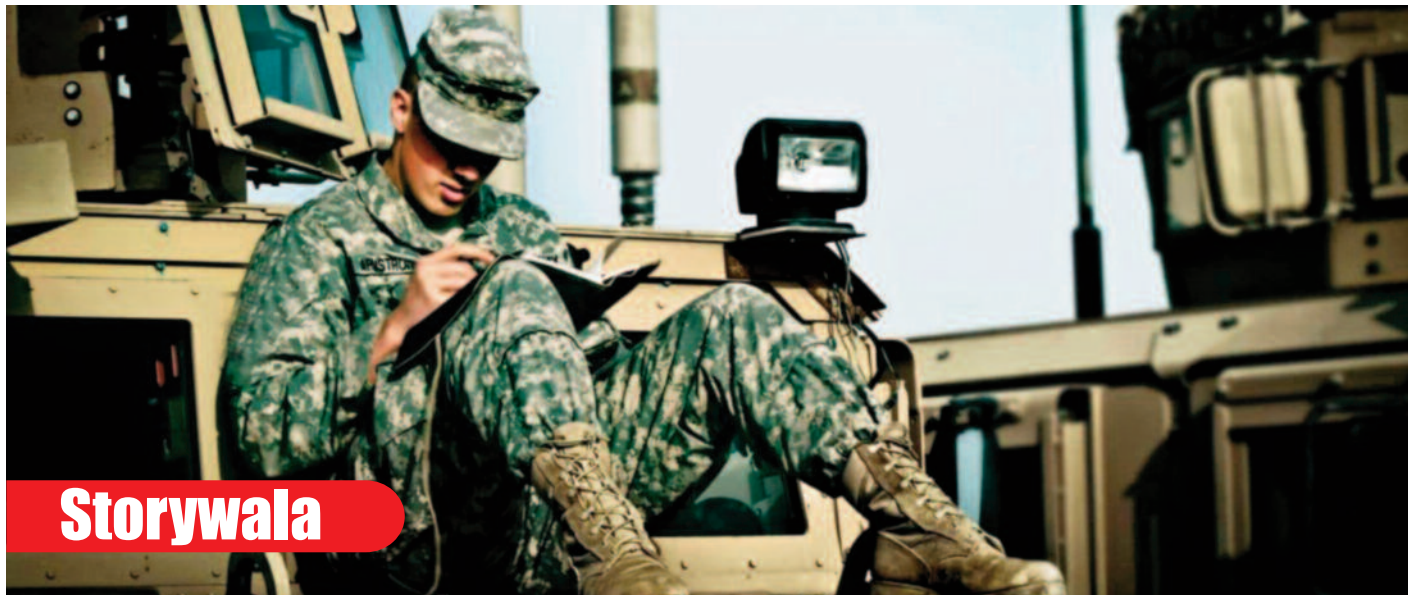
Predecessor to The Jai Prakash, Kapala Yantras are two small hemispheric dials with a diameter of 11 feet each. They were built side by side on a masonry platform named Kapala A and Kapala B, having very different functions. Kapala B serves only to transform graphically the horizon system of coordinates into the equator system and vice versa. It is the only instrument at Jaipur not meant for observation as it lacks the cutaways and size that would permit night observations.



In western parts of India, Diwali marks the day Lord Vishnu sent the demon king Bali to rule the nether world.



Holding on to you



Storywala

Shyla Basu, AIS PV, X F

Dearest ma,

After a rigorous week at the border, today was comparatively less exhausting. Missing home, I unfolded the letters you wrote and read them in your voice, with all the nuances of concern and chiding. But what finally made me realise my homesickness was the photograph *dadi* had taken of you, years ago. I was clinging on to you after losing my favourite toy, and you held me against the warmth of your body. You rocked me back and forth to soothe my wails and traced my hair slowly, lovingly, to stop my cries that threatened to make my voice raw. After an hour of my antics, I fell asleep on your lap and that's the moment *dadi* captured. In the photo, you

looked at me like you would protect me against everything in this world. I saw that in your eyes everyday ma and I could not be more grateful for every little thing you've done for me.

Love,
Always your little boy

Dearest ma,

Today I received a mail from Rekha and with it a picture of our handsome son taking his first steps! It makes me glad to know that he is growing into a big boy. At the same time, I feel like I'm missing out on his childhood. But I'm serving the greater good, right? This is what *pa* and *dada* believed when they were serving the country. Supporting them and their families were strong, capable women like you and my Rekha. Thank you, for never letting me

feel like anything was ever missing from my life.

