

New normal

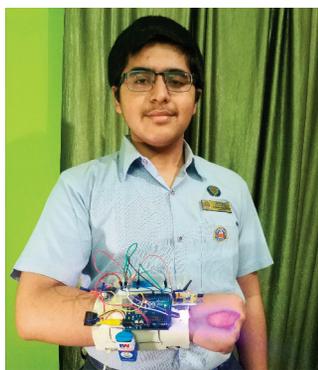


Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

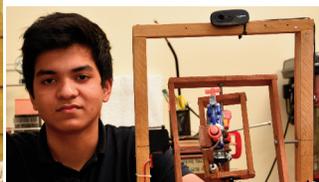
Dear Amitians,
Hope you all are enjoying vacation time by staying safe and healthy. As the world reels under the pressure of lockdowns, India

has emerged as a nation which has fought the challenges in the best possible way it can. Social distancing, regular sanitisation, cleanliness, hygienic practices, not spitting in open, caring for environment, respecting relationships, being dutiful citizens, etc., are now the 'new normals' that have become the new way of life. A lot of these aspects were always being discussed and deliberated upon on various global and local platforms. But nonetheless, for some reason or the other, these could never completely become a part of our lives. Not that people were not aware or never cared, but the strong will and determination to adopt these as lifestyle somewhere lacked a bit. In fact, a lot of these are centred around the culture and tradition of Indian lifestyle. Be it our greeting 'Namaste' or use of 'turmeric' and 'tulsi' the natural immunity boosters in our daily diet, the Indian way of life is – the new normal. Indeed, it is a matter of pride for us and also a huge responsibility for all of us to now make this new normal the cornerstone of creating a better, beautiful and happy nation and happy world. [GT](#)

Angels in disguise



WORLD TEENAGE REPORTING PROJECT COVID-19



A Bow Down To Our Young Warriors

Maansi Anand

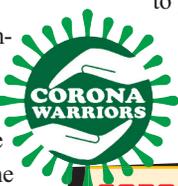
AIS Vasundhara I, XII

Life is certainly uncertain, a notion that COVID-19 laid bare for all. While many doctors and frontline workers chose to risk their lives to save others, some innovative next-door-superheroes did not allow the global pandemic to conquer their will and chose to put their creativity to its best use and serve the community. In this series of 'Corona Warriors' brought to you by GT reporters for the last consecutive six editions we read stories of innovation, where young innovators, with care, compassion with creativity went out of their way during the lockdown period to spread the message that no matter what happens, we

will overcome the pandemic. The stories have been brought to you as part of World Teenage Reporting Project (an initiative of The Global

them to you, here's its last, final segment before we bid adieu. When we delved deeper into the subject, we were surprised to read that stories of innovation were not only limited to urban areas where children had access to resources which can help them invent; they ran deep into villages and districts where young innovators took charge to solve the problems being faced local inhabitants. Let's take a look at all the wonderful stories of torch-bearers whose dreams were much bigger than their size! From India's rural topography, we found some children who could no longer let other villagers in their vicinity suffer from problems like intense heat and water shortage. To fix this issue, Arjun, Mahesh and Piyush from Bhatkheri village,

Continued on page 2...



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.

Youth & News Media Prize that strengthens engagement between news media and young people across the world). And as we delineated

...Continued from page 1

Angels in disguise

MP, managed to dig a 30-feet deep well within three days, all with the help of resources available at home! 9-year-old Golu from Jaitpur, Mahoba, also went ahead to provide the luxury of cold air in the rather hot climate to the people of her village, by inventing a mini cooler using limited equipments.

We also came across some brilliant minds, part of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) in their schools or cities, made landmark innovations in limiting the COVID-19 outbreak. We delineated one such tale in our corona warrior series, that of Shivam Mukherjee, a student of AIS Pushp Vihar, who created a wearable sanitisation band. Another such innovations included the corona tracker mobile app, automated touch-free doorbell & sanitiser and a COVID-19 website.

And the list does not end here. A team of school-going RJs in Kerala, kept people entertained under lockdown from their respective homes, while others like Mihir Vardhan from Gurugram, created 'The Terminator', which can help destroy any virus which might travel on the packaging online orders, as well as 3D printed face shields and hand-stitched face masks to meet their unprecedented shortage- another story that we promulgated in our warrior series. Other such inventions including Bengal's Diganika Bose's 'Air Providing and Virus Destroying Mask', and a unique wristband created by Maharashtra's 14-year-old Harsh Chaudhari, which stops us from touching our faces, await patent approvals from the Indian Council of Medical Research.

