

Status of the week
 But I'll still believe though there's cracks you'll see, When I'm on my knees I'll still believe,
 And when I've hit the ground, neither lost nor found, If you'll believe in me I'll still believe
Sarthak Batra, AIS MV, XII

INSIDE

Mental Health Week, P3

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AMITEpoll
 What do you look forward to at AIMUN?
 a) Debates
 b) Formal dress code
 c) Making global friends
To vote, log on to www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT
 for GT issue December 3, 2012
Should businessmen be allowed to enter politics?

Results as on December 7, 2012

Coming Soon
AIMUN special issue

“If you really want to enter politics, wash your hands of your business” said the Former Thailand PM Thaksin Shinawatra at the 10th annual Hindustan Times Leadership Summit, triggering a debate whether business tycoons should be allowed to hold public office or not

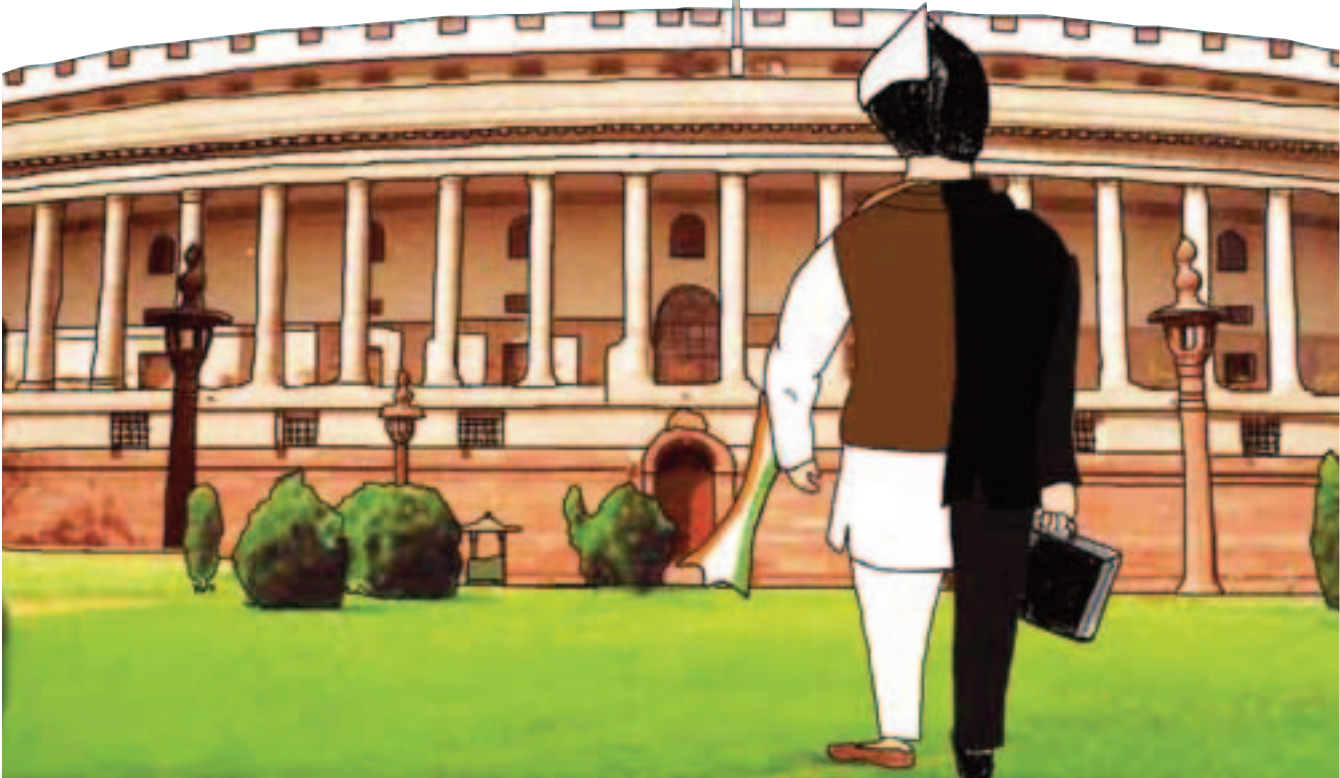


Illustration: Debolina Goswami, AIB & Imaging: Ravinder Gusain

Politics: Whose business?

Ready for entrée~politician

If the common man hasn’t been denied the right to be a part of the democracy; then why should the pillars of our economy be? From Naveen Jindal to Vijay Mallaya and Rajeev Chandrashekhar, most have shown great acumen as businessmen as well as politicians. They may be members of Rajya Sabha or committed party workers but all of them have one thing in common- they are all managing their political careers, and their vast empires well. Their interpersonal skills, decision making and leadership abilities make them a successful entre politicians!

Ambika Mathur, AIS Noida, XI

Not only business tycoons but a large number of people holding important offices join politics. Earlier, politics was considered as the last career option, but now, it is seen as an important instrument

of change. More people have taken up politics utilising their practical abilities.”

Ashok Sajjanhar
Former Ambassador of India to Kazakhstan and Sweden

We should give every businessman a chance if he wishes to treat the citizens as building blocks of his company called India and leave no stone unturned to make them and his company grow. Businessmen are profit oriented people and if they can take our country’s economy ahead in tough times, they can gladly serve as public servants too.

Sarthak Batra, AIS Mayur Vihar, XII

A person who is learned and experienced with resources at his disposal would be as powerful as a good global policy.

Shubham Sharma
Amity School of Economics

Politics is no business

I myself joined politics at a very early age. However, people and especially children need to realise the mission, the aim as to why one should give up everything to join politics - for the country's betterment, and not for money.

Armoogum Parsuramen
Former Director, UNESCO

No, I do not think that business tycoons should be allowed to enter politics because all they will do is turn politics into business. It's not their fault, they are hardwired to do that. And at this hour, the last thing the world needs is a money minded politician. Politics is a skilled science and should only be undertaken by people who are trained and have experience on their side.

Labanya Maitra, AIS Saket, XI

Serving as a people’s representative is

not an easy job. There are standards that one must set and live up to. The citizens of this nation are well versed and are no longer watching this game from the fringes. Businessmen tend to be guided by profits and not the collective good of the society; their entry into politics would prove to be a deterrent to the economy. In all likelihood, small scale industry would be wiped out and it would lead to crony capitalism too.

Snigdha Shahi, AIS Noida, XI

It’s not easy for businessmen to leave individual interest aside for general interest of the public. The main aim of business tycoons is to make profit.

Richie Ronsard
Amity School of Economics
Compiled by
Snigdha Shahi, AIS Noida, XI & Ambika Mathur, AIS Noida, XI

He came, he saw, he conquered...

It was not only his charm that won over the Amitians, it was his witty replies and oratory skills that made them sit up and take note of the biggest celebrity politician from UK. **Amlaan Kumar (IX H), Ambika Mathur, Oditi Anand and Isha Misra (XI J), AIS Noida** in a candid interview with His Excellency Mr Boris Johnson, the honourable Mayor of London unravel the different facets of his personality and discuss the challenges associated with governing the biggest, greatest and emerging global educational hub



How does it feel to be the biggest celebrity politician in UK?
 Politics is a very fickle business. A public servant has to continuously deliver to earn the trust and love of his people. I am pleased to be here. I want to share the message with the world that London is a perfect destination for trade and especially higher education. It would be overwhelming to see Dr Ashok K Chauhan’s dream of setting up a resi-

dential campus in the city come true.

How is it like to govern one of the greatest and the most challenging cities of the world?
 Like any other city of the world, London has its own share of problems. There are many difficult areas that require attention, but as a whole, the city is doing very well at the moment. It felt great to be the proud host of the 2012 Olympic Games. We

plan to capitalize on that success and look forward to strengthening the ties with India on all fronts.

You are popularly known as the “one man melting pot”. Tell us about your cosmopolitan heritage.
 I am proud to have a cosmopolitan heritage. My ancestors hail from different parts of the world. I have my roots in Russia and Turkey. You would be astonished to know that my children have an Indian grandma, whom they lovingly call ‘nani’.

How do you promote London and Londoners at home and abroad?
 I simply put across the facts associated with the beautiful and majestic city of London. It is hard to believe, but it is true that London has more green spaces, parks, museums and bookshops as compared to New York City. It has topped the tables to emerge as the most visited city of the world leaving Paris and Spain far behind in the race. It is not only an important financial and technology hub, but it is the world’s most sought after destination for pursuing higher education. It is an excellent and safest place to live and work.

Continued on Page 2

A golden handshake

Educational ties between India and UK got a new impetus with Amity University announcing the opening of a sprawling residential campus in UK that can house over 15,000 foreign students



Smita Jain, GT Network

Driving ahead on the road of educational empowerment, Amity Foundation announced its decision to set up a residential campus in the heart of London. The announcement was made during the historic visit of HE Boris Johnson, the honourable Mayor of London to Amity University, Uttar Pradesh on November 26, 2012. Terming the visit as historic, Dr Ashok K Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe said, “The visit of the respectable mayor along with his contingent of corporate world leaders will bring a sea change in the relations be-



tween India and UK. Amity, India’s largest private university has the right mission, roadmap, resources, capable students, researchers and worthy faculty members. It has the capability to strike a strong bond in the area of research, innovation, excellence, training and education.” He added that he desired Amity to have a huge presence in London. Reminiscing the days spent as a student on the streets of London, Mr Atul Chauhan, Chancellor, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh said, “The years spent in London are the happiest days of my life. After making substantial headways on the educational front in India, the Founder President wanted Amity to

spread its wings offshore to facilitate cross cultural exchange. It was then that the first campus in London came up. It was after the resounding success of the London campus that we opened campuses in countries like Romania, Dubai, Singapore, California and Mauritius.” The chancellor shared Amity’s vision of opening up a residential campus for 15,000 foreign students in London along with Amity Innovation Incubator. The campus is likely to attract the brightest students, faculties and academicians from across the world and make London a new educational hub for Amity. He said Dr Chauhan has endowed him the task of opening up campuses in 50

countries across the globe. He also added that the visit ignited a spark amongst the Amitians and soon they would be storming the streets of London for academic and investment purposes. Addressing a rapt audience after a warm and hearty welcome, the Mayor said, “City Hall will now work very hard to realise your dream and turn it into a reality. As a Mayor, I will do what I can to promote London as a place that is open for business, trade and brightest talent in the world.” The Mayor urged the students to come to London and join the universities there, as he called on the government to protect London’s status as a leading global educational hub.  

