

**Status of the week**  
 To the most inspirational Indian, someone who proved that sheer brilliance can never be denied a chance and who made all of us believe that Maths is beautiful!! Srinivasa Ramanujan- 'Happy 125th Birthday!'  
**Harini Swaminathan, AIB**

**INSIDE**  
  
**German connect, P4**  
  
**GT Calendar, P6-7**

**Should the new anti-rape law be named after the Delhi gang-rape victim?**  
**(a) Yes (b) No (c) Can't say**  
*To vote, log on to [www.theglobaltimes.in](http://www.theglobaltimes.in)*

**POLL RESULT**  
 for GT issue December 24, 2012  
**Does making New Year resolutions help?**  
  
**Results as on January 9, 2013**

**Coming Next**  
**AIS Vasundhara 1 makes its debut in 'Making a newspaper' contest**

# Towards a youthful 2013

On the occasion of Swami Vivekananda’s birthday also celebrated as National Youth Day (January 12), let’s do some thinking over you-the youth, who are the new torchbearers of India



in store for a nation that is witnessing a burgeoning youth population.

**Taking up cudgels**

The Indian youth has shown exemplary unity and courage in testing times; “Anna Hazare’s anti corruption campaign in 2011 gathered momentum and force with the backing of the teeming youth who assembled at Jantar Mantar to voice support. Those who could not make it there, were ei-

ther tweeting or facebooking or forwarding SMSes to encourage others to join the campaign. This exerted pressure on the government to take the Jan Lokpal Bill more seriously,” says Sumitra Singh, Faculty, Amity Instt of Corporate Communication. While terming youth as the “untapped mine of strength”, Ruchi Avtar, AIS Vas 6, X, states, “Recent incidents have brought the youth in limelight. And why not? They are passionate about fueling positive change in

**Economy driver**

An IMF report has said that the dynamic demographics of India, including the fact that it is a youthful nation, could alone contribute two percentage points to its annual GDP growth in the next two decades. On the other hand, a Goldman Sachs paper dated 2010 stated that aided by its unique demographics, India could clock an economic growth at 7 to 9% by 2030. Lending further credence to the boom in the Indian economy as a consequence of the upsurge in the young population of the country, a report shows that India would include 12% of the world’s college graduates by 2020, outnumbering a superpower like the United States and second China. It concludes that these graduates, with their patents and innovations will lead the knowledge economy. Adding more colour to the already bright-looking scenario, Ananiah Blessing, Amity Instt of Food Technology says, “Nowadays more and more youth are choosing to be job creators rather than job seekers than ever before; looks like an economic revolution is in the offing!”

## Youth Pledge Board 2013

“My resolution for 2013 is to not be a silent spectator, but to raise my voice against wrong doings and encourage my friends to do the same.”

**Ruchi Avtar, AIS Vasundhara 6, X C**

“I want to be more involved as an agent of social change. Perhaps more socially responsible programming could be a significant tool to make people more aware as well as mobilise the rich reserve of our youth population, or

for that matter, anybody who cares.”

**José, MTV VJ & RJ**

“I intend to finish writing my novel and encourage others to write their own. I intend to finish my first literary manuscript within 100 days. I will also continue to in-

spire others through my blog and webinars.”

**Veeshal Beotra, Amity Instt of Info Tech**

“I determine to be a person of courage who works selflessly towards achieving world peace. I also resolve to clearly spell my mission in life, work for tiger conservation and pass CBSE board exams with flying colours.”

**Bhuvan Ravindran**

**Youth Power Winner '12, AIS Noida**

## Happy New Year

“Nav harsh, harsh nav, jeevan utkarsh nav,  
nav umang, nav tarang, jeevan ka nav prasang”



Nothing summarizes better the feelings the New Year evokes in each one of us than these lines by the legendary poet Harivansh Rai Bachchan. It marks the beginning of a new season abounding in joy, hope and enthusiasm. It motivates us to look beyond failures and march ahead in the new year with soaring spirits, elevated energy and an undying passion to excel. The New Year also marks the season of new hope as it gives me the zest and zeal to face new challenges upfront and chart out a new roadmap of success. Though, the passing year has given me many reasons to celebrate and rejoice, I look forward to the new year with renewed vigour to script a new success story for each Amitian and bring out the best in each one of them. At Amity, there is a platform for each Amitian to explore and as the insignia puts it, nurture their talent, through a reservoir of cultural, academic and extra curricular activities, not just at school or district or state or national level, but also through global programs. This year, I resolve to take these various programs- Olympiads, cultural exchanges and many others integral to Amity, to a newer level, with higher participation, while surpassing all expectations. As we ring in 2013, it gives me immense pleasure and joy to share that my almanac for the year is abuzz with never-ending agendas for further expansion and growth of the Amity Group of Institutions.



## Felicitation for Dr Amita Chauhan

It was indeed a proud day for Amity when Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools was felicitated by Happy Woman Happy World Foundation for her contribution in the field of education. The glittering ceremony was organised at Balayogi Auditorium, Parliament House on December 18, 2012 to acknowledge and encourage the role of women of substance in revolutionizing society. Visionary educationist and philanthro-

pist, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, the woman behind Amitasha- a chain of schools for less privileged girl children is an ardent believer that a happy world has its roots in educating a woman, which lays the ground for building a happy family, an educated nation and ultimately a happy and progressive world. The award ceremony graced by Shri Naypadmasagar ji Maharaj, Sadhvi Maynashri and Dr JK Jain, Chairman, Jain TV Network, also recognised the

### Roll of Honours for Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan

- The Young Entrepreneur Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Nation in the field of Education by Respect Age International
- National Excellence Award for Promotion of Education & Cultural Heritage by TP Jhunjhun wala Foundation
- Outstanding Women Achievers Award by Indian Council of Human Relations
- Prestigious Woman of the Year Award 2000 by the American Biographical Institute.
- Shiromani Mahila Award
- Vidya Nidhi Award
- Great Mother Award in Europe



contribution of the likes of Savitri Jindal, Chairperson Jindal Group; Indu Jain, Chairperson, Times Group; renowned singer Shameem Azad; Usha Jain, Chairperson, Luxor Group; Nilofer Bakhtiyar, President, International Lions Club of Pakistan; Prof Fatima Samavati, Member Planning Commission- Iran; Vandana Luthra, Founder, VLCC; Justice Gyan Sudha Mishra, Judge, Supreme Court; Justice Ranjana Desai, Judge, Supreme Court; leg-

endary singer Asha Bhosle and Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit, whose award was accepted by Dr Kiran Walia, Education Minister, Delhi Government. Nalini Chidambaram and Nirmala Devi, Trustee, Care Foundation were also felicitated in the ceremony. Addressing the august gathering on the occasion, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan said, “This award is an inspiration for me to be able to do more so as to build a happy world.”

# The power of protest

Can candle light vigils and peace marches act as an instrument of change and pave way for a silent yet powerful revolution? Or is it important to become a part of the system to usher in the needed change? The debate rages on...

Smita Jain, GT Network

The end of the year 2011 saw emotions and energies on an all time high in a nation torn apart by the brutal rape of a 23 year-old paramedical student. The outcry left us with a big question staring us in the face - has the war cry given out by the exasperated and angry youth of the country laid ground for a silent movement for change? Or have the silent protests failed to stir the state machinery and bring the vital change? The move has sparked a debate whether holding candle light vigils, peace march and registering protests in cyber space will help amend a flawed system. Here's what Amitians had to say.

## Protests: A silent awakening

All revolutions have started with one person standing up. It might be true that



protest probably won't change anything. But I believe it's a start... to achieve the ultimate goal of living in a free, just, equal and empowered society. We have come a long way; but we have a longer way to go.