By bringing their innovative minds to the forefront and perfectly pairing them with their desire to serve the country - these little corona warriors have curated the perfect recipe for creative utilisation of their time, as well as helping those in need. And while they are at it, let us all come together in our thoughts and be a little more responsible in how we deal with the crisis. Because, being distantly together is the only way we can actually distance it! [G I](#)

Lockdown geniuses

If You Have A Will, You Have A Way

Manasvi Dev Kashyap

AIS Gur 46, XI B

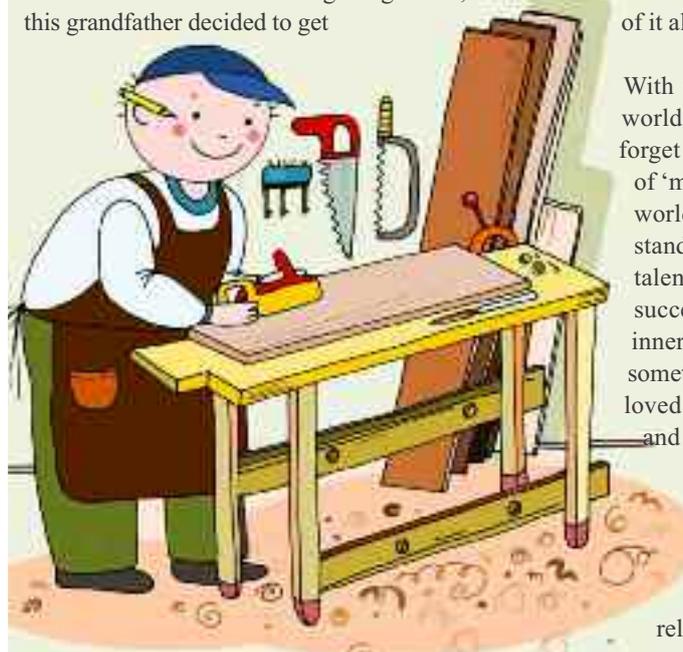
Today, most of us are stumped by boredom, locked up in our homes with nothing to indulge ourselves in; children, more so. They have already watched all the Marvel movies, re-read Harry Potter and John Green books a gazillion times. But, what now? Well folks, you've come to the right place. We have amassed some really cool and fun ideas, engineered by parents around the globe, for you all to take cue from and while away your time whilst the lockdown lasts.

The Bin-Train

A devoted dad in Australia crafted the ultimate 'bin-train' for his children to ride. He connected two bins and a tiny wagon to the back of a ride-on lawnmower using a long rope. Well, it took some serious bin-gineering but the kids are enjoying their new ride. Worth it, ain't it?

Wooden Rollercoaster

A grandfather from Washington, DC, built a wooden roller coaster in his backyard for his grandson using wooden tracks suspended from trash receptacles and wheels. With kids confined to their homes and getting bored, this grandfather decided to get



creative unlike many of us, still 'busy' lazing around.

Lego Land

No, I'm not talking about the Bugatti Chiron made of Legos, I'm talking of a zoo made of Legos! Lori Achilles, a mother of two, created the LEGO Quarantine Survival Challenge page on Facebook when she saw her kids getting bored at home. Each morning, the page publishes a LEGO challenge for builders of all age groups to accomplish. The first challenge was that of creating a zoo. The members of the page participate along with their kids to make this lockdown a bliss.

The Kit-Tank And Picnic Table

Quarantine has indeed been a golden period for our furry babies. A pet owner named Jessica Lacy built and gifted a kit-tank, a tank made of cardboard, to her cat to play with. The feline all geared up and excited, immediately began her operation 'rat hunt'. Another man named Rick Kalinowski from Pennsylvania made a small wooden picnic table, hanging on his backyard wall, for squirrels to enjoy their stay in his house. He later added an extra chair to it in case someone wanted to make an appointment with the squirrels. Oh, the luxury of it all!

With so much going on in the world around us, we often forget to give ourselves ample of 'me' time. But, now that the world has been brought to a standstill, go dwell on your talents, weaknesses and successes. Channelise your inner artists and create something for yourself or your loved ones; sit close to nature and view that sunset amidst the clouds; ponder, ponder over the world hidden inside you; discover, discover your true selves and relish it. [G I](#)

The road(s) not taken

Dear Lord, Please Bring The Usual Action On The Road

Aditya Pathak

AIS Gur 46, XII B

Hi, it's me, the asphalt. And I'm tearing up, literally. I miss the human traffic. The high performance cars shaking up the ground, the talented drivers surprising me with their breathtaking stunts, the school-buses carrying students chatting about picnics or fretting over exams, the families going out on road trips to hill stations, the cross-country bikers swerving through the chilly mountain roads and cruising over the highways. So, I decided to burn some rubber and write you all a letter!