Love,
Always your proud jawaan

Dearest ma,

I'm coming back home after a year now. After these long months of serving my country, I will finally get to embrace my wife and son, even if it is only for a short period of time. The only time when I'm not actively protecting my motherland or defending myself against the loneliness of harsh winter winds and rough terrains. While I can let go this for a while, I cannot let you go. I cannot let go the fact that you left the world so soon, before you even saw me get enrolled in the army. I am still the teary-eyed child who'd hold on to you like the world was ending

At the same time, I feel like I'm missing out on his childhood. But I'm serving the greater good, right?

and we both were the only people left. The ghost of the warm, strong grip that embraced me at my worst still haunts me. It gives me faith to hold on to life while spending fatally freezing nights, shivering and trembling at the border. I can't bear to forget you because remembering you has become a habit now as it is the warmth I long for. Along with my motherland, I'll forever protect and cherish these memories that I have of you.

Love,
Always your son 🇮🇳



Oreo popsicles

Purvi Aneja, AIS Gurugram 43, IX C

Ingredients

Milk	2 cup
Fresh cream	1 cup
Oreo biscuits	10
Sugar	½ cup
Vanilla essence	5-6 drops

Instructions

- In a pan, pour milk and fresh cream and mix them together.
- Put the pan on low heat and add sugar and vanilla essence. With a whisk, keep stirring it until all the sugar dissolves and then take it off the heat.
- Crush six oreo cookies into small fine pieces and add these crumbs to the mixture.
- Take the remaining Oreo biscuits and break them down into a fine powder without lumps.
- Take popsicle moulds and dust the insides with the oreo powder and pour the mixture inside.
- Let it sit in the freezer for 5-6 hours or preferably overnight.
- Once you take them out, these yummy oreo popsicles will be ready to be relished!

WORDS VERSE

Not anymore

Ananya Pareek, AIS Noida, X B

From the very beginning, it is us
We have been pushed down
Told to live little and to be little
Maybe that has made us brittle

We went with relentless attempts
Constrained with their scary shadows
Stifled souls solicited a lovely world
When permission was simply denied

The monsters we feared were real
Wearing kind cloaks to mask evil
But we were unable to see
Blinded by myths of freedom

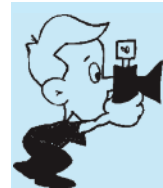
Despite all, we survive in woe

To make them feel little better
And it is them, seizing our wings
Bit by bit, feather by feather

Yet every time we are blamed
The only reason for their cruelty
And if we possessed the courage
Then they wouldn't irk us again

We have suffered enough
It's time to break the silence
And to put an end to their cruelty
Also, to their perpetual violence

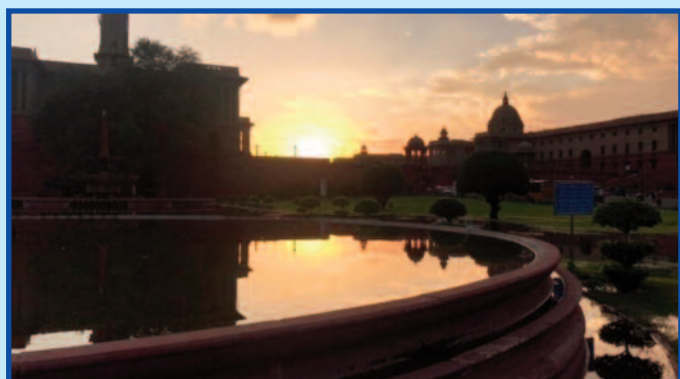
It is sad that we wept for them
But it won't happen again, not anymore
Because we've realised our true merit
No one can end our soaring spirit. 🇮🇳



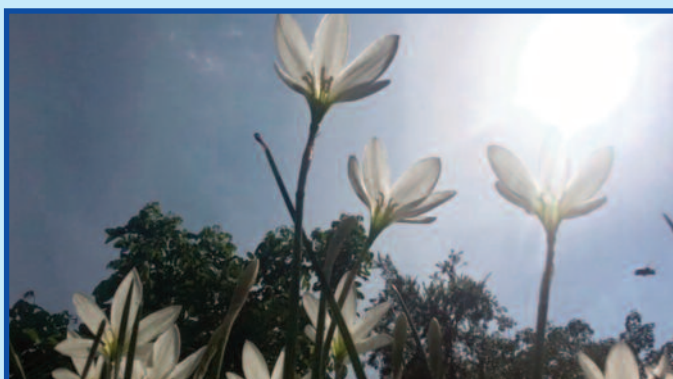
CAMERA CAPERS

Priyamvada, AIS Pushp Vihar, XI C

Send in your entries to
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in



Mirroring the majestic sky



Savouring the delightful sight



Merging the dark green with blue bright



Diwali is an official holiday in many countries across the world including Fiji, Guyana, Malaysia, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Comic strip: Ravinder Gussain, GT Network

The changed perception

Agrani Bhaskar, AIS Gurugram 43, VII

It was a sunny day when Brandon and Jake decided to go out to the park to play. As they walked, Brandon threw his 3/4th full water bottle on the ground.

