

Status of the week
 Adios Amigos-farewell 2014. A perfect ending to a beautiful voyage. Thanks to all the people who rode this roller coaster, standing right by my side.
Simran Sachdeva
 AIS Pushp Vihar, Alumnus

Alumni Special

Another year. Another batch. Another farewell... Flip through this special edition and relive the beautiful 14 years that the batch of 2013-14 lived in the red brick building.

Shower of blessings, P 4-5
 Adios Amigos, P 6-7
 Parting notes, P 8-9

AMITEpoll
 Should Centre have a say in the appointment of apex court judge?
 a) Yes b) No c) Can't say
 To vote, log on to www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT
 for GT issue June 30, 2014
 Should the FYUP? be rolled back?

Results as on July 4, 2014

Coming Next
 Watch out for GT Top 10 special issue.



Imaging: Ravinder Gusain
GT Network

There are some things that change you as a person, make you who you are and you know that without them life will never be the same. The world calls these things – alma mater. The alumni calls it life. **Bhawna Tuteja, GT Network** brings you some stories, all with the same bottomline: alma mater ‘matters.’

That thing called ‘life’
 Once upon a time, a little girl, stepped into a red brick building. Crying and howling, she did not want to let go of her parents, wondering how life will be in this red brick building. Little did she know that the red building would soon become her life. From sharing lunchboxes to the bigger things in life, she learnt it all at Amity. She

Alma matters

smiled, she cried, she hugged, she fought, she learnt all that there was to life in the same red brick building.
That girl called Sana Sawhney, alumnus, AIS Noida, batch of 2014, will be grateful to Amity ‘for life’.

That thing called ‘aiming high’
 There was a time when the little boy thought that the moon was following his car. And now the no-longer-little boy aims to reach the moon, for that is what his school taught him. It all started with that ‘blue tie.’ As a young boy, he looked up to his blue-tied seniors, the reflection of their shining badges twinkling in his eyes. The zest to don that blue tie along with other members of the student council, instilled in him a new kind of passion. The aim was set and efforts were put in. And they sure were worth it for he was a proud member of the school student council.
That boy named Eklavya Malvai, alumnus, AIS Noida, batch of 2012 ‘aims high’ and wants to make his alma mater proud.

That thing called ‘childhood’
 As he looked outside the window, smiling at the little kids dancing in the rain, his mind raced back to his childhood, when he along with friends in school would do just the same and the teachers would rush them back to their class. Nostalgia took over and he relived the joy of sharing the circular sandwiches, they made in Class. He remembered how they were taught a *shloka* from ‘Ramayana’ that he was asked to recite in front of his relatives.
That boy called Sarthak Batra, alumnus, AIS MV, batch of 2013, can’t talk about ‘childhood’ without talking about Amity.

That thing called ‘giving back’
 You live for yourself, or so he had been told. But things changed for him as his alma mater taught him to give back to the society. As he took his first step towards working for the society, his teachers paved way for him. They were there for him at every step, giving permissions, organising activities in tandem and at the same time

encouraging him. The momentum to change the society gathered pace as he participated in Youth Power, a platform his school had given him to be the change and bring change.
That boy called Bhuvan Ravindran, alumnus, AIS Noida, batch of 2013 thanks Amity for being the compass on the map of ‘social action’.

That thing called ‘everything’
 It was her first day of college. It was the first time in 17 years she was going to have a place other than Amity she could call her own. “What’s Amity to you?” she was asked. “Everything”. She wasn’t exaggerating for Amity had taught her everything she knew, it meant everything to a young lass like her. What else could you expect because 14 years is not a short period of time, it’s a lifetime for someone who is just 17-years-old.
The girl named Labanya Maitra, alumnus, AIS Saket, batch of 2014 is thankful for ‘everything’ that Amity has given her.



Once an Amitian always an Amitian: Aniruddha Nanda

Bonded by love

Amity has played a pivotal role in sculpting the success stories of many. Meet one such successful alumnus from Amity Business School, Noida, **Aniruddha Nanda, Assistant Vice President Operations, Tech Mahindra** as he reminisces the golden old days spent at Amity

What is that one thread that binds you with your alma mater?

My alma mater reinforced in me virtues like honesty, integrity, compassion, etc. I still employ them in my personal and professional life. This one thread binds me beautifully with my alma mater and this bond will only grow stronger with each passing day. These are the virtues that Amity strongly believes in and inculcates in all its students.

How instrumental has Amity been in scripting your success story?

Amity instills values in all its students that are essential for holistic development of a person. This goes beyond the academic curriculum. Needless to say, the quality of education imparted at Amity is matchless. An ideal

combination of- values, education, expert faculty members and world class infrastructure has been instrumental in making me the person that I am today.

Share the most cherished memories associated with your alma mater.

My father and my elder brother wholeheartedly supported my decision to go to Amity for higher education. It was due to them that I was able to spend two most rewarding years of my life here at Amity. Every time I recall those moments, it brings a smile on my face. I made some great friends at Amity that I treasure till date. It was here that I found my soulmate.

How do you plan to contribute or give back to your alma mater?

