

**INSIDE**



Thou shall be judged, P5



Colours of Hampi, P7

**AMITe poll**

Do you think Election Commission should postpone the upcoming Bihar elections in the wake of rising corona cases?

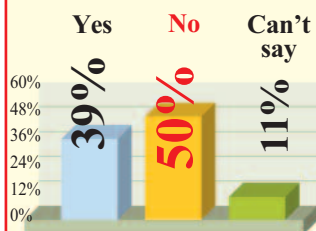
- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Can't say

To vote, log on to  
 www.theglobaltimes.in

**POLL RESULT**

for GT issue October 19, 2020

Do you think inserting cheerful audio can replace the charm of a live audience in a sports match?



Results as on October 22, 2020

**Coming Next**

AIS VAs 1 Contest Edition

# History repeats itself

Some Already In The Pages Of Antiquity, Some More To Go Down

**Kuhu Saha**

AIS Mayur Vihar, XII

As humankind progresses through time, we humans like to delude ourselves with the belief of having learnt from our past, ceaselessly creating a new future that is ingrained with these lessons. But as the sepia-toned polaroid of the past is kept cheek to cheek with the multi-coloured selfie of the present, realisations like COVID hit us like a truck; reminding us that the apple of the present doesn't fall far from the (his)tree.

rope; and the Great Plague of London of 1665 that killed 100,000 Londoners in just 7 months. From smallpox outbreak in the 15th century to cholera in the 19th century, humans have always played a deadly game with viruses, and COVID-19 is but a new opponent. Claiming more than 3,00,00,000 lives worldwide, crashing economies and shutting everyone inside their homes, Coronavirus, another pandemic, has gripped the entire world's breath underneath a mask. How long will this game last though, we wonder.

destroyed nearly 13,200 houses, 87 churches, St Paul's Cathedral, and government buildings. Cut to the present, the Black Summer in 2019-20 saw unusually intense bushfires in many parts of Australia, burning an estimated 186,000 square km of land, destroyed over 5,900 buildings, affected nearly 3 billion terrestrial vertebrates. As we look at the world on fire, from US's California to Brazil's Pantanal wetlands to Greece's refugee camps, our future, and our Mother Earth, seems to be going up in flames.

**Enmity - back to what crashed once**

From people being divided into conservative and modernist, refusing to believe Darwin's theory of evolution in 1920s to fighting over climate change in the 2010s, the verses narrating our past seems to share a common thread with our present, and not much of it is in a positive tone. The 1900s saw the evil face of discrimination based on race, colour and gender, and sadly the fight still continues. The NAACP and Civil War that once stood against slavery and Klu Klux Klan can be seen in the Black community of the

world that is still protesting for Black Lives Matter in the face of extensive racism. The highly marked immigration, which was once met with the Emergency Immigration Act of 1921 and the Immigration Act of 1924, is still echoed in various detention camps on borders. Reeling in the history of two World Wars that marked the decade of 1900s, threats of a third one have been whispered as many countries like USA, China, India, Israel, Iraq etc seem to be in conflict with someone or the other. The economies of the world took years to stabilise then, and today's crashing economies may not be able to survive another fall.

**Epidemic - back to what killed once**

Yersinia pestis, a type of bacteria, has caused 3 of the world's deadliest pandemics recorded in antiquity: the Plague of Justinian in 541 CE that spread like wildfire across Europe, Asia, North Africa and Arabia, killing 30-50 million people; the Black Death starting in 1347 that claimed around 200 million lives in Eu-

**Environment - back to what destroyed once**

The Great Fire of London in 1666 swept through the central parts of medieval London for five days and



The world, with history books kept under our arms and fresh notebooks opened to write our future, presents the illusion that we are sprinting forward. But as evidence calls for a reality check, turns out we are just running in circles.

# A journalistic journey

Pic: Deepak Sharma, GT Network



Syed Nazakat with GT reporter

## Syed Nazakat Elucidates On What It Takes To Be A Reporter

**Ananya Trivedi, AIS Noida, IX**

“When you investigate and produce stories, it puts a question mark on the existing system,” says Syed Nazakat, an award-winning journalist, media entrepreneur, and the founder and editor-in-chief of DataLEADS. With over 18 years of experience across broadcast, print and online journalism, and having reported from over 35 countries, he stands to be one of the finest names in the world of journalism. As he attended ICEMP 2020 at Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, GT reporters couldn't miss the chance to interact with him.

**Journalism – all about the truth**

Having been in the media industry for so many years, I have explored various facets of the field. However, what I really love about the job is deep dive reporting of the issues which aren't visible on the surface. I have always relished the hard work of digging up information and trying to reach the very base of a story to reveal the hard truth. I have uncovered and produced stories that revealed India's secret torture chambers, arms smuggling in Bangladesh, misuse of anti-terrorism laws, corruption in arms procurement etc, and highlighted the real truth. I think, for any journalist, uncovering the

truth should always be the focus.

**Journalism simplifying the data**

Data journalism has always had my attention. It was finally in 2015 that I founded DataLEADS – a company that basically conducts data analysis. It is India's first data-driven website and the objective is healthcare reporting because for any story, data is the crux. Any misinformation in numbers, the perception of whole story will go astray and lead to an array of problems. The problem is that we do have the data, but need journalists who can make sense out of it and present it to the world in a comprehensible way. This is why DataLEADS was formed – to eliminate the gap between public and the data, and share factually verified information.

**Journalism – loving what you do**

When it comes to reporting, one of the biggest challenges lie in physical security and digging data for legal cases. To dig up truth on matters that concern the law, a lot of times you aren't granted permission to see all the evidences, but navigating your way through different channels to get to the truth is the key here. I have reported for over 25 countries and the culture and the way of doing things of each of them were different. But once your mind and heart is set on a

story, sooner or later, you will overcome every challenge. Journalism is a very passionate field; if you don't love what you do, you won't be able to survive here for a long time.

**Journalism – building a team**

Collaboration is and always will be an important part of journalism. As a profession and field that will continue for as long as humanity lives, it is important for us to realise that future journalists will not be superheroes who just emerge out of the sky, but are rather human beings who need to be trained, supported, and helped so that they could do justice to this profession, which is why teamwork is essential. Any global project that has happened in the last 5-6 years, has been collaborative; that means scientists are working with journalists and journalists are working with scientists. Journalists are working with engineers, coders, graphic designers. Journalism is not just writing stories, but also about the right kind of collaboration.

**Journalism – being one**

If you want to be a journalist, read more. Read history, literature, or anything you find interesting. Start writing small essays, whatever you see around; that will help you to frame your ideas better when you eventually want to be a journalist.



'Mona Lisa' by Leonardo da Vinci is a portrait of Lisa Gherardini, wife of a wealthy silk merchant, seated against an imaginary landscape.



# India this week

Prithish Bhattacharya, AIS VKC Lko, X

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



## Proposal to heave AI

**News:** In an attempt to boost AI in India, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology plans to initiate a National Mission for Artificial Intelligence that would include government projects worth an estimated 2000 crore INR. The proposed project, entails setting up a Centre of Excellence for AI to encourage startups in this field.

**Views:** This field demands intensive research and training. For there have been instances where AI has been misused, like when China embraced a worryingly fallible facial recognition technology to control human behaviour. In such cases, it reverses the role of technology as a democratiser that connects the world and tends to become highly immoral. And so, it is necessary to proceed with caution.

Paras Pandey, AIS VKC Lko, XII



## 392 festive trains for the citizens

**News:** With festive season around the corner, the Indian Railways has resolved to run 392 'Festival Special' trains from October 20-November 30 for destinations including Kolkata, Patna, Varanasi,

and Lucknow. These trains would levy special charges, and would entail a hefty fine or even imprisonment in case the boarders fail to keep up with social distancing norms as per the guidelines issued by the Railway Protection Force.

**Views:** With this endeavour, Indian government has ensured the security of every individual travelling, since the vehicles are well equipped to face any sort of impediments. This would also help people reach their family and loved ones safely and easily in these tough times. But in the end, it is our duty as responsible citizens to abide by the rules and act as educated members of the society, to neither be affected by the virus ourselves nor be a medium to spread the same.

Alisha Ojha, AIS VKC Lko, X

## Schools reopen but the fun goes amiss

**News:** After a gap of over 7 months, many state governments allowed the schools to reopen for students of Class X-XII. The bold move that initially received a mixed response from the citizens, promises to ensure safety for the students with properly sanitised classrooms and strict social distancing mandates. As for the students who returned to school, things didn't go as expected as they missed the feel and fun of pre-COVID days.

**Views:** It is definitely a welcoming move because sooner or later, the schools had to be reopened. And if proper safety guidelines are followed, anything can be worked out. As far as missing the good ol' days goes, the feeling is justified, but students must understand that this is the way forward as for now, and that things will eventually get back to normal.



It might take time, but they will.

Arnav Singh Chauhan, AIS VKC Lko, X



## No entry in Durga Puja Pandals

**News:** In view of the Coronavirus outbreak, the Calcutta High Court on October 19 declared Durga Puja Pandals as no entry zones for the worshippers. Limiting the number of people to only 45 in the bigger pandals and a total of 15 in the smaller ones, the court ordered a list of attendees to be prepared beforehand, which will then be displayed outside the pandals at 8 AM every day.

**Views:** The court's decision is not only beneficial but crucial too. Bustling pandals would only serve as an epicenter for the virus and that is the last thing we would want right now. With so many festivals in line, such verdicts are indispensable. But it is important that people try to co-operate and follow the guidelines strictly. The joy of festivals will come again next year, but our life, if lost, won't. Remember that!

Alankrita Bajpai, AIS VKC Lko, XII

# Around The WORLD

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



USA

## Google sued in anti-trust case

The United States Department of Justice (DOJ) has filed a lawsuit against Google for using its position to create a monopoly in search services, search advertising and harm its competitors and customers. Joined by 11 states of the US, the lawsuit is the first to see the involvement of both the Democratic and the Republican parties.

COLOMBIA

## National strike against President

To protest the recent cases of violence against human rights activists, and the socio-economic policies of President Ivan Duque, thousands of indigenous people partook in a nation-wide strike. The protestors demand hike in funding for health and education, and steps to prevent gender-based violence.