.... Continued from Pg 1



How has London changed after the 2012 Olympic Games?

Many disadvantaged people have benefited from the sporting legacy of the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics Games. The games would hold a very special place in the heart of every Indian as it marked the record medal haul for the country. I hope the winning spree continues and India emerges as a strong sporting nation.

Tell us about your mission to make people switch over to bikes.

Bikes work very well in heavy London traffic. They provide a cheap alternative to Londoners who commute by tube. Now cyclist form 5% of London traffic. I have undertaken a slew of measures to transform London into a truly cyclist friendly city. On a lighter note, bikes are like new magic carpets for me. I truly believe in pedal power, anyone who is willing to take up politics should know how to cycle your way to pull your opponent down.

UK and London in particular is the favourite education destination for students. Shed some light on recent policy changes.

The most important thing is academic freedom. Students have the freedom to study where they want to and get admitted to an institute or college of their liking. The second most vital thing that we are trying to work out is that the students who have an inherent desire to learn should not find travelling from one place to another difficult. We are working on easing travel rules for bright minds.  

World at a glimpse

Missed out the latest happenings? Catch the news buzz as GT recaptures the major headlines

United States of America



- The United States will raise concerns with China over a new map in Chinese passports which details claims to disputed maritime territory, alarming some of its Southeast Asian neighbors, the State Department said.
- In a bizarre revelation, it has been said that the world’s most powerful nation, US, had planned to blow up the moon with a nuclear bomb. However, the plan was backtracked after objections raised by US Army, which had then expressed that if the mission failed, it would have dangerous consequences.

India



- London Mayor Boris Johnson sought investments from India, besides asking New Delhi to open arenas like insurance for foreign investors.
- The government has modified rules under the controversial Section 66(A) of the Information Technology Act in the wake of its alleged misuse in recent few cases. This comes a day after a 19-year-old boy was questioned by the police in Palghar, Maharashtra over an alleged Facebook post against MNS chief Raj Thackeray and arrest of two girls over a post against late Shiv Sena supremo.

Pakistan



- Pakistani journalist and celebrity TV anchor Hamid Mir escaped an assassination attempt, when the police defused a bomb planted under his car in Islamabad. The device in a metal box was found stuck under the front passenger seat of Mir’s car.
- US has expressed willingness to provide Pakistan with another three to four maritime surveillance aircrafts, P3C Orion for the aviation fleet of Pakistani navy during the 21st meeting of the US-Pakistan Defence Consultative Group (DCG).

Vatican City



- Pope Benedict XVI announced that he would soon be joining Twitter promising ‘Pearls of Wisdom’ in eight languages, under the name handle@pontifex. Partially-approved tweets will begin next week in time for Christmas celebrations, as the Catholic Church tries to reach a wider audience and harness social media to woo the internet generation. Media experts say the Pope will be lucky to break into the top 20 of the site’s most followed by people.

Egypt



- Tens of thousands of Egyptians rallied against President Mohamed Mursi in one of the biggest outpourings of protest since Hosni Mubarak’s overthrow. The protesters accused the Islamist leader of seeking to impose a new era of autocracy.

Israel



- Russian specialists have exhumed the body of late Palestinian leader Yaseer Arafat to establish the reasons for his death eight years ago. A new probe by French authorities was prompted earlier this year following the detection of radioactive polonium-210 on Arafat’s personal effects provided by his wife.

Syria



- Simultaneous car bombings killed more than 50 people and left a trail of destruction in a town near Syria’s capital on November 28, as rebels drowned a second military aircraft in as many days. The explosives-packed cars were detonated at daybreak.

South Korea



- South Korea urged North Korea to repay millions of dollars in debt and slammed the regime in Pyongyang for squandering scant resources on missile tests.
- The state’s power distributor issued an energy alert as electricity reserves dropped on heavy consumption.

Thailand



- Thailand’s Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra comfortably survived a no-confidence vote orchestrated by his opponents in the Parliament, following a heated debate on the government’s rice-pledging scheme and flood management budget.

United Kingdom



- Two menus from Titanic were sold at an auction for \$160,450. While one of them was a lunch menu served to first class passengers (sold at \$102,000), the other was for a VIP 12-course luncheon (sold at \$58,000) that included dishes like foie gras-stuffed eggs, turtle soup and Sussex capon.



Afghanistan



- Taliban insurgents launched a major suicide attack against a NATO base at an Afghan city airport, killing five people and injuring several foreign troops. Nine attackers were also killed, some blowing themselves up in two vehicles at the perimeter gate of the Jalalabad airport.

Nepal



- A pensioner has been granted Nepalese citizenship more than a century after she was born in a remote village of the Himalayan nation. Krishna Kumari Gharti, a 105-year-old widow who lives in Pakhapani village in Parbat district, was among a group of residents to be given identity cards for the first time  



Celebrating well-being

“I” is for Illness and “We” is for Wellness, with this message, AIPS & AIBHAS celebrated the Mental Health Week, where mental health was promoted



Students at the prize distribution ceremony



Clicks by participants on the theme of mental health

AIPS & AIBHAS

Amity Institute of Psychology and Allied Sciences (AIPS), Noida & Amity Institute of Behavioural Health and Allied Sciences (AIBHAS), Noida organised Mental Health Week on “Preventive Psychological Intervention of Depression”, in support of the UN theme of 2012 - “Depression: A Global Crisis”. It aimed to raise awareness about the importance of mental health and well-being in the community at large. The celebrations

What: Mental Health Week celebration
When: October 8-12, 2012
Where: Amity University, Noida

were an earnest attempt to contribute to reducing the stigma associated with mental ill health while offering a platform to engage the community in dialogue regarding help-seeking behaviour. The week long celebrations witnessed an array of activities such as panel discussions, poster making, slogan writing

competition, skits, *nukkad natak*, debate competition, paper presentations and photography competition. An online research was also conducted which aimed at sensitizing the students and faculty about the criticality of this crisis along with creating a dialogue on preventive measures to combat depression. Prof (Dr) Abha Singh, Director, AIPS & Acting Head, AIBHAS, during her inaugural speech, stated that the prevention of depression is the need of the hour, considering the rate at which it is on the rise among the general population. She also

focused on the fact that depression is psychologically treatable. The celebration summed up the fact that the more there is awareness amongst people about the problem, the more they are sensitive towards it. Thus, mental health awareness campaigns can prevent depression. The occasion had a galaxy of speakers: Dr John Victor, clinical psychologist, ex faculty & consultant, VIMHANS; Dr Kushal Jain, Consultant Psychiatrist, VIMHANS; Dr Manu Tiwari, Psychiatrist, Fortis Hospital and Dr Saurabh Vats, Psychiatrist, Prakash Hospital. [G](#) [I](#)

ASH cooks up a win

ASH



ASH student with his award

Seven students from Amity School of Hospitality (ASH) participated in the 11th Chandiwalla Hospitality Ensemble 2012 held at Banarsidas Chandiwalla Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology from October 10-12. The three-day competition was a platform for various hospitality schools from all over the country to showcase their culinary skills. Team ASH competed against 30 teams to bring laurels to the school by winning the second position. ASH students had participated in four categories in the event. Pawanjot Singh Sachdeva and Ankit Bisht stood second in the Dunar Rice Contest in which the contestants had to prepare a two-course menu comprising a main course and there was a choice between preparing a starter and a dessert. The participants, Sandeep Yadav, Puneet Vaid, Vishnu Karki, Chirag Talwar, Ankit Bisht, Gaurav Mehra and Pawanjot Singh were dedicatedly trained by ASH Chefs Siddharth Paria and Pramod Pathak for the prominent competition. [G](#) [I](#)

First session for Finhance Club

AGBS

Ankit Middha

Amity Global Business School

Finhance, the finance club of Amity Global Business School (AGBS), Noida, organised its first session on introduction to Stock Market Operations on October 11 under the guidance of Col YK Arora, Program Director & HoD, AGBS and Kirandeep Kaur, faculty member. The students of MBA-Semester I, who had conceptualized the idea of the Finhance Club, first spoke about its formation and tagline, “Simplifying Finance”.

A student speaks at the session



The student-driven session was conducted by Amit Kumar and Gaurav Gupta. They discussed the basics of the financial and stock market in detail, while providing an overview of the Indian stock market and its operations. They substantiated the concept with examples, videos and pictures. Col Y K Arora shared his views on stock trading as an intellectual activity where the investor puts in money keeping in mind all the precautions and market situations. Kirandeep Kaur suggested a stock simulation game and a visit to the stock exchange as the next activity of the Finhance Club. [G](#) [I](#)

Announcement

What: Annual AGBS corporate meet- Global Opportunities for Aspiring Leaders (GOAL 2012)

When: December 19, 2012; 1:30pm to 9pm

Where: Amity University Noida

Who: Corporate leaders, speakers, guests; summer internship guides; AGBS students; parents & alumni

Agenda: Providing a platform for the distinguished corporate guests from diverse sectors to enlighten the budding leaders of tomorrow

Guest of Honour: Dr Mahesh Sharma, Chief Managing Director, Kailash Hospital

Speakers: Rajesh Joon, Head, Haryana Tourism; Bhavook Tripathi, Head, Financial Wizard; Col Dhingra, WWIL Zee Enterprises; Lt Col Vats, Head, HR, Voyants Solutions Pt Ltd and many others

USP: Management games, cultural night, panel discussions, industry interaction
Cultural night performers: Hari Sukhmani & Rajasthan Troupe [G](#) [I](#)

Do we love to hate Maths?

Shantanu Chandra, AIS MV, VIII D, reasons why Mathematics is a universally hated subject among students all over the world



“Do not worry about your problems in Mathematics, I can assure you mine are still greater,” the great Albert Einstein himself said these very lines, and how true was he! After all, we are barely in Class VIII, yet we struggle and fumble with the subject, trying to get the concepts right!

Math can make us look silly

Well, the struggle is just one of the reasons for the universal dislike for the subject; add to that the fact that one small mistake or error can result in the wrong answer! 0 is so insignificant, but if you change its position in a sum, you end up with anything but

the correct answer! Then begins the rollercoaster ride of going back to step one and figuring out the silly mistake.