The water had gone warm. I'll buy a new one.

Why did you throw it away? It still had water.

A small shabby looking boy saw the water bottle and rushed to pick it up.

Hey! Are you actually going to drink from that bottle? It is so dirty.

I don't care. I have not had water in two days. This is clean enough for me.

Look at me throwing away perfectly good water away, while he has to beg for every drop.

Yeah, we should not waste water like that. Come let's buy him a new bottle.

Even if you buy me a new one, I'll still keep this one for later. But thank you!

From this day onwards, I promise to never waste water.

Yeah, me too. Who knows how many thirsty people we could have assisted, with all the water we have wasted till now.

Wisdom Tale

POEMS

My Father

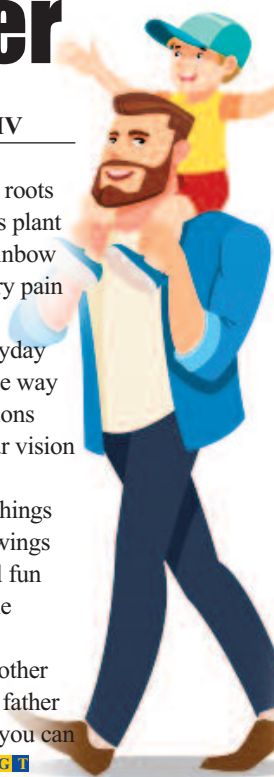
Shuvam Roy, AIS Vas 6, IV

Our family is a plant, you are its roots
Your love and strength made this plant
You are our sunshine and our rainbow
For our happiness, you take every pain

You work so hard each and everyday
To give us good happy life all the way
You face difficulties and confusions
But still our joy is always in your vision

Heart to heart with us on many things
Jokes, studies and dreams with wings
Going out, playing games are all fun
Who does it best- you are the one

A son, a friend, a father and a brother
You are good at it all but best as father
You play all roles to do the best you can
Father, you are a complete man 🇮🇳



Journey to Hogwarts

Bhavana, AIS Noida, VII

A fine Sunday morning
I heard a pair of wings flutter
On opening my room's window
I saw a black owl with a letter

It pecked on my window pane
Expecting something in return
I did not know what it ate
I gave it some sweet American corn

Holding the kernels in its beak
It flew off into the clear sky
Leaving the letter in my hands
With the number of questions high

Opening the letter in nervousity
And reading it inside out
I learnt that I was invited to a school
Hogwarts, a name I never heard about



Waiting fervently at Platform 9¾
For the Hogwarts Express to arrive
I saw a majestic train chug in
Whose beauty couldn't be described

Aboard the Hogwarts Express
Into a world away from mine
Apparently, a world that runs on magic
A world, impossible to define 🇮🇳



Eco-friendly paper bag

Shaurya Mishra, AIS Jagdishpur, II

Material required

- Old newspaper
- Pencil
- A pair of scissors
- Ropes, ribbons or handles from old bags
- Adhesive

Method

- Take an entire centrespread sheet of the newspaper and spread it out on a table.
- Press the edges on both sides of the bag and make a fold in the middle.
- Pour glue generously on one side of the sheet and spread it all over the page, say the left side, and stick the two pages together
- Using a pencil, pierce two holes at the open end of the bag towards the top.
- Fold the sheet horizontally from both sides and glue the edges together. Leave the adhesive to dry.
- Cut two pieces of the ribbon or rope (approximately 15 cm each).
- Now, apply some adhesive on the bottom side of the paper. Fold the corners in triangles and seal the paper edges shut.
- Insert one ribbon/rope through the holes and knot both ends several times to ensure that it doesn't slip out of the hole. Repeat the same on the other side.
- Your paper bag is all set to save the environment!

PAINTING CORNER

Tanvi Gupta
AIS Vas I, III B



It's Me

Know me

My name: Utkarsh Tiwary
My class: I A
My school: AIS VKC Lucknow
Born on: May 20, 2014

My Favourites

Teacher: Priyanka ma'am
Subject: Environmental Sciences
Friend: Atharv Srivastava
Game: Cricket
Cartoon: Catboy (PJ Masks)
Food: Paneer dishes
Mall: Elante, Chandigarh
Book: Grow with Numbers

About Me

Hobby: Swimming and Skating
Role model: My grandpa
I like: Playing
I dislike: Sleeping
I want to become: An army officer
I want to feature in GT because:
I want everyone to know me well



The festival of Diwali is also associated with Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity.