SOUTH KOREA

## Flu shots result in death

The government's steps to carry out mass flu vaccinations to safeguard people suffering from flu along with COVID 19 complications has led to the death of 13 individuals, spiking panic among citizens. The programme aims to vaccinate for free at least 30 million out of its 52 million population. And according to the government and health officials, no toxic substances have been found in the vaccines.



PERU

## Giant etching found at Nazca Lines

Archaeologists discovered a gigantic carving in the shape of a cat while renovating a section of the Nazca Lines, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The cat geoglyph, according to experts, dates back to 200 B.C. to 100 B.C. and is the latest among many other such carvings found at the site, such as hummingbird and orca.



PAKISTAN

## Lockdown to be imposed soon

Due to Pakistani officials' negligence to properly implement the standard operating procedure (SOP) to limit COVID-19 spread, the citizens might face another lockdown. The statement was issued keeping in mind the heavy surge of COVID cases, nearly 140% in the country.



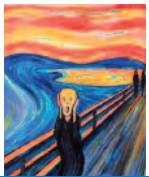
INDIA

## Anti-tank missile tested

The final trial of Nag anti-tank missile has been completed by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) in Pokhran using a live warhead on a dud tank. The new missile system, soon to be inducted into the Indian Army, will be used to take down enemy armoured vehicles and tanks and can take out targets at a range of about 4-7km.

**News Flash** ▶ **China:** Zhejiang city to offer experimental COVID vaccines to natives for 60 USD ▶ **Lebanon:** President Michel Aoun launched consultations to start the search for a new PM ▶ **Germany:** Country facing high rise in COVID cases, with 11287 new infections





'The Scream' by Edvard Munch, depicts the artist's own experience of a shriek piercing through nature while on a sunset stroll.

# Celebrating innovation

## A Showcase Of Year Long Innovation Practices At The Annual Innovation Day



Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe addresses the virtual gathering



Students present a mesmerising performance during the event

### AUH

Ayurvedic Biotechnology based Gullar tree milk for liver regeneration, Renewable Energy & Smart Energy Systems, Technology Incubation & Development Of Entrepreneurs, Akara flowers extract for chronic asthma treatment, Waste Water Treatment Technology using Nano-Particles, Nanostructured materials for bulletproof jackets and bulletproof glass, Nano Biosensor to detect infectious diseases and Stem Cell-based cucumber extract for eco-friendly skin cream providing UV protection and skin rejuvenation, AI integrated Humanoid, Drone-based smart agriculture, intelligent robot for fire-fighting and nano energy generators for tomorrow's electronic devices are some of the innovations which were presented on the online platform as part of its annual Innovation day organised by Amity University, Haryana, on September 28, 2020. This day is a culmination of year-long activities on campus showcasing innovation practices from various domains from different Amity campuses. Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe in his address to university faculty, research scientists and students said: "I breathe innovation; I dream innovation and ensure that our outcome-based research and innovation ecosystem enables us to achieve ever-rising benchmarks of success". What we teach in Amity are 'sanskaras' and 'values' that are embedded in the future-ready professionals, said Dr Ashok K. Chauhan who presided over the daylong celebration of the spirit of innovation and joy of creativity in Amity Universities in India and its campuses abroad.

Dr Atul Chauhan, Hon'ble Chancellor AUUP and President, RBEF, while gracing the occasion said, "Innovation is in the DNA of Amity Education Group, and we firmly believe that the vision Amity inspires us to do something impactful will not only make our country great but will create a better world. Amity is one of those organisations which has great capability to adapt to the changing technologies and create an environment to innovate and excel." Speaking on the occasion, Chancellor AUH, Dr Aseem Chauhan said, "Amity



Eminent guests, faculty and moderators at the virtual event

University is an epitome of higher education where modernity blends with tradition and culture, where science and technology harmoniously blends with performance, progression and innovation." Expressing his great satisfaction about the fast track progress made by different Amity universities at Gurugram, Jaipur, Mumbai, Raipur, Gwalior and Lucknow, he remarked, "We at Amity recognise every unlimited potential that can act as a catalyst in the creation of new innovations and can further aid in developing innovated technologies and innovated products. We can, for sure, make the impossible possible, where innovation is the only key to make this happen." In his welcome address, Prof PB Sharma, VC, AUH, shared the accomplishments of Amity University, Gurugram in respect of research and innovations. 64 high impact R&D projects sponsored by DST, DBT, ICMR, AYUSH and MoIT are currently in progress and 158 patents have been filed by AUH, as shared by Prof Sharma. He summed up AUH's philosophy in these words, "Our eyes are well set to cause innovations in plenty, nurturing a culture of innovation, making innovation a habit, contribute to solution research for the industry and society, provide education and research environment to empower our graduates and scholars with the wings of knowledge and power of innovation so that they succeed in taking flights of success

and contribute to the prosperity and wellbeing of the vast humanity." Prof Sharma also informed that even during COVID-19 lockdown period, AUH faculty has published 482 research papers, filed 40 patents, contributed 45 book chapters and also submitted 90 R&D projects, out of which 13 have already been granted for a total value of INR 5 crores approximately. This was on top of conducting online classes and online examinations. Dr Padmakali Banerjee, the pro-vice chancellor of Amity University presented 10 major milestones that AUH has crossed, including academic innovations that introduced a flexible credit-based curriculum way ahead of time in 2015, strong industry integration and internationalisation. On this occasion, the University Chronicle, a compendium of 151 Pearls of Innovations (patents filed by AUH), Annual Report on Research and Innovation 2020 @ AUH, ASET Newsletter, Publication on Nano Science and Technology at AUH were also released by the esteemed dignitaries. Prof (Dr) Rajendra Prasad, dean, Faculty of Science, Engineering & Technology, director, Amity Institute of Biotechnology (AIB) gave a brief presentation on R&D Projects & Impact publications during the event. Three high impact webinar panel discussions were conducted on Innovation Day. The first was 'Financial Inclusion

ship' in which the guest speakers were Dr Valentin Bolotny, Hoover Centre, Stanford University, USA, Ambarish Datta, MD & CEO BSEI, Bombay Stock Exchange, and Dr Ram Subramaniam, founder, My Money Karma - California, USA. The session was moderated by Dr AKS Suryavanshi, professor & director, Amity Business School, Mumbai. The second panel discussion was on 'Innovations for New India'. The speakers for the same were Padma Bhushan Dr NK Ganguly, former director general - Indian Council of Medical Research, who talked about Immunity and Diagnostic during the time COVID-19, Dr Vijay K. Chaudhary, NASI-honorary scientist, University of Delhi, who said, "No country can become great without the aid of technology innovations", Dr Sanjay Singh, chief executive officer, Gennova Biopharmaceuticals Ltd, who shared his vision for bio innovations including indigenous development of COVID-19 vaccine. The session was moderated by Dr W. Selvamurthy, president, Amity Science, Technology & Innovation Foundation (ASTIF). The third-panel discussion on Innovations for Global Competitiveness was led by Shri Anil Bhasin, president, Havells India, and was moderated by Dr Vikas Madhukar, dy director, Amity Business School at AUH. The vice-chancellors of various Amity universities enthusiastically shared their

*I breathe innovation; I dream innovation and ensure that our outcome-based research and innovation ecosystem enables us to achieve ever-rising benchmarks of success.*

best practices for R&D and innovation and also shed light on the significant accomplishments of their respective Amity campuses. This turned out to be a moment of extreme pride for each and everyone present in the audience. The daylong celebration of Amity Innovation Day 2020 saw the participation of over 3000 people, that included Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity International Schools, trustees of RBEF, Dr Gurinder Singh, Gp vice-chancellor, president of ASTIF, Dr W Selvamurthy, along with vice chancellors and pro vice chancellors, deans, Heads of institutes, members of faculty and a large number of young inspired students from various Amity campuses. The vote of thanks was presented by Maj Gen BS Suhag, dy vice-chancellor, AUH. The event was coordinated by Dr Vikas Madhukar, dy director, ABS, and was assisted by Dr Monika Yadav and Dr Geetika Agrawal. Amity University Haryana, in a short span of 10 years, has managed to successfully emerge as a centre of immense creativity, thought leadership in a vibrant hub of higher-end R&D in various areas like Big-Data and AI, Machine Learning and Internet of Things (IoT), Life Science, Bio-Technology, Bio-Medical Engineering, Nano-Science and Technology, Water Technology and Air Pollution Mitigation and Control, and a crusader of sustainability, that has earned for the young university the honour of being a Platinum Category LEED Certified campus by the US GBC.

(Courtesy: Amity Media Cell)



'The Starry Night' by Vincent van Gogh is inspired by the view from his window at the asylum where he was being treated for his mental illness.



# The good old friend

## When Human Beings Mimic Nature To Solve Their Own Problems



Vyakhya Gupta, XI S &  
Aditya Pathak, XII B, AIS Gur 46

Humans pride ourselves on being the most intelligent creatures on this planet. Yet when faced with problems life throws at us, we turn to mother-nature for ideas to solve these problems. Well, there is a term to describe this imitation 'Biomimetics', a science that emulates nature's proven patterns and strategies to come up with solutions to human challenges. Here, we bring you some instances of biomimetics that have helped humans tremendously.