Venika Menon, AIS Noida, XI

Sustained pressure from media and common men on the street had helped in bringing to book the accused in Jessica Lal case. The same should happen for the gangrape victim too. History won't forgive the people of India if they allow the movement to loose steam.

Supriya Chowdhury  
Amity School of  
Communication

I have never felt so proud of being a Delhiite. The bur-

geoning numbers at India Gate and Jantar Mantar are a sign that this time, justice shall not be denied.

Vishruti Saraf, AIS Saket, X

We should demand and support the call for justice for 'Damini', as she is related to me and you by the universal bond called humanity.

Arohan Sharma, Amity School of  
Engineering and Technology

## Be the purveyor of change you want

Stop blaming the state machinery. You, me, the police, the government, each one of us are an integral part of "INDIA". Don't blame the country. Blame yourself. Each one of us is to blame for all of this. Blaming the govt? Have the guts to join politics. Blaming the police?



Have the guts to join police force.

Sana Sawhney, AIS Noida, XI

I've been cynical of this movement for a long time but the saddening truth is that there isn't much we can actually do about it. Mentalities don't change over night; people are too coward to pile up against eve teasers; marches end in a day or a week.

Ratul Roshan, Alumnus, AIS Gur 46

26/ 11 happens- We march at India Gate. Girl gets raped- We march again. What difference has it made? Bombings still happen, every day some or the other is raped, abducted or killed. The very basic problem with the system is that most of our representatives aren't even close to doing what they are elected for. We can induce a change in the society by taking on the mantle on our shoulders.

Shivangi Singh, Alumnus, AIS Noida

## News Reel

### Anti-rape law after victim

A day after Union Minister Shashi Tharoor, favoured naming the revised anti-rape law after the Delhi gang rape victim, the family of the 23-year-old girl has said they will not object to naming the revised anti-rape law after her. The family in fact said it would be an honour. Meanwhile, Delhi BJP president Vijender Gupta reportedly wrote to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh seeking the highest peacetime gallantry award Ashok Chakra for the Delhi braveheart.

### Armed Forces budget slashed

The modernization budget of the armed forces has been slashed down by around Rs 10,000 core. This came



as a major jolt to them in the new year. The cut is contrary to Defence Minister AK Antony's earlier promise of a hike in the defence budget, factoring in the threat of the expansive China-Pakistan military nexus.

### India misses Millennium Development Goals

India is expected to miss the crucial UN Millennium Development Goals, including those related to reduction in poverty, hunger and infant mortality, according to a government report. The poverty rate is likely to be 26.7% by 2015 as against the target of 23.9% while infant mortality rate would be 43 per 1,000 live births against the milestone of bringing it down to 27.

# World at a glimpse

Take a roller coaster ride and catch the highs and lows of the week as GT brings to you, major headlines from across the globe

## United Kingdom

Almost a century after his death, Indian Math genius Srinivasa Ramanujan's cryptic deathbed theory has been proved correct and scientists say it could explain the behaviour of black holes.

## Pakistan

Pakistan will unblock the popular video sharing website 'YouTube', the country's Interior Minister Rehman Malik has said, saying precautions would be taken to filter blasphemous material.

## INDIA

Business tycoon Ratan Tata handed over the top job at India's largest industrial house, Tata Group, to his successor; 44 year old Cyrus Pallonji Mistry. Mistry took over as the Chairman of Tata Sons, ending the one-year long apprenticeship under Tata.

## Singapore

Singapore has said it would cite the 'heartbreaking case' of the 23-year old gang-rape victim as an example to reject demands for abolition of death penalty in the city state. Singapore's Minister for Law and Foreign Affairs K Shanmugam said people were "sickened" by the incident.

## China

China is working on a draft for a law on international seabed exploration that would enable it to explore minerals and other deep sea resources in the Indian Ocean and other seas.

## Myanmar

A hand-knit woolen sweater made by Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi was sold at an auction in Myanmar for almost USD 50,000. A Myanmar-based radio station won the bidding war for the sweater during the auction.

## Israel

Israel's Jewish population has passed the symbolically significant 6 million mark for the first time-equivalent to the number of Jews killed in the holocaust.

# Developing leaders

From soft skills training to fusion dance performances, Amity University participants impressed everyone at the International Youth Fellowship Camp



With the aim to develop youth leaders and mutual union through global fellowship, Amity University staff and students participated in the International Youth Fellowship (IYF) Camp. The residential camp organised in Delhi at Tyagaraj Sports Complex was based on the theme ‘Cohesion, Change and Challenge’. The inaugural ceremony was graced by Dr Kiran Walia, Education Minister of Delhi and dignitaries from the educational field including Vice Chancellors, Principals and Directors of various colleges from Delhi and other Indian states. Dr Walia commended the dedicated and determined approach of IYF.

IYF was attended by 3000 participants from India, Germany, Korea, Africa, America, Myanmar and Bangladesh

IYF Camp 2012 was attended by over 3000 young and dynamic individuals from India, Germany, Korea, Africa, America, Myanmar and Bangladesh, who benefitted from the well designed curriculum. Youth leadership qualities were incul-

cated through a thorough and well planned schedule developed by IYF in association with 10 academies viz, Korean Class, Skin Care Academy, Dance Academy, Korean Mask Making, Kung Fu, Photography, Café Day, Lecture on Smart Phone, Interview Skills, Music Academy, Power Yoga and Traveling Abroad. Sumitra Singh, Faculty, Amity Institute of Corporate Communication was selected to attend the camp as the International Academy Lecturer for imparting a lecture on ‘interview skills’ to the global audience during the camp. The lecture was widely appreciated by everyone. The Amity team led by Tulika Dayal, student of Amity Institute of Biotechnology, presented a fusion dance, which was applauded by all. The dance team comprised students from Amity Institute of Biotechnology and Amity School of Engineering & Technology. Each day at the IYF World Camp commenced with an academy lecture, followed by guest lectures and dance performances. This was followed by mind lectures by Ock Soo Par, President IYF. Post lunch, special motivational lectures were held. These were followed by folk dances on two days and scavenger hunt and sight seeing on the remaining two days. Evenings were reserved for class meetings. The last day saw a mini Marathon from Tyagaraj Stadium to JLN stadium which filled the participants with enthusiasm.

2012 IYF World Camp Participants	
Student	Programme & Batch
Tulika Dayal	BTB-20
Devika Oberoi	BTB-2010-14
Abhishek Sharma	BTB-2010-14
Rajneesh Khurana	BSM-2010-14
Uma Singh	BCom-2012-13
Akanksha Tyagi	BTB-2012-16
Snigdha Sachdev	BSB-2012-15
Della Davis	BTBM-2011-16
Preeti Bhatt	BTB-2011-15
Harsh Khanna	BSM-2012-16
Shweta Parmar	BTBM-2012-17
Manisha Dabrial	BTBM-2011-16
Ravi Shanker	BCA-2012-15
Aditya Tyagi	BTMAE-2011-15
Abhishek Shukla	MBA-2012-14
Harini Swaminathan	IMT-2008-13
Sumya Bhagat	IMT-2008-13
Nishanta Goswami	BTech (MAE) 2012-16
Tanuj Manchanda	MAMM-2012-14
Sumitra Singh (Public Speaker)	Faculty
Madhurima Hooda	Faculty
Sunanda Sharma	MSC (ID)
Mubeena Mohammed	MSC (ID)
Anuja Choudhary	MSC (ID)
Samina Shrestha	MSC (ID)

Amity Institute for Competitive Examinations



Presents

Brainleaks-63

FOR CLASS XI-XII

The function  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x-3 & |x|, x \geq 1 \\ \sin \frac{\pi x}{2} & x < 1 \end{cases}$

- Then at x=0 ([.] = g.i.f)
- (a) f(x) is discontinuous
  - (b) f(x) is not differentiable
  - (c) f(x) is discontinuous and differentiable
  - (d) None of these

Last Date: Jan 21, 2013 3 correct entries win attractive prizes

Ans: Brainleaks 61 (a)

$$v = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k_1 + k_2}{M + \frac{7}{10}m}}$$

Name:.....

