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Bhawna Tuteja, GT Network

litz and glamour, shimmer and shine, cheer and applause.....I-2 auditorium at Amity University saw all of this and more on August 7, 2024. A packed house stood witness to the biggest event of the year – GT Awards 2023-24. The event in its 14th edition marked the culmination of GT Making A Newspaper Contest, a competition where 12 Amity schools across the country crafted their own contest edition. With fanfare, drum roll, standing ovations, overflowing emotions; the event was a radiant rollercoaster, leaving stardust in its wake.

In a crescendo of thunderous applause, chants of 'Noida, Noida...' reached the heavens as AIS Noida bagged the winners' trophy, followed by AIS Gurugram 43 and AIS Vasundhara 1 at the first runner up and second runner up spot respectively. AGS Noida bagged the Jury Special Mention prize. Awards were also given in individual categories viz Best Top Story, Regina Mukherji of AIS Gur 46 and Debjani Das of AIS Saket took home the Best Mentor Teacher award.

A starry guest list

Stars descended upon the auditorium as Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools, graced the event. Ms Divya Chauhan, Chairperson, ASFT, ASPA & ASFA; Poonam Jamwal, CBO, Extramarks.com and heads of Amity institutions, were also in attendance. Chief guest for the day Jyoti Mishra, anchor and correspondent, Times Now Group illuminated the event with her presence.

A dazzling gala

From humorous skits to foot tap-

Surabhi Agarwal, Jury Member Editor Technology The Economic Times

ping dances to soulful renditions...GT Awards 2023-24 was an entertainment

> extravaganza. AIS PV set the stage alight with a modern-day twist on Cinderella, eliciting laughter and joy. The vibrant bhangra performance by AIS Noida had the entire auditorium dancing in unison. The soulful rendition of 'Kunjua' by the Dogra Girls, an all-girls Dogri band, touched every heart. Saving the best for the last, a GT movie featuring all the GT coordinators had everyone shouting encore.

A luminoscont address

As the event drew to a close, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, shared her vision of nurturing creativity through the newspaper. She shared, "Your thoughts become words, your words become actions, your actions become habits, your habits become your values, and your values become your life." Chief guest Jyoti Mishra lauded Amity and The Global Times for priming students into the art of journalism right from a young age. She urged the students to strive to be themselves in their quest for becoming journalist.

The Times of India

Ish Kumar, Jury Member

Principal Infographics Designer

In the soft glow of the auditorium, as the stars began to fade and the audience began to disperse, there was a lingering sense of magic. The GT Awards had not just honoured the best but had kindled a spark in every heart, urging them to reach higher, dream bigger, and shine brighter.

Be the change

An insightful conversation

Do you think that the disqualification of Vinesh Phogat in the Paris Olympics

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

2024 is fair?

To vote, checkout our Instagram page @the_global_times

Coming next

Meet the designer babies!

with social activist Dr Rishikant Mishra, founder and president, Udaar Foundation.

...more on page 3

What's inside

Honour roll

An exuberant celebration of the winners of GT Making A Newspaper Contest 2023-24, distinguished in various categories at GT Awards '24." ...more on pages 6-8



National honours

A triumphant exhibition of gallantry awards highlighting dauntless spirits of officers and civilians, resonating with *Independence Day fervour.*

...more on page 10

OPOLL RESULT for GT Edition August 5, 2024

Do you think the sealing of over a dozen coaching institutions' in Delhi and MP for violating basement usage laws, will propel the authorities to implement more stringent laws?



@the_global_times

Around The WORLD

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



GERMANY

New alliance formed

Germany joined the US led **United Nations Command**

(UNC) in South Korea, becoming the 18th nation in a group that helps police the heavily fortified border with North Korea and has committed to defend the South in the event of a war. The move is evidence of Berlin's strong belief that European security is intricately linked to security in the Indo-Pacific region, as mentioned by Defence Minister Boris Pistorius during a ceremony at the main United States of America military headquarters in Pyeongtaek, south of Seoul.





JAPAN

Hiroshima day observed

On August 6, 2024, Hiroshima marked the 79th anniversary of its atomic bombing by the USA, with its mayor urging people to unite in prompting world leaders to shift away from nuclear deterrence amid global conflicts, including Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the Israel-Hamas war in the Middle East. In the Peace Declaration, Hiroshima mayor Kazumi Matsui remarked such global tragedies deepen distrust and fear among nations, reinforcing that we have to rely on military force to solve international disputes, which we should be rejecting.