**Problem: To climb up a glass wall**  
**Nature's answer: Gecko**

Gecko, often known as 'small lizards' can climb up any vertical surface without falling off as they have millions of tiny hairs covering their toes. These hairs act like dry adhesion and help the lizard stick to any surface. Inspired from gecko, scientists and researchers have designed numerous climbing materials. One of them being, a pair of climbing

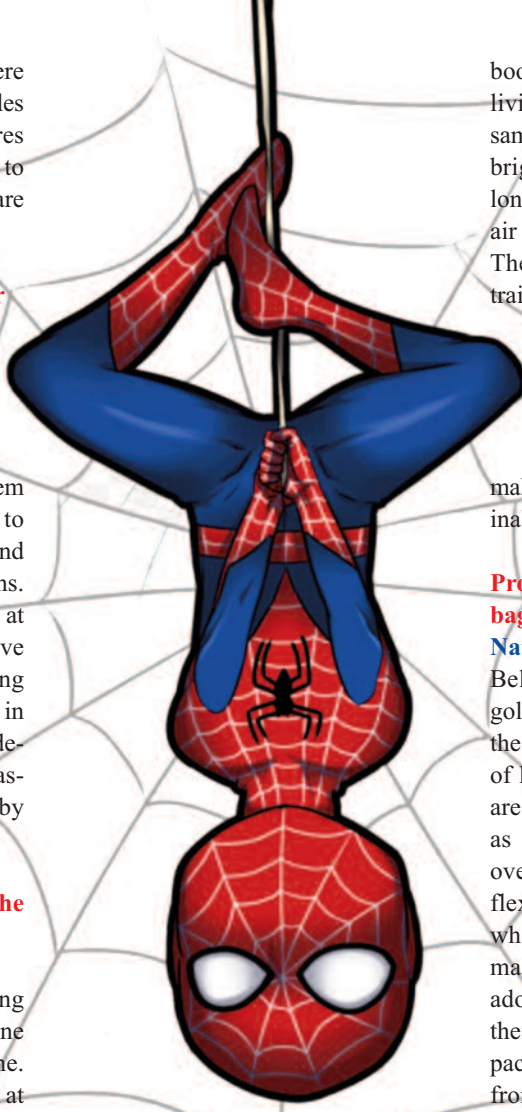
pads to support human weight, where each pad is covered with adhesive tiles and tooth-shaped polymer structures equal to the width of a human hair to create an adhesion force when they are pulled on.

**Problem: To locate survivors after natural disasters**  
**Nature's answer: Spider**

These eight-legged air breathing arthropods might not be the best ones to encounter but there's something that makes them stand out. Spiders have the ability to compress themselves in tight spaces and turn on the spot in multiple directions. Attracted by this property, researchers at Fraunhofer Institute, Germany have designed a robot, using 3D printing technique. Still a prototype, the robot in the shape of spider can assist in the detection of survivors after natural disasters or chemical catastrophes by showcasing live images.

**Problem: Noise pollution from the bullet trains**  
**Nature's answer: Kingfisher**

While Japan is known for designing fastest trains in the world, it also at one point struggled with the same. Shinkansen bullet train, known to run at a speed more than 300 km/h produced noise pollution in the form of sonic



boom that troubled the local residents living near the tunnels. To solve the same, Japanese researchers turned to the brightly coloured, Kingfisher. With its long beak, this bird can travel between air and water causing very little splash. The engineers redesigned the bullet train, giving it a shape similar to that of a Kingfisher's long beak towards the front. This simple change in design not only reduced noise pollution but also saw a drop in the consumption of electricity by making the train run faster than the original speed.

**Problem: Light weight and spacious backpacks**  
**Natures' answer: Pangolin**

Belonging to Armadillo family, pangolins are unique creatures as they are the only ones with keratin (component of human hair and nails) scales which are not only hard, soft, firm but flexible as well. These scales slightly extend over each other giving pangolin much flexibility and space to roll into a ball when required. Inspired from this animal, a Colombian company, Cyclus adopted the same for the designing of their bag packs known as 'Pangolin bag packs', where recycled tire inner tubes from trucks retract like scales slightly one over the other instead of zippers. The tubes not only give the bag pack a



similar appearance like that of pangolin but also offers great qualities like durability, flexibility and space.

The list of nature's ingenuity goes on and on. What we need to learn is that nature has always been on our side like a good old friend, extending the helping hand whenever we have faced problems. But are we doing the same? Think, for it's time to save this friend, as it has always loved and safeguarded us. 🌿

# What will I do without you?

## Each Organ In Human Body Is Important Yet We Can Let Go Some Of Them

Saanvi Vaish & Shagun Jain, XII, AIS PV

All our lives we've been taught how important internal organs are for our body to survive; how all of them work in a perfect sync so that we can lead a healthy life. But (there's always a but), what if you missed a few organs here and there. Like, we all know we can do with one kidney. Similarly, here are a few more, you can do without.

**Who needs a spleen?**

Spleen is a red-white organ that sits on the left side of the abdomen, under the ribs. The red portion is responsible for storing and recycling red blood cells, while the white for the storage of white cells and platelets. Because of its location, it has high chances of getting critically damaged. A damaged spleen can always be removed with

no serious repercussions. When a spleen is lost, it substitutes are liver (as it recycles red blood cells) and lymphoid tissues that keep your immunity strong.

**Where's my stomach?**

While it might sound like something out of a cartoon scene, it is actually possible. Yes, you can live without your stomach if you (God forbid) need to get it removed. If such is the case, then surgeons attach the oesophagus (food pipe) directly to small intestines and you can continue to have normal diet but in smaller amounts (six to eight meals a day) with some vitamin supplements and not feel like the food will just drop down your abdomen without being digested or processed.



**Why gallbladder?**

Your liver produces bile to break down the fat from your oily meal. In case you decide to have that extra *pav* with your *bhaji*, this bile will get stored in the gallbladder. Turns out, as humans have evolved into the social beings that they are, they don't really need that extra bile as their body is used to their steady diets and already knows how to digest it. So, if you ever feel like having your gallbladder removed or need to because of your increased gallstones, don't worry the bile will flow directly into the small intestine.

**Does appendix exist?**

Appendix has a history so long that it's almost reduced to nothing from being an alleged tail. While some claim it to be a useless organ, others suggest that it is a safe-house for the good bacteria. In either case, appendix is prone to infections leading to complications and appendicitis, ultimately leading to its surgical removal. People who have such appendix surgeries live their lives without any consequences. You can think about it!







'Guernica' by Pablo Picasso portrays Nazi's aerial bombing on the Basque town of Guernica during the Spanish Civil war.

# Thou shalt be judged

## Five Secret Confessions That Would Instantly Make You An Object Of Ridicule

Tanya Ganguly & Madhav Sharma, X  
AIS Saket

It's often said that confession is good for the soul. And why not? When you confess something, you feel relieved. But is that the case always? At least not on social media because as much as this platform allows everyone to express their views, at times not being a devotee to some of the conventions might cost you more than what you can imagine. The writers of this story are here to save the day and tell you the five truths you must never confess to or else thou shalt be judged!

### #1: "I don't like pets"

No, I do not want to pet your hamster. Don't you dare take that parrot out of its cage. Cats scare me and I don't care if you love it. No, I don't find the Instagram stories cute in which you sleep with your hairy dog that leaves hair all over your house; just unhygienic! And please stop calling your pet your 'bachcha', leave something for your future kids. Also, I know what you're thinking: who doesn't like dogs? Me! That's who!

*Try never ever confessing this to anyone or you shall be deemed as insensitive or belonging to another planet.*

### #2: "I don't follow any web series"

Contrary to what some people think, I

don't care if I am missing out on the best show of my life by not watching F.R.I.E.N.D.S. And yes, I know Brooklyn Nine-Nine is awesome (as told by 50 other people before you) but

I don't want to watch it. What do you even mean by "How are you even still alive if you've not watched Suits?" Please take your list of 'Shows to watch before you die' with you before leaving. I really don't want to be a part of binge watching challenges that you post on Instagram every now and then.

*Whenever you come across such web series fanatic friends, never say that you don't like it, just nod your head and promise to watch these in future that will never come.*

### #3: "I am not a foodie"

Yes, I've tried the world famous Hyderabad Biryani and no I don't think it is all that good. I know people are crazy over road side delicacies as they post 100 pictures on FB or Insta, but I don't like spicy food. And, I know, I am missing out on a lot of stuff by not eating it but I still think not crying and sniffing after every single bite is a better alternative for my health. Also, I don't think eating ice-cream and drinking cold coffee in winter is cool. Nah! It is a big no-no for me. I

refuse to be a part of it.

*But shush...never say you are not a fan of these delicious delicacies.*

### #4: "I don't like cricket"

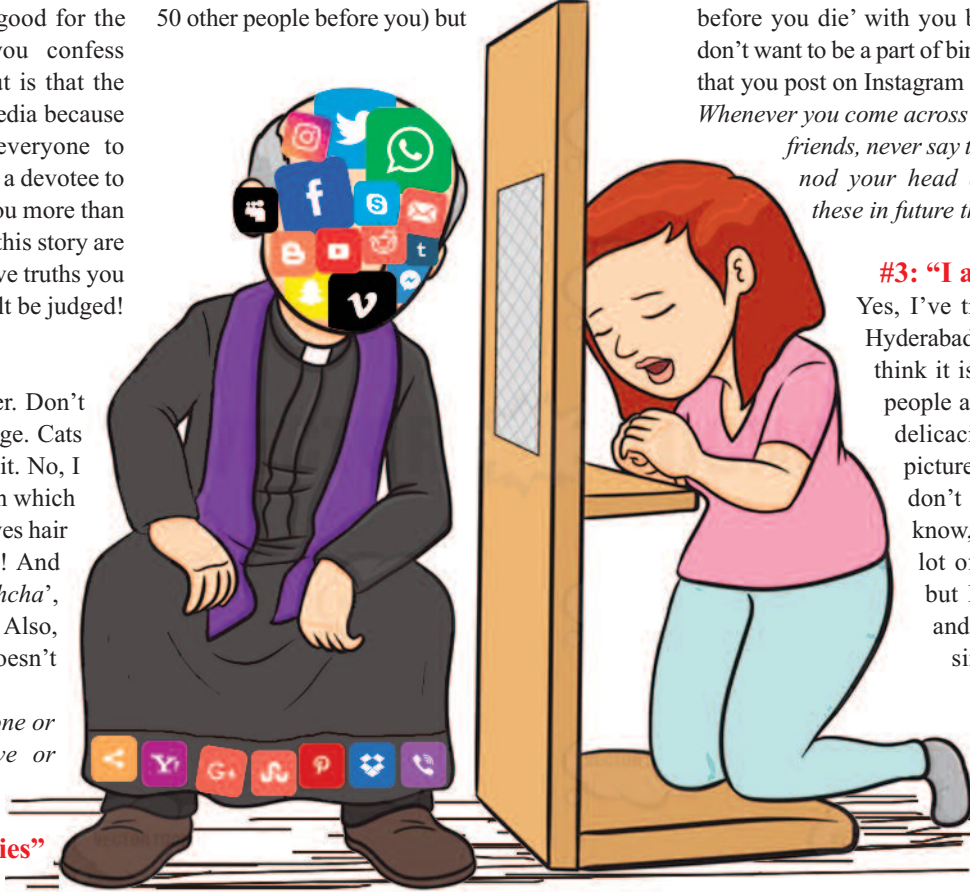
I have a confession to make; I don't like cricket. I understand that we got to be proud of our nation but cricket is not even our national sport. It's hockey and I bet no one watches hockey. I can't find even one update on FB/Insta about hockey. And stop using the word 'anti-nationalist' for everything, half of you don't even stand up for the national anthem in a cinema hall.

