

The power of youth



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

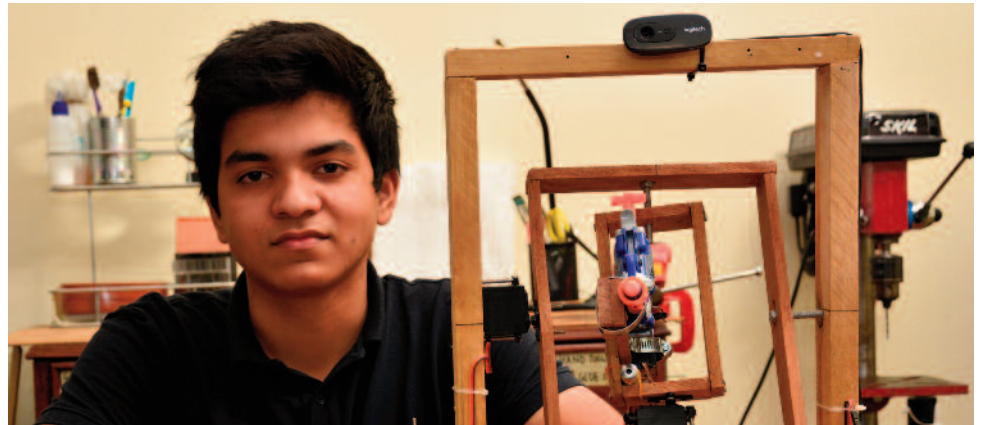
I am delighted to see that my Amityians have exquisitely used their time during lockdown and quarantine to create 'Quarantine Special' editions. This e-edition is truly a storehouse

of innovation, creation, compassion and care in the hearts of our young Amityians. With their ideas and fervour to bring forth positive happenings around us, they have kept all of us pragmatic and hopeful, keeping all the stress and tensions at bay.

Once again my young 'Corona Warriors With Pen & Passion' have truly shown what it means to be a journalist. It's a matter of great pride that the 'Corona Warrior' stories have been featured in World Teenage Reporter Project, which has stories of teenage reporters from other student-led or student-run newspapers from 21 countries like Vietnam, USA, London, Germany, South Africa, Tokyo, etc., on what their peers are doing to help during the COVID-19 pandemic. With this initiative of reporting inspirational stories of teenagers, by the teenagers across the globe, we shall create a unique journalistic primer which will shape the future of the world post-COVID-19. It will create a world that is more caring and sensitive towards the environment, a world full of love and compassion, a world full of respect for cultural diversities, a world happier and more positive. [GT](#)

Heal the world...

...One Mask And One Step At A Time



Resham Talwar, AIS Saket, XII C

that face shields and masks were the way forward," shares Mihir.

In a pandemic where hope and humanity seem lost, Mihir Vardhan, a recent graduate from The Shri Ram School Aravali, Gurugram, (India) comes across as a ray of hope. Making 3D printed face shields and hand-stitched face masks in his room, Mihir aims to help hundreds of those in need. Let's trace his journey of embodying the youth's power this world needs.

Finding purpose for passion

Noticing his neighbourhood workers being exposed to solvents, which are a potential carrier of germs and viruses, he realised something had to be done. Looking for a possible solution, he turned to technology.

"Ever since I was a kid, I have been interested in 3D printing, robotics, hackathons, etc. My passion for technology has led me to believe that it has a solution to nearly everything, including coronavirus. A little technological probe and understanding of the given scenario, and I realised

Beginning of change

Thus, the winds of change started blowing from Mihir's very own home. "While I took to making 3D masks, my grandmother stitched cloth face masks for the needy. My parents

helped me deliver these masks to various hospitals across Gurugram, where they could be used by healthcare workers," he shares.

To extend the outreach of his initiatives, he has also collaborated with big hospital chains like Max and Fortis, several NGOs and companies

which aided him in producing the protective equipment and making sure they reach the ones in need. At present, Mihir is operating on a 'Pay what you can' policy, to ensure that he reaches more number of people.