Pageant winner crowned

Miss Michigan Alma Cooper took the crown of Miss USA during the pageant's 73rd annual ceremony. Miss Kentucky Connor Perry and Miss Oklahoma Danika Christopherson were first and second runners-up respectively. Cooper is a US Army officer, data scientist, and master's student at Stanford University. Cooper's crowning follows a turbulent year for the Miss USA organisation, following the resignations of former Miss USA Noelia Voight and former Miss Teen USA 2023 Uma Sofia Srivastava.







SPAIN

Messi's mansion defaced

Climate activists spray-painted a mansion on the Spanish island of Ibiza belonging to Argentinian footballer Lionel Messi, to highlight the 'responsibility of the rich for the climate crisis'. Campaigners from the group Futuro Vegetal released a video showing two members holding a banner 'Help the Planet - Eat the Rich - Abolish the Police' and painting the white facade of the building with red and black paint.





INDIA

Big wins at Paris Olympics

Star athletes make India proud with consecutive medals at the Paris Olympics. The Indian Hockey team defeated Spain with a 2-1 score on August 8, 2024, and won the third place on the podium. This is India's 4th bronze medal in the event and Indian Hockey team's second consecutive bronze at the Olympics. The medal tally reached five when Neeraj Chopra won silver medal for India with a throw of 89.4m at Javelin.





BANGLADESH

Yunus takes charge

PM Sheikh Hasina stepped down from office on August 5, 2024, ending 15 years of what the opposition says was 'authoritarian rule'. Hasina resigned after weeks of protests against quotas for government jobs which flared into unrest. On August 7, the 84 year old Nobel Laureate, Muhammad Yunus, took oath as the chief adviser of the interim governent along with a 16 member advisory council in Bangabhaban.





Peanut allergy treatment

In a world's first such initiative, Australian children with potentially deadly peanut allergies will be given life-saving treatment in a nationwide programme. Under doctor's supervision, eligible babies will receive daily doses of peanut powder for two years to build up their tolerance, said officials announcing the initiative on August 7, 2024. Over time, the infants will receive doses to reduce sensitivity to peanuts.

News Flash ▶ Switzerland: Sphere Infinio, a hearing aid that uses new DEEPSONIC chip technology, has been introduced ▶ Italy: Researchers found the first case of reproduction without fertilisation in an endangered shark species



Dr Rishikant Mishra, Udaar Foundation

Madhav Ahuja, XII I & Tulip Tewari, XI E, AIS Noida

r Rishikant Mishra, the visionary founder and president of Udaar Foundation, is a dedicated social activist with a deep-seated mission to uplift the lives of underprivileged children and women. In an insightful conversation with GT, he discusses his steadfast commitment to this cause and the impact of his work.

A determined beginning

I come from a very humble background,

Be the change INTERVIEW

The Journey Of A Changemaker As He Inspires Change

and I have seen poverty up-close quarters. The challenges I faced instilled in me a strong determination to assist those in need, particularly women and children. Regardless of the circumstances one encounters, it's crucial to never lose hope and always persevere through challenges. I believe that empathy for the less fortunate has served as a driving force for me.

A debt of gratitude

My primary education was supported by an NGO, an experience that ingrained in me a profound sense of gratitude and responsibility. Immediately after completing my master's degree in social work, I initiated a small after-school program with a group of like-minded friends. Our objective was to ensure that every underprivileged child had access to quality education. Starting with just 20 children, our initiative gradually expanded as more youngsters joined our program. To further empower the community, we established another organisation offering computer and sewing classes to women. This endeavour has resulted in the employment of over 300 women across various sectors, with many of them successfully managing their own businesses.

A collaborative effort

To sustain an NGO, one needs substantial funding to secure essential resources like



books, clothing, stationery, and utilities such as water and electricity. Initially, it was very difficult to raise funds and earn trust. So, with all my companions, we financed the entire project from our own pockets, enabling successful operations for several months until eventually, we earned faith and donations from the public. We now collaborate with various NGOs and private companies whose efforts often deeply resonate with us.

A need for structure

To become a social worker in developed countries requires a certain level of education. However, in India, the absence of a licensing system allows individuals to es-

tablish NGOs and pursue social work without formal degrees, resulting in a proliferation of fraudulent organisations that erode public trust. If similar western models are adopted in our country, we can surely increase employment opportunities in the field of social work and restore faith in our causes. Besides, it will create a more structured environment in the field of social work and help us move forward.