Double celebrations

November 14 – one day, two reasons to rejoice. As Diwali coincided with Children's day, we celebrated lights that shone the world, and lights that will go on to brighten this world.

Diwali is here

Samaya Chauhan, AIS PV, VII A

Diwali is here, Diwali is here
That grand festival of lights
That ends evil after a long fight
When good with all its might
Leads us from darkness to light

Diwali is here, Diwali is here
That great festival of sound
With crackers & laughter around
When sparklers light up the sky
When children jump with joy

It is the memorable year 2020
A year never seen before
Coronavirus, the worst disease
An ominous disease killing lives
And spreading negative vibes

But I have been up, thinking
What if it's just play of nature
Setting us up for a difficult test
To try to save the green planet
Let's do our very best

Diwali is around the corner
Lay hold of it as an honour
And don't be a scomer
As for a huge change
We need it more than ever

Let's celebrate this Diwali
With a twist and a swing
And give the celebrations
Some beautiful wide wings
By dressing up in bling

In compassion, there is nobility
In empathy, there is beauty
In forgiveness, there is grace
In life, these are the aspects

We should always embrace

This Diwali, donate with big hearts
And give to the people
Who require it the most
As in life they are the ones
Who'll make it further most

Make this Diwali cracker free
This is what we all plea
It's lightens the sky, we say
But its mother Earth we betray
Pay heed, else there'll be delay

There is time to stop this, friends
Environment is not easy to mend
Children's little fingers are hurt
Their eyes are bruised & burned
But still there is no lesson learnt

Let's revel to obligate, to educate
Else, I'm sure it will be too late
So, let us not burn any crackers
Light numerous clay diyas instead
To make it happy and brighter

Diwali is here, Diwali is here
That gracious bright festival
Which celebrates victory
The ancient tradition, a festival
Of secrets, myth and mystery

Diwali is here, Diwali is here
That festival of snacks and sweets
Where everyone enjoys a royal feast
When old & young delightfully meet
With love & affection all hearts beat



Painting: Shreyansh Agarwal, AIS Noida, I F



Tea light holder

Ananya Bhutani, AGS Noida, VIII

Diwali is the festival of lights. Let's make it happy and bright. Begin by making a holder for a candle or a tealight!



Material required

- Small cardboard piece
- Quilling strips
- Fevicol
- Scissors

Procedure

- Take a small cardboard and cut a 5cm radii circle out of the same.
- Make 20 coils and 18 teardrops of different colours of your choice from the quilling strips.
- Stick the coils alongside the circumference of the cardboard to create a circle.
- Now, take two teardrops and glue them together, by pasting adjacent sides. This will create a heart like structure.
- Create several similar heart like structures.
- Paste these hearts in such a way that their tip rests between two coils. Refer to the image given.
- Place the tealight in the centre and light up your festival.

More than a playday

Here's Remembering A Special Figure In History

Ishika Agarwal
AIS Vasundhara 6, VII D

Every child longs for Children's Day, the one day that is dedicated to them. A day for their mischievous antics, waking up late, fearless and free from the scolding of parents, running around, playing to the fullest capacity of their joy. What else can an innocent mind of a child ask for? But, to me, Children's Day is much more than a fun playday. It is a memory of Chacha Nehru, our first prime minister, who loved children immensely. Children's Day is celebrated annually in our country on November 14 as a tribute to Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, who shared an affectionate bond with children.

In Class II, when I was first introduced to Children's Day, it

was more than just a history lesson. Jawahar Lal Nehru consistently rallied against child injustice. He always advocated that the children of the country are entitled to a fulfilled child-

hood and education.

I have always believed that his continued efforts have led to children being able to study and become successful in their life.

This is why Children's Day is celebrated on his birthday. In addition, these qualities made him close to children, who fondly called him Chacha Nehru. Children's Day emphasises on the importance of giving love, attention, and affection to the bright, young faces of our beloved nation.

Every year, on this momentous day, my parents order a couple of books of my choice. Last year, I received two profound pieces of writing by Jawahar Lal Nehru, 'The Discovery of India' and 'Letters From a Father To His Daughter'. Children's Day means a lot to me. What does it mean to you?