Class:.....

School:.....

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

## Scholastic Alerts

**Institute:** Indian Council of Agricultural Research  
**Course:** Bachelor Degree programmes (B Sc Ag/B Tech/B F Sc, etc.) in Agriculture, Horticulture, Fisheries, Forestry, Home Science, Sericulture, Biotechnology, Agricultural Engineering, Dairy Technology, Food Science, Agricultural Marketing & Co-operation (This examination does not include admission to Bachelor degree programmes in Veterinary Sciences)  
**Eligibility Criteria:** 10+2 or equivalent, with PCM/ PCB/ PCMB/ PCA/ PCH subject combinations + AIEEAUG  
**Examination:** All India Entrance Examination for Admission To Bachelor (AIEEAUG – 2013)  
**Exam Date:** April 20, 2013  
**Application Form:** Sale of Info Bulletin/Application form from Dec 26, 2012-Feb 15, 2013  
**Last Date:** Both through offline and online mode will be Feb 22, 2013  
**Website:** www.icar.org.in

**Institutes:** NLSIU, Bangalore; NALSAR, Hyderabad; NLIU, Bhopal; WBNUJS, Kolkata; NLU, Jodhpur; HNLU, Raipur; GNLU, Gandhinagar; RMLNLU, Lucknow; RGNUL, Patiala; CNLU, Patna; NUALS, Kochi; NLUO, Orissa; NUSRL, Ranchi; NLUJA, Assam  
**Course:** LLB  
**Eligibility Criteria:** (10+2) or its equivalent certificate with not less than 45% marks aggregate. Candidates appearing in the 10+2 examination are also eligible.  
**Examination:** CLAT (Common Law

Admission Test)-2013  
**Exam date:** May 12, 2013, Sunday  
**Application Form:** Both online and offline - Jan 15, 2013  
**Last Date:** Mar 30, 2013, Saturday, 05.00 pm  
**Website:** www.clat.ac.in

**Examination:** Union Public Service Commission - National Defence Academy and Naval Academy Examination (I), 2013  
**Course:** For admission to the Army, Navy and Air Force wings of the NDA and Indian Naval Academy Course (INAC).  
**Eligibility Criteria:**  
**Army Wing of NDA:** 10+2 or equivalent examination conducted by a state education board or a university.  
**Air Force, Naval Wing and 10+2 Cadet Entry Scheme of NDA:** 10+2 or equivalent with Physics and Mathematics conducted by a State Education Board or a University.

Those appearing for class XII or equivalent examination are allowed to appear in the UPSC examination. They are required to submit proof of passing class XII or equivalent examination by December 5, 2013.  
**Exam Date:** April 14, 2013  
**Application Form:** Candidates are required to apply online on the website www.upsonline.nic.in from Dec 22, 2012 to Jan 21, 2013 till 11:59 pm  
**Last Date:** Jan 21, 2013, Monday  
**Website:** www.upsc.gov.in  
Taruna Barthwal, ACCGC, Career Counsellor & Resource Coordinator

# From mediocre to topper!

Work hard but don't get the marks? Bringing you three tips to send you zooming among the top students in your class!

**Veeshal Beotra, Amity Institute of Information Technology**

Until grade eight, I was always among the toppers of my class. My grades were 90% or above, i.e. A+. However, when I changed school in class VIII, my new classmates tricked me into believing that I wasn't good enough and could not score well. The result, my grades dropped down to 76%. In class XII, I secured 70%; my self confidence hit an all time low. I wanted to study computers but my average grades didn't let me do so. That's when I decided to reclaim the top ranks. I focused on my weaknesses and worked hard. After one year of persistent hard work, my result was 84%! And here I am, doing what I love. Here are some fundamental steps I took, which can help you gain top marks too...

**Regular attendance:** Every 'A' lister has this essential trait -attend lectures regularly. (My average attendance last year was more than 93%!)  
**Make Notes:** Being present in the lecture hall is one thing and listening to the lecturer is another. To ensure you grasp every bit of what is happening in class,

### First Person



make notes by following these steps.  
■ Try sitting on the front side of the class for the first few weeks at least. This has several advantages. Firstly, you will listen to the teachers as you will be sitting near them. Secondly, notorious back benchers won't be around, so you will be able to study better.  
■ Consider the teacher's words sacred and jot down as much as possible. This will help you retain what is being taught. So, during exams, your study material will be ready and you would already know more than half of it!

**The right friends:** Hang around with kids who already are on the 'A' list. They will help you clear your doubts; the added advantage is that these people are usually more disciplined than others, which will help you as a person too. The right kind of friends will encourage you to study on your low days. Following the above mentioned rules does require some discipline, but it isn't that difficult. If you have been an average student with exceptional potential, these tips will help you get much better grades for sure. Good luck! ■■

# Green habitat with cow dung

Forget brick and mortar. Switch to cow dung- the new age construction material for building green houses in rural areas

## Pro@Project

Meet **Shashank Agarwal**, a green warrior from **Class XII, Amity International School, Noida** who does his bit for the environment by building green homes in rural areas using cow dung.

An interesting conversation with his grandparents about village life and usage of cow dung in everyday life gave birth to the idea of building a hut with cow dung bricks. He wondered if cow dung could be extensively used for plastering floors in rural areas, why couldn't it be used for making bricks? Here's how the young lad turned it into reality, helping the society in ways more than one.

**Aim & Objective** - To enhance the use of cow dung as an alternative source of energy and to utilise the same in building homes in rural areas

**Methodology**- The construction process for an eco friendly house of dimensions

5'X8', and height of 8' with bricks made of cow dung and roof, door, windows made of bamboo is as follows:

■ In the first stage of construction, appropriate amount of cow dung was arranged. Around 4000 moulds made of MS boxes with inner dimensions 220mm x105mm x 65mm were prepared for making bricks of same size and number.

■ 100 kg cow dung evenly mixed with 5 kg straw dust (ie in a ration of 20:1) and put in MS boxes moulds to shape the bricks. The bricks were then dried under sun to gain strength.

■ The walls with thickness 345mm were built from the dried bricks to lend proper stability to the wall. The mortar used for external and internal plaster of the walls was prepared by mixing 100 kg soil and 5 kg straw. Apart from the plaster, the hut was also sand coated to make it non combustible and stronger.

■ The door and window frames were prepared with bamboo measuring 2'6"X6'6" and 2'X2' respectively. The sloped roof cover was built using bamboo struts and long grass weaved in the



Shashank laying the foundation of a greener tomorrow

bamboo frame. The floor of the hut was made by plastering it with the same mix of mortar as used in wall plaster.

## Why cow dung?


Cow dung is said to have strong antibacterial properties. It works as a good disinfectant by keeping away insects. It is an excellent insulator; as it keeps house cool in summers and warm in winters. Cow dung's use as construction material for houses encourages utilisation of natural resources and minimise wastage.

## Traditional bricks Vs Cow dung bricks

The technology used for producing traditional bricks in a kiln from cement is a costly affair and a huge source of pollution. On the other hand, bricks made from cow dung are eco-friendly and much cheaper and this substantially reduces the construction cost. Bricks made from cow dung are greener and 70% lighter (an advantage during earthquake) than regular clay bricks. The basic material needed for making bricks

is available free of cost and besides, it can be also used as fuel or fertilizer.

## Future feasibility

The hut built by Shashank more than one year back in Greater Noida still stands strong and the cow dung bricks have braved the changing season well without showing any signs of damage or becoming soft. Shashank wants to improvise it further and carry further research to find more ways and products that can make the eco friendly dwelling better. 