A subject of paradoxes

Math can be likened to a complicated structure; if one brick is removed, the entire foundation collapses. Math is also a subject of paradoxes. Even the best students can fail in Math because it is a completely logical subject and very difficult to fully understand, thus becoming a burden on students, with many joining private tuitions to grasp the concept better. Those who try to study it hard, sometimes fail too, as Math is a not a bookish subject. It requires virtues such as calm and patient mind

Minions of Math

The minions of Math are always doing their best to torture students. Take for instance, Lord Troublesome ‘X’, Mr Bothersome ‘Y’ that are hard to count on fingers! What further complicates the situation is that we cannot go on bombarding our teacher with doubts. But if we are unable to solve a question, we tend to get angry and frustrated, and as a result, only blame maths.

Love to love Math

Math must be simplified further for those who are weak at it. Students, in turn, should put in their best efforts to enjoy it as the concepts of Math have universal application. [G](#) [I](#)

Amity Institute for Competitive Examinations

Presents

Brainleaks

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FOR CLASSES XI-XII

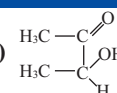
A certain weak acid (HA) has dissociation constant (K_a) = 10^{-8} in aqueous solution at 25°C . The value of the equilibrium constant when it reacts with a strong base is:

(a) 10^8 (b) 10^{-8} (c) 10^{-14} (d) 10^6

Last Date:
Dec 23, 2012

3 correct entries win attractive prizes

Ans: Brainleaks 60: (c)



Name:.....

Class:.....

School:.....

Send your answer to The Global Times,
E-26, Defence Colony, New Delhi - 24
or e-mail your answer at brainleaks@theglobaltimes.in

Birds of Paradise

For birdwatchers, India is a delightful place to be. With more than 1300 species of birds found here, their uniqueness is intriguing

Nandan Bhusray, AIS Noida, X C


India is host to a variety of flora and fauna. Around 1301 species of birds can be found here. From the scavenging kites to the beautiful national bird peacock, all can be seen in their natural habitat. Amongst all the birds found in India, the mandarin duck and the peacock share a special pride of place. **Magnificent Mandarin:** The mandarin duck is native to Jaipur, Rajasthan and feeds on acorns, nuts, grain, aquatic plants, insects, small fish and snails. At



Illustrations:
Nandan Bhusray,
AIS Noida, X C

full maturity, the male has a pair of ‘sail’ feathers that are raised vertically above the back, a crest of orange and cream feathers, and a broad white eye-stripe that is bounded above and below by darker feathers. The female is also very distinctive. It is duller in colour and has an overall grey appearance marked by a curling stripe behind the eye and a series of white blotches on its lower body. Mandarin ducks are considered to be an auspicious symbol in Feng Shui.

Pretty Peacock: The peacock is our national bird. The male of the species has the iconic beautiful tail which it spreads and dances while enjoying the rain in the monsoons. In Hinduism, the image of

the God of thunder, rains and war, Lord Indra, was depicted like a peacock. In south India, peacock is considered as the *vahana* or vehicle of Lord Muruga. In Christianity, the peacock was also known as the symbol of the Resurrection. The peacock bird is an important part of Indian folklore and features prominently in ancient Indian plays, poems and paintings. 



Graphic: Pranshu Dixit, AIS Vas 6, IX A

Om in Vacuum

Naad Brahma theory states that universe was created out of the energy of sound

Sukant Koul, AIS Vasundhara 6, X A

It’s a known fact that sound waves need a medium to travel. In simpler language, there are no sound waves in vacuum. In the ancient age, it was Sage Vishwamitra who theorised that the peaceful *Om* sound could be ‘heard’ even in a vacuum.


Does that mean that his postulations contradict the laws of science? In layman’s terms, every object that has mass, has a resonant frequency and it is at this frequency that the object will vibrate when any force is applied on it.

Now, to go off-topic a bit, only 5% of the mass in the universe comprises stars and galaxies. The remaining 95% is of something scientists call Dark Matter. The presence of Dark Matter is known, but it has never been directly detected. It

cannot be seen with telescopes; it does not absorb or emit light or any other electromagnetic radiation.

When the resonant frequencies of two bodies close to each other match, then any vibration in one creates vibration in the other. So, when Vishwamitra’s mind reached the resonant frequency of the Milky Way, he was able to feel the vibrations made by it in the presence of the otherwise undetectable Dark Matter.

He then declared that it were these vibrations that he had felt physically (not through the ears, however) and mentally as the sound *Om*, which, by the way, he didn’t ‘hear’, mind you. He didn’t hear the sound, he just felt the vibration. Thus, in that way, the universe was created out of the energy of sound.

This rather remarkable postulation is called the Naad-Brahma theory. 

Book your place in space

Man’s quest to attain the unattainable has led him to explore life beyond earth. With new planets and celestial bodies being discovered regularly, many of them show promises of sustaining life

Sanchit Kumar
AIS Vasundhara 6, XII

Avatar, Transformers, Armageddon: what strikes you when you read these words? A world full of mysteries and imagination! With ample research that has already been done and many new ones underway, that day is not far when a world similar to the ones seen in such movies may become a reality. Who knows, you might take your next vacation in a destination like that! Take a look!

Life beyond Earth... really?

The scientists of various space organisations have been working on the subject for many years and there certainly seems to be a ray of

hope. With the discovery of new planets and celestial bodies being a regular affair, many of them seem to be quite interesting because they are Earth like and show promises of sustaining life. As per research some locations that are most likely to have life are Venus and Mars, Jupiter’s moon Europa, and Saturn’s moons Titan and Enceladus. As reported by NASA scientists in May 2011, after Earth, Enceladus is emerging as the most habitable spot for life in the solar system.

Life may also appear on extrasolar planets, such as the recently discovered Gliese 581, which almost equals Earth’s mass and has the potential to have liquid water. NASA scientists have also discovered an exoplanet Kepler-22b that appears to be orbiting a sun-like star within the habitable zone.


Living in space!

With research, discoveries and articles on the possibility of leaving Earth to settle on other planets having caught the imagination of masses, not to mention the annual NASA competitions to create a hypothetical settlement on Mars, it might just be a reality twenty years from now. Then there are companies like Virgin Galactic, Armadillo Airspace and Space X, which have been working on the concept of space tourism and other projects to capitalize the opportunity and turn it into a

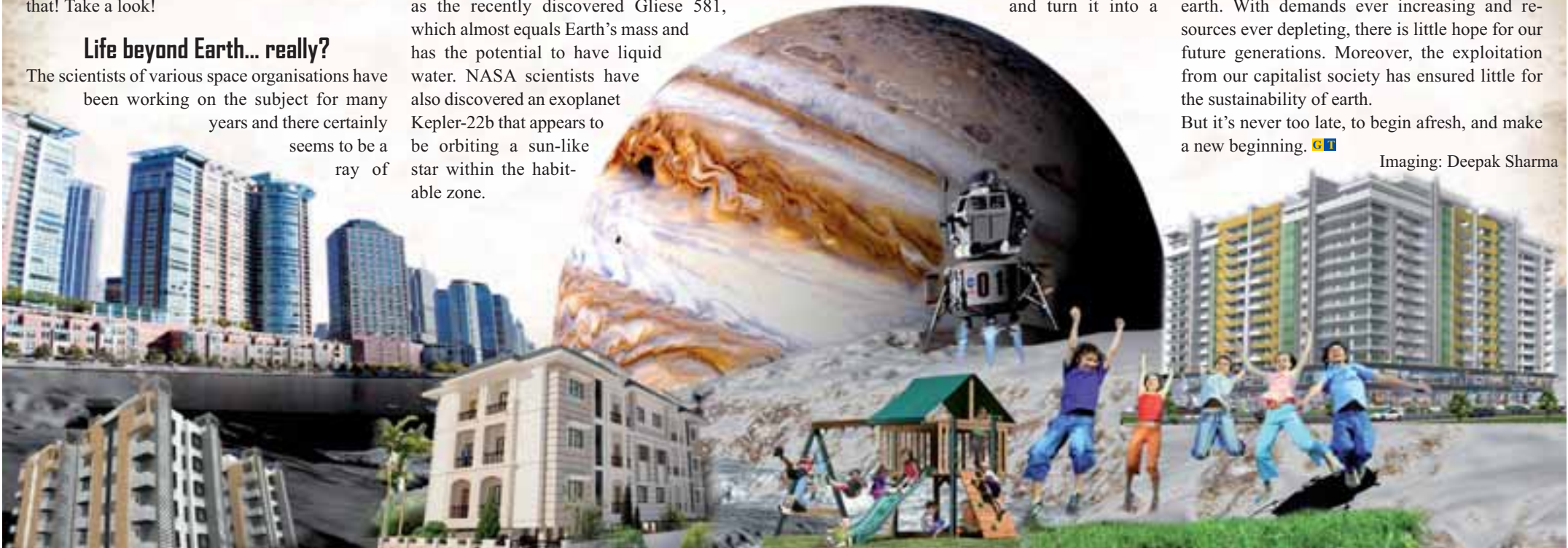
massive industry. Perhaps, it is time to book your place in space!

A bright tomorrow, but a bleak today

With newer discoveries at their peak, what we are losing out is what we already have. We are constantly trying to see the outer world in a new light, what we have missed out is the darkness surrounding our own planet. The way we have been destroying, consuming and polluting mother earth dictates the reason for our search of life beyond earth. With demands ever increasing and resources ever depleting, there is little hope for our future generations. Moreover, the exploitation from our capitalist society has ensured little for the sustainability of earth.

But it’s never too late, to begin afresh, and make a new beginning. 

Imaging: Deepak Sharma





Gear up to clean India

Have the spots and stains found all over Indian roads irked you enough to do something about them? Reel in as **Charvi Sinha**, AIS Saket, IX C and her team join hands to make India 'spit free'!

Spitting in public is an absolutely disgusting habit. Walking down the street trying to avoid those big blobs of 'gob', one just wishes that there was some divine power that would turn it around and fling it back in the faces of those who are doing it!

What people don't realise is that their mucus could be carrying the bacteria and viruses of dangerous diseases like tuberculosis. Spitting in public places shows plain lack of etiquette and utter disregard towards the rights of others to a healthy and clean surrounding. To address this issue, some of my classmates decided to take an initiative and our medium was Project Citizen India.

The Project

Project Citizen India is a well researched, interactive programme which encourages or-

inary citizens to identify a community problem and suggest solutions. For our project, we started by identifying the spitting problem in our community and moved forward by gathering and evaluating the information related to it from various sources. Next, we examined the existing gov-

ernment policies and developed a class policy for the government to adopt. As part of our action plan, we reached out to people and in-

formed them about the alarming issue. We gave presentations at several places including Amitasha and Ramjas School, RK Puram.