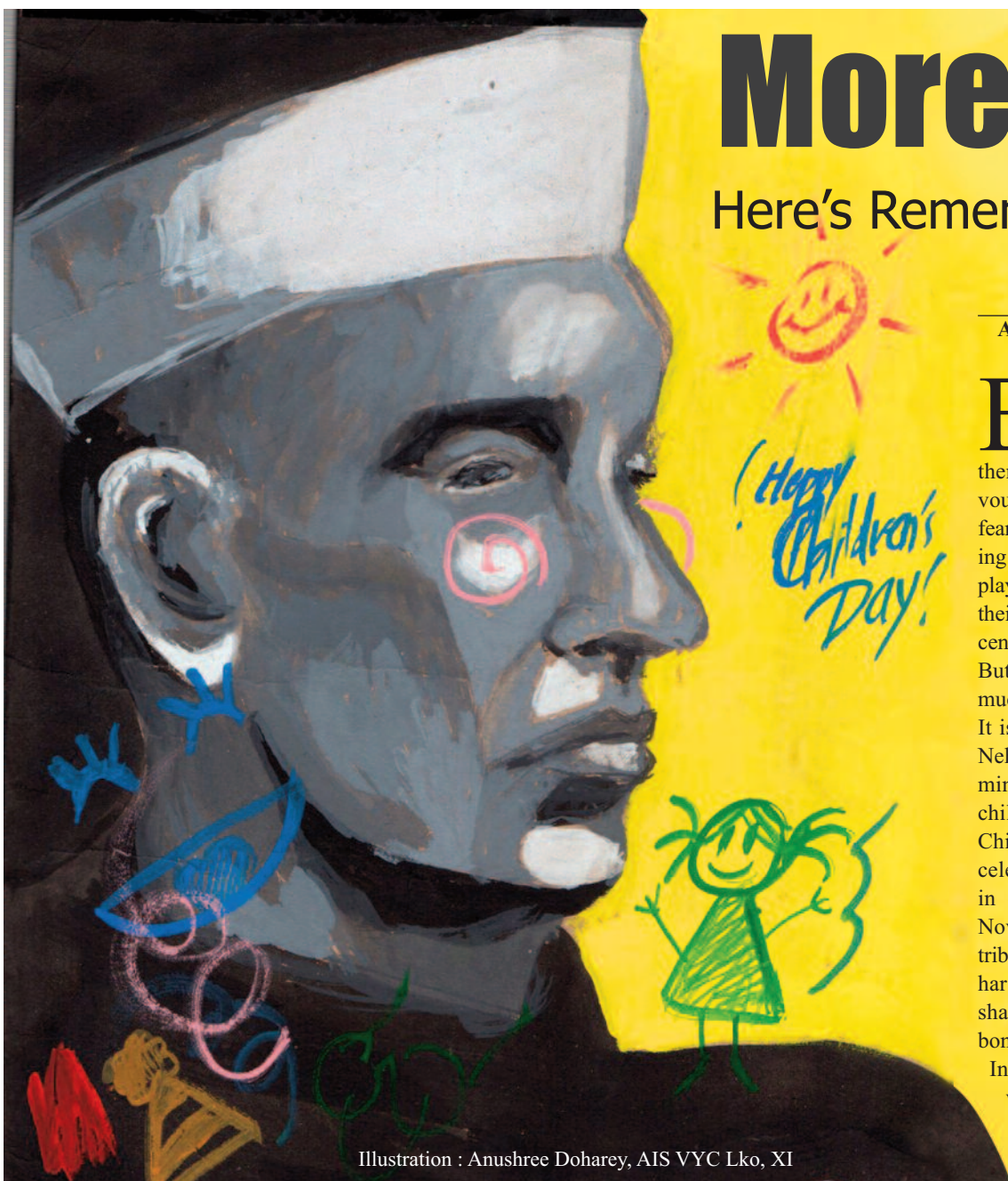
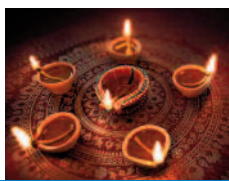


Illustration : Anushree Doharey, AIS VYC Lko, XI





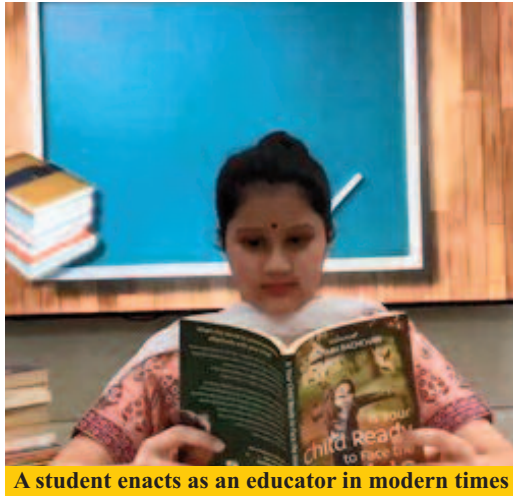
Diwali is celebrated by the Sikhs to commemorate Bandi Chhor Diwas, the release of Guru Hargobind from prison by Jehangir.