## Global ties

## Bosch Project

# Bosch: A global potpourri

Amity has embarked on one of the most prestigious programs under the aegis of Bosch Stiftung Project. The program has been facilitated by Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC). Students from AIS Saket and AIS Pushp Vihar along with students from Germany are engaged in a year long research where they will closely study the environment, education system, effect of media, relationship and family structures. The comparative study will be compiled into a brochure titled 'Growing Up in a Changing World'

Delegates pose for the shutterbug at Taj Mahal




## German delegation finds home at AIS Saket

As a part of the Bosch program the German delegation from Gesweischter Gymnasium accompanied by Ms Tina Schaffer and Mr Stefan Rehm visited Amity Saket from October 30 - November 15, 2012. The guests during their stay here resided with their host families for a period of fifteen days. Their visit was aimed at providing an insight into Indian culture, religion and festivities. The students displayed perfect synergy to achieve the goals set

by them. Their commitment was evident during the final round of presentations. They also participated with gusto during Founder's Day celebrations held on November 9, 2012. Immaculately dressed in Indian attire, they performed Bhangra, thus, winning applause from one and all. During the last leg of their visit, the students went on a sight seeing trip to Jaipur where they got a glimpse of rich Indian art and craft. The students later enjoyed lessons in painting, pottery,




German students dressed in Indian finery

paper recycling and dance. They celebrated Diwali with their host families. The visit ended on a very emotional note with students and teachers bidding a tearful farewell and a promise to meet again. 

## A German rendezvous for AIS Pushp Vihar

Around ten students from AIS Pushp Vihar accompanied by their Biology and German teachers Shaifali Jaidka and Abhishek Arthur visited Gymnasium Schloss Neuhaus, Germany from Nov 19-Dec 2, 2012. The main purpose of their visit was to encourage forest conservation and learn about different kinds of vegetations, soils and climates. The students also planted saplings in a forest destroyed by a heavy storm. However, it

was the charity model 'One cent day' which struck a chord with the students. The students had the exclusive chance of meeting Dieter Honervogt, Mayor of Paderborn, Germany, and also presented him a copy of The Global Times. As a part of the program, they attended classes at Scholoss Neu Haus and visited Munster City. They also went on several excursion trips with their host families. The visit helped the students strike a special bond with their German compatriots. 



Students of AIS PV pose with their German friends

# My dance my world

## Open Up

Rajneesh Khurana, a student of Amity Institute of Biotechnology, believes he does not need wings to fly, because he can dance. Read on as he shares his passion for dance and more

I had to think for days at a stretch before I could write this article. But tell me to dance, and I will start moving without batting an eyelid. I can dance all day, all my life long! But when it came to giving words to my passion, about it, I found it the toughest job ever. I can't find any exquisite words to define my world of dance.

I often think of the days when I first began to dance and faced a lot of criticism, but that didn't bog me down. I also remember a school trip when I started dancing to the music of madness inside me and someone remarked, "Rajneesh, can you please not dance in public?" I stopped for a minute, but the dance fever took over me again.

There were also times when I felt dance is not for me and I should quit, and I did too, but

now I condemn myself for 'those' times. However, I soon realised that there are certain things that are meant to go together; the case in point here being me and dance. The more I let go of my passion for dance, the more it was following me. And soon I came to the conclusion that we are and would be together forever. What ignited my love for dance further was join-

ing Danceworx, where I came across many influential dancers and it gave wings to my dance. The dance group of Amity Institute of Biotechnology 'ZEAL' introduced me as an enthusiastic dancer in Amity. I don't have haemoglobin in my blood, but dancoglobin, ensuring I keep moving my feet come what may. In fact, my friends even wonder if I am dancing even while asleep! Talking about dance forms, I do them all and love them all, but ballet, jazz, contemporary, Broadway are some that are closest to my heart. I often look into the mirror and see myself as the versatile dancers Jakob Karr, Danny Tidwell, Kent Boyd (from So you think you can dance?), Rasta Thomas (Bad Boys Of Dance, American dance troupe).

Though, these people

keep me going, there are times when I feel that dancing is no piece of cake and a dancer will know that the day he achieves mastery in full split, triple pirouettes and the high jete! To sum up, I would say: 'I don't walk, I jete & chaine. And I don't dance because I am happy; I am happy because I dance.'

## Achievements

- 'Best Dancer' title in All India Inter DPS Dance Competition
- Second prize in college fests at Birla Institute of Technology, G.D. Goenka, Kaishav Mahavidyalaya & Amity School of Business

(along with AIB dance group ZEAL)

- Performed at inaugural ceremony of International Youth Fellowship World Camp 2012

Rajneesh shows off a dance move

Pic : Namrata Gulati  
Imaging: Pankaj Mallik

# With the bestseller

Ravinder Singh, the bestselling author of 'I Too Had a Love Story' & 'Can Love Happen Twice?' gets candid in an interview

Namrata Gulati, GT Network

*How did the shift from engineering to writing happen? Did you ever imagine your debut novel to become a bestseller?*

Till now, I haven't shifted to writing full time. I am managing both my professions simultaneously. My reason to write this book was to keep the memories of Khushi alive. She was the woman I loved, who passed away in a road accident. I discovered the author in me with my debut novel. I had never imagined

my debut novel being a bestseller! I only wanted to share my story.

*A new breed of authors has cropped up on the literary scene. What makes them click so easily with the readers?*

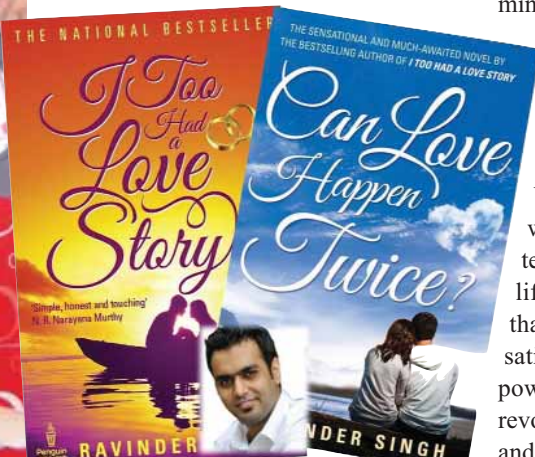
I am not an avid reader. I seldom read more than 2-3 books in a year so I am not the right person to tell you what clicks with the readers. I guess the young generation talks about stories of today and people, who are yet again, youngsters are able to relate to them. But I think if a novel connects with its readers' hearts or minds, or both, it becomes successful.

*On the occasion of National Youth Day, what message would you like to send out to the youth of Amity?*

Watch '3 Idiots' and become an idiot who believes in doing something interesting and constructive in her or his life rather than running behind a job that promises money for sure, but no satisfaction. Besides, writing can be a powerful tool indeed to usher a social revolution, but only if it is used wisely and with honesty.



Story weaver  
Ravinder Singh



# Ballet performance

Shaarvi Basu  
AIS Noida, KG C

I love dancing. Every time I see someone dancing on TV, I feel like dancing too. So, I can dance some more, I go for my ballet classes after school hours. I have been learning ballet for quite some time now and recently performed in a ballet recital. I along with my friends narrated the fairy tale 'Sleeping Beauty', which is one of my all time favourite bedtime stories.

There were so many people in the auditorium. Initially, I was nervous but then I got very excited. And when I finally got on the stage, I saw so many people watching me. It made me very happy. At the end of the performance, everyone clapped for me. It was such a nice feeling to see so many people clap so loudly for me.

On the first day of my ballet class, I felt very awkward since I didn't know much of dance. But as I kept practicing, I became more comfortable. I looked forward to going for my dance class. And by the time the day of my recital arrived, I became confident about my dance.