I strongly believe in the value system propagated at Amity and I continue to preach it everywhere I go. One way of giving back to my alma mater is promulgating what they taught me to make this world a better place. I visit Amity every year to offer placements to students in Tech Mahindra.

Share one thing that you look forward to when you

visit your alma mater.

From the year (1995) that I joined Amity, I have seen so many changes take place. I look forward to reliving some of the old memories when I visit my alma mater. I would like to meet some of my old friends, the teachers who taught me and visit areas that still flood me with fond memories.

Have you met anyone from your alma mater since you left the school? If yes, share the memorable experience or bonding.

Yes, I am in touch with a lot of old pals and few teachers from Amity. The experience of bonding with them has been great. Thanks to breakthrough in telecommunications—we can talk and connect almost every day. It seems it was just yesterday that we were in college. Time flies and now most of us are doing well in our respective careers, yet it’s great to get together once in a while and discuss a variety of subjects. We would always remain special as a batch as we were the first batch of freshly-minted MBAs to pass from the hallowed premises of Amity Business School, Noida.

(As told to **Smita Jain, GT Network**)



THE GLOBAL TIMES

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YOUTH POWER

for A Healthy Nation

2014-15



Be the change. Bring change.

Health is wealth. And when the nation's health is at risk, you know the stakes are quite high. Bring out your sword of conscientiousness, and get ready to fight for a fit nation.

Youth Power to us is.....

[illegible]

**We plan to take up the cause of
because.....**

This image shows a full page of primary-ruled paper. It features ten sets of horizontal dashed lines, each set consisting of three parallel lines. These lines are evenly spaced vertically across the entire page, providing a guide for handwriting practice. The background is white, and there are no margins or other markings present.

*Fill up the form and join us in the
fight for a healthy India.*

I.....student of Class....., AIS..... along with my teammates want to participate in Youth Power 2014-15. My teammates are

[illegible]

Class							
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Class							
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Class

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Contact No

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Five things that we plan to do for the cause

[illegible]

Instructions

Who can apply?

☒ All students of Amity International School from Class VIII-XI and students of Amity Global School can apply.

What you need to do?

- ☒ Form a group of four and fill up the form.
- ☒ Once you have duly filled the form, tear the page and submit the same to the GT teacher coordinator in your school.

Keep in mind

☒ The applicants are requested to use only the space given for providing the relevant information.

☒ Do not attach any extra sheets.

Last date of submission

July 31, 2014



ECOM Forum

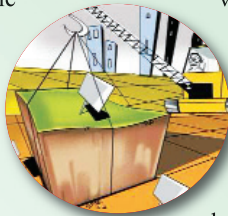
A multitude of well informed and eloquent speakers from 33 schools of Delhi enthusiastically participated in the ECOM Forum (economics and commerce symposium) held at AIS Saket. The neck to neck competition saw AIS Vas 6 lift the rolling trophy

All discussions & illustrations by students of AIS Saket

For

The Land Acquisition Act, 1894 is a law in India and Pakistan that allows the government to acquire private land in these countries. In India, a new Bill, Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill was passed by Parliament in 2013 to repeal this Act. The Bill, touted by the UPA as seller-friendly, was termed by business lobbies as industry unfriendly.

It is welfare: The Bill has provisions to provide fair compensation to those whose land is acquired by public or private sector. The bill establishes regulations for land acquisition. It will bring transparency to the process of acquisition of land and assure rehabilitation of those affected. It provides two times more compensation in urban areas and four times more compensation in rural areas than the circle price. In addition, the Bill has a provision by which states can add some more benefits to it. The new law underlines the government's focus on fair compensation rather than fast acquisition. It ensures that those who part with their land have a chance to get a better deal and possess a stake in the returns that come from development.



Farewell to India's growth story: The Bill talks of an urgency clause which means that government can acquire a land by ignoring all the pre-set conditions. The Resettlement & Rehabilitation clause gives no guarantee of jobs. The Bill compensates different categories of affected families at par, not in accordance to their losses. The industry says that the law will make land acquisition process slower; compensation would raise costs of projects and retrospective application clause will make it unfit for growth.

Crony capitalism is a term describing an economy in which the success of a business venture depends on close relationships between businessmen and government officials. It may be exhibited by favouritism in the distribution of legal permits, government grants, special tax breaks etc. But does it lead to revival of the economy or the country's economic demise?

Heading towards demise: Studies have shown that crony capitalism has thrived in countries where the institution is weak and has helped head honchos from top corporate house reserve a berth in the list of Fortune 500 companies. Crony capitalism has helped in economic growth of China only by adapting laws to meet the local needs, forging strong ties between uncorrupted political elite and regional economic leaders and by maintaining a legal framework on which local and foreign businessmen can rely.