Ignited Spirits

A Theatre Fest For Young Creative Minds



A young actor puts up a show of expressions



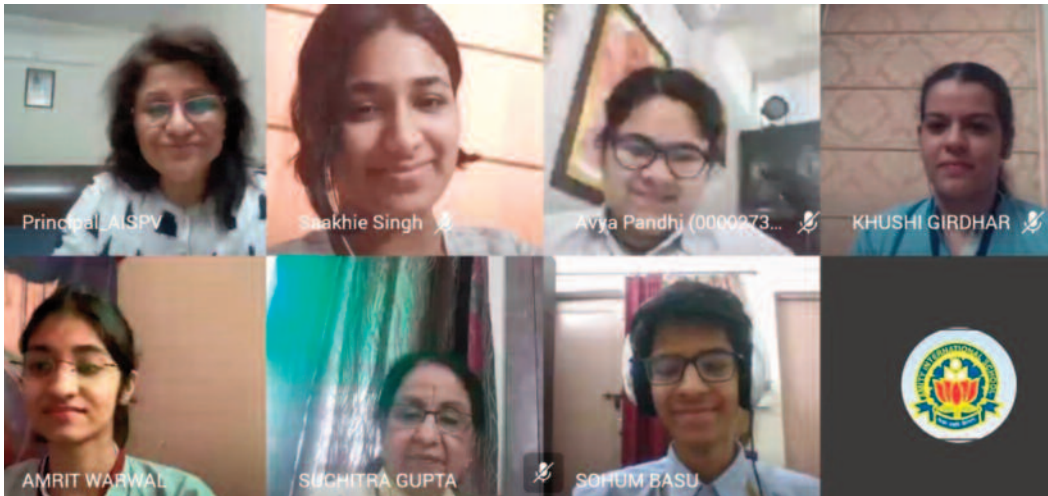
A student enacts as an educator in modern times

AIS Pushp Vihar

The school held its 9th and very first virtual annual inter-school theatre fest 'Ignited Spirits' on October 3, 2020. The annual theatre fest has been envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF as a boulevard to foster innate creativity of young children for holistic growth of their mind, body and soul. More than 75 eminent schools from Delhi/NCR participated in the event, held in two categories viz junior and senior. Amitians proved their excellence in acting,

screenplay, make-up, editing, etc, by bagging numerous laurels in the fest. In the juniors category, Samaya Chauhan and Sanjana Chauhan both from Class VII bagged the runners up award for acting. Anshika Tyagi (VII), AIS VKC Lucknow won the awards for both best actor and best editing while Anubha Mathur (VIII), AIS Gurugram 46, received the judges' recommendation award for acting. Awards for best costume and best makeup went to Nandini Rastogi (VII), AIS Mayur Vihar. In the senior category, Keshav Gupta (XII), AIS Saket received the runner up award for acting

and Devjyoti Ghosh (XII), AIS Gurugram 46 won the award for best actor. Angad Singh Ahuja (XI), AIS Pushp Vihar was conferred with special recommendation in acting award by the judges and the best screenplay award went to Charu Anurag, AIS Vasundhara 6. The event was judged by an eminent jury comprising Suchitra Gupta, an eminent artist with Doordarshan and Gaurav Pahwa, director, Gateway to Theatres. The first ever virtual edition of the theatre fest culminated with hearty praises and wise words by the jury members for all the young theatre enthusiasts. **GT**



9th and very first virtual annual inter-school theatre fest 'Ignited Spirits' in progress



Ridhi Nair smiles on victory



Sheen Sarup is all cheers

Victorious innovators

Amitians Excel Yet Again

AIS Vasundhara 6

Young scientific minds of Amity proved their flair to innovate yet again, when Ridhi Nair of Class XII bagged first prize at the national level of 'Innovative Science Model Contest 2020' held from October 24-26, 2020. She was conferred with 6,000 INR as the first prize for her project 'Herbal pretreated antifungal and antibacterial cotton biodegradable sanitary napkin'. In the same competition, Ridhi along with Sheen Sarup (XII) also bagged

the first consolation prize for their project 'Herbal Nutrient Powder from Waste Fruit and Vegetable Peels'. The virtual competition comprising four stages including an on-line presentation of projects and essay writing competition was organised by The Regional Science Centre, Bhopal, in collaboration with Ministry of Culture and National Council of Science Museums, with an objective to tap the best scientific young talents across the country, and nurture them as future researchers and scientists. **GT**