My ballet classes not just taught me how to dance, but they also helped me make new friends. I love being a ballerina and I hope all my friends also learn a beautiful dance form too!

As told to GT Network



Ballerina  
Shaarvi in the  
midst of the  
recital

THE GLOBAL TIMES

Calendar

2013

Happy New Year

JANUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	Encountered a first in your life? Let us know in MY FIRST	26
27	28	29	30	31	Snuggle up, grab a coffee and enjoy reading your copy of GT	

FEBRUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			Gizmo geeks, do some TECH TALK and update the rest		1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	Share your love for near 20 ones with GT	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

MARCH						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31					1	2
3	Make yourself heard, cast your vote at AMITEpoll	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	Neck deep in exams? Take some tips from the COUNSEL'S CORNER	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

APRIL						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Start the week on a creative note. Pick up the BRUSH N EASEL.		2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	Bow down. It's YOUTH POWER 2012-13			

MAY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	Miss us. It's GT TRAVELS	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	Log on to www.theglobal-times.in. Enjoy the BETA EDITION	

JUNE						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	Out for a vacation? Travel with us and feature in GT TRAVELS					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

JULY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
It's a boring weekend. Be the LIL CHEF and make kitchen your new experiment avenue		2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	It's hot. Dress cool. STAR in GT	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AUGUST						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
GRAND FINALE	Cross your fingers because GT Awards is a week away			1	2	3
4	5	6	Watch the drama, action, entertainment unfold at GT AWARDS 2012-13	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	What? You forgot your blog all week? Write it out, BLOGSPOT awaits you				

OCTOBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Don the hat of a GT REPORTER and report the latest NEWS with VIEWS		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	Capture the festivities in the air. Be a CAMERA CAPER	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
iZone				It's been a long year full of achievements. Share them with us. Time to IZONE	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	Pick up those paints and brush. You need not be a creative genius to make it to PAINTING CORNER	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	Kill the chill by hitting a coffee shop. Tell us in a FOOD REVIEW
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	Santa's watching so you better be nice and read out a SHORT STORY to the younger siblings			

# The mirror world



The ‘me’ in the mirror stared back. Suddenly I felt it was beckoning me to come inside the mirror.

Kanchan Joshi, AIS Vas 6, VIII A

I stared at myself in the mirror. It mirrored back a girl with long black hair, pretty eyes, slender hands, only except the right side of the face was burnt, which gave her personality a hideous look. Couldn’t believe I looked like that. When I was a baby, my mother was unable to save me from a fire that had started in the kitchen. Though I survived, but the right side of my face was burnt...a cruel reminder of the unfortunate accident. Since then, I have been living with that mark on my face, that had made me alienated. “Looks don’t

matter, what matters is what you are from the inside,” saying this, my mother always assured me that everything would be fine. The ‘me’ in the mirror stared back. Suddenly, I felt that it was beckoning me to come inside the mirror. It was a foolish thought but I too had a sudden urge to touch the mirror. As I stretched my hand forward, it passed through the mirror. Skeptical, as I stepped inside, I entered a world where everything was completely upside down. The wall clock hung upside down, the doors swung in the wrong direction and the tables were all inverted. As I turned around, I saw a pretty

little girl standing behind me. “Uh, hi!” I said hesitantly. The girl didn’t give me a despising look, like others. “Come with me,” she said. She took my hand as if we were old friends and we ran out of the house. I felt a strange joy in all this excitement. My heart felt warm, as she smilingly looked at me. My unknown friend took me to a house and introduced me to a woman residing inside. “She is the most beautiful person on earth,” she said. I felt puzzled. The woman in front had her facial features so distorted that I could hardly make out that she was human. The perplexed look on my face, got her explaining. “Here, we live in a mirror world, we see the reflection of the souls, living on earth.” Turning back she said “...and she is the loveliest soul”. Surrounded by a radiant glow, there was the most beautiful and kind creature, I had ever seen. And as I realised that the girl my new friend was pointing at, was me, everything faded away. I never got to know if all this had really happened, but I learnt one thing; all that matters is what you are from within. [G I](#)



## Chanar Dalna

Relish the traditional Bengali cuisine

Soham Lahiri, ASET

Method

Ingredients

■ Fry the diced *paneer* and then put them in a bowl of salted water. Fry the diced potato and keep aside.

■ Heat some oil in a frying pan and add *hing*, cumin seeds and bay leaves. As they begin to crackle, add tomato puree, coriander powder, garam masala and chilli powder.

■ Cover the pan and cook the mixture for two minutes. Then add the fried cottage cheese and potato.

■ Add some water. Stir well on a slow flame till the gravy gets the right consistency.

■ Garnish with coriander leaves.[G I](#)

Cottage cheese (diced) .....250 gms

Potato (diced) .....2-3

Asafetida (*Hing*) .....1 pinch

Cumin seeds (*Jeera*) .....1 tbs

Bay leaves (*Tej patta*) .....3-4

Tomato puree .....3-4 tbs

Turmeric.....a pinch

Coriander powder .....½ tsp

Garam masala .....½ tsp

Salt .....To taste

Chilli powder .....½ tsp

Coriander leaves .....For garnish

Refined oil .....For frying

## POEMS

### On threshold



Anoushka Raj, AIS MV, VII D

It came all of a sudden  
Without a lone warning  
I thought it would be no burden  
But the cheerless truth is now dawning  
The restlessness I can feel everywhere  
Coping with all who just sit and stare  
The weather that gets worse everyday  
Out of this muddle, there is no way

It’s hard to get over the past  
The bitter-sweet will always last  
Seems, I’m chasing a meaningless crowd  
Just to stand out from this very crowd  
My wishes are now way too elaborate  
The emptiness around me excruciates  
I always prayed for this freedom  
Then why am I engulfed in boredom?  
My soul feels so tired  
My heart burns as though it’s been fired  
When I feel the pressure from all angles  
Oh! In this maze, I’m miserably tangled  
The path in front stretches endlessly  
On it, I have to tread precariously  
There’s a junction at every step or three  
Which road to choose, depends on me

### Hopeful

Shimona Mohan, AIS Noida, IX J

The time we walked has elapsed,  
the tension on our brows has relaxed.  
Our heartbeats have subsided,  
our breathing is slow.  
Our convulsions have ceased,



and uneasiness stops to grow.  
Tears have stopped falling,  
and shivering is less,  
minds are not in a mess.  
Our voices shake a bit,  
but are otherwise steady.  
Our conscious is not prepared,  
but our soul seems ready.  
The terror is over,  
the harm is done.  
The era of victory is here,

and joy has begun.  
What was lost,  
is now gained.  
The hope is back in the heart,  
it is no longer pained.  
Rebirth and rejoice,  
raise up your voice!  
Because,  
the time we walked has gone,  
leaving us united as one.

### The Bird

Himadri Seth , AIS Saket, VIA

The Bird far away , sang song everyday  
And I woke up to a new morning quite happy and ready to play.  
But, One day I could not wake up early,  
And I wondered why?  
Oh, something was missing,  
It was the bird’s voice from up high.  
I thought why it did not sing today,  
Like everyday It did.  
It may be tired or,  
It may have a little kid.  
I went to look for her in it’s tiny nest,

Which was high on a beautiful tree.  
And I was right ,it had baby  
Not one , but too many.  
I was delighted to see,  
Them chirping at the bird.  
And the bird keeping quiet  
To let the babies chirp  
I left after sometime,  
To let them be in peace  
And be a happy family  
Like a photo in one single piece.[G I](#)

Sudoku 30															
1	3		2	7		9									
	2	6		5		8		4							
			6			7	2								
			5	7							2				
8												7			
4				1	2										
	9	8			5										
5		1		8		4	7								
	4		9	6		2		8							

Log on to: [www.theglobaltimes.in](http://www.theglobaltimes.in) for solution

CAMERA CAPERS

Pranav Bawiskar, AIS Vasundhara 6, X B

Send in your entries to [cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in)

The green side

In resplendent hues

A new dawn, a new beginning

What is the length of the pitch from wicket to wicket in cricket?