*Admitting that you do not support any one team or player with all your heart will only make you an outcast among the cricket fanatics.*

### #5: "I don't follow latest trends"

I am proud to say that I'm not crazy. I don't follow the latest editions of vogue on Instagram like a madman. Selena's latest outfit is very uncomfortable, and not at all pocket friendly! My nail paint doesn't match my sandals, which doesn't match my dress, which doesn't match my handbag, which doesn't match my eye shadow. But, I still think, I look really nice and you calling me a plain Jane is what I take as a compliment!

*Truth be told- don't question anyone's fad, even though their cacophonous tik-tok of heels screeches in your brain, because the consequences might not be good!*



# A strange yet familiar story

## It Is Mundane, It Is Chucklesome, It Is Relatable!



Aarav Tandon, AIS Gurugram 43, X A

"Wake up. You're late for school!" a call reached out from the kitchen to Alia who then had to cut off from her deep slumber. The clock displayed 6:30 am. She arbitrarily threw off her blanket and scuttled towards the bathroom. Meanwhile, mom had laid down a glass of milk, sandwiches and a handful of almonds for breakfast. Alia frowned at the sight of milk; she despised it more than anything in the world. As she forced herself to gulp it down, a honking bus came as a saving grace. This was it. She had to leave, else she would miss her school bus yet again. The glass of milk left half empty, Alia grabbed her sandwich and did what she did every single day-run.

The bus ride to school was easy, interspersed with naps and chit-chats. As the ve-

hicle reached the giant black gates of the school, all the students oozed out. Walking through the flurried corridors, oozing with laughter and conversations, Alia spotted her best friend Sara. She joined the discussion about last evening's birthday party, when the gang was disrupted by the morning assembly announcement signaling everyone to rush to their classrooms. Post the prayers, everyone settled down. Priya ma'am entered, took the roll call and thus began the first period.

One by one, hours passed, with math and biology being the hardest to persevere. The plight was almost over but Priya ma'am reentered the class to announce the dates for the exams which were scheduled for two weeks later. The whole class suddenly came to a standstill. As the datesheets were passed, it was only Aman, the studious front bencher who seemed happy. He safely pasted the sheet in one of the pages

of his diary, while the rest haphazardly folded the paper before shoving it in their bags. Alia and Sara, among other students, scoffed at Aman for taking things too seriously. For "two weeks are more than enough for a physics exam."

### \*TWO WEEKS LATER\*

The clock showed 6:45 am and the alarm didn't go off. Alia was already up and buried in a pile of books. For mom, this was a miracle. Sure, a miracle called 'exam fever'. When she thought she was done, Alia ran to her bathroom and took a quick shower and returned to the breakfast area. This time yet again, a glass of milk was waiting for her at the table, but Alia drank it down till the last drop. For a change, she also tossed the almonds in her mouth, because mom once said they are good for memory. She walked down to the bus stop. Her school bus arrived 5 minutes late and Alia was already impatient.

It was an unusual quiet in the bus. With a book in her hands, Alia navigated through the now still silent corridors. "Spooky," Alia thought to herself. The once boisterous classrooms too were now pin drop silent. Every single student was seated apart like they were strangers. Aman, the studious, was the only one smiling. After waving a quick hi to Sara, Alia sat down. The school bell rang for the morning assembly. The students prayed whole-heartedly with their eyes squeezed shut. Another bell followed, indicating that it was time. Two weeks were not enough, after all!

Writer's note: Been there, done that!



# High heels musical

## And The Award Goes To...

Aditi Banerji, AIS Noida, XII

"Hmmm... What should I wear tonight?" thought Myra as she opened her closet for the fifth time, thinking about which shoes to wear with her black dress to the party. She was torn between comfort and the need to look like she has not jumped out of bed. As she gives another glance at her shoes, the hulla-baloo resumes as the shoe world inside comes alive...

**Flats:** Guys! Listen, Myra is going to the party!

**Stilettoes:** Oh! Shut it, flats! Why are you so excited? You are not going anyway. You are good when she has to run her errands but for the party - no way.

**Sneakers:** So says the 'high' and 'mighty', who always makes her trip and fall.

**Stilettoes:** So you are saying, you will look better with that black dress? Ha?

**Flats:** And you are saying that she will trust you, after you sprained her ankle! I have been her friend in the sun and rain, and things aren't really going to change in a party.

**Sneakers:** If you had ever flipped through Vogue, you would see my ethereal white sparkle at the foot of every celebrity, even at parties.

**Flats:** Really now?

**Stilettoes:** Let's face it. You're totally jealous! Your charisma is as flat as your appearance.

**Boots:** What's with all the click-clack, ladies? Where's the sizzle coming from?

**Stilettoes:** Maybe you should just tie up your laces and keep to yourself. Okay?

"Hmm...let's see. Should I go all out or let it be? Urgh! Forget it. I will just wear my flats and get this over with!"

**Flats:** Hah! In your soles, losers! Sneakers and stilettoes 'tiptoe' their way out of the conversation...



'The Last Supper' by Leonardo da Vinci depicts the final meal that Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion.



# The Shakti Innovation, the key to success

## Says Dr Mohit Gambhir, An Innovator On An Innovating Mission



Dr Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

As you read this, most of us would still probably be reeling under the festive fervour of Navratras - the week-long festival dedicated to Goddess Durga. While the festival is a reminder of many things, it serves as a reiteration of the power of feminine.

The cultural ethos of our country has always placed women on the highest pedestal. Thus, it comes as no surprise that even the remotest villages in the country has a temple dedicated to a Goddess. Be it the 'Bon Bibi' (Goddess of Forest) of Sundarbans or the 'Bhairavi' at every Shiva temple, the feminine spirit is quintessential to our places of worship.

This female strength or the 'shakti' that we have come to idolise today, wasn't always intended to be a subject of worship. In fact, it transcended into our religious and cultural realm with the desideratum of creating a balancing force in nature. Legend has it that Shakti took birth to balance the intense divine force of Shiva which became almost destructive.

A cursory glance at the world around and you'll find that it is this femme balance that drives the world. Whether it is keeping the family rooted or bringing a new perspective to the corporate table seated by men, she ushers a balance, driving things forward. Even as the pandemic struck, our educators donned the avatar of Durga- the Ashtabhavani (one with eight hands) and ensured learning kept flowing in school and life stayed balanced at home. Balancing between devising new methods of learning and performing household chores, taking care of her family at home and the one in school; she steered things forward. Offering a steady balance, she has always been an anchor to the ship called life. For that and more, let's try and ensure that her mast stays high. 🇮🇳

## Celebrate with care



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

Festive fervour is in the air again and it is that time of the year when our minds and souls are bathed in exuberance. The cymbals of Dusshera mark the arrival of the lights of Diwali, with the zest of Gurupurab and the bells of Christmas round the

corner. This year the celebrations have been virtual as the time called for and it is good that technology became a huge enabler. The other day I was reading reports wherein experts world over have conceded that the pandemic is under control but not over, and the vaccine is expected in near future, but no one can anticipate correctly when. No, I am not trying to dampen the festive spirit but just trying to put a word of caution to celebrations with our beloved ones - family and friends. We love them so we would like to see them happy and healthy, and for their well being, let's vow to adorn the mask to scare away the Corona Ravana that seems to be lingering on for a little too long now. Let's keep up with the social distancing norms and become emotionally closer to our fellow human beings to win this race against time that's almost in its last leg. Let's sanitise and wash our hands with soap to envelope our world in the bubble of happiness and health. For celebration doesn't always mean to have a large party; celebration, in fact, denotes rejoicing in the gift of life, the precious moments we spend with our loved ones and the relationships we have formed over the years. So, let's fight the challenge and engage in festivities with the same spirit, changing the definition of celebrations for ever. 🇮🇳

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Stuti Priya, VII H & Manya Singh, X H, AIS Noida

Meet Dr Mohit Gambhir, innovation director, MHRD (Ministry of Human Resource Development) Innovation Cell, Government of India, an innovator on a mission to introduce innovation culture in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Actively involved in numerous initiatives of the Innovation Cell including Smart India Hackathons, ARIIA rankings, etc, his aim is to inculcate a sense of innovation in students by exposing them to activities that will help them broaden their horizons. With a PhD in computer engineering, and a significant working experience in the intellectual property space, he is considered one amongst the first breed of Techno-Legal professionals of India. On his visit to Amity University, Noida for Confluence 2020, GT reporters took the opportunity to ask him about the quintessence of innovation and more. We present you excerpts:

**About the Innovation Cell**  
Established in August 2018, the MHRD Innovation Cell (MIC) is an initiative of the Government of India that caters to individuals seeking higher education across the country. Through MIC and its various campaigns, we are trying to engage with colleges in every nook and corner of



GT reporters with Dr Mohit Gambhir

the country to successfully mobilise the students and their creative energy towards new ideas and innovation, to create an overall innovation ecosystem with ample start-ups and entrepreneurial ventures for young minds. Some of our very significant initiatives include innovation rankings, Hackathons, etc. Innovation is, and will always be the key to success come what may!

### Innovation and economics

It is important for us all to understand that there is opportunity in everything, even in crisis for that matter; be it any type of crisis, social or economic. The best example of it would be Samsung, the biggest smartphone company in the world right now. It had a very humble beginning. Samsung originally sold groceries, mostly noodles and now, it is one of the leaders in

their field. Why you ask? Well, they adapted and changed themselves in the face of crisis to save themselves from a certain death. Likewise, we can do wonders in the face of calamity. We are a country of more than a billion people; we can do anything through a little innovation.

### Innovation and India

Currently, India ranks 52nd in the Global Innovation Index. It has significantly jumped five places up from last year when it claimed the 57th rank. So, in a way, we're improving at a good speed, and sooner or later, we'll be in the top 30 countries for sure. But, if you say innovative countries, we're easily in the top 5 already. Talking about innovation and breaking stereotypes, NITI Aayog is doing wonders. We have opportunities for everyone - from school children to college students - the ambit is extremely broad. The government is also financing a lot of start-ups and that is why India secures third place when it comes to highest number of start-ups. The future is bright, friends! Just hold onto it.