I miss the wheels

I never thought I would hear students say, 'I miss going to school'. But don't worry, I totally relate with you; even I miss the 30 million vehicles travelling over the roads of India. Crazy, right? Well, I am bored of carrying a mere fraction of that amount. But I will get used to it and, of course, it'd be tough to support all of you when you're back, especially with nature recovering from the damage you've caused to her. At the present moment, I'm doing my best to help the essential services, but I am so not ready for the upcoming back-pain.

An emotional journey

I've picked up a lot of emotional baggage from the streets while you've been busy running revolutions through your tweets. I'm saddened by the plight of migrant labourers; I keep them company, give

them a way to go in the day and try my best to accommodate them at night. My potholes fill up with tears when I see people beating each other up over caste and religion. However, it makes me happy to see fewer accidents on the roads, though I've a bad feeling that it might just be a temporary relief.

Never a boring moment

Talking about the revolutions, you all spent so much time home that you started noticing the injustices around you and started storming your feet on me in protest! I'm with you! What I don't support are the incidents of violence and lootings; I have seen

blood being spilled hundreds of years back, and it wasn't pleasant, to say the least. Peaceful protests are the way to go. Being black myself, I'm proud of you all! And this reminds me, I miss the colourful pride parades from last year! I wish all the power to everyone.

Great expectations

I can't wait to ferry you all again, and I'm sure that you are planning to go on many long drives, road trips, and basically spend as much time away from home as possible

(don't lie to me, the smell of tar hasn't blocked my nose). Well, how about you become more sensitive the next time you sit in a car? Don't get over-excited behind the wheel and lead to an accident, respect other drivers, care for the fresh environment, just follow road etiquettes and it's a win-win for everyone!

I'm eagerly waiting for you all to return as mature and aware drivers and passengers. Till then, why don't you spend time with me online? What, you think I'm old-fashioned? Play racing games or watch car movies on Netflix, the need for speed is virtually amplified and absolutely felt! 

Illustration: Nayonika Mavuri, AIS Gurnigram 46, XI S



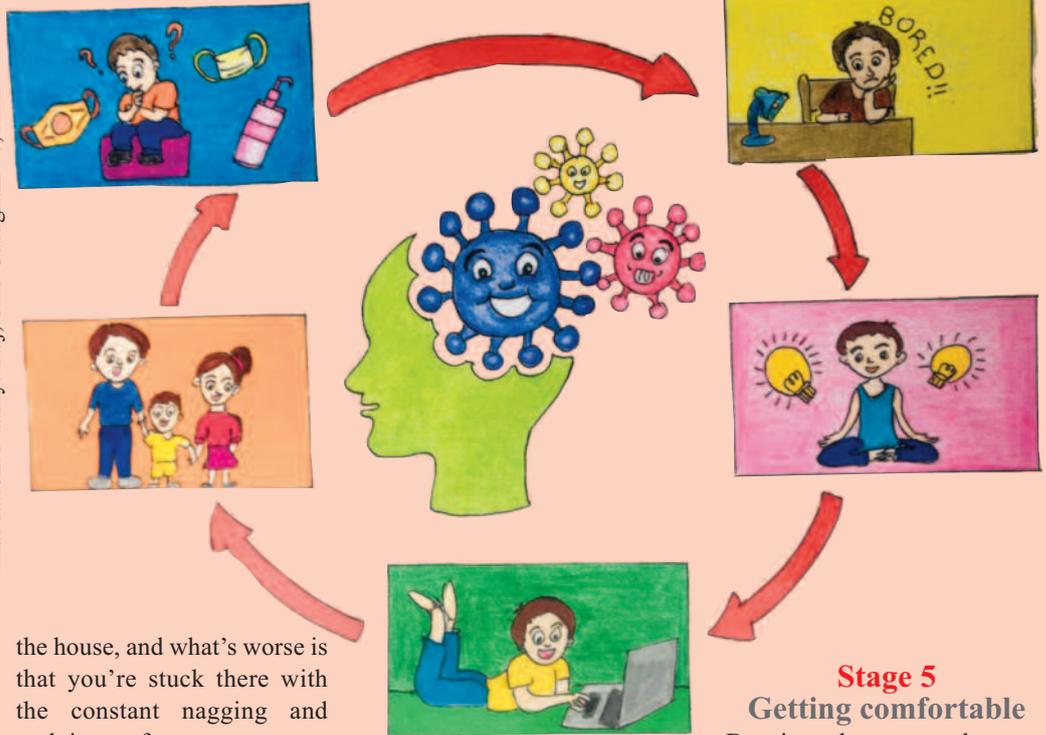
Lockdown 2020...