Fighting to survive: While welcoming the much needed push to put India's economy back on track, it is important that the government clarifies its policy further and pushes it with vigour. The reforms must be such that they do not further aggravate a situation in which crony capitalism is flourishing. The government needs to assure the people of India on this front. To do that, it needs to communicate directly with



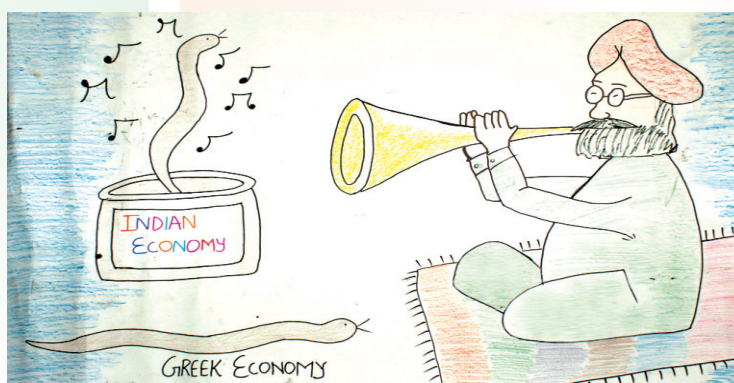
people and be able to explain the salient features of the policy and the advantages associated with it. In the absence of such direct communication, even the best of initiatives, could well end up as being yet another move by the government to further crony capitalism. Crony capitalism will not end overnight, but everyone has hopes pinned on the new government.

The weakening rupee, India's burgeoning current account deficit and the tumbling GDP- all these factors have sparked rumours of economic crisis in India, similar to the one faced by Greece but the big question remains whether India will succumb to the crisis or will it be able to counter the problems and get the economy back on track.

India going down the Greek way: The Greek crisis has aroused the interest of everyone, especially investors & policymakers around the world. It sent tremors in the stock markets across the globe. The problems in Greece arose from its electoral politics. But what if we tell you that India has similar problems that Greece did? The story is pretty similar to India, where



the government policies are designed to appease the electorate. The idea is to make policies that would help the politicians retain power in the next elections. Little thought is being spared on the impact of these policies- be it on the fiscal deficit or for that matter on the industries. Corruption has made sure that government's measures never come into force.



Will it stay afloat come what may : But India's story is not as grim as that of Greece. A combination of right political and economic reforms can help it sail through the crisis. Analysts say that given the various factors in play, the most important thing that India needs to do is restore faith among foreign investors. "India is a country of 1.2 billion consumers - so there is clearly a huge amount of potential, no one can deny that - and foreign companies want to be there," says Mr Oakley, head of Asia currency trading at Nomura.

The National Food Security Bill, 2013 was promulgated on September 12, 2013. This law aims to provide subsidised food grains to approximately two third of India's 1.2 billion people. But the moot question remains- will it really translate into food security or end up becoming another vote security legislation?

Ensure food for all: The Indian Parliament 'hurriedly' passed the food security legislation early in September 2013. Of many provisions, it gives the right to subsidised grains to about 80 crore people in India. In case of shortage of food grains, the central government will provide funds to states. Under the provisions of the Act, the beneficiaries are entitled to purchase 5 kgs of cereals per month at the following prices- rice at Rs 3/ kg, wheat at Rs 2/ kg and coarse grains like millet at Rs 1/kg. Pregnant women, lactating mothers, and certain categories of children are eligible for daily free meals. The Bill was highly controversial.



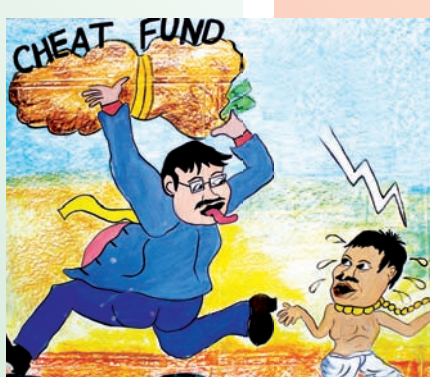
Burn a hole in the economy's wall: While sociologists might claim that Food Security Act holds answers to India's starving million, but until we improve the distribution system in the country we would not be able to eradicate the problem from its roots. Despite overflowing stocks, thousands go to bed hungry because the food grains are



either destroyed by pests or exported. A proper rationing system holds answers to the crisis. The Act is no doubt revolutionary provided it is implemented in true spirit. The intent of the bill is laudable but if we interpret its impact we will soon realise it is not based on sound economics.

Concerns about chit funds in India are as old as chit funds themselves. Regulatory bodies like the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) have been flagging the complexities around collective investment schemes. This time, the case pertaining to the Saradha Group in West Bengal and its impact on the lives of common people has forced us to gauge the intensity of the situation.

Contributing financial inclusion: Chit funds are one of the oldest forms of indigenous financial institutions regulated in India by the Chit Funds Act, 1982, a central statute, and various state-specific regulations. They are formed to help people who don't have access to capital market or possess no knowledge of investment. It helps them invest their saving in a profitable manner. Personalised service, especially in rural areas, and absence of stringent formalities enable these funds to participate in the national financial inclusion programme.



Inviting easy deception: Every once in a while, the media reports about unregistered chit fund operators fleeing with crores of rupees belonging to gullible investors. But that does not deter people as they continue making risky investments. How do unregistered chit operators flourish despite cases of cheating against them? The main reasons behind their operations are- non-implementation of preventive measures as prescribed under the

Chit Funds Act that call for prosecution of unregistered chit operators, the lack of stringent laws that check their operations and use of dubious methods by unregistered operators to ensure the gullible investors that their schemes are slightly different from the chit fund schemes as defined in the Act. This just goes to show how confused regulation and poor policing allow criminals to cheat lakhs of gullible investors.