Another effort in the direction was meeting two influential personalities with whose cooperation Delhi can become spit free. One of them was Savita Gupta, Mayor of Delhi and the other was Dr Kiran Walia, Minister for Health and Family Welfare (interview in box).

Under the guidance of teacher guide, Manju Verma, we participated in the Project Citizen

India competition at Ramjas School, RK Puram on November 1, 2012 and competed with over 15 schools from all over Delhi. Our team bagged the 'Excellent Portfolio' award. for its concerted efforts.

If all the citizens take up cudgels against the civic menaces

plaguing the country, India can become a cleaner & greener place to live.

Team AIS Saket: Jayana Bedi, Stuti Sengupta, Avantika Sharma, Geetanjali Khanna, Diksha Saxena, Sunanda Natarajan, Nikita Ahooja, Nishtha Gupta, Nainika Tokas, Aditya Bhatia, Siddharth Kapoor, Parinay Gupta, Siddhant Treasure, Prashant Revaneti, Siddhant Bhambra & Charvi Sinha

Teté-ê-teté with Dr Kiran Walia

What do you think is the root cause of this problem?

Most people are unaware of the harmful effects of spitting. They don't know about the deadly diseases that spread from spitting in public area.



How can citizens help in eradicating this problem from the society?

It is primarily the worker class, which is mostly illiterate that is responsible for this problem. Placing spittoons can prove an effective solution to the problem. The working class can help by spreading awareness.

Can govt initiatives like 'Jago Grahak Jago' be used to address this problem?

As the government plays a very important role in spreading awareness, they should create more such ads. Strict fines should be imposed on people spoiling the beauty of the country.

What steps can we take at our level?

Rallying and campaigning are the best possible ways out. To begin with, the project can be initiated with a small sample of population.



Illustration: Deepak Sharma

The darker side of Facebook

Is FB just a social networking site that connects you with friends? Think again!

Puneet Batra

Amity School of Engg. & Technology

It's 2 am. As I lie beside my laptop, a Facebook pop up attracts me and sets off a conversation. Even though I want to hold back and finish the task at hand, I can't get my mind off it. It's 5 am and I am finally done with the conversation, realising that I would now be sleeping during college lectures!

Does this sound like your story? Well, in all probability, it is! Time to take stock of some not-so-good aspects of FB...

Hub for rumour-mongers: Facebook can educate and be a good medium for spreading awareness. But at the same time, it may be exploited to spread rumours and slanders which can go viral in a few seconds.

Personality masquerade: Fake profiles and duplicate accounts are often misleading and facilitate stalking. Even though Facebook offers robust privacy settings, nearly half the users don't know much about them.

Distraction from work: According to a survey, a majority of people open Facebook before they start their work on laptop/PC and if they find anything interesting, they forget about the task they had to perform.

Facebook is a brilliant tool that meets our social needs well within the four walls of our house. The site brings out the social butterfly in us, but we must know where to draw the line

when it comes to our relationship with it.

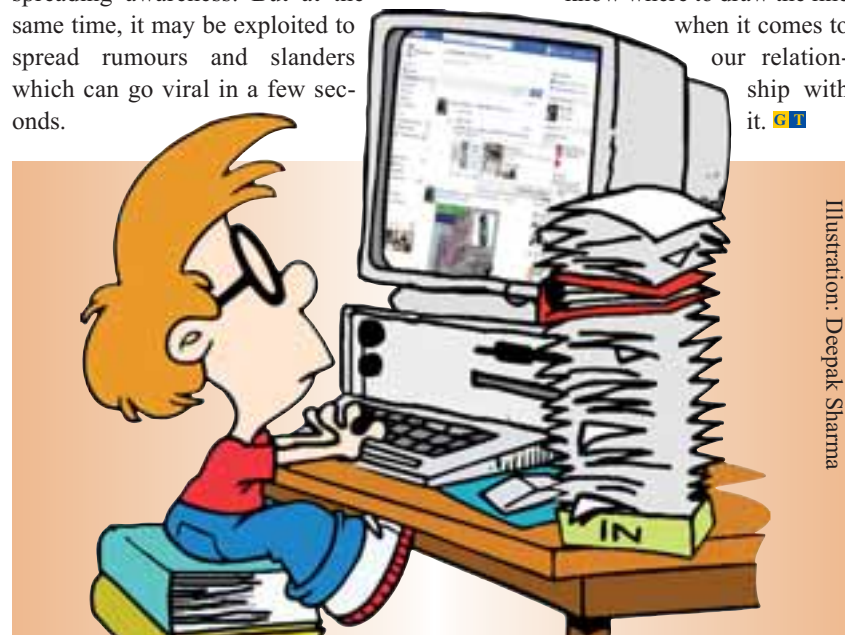


Illustration: Deepak Sharma



Learnings

Join in as this little wonder walks the eco-friendly path to light up lives



Taksheel Buddhadeo
AIS Gurgaon 46, I

On a visit to an orphanage with my mother, I was disturbed by the sight of the shabbily dressed girls. That's when my mother explained, that these girls are orphans, and they do not have a family. So, I decided to cheer them up a little by celebrating Diwali with them and also taught them the benefits of eco-friendly diwali.

Inspired by Amitasha (Amity's educational wing for the less privileged girl child), I organised a workshop on eco-friendly Diwali at Aarushi Orphanage for girls (run by Salam Balak Trust) with my mom's help. It was my first ever workshop and I was very excited about it.

The workshop was conducted on Diwali evening with the rendition of the shloka 'Shubham karoti kalyanam'. All the kids and elders joined me in the recitation. I

also explained the meaning of the shlokas to everyone. After that, all of us made colourful rangolis with flowers. I taught the girls how to decorate diyas. Later, a drawing competition was organised for the children, where I taught them how to draw eco-friendly items for diwali. I had taken some diyas and gifts for the children which they liked very much. The workshop ended with the shloka 'Ya devi sarva bhuteshu' and a Laxmi-Ganesh puja.

The objective of the workshop was to motivate the children of the orphanage to celebrate festivals the way everyone does and give wings to their dreams. I was very happy to celebrate diwali in a very different way this year.

I would love to thank my teachers at Amity who have given me the confidence and motivation to try out new things like this workshop.

(As told to The Global Times)

Rangoli Hues

Jaysheel Buddhadeo

Amiown Gurgaon, Pre Nur B

In my school, the theme of the month was 'Festivals'. We were celebrating various festivals of India. Our parents were also invited to the school to join the celebrations. My mother came to my school wearing a traditional Gujarati garba dress and helped me prepare my first ever Swastik rangoli with parijaat flowers. These flowers are considered very pious as they were Lord Shiva's favourite flowers. According to Indian mythology, the parijaat flowers were offered to Lord Shiva by Goddess Parvati. Henceforth, these flowers have an important place in all festive rituals.

I also gave a presentation on 'How we celebrate Gujarati Garba festival' in my class. All the children and teachers danced with us and we had a great time.



Politics of heart





Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

We all have grown up hearing that power corrupts and absolute power corrupts completely. Politics has always been regarded as a dirty arena where it is very difficult to remain unscathed by it, but is it possible to clear the mess that we associate polity with, without being a part of the system? It is easy to raise hue and cry about how flawed the system is? But how many of us are ready to steer clear of our notions and jump in to revive a system which is dying due to lack of fresh blood.

I agree completely with Parasuraman Arumugam, former Director, UNESCO and chief guest at Amity International Model United Nation, 2012 (AIMUN), "Politics itself is not corrupt, it is in fact very noble. Young people should not shy away, rather follow it closely and contribute whenever they feel they are ready."

He has beautifully summed up his feelings in these lines, "Pen it with value, a mission to change, join as many big people so that you can bring the change." His words have given me the faith that a new spring of hope is just a winter away." We, at Amity, also believe in nurturing global citizens who don't question what their country can do for them, rather they ask how they can contribute for their motherland.

AIMUN and Youth Power program are the two initiatives undertaken by Amity to breed a new crop of youth leaders who consider it their moral duty to work for their less privileged brethren and they are blessed with the skills to have their words heard in the alleys of power.  

Being Parent




Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

Being a mom is not an easy task. Infact, to earn the degree of being the 'best mom' is the hardest of all education, because there is no one school or institution that imparts it all. Giving birth to a child alone does not alone grant you the label of being a mother. While you get the entitled designation of being the 'biological mom', what follows is a marathon of sleepless nights, changing diapers, chasing the exam dates, grasping the school curriculum interspersed with balancing the career and family responsibilities. To top it all, if you manage all this while maintaining the broad smile with intelligence, wit and humour, believe me you have earned your degree of 'best mom'.

The point that I wish to make is that being a parent or a mom is not an easy journey. It is the same everywhere. Hence when I read the case of the 'Oslo parents abuse', it shocked me. While I am no one to make a statement whether parents should be punished for punishing the child, it raises the much old debate on 'spare the rod and spoil the child' that even triggered the debate on a popular national TV channel whether there should be universal parenting norms, irrespective of culture? Sounds ridiculous, because then you have just one choice, do as Romans when in Rome.

India takes pride in rearing mothers with stories of sacrificing Panna and Devki, screen mother of 'Mother India' or foster mother Yashoda who embodied the qualities of love and sacrifice. Hence, to reach a stage when the state has to enter your home to teach you how to be a good parent, it's time to ponder.

It's time to revisit our cultural norms and family values, that perhaps we are unconsciously forgetting somewhere.  

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Published for the period December 10-16, 2012

It's an AD-MAD world

Imaging: Ravinder Gusain

Advertisements not only breed materialism, but also send out a powerful message

Sarthak Goswami, AIS Gurgaon 43

How will you ask your parents for an Xbox? "Mom, dad! I have been a very good child over the last few months. You have received no complaints from my teachers and I have scored good marks in the final exams, so I deserve a good prize from you and there is this latest version of Xbox in the market, please buy me that!" What we are doing here is advertising ourselves to get something from our parents. What's wrong if companies do the same to market their products? Self promotion is a natural instinct and advertising is a manifestation of that instinct.



Ads a slice of life: Imagine a world without advertisements for children- there would be no way for us to find out about the latest gadgets, books and technology available in the market. Advertisements can be a good source of information, though the information might be somewhat biased, but with guidance from parents and a little common sense, we can discern facts from claims and make an informed decision. It would not have been possible to know about the latest mobile phones and technologies like GPS without advertisements of telecom majors.