...And A Look At It's Various Stages

Vyakhya Gupta
AIS Gur 46, XI S

These past weeks of lockdown have not been easy on any of us, and you probably have been having a wide range of extreme emotions, fueled by overly negative news and never-ending assignments. Don't worry, you're not the only one. Quarantine has had a toll on everyone's mood. Here, take a look at how it coursed.

Illustration: Naamya Raj, AIS Gurugram 46, XI E



Stage 1 Apprehension

Your first few days of quarantine are spent with your mood shifting constantly from anxiety for yourself and fear for your family, to paranoia about trivial things. The whole country is going under lockdown for who knows how long and you can't imagine how you are going to last even a week. Apart from cancelling travel plans, you find yourself hoarding masks and sanitizers, and washing your hands almost every ten minutes, discovering the unknown world of hygiene.

Stage 2 Boredom

Now that the initial fear has worn off, you look around yourself and realise that there is absolutely nothing to do. You are overwhelmed by how you suddenly have more time on your hands than you ever imagined. You can't get out of

the house, and what's worse is that you're stuck there with the constant nagging and nudging of your parents. Everyone is a little cranky being cooped up for so long and there are frequent outbursts of that irritation too, with your house practically becoming a warzone.

Stage 3 Being productive

Well, the situation doesn't look like it will end anytime soon and there is only so long you can brood about it, right? Feeling a sudden wave of optimism, you decide to spend all this extra time doing the stuff you've always wanted to. You immediately dial up all the friends and relatives you kind of lost touch with and have long, satisfying conversations. This is the phase where you finally have the time to clean and

arrange all those messy cupboards, work out at home, practice your hobbies and complete all your unfinished projects.

Stage 4 Binging

Unfortunately, the former stage lasts for only about two days, after which your inner sloth surfaces again. The pages-long to-do list lies forgotten in some forlorn corner of the study table, and you spend your days (probably nights too) binge-watching movies and shows to your heart's content. You know that now even your parents won't yell at you, because even they are busy watching *Ramayana* every day.

Stage 5 Getting comfortable

Despite how much you complained at the beginning, you realise this routine isn't that bad after all. When you hear that the lockdown is slowly lifting and that schools might open soon, you suddenly regret whining about your online classes. Apart from being worried about catching the virus, you know you're going to miss texting between classes, getting to attend them from the comforts of your bed and not having to go through the trouble of putting on the uniform.

Well, they do say that the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence. So, the best we can do right now is to resign ourselves to reality and make the most of it, isn't it? 🇮🇳

Illustration: Mansi Gupta, AIS Gurugram 46, X J



A new perspective...

...About What This Pandemic Means To A Blind Person

Kartikey Sharma
AIS Gur 46, XII J

If you think that this pandemic has taken a toll on your lives, let me introduce myself. I am Oliver and all the lemons that life had, it squeezed them straight in my face, specifically my eyes. Yes, I am blind and I am deprived of complete vision. My whole survival is based around physical contact and now, it is catching up.

Not surprisingly so, my whole life depends upon touching to communicate and now that touching is prohibited, it feels like my existence has come to a screeching halt. What's more, a distance of six feet is to be maintained at all times. It's almost as if the universe

pinpointed me out (along with hundreds of other blind people) and thought, "there, that guy! He's the one whose life we have to destroy." It was hard enough, living in a normal world. With these new prohibitions, it has become an entirely new lemonade, only a sour one.

The two months were the hardest. Sitting at home, doing nothing, that was the easy part, honestly. Going out there to get the groceries? That was tough. Holding a week's purchase in one hand, and a white cane in the other, makes navigation a challenge; it's a nightmare, keeping the balance. Believe me, Hercules would've failed if it would've been one of the 12 Labours.

I've been blind for a fairly long time now, so I've caught up onto

the travelling and all but I still need help, help which no one was ready to provide. Of course, I didn't go out there, arms stretched out wide, yelling, "Hello, sir! Yes, please hug me and give me the corona. I didn't want the virus. A wide-spread fear swept across the globe for every disabled person the day the pandemic broke out.

In this time, with a shortage of doctors, medicines, hospitals, beds, would they be willing to work with me to devise a way of safe physical contact? Would they be patient enough? These are just some of the doubts in our minds.

Surviving in daily life is just a tad easier because of the Artificial Intelligence applications that help us get around. New devices and

applications are developed every day to help us cope. The people I worry about are the ones who don't have access to these technologies.