Message for Amitians

You harbour unsurmountable energy and potential. Try to give your best in everything. After all, to see change, you must be the change. So, go ahead and be the changemakers we all need.

Growth from grassroot Independence Day Special

Atma Saksham, Atmanirbhar, Atma Viksit Bharat

Amayra Jain, AIS Saket, XII D

tma Nirbhar Bharat' these words have resonated in every Indian household for the past quite some time now. But how many of us truly understand its meaning? 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat' doesn't advocate a self-centred system, but instead harbours a feeling of independence from foreign assistance, competitiveness, and self-sufficiency in the

While India has already made strides in becoming self reliant, true progress can be achieved only if youth is an active participant in this journey. Therefore, our schools, which lay the foundation of our principles, is the best platform to begin with.

The schools have already shown the way in this regard during Covid-19. The challenging times of the pandemic affected millions, including the education sector, hindering the acquiring of basic skills and abilities. Given the situation, many schools changed to online mode of teaching. The arrangement for this unchartered and new way of learning was skillfully crafted and put together for the students at various schools. The quintessential virtual classroom presented students with student IDs to attend classes, maintain class notes, and submit assignments. This enabled the students to perform executive functioning skills, organisation, and task management, aiding in the development of their self-reliance capabilities.

Not just students, many teachers and

professors as well progressed in this new era of education. They became more tech-savvy equipping themselves with self-learning tools like 'Google Classroom', creating explanatory PPTs, adapting to new software, virtual tutoring, etc. Though there were a few technical problems in the beginning, but success can't be reached without failure. The teachers ensured a holistic multidisciplinary co-scholastic learning approach to increase conceptual understanding beyond syllabi limitations. Extended learning was made part of the daily school schedule.

This was a marvellous testimony to the fact that if adaptation to extremities can be achieved at the grassroot level by kids, self-reliance can be achieved at every stage of Bharat's economy.



Navigating the web

Trom the crack of dawn, technology stirs us with its reliable alarms, and caresses us with the cooling breeze of our ACs as we drift off to sleep, weaving its wonders into our everyday lives. GT pays homage to this silent saviour that simplifies and enhances our existence with a brand-new series, unwrapping A to Z of iconic tech pieces, one letter at a time. Here's presenting the U in this series that changed human life as we know and live it.

Tejas Agarwal, AIS Vasundhara 1, X D

The tech: URL (Uniform Resource Locator) The inventor: Sir Tim Berners-Lee

How was it invented?

The invention of the URL can be attributed to the work of Tim Berners-Lee. As he developed the World Wide Web in the late 1980s, he recognised the need for a standardised way to address and locate resources on the Internet. Berners-Lee designed the URL as a structured string of characters thus making it a crucial component in enabling the linking and addressing of resources on the

web. Berners-Lee's efforts laid the foundation for the modern internet as we know it today.

When did we get to know it first?

The URL became publicly accessible on August 6, 1991, when the 'World Wide Web' was launched. Tim Berners-Lee, the web's inventor, introduced the URL alongside key technologies like HTTP and HTML. The URL's initial specifications were detailed in the 1994 document- 'Uniform Resource Locators' (URL) by the 'Internet Engineering Task Force' (IETF). This publication formalised URL structure and usage, leading to its widespread adoption. Since then, URLs have become essential for Internet communication, enabling individuals and organisa-

Why do we use it?

tions to access and

share resources online

URLs uniquely identify and access specific internet re-

sources, facilitating web navigation, linking, sharing, and bookmarking. They provide standardised addresses for easy retrieval of web pages, files, and services. Essential for organising and accessing

online content, URLs are fundamental to the internet's interconnected structure.

How has it helped our lives?

URLs have revolutionised how we access information, communicate, shop, navigate, entertain, and utilise online services. They provide easy access to a vast array of conhttp://www

Fun fact: The longest valid internet domain name in the world is 'llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwl Illantysiliogogogoch.co.uk'. It also holds a Guinness World record for the longest website IIRI in the world.

tent, from articles and research papers to videos and tutorials. They enable seamless online shopping, facilitates flight booking, hotel and car rentals, as well as exploration of maps and directions. They also enhance entertainment via streaming services and offer access to various online utilities as email, cloud storage, and banking.