Building the character and nation

Amitians Draw Inspiring Lessons For Life At Ted-Ed

AIS Saket

The TED Ed club (MUTATIO) of the school hosted the second and first ever virtual inter-school TED Ed Virtual Meet - 2020 titled 'Mad'ouk: Embracing Challenges' on October 23, 2020. The conference was attended by total 16 students from Class VIII-XI of various eminent schools of Delhi / NCR. The event graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, has been envisioned by her as a platform for the young minds to build their character and inner strength for creating a better and happier world. The virtual talks also saw in attendance Jason, founder, DIS TED-Ed Club and sophomore, Dominican International School, Taipei; Dipakshi Mahandru a corporate affairs and policy research expert and Aakanksha Yadav, coordinator, Art of Living's free schools team and an engineering graduate. The conference began with the traditional virtual lighting of the lamp and welcome address by school principal Divya Bhatia. Kaveri Arun and Sarguni Khurana from



Students attend the virtual conference and exchange ideas

Class X sang a melodious song, after which a video reminiscing the zestful debates and exchange of ideas at previous editions of TED Ed events was showcased. Rishika Gupta from Class XI of AIS Saket won the first prize, followed by Anika Joshi from Class XI of AIS Vasundhara 1 bagging the

second position and Vedha Aggarwal from Grade XI of AGS Noida was declared the runner up. Overall, it was an enthralling and soul stirring event, which helped the students gain a better understanding of how to shape their thoughts and ideas, along with developing a positive outlook. **GT**

Haryana day

AIS Gurugram 46



An e-poster of Haryana day made by students



A discussion on geographical map of Haryana

Students from Class Nursery-V celebrated Haryana Day virtually on November 2, 2020, exhibiting the traditional fervour and gaiety of the vivacious state. Their speeches brought to fore vivid aspects of the rich cultural heritage of Haryana as they apprised how the state was formed in the year 1966 after bifurcation on lingual lines from the state of Punjab. The young children also performed traditional folk songs and dances of Haryana, bringing alive the colourful and zesty spirit of the state. They also discussed about the geographical location, agricultural and industrial developments of Haryana and highlighted its achievements in the global modern IT and ITES industry in the recent years.

Future perfect

Amitians Guided For Right Career Choices



Head of Amity Career Counselling And Guidance Cell interacts with parents and students virtually

AIS PV | ACCGC

In an endeavour to guide young minds for making informed and right career choices, a virtual interactive session on career guidance was held for the students of Class X along with their parents on September 21, 2020. The event was organised under the supervision of Taruna Barthwal, head, Amity Career Counselling and Guidance Cell with the visionary leadership and guidance of

Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. The orientation program highlighted the importance of aptitude testing and how it helps students to shape career paths. The head of ACCGC urged the students to understand the career options they have, and guided them on how to pursue a career best suited to their aptitude and personality. The students were also briefed about the college board's Advanced Placement Program (AP). AIS

Pushp Vihar is the first and only authorised school in Delhi recognised by the College Board as an AP Test Center. They were told about how it will provide them an edge over others for university admissions in USA, Canada, Australia and Singapore, get university credits, skip introductory classes and save money. A presentation on importance of career aptitude testing for the students to identify their skills and choose a right career was also shared. **GT**

In Jainism, Diwali commemorates Lord Mahavira's attainment of moksha or Niravana.

All top quotes contributed by Divyansh Kamboj, AGS Noida, VIII



Admit it, we've all done it!

So Different From Each Other, Yet So Very Similar

Lavanya Jain, AIS Mayur Vihar, XII A

There is no count to the number of times we have been told that all of us are unique in our own ways. While there's no denying that, there are also certain things that unite the entirety of the human population, regardless of the regional, religious or political boundaries. Here's a list of a few such things that everyone does, but nobody really realises that everyone does.

The supermarket nightmare

We have all been in this situation countless times. When your parents are taking the longest time to decide which toothpaste to buy, and you go to another aisle for 1.372 seconds, it is guaranteed that you will come back and your parents won't be there. Time to panic!

The conversation contemplation

Disclaimer: this is purely fictional and bears no resemblance to anything that happens



You could be pretending to be in the music video of a sad song when you press your head against the car window and look outside at the gentle rain. Or the lead guitarist in the band when you air guitar the entire solo.

and look outside at the gentle rain. Or the lead guitarist in the band when you air guitar the entire solo. Or the tree in the background when you accidentally wear green and brown clothes. Just anything in the music video.