But there's one thing. Our strategies and resilience may sometimes put us at an advantage in tough times. We always have a lot to concentrate on, it's ten times harder for us so we've got no choice but to keep our sense of humour alive, well I think I've managed to develop one of the finest over these dark meme less years, which by the way I've heard are hilarious (guess that will be a mystery). All in all, it's hard to live in a pandemic when you're looking at it from behind a black veil. But what do you know? We have been training for it our whole lives. [G I](#)

Now or never

This Lockdown, Discover Your Hidden Talents

Arshiya Tyagi

AIS Gur 46, IX H

Imagine being a quarantined kid, deserted at home with nowhere to go; desperate to pass time and constantly looking for stuff to do, but with no particular hobby in sight. Don't worry, we've got you covered. Here are a few ways you can find your ideal hobby and excel in it.

Nostalgia driven:

Maybe, just maybe, you had a hobby but forgot about it? Well, it's time to bring it back. Take those miniature models of cars out or create a masterpiece out of the blank canvas. Go back to your childhood days and recall all that you loved doing to pass time. Try and remember what made your dopamine levels shoot up; that which got lost in the shadows as you grew. Find out and do it now, do it today!

Try and explore:

Since, learning never ends, explore the various new activities and see what makes you feel good and what doesn't. Discover yourself! Whether it is baking, cooking, reading, organising, writing stories and poems or even starting a YouTube channel. Think! Think about the last thing that made you forget to eat.



What made you forget the time? Recall that day or moment and revert back to it. But do remember that hobbies aren't always meant to include physical exertion. Improvement can be a hobby, observing can be a hobby, and even dreaming can be one! It all sums up to what suits you the best and makes you happy; that which makes you forget all the fuss around.

Turn it into a career:

After rigorous researching, you can also transform your interests and hobbies into your profes-

sion. Had it not been Walt Disney's early interest in drawing and creating characters, we wouldn't have gotten our favourite Mickey Mouse and other Disney characters as we do today; Had Bill Gates not spent his free time in the computer lab, we wouldn't have been working on such reasonable and user friendly softwares. Someone said it right when they said that, "The best inventions are solutions to everyday problems". Under-Armour's founder came up with "moisture-wicking athletic cloth-

ing" while playing football, his favourite hobby. Had he not worked out in sweaty gym wear, he wouldn't have come up with the million-dollar idea. He now has a back balance of \$2.1 billion. So, while the lockdown lasts, search within yourself, find your interests, and then turn them into business when it all ends. For, it's now or never.

Being quarantined for such a long time can certainly have a toll on one's health but with hobbies that keep us busy, expand our minds to newer horizons and are fun to do, it isn't exactly so bad, isn't it? **GT**



The **silent** voice

Let's Pay Attention To The Animals We Keep Ignoring

Sayantani Dubey

AIS Gurugram 46, XI I

Their eyes gleam with compassion, paws long for comfort and tails wiggle for love, while human beings continue to mistake their ineffable kindness for weakness. The world is dealing with a raging pandemic and dense clouds of uncertainty fog our future. People are losing loved ones and livelihoods. And in times like these, animals look up to us for comfort, only to be treated with hatred.

With the lockdown in place, animal cruelty has increased manifolds in our country. Our strays are looked down upon as disease-bearers and are shooed if they even come near anyone. Not just them, but many even have abandoned their pets in the same fear. Dairy animals and other livestock are locked

in shelters without adequate food and fodder. They stand in their own muck with no one to clean them up or feed them. Any injuries faced are ignored. As per the revised lockdown guidelines by the Ministry of Home Affairs, animal food and fodder are "Essential Items", and their interstate supply chains are exempt from the lockdown. However, there are reported challenges and complaints of short supply and prevented transportation of fodder.

Our neighbourhood furry friends, the strays who depend on small eateries and feeders, are victims to starvation. Scorching heat and lack of enough water to keep them hydrated makes it worse. They dig through dustbins, scraps of metal and plastic, trying to get something to save their children from dying of hunger. Despite the state allowing veterinary hospitals to remain functional

during the lockdown, there has been poor implementation of the same.

No concrete proof has been found that Coronavirus can affect animals, let alone transferred from animals to animals or from animals to humans. Still, cities all across the world are seeing disturbing increase in the number of abandoned pets due to the fear of being infected.

In a world where species co-exist, live peacefully with each other and celebrate one another, animals shouldn't be left to suffer because of our apathy. A pandemic doesn't excuse our responsibility to take care of those who depend on us. Every time an innocent animal starves to death and is found lifeless on the street, we fail as a society. They can't speak, they can't shout, but we have to listen. Do your bit in making the world a better place, little by little, step by step. [G I](#)