Charting the stars Hubble's Legacy: A Testament To Human Exploration

Ananiaah Wheeler, AGS Gur, Alumna

ince the dawn of time, human beings have been intrigued by the cosmos. Stars in our Milky Way have always fascinated us as we seek to uncover their secrets. The 'Hubble Space Telescope', was a milestone in cosmic exploration. Even though it was not the first space telescope, it is the largest and most versatile. Further, it led to the invention of 'James Webb Space Telescope', promising even deeper insights into the universe's vast expanse.

Hubble's legacy

Reflecting on the legacy of the Hubble, we see a journey of over three decades. Launched in April 1990, Hubble has faithfully accompanied humanity for more than 31 years. Throughout its mission, it has served as a window into the enigmatic realms of deep space, capturing and transmitting over a million images. Its breathtaking collection includes glimpses of stellar births and deaths, stunning nebulae, planets within our solar system, and the groundbreaking Deep Field image of 1995. This single

snapshot revealed the universe's history, showcasing galaxies, stars, and interstellar media.

Pushing boundaries

Hubble was used to study specific cosmological targets. Howbeit, before Hubble's capabilities to survey distant galaxies could be fully tested, investigations uncovered that Hubble's primary mirror had the wrong curve, and was too flat near its edge. Despite the skepticism, the NASA Hubble Team persevered, sending astronauts on a five-day mission to install a problem-solving module. This incident endears Hubble to us, symbolising human ingenuity, showing how we can learn from our mistakes.

Navigating risks

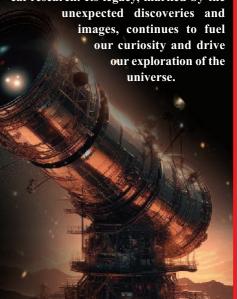
Hubble eventually went on to become a vital research tool for astronomy. But this was not before several risky decisions were taken, including positioning the telescope to see far beyond our galaxy, away from bright galactic clusters and the plane of our 'Milky Way'. Furthermore, to ensure continuous observations, the selected location needed to be one that wouldn't be obscured as Hubble made its revolutions around the Earth every hour and a half or so. Despite the potential for error at every stage, the bold decision was made to designate a dim, inconspicuous area of space above the Big Dipper as our window into this fascinating realm, offering only a limited perspective.

Transformative impact

Observations began on December 18, 1995, capturing wavelengths of light over the next ten days, resulting in 342 images of that tiny patch of sky. This resulted in what we know as the 'Deep Field' that enhanced our understanding of the universe's past, that light travelled immense distances from galaxies to reach us and revealed the early years of the cosmos. By repeating this observation in the southern sky, collective datasets enabled scientists to estimate the total number of galaxies, track the history of star formation across the universe, and support the 'Bottom-Up' theory of galaxy formation. Despite these significant achievements,

the most important impact of the 'Deep Field' view was its cultural transformation of astronomy. It inspired people to share their observations and collaborate cumulatively.

In conclusion, the 'Hubble Space Telescope' not only broadened our understanding of the cosmos but also inspired a collaborative approach for astronomical research. Its legacy, marked by the



Editorial

Muse

5

Learning through exchange



Dr Amita Chauhan Chairperson

India has traditionally been a beacon of learning, revered as the Vishwa Guru for ages. The ancient Nalanda University, for instance, was renowned for attracting international scholars who acquired profound knowledge and disseminated it globally. At Amity, this illustrious tradition has continued with our School Exchange Programmes. For nearly two decades, Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC) has been facilitating learning exchange pro-

grammes in both online and offline mode. These programmes provide students with a comprehensive understanding of global geography, cultural diversity, educational systems, and the lives of their peers from around the world. Participants relish these exchanges as they also engage in activities such as dancing, and cooking together, forming lasting bonds with their host families. Some of the best schools from around the world have participated in these exchanges. To mention a few, Gymnasium Schloss Neuhaus, Germany; Rabindranath Tagore school, Russia; San Patricio International, Spain, Kantonsschule Wettingen, Switzerland etc. Even during the lockdown, AERC conducted exchange programme with schools in Indonesia to explore the Ramayana, and with Finland's Schildt High School to study parliamentary governance. Embracing the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, these programs help in building amicable relationships globally.

It's Time To Say, Hip! Hip! Hurray!

In an unprecedented win, a team of 10 students from AIS Pushp Vihar lifted the winners' trophy at International Space Settlement Competition, held at Kennedy Space Center, NASA.