22 yards

# The joy of giving

Illustration:Deepak Sharma



## Short Story

Samridhhi Prakash, AIS Vas 1, VII A

Once there was a saint who was known for serving God with everything he had. It was believed that whenever the saint was happy with any offering given to him, he would sprinkle holy water on the offeror. It was

said that the person on whom holy water was sprinkled would attain salvation. Once while travelling, the saint reached the kingdom of a great king. When the king came to know about him, he set out to meet the saint with many gifts. On the way, he met a poor woman. She asked him to give her something to eat

as she was hungry. The king took out few fruits and gave it to her and moved forward. When the king met the saint, he gave him all that he had brought for him. The saint accepted the gifts, but did not sprinkle water on the king. This angered the king and he prepared to leave. On his way back, the king saw the poor woman whom he had met, walking slowly towards the saint. The king was convinced that the saint would not sprinkle water on her as well. The king saw that as the poor woman gave the saint the fruits she had; the saint accepted it and sprinkled holy water on her. The king was surprised to see this. He was furious and went back to the saint and coarsely said, “Dear saint, I gave you so many things - food, money, clothes, but you did not sprinkle holy water on me. This poor woman gave you two fruits which were given to her by me, and you sprinkled water on her. Is this fair?” The saint smiled and said, “King you have all the things in this world but you gave God a small part of it. But this woman had nothing except the fruits you gave her. Yet she gave me all she had. This is called devotion.” The king understood the saint’s teachings and apologised for his behaviour. 🇮🇳

So what did you learn today?

A new word: Coarse. It means harsh.



## Strawberry Trifle

Anirudh Varma  
AIS Pushp Vihar, II B

### Ingredients

Custard Powder .....100 gms  
Pineapple Jelly (premix) .....85gms  
Milk .....500 ml  
Sugar- .....4 tbsp  
Strawberries .....4-5 pieces

### Method

#### (A)Custard

- Boil the milk in a vessel with sugar. Mix 4 tbsp custard powder in some water in a cup separately. Mix till it acquires a flowing consistency
- Slowly add this paste to the boiling

milk and cook for five minutes on a medium flame.

- Pour this mixture in a cake mould and let it set at room temperature.

#### (B)Jelly

- Mix all the ingredients in the pre-mix in a dry mould.
- Add boiling water to it and keep stirring to avoid lump. Let it set

#### (C)Trifle

- Take the custard off the mould into a serving dish.
- Top this up with pineapple jelly.
- Garnish with thickly sliced strawberries and whipped cream. 🇮🇳

## Poems



## FOOTBALL

Parth Khullar, AIS Saket, III C

Try your best to win the match  
You can't hold the ball  
Neither can you catch  
Unity is all that you need  
To win from your opponent  
And to take the lead  
My favorite team is Manchester United  
And the ground is lighted  
There are eleven players in the team  
When they strike a goal, they all gleam.

## Beautiful mind

Rajshwii Bhattacharjee  
AIS Vasundhara 1, VII

Mind is a god gifted thing  
It can be made beautiful  
It can be made dirty  
It has everything,  
which we love and hate  
Mind is in our hands  
It can be thought of as supernatural  
It can be thought of as natural  
A beautiful mind can make a person  
see his or her own desired deity. 🇮🇳



## It's Me



**My Name:** Preesha Bhatnagar  
**My School:** AIS Gurgaon 46  
**My Class:** I G  
**My Birthday:** November 6  
**I Like:** Singing  
**I Hate:** Being Scolded  
**My Hobby:** Drawing and Dancing  
**My Role Model:** Puja Bua (Aunt)  
**My Best Friend:** Sakshi  
**My Favorite Book:** Cinderella  
**My Favourite Game:** Passing the Parcel  
**My Favourite Food:** Garlic Bread  
**My Favourite Teacher:** Deepika Ma'am  
**My Favourite Poem:** Five Little Ducks  
**My Favourite Subject:** English  
**I want to become:** A Princess and doctor  
**I want to feature in GT because:** I am worth it! 🇮🇳

## Painting Corner

Shreyas Mehta  
AIS Saket, KG A



## Jokey Pokey

### Seven wonders of Rajinikanth

Rishik Sood  
AIS Mayur Vihar, VII C

Once Rajini said to a person 'go to hell' and now that person is known as Yamraj.

🇮🇳

Once Rajinikanth used the support of a building to tie his shoelace and now this building is known as the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

🇮🇳

Once Rajini shared a joke with a little kid and now he is known as the laughing Buddha.

🇮🇳

Rajinikanth's pulse is measured in Richter scale.

🇮🇳

Once Rajini had a spelling test. He used a rough sheet to practice his spellings and now this sheet is known as the Oxford Dictionary.

🇮🇳

Rajini was born on 30th February. Since then that date has been removed from the calendar so that no one else has the same birthday.

🇮🇳

Rajinikanth can make fire by rubbing two ice cubes together.

🇮🇳

# Honk, Honk! Beep, Beep!

The sounds of 'beep-beep' 'choo-choo' and 'vroom-vroom' can only mean one thing in a happy preschool classroom – theme 'Transportation'! Join in for a happy joyride with the little Amies...

## Amiown Pushp Vihar

Transportation is an important part of everyday life, and is a topic many children are interested in. To acquaint the children with the 'vehicle world', the theme of 'Transportation' was taken up at Amiown. The theme not only taught them about what different vehicles are for and how they work; they also learnt important concepts such as safety when riding a vehicle or walking. Games, crafts and other multi-sensorial activities were used to teach children.

### Vrooming around

During the transportation theme, the kids were first introduced to common vehicles. Then they progressed to specialised modes of transport like hot air balloon, hovercraft, etc which grabbed everyone's attention as they understood their unique features, how they worked, when and where they are used, etc. A cycle and a motorbike were brought in the class for a live demo. The children not only explored these modes of transport in detail by looking and touching them but also expressing to each other what they saw and learnt.

### Role play

Kids find it interesting to learn about the people in their world by recreating real-life people, places and situations. As



**Water Transport** Row, row, row the boat!



**Land Transport** Here comes the train!



**Royal Transport** Palace on Wheels

they play, they reinforce what they've learned about appropriate behaviour in different situations. Moreover, cooperative role play teaches kids how to negotiate, take turns, work as part of a team, and play leader—all roles necessary for developing social skills. Therefore, role play was effectively used in the classroom to reinforce their understanding of the transport theme. Different situations using various means of transport were used in the role play area and this helped the children to deal with real life situations. It also provided them with a platform to find solutions in case of any emergency on the road.

### Art Attack

Collaborative art projects are a great way to teach teamwork and communication skills. Collaborative art also requires students to share ideas and think about others' concepts. Collaborative projects are useful for encouraging involvement of students who might not otherwise like to get involved in creative projects. For the art project on transport, pictures of different vehicles were provided in every class on which the children worked in small groups and poured their talent, expression and creativity. It was delightful to see the end product which also served as an important tool

for a revisit to the theme.