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CORONA WARRIORS

Pandemics know no boundaries, and neither do warriors who battle them. This special series, running across Quarantine editions of all Amity schools, is an ode to those fighters. Highlighting stories of young change makers from within and outside Amity, this special series has been curated by young reporters across various Amity branches.

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Heal the world...

Overcoming the odds

While making a difference is the need of the hour, it is a task that comes with its own set of challenges. And in Mihir's case there were plenty - making around 500 masks a week by working around 23 hours a day, constraints in transporting the masks to places far away from his abode, surging demand in the need for masks, paucity of time and the requirements of modifying the printer. Once again, he sought the aid of technology to tide over these hurdles. "I used my YouTube channel to spread awareness amongst people, to tell them that they, too, can help!" he comments. Other than reaching out for potential volunteers, he also sought out various companies and organisations through social media for his initiative.



Call of compassion

Mihir fears that the pandemic today has become a bigger calamity than we ever could have envisioned, which is why every member of the society needs to do their part, because every effort counts. "Whether it is handing out masks to the underprivileged or using the power of social media to spread a message, there is something that each one of us can do. And a united effort is exactly what we need if we wish to emerge victorious against this pandemic," he says, signing off. Well, we couldn't agree more! 

**WORLD TEENAGE
REPORTING PROJECT**

COVID-19 > HOW TEENS ARE HELPING

The World Teenage Reporting Project, COVID 19 is a global collaboration of teenage reporters in newsrooms around the world who produce stories about what their peers are doing to help during the Coronavirus pandemic.



Forever in a mood for food

Because We All Know That The Belly Rules The Mind

Aanya Moturu, AIS Gur 43, X B


It's been over a month since we've been quarantined. All of us are completely clueless regarding the end of the lockdown, let alone the end of the deadly virus itself. And the uncertainty may too be incredibly frustrating. But all this could have been even worse, if it weren't for food. Even though we're all physically apart from each other, food is bringing us a tad bit closer, metaphorically speaking of course. But give it a thought; Despite the jokes people crack about wanting to avoid social situations, in order to hide their misery, the reality is kind of melancholic. Across the world, people are striving to find new connections with one another and that's where food comes in because irrespective of our identity, one thing we all have in common is our love for food.

And since the clock seems to be ticking slowly, this is a great time to channel our inner cooks. Many chefs and bakers are helping to lift our spirits from the grave situation by revealing their approach to cooking. Even if they can't share the food with friends, they can at least provide them with the recipe to make the same. This sharing of food experiences is also kind of helping in creating a sense of community while we're socially isolated.

No matter how stressing the piling school work may be due to endless procrastination, whipping up some iconic dalgona coffee is a way to soothe our nerves and help make up for a sleepless night full of watching and re-watching movies. Yes, the same dalgona coffee that takes twenty minutes to make and may cost an arm. Nonetheless, the world is mesmerised by its aesthetic gradient, barring the ones who've been living under a rock.

Like whipped coffee, banana bread or better known as 'quarantine bread' has earned its spotlight as food of the moment. The fact that both of these require barely any ingredients, considering the current unavailability of certain products justifies why people fancy them.

Many Indians are also embracing their ethnicity by preparing delectable Indian snacks. Pictures of homemade paani puri, jalebi, samosas, curries, etc. have taken over the internet.

After all, we're just trying to make the best of the crisis. Food is keeping us thriving. Food spreads joy. It brings happiness to ones who prepare it, the ones who eat it and all involved. Trying our hand at cooking is the best outlet for creativity, contemplating the circumstances. And right now, we're all just searching for our lost comfort in food and give me one reason, why should we not? 

Imaging: Deepak Sharma, GT Network



Where did you come from?

A Far-Flung Tale Of How This Pandemic Was Caused To Surface

Ayushi Goel, AIS Gurugram 43, XII C

(On Mars)

Charlotte: Benjamin, what will we do? How will we save ourselves? There is no way. Coronavirus is all around us; everyone is dying. We are bound to die, too.