Celebrating GT



Vira Sharma Managing Editor

Lights, Camera, Action! The stage came alive with cheers and applause from the young audience who had eagerly awaited this day for a whole year. The GT Awards, now in its 14th year, once again resonated with one key emotion: passion. All the dance and songs on stage, including a live musical performance by the Dogra Girls, captivated the cheering crowd who were rooting for their peers throughout the five-hour-long event. Though we missed the

company of jury members at the ceremony, the chief guest's presence, despite being unwell, spoke volumes about the impact GT has created. The most humbling moment was when our beloved Chairperson ma'am shared that what was once her dream - of starting a students' newspaper - had now become an integral part of every Amitian's life in the form of GT.

Indeed, GT has evolved significantly over the years — it has grown from being a creative outlet to a platform that encourages holistic personality development through teamwork, communication, and collaboration. It has helped Amitians get a first-hand experience of journalism and sparked a life-long interest in the world around them, nurturing conscientious journalists of tomorrow. GT Awards is, therefore, not merely an award ceremony, it is the celebration of our passionate and diligent GT journalists who work tirelessly throughout the year to bring to us a newspaper that is ideated, written and designed in the most creative manner. I congratulate all the winners of this year's GT Awards and look forward to more beautiful tales of joy and inspiration in your favourite newspaper.

Just a minute

When You Only Have A Minute, What All Do You Say?

Jiya Arora, XI C & Ragini Singhal, XI S, AIS Gur 43

eet the one-minute pitch a lightning-fast introduc-Ltion that's like the Usain Bolt of communication techniques. It's the superhero cape you don when you need to make a lasting impression, convey key points, and forge connections, all in the blink of an eye. A fact further exacerbated by TV shows like shark tank, where the contestants blast through the noise to make an unforgettable entrance where the one-minute pitch proves to be the differentiating factor between yawns and impressed judges. But then again is the generated buzz worth it?

In a world of goldfishes

According to a study by Microsoft, the average human attention span was reported to be eight seconds in 2015, shorter than that of the goldfish at nine seconds. Amongst various other factors, short form content has played a significant role in devolving our attention spans. We have seamlessly gone from YouTube videos with ad breaks to reels and shorts, and now even they seem rather long. Twitter reported that videos shorter than one minute had a 90% higher retention rate, emphasising the effectiveness of concise video content in engaging audiences.

Built-in spidey-sense

Addressing the 'why' of the 'oneminute pitch' phenomenon boils down to 'first impressions matter'. A

As I sit down to pen my thoughts, I

am overwhelmed with emotions

Dear Editor.

series of experiments by Princeton psychologists Janine Willis and Alexander Todorov reveal that all it takes is a tenth of a second to form an impression of a stranger. First impressions tap into this innate ability,

allowing us to detect authenticity,

sincerity, and trustworthiness. But how does one make that perfect first impression in the blink of an eye. One way to do that would be to master the art of awareness and mindfulness. By paying attention to our own body language and vibes, we can align them with the impressions we wish to convey. A good elevator pitch is like the Haiku of in-

The initial spark

troductions. No fluff—just the juicy

bits that make you unforgettable.

"But isn't it shallow to judge a book by its cover?" When you browse a bookstore, the cover catches your eye, you pick it up, read the blurb, and decide if it's worth exploring further. It's the same with the one-minute pitches. It's not the final

judgment but rather the initial spark that ignites curiosity. But here's the crucial twist: we must approach this judgment with a sprinkle of openmindedness. With the one-minute pitch we can't fully understand someone's story or capabilities. It's merely a starting point, a glimpse into their world. And if you want someone to invite you into theirs, you better make sure that glimpse is Oscar-worthy.

In today's world, where media companies spend billions fighting for your attention if you can grasp the attention of the right person at the right time for just a minute, nobody can stop you from riding the wave of meaningful human connection!



following the results of GT Awards the results were announced, and 2023-2024. AIS Noida winning the the faces of my seniors were Making A Newspaper Contest feels painted in surprise and their eyes like a tribute to a year full of unwelled with tears, is a memory that wavering dedication, countless holds as much importance for me as holding the prestigious award in meetings with the ever-supportive GT mentors, and the creative brilmy hands. Every win by each liance we have poured into The school was well deserved. It is not just an award for our newspaper Global Times. Sitting in the auditorium during the ceremony, I could but a celebration of the spirit of feel the electricity in the air, the journalism and the power of words twists and turns keeping me at the to make a difference. This award is edge of my seat. I was swept up in a milestone in our journey, but it is a storm of anticipation, joy, and also a reminder that there is still awe. I believe the moment when much more to achieve. As we



move forward, I am excited to see how we can continue to innovate, inform, and inspire through The Global Times. Thank you, once again, for this incredible honour. Kashvi Bajpai, AIS Noida, XII B Editor-in-chief