Note: The discussion took place when the Indian economy had hit an all time low, early this year.



Use sunblocks, hats, sunglasses, etc to avoid heat strokes.

Au revoir, 14 years!



AIS Gurgaon 46

Swan song

What's 'good' about a goodbye? That's the question that crossed the mind of every student of the batch of 2013-14 as they came together for their swan song on the citation ceremony.

The bright sunny morning began with a *havan*, where prayers were said and mantras chanted for the success of the batch; the sincerity and depth of the ceremonies moved one and all. This was followed by Ganesh Vandana and the lighting of the lamp.

The students carried *diyas* on to the stage to light up the emblem of their alma mater, signifying not only the light it spreads but also emblazoning the spirit of Amity with the light it had infused in their lives. Students received their citations after placing the brightly lit *diyas* on the stage.

Emotions ran high as the outgoing head boy and head girl took stage, reliving the memories of days gone by, expressing their gratitude to their teachers and school, as they



signed off with an assemblage of memories. It wasn't just the students who looked teary eyed, the teachers were equally moved as they showered flower petals on the students, wishing all the best to their now 'former' students.

While the event was high on emotion, the entertainment quotient was not lacking either.

The event stood witness to dances and patriotic songs that enthralled the audience. The day came to a reluctant close with the rendition of the school song. 🇮🇳

AIS Noida

Words are all I have

All pics: Vishruti Saraf & Mahima Ramnani, AIS Noida, XII



Mythili Mishra
AIS Noida, XII I

It's only words and words are all I have to take your heart away... this song perhaps best describes the scene at the citation ceremony of AIS Noida organised for the outgoing batch of 2013-14. The event was replete with speeches that ranged from a light hearted speech to a nostalgic encounter. The students took everyone down the memory lane to the day when they

walked into the portals of the school. They retraced their journey and by the time they finished, every student had nostalgia written large on their faces: a wistful smile, and tears in the eyes. They remembered their days as toddlers in their red brick school when they believed that their school was as large as the universe. Parallels were drawn where the

school AV room was compared to a movie theatre and the tiny splash pool to an Olympic size pool. The canteen played an important role in people's reminiscences. The students remembered not just their teachers but also the *ayas*, sweeper *bhaiyas* and peons who were no less a part of the Amity family. How could one fail to express boundless gratitude to Founder President Dr Ashok K. Chauhan and Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson. Words were the highlight of the day and yet sometimes they fell short. 🇮🇳

AIS Mayur Vihar



For the last time

The red brick building, the teachers, the classrooms, the joy, the memories... the outgoing batch of AIS Mayur Vihar had the chance to cherish all of it, albeit for the last time during their citation ceremony. Teary eyed students reminisced countless memories they created during the 14 years gone by against the backdrop of a nostalgic evening.

The event was graced by TPS Chauhan, advisor, Amity Group of Schools and Mohina Dar, director, academic projects, Amity Group of Schools. The programme began with the traditional lighting of the lamp followed by a

welcome address by the school principal. An inspirational song by the students of Class V-X set the ball rolling. This was followed by the presentation of the citations to the students. The highlight of the evening was a 'Trip down the memory lane' where the students presented a memoir of their experiences at school with a voice choked with emotion. Soon, it was time for shower of blessings, where the school principal and teachers showered flowers on the outgoing batch, symbolising blessings and good luck. The outgoing batch embraced it all, for they knew that this was their last time. 🇮🇳



4 years old, curious; a child stood upon Amity's threshold. 14 years later, the very child stood there again, this time not entering the majestic red brick building, but the real world, and yet bearing the same emotions; the event being the school citation ceremony. A glimpse of the last moments of the outgoing batch of 2013-14 in the red brick building...



Every child at Amity is special for s/he has been part of scripting the history of an institution, we hold so dear to our hearts. As another batch steps out of the portals of Amity, my heart swells with pride as I see the toddlers now groomed into adults. I wish the batch of 2013-14 all the best and know that they will realise Amity's dream of making India a superpower.

Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan
Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools

AIS Pushp Vihar

All pics: Aakriti Gupta, AIS PV, XII



A beautiful medley

Himanshi Malik, AIS PV, XII

Joy, nostalgia, peals of laughter and tears choked with emotion... the citation ceremony organised for the outgoing batch of 2013-14 had it all. The bright afternoon began with a *havan*, that saw the outgoing batch and teachers come together and pray, perhaps for the last time. The traditional lamp was lit, paving way for the festivities.

Students were called on the stage, where they carried *diyas* signifying the light it spreads. They were presented with citations, which was followed by sharing of nostalgic moments and heart touching speeches. The students went down the

memory lane reliving everything that they had been a part of for the past 14 years. The event saw the gracious presence of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools who wished those leaving the portals of the school good luck, to take on the world with confidence. The teachers also blessed the outgoing batch by showering petals on them and posing for countless photographs with them.

