Senior

21 (F

The blooming period of Rafflesia varies from 6 to 9 months.



Bugs in the mind

Megha Chattopadhyay AIS Vasundhara 1, XII A

N itayuvani was standing in the balcony, sharing a cup of tea with her beloved grandma. She had finally come to her granny's house after months of busy school days. Suddenly, she heard a crash as her grandma's cup fell on the floor and broke. Grandma started behaving abnormally and continuously tried to brush something off her left arm, though there was nothing. She cried with agony, "Why aren't these bugs falling off my arm?"

Nitayuvani tried to tell her that there were no bugs. But she looked at her blankly and asked, "Who are you? What are you doing in my house?" Nita was taken aback. As she stood there stunned, grandpa rushed in after he heard the glass breaking. He gently patted grandma's back, brought her inside a well-lit room and played her favourite music. She became normal again in some time.

Nitayuvani then came to know from her grandpa that her granny had been diagnosed with Storywala



Alzheimer's, and her strange behaviour was due to hallucinations, a very common symptom of the disease. Grandpa also mentioned that since grandma showed such symptoms, their caretaker had left the job, scared that her mistress has caught a demonic spell. Nita was shocked at such ignorance



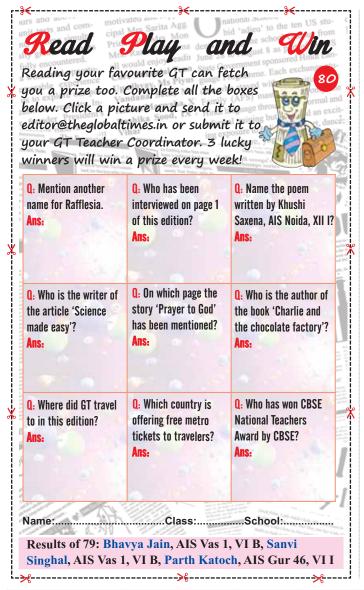
She requested her grandpa to take her along with them on their next appointment with the psychologist. She did her research work and when she met the doctor, she bombarded him with tonnes of questions. The doctor smiled, and patiently an"Your granddaughter is very sharp for her age. You're lucky to have a granddaughter so sensitive and caring like her."

swered all her queries. He later told her grandfather, "Your granddaughter is very sharp for her age. You're lucky to have a granddaughter so sensitive and caring like her."

From that day onwards, Nita took charge of her granny's medicines and gave special attention to her diet. Gradually, the frequency of the hallucinations dropped. Next time her grandma would hallucinate, Nita knew exactly what to do.

She held her grandma's hands, and said, "I know this is frightening for you, but the bugs are only in your mind, they are not actually on your arms. I'm here to take care of you." The grandmother slowly zoned out of her hallucination and gradually became better. Nita also slowly understood that bugs in the house and in the mind, both can be avoided with a little attention and a lot of care.

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WORDS VERSE A diary's saga <u>Khushi Saxena</u> AIS Noida, XII I

I've been with her Since she was five She was my girl Naughty, yet so naive

Her hopes were sharper Than her pencil tip Quite stronger than Her little hand's grip

She was happy When I was gifted to her Even heavier than Her heavy coat of fur

Afraid of the challenges



Little does she know That this is the start

My girl, she is yet to win More smiles and a million hearts She is now a youth Shining bright at eighteen

She believes sky's the limit With her graduation degree She tells me Time is flying by so fast

Bottle Octopus **Materials** required Medicine wrapper with Scissors round and transparent pill Black and white thick paper pocket Pencil One plastic bottle ■ Glue Acrylic paints Method Cut off the bottom part of a Cut out two pill pockets of plastic bottle. the same size. Start cutting the bottle from Now, draw an outline of pill the base along its length so pocket on a white paper and as to make a long incision. cut it out. Cut out another Now, make similar cuts $\frac{1}{2}$

- such circle.
 For small eyes, cut out two smaller black circles, almost 3/4th the diameter of the white circle.
- Place the black circle in the pill pocket and stick the white circle from behind using glue. Repeat the same with the other eye.
- Stick the two googly eyes on the neck of the bottle at ¹/₂ inch distance.
- Your googly eyes octopus is ready! Decorate it on your tabletop.

My friend moon

Garima Minocha AIS Pushp Vihar, XII

inch apart from each other

till you cover the entire bot-

Curl those cutout segments

■ Mix white and blue acrylic

paint in equal quantities to make light blue colour and

use it to paint the whole bot-

To make the googly eyes,

take a medicine wrapper

with round and transparent

outwards so that they look

tle this way.

like octopus feet.

tle light blue.

pill pocket.

Hello moon, my old friend I look at the stars and wonder Are they all your children Or people who surrender

You're so bright The brightest in the sky I think you are lonely Sometimes I wonder why

Are those dazzling stars In your close vicinity Mirrors who reflect you so high Or specks like me so nigh



Describe you despicable

They say you're a fabulist And you beg for attention And all your craters Are signs of detention

Of this enormous world Outside the dreamland Of simple pen and paper

She tells me her tale Of turning sweet thirteen As she wraps me Into a new cover

She thinks differently Thinks she has seen enough She strolls her fingers On her past pages And thinks again Of her first book release

Wonders that finally It's time to achieve My pages are filled With her desires Have you been able to confide Or are all away because of light As colours in the welkin above Is that your blanket of love?

You look so perfect You look so impeccable But still those silly creatures I know for sure they lie Because moon o moon Who would dare not spy The apple of our eyes

But listen my old friend I trust what my eyes will see For all I see in thee Is you and me



CAMERA CAPERS

Srishti Manchanda, AIS Noida, Alumna









Just wheeling around

Behind the veil

Hard work is the way of life