### An innovative message

Spread friendship and unity through innovation. Think aloud and don't stop asking questions. Seek out all the opportunities that come your way and use them to learn. Remember, the curiosity quotient is important; never lose that 'why' feeling. Never! 🇮🇳

## Searching: Best Friend When All Leave, Turn Home To Your Mom

Sudiksha Gupta, AIS MV, Alumna

Best friends. BFF. Glittering Instagram posts. Posting pictures that rain nostalgia. We have all been there, done that. Hoping that our friend would lend us support, when he laughed off our troubles as silliness. Feeling dejected because the best friend did not understand. We have all been there, done that again. But despite the ups and lows, the quest for a best friend remains eternal, only finishing a close second to seeking nirvana. And yet when we find that best friend, happiness cannot be guaranteed. Because having a best friend is a journey and not a destination. But the more important question is whether or not we are taking the right journey. We have all questioned our choice of best friend, more often than we'd like to admit. Remember the time that occurs once in everyone's life (a lot of times for some) when we fight with our besties. Harsh words find their way. Bad mood, even some generous tear shedding follows, which often results in an indulgent mother with her favourite question 'what's wrong'. Of course, she is brushed away with 'you won't understand'. A few days later when calm finds restoration and we try to make something of the upheaval, the words said in angst come back haunting. "You said that, and that and that." We only

wish you hadn't, and we also wish that the bestie could look past it. The indulgent mother meanwhile is over and above your rudeness, and is baking you a cake to cheer you up. But fights are just that - fights. They take their own course before they reach a peaceful resolution (or not). So, it would be unfair to judge besties by these squabbles. One certainly can't overlook all the times they are our cheerleaders, rooting for us throughout that competition. The times they never miss to give us a good luck call. Meanwhile, the indulgent mother stays up as we pull an all-nighter, offering several rounds of coffee, and love. Though it isn't just rooting for us that gets our besties the crowned spot in our lives, it's also to do with the fact that they get us like nobody else. That they understand PB & J can be a detest-worthy option for some (meaning: you). That Tom Cruise is old. They totally get us. That's when we ignore how they don't understand our real feelings at times. How our silence is not cold. How we never meant to do what we did. It's just surprising how the indulgent mother gets it every time. Like she gets that we are upset because of that stupid fight, even when we didn't tell her about it. But then small missteps should be allowed, even on part of besties. And yet mothers, no matter, how in-

dulgent, never make it to the BFF league. They are revered, even admired, but never befriended. They are our biggest cheerleaders, strongest pillar of strength that come with good age ol' wisdom. The not-so-nice things we say to them are easily overlooked by this faction. And we reciprocate by overlooking the unconditional love they offer (something we expect from our best friends). Think of this. Who exactly is a best friend? One who stands by you? One who gets you? Well, our mothers tick off all these check boxes and yet...well, you get it. Nature has its own way of doing things, even providing a best friend. So, if you still haven't found one yet, you are perhaps looking in the wrong places.



Festivals in the time of Corona



Issue: Page 10, October 19, 2020

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'Festivals in the time of corona' on page 10 published in the GT edition dated October 19, 2020. I have always been extremely excited for the festival season to come. But keeping in mind the current situation the world is in, it's time we think of alternate ways to celebrate. This article gave me positive affirmations and ideas on how to be safe and still be with the ones I love. There are many people out there who won't be able to celebrate with their families this year. If we can do anything to make their days brighter, then we should. We can send our prayers and wishes to the brave essential workers who have been risking their lives to save ours, battling the pandemic from the frontlines. After all, that is the true spirit of the festivals we celebrate!

Ananta Taneja  
AIS Vasundhara 1, XI D





Girl with a Pearl Earring' by Johannes Vermeer is a *tronie*, a Dutch term for a painting of an imaginary figure, a young woman in exotic dress here.

# The colours of Hampi

The Story Of A City Dripping In Royalty, Divinity And Everything In Between

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 VIII of the Heritage Series, giving an insight into Hampi, which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987.



Amira Anwar, AIS Saket, X C;  
Sonali Agarwal, AIS Gur 46, X H;  
& Varalika Agarwal, AIS Vas 1, X A

The story of Hampi, or Hampe, is soused with divinity, prosperity, regal success and so much more, and that is the reason why, even today, the site, located in east-central Karnataka, remains a mighty pilgrimage and a place to add to every bucket list. Though many believe that the story of Hampi started in the 14th century under the empire of Vijayanagara, in reality, its history books can be traced back to the time of the Gods, and how from there, it went from being debris to turning into the most wealthy and prosperous city in all of Asia. An 'austere, grandiose site' of more than 1600 surviving remains of the last great Hindi kingdom in South India, it comprises various forts, royal and sacred complexes, shrines, pillared halls, mandapas, memorial structures and water structures. Located on the banks of Tungabhadra river, Hampi has found its mention in tales pertaining to Lord Shiva, Lord Rama, Lord Krishna and even Lord Vishnu, each adding another milestone to the history of one of the greatest cities in human history, a city decorated with divine gemstones.

## The colours of magic

The history of Hampi is a roller coaster journey; it blends from folklore into mythology so slyly that it will make you believe that Gods really did set foot on this pious land, and some of the locals really do. Hence, the story of Hakka and Bukka! As Hakka and Bukka, when returning from a hunting trip, saw an unusual sight on the land, they reported it back to their guru, who, after inspection, realised this place had more to it than air, water and land. He asked the two local chieftains to establish their capital in Hampi, and hence the seed of an unforgettable empire was sown in the land of history.

## The colours of love

One of the most popular myths related to Hampi sits in the lovelorn of Pampa and Virupaksha, where Pampa (another name of Goddess Parvati) was a sincere devotee of Shiva and even set up a small shrine on the top of the Hemakuta hill to worship him with her whole heart. Though Shiva tried various measures to discourage her, she was final in her resolve to marry him and even appealed to Gods to help her gain his attention. To persuade him, she started living her own life like him and engaged in the same activities - asceticism, yoga, and tapasya. Moved by her dedi-

cation, Shiva appeared to her in the avatar of Virupaksha and took her hand in marriage. The Sanskrit word 'pampa' was mixed with the Kannada word 'hampa' and so the place where Parvati pursued Shiva came to be known as Hampi. Later, the same Virupaksha laid the foundation of the empire of Vijayanagara that became the world's second-largest medieval-era city after Beijing and India's richest in 1500 BCE.

## The colours of fraternity

Hampi is a city that has its history steeped with all kinds of love, even brotherly, and the same is noted in Ramayana. As Goddess Sita was abducted by Ravana, she dropped her jewels along the way to leave a trail to be tracked back to her. These jewels were found by Sugreeva, the vanara king who was in hiding after Ravana took away his kingdom. As Sugreeva paired up with Rama, the rest of the story remains a mythological tale, a part of which was Sugreeva winning back his kingdom, and that kingdom was none other than Hampi, the ancient land of Kishkinda. The connection between Kishkinda and Hampi was brought to light by an engineer named Colin Mackenzie in the 1800s, and since then the place has seen an upsurge of pilgrims visiting the place for its historical value.

## The colours of history

When the armies of Alauddin Khalji and Muhammad bin Tughlaq invaded and pillaged South India, the Kampili kingdom in north-central Karnataka was plundered and destroyed, but from its ruins arose the Vijayanagara Empire in 1336 BCE. Building its capital around Hampi, Vijayanagara grew to be one of the famed Hindu empires of South India that ruled for over 200 years. It fostered developments in the field of academics, arts and military; it invested in roads, waterworks, agriculture, religious buildings, public infrastructure, and became a site which included Hindu and Jain monuments right next to each other. Predominantly following South Indian art and architecture of the Aihole-Pattadakal styles, it also used elements of Indo-Islamic architecture and was called the city of metropolitan proportions. But in the Battle of Talikota in 1565, the king of Vijayanagara empire, Aliya Rama Raya was captured, followed by a massive destruction of the infrastructure of Hampi. The city was looted and burnt for almost 6 months even after the war and today those burnt ruins stand together as the Group of Monuments at Hampi.

In its entire existence, Hampi has seen Gods wandering through its plains, caves turn into a great and wealthy empire, and it's seen all the prosperity turn back into the soil that it was eons ago. Hampi represents more than architectural marvels, but also a huge portion of the Indian culture with blends of different religions - Hinduism, Islam and Jainism. From secret meeting chambers to musical pillars to many tributes to Gods for their endless blessings, Hampi - even in its ruinous condition - holds an unmatched importance to our country's history and heritage.

## Monuments at Hampi

**Virupaksha temple:** A collection of smaller temples, it has Shiva, Parvati and Durga temples, a monastery dedicated to Vidyanaraya, a water tank, a community kitchen, a stone market with a monolithic Nandi shrine and various other monuments.

**Krishna temple:** Also called Balakrishna temple, it has a long market street in front and a broad road that once allowed chariots to transport goods.

**Achyutaraya temple:** Also called Tiruvengalanatha temple, it is one of the four largest complexes in Hampi.

**Vithala temple:** One of the most artistically sophisticated Hindu temples in Hampi located near the banks of the Tungabhadra river.

**Hemakuta hill monuments:** A collection of monuments that lie between Virupaksha temple complex and the Krishna temple.

**Kodandarama temple:** It lies near the Tungabhadra river and is north of Achyutaraya temple.

**Pattabhirama temple:** It is in the southern suburban centre about 500 metres from the ASI Hampi museum.

**Mahanavami platform:** Also called the 'Great Platform', 'Audience Hall', 'Dasara' or 'Mahanavami Dibba', it is one of the highest points inside the royal centre and has ceremonial structures.

**Queen's Bath:** Also called the Square Water Pavilion, it has a pavilion, water basin and a method of moving fresh water to it and taking away washed water and overflows.

**Gajashala:** Also known as the elephant stables, it consists of eleven square chambers aligned north-south.

**Chitrangi Mahal:** Known as Lotus Mahal, it is a secular structure based on the Indo-Islamic style of architecture and was used as a residence place for the royal families.