The blanket trouble

This has been experienced by all and sundry on summer nights and cannot possibly be explained by science. It's too hot to sleep without the AC on, and too cold once it is turned on. You put on the blanket to feel stuffy; take it off and you start feeling the chill. But then, very instinctively, one leg peeks out of the suffocation inside the blanket into the fresh air, like a sapling sprouting the ground, bringing the temperature to equilibrium. Perfect!

So, yes, while all of us are different and unique in our own ways, we're all made one with each other by these little habits. Look around, the vivid world is just the same everywhere!

The music video performance

This one comes in many ways. You could be pretending to be in the music video of a sad song when you press your head against the car window



Mysterious India

Is It A Myth Or A Mere Coincidence?

Jaya Jha, XI & Saloni Doodraj, Alumna, AIS Gur 46

India, our country of lush forests and beautiful cities, is also a land of strange stories and stranger phenomenon. Here are some instances of such bizarre happenings.

The curious case of twins

Wandering into Kerala, you may stumble upon a village where you'll start seeing double! Don't worry, it's not your eyes, it's Kodinhi village in Mallapuram, Kerala, home to more than 400 sets of twins. This strange phenomenon is yet to be explained by scientists and doctors, but it is believed that the 'twins' effect is a result of the chemical composition of the water. Nicknamed the 'twin town' Kodinhi even has an association dedicated to the welfare of twins called Twins and Kin Association, the first of its kind.

A doorless existence

In this day and age, we are extremely careful of who we trust, owing to soaring crime rates. But this one place in India proves to be the champions of trust by having no doors in their houses. Seems outlandish? The village of Shani Shingnagpur, in the Ahmadnagar district of Maharashtra,

places all its wealth and safety into the hands of their deity, Shani, the God of Saturn, instead of believing in the good old-fashioned way of locks and doors. It is believed that anyone who attempts to steal will be punished by Lord Shani by mental imbalance, blindness and/or long sickness. They even have a lockless bank in their village. Their police station, which opened in September 2015, is yet to receive a single complaint. No, we are not lying.

Godly wrath

You must have heard or visited the shore temple in Mahabalipuram, also known as Mamallapuram but did you know that six more similar temples existed? Six more temples or 'pagodas' were built along with the already famous Shore Temple, in the 8th century, together called the 'Seven Pagodas'. Legend has it that Indra, the God of rain and thunder became jealous of the architectural beauty of the seven pagodas and submerged the entire city of Mahabalipuram. Only the shore temple remained above water, a sole testament to the architectural marvels of the city. The suspected remains of the submerged temples were revealed during the tsunami of December 2004. 🇮🇳

Things That Might Seem Common, But Are Not So Common If Looked At Closely

Story of the COMMON

Riyosha Sharma, AIS Gur 46, Alumna

Human civilisation spans over thousands of years, generations after generation, generating new traditions along the way. These traditions have been seen, fought over, or mostly, simply been accepted as they are because they are 'not a big deal' or 'no harm' to follow. But how many of us have actually paid enough attention to the logic behind them? Do we care to know? Or should we really even care? Let's take a look.

Is right always right?

Europe and India drive to the left side of the road. But the modern countries like USA drive to the right. Traditionally, the swordsmen who rode horses kept to the left so that their right hands are free to carry their swords, and for a better strategic position against their enemy. But

then Napoleon came along and switched to the other side so that he could catch his enemy by surprise. And so, Napoleon confused half of the world and no one is sure as to which right is actually 'right'.

Sexism or chivalry?

'Ladies first', often considered a hallmark of gentlemen, too has a story behind it. And it wasn't chivalry, as you'd say. In the ancient past, when cave dwellers used to hear a sound from outside, women used to approach the source first, so that men could attack the wild animals from behind. And you thought women are the 'weaker sex'?

Best friend forever?

As a typical wedding tradition in the West, a best man is essential in the groom's party to stand by him throughout. This is one man who stands rock solid, no matter what happens. But in

yesteryear, this man was literally the strongest. He was someone who was the 'best' at swordsmanship, and would protect the groom in case of an attack. Best swordsman + best friend = best man.

Cheers all the way!

An extremely popular social custom, clinking wine glasses at parties is something that has been going on for eternity. One wonders if it is just plain etiquette or has a story linked to it? Looks like people in the past were not pleased with their wines only pleasing four of their senses, and so needed a rather 'fuller' experience while drinking. Hence, *clink clink*, and now the sound is so attached to drinking wine that it is said if you don't clink the glasses, you will have bad luck for 7 years. Now, who's to believe in the superstitions, right?

So, the next time you see a best man driving to the left, opening the door for his lady, and clinking glasses at a party, just know there is a story behind everything that seems common. 🇮🇳