Adding social value: Might sound surprising, but, advertisements are a powerful tool to promote good behaviour among children; brands often link product the image with meaningful messages such as a soap with personal hygiene. Eminent personalities



like Sachin Tendulkar, who are idols for Gen Y, try inculcating good habits among children through these commercials. Each time you watch the Bournvita ad, it urges you to excel. The advertising campaign run by Tata Cancer Hospitals and polio drive run by the government have helped wipe out many diseases. These social advertisements also propel us to give back to the society in some form.

Adding to woes: However, advertisers should also

not cross the sacred line and over exaggerate the facts to influence the young impressionable minds to give into unhealthy food habits and lifestyle. The advertisers need to adopt a more creative approach to push the products. As responsible citizens, we should dissuade the use of unethical promotional practices and especially the ones that are aimed at children. But it does not mean doing away with good informative advertisements as 'knowing is everything'.  

Happiness: a way of life

As we delve deeper into the outside world looking for happiness, we forget to look within. **Misbah Ashraf of Amity School of Engineering and Technology shares his secret formula of happiness**

"Happiness?" The voice at the other end said "What a cliché". So there I was, holding the tattered remains of my idea. Experience should have taught me that no self respecting columnist should consult an iconoclastic twenty something who has made it his life's mission to demolish egos. But no, I had to seek his counsel before going ahead with my grandiose plan to pen a profound piece on happiness.

Happiness was, in retrospect, indeed a cliché, and it has been done to death by many ranging from Aristotle to Martin Seligman. Think happiness and Reader's Digest articles flash before your eyes that

Perspective





promise a magic escape from your blues. The human effort to be happy seems to me like a cat pawing a ball of wool. He goes at it tooth and claw and all he gets at the end is a messy tangle. We are all in the habit of treating happiness like a Rubik's Cube trying to get all the colours on one side. But it doesn't work that way and so, unable to get the real thing,

we settle for something low down on happiness – the feel good factor. I agree that in a bleak apocalyptic scenario, happiness is out of question. Ah, but the feel good factor? That is a whole new ball game.

How about catching on a feel good film, treating yourself to a doughnut or picking up a smiley T-shirt in canary yellow. Go and indulge yourself in small, distracting pleasures. Though, the euphoria is temporary and problems don't go away, but you deserve to pamper yourself.

Ever heard of Richard Wiseman? Well, he penned the book *59 Seconds* and it takes that little time, for you to claim instant *nirvana*. He advises people to try shocking pink, electric red and murderous blue. He believes that you would be so blinded by colour that you would forget to brood. As people around laugh at your fashion fiasco and tears of merriment roll down, all the poisonous toxins would be washed away, the cardiac muscles would be exercised and endorphins would create feelings of happiness.

If you want to do your bit for humanity with the privations of being Mother Teresa, go for that hideous yellow shirt or *sari* buried at the bottom of your closet.  

For the love of humanity

Aarush Gupta, AIS Vas 6, X B

Pearls of Wisdom

True peace is not merely the absence of tension, it is presence of justice.
Martin Luther King Jr.

You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is like an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty.
Mahatma Gandhi

I must study politics and war that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy.

John Adams

Nor shall derision prove powerful against those who listen to humanity or those who follow in the footsteps of divinity, for they shall live forever.

Khalil Gibran

If civilization is to survive, we must cultivate the science of human relationships- the ability of all people, of all kinds, to live together in the same world at peace.

Franklin D Roosevelt

If I can stop one heart from breaking, I shall not live in vain. If I can ease one life the aching, or cool one pain, or help one fainting robin unto his nest again, I shall not live in vain.

Emily Dickinson

We cannot despair of humanity, since we ourselves are human beings.



Albert Einstein

If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.

Mother Teresa

GT M@il

Dear Editor,

It was heartening to see my article in print in the November 26 issue of The Global Times. I always had a passion for writing, but never had a medium to express. The moment I learnt that I could contribute for our in-house newspaper, I began covering events of Amity School of Engineering and Technology (ASET) and then shared the details of the project I had been working on. After the release of the issue, I became an overnight celebrity and congratulatory messages just flooded my mail account! My trust with GT has just begun and I hope to keep writing for it.  

Arohan Sharma
Amity School of Engg & Technology



When I was a kid...

A kid's world- full of sugar and spice and everything nice? Think again because the experiences of these little munchkins from AIS Saket can surely teach everyone a thing or two!

Vroom vroom

Remember sitting on daddy's lap as he drove the car? I used to do that too, until one day...

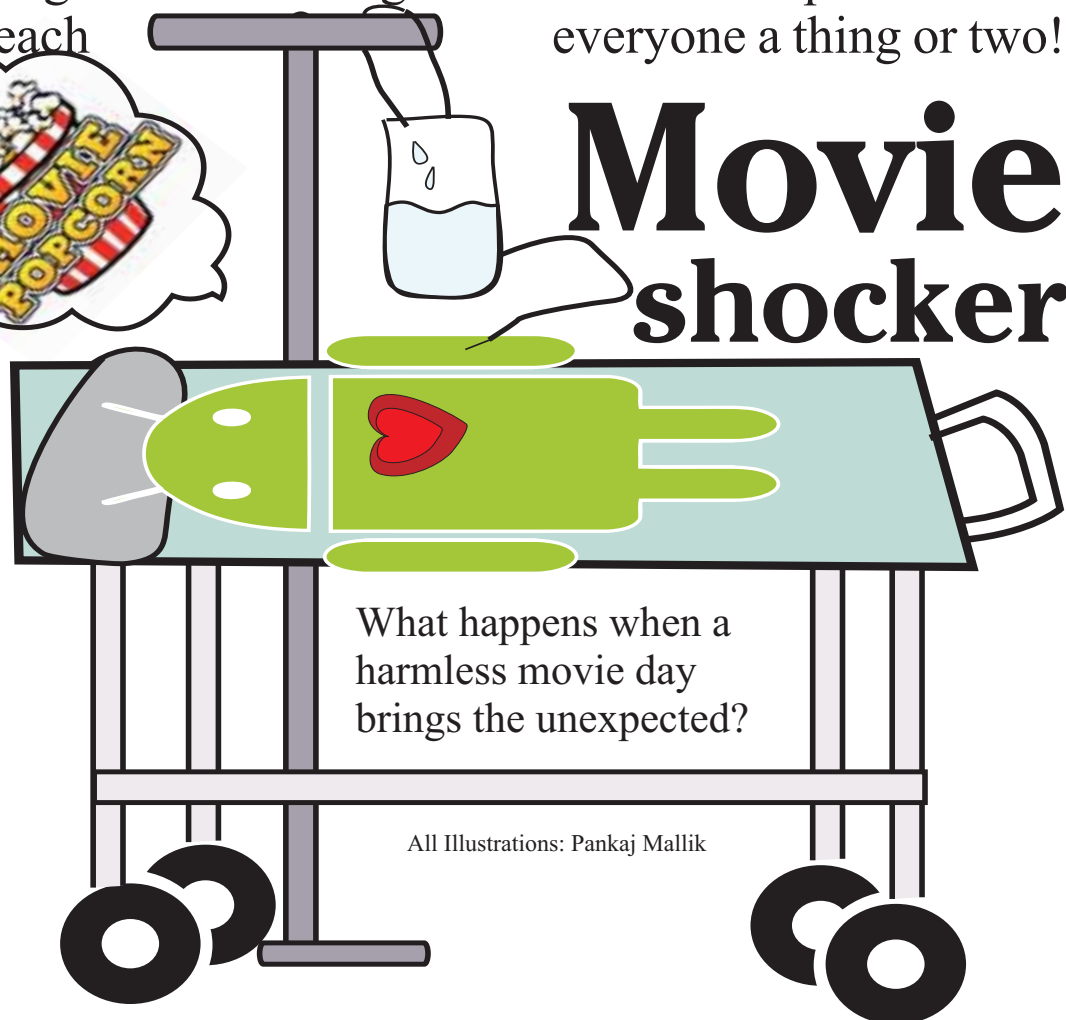


Vipasha Nair, II B

As a four year old, I used to enjoy my evening drives with daddy when he came back from office. I would sit on his lap, holding the steering and go vroom ... vroom! It was all good till one stormy evening when we were on the Ring Road and I was on my fa-

ther's lap controlling the steering. Though we were on the right track, a speeding truck coming from the wrong side collided with our car! The impact of the collision was so hard that I banged my forehead on the steering with my dad's teeth silting an inch on my head from the back. The four small stitches on my head at the age of four still per-

sist. That incident injured us both physically as well as mentally. My personal experience is a message to all my young friends to never put their hands or face out of the car window nor sit on the lap while someone's driving. Also, ensure that you are wearing seat belts every time you are on the move. As it is rightly said, "Prevention is better than cure."



All Illustrations: Pankaj Mallik

Arush Singhal, II C

It was a weekend, our day to have fun. My parents had planned for a movie and dinner with Gupta uncle's family. In our excitement, we reached the multiplex before time and bought popcorn and cold drinks. Soon, the movie started and we couldn't resist laughing as it was a great comedy. Almost after an hour, I heard my

father asking Gupta uncle, whether he was OK. I guessed something was wrong as uncle's facial expression had changed and he complained of chest pain. In no time, we were hurrying towards the hospital. My father, who is a cardiologist, told me that uncle had a heart attack. Soon, he was admitted in the ICU, where he received the required treatment and within two hours, he started showing signs

of improvement. We spent the whole night in restlessness. Next morning, uncle was almost normal. There was a sign of relief on everybody's face. In a moment, an enjoyable weekend turned into jitters, but the final outcome of saving a precious life washed away that momentary jitter. My mind goads me again and again that I should also become a doctor when I grow up and serve humanity.

Dear Diary

Parth Khullar, II A

I started talking very early. I talk and talk and all my teachers in school right from Pre-nursery know that I talk a lot! When I started to speak, my mom made a diary wherein she would write everything I would do and say as a baby.

Mom writes

■ It was my birthday, we had a dinner at my grandparents' house. While coming back home, Parth asked, "Ma, it's your birthday today but you haven't grown big, you look just the same to me!" I burst into laughter hearing my son's question. He meant, there wasn't any change in my height, so how had I grown older? It was difficult to make him understand that every birthday, we grow older by one year and not necessarily in height!

■ Once, after a family dinner, we decided to go to a five star to have coffee. We went to Hotel Marriot and after paying for our coffee, we were about to leave when Parth innocently asked, "We didn't get a 5 Star, how can we go?" We all could not help laughing. He thought, a five star hotel was where they give Cadbury's 5 Star to eat!

Narrow Escape

Ever sneaked up that terrace alone?