### Class Presentations

Studies and research has shown us that Class Presentations are an ideal way to recapitulate a previous theme. They provide an opportunity to showcase children's work to the parents and help the parents learn and understand the different methods used to make the selected topic clear to children with different learning styles. Thus, a class presentation on different modes of transport was organised on December 22, 2012. Every class represented their chosen mode in detail with the teachers dressed up as

mechanics, drivers, porters, air hostesses, etc. On the presentation day, an art and craft corner was put up outdoors where the children expressed themselves creatively. There were some fancy rides for the kids which they enjoyed thoroughly. The children and their parents participated with great enthusiasm in the 'Music and Movement Corner'. Biscuits, gems, cheeselings, jam and chocolate sauce were used by the children to first create and then relish their edible bus, car and traffic lights in Café D' Amiown. The parents too went back home, immensely satisfied with the presentations. 🇮🇳

# The bookworms

At Amitots, the toddler wing of Amiown Pushp Vihar; children are introduced to the enchanting world of books early on, thus enhancing their reading, comprehension and vocabulary skills

## Amiown Pushp Vihar

*"Reading is to mind what exercise is to the body."* – Sir Richard Steele

Early language and literacy development begins in the first three years of life and is closely linked to a child's earliest experiences with books and stories. Amitots believes that no toddlers can gain tremendously by being exposed to books because of the numerous benefits that reading offers.

**Story sessions:** At Amitots, love for books and reading are encouraged through story narrations from age-appropriate story books, picture books, touch-and-feel books and concept based books. Books are an integral part of their school routine; they have become like favourite 'toys' for the toddlers. On a usual day, many children can be seen heading straight to the reading corner, which boasts of a delightful collection of books. Picture books, story books, books with puzzle pieces, sound books, lift-the-flap books, concept-based books and textured books...all provide enjoyable experiences for the toddlers. Sitting cosily on the mini benches, the carpet or the sofa placed in the reading corner, the toddlers squeak delight in the bright and colourful pictures in books of their choice, either on their own or with their accompanying parent.

**Reading Zone:** Reading together helps

the toddlers develop a love for reading besides strengthening the loving bond between children and parents. It also helps the little ones learn some skills required for reading books, such as turning pages, reading words, talking about the pictures, understanding sequences of events, etc. Toddlers in Amitots are encouraged to read with their parents. Sometimes, the kids can be seen smiling to themselves when they see a familiar picture, character or scene and even excitedly point them out to their parents.

**Language development:** Reading aloud also nurtures the toddlers' language and listening skills. Children make big leaps in vocabulary during this time and reading aloud helps consolidate and build up their vocabulary bank. 'Pretend reading'—when a toddler pages through a book with squeals and jabbars of delight, is a very important pre-literacy activity that is followed at Amitots.

**The book-sy world:** Early reading for toddlers helps them view books as an indulgence. Stories which are read out to children in the class enable them to learn more about the world around them and also helps inculcate values like sharing, waiting for turns, listening to elders, maintaining good personal hygiene, etc. In this way, children get to view books as extensions of the outside world and begin to relate what they 'read' to the environment around them. The toddlers love to contribute to the story sessions



**Colour-struck** This is so much fun!



**Picture book** I can turn it too!

by repeating words they hear or by enthusiastically pointing to or naming the objects, people, shapes, animals, etc that they identify from the books. The comprehension abilities of the toddlers, evidenced by their responses to simple questions related to the characters or events in the stories, are certainly praiseworthy. There is no substitute for books in the life of a child and the little ones at Amitots learn this early on. 🇮🇳

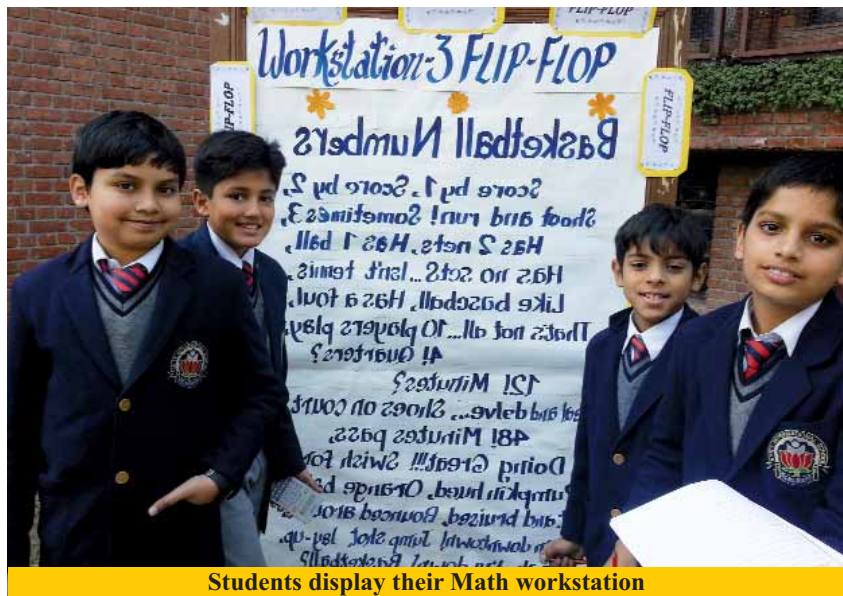
For more information about Amitots or registration, contact Ms Ritu Verma at 011-29561418



**Story time** Tell me a tale!

# Math+fun=Ramanujan

The 12<sup>th</sup> Ramanujan Inter School Mathematics competition saw math wizkids engage in diverse mathematical activities and fun math games, sweeping awards and much more...



Students display their Math workstation



Students engaged in Problem solving activity

## AIS Noida

Amity International School Noida organised the 12<sup>th</sup> Ramanujan Inter-School Mathematics Competition for three days from December 19 - 21, 2012. Conducted under the aegis of Amity Centre for Excellence in Maths, the competition aims to arouse students' interest in the logical and structural nature of Math and thereby increase appreciation of the subject among students.

A path-breaking concept initiated by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools; the competition provides ample opportunities for students to pitch their problem-solving

skills with their contemporaries. The national level competition saw the participation of around 30 teams comprising over 600 students. The competition comprised diverse mathematical activities and many individual and team events interspersed over three days. Here's taking a look at the three day Math magic.

**Day 1 (Dec 19):** The event began with the lighting of the lamp followed by the invocation to the Almighty. A stimulating Math fun activity had students of classes IV-VIII engaged in Math puzzles. Simultaneously, students from Classes IX - XII were involved in a mind-boggling Math quiz and Math project competition. The first round of the Math quiz

challenged the students to solve 25 questions in one hour.

**Day 2 (Dec 20):** Over 300 students from class IV-VIII tickled their grey cells by attempting difficult math questions in the Problem Solving Competition. The Problem Solving event for classes IX- X was a team activity and had 2 rounds: the 'Speed Round' in which the students had to attempt 15 multiple choice questions in a time span of 45 minutes and the 'Challenger Round' in which 55 minutes were allotted for 11 questions. Classes XI and XII indulged in Problem Solving activity for 3 hours which allowed the use of external resources such as reference books, internet etc.

**Day 3 (Dec 21):** The second round of the Math quiz (IX-XII) saw six teams competing with one another. The questions were challenging, thought-provoking and commanded the students' attention completely. The rounds ranged from graphs to algebra and guessing the mathematician to the branches of Mathematics. This was followed by Project Presentation (IX-XII). The teams made presentations on contemporary and relevant Math topics. The outdoor activity Ami Trail had the students participating enthusiastically in innovative games based on concepts like calculating the surface area, fractions and height. The day ended with the Valedictory function wherein the winners were felicitated. 🇮🇳

## OVERALL RESULTS

### Math Fun Activity (IV-V)

**Gold :** AIS Noida  
**Silver :** AIS Vas 6  
**Bronze :** DPS Noida

### Math Fun Activity (VI-VIII)

**Gold :** AIS Pushp Vihar  
**Silver :** DPS Faridabad  
**Bronze :** AIS Noida

### Maths Quiz Round (IX-XII)

**Gold :** DPS Faridabad  
**Silver :** DPS Mathura Road  
**Bronze :** AIS Gurgaon 43

### Math Project Competition

**Gold :** AIS Gurgaon 43  
**Silver :** AIS Vasundhara 6  
**Bronze :** Bal Bharati Public School, Noida

### Problem Solving

**Gold (IX-X):** Shiv Jyoti Sr. Secondary School, Kota; Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, New Delhi; AIS Gurgaon 46  
**Gold (XI-XII):** AIS Noida; St. Columba's School, Ashoka Place; Khaitan Public School, Noida



Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools with Kiran Mehra- Kerpelman, Director UNIC India and Bhutan

# A valuable rendezvous

Under the guidance of Kiran Mehra-Kerpelman, Director UNIC India and Bhutan, United Nation Information Centre organised a thought provoking informal meeting attended by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and Jyoti Arora, Head, Amity Educational Resource Center.