Best Interview



























Best Autobiography









Harshal Sinha, X D



Kainaat Arif, XII B





AGS Gurugram







Special mention Nomination

THE GLOBAL TIMES | MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2024











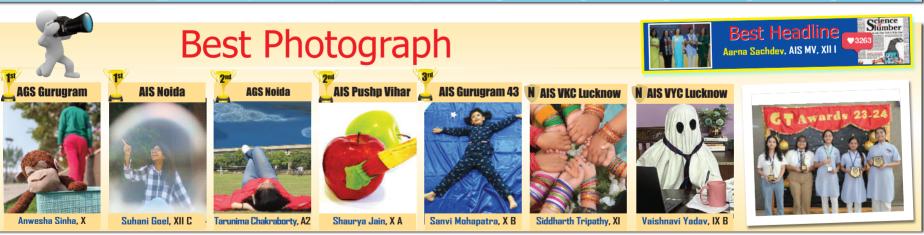


















Special mention *N Nomination

Reyansh Nanda, AIS PV, V C

n the beautiful town of Yamizakura, there once lived two best friends, Kendros and Gojo. They both were inseparable since childhood. Gojo loved to play with Kendros, and they used to visit each other's house so often that their mothers believed that they had two sons. They used to have pizza nights filled with laughter, fun, and endless adventures. Their friendship blossomed with each

On Kendros's 16th birthday, Gojo decided to throw him a surprise party and invited him to his place. When Kendros did not show up, he reached out to his father, who told him he had still not returned from his tuition. They went out to search for him and looked for him everywhere, but found no traces of him.

After several weeks since his disappearance, Gojo saw Kendros at their usual pizza joint, but he looked different. Gojo walked up to greet him, but Kendros pounced at him and ran away. Gojo followed him, but to no avail.

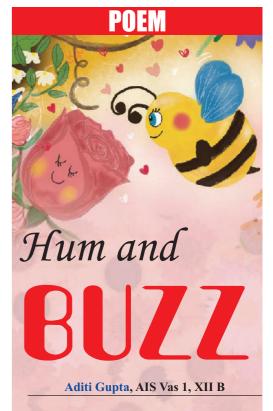
Days turned into weeks. One evening, Gojo was out for a stroll, reminiscing about his friend, when suddenly he saw Kendros walking out of the woods in old and tattered clothes. Curious, he decided to investigate the matter. With the full moon illuminating the forest, Gojo went

One evening, Gojo was out for a stroll, reminiscing about his friend, when suddenly he saw Kendros walking out of the woods in old and tattered clothes.

back to the place, where he had spotted Kendros. As he looked for traces that could lead him to Kendros, he heard a howl echoing through the forest. Worrying for his friend's safety, he ran towards the source of the sound. He couldn't believe his eyes when he saw a werewolf chained to a gigantic tree. Gojo could barely come to senses when the werewolf howled again, his howl sounding more like a cry for help.

Gathering every bit of courage he had in him, Gojo walked up to the werewolf and stood in front of him. The werewolf stared at Gojo with his eyes filled with tears of remorse. Gojo let out a gasp when he realised it was Kendros. Seeing his friend in this condition, he couldn't hold himself back and hugged him. His friend had a dark side and, to protect his friends and family, he was living in isolation. Gojo stayed by Kendros's side until next morning. Slowly, he returned to his human form and the playful friend resurfaced. Gojo, ever loyal, never left his side and helped in all imaginable ways.

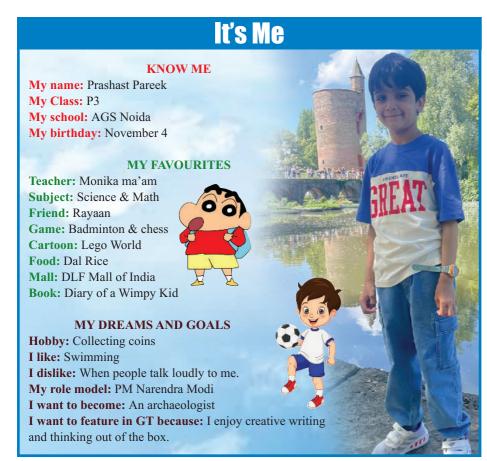
> So, what did you learn today? A new word: Tattered Meaning: Old and torn; in poor condition



When the sun rises and chases away dark Stars grow dull with the songs of the lark I walked in my garden, on the green grass It was drenched in brilliant, tiny dew drops Like an emerald embedded with a pearl

And then I came across a beautiful red rose Shying behind the leaves – like a pretty girl I plucked and smelled it, and shouted a cry Not one of exaltation, but of a sharp pain And trying to see what hurt me so badly

I strained my eyes to focus in the bushes And my expression turned into a horror That grows on your nerves gradually As I saw the ghastliest of all the sights A bee that was hidden behind the rose.