A day that witnessed numerous highs and lows finally came to an end with everybody singing the school song in unison, leaving behind countless memories that will stay for a lifetime. The day turned out to be a beautiful medley. 🇮🇳



AIS Gurgaon 43

Goodbye, Amity style



Saying goodbye has never been easy and more so when you are bidding adieu to Amity, the Amity way. Students of AIS Gurgaon 43, batch 2013-14 faced similar impasse during their citation ceremony. The event that was graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of School stood witness to a soulful parting that resonated with Amity ethos and sentiments. *Havan*, soul stirring speeches, shower of blessings... every aspect of the event bore an Amity trademark that was hard to miss.

Keeping with Amity tradition, the ceremony started with the auspicious *havan*. Vedic chants reverberated in the school premises, invoking the blessings of God to bless the senior most batch with success. Amidst overwhelming emotions and nostalgia, the students were conferred citations that captured the essence of their school lives.



'Padho, aage badho'- a shadow dance- drama was enacted by the students relaying the message that one must never forget one's *gurus* or teachers. The outgoing head boy Saksham Agarwal and head girl Souparnika Krishnan rendered heartfelt speeches of gratitude. Nostalgia and overwhelming emo-

tions were rife when the shower of blessings was bestowed on the students lovingly by all. The students pledged to uphold the values imbibed at their alma mater and work wholeheartedly to breathe life into the dream of the revered Founder President, Dr Ashok K. Chauhan to make India a superpower by 2030. 🇮🇳

AIS Saket

Shubhashish

Sanjana Chopra, AIS Saket, XII

Bless you! May you be successful. Wish you all the happiness... and a countless other blessings ensued as AIS Saket, organised its citation ceremony 'Shubhashish' on January 31, 2014. The momentous day was marked with bestowing honour on the outgoing batch of 2013-14. A sense of nostalgia blanketed the ambience as the students reminisced their memorable moments spent in school.

The proceedings of the day commenced with a solemn *havan*, invoking the Almighty. A formal citation ceremony followed, wherein the teachers read out the distinctive attributes of each child. The outgoing batch thanked the school profusely for guiding their steps and equipping them to face the challenges of life. The parents also expressed their un-



shakeable faith in the holistic principles instilled at Amity, under the leadership of its Founder President Dr Ashok K. Chauhan and Chairperson Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan. The programme concluded with shower of

blessings where all the teachers blessed the outgoing batch as they stepped out of the confines of the red brick building, ready to step in a new world, with the warm blessings of their alma mater. 🇮🇳

Pics: Ria Chopra, AIS Saket, X



AIS Saket

Excitement, fun, nostalgia, hugs, tears and more ruled the scene at the farewell ceremony of AIS Saket. Titled “Lamhe”, the event witnessed the enthusiastic and overwhelming participation of all students. The ceremony commenced with a melodious rendition of the song “Hai Junoon” by the students of Class XII, followed by an award ceremony where the outgoing students were given titles keeping in mind their personality traits. Dance performances

and a fun game called “Pehchaan Kaun” made the evening more entertaining. The jam session further set the spirits soaring. The memorable evening concluded with an emotional movie tribute to their wonderful years spent in school. **Title tale:** Labanya Maitra and Vansh Saluja bagged the title of Ms & Mr Popular respectively. **USP:** A memory wall with photographs of the passouts, where friends could write messages on each others’ photographs. **Sanjana Chopra, AIS Saket, XII**

AIS Gurgaon 43



Treading into the school portals with elan and panache, the once little girls looked stunning ladies in their sares, while the boys transformed into suave looking men in their suits. The passouts were welcomed by beautiful tiaras and ties. The programme kicked off with a scintillating dance performance. A ramp walk by the seniors followed by an interesting Q & A session that set the ball rolling. The show then moved on to the immortalisation of the different stages of

a student’s life in the form of an act cum dance drama. The juniors entertained the outgoing batch with an entertaining song and dance fiesta. **Title tale:** Ms & Mr Amity was bagged by Sakshi Goel & Saksham Aggarwal respectively. **USP:** A ‘Dance-off’ saw students come up on the stage in pairs and show excellent dance moves. **Shreya Bansal AIS Gur 43, XII B**



Amity Global School

While Amity Schools screamed ‘fare well’, AGS bid adieu to its outgoing batch in its own distinctive style with a graduation ceremony. The event was graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools. The graduation ceremony commenced with the lamp lighting ceremony accompanied with *shloka* rendition. As a part of the fun-filled event, the students of IB2 walked the ramp and faced

challenging questions from the judges. Upping the fun quotient was a medley of song and dance performances, which included a Korean song presentation as well. The prestigious ‘Student of the year’ award was given to Rohini Singhal and ‘IB award’ was bagged by Hyeongchan Tak. **Title tale:** Sahil Jain & Prachi Saxena bagged the title of Mr & Ms Amity respectively. **USP:** Everything – blue robes, graduation caps, Korean song presentation



AIS Pushp Vihar

Pics: Aakriti Gupta, AIS PV, XII

Farewell for the batch of 2013-14 or a jazzed up award function? With the students’ almost celebrity status, it was hard to tell! The students, or well the students, were escorted from the main gate, to the venue upstairs, only to be greeted by a bunch of surprises their juniors had packed for them. First in line, was ‘Rowdies’, a spoof that left everyone’s stomachs hurting with laughter. Interesting dance performances where the girls and boys swapped roles were applauded. **Title tale:** Mr & Ms Amity was bagged by Kunal Taneja and Simran Sachdeva respectively. **USP:** The DJ went back home disappointed as everyone danced to the beats of the *dhol*! **Aadya Vibhuti, AIS PV, XI**