**King's Balance:** Gateways and a monument in the sacred centre near the southern banks of the Tungabhadra river and close to the Vithala temple complex.

**Ganagitti temple:** It is near Bhima's gate in the south-east of the urban core section and dates back to 1385 BCE.

**Ahmad Khan mosque:** A Muslim monument in the south-east of the urban core of the road from Kamalapur to Anegondi and was first built in 1439.





'Las Meninas' by Diego Velazquez represents royal life in the court of King Philip IV of Spain.



# Excavating detective



Storywala

Varada Kachroo  
AIS VKC Lko, IX

As the roaring applause filled the room, I blushed getting up from my seat in the corner of the room and made my way to the spotlight in small steps (it was unnerving to have all the eyes on me), and soon stood on the stage as someone handed me a trophy and urged me to move towards the mic. Thank you, everyone, for such a great honour. My team and I, we have been working as archeologists for years, and it was our dream to leave a significant mark in this field,

and the fact that we excavated a fascinating sculpture featuring over 200 mysterious geometric figures is just a dream come true. But, I have to mention the story of how a single man helped us in our journey and how it is because of him that we stand here today, and his name is Mr Rodolph Down. We were first introduced to Sir Down when we were in Peru for our project, and he, too, was there to search the site. His cyber cells had informed him that a criminal was in the area of Concacha, so he came here to look for him. When we met him, we didn't know he would play such a huge role in our

journey and eventually our success. We had been at the site for months, and after being left empty-handed for days, we even thought of giving up. We were close to leaving when a huge sound came from the hills of Concacha. We ran towards the hill where we found Sir Down sitting on the ground with a sad face. I went to him and enquired about what happened, and he told me that his sources informed him of the criminal being underneath the hill, so he began to dig it all up. I waited there until a massive sound struck my ears; I was awestruck to see a giant stone there which arose all the way

We had been at the site for months, and after being left empty handed for days, we even thought of giving up.

from the ground. Mr. Rodolph, meanwhile, was confused to find that giant stone instead of the culprit. My team and I were amazed to see the sculpture in front of us. I hugged Sir Down and thanked him for his help, but he was completely clueless. He understood nothing that was happening so I explained everything to him – how this was what my team was working on, how we had spent months trying to find it. Mr Down was very happy to have helped us, even if it was accidentally done, and immediately went back to his work, still trying to find the criminal. On the other hand, my team was ecstatic and started working on the sculpture, studying its intricate designs and analysing its properties. That discovery of ours led us to receive this award, and as I stand in front of all of you today to accept this honour, I can never forget to thank detective Sir Down, who unknowingly turned into an archaeologist and helped us in our mission. Thank you, Mr Down, and thank you all for listening! 🙏🇮🇳

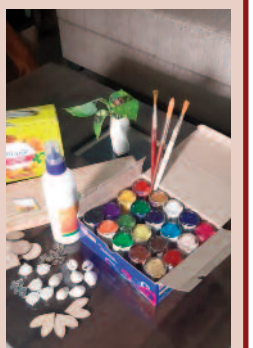


HANG IT UP!

Parv Jain, AIS Noida, VIII C

## Material required

- Wooden rectangular base
- Cardboard piece
- White modelling clay
- Acrylic paints
- Ceramic powder
- Glue
- Shells (as required)
- Different shaped mirrors
- Paint brushes
- Any decorative stuff



## Method

- In a bowl, take some ceramic powder and mix it with glue to make a thick paste.
- Now, take the rectangular base and apply the aforementioned mixture on some parts of the base to give it a texture. Let it dry for about one hour.
- Next, using black acrylic colour, paint the entire area of the base. Let it dry for 15 minutes.
- Now, using different bright acrylic colours, paint the base once again at places you want to give a different shade. Make sure to use bright colours so that it complements the black backdrop.
- Next, using clay, make two thin rolls of the same size as that of the width of the rectangular base.
- Make a few decorative carvings on these rolls using a pencil.
- Using golden or bronze colour, paint the two rolls. Let them dry.
- Once the rolls dry up, paste them on the two edges (top and bottom) of the base.
- Cut out a few shapes out of the extra cardboard pieces such as heart, circle, triangle etc.
- Again using acrylic colours, paint the cardboard cut outs and let them dry for 15-20 minutes.
- Now, stick all the decorative material (cardboard cut outs, shells, mirrors, etc) in the space left between the two clay rolls. The decorations can be done as per your choice or as per the picture.
- Your wall hanging is ready to adorn your walls.

## WORDS VERSE

### The Dark Lord returns

Prabha Jha

AIS Gurugram 46, XI

Dark Lord back with faithful Peter Burns in flesh of all death eaters Diggory died as he was a spare Murdered by wand of a twin pair

The scar started throbbing again Giving visions of the Dark Lord Impatient urges to kill Dumbledore And the godfather will die in vain

Weasley & Weasley, hope in dark A twin was slayed, leaving a mark It didn't make Dumbledore cringe Alas, killed by Half Blood Prince

The snitch said, "I open at close" With this, the Chosen One rose Horcruxes must be completed Only way Dark Lord be defeated



Steeping forward, he exemplifies Nodded last time to say goodbye It took lives, crumbling fates Hold hands, before it's too late

For victory, they stand one on one Magic and damage, both outdone Harry slayed him with his spell Years have passed & all is well 🙏🇮🇳

### Goodbye humankind

Sanjana Anand, AIS Vas 6, XII B

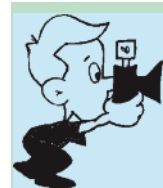
See there and watch out Don't trust the sweet knives Those pretentious hypocrites Will ruin your life forever You think they're brimming With love and compassion Instead they are an epitome Of jealousy and aggression

Claiming to be the crown Glory of God's creation They have nothing in their blood Except for powerful ostentation Those, the most social one Often turn out to be alone Believe or not, they are nothing But slaves of their hormones

They are mean, selfish animals Who took birth on this planet Now have stooped so low They are a virus on this Earth Washing hands in other's desolation

These venomous worms are Ungrateful and emotionless And have no place for appreciation

These Homo sapiens Have altered the landscape But they must remember They're mere descendants of Apes Only criticism is on their mind But there is no point in cribbing Such is the scenario- it is what it is We've lost all faith in humankind 🙏🇮🇳



## CAMERA CAPERS

Ribhav Yadav, AIS Gurugram 43, XI

Send in your entries to [cameracap@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:cameracap@theglobaltimes.in)



Dewy blades



A blossoming affair



Together we stand





'Creation of Adam' by Michelangelo describes the moment when God gives life to the first human, Adam in the Book of Genesis.

# The little angel

## Short story



**Divya Bansal**  
AIS Gur 43, VII

Chameli was an eight-year-old girl who always carried a smile on her face and had a positive attitude towards everything. One day in class, the class teacher asked the students about their ambitions. One student rose and said, "I want to be a doctor". "I want to be a rich man," said another. Chameli got up and said, "I want to become an angel," triggering laughter in the whole class. The teacher instantly silenced everyone and praised Chameli for having this thought. The class soon dispersed. On her way back home, Chameli's friends teased her, saying that she can never be an angel because she does not have wings and cannot fly. Also, because she cannot make any wishes come true. Her friends went on teasing her and Chameli went home with a **doleful** face.

She reached the gates of her house and saw her father sitting on the veranda talking to her mother. Seeing the sight of their disappointed daughter, they enquired her about the situation. Chameli told them about whatever happened at school and started crying. Her father then brought her a glass of water and tried to cheer her up. Meanwhile, her mother encouraged her saying that she can become whatever she wants to be irrespective of what other people say. Chameli stopped crying and asked, "Really? Can I become an angel?" Her parents paused for a while, thinking what to say to her, but then her father said, "Why would you want to become an angel, darling daughter, when you already are one!" This made the little girl happy and she hugged her parents tight. The next day when Chameli en-

tered her classroom, her classmates started calling her 'angel' and made fun of her. But this time, she wasn't affected. Five minutes later, another student entered the class holding a bundle of notebooks. The child tripped along with the notebooks and all the students started giggling, except for Chameli, who immediately ran to help her classmate. This is when the class teacher also entered and upon seeing that only Chameli was helping the student, she hushed the other students. The teacher then called Chameli in front of the whole class. She asked again, "Chameli, what do you want to become?" This time, Chameli was hesitant, but then she replied, "I want to be an angel." Before the class reacted, the teacher said to her that she didn't have to become an angel, because she already is. To this, one of the students shouted,

**Chameli's friends teased her saying that she can never be an angel because she doesn't have any wings and cannot fly**

"Ma'am, but she doesn't have wings!" The teacher laughed and replied, "An angel doesn't require wings or a magic wand. It is kindness and helpfulness that can make anyone an angel, which Chameli already proved she is. Now, are you all angels?" The whole class was quiet this time and they understood that they were wrong. They apologised for making fun of her and Chameli forgave them with an open heart. 🙏🙏

**So what did you learn today?**  
**A new word: Doleful**  
**Meaning: Very sad**



## On a roll!

Anvita Jain, AIS MV, III C

### Ingredients

#### For dough

Plain biscuits .....1 packet  
Cocoa powder..... tbsp  
Chocolate syrup.....4 tbsps  
Butter.....1 tbsps  
Milk.....2 tbsps

#### For coconut filling

Desiccated coconut..... ½ cup  
Powdered sugar ..... ¼ cup  
Butter.....1 tbsps  
Vanilla essence ..... ½ tsp  
Milk .....2 tbsps

### Procedure

- In a plate, put biscuits and crush them into small pieces using a rolling pin.
- Now, transfer the broken crumbs in a mixer jar and grind them to a fine powder.
- In a bowl, add this powder, cocoa powder, chocolate syrup and butter, and mix thoroughly.
- Now, add the prescribed amount of milk to it in order to prepare the dough.
- Once the dough is done, start preparing the filling. For the same, add desiccated coconut, sugar, butter and vanilla essence in a bowl and mix it well.
- Add milk to the said mixture and mix thoroughly. Your filling is ready.
- Next, take a butter paper and brush melted butter on it evenly. Also, apply melted butter on the rolling pin as well.
- Put the prepared dough on the greased butter paper and give it the shape of a rectangle with the help of rolling pin.
- Spread the coconut filling evenly on the rectangular dough and gently roll it into a cylindrical shape.
- Wrap the rolled dough in butter paper and refrigerate it for 5-6 hours.
- Take out the refrigerated rolls, remove butter paper and cut into pieces about ½ inch wide.
- Your delicious swiss rolls are now ready!