National nonotification of the second state of the second second

Though interpreted as titles of glory, the gallantry awards highlight the dauntless spirits of officers and civilians whose loyalty to their duties and country surmounts even lethal dangers. Let's uncover India's renowned medals of valour that acknowledge our patriots' ultimate deeds of gallantry and sacrifices with Aanya Batra, AIS Gur 43, XI B.

Peace time awards

Ashoka Chakra

Year of institution: 1950

Order: India's highest peacetime military award

How it looks: It is a circular gold gilt engraved with the Ashoka Chakra at the centre. Surrounded by an ornately designed lotus wreath, the back exhibits the name of the medal engraved in Hindi

and in English, along the upper and the lower rim, with a lotus on each side. It is suspended by a dark green ribbon striped with saffron in the middle.

Total awardees: 98 | Notable recipient: Flight attendant Neerja Bhanot

Kirti Chakra



Year of institution: 1952

Order: 2nd highest peacetime gallantry award

How it looks: This circular silver medal is embossed with the Ashoka Chakra, encircled by a lotus wreath. Engraved with the

title of the medal at the back in English and in Hindi, it is adorned by a lotus on the sides. It is attached to a dark green ribbon which is decked with two saffron stripes. On subsequent remarkable acts of bravery, the awardees are further decorated by an additional bar and riband possessing a miniature Chakra replica.

Total awardees: 486 | Notable recipient: Group Captain Denzil Keelor

Wartime awards

Param Vir Chakra



Year of institution: 1950

Order: India's highest wartime decoration

How it looks: The circular bronze 'Wheel of the Ultimate Brave' displays the state emblem on the obverse atop a raised circle. It is surrounded by four replicas of Vajra, the weapon of Indra,

which emblematises the sacrifice of Rishi Dadhichi. It is further flanked by the sword of Shivaji. It hangs from a swivelling suspension bar, held by a 32 mm purple ribbon. The name of the medal is inscribed in Hindi and English at the back.

Total awardees: 21 | Notable recipient: Flying Officer Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon

Maha Vir Chakra



Year of institution: 1950

Order: 2nd highest wartime decoration

How it looks: In the front, the silver medal is brocaded with a heraldic star that bears the embellished state emblem of India in the centre. The award title is inscribed in English and Hindi on the lower and the upper

rim respectively. On the back, two lotuses lay along the side margins. The decoration is hung by a half-white and half-orange riband which is worn on the left chest. Total awardees: 213 | Notable recipient: Wing Commander Jagmohan Nath

Shaurya Chakra

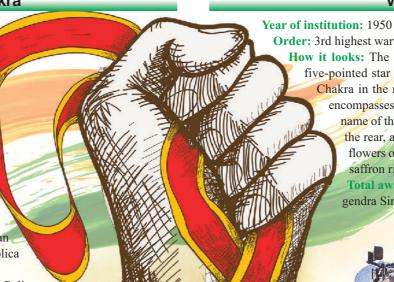
Year of institution: 1952 Order: 3rd highest peacetime gallantry award

How it looks: An Ashoka Chakra is engraved at the centre of this circular bronze medal, with a lotus wreath forming a ring around it. The reverse displays the moniker in-

scribed in Hindi and English. Two lotuses are present on the sides. It is hung from a dark green ribbon having three saffron stripes that equally divide the band into four equal parts. On the subsequent act of gallantry, the awardee is bestowed an additional bar on riband which has a miniature replica

Total awardees: 2122 | **Notable recipient:** Special Police

Officer Shahbaz Ahmad



Vir Chakra

Order: 3rd highest wartime decoration How it looks: The silver medal boasts a five-pointed star enclosing the Ashoka Chakra in the middle, which further encompasses the state emblem. The name of the medal is displayed at the rear, adorned with two lotus

flowers on the side. It hangs from a half-dark blue and halfsaffron ribbon.