AIS Gurgaon 46

The much awaited event had finally arrived. The stage was set for the farewell of the batch of 2013-14 of AIS Gur 46. The passouts made a grand entry, each welcomed with a bouquet. But it was the entry of the hosts, who entered on a scooter, that grabbed eyeballs. Dance performances and soulful songs entertained one and all. A ramp walk and competitions for the ‘Highest heels’, ‘Shortest hair’, ‘Colourful tie’ etc kept the audience engaged. The event ended with dancing, singing, drama amidst countless nostalgic hugs. **Title tale:** Lakshay Chhillar and Ishita Sahai bagged the titles of Mr & Ms Amity. Bizarre titles like Mr Dabangg, Ms Chulbuli etc were also given. **USP:** ‘Kaun Banega Crorepati’ - a game that involved the students in funny tasks like asking the boys to tie a saree. **Abhavya Roshan, AIS Gur 46, XII**



AIS Mayur Vihar



AIS Mayur Vihar organised an enthralling farewell, “Mehfil-e-Ruksat”, for the outgoing batch of 2013-14. The starry occasion was packed with entertainment and fun, courtesy – the music and dance performances. The school band presented melodious songs about friends and memories, making everyone promise to stay in touch. Dance in various manifestations: Bollywood, jazz, etc. made the audience shake a leg. Energy levels soared to a new high as everyone hit the dance floor with gusto. The event ended with thunderous applause and a tinge of nostalgia. **Title tale:** Some innovative titles like ‘Ms High Heels’, ‘Mr Tiptop’ and ‘Ms Zulfi’ were given. **USP:** Breathtaking dance performances.

ing everyone promise to stay in touch. Dance in various manifestations: Bollywood, jazz, etc. made the audience shake a leg. Energy levels soared to a new high as everyone hit the dance floor with gusto. The event ended with thunderous applause and a tinge of nostalgia. **Title tale:** Some innovative titles like ‘Ms High Heels’, ‘Mr Tiptop’ and ‘Ms Zulfi’ were given. **USP:** Breathtaking dance performances.

AIS Vasundhara 6

Dapper gentlemen in suits and bow ties. Check. Pretty ladies in sares. Check. The farewell ceremony of AIS Vas 6 was a glitzy affair. The passouts were welcomed with the ceremonial *tika* and showering of rose petals. The highlight of the event was the ramp walk, where in students sashayed down the stage after which they were grilled in a unique Q & A session. The winners were accorded hats, a breakaway from the tiaras and sashes. Bringing in a generous dose of entertainment were the juniors who presented a skit, a medley of dances and music. **Title tale:** Mr & Ms Attire, Mr & Ms Photogenic etc were accorded. **USP:** The “Snapshot Corner”, where students could get themselves clicked with quirky props.

The winners were accorded hats, a breakaway from the tiaras and sashes. Bringing in a generous dose of entertainment were the juniors who presented a skit, a medley of dances and music. **Title tale:** Mr & Ms Attire, Mr & Ms Photogenic etc were accorded. **USP:** The “Snapshot Corner”, where students could get themselves clicked with quirky props.



Pics: Vishruti Saraf, AIS Noida, XII

AIS Noida

The euphoria that reigned over Amity Noida on the 23rd of April was unprecedented. There was a twinkle in every eye, a quiver in every foot that walked down the red carpet, laid out at the entrance for the passouts while students of the current batch waited on either side, cheering. The red carpet led the passouts to the extensively decorated auditorium where there was a dramatic performance about a typical day in an Amitian’s life. **Ritwik Kumar AIS Noida, XII H**

The skit was followed by band performances and beautifully choreographed dances. The students were then ushered out of the auditorium where the famous canteen food and the DJ had been waiting for them. All in all, it was a fun filled evening. **Title tale:** Sorry, no titles there! **USP:** Red carpet welcome for the seniors.