## It's Us

Know us	Our choices
<b>Name:</b> Aashwath and Aadvik Yadav	<b>Like:</b> Playing with each other
<b>Class:</b> KG	<b>Dislike:</b> Being scolded
<b>School:</b> AIS VYC Lucknow	<b>Hobbies:</b> Playing cricket and football
<b>Born on:</b> December 19	<b>Role model:</b> Our grandfather
Our favourites	Our dreams and goals
<b>Book:</b> The Jungle Book	<b>I want to become:</b> Astronaut (Aashwath) and pilot (Aadvik)
<b>Mall:</b> Phoenix Mall	<b>I want to feature in GT because</b>
<b>Game:</b> Cricket (Aashwath) and Football (Aadvik)	It is the best platform to let people know about us.
<b>Food:</b> Cottage cheese and samosa	
<b>Teacher:</b> Mary ma'am	
<b>Poem:</b> Out in the garden	
<b>Subject:</b> Phonics (Aashwath) and math (Aadvik)	



## POEM



### The onset of autumn

Anshika Saxena, AIS Vas 1, VII C

Summer is fading, and that's a fact  
Days are shorter, nights are longer  
Trees bald, as if putting on an act  
The hues of sky coloured stronger

All around the chilly air boasts  
Animals collect food for their burrows  
Birds can be seen flying about  
But flowers cannot be found

The world appears to have matured  
From green to brown, brown to yellow  
Leaves nestle in a heap; secure  
The flutter of summer seen no more

Warmer days are slowly receding  
Ushering in the colder mornings  
As autumn washes over us  
We say bye to the evening's buzz

## Riddle fiddle

Adhyayan Agarwal  
AIS Vas 1, III

- Which two days of the week start with letter T, T?
- What has keys but no doors, space but no rooms?
- What is the name of a fruit

- and a bird?
- What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?
  - What never asks questions but is often answered?
  - What is it that makes you see less, the more it increases?

**Answers:** 1. Tuesday and Thursday 2. Keyboard 3. Kiwi 4. Palm 5. Doorbell 6. Darkness

## PAINTING CORNER

Tanvi Gupta  
AIS Vas 1, III B





'American Gothic' by Grant Wood is a positive statement on rural Americans' association with their homes as extensions of themselves.



Iconic strokes

# 7 Powers to innovate happiness in life...

...In The World Of COVID-19 Pandemic Or That Which Is Otherwise

“Happiness is not something readymade, it comes from your own actions,” as Dalai Lama voiced this universal truth, the world listened. **Dr Sangita Reddy, President, FICCI and Joint Managing Director, Apollo Group of Hospitals** forged ahead the same thought in her address at the Amity Eminent Webinar organised by **Amity University Gurugram** on August 21, 2020. As she enlisted the seven wonderful powers to innovate happiness in testing times like these, GT, keeping up with its promise (Ref. Interview - October 19, 2020 edition), as it shares the same with you. Read on to unlock the world of happiness amidst a pandemic and the magic that ensues.

## 1 Power of Mind Learn to use it right

A human mind is a very powerful force which can both enslave or empower. It can plunge you into the depths of misery or take you to the heights of ecstasy. What is important is that you learn throughout your life on how to use this power of mind wisely. Your mind is a window to your body and soul and it is crucial that it is nourished, now more than ever. So, feed it with right knowledge, right capabilities and right skills, for your mental health defines how your body functions. We all know how stress causes various diseases; it may amplify our physical problems, so it is important to keep a check on it, to have a resilient mind – a mind that is away from all the trouble, is well-informed and happy.

## 2 Power of Resilience Be the leader of your own life

You should have the emotional willingness to convert all your challenges into opportunity. This outbreak is not only testing how the great leaders or institutions take charge but also the way we, as human beings, lead our own life, and this in truth is the defining moment to understand and appreciate ourselves as leaders. It is indeed a time where spirit of entrepreneurship is blooming. One can clearly see it in the underlying positivity around, the willingness to find solutions and not just bemoan the situation is overwhelming and

**It's all because of the progressive and positive thinking of our young force that we have actually become self-reliant in this war against the virus. The key point here is that the human mind and intellect has to work together, for it has immense capability to overcome something like COVID-19.**



**This is the time when the best of our innovations must come into play. Whether it is through technology or what we term as 'jugaad', we need to find ways to reach out to the masses and spread love by facilitating their lives.**

hard to hide. And this very thing, this very zeal is what separates leaders from those who will just survive this.

## 3 Power of Positivity Brighten the stars within

Today humanity is grappling with a never seen before crisis - there is fear and anxiety all around as we hear about the spread of the virus. But remember, you can only see stars in the darkness of night, and it is in the same darkness of this night that some progressive things are happening in our country. We are using our pharmaceutical prowess to provide lifesaving medicines to the world. Just six months before, we could produce less than 10,000 PPE kits per day, today we are manufacturing over 4 lakh PPE kits per day and even exporting them. It's all because of the progressive and positive thinking of our young force that we have actually become self-reliant in this war against the virus. The key point here is that the human mind and intellect has to work together, for it has immense capability to overcome something like COVID-19. Let's explore within the realms of our mind and use this precious time to develop skills and capabilities that we have never had before. Let's be our own guiding light!

## 4 Power of Fearlessness Talk away that fear

The first step to fearlessness is to accept that it is okay to talk about whatever you feel. No matter who you are, what you do, if you are feeling afraid, just say and share it. Let people around you, your family and friends know, so that they get to help you in time. There is no shame in fear; in fact, overcoming it and helping others overcome it is the bravest thing to do. The most shining example of it is how our doctors and nurses are working all over the country. They are serving people above self, overcoming their own fear for the betterment of society. And it is a sight to behold as these Godsmen light up the eyes of all the corona patients with hope and happiness, treating them and assuring them that things are okay.

## 5 Power of Technology Rekindle the bonds

As humans, the social animals, face isolation today, they are beautifully aided by technology

to find ways to connect and overcome restrictions. It was not easy initially, but people learnt and discovered the possibilities of work from home - we have virtual shifts, online classes, online activities, study from home and much more. Amidst all the physical restrictions thus, we have learnt how to create new bonds, and rekindled the old ones too. Because that is how we progress and evolve; make the best of what you have and watch yourself succeed.

## 6 Power of Compassion Care for self & society both

Make sure you obey all the COVID-19 precautionary mandates because we are not just doing it for ourselves, but also for people around us. You need to understand that we are all not in the same boat medically; while many of us can recover, many others suffer from co-morbidities and some may not respond to the treatment at all. It is a new disease and we all are still researching to find a cure that fits all. We are also not in same boat socio-economically, many have food to eat, many others don't. So, it's time we appreciate what we have, and understand the difficulties of others.

Would you like to be a contributor in saving a life or destroying one? Think and choose wisely.

## 7 Power of Innovation Recreate and rethink to rebuild

This is the time when the best of our innovations must come into play. Whether it is through technology or what we term as 'jugaad', we need to find ways to reach out to the masses and spread love by facilitating their lives. And the young minds are doing just that – while students are making apps to deliver food to the poor, scientists across the globe are finding ways to access data points to accelerate vaccine delivery; while big automobile factories are producing low cost ventilators, small households are producing masks – whether it is a business at the bottom of the pyramid, or that touching the zenith of success, everyone is trying and trying hard to bring about a change.

*As per inputs from Stuti Kalra, GT Network.*







'The Persistence of Memory' by Salvador Dalí is a surrealist painting featuring "hand painted dream photographs".



Students participate in the virtual group discussion contest held during the tech fest

# Alphabit 2020

## The Annual Fest Of Tech Goes Hi-Tech

AIS Saket

Technology club of the school hosted its seventh and first ever virtual annual inter school technology symposium Alphabit on October 6, 2020. The annual competition of tech wizards has been envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF as a platform for young minds to understand the importance of synergy between economics and technology for nation building. Total 20 eminent schools from Delhi/NCR participated in a

multitude of competitions like group discussion, digital art (design), coding, gaming and quiz. The competitions were designed to test the aptitude of students in multifarious disciplines of technology and also provide them a platform for business oriented tech interactions. The overall rolling trophy was won by AIS Pushp Vihar, followed by AGS Gurugram and AIS Vasundhara 6 at second and third positions respectively. Schools from different branches of Amity Group of Schools won a total of nine awards in various competitions. In group discus-

sion AIS Saket ranked first while second prize went to AIS Gurugram 43. AIS Pushp Vihar won the first position and AGS Gurugram bagged the second position in digital art (design). Coding winners were AIS Gurugram 46 and AIS Vasundhara 1 at first and second positions respectively. In quiz, it was AIS Mayur Vihar who won the first prize while AIS Pushp Vihar bagged the third prize. The events were judged by eminent jury members like Siddhant Bambri, Priyanka Sabberwal, Anurag Sharma, Shiv Verma and some school alumni as well. [GFI](#)

# For healthy mind

## A Week Dedicated To Mental Health

AGS Noida

Students from grade early years to middle school participated in mental health week held virtually from October 1-10, 2020. The programme held under visionary guidance of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, was a part of social & emotional skills sessions held regularly at the school. It comprised an interactive session to build positive interpersonal relationships for collaborating with parents and a host of activities to inculcate in young minds, virtues like empathy and care. Some of the key activities held for learners were, 'My gratitude journal', that comprised a four page journal comprising question & answers with oneself, 'Self portrait of strengths & coping strategies', 'Positive affirmations', 'Tree of kindness' and 'My wheel of emotions'. All the



Students showcase their tree of kindness with human values written

activities were designed to raise awareness about importance of maintaining good mental health, aid learners to identify their emotions and express them aptly. They also guided them to be self and socially aware of the management of their emotions and make them work for their holistic well-being.