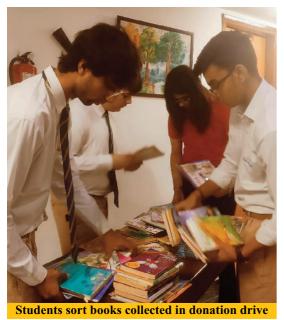
Total awardees: 1335 | Notable recipient: Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav





My book my pal

AGS Noida Shares Books With Amitasha





AGS Noida | Amitasha

he school celebrated World Book Day on April 23, 2024 in collaboration with Amitasha. Based on the theme, 'Hridaan - gift of heart' the event aimed to not only provide access to books, but also cultivate empathy and social responsibility within school community. The programme began with a warm welcome for 50 students of Amitasha Noida and a soulful chanting of Hanuman Chalisa. Grade VI students distributed approximately 300

books that had been collected by them, during the school book donation drive, contributing to the establishment of a small library at Amitasha. IBDP year 2 (Grade 12) students also actively participated in the event as part of their CAS experience (Creativity, Activity, and Service).

A dedicated DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) time was also observed to inculcate love for reading in students. Library facilitators of the school discussed the significance of reading books. Musical performances by the students added to the joy of reading.

Nurturing the leaders



AERC

participated in the finale of 5th Model Conference of Parties (MCOP), organised by WWF India from July 10-12, 2024. The four participants were: Maanvi Yadav (XII) & Armaani Bhasin (XII) of AIS Gurugram 46 and Abhiraj Srivastava (X) & Parthavi Rai (XI) of AIS VKC Lucknow. A platform for young people to un-

derstand environmental governance and conservation action, the programme was facilitated by Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC) under the guidance of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF.

The three-day conference began with a session on biodiversity, and communication for conservation. The distinguished speakers were Dr Sejal Worah, program director, WWF-India; Dr Erach Bharucha,

Research, and Dr Kaveri Jain, marketing and communications, WWF - India. During the conference, students drafted national action plans that were presented to the jury members wherein Manvi Yadav earned the position of group leader for 5 states (Haryana, Bihar, Assam, Gujarat and Odisha). Representing heritage of Haryana, Amitians recited a short poem on the state and performed Haryanvi dance. On the concluding day, students of AIS Noida showcased a fusion dance based on environment conservation. Praising it, Gayatri Raghwa, environmental education consultant, UNEP, said, "I really don't have words to express, when I was looking at children from Amity school as they put up a great performance. The beautiful program brought tears to my eyes. Congratulations to Amity School!" GT

director, Bharati Vidyapeeth Insti-

tute of Environment Education &



School Lounge

Fostering diplomats

AIS Vasundhara 1

ver 160 students from Class VI-XII participated in an intra school Model United Nations held on May 15, 2024. The young delegates debated over global issues in two committees -General Assembly and All India Political

Party Meet on agendas 'Combating cyberterrorism and cybersecurity threats' and 'Deliberation on employment generation policies in India' respectively.

The conference concluded with the awards like Best Delegate, High Commendation, Verbal Mention and Special Mention being given to best performers.

Back to Hogwarts

AIS Noida

o celebrate the birthday of JK Rowling, students of Class IX-X participated in 'Character Cell Phone Screen Designing: Bring Fictional Characters to Life!' competition held on July 11, 2024. The participants designed decorative phone screens with applications that captured the essence of their favourite Harry Potter character. The ingenious creations varied from Harry Potter's Instagram logo to a communicative logo of Hogwarts. Sidakpreet Kaur (X), Jeshna Somvanshi (X), Ujesha Pal (X) and Preshia Sadal (X) shared first place while Naina Singh (IX), Dia



Yadav (IX) and Myra Pal (X) got second place. Third position was shared by Shivpriya Singh (IX), Aditi Dahiya (X), Aditi Gupta (X), Waya Naim(X), Poorvi Verma(X) and Arshi Aggarwal(X).

Shining scholars

AIS Gurugram 46

hree students from the school have won accolades at Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan (VVM) national level camp held at IISER, Bhopal, from May 18-19, 2024. Siddhant Kaura (IX) clinched second prize and Pakhi Bisht (X) secured third prize at the national level while Govardhan (VI), got first prize at north zone level of nationals. They have received a scholarship of INR 2000 per month for a year.



VVM is the largest digital science talent search exam for emerging India organised by Vinjana Bharti (VIBHA) and NCERT.