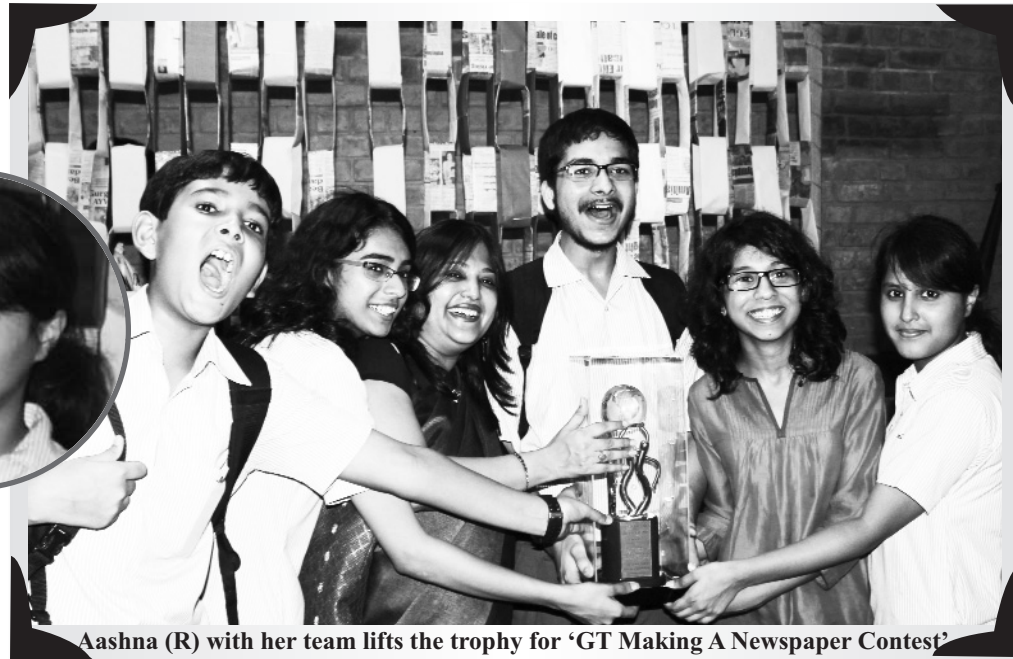


Sitting at my farewell

Aashna Agarwal, AIS Gur 43, Alumnus

Sitting at my farewell, I can't help but gloat over the fact that school is over. Finally! No more staying up till 3 trying to finish the biology homework. No more reaching class and cursing yourself on discovering that you've left that precious biology homework at home. No more depression of seeing the dreaded Monday timetable. I watch the function end, wave a goodbye to my school and make my way towards the car. Reaching my car, I realise I've left my bag in my classroom. I say goodbye to my friends and trudge my way back to the school.

Nostalgia is a strange feeling. But a powerful one. Walking through the now quiet and deserted school gate, I can't help but remember the feeling of thrill and anticipation of racing to my class, hair loose, socks in one hand, comb in the other, defying the logics of physics and time in my desperation to reach my class on time. Crossing the reception, I pass by principal's office and I grin at the memories that flood my brain for example, the time we got selected for the student council, the time we went there after winning competitions and of course, the times we



Aashna (R) with her team lifts the trophy for 'GT Making A Newspaper Contest'

were pulled up numerous times for a wide assortment of reasons.

The school wears a deserted look, and a strange silence looms as I climb up the stairs. Walking ahead, ah! I see there's the useful bin we've hidden behind to save ourselves from evils, ranging from a uniform check as juniors, to our classmates looking to borrow money during recess. Behind the bin, I can see the empty cupboard

which proved to be a useful hiding place for our tiffins every time we brought not-aloo-parantha to school. And I can almost see students rushing out, and laughing out loud as I cross the staff room. I remember the thrill rushing down the spine when somebody spread the rumour- "The maths teacher is absent today."

I have vivid memories of sitting around the school canteen, with 10 plates of chowmein in

front of us, nit picking between stuffed mouthfuls, only to come back the next day and place yet another order for 10 plates. I see my class boys sneaking around the corner with a bat and a Cosco ball, and I wonder what the school does with the balls it confiscates on a daily basis. Seeing an old pen lying in the corridor, I stop myself from pouncing on it, after all, everyone now knows how precious they are. Starting off school with 10 pens of each colour, a geometry set, and a full stationary kit, it took about a month for us to reach the point where finding an abandoned pen equalled finding kryptonite, knowing fully well that it would last us at least 10 days. I reach my class and open the door ready for the loud noise to greet me, the hustle-bustle and the latest breaking news of the half hour (The chemistry teacher was talking about increasing TWO PAGES of our UT syllabus!) But it doesn't come. No more staying up till 3 to finish my biology homework, nevertheless excited for school. No more cursing myself when I realise I've left my biology homework at home, only to be joined by some who did the chemistry homework instead. No more noise. The class is empty. As is my school. And pretty soon, I'll be leaving too. Amity International School, looks solid and steady, the same as ever. But something has changed, I have changed, without my knowing anything about it. My school has made me so much more than who I was. ☹

Feels like yesterday



Simran (Center) with her friends

Simran Sachdeva, AIS PV, Alumnus

A typical farewell article would start with "You know I was this small when I came to Amity." But I dare not, because my friends would say "Tu toh abhi bhi wohi hai." And guess what? Strangely enough, this is what I'll miss the most about the place. Things that seem insignificant are actually the things that make this red bricked building, Amity and us, Amitians.

Okay, so here's my futile attempt at putting 14 years of joy, happiness, disappointment and everything else in between, in words. It feels like yesterday when in place of these glorious badges, we had starched napkins pinned to our chests. We have come a long way from the tunics to skirts and finally to *salwar kameez*. It almost cracks me up thinking how sitting with boys used to be the worst punishment ever and how sharing crayons once got me some of my best friends.