Bipanchy Hazarika, II B



I was visiting my grandparents in Guwahati. On their first floor terrace, there was an iron ladder with side railings which led to the second floor terrace. One evening, I was on the first floor terrace with my daddy, enjoying the fresh air. Soon, daddy went to attend a call on his mobile and I climbed up the ladder to the second floor. Daddy realised that I was not with him and started looking for me. I called him from the second floor. Seeing me up there, he started climbing up, warning me not to come down. But I started to come down. However, I lost my balance and fell headlong from a height of around 9-10 feet. Daddy stretched his arms and somehow managed to turn me around in mid air because of which I landed on my back instead of my head. I started howling loudly. Luckily, I wasn't hurt much. The funniest part was that mummy thought that it was daddy's fault and gave him a piece of her mind! Poor daddy, he saved my life, yet got a scolding!

Road race

Ira Malik, II C

It was a pleasant evening. I had gone for a walk with my parents and sister. The fresh fragrance of flowers, the sound of leaves- all these made me very happy. I was jumping with excitement and was running ahead of everyone. Just then my sister suggested that we have a race. I agreed and we

both started to run very fast. As I was about to reach the gate of our colony, I stumbled and fell down. My forehead hit a sharp stone lying on the road. I started bleeding and began to cry. My parents took me home and gave me first aid to stop the bleeding. They then took me to the hospital where the doctor gave me two stitches. That day, I learnt an important lesson: never run on the road!

Fairytopia



Rishika Gupta, II B

I was just two and a half years old at that time and studying in a play school. In our annual function, I was in a fairy group dance. For the dance, I wore a beautiful dress. It was a long, frilly gown with

I wore a long frilly gown with a tiara and magic wand. I felt like a fairy!

a tiara, wings and magic wand. I felt like a fairy! I still remember, during the dance, I was the only girl who kept dancing till the end and had not forgotten any steps. After the performance, many parents and teachers appreciated me. Even our Principal called me and said, "You danced like a little angel!" My photo was on the cover of the school album. I became famous in the school. My first stage performance also became the most admired performance of my life, one that I can never ever forget!

Ran on the road, have you?



Papa ki scooter

Prashant Kumar, alumnus, Amity School of Engineering & Technology reminisces the day when the family got its first scooter

No, I was not born with a silver spoon in my mouth, in fact, I was born simply like most people are-in Tata Main Hospital (Jamshedpur). Anyway, I was born with a birthday gift for my own self, a black and white T.V from Salora (the company brand). However, the first big thing that came home a few years later was *Papa ki scooter*, a blue coloured Bajaj (0189 – *gaadi ka number*). It was a sunny Sunday. We lived in a two bedroom flat on the third floor. I still remember how my mom, sister and I were impatiently waiting for the scooter, I was not tall enough then, hardly a 3 feet boy trying his best to push out, peeping every now and then to get a view. Those were the days when I didn’t know how to read the time on the clock either. So I’m not sure about the time *papa ki scooter* arrived but as it did, we ran downstairs, with me almost shouting at the top of my voice, “scooter-scooter-scooter” and mom with a *puja thaali*. Seeing the scooter parked in the garage, I was amused with the little celebration



I was witnessing- marigold flowers, incense sticks, a few scattered particles of rice, and how my mom inscribed *Om* and a *Swastika* on the front end of the scooter. I was also taken for my first ride on the scooter to a local marketplace, where I had an ice-cream! The scooter is an indispensable part of my nostalgic memories. I remember waiting for my *auto waala bhaiya* during school days, while enjoying the

pleasure of sitting on the parked scooter. The vehicle is also a part of my many innocent acts of clowning around. The scooter knew me well enough, but I knew a little about it! Surprisingly, I don’t know how to drive any vehicle till now. However, if at all I make up my mind to learn driving a vehicle someday, it’d be a scooter first! [To read more, log on to http://pacificimagineering.blogspot.in/](http://pacificimagineering.blogspot.in/)



Mulligatawny soup

Pawanjot Singh

Amity School of Hospitality

Ingredients

Refined oil..... 1 tbsp
Amul butter.....10 gms
Dal *masoor* (red).....1 cup
Garlic (peeled).....3 cloves
Tamarind juice.....10 ml
Tomato puree..... 25 ml
Curry powder.....1 tsp
Refined flour..... 1 tbsp
Basmati rice..... 2 tbsps
Salt, white pepper powder.....to taste
Coconut Milk.....25 ml
Apple, potato (diced).....1 each
Onion (chopped).....1

Lemon juice.....10 ml
Curry leaves5-6
Bread basket (per portion)4

Method

■ Wash *dal* and keep aside.

■ Heat oil and butter in a pan, add onion, garlic and saute them.

■ Add water, bring to a boil, then put *dal*, cocunut milk, curry powder, apple, rice, potato and curry leaves.

■ Add tamarind juice, refined flour and puree. Cook after adding salt and white pepper powder.

■ Add lemon and serve with bread.

POEM

Yes, I am the mad girl...



Kritika Nanda

Alumnus, AIESR


Walking alone, feet sore,
numb, along these acrimonious roads.
Battered clothes, wired hair,
shoes in ruins, they tell my story.
Yes, I am the mad girl!
No hands to hold,
none to wipe off my tears.
Smile, as if, was never mine,
blessed are the ‘orderly’ ones, their peers
Yes, I am the mad girl!
No riches to lead the penetrating
winters astray,
no reassuring hugs, no pacifying lullaby.
Little hopes of having an appetite
my gluttony, by those ‘rare’ pennies,
falling out of the passers by,
Yes, I am the mad girl!
The sun, the moon, the stars are
my only companion.
Mosquitoes breeding, feeding
on the bruises left open.
The mud, the cause and the cure
wandering on the tormenting ways,
lost, heart-broken
Yes, I am the mad girl!

Brush ‘n’ Easel

Sonali Singhal

AIS Gur 46, VIII F







CAMERA CAPERS


Majida Muzaffar, AIS Noida, VIII A

Send in your entries to
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in






Taj Mahal - A mausoleum of love



Symbol of peace



Mark of a new beginning



Which Indian cricketer is known as ‘The Wall’?
Rahul Dravid

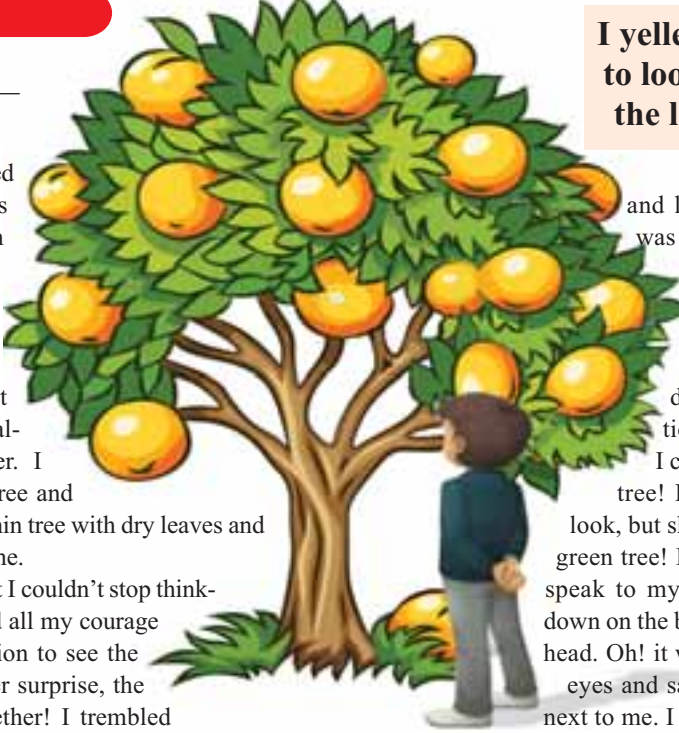
The mysterious tree

Imaging: Ravinder Gusain

Short story

Preeti Panigrahi
AIS Noida, VI

One morning I chanced upon a tree. It was huge, with lush green leaves and eye catching shiny fruits, which made me believe that it must be one of the trees that grow in spring. As I moved towards it with the same thought, I realized it was mid November. I turned back to look at the tree and was surprised to see an old thin tree with dry leaves and no fruits! Shocked, I ran home. It was five in the evening, yet I couldn’t stop thinking about the tree. I gathered all my courage and went to the same location to see the state of the tree. To my utter surprise, the tree had disappeared altogether! I trembled with helplessness. I rushed home to my mother and convinced her to come with me to the mysterious location. And lo and behold! The tree stood right there with its lush green leaves! I told the story to my mother, but she refused to believe it. Then I told her to look away from the tree and turn around



I yelled out to my mother to look, but she only saw the luscious green tree!

and look at it again. But the tree was right there with its lush green leaves and juicy fruits! By now, my mother was angry and said we must head home. Walking some distance away from the location, I turned and yet again, all I could see was the thin, leafless tree! I yelled out to my mother to look, but she could only see the luscious green tree! I was shocked and decided to speak to my sister who asked me to lie down on the bed. She began to massage my head. Oh! it was so relaxing! I opened my eyes and saw my teddy and my blanket next to me. I soon realized that it was only a bad nightmare, a fallout of my mathematics U.T!

So what did you learn today?
A new word: Luscious



Moong dal chaat

Ambuj Gupta
AIS Gurgaon 43, II B

Ingredients

Green moong dal(soaked)1 cup
Potato (boiled).....1
Tomato (chopped)1
Cucumber (chopped).....1
Onion (chopped)1
Lemon1
Saltto taste
Chaat masala to taste

Method

- Pressure cook soaked *dal* by adding half cup water and salt.
- Cook for 5 minutes.
- Put the cooked *dal* in a big bowl and add chopped tomato, potato, onion and lemon juice.
- Sprinkle *chaat masala* and mix.
- Garnish it with diced tomato and cucumber.
- Healthy *moong dal chat* is ready to be served.

It's Me



My Name: Rayna Joshi
My School: Amity International School, Gurgaon 43
My Class: I D
My Birthday: August 1, 2006
I Like: Rainbow and rain
I Hate: Hot weather
My Hobby: Dancing
My Role Model: My mom
My Best Friend: Saumya
My Favourite Game: Skating
My Favourite Food: *Rajma* Rice
My Favourite Book: Snow White
My Favourite Poem: I am a little teapot
My Favourite Subject: Maths
My Favourite Teacher: Shefali Ma’am
I want to become a: Nurse
I want to feature in GT because: I want you all to know me better.