Benjamin: Don't worry, Charlotte, I've found a way for us to get out of here and save ourselves. I stole Lacusternum from the government lab, and this will transport us anywhere in the universe, so we can just leave this planet and save ourselves.

(Charlotte and Benjamin presses the button together and a white life engulfs them; suddenly a sound surrounds them as they gain their balance. They find themselves standing in the living room of a house, with the TV playing in front of them and a boy looking at them, shocked)

Charlotte: Who are you?

Charlie: I should ask you that – who are you

and how did you get into my home?

Benjamin: We apologize for the intrusion. We wanted to go to Jupiter but I guessed we travelled in the wrong direction. We'll just get out of our way.

Charlie: Wait, what? You're aliens. Wow, cool, man! Are you from Jupiter?

Charlotte: No, we are from Mars, but a deadly virus, COVID-19, has taken over our planet and has killed all of our people. We had to escape to save ourselves before we got infected.

Charlie: So, you two don't have the virus? And you're moving to Jupiter?

Benjamin: We don't think we have the virus. We look healthy, don't we? So, we are moving to Jupiter and hopefully will be safe there. We're sorry for disturbing you, and if you'll excuse us, we'll be on our way.

Charlie: Aliens, that's so cool, man. Can I touch you? A hug? Or a handshake? Or a selfie? (Benjamin hesitates but shakes hands with Charlie. They bid him goodbye, press the button again, and vanish into thin air)

(One month later on Jupiter)

Doctor: I am sorry, Charlotte, but we cannot save Benjamin. We don't have a cure for COVID-19 and his condition has worsened. I suggest you get yourself tested before it is too late.

(On Earth)

The voice of the radio: You should wash your hands for a minimum of 20 seconds, and always wear a mask. Use a sanitiser and practice social distancing.

Driver of the cab: You know, Sir, I wash my hands for at least two minutes so the virus doesn't stand a chance of getting me. But I will never understand how this virus even started? Do you know?

Charlie: No, I don't, honestly, nobody knows for sure. They say it was because of bats but I don't believe them. Anyway, that's my stop. Here you go. Thanks for the ride.

(Charlie extends his bare hands and gives cash to the driver who takes it and places it in his pocket, the virus sitting right on top of the notes) 🇮🇳

THE NOISE OF FEAR

ONE OF THE PAGES FROM MY DIARY DURING LOCKDOWN

Archita Dhiman, AIS Gur 43, X D

Friday, April 17, 2020

10:30 pm

Dear Diary,

Today was no different. I heard the same ear-splitting sound of the ambulance siren, only a bit louder than usual. It was the third time this week that I was hearing it. The loudness then didn't matter much. For, every now and then, new cases of COVID-19 are emerging from various cities all over India. Irrespective of the various measures taken by our leaders, the situation seems to grow out of

hand. The numbers just don't stop. The fear of it all is so loud and clear that we keep our news channels on 24*7, panicking over any and every headline related to it. With fear and panic making up the usual, new is something off the shelf. Little would I then think that it was somebody from my colony this time. But as I did, I went numb. I couldn't concentrate on the reality of what is going on, leave alone what will happen next. I tried to see from my balcony. They were sealing one of the houses across the street. In that very moment, I knew why. For, it was only last week that I saw a few family members from that house leave the colony unmasked and un-

protected, perhaps to buy groceries or stuff but who knows. This continued for the next few days. Maybe this is what doomed them? If at all, I cannot restrain myself from wondering how people think they are invincible. How do people even afford such carelessness at times like this? Do they need someone to teach them how to protect themselves at every step? No, there's no excuse for it. My parents follow the rules too and take every precaution possible. I can very well understand that for many of us living like this is similar to living in a cage, but we should remember that this is for our own benefit. You don't get to live twice. This is your only chance. Why let it go for something so temporary? Everything happens for a reason.