# Best from waste

AIS Gwalior

Students from Class I-II participated in an online craft activity 'Best out of waste' held on October 14, 2020. The event was aimed at inculcating the virtue of waste management

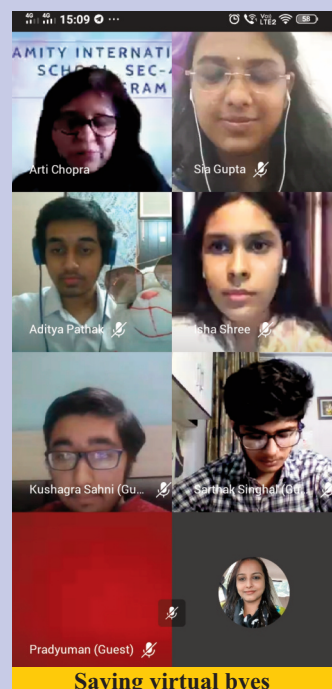
in young minds and making them aware about the importance of 3Rs - reduce, reuse and recycle. Students made creative items like paper bags, pen holders, paper temples, paper dresses, etc., using old newspapers and waste plastic items. [GFI](#)



Beautiful items made by children

# Saying bye

## Farewell Dear Amitians!



Saying virtual byes

AIS Gurugram 46

The first ever virtual farewell for Class XII batch of 2019-20 was held on October 3, 2020. Due to changed times, the students and teachers could not meet one last time earlier this year, but this virtual meeting ensured that not only they met but also shared their journeys after school. The

event was held in two sessions. One for the Science stream and another for Commerce and Humanities stream together. The event began with the virtual lamp lighting by Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe and Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. School principal Arti Chopra welcomed everyone. Former head boy Pradyuman Singh and former head girl Aakarshi Agarwal shared the memories of school days in their soulful speeches. The glimpse of the years gone by were shared as a video titled 'Our Bonhomie' by the students of Class XII. They sang songs, performed dances and participated in various activities which made the virtual farewell feisty. Students of present batch of 2020-21 also put up a spectacular dance and song performances for their seniors. The personalised video messages and showers of blessings for a bright future and happy life by the teachers who sculpted these young minds all these years added to the zest.

AIS Vasundhara 6



The gold writers Sumirna Koul (L) and Anoushka Garg (R)

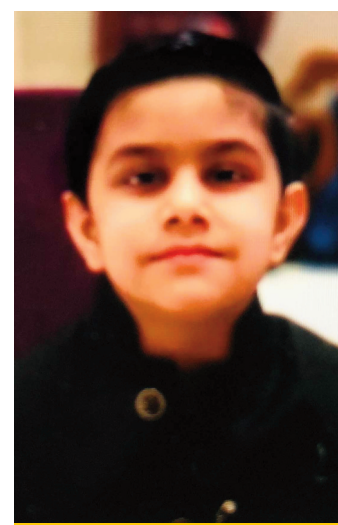
# Writing wizards

Anoushka Garg and Sumirna Koul were declared the gold finalist awardees while Navya Garg and Sheen Sarup bagged the bronze awards at The Queen's Commonwealth essay competition, held on May 30, 2020. They penned their thoughts on this year's theme 'Climate Action and the Commonwealth' to win the prestigious competition. It is worth mentioning that the essay

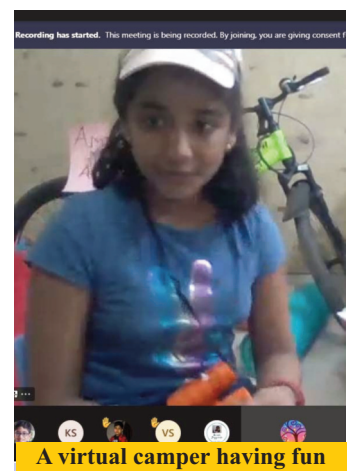
competition is the world's oldest writing contest is a prestigious international writing competition for schools established in 1883. Thousands of young people from the commonwealth network of 54 countries take part in the competition aimed at elevating youth voices and enhancing their creative language skills. They also make them aware about democracy, equality, tolerance, human rights and the rule of law. [GFI](#)

# A Math magician

Shivansh Anand from Class III brought laurels home when he won second position scoring 100% marks in International Online Abacus Olympiad held from September 25-27, 2020. Pitted against 5510 students all over the world, he achieved the remarkable feat in 7 minutes and 30 seconds. He was awarded a medal and a certificate of merit for his marvelous achievement. IAO (International Abacus Olympiad) is an online competition in which all the students of Abacus mental math program compete in a national level mental math contest. [GFI](#)



Math genie Shivansh Anand



A virtual camper having fun

# A virtual adventure

AIS Mayur Vihar

Students of Class V participated in an online fun adventure camp held on October 17, 2020. They took part in myriad online activities and games designed to give them a fun break from online academic classes. The event began with a skipping activity by ten children. Thereafter games like tongue twister, memory game, fact finder and camp scrabble were played virtually with great zest. Some students showcased their skills at hula hoops while others decorated their homes like real camp sites to complete the virtual experience of the fun and adventure. Students were also awarded prizes and e certificates in different categories. [GFI](#)



'The Night Watch' by Rembrandt is a militia portrait showcasing civic guards, taking up their positions to march out.

All top quotes contributed by Pranjal Singh, AIS VYC Lko, VIII A



Imaging: Pankaj Mallik, GT Network

# The unwanted counseling

## No Piece Of Mind, Give Me Peace Of Mind

Parth Khullar, AIS Saket, XI

It was the day after the end of my boards. I had only begun to imagine how I will celebrate the end of a year of constant studying when my mother's voice broke my sweet reverie, "Beta, now that you're done with your exams, have you given a thought to what you want to pursue?" Her innocuous question launched a series of rockets in my mind, leaving me anxious and stressed yet again. She continued, oblivious to my pain, "What is your opinion on doing MBBS, beta? You would look so good in that white coat!"

"Become a doctor for the fashion of it? That's a new one. More importantly, I didn't even have biology in Class XII. Who's going to tell her that?"

While I was mentally fending off my mother, another bouncer came hurtling towards me, this time from my father, who was sitting nearby, partially eavesdropping I suspect.

"Arey beta, I'm telling you; engineering has a lot of scope. You can work for the public works department and earn like me. Like father, like son hahaha!"

"Thanks for the suggestion, Dad, but this is India. If I throw a stone randomly, it will fall on an engineer. I'll be a drop in a sea of engineers. So, thanks but no."

"Even if you don't decide now, at least keep the option in mind. Also, we have

to reach Tanya's reception on time today. Be ready by 7," said my father as he walked off to find his blazer and tie.

Later that night, decked from head to toe, we went to attend Tanya *didi's* reception. Tanya *didi* was my second uncle's fourth daughter, i.e., it was a family wedding and family weddings are synonymous to military ambushes, one hidden attack after another.

Looking at the crowd of relatives, I felt like I had spilt blood in the ocean and now the sharks are circling, with their teeth bared.

Just as I had reached for my third round of snacks, my *chachi* called out from behind "Is that you Karthik? How were your board exams?! What are you planning to do after this?"

*Chachi ji*, thanks! You toppled the ultimate domino.

I was now going to be surrounded by a group of inquisitive, rambling *chachas*, *chachis*, *mamas* and *mamis*, initially unbothered by my existence but now, suddenly finding the prospect of my future career highly fascinating. Fending off the invasive questions from my relatives had become a tiring routine of mental gymnastics; dodging, sidestepping, interrupting, and sometimes, even blatantly ignoring questions.

She proceeded to speak animatedly, "Have you thought about doing architecture? It has a lot of scope. You can build

Rohit's house then hahaha."

"Slog over a degree for 5 years just so that I can build your son's house? Talk about flawed logic. But on the bright side, I would be employed, unlike most of the engineers of our country."

My relatives were no career experts but that never stopped them from distributing free 'gyaan'. By the end of the night, I had received a gamut of advice on what I should be, from an engineer to an architect and, not to forget, even a psychotherapist.

I was exhausted. All

I wanted to do was

go home and curl

up with one of the

many books I had bought

but never finished reading. The books

on the shelf made me feel warm and

homely and at peace, almost as if

everything would be alright with the

world as long as I kept reading.

I realised that my family would continue

to inflict their opinions on me

about what career I should choose but

even if I had absolutely no clue about

what I wanted to do in life right

away, I would be perfectly alright,

because whatever decision I make

will be my decision, uninfluenced by

the plethora of gratuitous

advice I receive. [GT](#)



# A THRILLER STORY

## Away From The Mainstream, Customised For You!

Pragna Das & Nivedita Ghai  
AIS Gurugram 46, XI

8:45 PM

Phew, math assignment finally wrapped up and I am done for the day. No, I am just talking about my homework. My day has just begun. Time for a break aka some binge watch. But what should I watch? Mindhunters? Why not? I just love thrillers!

9:15 PM

Lights all out. A plate of hot and soupy Maggi, the TV and me. Bliss!

10:35 PM

I'm glued to the show when the door opens with a creak in slow motion. The light pierces through the gap and falls on me. The screech sound turns louder, and the door opens wider. I stare at the door with horror-struck eyes, terrified of what's behind it. Phew! Thank

God it's my mom, who came in to tell me that it's time for bed. Relax, she won't hurt me, at least till the mid term exam results come out!

11:13 PM

The criminal is almost caught when a sudden vibration gets me jumping from my bed. Oh, never mind, my phone, ha-ha! It's my best friend calling me to confirm if I have done the homework. After all, she's my best friend!

00:01 AM

I finished the show. What a show! It literally had me biting my fingernails. I just love thrillers! I better doze off before my mom comes back to check on me...again!

00:15 AM

I am thirsty. Oho, there is no water jug here. Does that mean I have to go to the kitchen? What if someone is hiding in the dark and waiting for me?

00:17 AM

Sigh! I am back in the room. OMG who's that sitting on the chair. \*Lights turned on in a snap\* Ah, those are my piled-up clothes \*giggles\*. Mom is actually right, I should maybe clean my room up (I officially said this to myself for the 100th time today).

1:14 AM

I can't sleep. I wish I had slept off when mom asked me to. Every sound in my home, be it the water dripping, drifting of paper, rustle of leaves outside, is a signal sent by the universe to warn me of the intruder inside my house. I try to take it easy and tell my mind to stop playing tricks now.

1:23 AM

After 5 minutes of restlessness and struggle, slumber finally visits me as my eyelids begin to feel heavy. And before I doze off, let me remind you guys, I just love thrillers!