Painting Corner

Rishit Shankar Verma
AIS Noida, III M



POEMS

A snowy winter

Gaurav Pati, AIS PV, VI C

Falling is the snow,
with flakes so feathery and soft.
Blowing is the wee wind,
talking to the water flow.
In layers of woollens I sit,
with the fireplace beside me.
The lump of coal that laid,
and the hushing snow,
both spoke to me.
Deep and dark are the woods,
and warm enough I ween.



For shelter are the leaves,
to go there, I am always keen.

From ‘idiot box’ to books

Bhanvi Kapoor
AIS Vasundhara 6, IV E

My mom got me storybooks as my birthday gift,
I didn’t like them at all,
and didn’t give them a lift.
I liked watching TV and movies,
because I always found them groovy.
All I did with my vision
was just watch television!
Books! I always used to shun,

as I never found them any fun!
Once I saw my brother reading
from my books and having fun.
To get them back from him,
I quickly made a run!
When I started reading one,
I got to know it’s real fun.
My interest started growing,
and my intelligence started showing
Books filled my heart with joy,
and now I don’t even have time for
‘The idiot box’ or my toys!

Dancing diva

Here’s a little one who adores her dancing shoes! Prakshi Jain, AIS Vasundhara 6, Nursery C laps up every opportunity to make the world dance with her. Recently, she won the hearts of many when she performed with a dance troupe at Indraprastha Engineering College, Sahibabad. Among other latest performances, Prakshi left the audience spellbound with her dance during the *Daslakshan Parv*, the biggest Jain festival at Shree Digamber Jain Mandir. The little gem participated in multiple activities on the occasion winning accolades and appreciation from the spectators. In the fancy dress competition, Prakshi decked up as a teacher and chanted *Namokar Mantra*, a holy prayer in her sweet voice at the competition. Both the performances won her the first prize. She also stood out in the group dance performance. Keep going, Prakshi!



Who is a mother?

- M**- money and gold can never repay the trouble she takes for us
- O**- nwards we march with her love and care
- T**- teacher at every step, whether study or play
- H**- herself suffers to make us happy and joyful
- E**- eager to feed us as much as she can
- R**- remember her, respect her

Contributed by **Ananya Verma**
AIS Vas 1, IV C

Watch 'em grow!

Tiny hands planted seeds and saw them bloom; thus learning about plant kingdom

Amiown Gurgaon

Learning at Amiown comes with a plethora of opportunities. To kickstart a journey to explore the plant kingdom, Amies were taken around the lush green campus of Amiown. They observed different kinds of plants there: small plants and big trees; flowering plants and fruit bearing ones; edible shrubs and medicinal ones too. A nature table was set up in the class to show them different parts of the plants and the different things the plants need to live-seed, soil, water, air and sunlight. **Planting seeds:** To authenticate the learning, the children planted some *channa* seeds in a bowl full of soil. They watered them regularly and kept the bowls in the garden to receive air and sunlight. It was a blissful morning when the little ones saw the stems shoot out from the seeds. Through this activity, the children learnt about the process of germination in practical detail.

Observation table: In another activity,

an observation table was set up on each floor with two jars; one was covered with a lid and the other was left open to let in plenty of air and sunlight. Amies observed that the covered plant withered without sufficient air; thus learning that plants need air to grow.

Botanical trip: A field trip to the Tau Devi Lal botanical garden provided a great opportunity for the Amies to explore nature. The children were enthused to see the green and purple coloured leaves in the garden and could not keep a count of the innumerable leaf patterns they witnessed there.

Magic flower: To figure out how water poured in the soil is absorbed by the plant, the 'Magic flower' experiment was conducted. A white flower stalk along with its stem, was placed in coloured water. The eager children came back to see how the white flower drank the coloured water and changed to the same colour as the water.

Finally, the children pledged to make Gurgaon a greener place to live in. 🇮🇳



Green smiles Amies explore the campus



Green talk Little ones learn by discussion



Green handshake Tiny tots befriend nature!

Tell me a story!



Enthralled Light & Sound show in progress

Amiown Noida

Children love stories! Listening to stories encourages them to use their imagination and immerse themselves completely in another world. This ability to create a 'movie' in their mind helps them with comprehension.

Light, sound and shadow: Last week, Amiown Noida organised a story telling workshop for Saturday Club through 'Light, Sound and Shadow'. The story 'Lion and the Mouse' was narrated through shadow puppets, voice modulation, special effects of animal sounds and lighting. There was an overwhelm-

ing response from the parents as they accompanied their children to the workshop. The highlight of the workshop was the Lion Dance wherein the parents also joined in with their children and danced enthusiastically to the beats.

Art n craft: The children created a lion mask and a mouse puppet. Parents were equally involved with their children during the activity. Some parents shared that this type of story telling is unique and would try the same at home through candle light, torch, etc. The parents were happy with the workshop and said that it was a wonderful experience! 🇮🇳



Tuning in Amies make instruments

Amiown Vasundhara

Last week's theme for the Saturday Club activity was 'Music and Rhythm'. Real musical instruments like casio, *tabla*, *jal tarang*, xylophone, tambourine, etc were displayed on a table. Kids were excited to use the instruments and created different musical sounds with them.

The day started with a welcome note and a good morning song. The parents were told about the importance of music and its impact on children. It was followed by a discussion on how music is a great

Rhythmic beats

Children swayed to the sound of music in Saturday club activity 'Music & Rhythm'

stress buster. All the parents and children enjoyed grooving to the song 'shake and move', an action song by Patty Shukla. What added to the fun quotient was a musical instrument making activity. Donning their aprons, they enjoyed making maracas, shakers and jingle wand with thermocol plates. They decorated their instruments with various types of sequins, mirrors, bells, *ghungroo*, etc. It was a treat to see the parents help the little ones in decorating the instruments. The children were happy to carry home the musical instruments they had made. 🇮🇳

Excited Amies enjoy train ride



On a field trip!

Get... set... go with the tiny tots of Amiown as they take you on fun filled excursions

Amiown Pushp Vihar

Amiown's curriculum is enriched with carefully planned field trips, which are a unique way of providing multi-sensorial learning experiences and keeping the learning process exciting.

Chug Chug Train: Keeping in mind the ongoing theme of 'transport', Amies of Nursery and Pre-Nursery were taken to the Rail Museum. Seeing railway tracks, they could immediately relate to the discussions and videos of the trains running on the tracks that they had seen in the class. They observed with rapt attention the mini models of trains in the museum as they chugged

through hills and bridges. The curious minds had a lot of questions to ask – "How will the train cross over the water?", "Does train run on coal or CNG?", and above all, "Will we also sit in the train?" Their wishes were fulfilled as they were taken on a train ride. Sitting in the carriage and looking out of the window; the sound of the whistle and the train going through a tunnel - all this made for a memorable experience. Back in the class, they replicated their experience through imaginative drawings.

Zoo-ing around: A field trip to the zoo was organised for the Amitots, who were accompanied by their parents. Sitting in a trolley in the zoo, when Amies got the first glimpse of the animals,



Zoo fun Learning with parents

their curiosity was aroused. They treasured the moments when they saw the tiger stroll, the jaguar run, the giraffe eating leaves from the tree and the hippo walk in water. Later, in the class, they enjoyed painting big cutouts of the animals seen in the zoo. The happy smiles on all the faces were a clear reflection of the fact that real life experiences are very exciting for the little ones. 🇮🇳



This Australian cricketer is also known as 'The Don'.

Sir Donald Bradman

Green cheers for Amity

AIS Saket celebrates its historic win after being declared the best 'Green School'

AIS Saket

What: National School Sanitation Awards 2012

When: November 28, 2012

Where: Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi

How(igh)lights: AIS Saket declared 'Best Green School' at CBSE instituted National School Sanitation Awards

Glitterati: Dr M M Pallam, Union Minister for HRD, GOI; K Srikanth, cricketer; Vineet Joshi, Chairman CBSE; Sadhna Parashar, Director Academics CBSE and Cord Meier-Klodt, Dy Head of the German Embassy



Proud winners from AIS Saket



Dr Rekha Ranade receiving award from the minister

It was a red letter day in the history of AIS Saket as it bagged top honours at the CBSE instituted National School Sanitation Award, 2012.

The school was not only declared the winner in the green category of schools for fulfilling 91%-100% of norms, Principal Dr Rekha Ranade too received the glittering trophy and a cash price of Rs 1,00,000 amidst thunderous applause from Dr M M Pallam, Union Minister

for HRD, GOI. About 2,500 schools from all over India registered online for the coveted award.

The criterion for rating was infrastructure, institutional sustainability, environmental sustainability, health & hygiene, pedagogies and adherence to norms. It was a fitting recognition to the motto of the school which harmoniously blends the concept of pragmatic teach-

ing with time tested traditions.

A strong believer in 'Educating them Young', ie, relying on the strength of the young generation, the school focuses on sanitation, emphasizing personal hygiene, waste segregation and conservation of green spaces.

The award ceremony was followed by an interactive session with Dr Pallam where students posed questions. AIS

Saket was one of the 10 schools whose questions were selected to be addressed by the minister. The minister applauded Radhika Ahuja of IX C for raising a question related to the setting up of a central agency for recycling paper waste collected from different schools.

The program also marked the launch of CBSE backed "Waves of Change" event by the HRD Minister. [G](#) [I](#)

Bringing Halloween

AIS Gurgaon 46

Festivity reigned the air as CAS students from grades IB1 and IB2 of Amity Global School, Gurgaon 46 got together to celebrate Halloween on October 31.

A host of games and activities were organized to mark the day. The preparations for the big day began three weeks prior to the event. Both teachers and students worked hard together under the guidance of CAS coordinator Sonia Kochhar to make the event a grand success. The dress code for the party was black. While the students enjoyed the food being served at the various stalls, they swayed to the beats of DJs Karan Choudhry and Karan Acharya.

A variety of games were played included scary storytelling to one another and apple-bobbing. Apple bobbing involved picking up apples with one's mouth from a bucket full of water. It was indeed a sight to behold as the entire school soaked in the festive spirit, providing a respite from academic pressure. [G](#) [I](#)



AIS Lucknow students enjoy a joy ride

Bal Mela

AIS Lucknow

Fun, food and frolic marked the Bal Mela celebrations at Amity International School, Lucknow on November 3.

A host of fun activities were organized for the students. They not only enjoyed horse riding,

treasure hunt, face painting, clay modeling and loop shoot, they also relished the food items being served at various food stalls. The students danced to the grooving music and had a gala time.