Maybe all this was meant for us to mend our straining familial relationships or perhaps for our surroundings to resuscitate and rejuvenate. This pandemic has indeed caused huge disruptions, many lost their lives and some are struggling still, creating a huge patch of fear in our hearts; one so immense and intense that no matter how much we try and avoid it, we circle back to it all over again. But is that a good reason for us to be careless and cheat those around us? One should at no times forget that there are people who are working hard day and night, away from their loved ones, only to protect us. I, for one, would never do that to myself or to anyone around me. I promise that, and sincerely pray for it all to end soon.

Archita



Silver linings

Of A Dark Cloud Called COVID



Vishnu Shukla & Aarav Tandon,

AIS Gur 43, X A

Every day we are flooded with alarming news about the pandemic, which is logical in times of a crisis. But while we are aware of the negative effects of the coronavirus outbreak, we ignore the propitious and affirmative aspects. Since the outbreak, measures have been taken to limit the spread of the virus worldwide. These measures have not only prevented the people from getting affected by Covid-19, but also helped improve nature.


Reduction in Pollution- Nitrogen levels around China's factories had been rising over years, making the skies of several Chinese cities dense with residue and pollutants. However, since the lockdown, the amount of Carbon Dioxide has reduced in air, and the skies are almost entirely clear. The customary amount of deplorable unwanted nitrogen in air has been reduced to 30% than of what it was earlier. The suffocating pollution levels in India have been reduced

dramatically since the lockdown.

Work from Home- Now more than ever, companies are comprehending that their business can stay afloat by permitting their employees to work from home, in order to keep everyone safe and healthy. This allows the employees to work comfortably at their homes, without the significant postural strain in the neck, back and shoulders developed due to sitting in office seats for hours.

Less usage; less wastage- Now that most people are currently working from home, less plastic is being used, people are travelling less and shopping less. All these aspects contribute in a positive way to the environment. In addition, many people have started making conscious choices when it comes to nutrition and exercise. We have been forced to adjust our living patterns and working methods.

Improvement in family bonding- Family bonding is one of the pre-eminent aspects that have come out of this crisis. People, now unable to step out of their homes, are culminating an even deeper bond with their family. Not only that, people are using this time for self-introspection. The younger generations have started helping around the house as there are no helpers available. They are learning something new and becoming more independent.

The pandemic has changed the way we see life. It has redefined the term 'normal' and has made us evaluate our priorities. With the death and devastation, it brings with it, some unexpected positivity too. For every cloud, however dark, has a silver lining. 

Words Verse



Soul searching

Diantha Kumar, AIS Gur 43, XI C

This national lockdown
When I searched inside
I wanted to find that woman
With nothing to dread and cry

I live in a society of diversity
Crowded with patriarchs
But, I shall look for divinity
I will not be duped by flaws

I shall wear what comforts me
Not how society wants me
I will not let myself surrender
Because they think I am tender

I shall not be silenced anymore
For, my opinions make me pretty
I will always be that woman
The woman I want to be

The crisis outside crept in me
Made me yearn for better
In fact, the best that I could be
The best that only I want to be

I don't strive for perfection
Or desire to be above men
Nor should they be above us
All I ever want is to be human

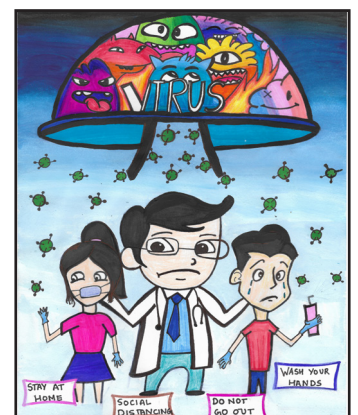
Artistic Expression



Kinjal Agarwal, AIS Gur 43, VII D



Diantha Kumar, AIS Gur 43, XI C



Priyanshi Maheshwari,
AIS Gur 43, IX C