The meeting served as a platform for the Chairperson to interact with the UNIC dignitaries and a diaspora of people working in different fields for less privileged women and children, journalists, conservationists, environmentalists, philanthropists, educationists that included the likes of Bina Jain, President, All

**What:** An occasion for thinkers to interact  
**When:** December 12, 2012  
**Organiser:** UNIC, New Delhi  
**Where:** UNIC Lawns, New Delhi  
**Who:** Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools; Jyoti Arora, Head, AERC; Prof Sitaraman, Sr Vice Pres, Amity University; Maj. Gen K.J. Singh, Group Vice Chancellor, AUUP  
**Host:** Kiran Mehra-Kerpelman, Director UNIC India and Bhutan

India Women's Conference; Mr K S Sachidananda Murty, Resident Editor, The Week; Rineeta Naik, Assistant Information Officer, UNIC; RK Sharma, UNIC Chief Librarian et al. 🇮🇳

# Annual Day

## AIS Vasundhara 6

Around 700 students of the Primary wing of AIS Vasundhara 6 put up a spectacular show of dance, music, drama, rhythm and creativity for their Annual Day- *Suryah Adbhutam* on December 14, 2012.

The Chief Guest for the occasion Lt Gen KM Seth, PVSM, AVSM (Former Governor of Chattisgarh) lit the ceremonial lamp which marked beginning of the programme.

The choir and the orchestra brought the stage alive with their melodious composition heralding world peace and harmony. The council members read out the achievements of the students in the scholastic and co-scholastic domains. School principal, Sunila Athley accorded a warm welcome to all the guests and parents.



Cultural gala

Reverence to the Sun God was followed by spectacular dance performances on the myths, legends and folk tales across the globe dedicated to the Sun. *Surya Namaskar* and *Yogasans* celebrating the importance of Bhaskar was also presented during the program.

Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools in her inspirational speech motivated the students to be proud of their country and always remember the insignia of the school - *Vidya Dadati Vinayam* ie Knowledge Begets Humility. 🇮🇳

# Exhibiting biodiversity

## AIS Lucknow

With an aim to apprise the students with the biodiversity in India, AIS Lucknow organised a visit for the students from Class VI to VIII to Science Express in November, 2012.

Science express is an innovative mobile exhibition mounted on a specially designed 16 coach AC train, travelling across India since October 2007. The trip offered a sneak peek of the Science



Express, eight coaches of which were solely dedicated to showcasing the country's biodiversity, spread across the bio-

geographical zones of India. The exhibition also covers various other facets like marine, coastal, forest, microbial, agro biodiversity and their linkage with livelihoods besides challenges of conservation. Students also had the opportunity to make use of popular Joy of Science (JOS) lab put up in one of the coaches. In this hands-on lab, students performed various experiments and activities to understand concepts in biodiversity, climate change, environment, science and mathematics in an interesting manner. 🇮🇳

# NEW Year's Bonding!

Welcoming New Year in a new way; Amitians strike a global chord via the Swiss route

Pallavi Joshi, GT Network

**T**he Embassy of Switzerland in India brought the novel concept of producing a first ever table calendar that holds the creations of young minds, showcasing the Swiss-ness in India. From the various entries shortlisted, Amity International School bagged four pages, plus the cover page in this special calendar. Read on as Amitians who struck the perfect Swiss chord share the joy of creating a new bond.

## For New Leaps



When the flag of Switzerland and India come together with genuine smiles in the backdrop, it is

surely a cheerful composition. Nine year old Stuti quotes, "I was very excited to know that I'll be a part of this international calendar and so was even ready for several more clicks to get the required perfect pose."

Stuti Singh & Ritambara Das  
AIS Vasundhara 6, V C

## For New Angles



Whether it is India or Switzerland Good luck coupled with tradition always begets auspiciousness; something Aadya captured in her frame. "The only angle I had in mind was to capture India and Switzerland in one beautiful composition," says Aadya.

Aadya Vibhuti, AIS Pushp Vihar, IX B

# For the Love of Spiderman

What happens when you wake up as your favourite Superhero

Mursil Asif, AIS Pushp Vihar, III F

**O**ne fine morning, just when it was time for me to wake up, I felt very lazy. Lethargically as I opened my eyes, I felt queer. Getting up from my bed, I saw that I had been transformed into my favorite superhero-Spiderman! I had a mask on my face and I was already wearing his super hero bodysuit. I felt thrilled witnessing all of this. I tried climbing up the walls just like Spiderman and as I did, I was amazed to see that I could reach the ceiling in just no time. I felt 'Wow!'

I quickly got ready for school and was very excited to share the thrill with my friends. I flew my way to the school, through the spider web strings and as I reached, the school assembly was in progress. When it got over, my friend Avi saw me and shouted in utter astonishment, "Look! Mursil has transformed into a Spiderman!" From my friend Shivansh to my teachers and everybody else, all were shocked to see me in this new avatar. I climbed up the walls in full speed and reached my classroom. Everyone in my class looked amazed and they all wanted to sit and chat with me turn by turn. I felt very special. 🇮🇳



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## Old bonds revisited

■ The first commercial contact between both nations was in 1851, when Salomon & Johann Georg Volkart founded their company- Volkart Brothers.

■ The Swiss psychoanalyst Carl Gustav Jung was honoured with three doctorates from universities in Allahabad, Banaras and Kolkata.

■ *Sangam*, the famous Hindi film directed by Raj Kapoor, was one of the first movies to be shot in Switzerland.

■ Alice Boner, the Swiss artist was awarded the Padmabhushan in 1974



for her outstanding scholarly work on Indian art.

■ Late director Yash Chopra found Switzerland as the favourite directorial venue for his romantic

songs. Switzerland has a lake Alpenrausch christened as Chopra Lake. Also, Jungfrau Railways in Switzerland inaugurated a train named after Yash Chopra with his signature and name on a signboard, that was also launched by him.

■ The first friendship treaty signed by independent India was with Switzerland on the August 14, 1948.

## For New Thoughts



What happens when *Kanhaa* asks a Swiss milk maiden for white butter? It churns out stronger bonds. That is exactly what Dakshira did, a part of whose *Madhubani* painting was taken up as one of the pages in the calendar. The sixteen year old states, "I wanted to depict the Swiss-ness of India. And what better way to do that than trying to merge the two symbolic traditional figures of the nation, through my art style."

Dakshira Singh, AIS Saket, XI D

## For New Beginnings



Talk about promoting global peace and sports takes the first cue. Sourav brought the love-via-sports on the forefront with his painting. "I wanted to depict a very colourful friendship bond between the two nations," states the ten year old. The painting depicts two sportspersons against the backdrop of historical monuments of each nation, also conveying a merge of cultures. 🇮🇳

Sourav Singh Mahapatra  
AIS Noida, V M

## GT Travels to Paderborn, Germany



(L to R) Abhishek Arthur, German Teacher, AIS Pushp Vihar; Christoff Ostlander, Teacher, Gymnasium Schloss Neuhaus; Shaifali Jaidka, Coordinator, AIS Pushp Vihar and Dieter Honervogt, Mayor of Paderborn, Germany strike a pose with a copy of The Global Times.

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