The school also organized a trip to the zoo for the students of Nursery, KG, I, II and III. The

fun filled day began with a small train ride. The trip brought the children closer to nature and they thoroughly enjoyed watching the wild animals. The children were keen to know about the food habits and habitat of the animals. The trip concluded on a happy and cheerful note. [G](#) [I](#)

Enviro-conscious

AIS Gurgaon 46

AIS Gurgaon 46 organized an inquiry based learning program on environment for the students of class fourth. The enthralling class room based live show was an attempt to send out the message of environment conservation. The event kicked off by lighting

of the auspicious lamp by school principal Arti Chopra amidst the chant of *shlokas*.

This was followed by a welcome address and presentation of the annual report about the achievements of students of the primary section. A message with blessings of Dr Ashok K Chuahan, Founder President, Amity Universe was also read out.

A plethora of events were organized to mark the day. The cultural program began with 'Sur - Tarang', an orchestra presentation, followed by the skit 'Jigyasa'. The heart rendering performance won applaud and accolades of the audience. The creative work done by the children throughout the year was showcased at 'Alankriti'. [G](#) [I](#)



The green brigade of AIS Gurgaon 46 enthralls the audience

Readers' paradise



AIS Vasundhara 6

Amity International School, Vasundhara 6 celebrated Children's Day in a unique manner by organizing Readersville, a Book Haat. A plethora of activities were organised to mark the occasion.

The students of primary section recited rhymes and enacted fables and fairy tales. They also participated in slogan writing and calligraphy on Math related

topics. Documentaries based on social and moral values were also screened. Various activities related to Math were allocated to the students, as the school is also celebrating the International Year for Math this year. Meanwhile, the students of the senior wing made book marks with slogans, attempted Math crossword puzzles, short story writing and book jacket designing. Classic movies like Pygmalion, Sound of Music, Mary Poppins and The Hound of The Baskervilles were screened. Class IX students indulged in a creative activity. They were asked to locate an image of Pi from the surrounding and then either click a picture or reproduce it by drawing. This was followed by an interactive session with Pradeep Kumar, an eminent scholar, writer, researcher and orator. The event concluded with the children being gifted books of their choice. [G](#) [I](#)



The storytellers in action

Tell a tale

AIS Pushp Vihar

Innovative teaching has always been the hallmark of Amity. Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools, has envisioned all her Amitians to become go-getters with unflinching creative pursuits. The storytelling workshops organised at Amity International School, Pushp Vihar on September 24-25, 2012 for classes II-V was another such endeavour to promote creative thinking among children and motivate them to broaden their horizons.

The storytelling workshop was conducted by Joanne Blake from United Kingdom and Michal Malinowski from Poland, who with their creative ideas, enlightened the stu-

dents and teachers. The workshop started with the lighting of the auspicious lamp and a short talk on the art of creative story telling. It also shed light on interesting storytelling techniques that can bring any story to life, make the characters talk and enthrall the listeners. The interactive workshop kept everyone involved and entertained.

This was followed by narration of few stories in an artistic and interactive manner which truly inspired the young students. They enjoyed the session by getting involved in the stories and repeating a few dialogues of the stories along with the story tellers. The workshop was an excellent way to feed the young minds with creativity and imagination. [G](#) [I](#)

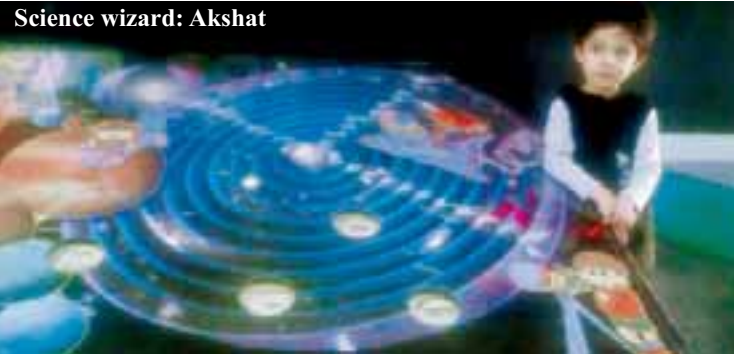
Fabulous at Five

Pallavi Joshi, GT Network

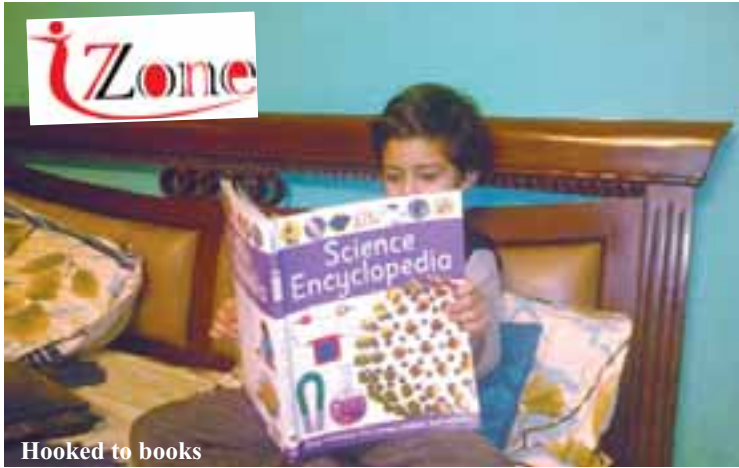
Call it an everyday demand of making his mother read the encyclopedia before he leaves for school or the curiosity that makes him question everything all the time, or maybe the God gifted memory that grasps everything with precise reasoning and logic, **Akshat Khosla**, AIS Noida, KG B sure is a bundle of talent with a sharp mind that memorises almost everything in no time.

Miracle Memory

At the mere age of five, Akshat, who has not yet learnt to read, recapitulates the facts so perfectly that it is almost unbelievable! Be it the names of the Presidents, Prime ministers or emperors from differ-



Science wizard: Akshat





Hooked to books

ent epochs of history, or the names of the Indian freedom fighters, he has them all at his finger tips and that too in chronological order.

No wonder monuments, planetariums and the historical sights are a few of his favourite places. (Other than going to school everyday!). He can also enlist the names of writers, poets, authors, lyricists, in-

ventors and sportsmen.



Logical Reasoning

While memorising everything is his forte, he also has strong cognitive skills that enables him to understand the why's and how's of difficult concepts in totality. He can state various concepts like theory of evolution, working and discovery of bulb, television and an aeroplane with ease. He understands and remembers the working of magnetic fields and other scientific theories about photosynthesis, atoms, molecules and elements etc in detail. He knows all about planets, rotation and revolution of the earth, including why Pluto is not a planet anymore, or about the planet that has the maximum number of moons.  

OMG!

Other Miscellaneous Grasps

Akshat Khosla, who aspires to be an astronaut or a scientist when he grows up, displays a perfect understanding of more than just basic skills of miracle memory and logical reasoning!

- Spots the difference between two pictures in less than five minutes.
- Cryptic numbers or alphabets in a picture do not stay hidden from him.
- The kid has been bestowed with gift of gab. He cracks jokes and strike conversations and dialogues in one liners with quite an ease.
- The little genius has an artistic streak too. He clay modeled a periodic table of elements.
- Since his first science book was read out to him, he has been cherry-picking his own books. His current read (he can't read, but makes sure that the book of his choice is narrated to him) is a science encyclopedia.  



The words of flowers

The next time you select flowers as a gift for a friend, stop and think about their real meanings

Trishika Sud & Neev Modgil
AIS Gurgaon 46, X B

Flowers are known to represent and communicate feelings and emotions since ancient times. No wonder they make for a perfect gift. But did you know every flower has a special meaning, that makes it perfect to be gifted for a particular occasion? Let us explore

Friendship: True friends are rarer than diamonds, especially in today's world. So, to honour the cherished moments spent with your besties, you could present them with a big bouquet of acacia or pear blossom, but if your budget is a little too tight a simple yellow rose would suffice.

Beauty: Every person is beautiful, but beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder, so when you see beauty in a person, you could appreciate it with a gift of a lovely bunch of lilies, orchids or cherry blossoms.

Happiness: To spread cheer among your loved ones, you could get them a jasmine garland to wear in the hair, and if that is too traditional for you, a bushel of violets would work just fine.



Grief: If you are happy, but a person close to your heart is depressed you could infect them with happiness by presenting them an exquisite bunch of marigolds or aloe to bring a smile on their face.

Love: If you are not the expressive types, flowers can come to your rescue. To express your infinite feelings and love for your loved ones, you could give them a bouquet of carnations or tulips, but if you wish to be unconventional you could present them with forget-me-nots or lilacs as a token of your love, and of course you could always give them the eternal symbol of love- the red rose!

Wealth and prosperity: To bring wealth and prosperity to your humble dwellings, place an elegant vase with fresh yellow poppies or peonies in your living room, not only will they bring wealth, but also a flood of compliments.

Health: Flowers always make us feel relaxed, and refreshed, so next time you find your loved ones ill, you could give them a bouquet of sage or cardinals. If you want to go out of your way to make them feel better, you could always gift them elegant mulleins, so that they get well soon.

Luck: To offer luck to your nervous friends preparing for an exam or some competition, you could present them with a bundle of heather or gardenia.

Enchantment: To enchant your near and dear ones, present them a nicely decorated bunch of vervain or lavender.  




Be a traffic buddy



Traffic rules aren't as boring as you think! Here's explaining them with a hint of humour and wit



- ⊗ *Aey bhai! Zara dekh ke chalo, aagey hi nahi peeche bhi;* the song indeed has a message- always look first at your right and cross halfway when vehicles are not in the vicinity. Then look left for approaching vehicles and cross the other half.
- ⊗ *Babu samjho isharey, Horrn Pukarey:* It's loud & clear- do not honk near hospitals and schools.

- ⊗ Wear helmets and do not be hellmates. Helmets reduce the risk of serious and fatal head injuries by up to 45%.
- ⊗ Parents go gaga over the first zig-zag line drawn by their tiny tots, but you zig-zag driving would upset them.
- ⊗ Sunglassess make you cool, but the tinted glasses of your car would make you pay penalty, as it's an unpardonable *bhool*. 

An initiative by Team YP 2012-'13, AIS MV: Dhyanii Chawla, Aanya Mittal, Ankita Drolia, Shashwat Das, to uphold their cause Road Discipline

GT Travels to Rishikesh



Rishik Sood, AIS Mayur Vihar, VII C enjoys reading The Global Times in Rishikesh (Uttarakhand). The holy city of Rishikesh is also known as the Yoga Capital of the world  

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