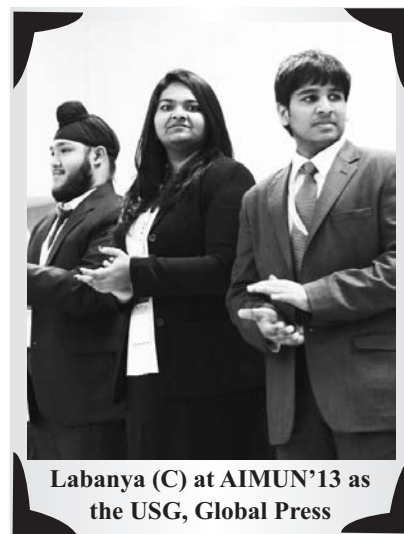
But now that I have grown up, here we are a bunch of over enthusiastic kids capable of creating a "fish market" out of any place we go to. In case that's not enough and you wish to see our true colours, all you've got to do is watch us stand outside the canteen. Ten people salivating

over one plate of vegetarian bullets is a sight to watch. Reality hits me hard when it dawns upon me that it's time to say goodbye and there won't be anymore of laughing like maniacs in the middle of corridors, hugging juniors on the way from the washroom to class, exchanging smiles with Saroj *didid*, no more Munches on Founder Sir's birthday, no more of Naveen sir's hand gestures while explaining concepts or Gurpreet ma'am's "in a nutshell" or Amika ma'am's amicable smile.

No, I am no pageant queen, YET I have a long list of people to thank- starting with our awesome threesome - Mohan ma'am, Divya ma'am and Shalini ma'am for being omnipresent and the teachers who are responsible for making me what I am today. All ink would go dry and words would fall short too if I had to write how much I want to thank them.

A special mention to my lovely juniors, who have been a breath of fresh air, spoiled me by laughing at the most stupid jokes I could come up with and comforted me with their warm hugs. Blame it on my height or on my level of intellect, I always felt like one of them.

Cheers to everyone at Amity for being the best people I could ride this roller coaster with. On a concluding note, "Jao mere sheron, humara naam roshan karo." ☹



Labanya (C) at AIMUN'13 as the USG, Global Press

Labanya Maitra
AIS Saket, Alumnus

I will not start by talking about how I walked into this red-bricked building. I don't remember it. I was almost four then; I'm almost eighteen now. People say time flies; it doesn't. I could say my fourteen years in Amity passed by in a flash, but they didn't. I felt, everything, everyday; made invaluable memories and then some more. So as I step out into the real world, here are some things that I learnt as I saw my tunics turn to skirts and then to *salwar kameez*.

Number 1: The Canteen

You may detest chowmein. You may not give it a passing glance as the Chinese vans go all out to tell you how it is the tastiest thing in the world. But when the same thing is served in your canteen, you attack it with all your force as ten others compete with you to get one bite from that single plate of chowmein. The bottomline: food is not all about taste, it is about sharing, caring, love and also the place where it is served.

Number 2: The Library

Lalit sir is your best friend, always re-



Number 3: Alka Ma'am's Room

Here's a secret that will no longer remain one: Alka ma'am, more often than not, does not stay in her room. So, if you are seen roaming around in the school when not supposed to and asked about your whereabouts, then just say you are looking for someone. You know who.

Number 4: The Girl's Washroom

The third floor girl's washroom is a magical place, a place of possibilities and wonder. Despite that, there are things that you will never fail to see once you enter this wonderland: a) Someone fixing her hair b) Someone crying And no, you will never find out how or why.

Number 5: The Administration

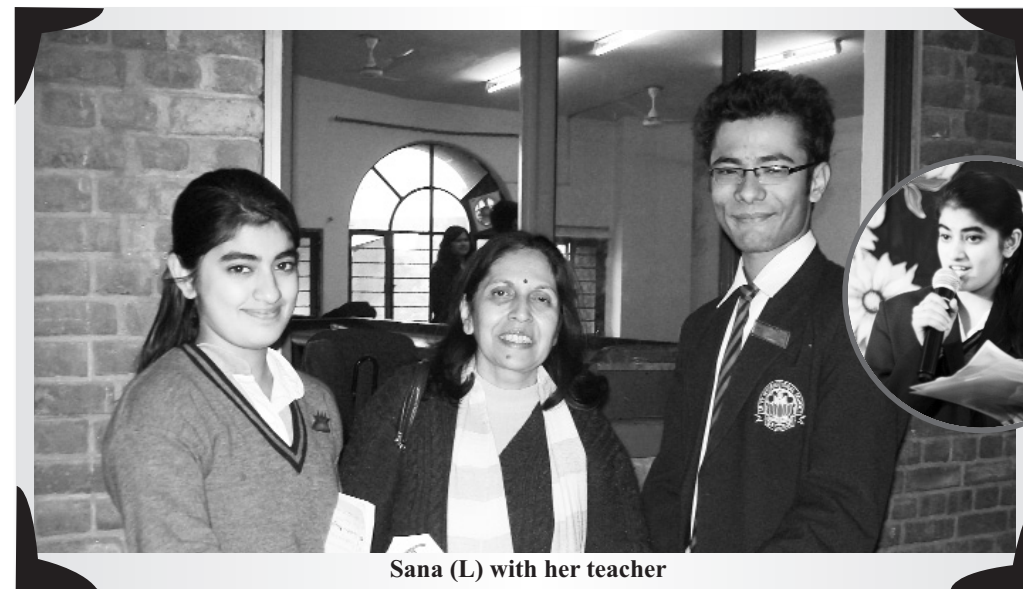
Remember this and remember it well; to slow is to falter, to stop is defeat. If you say please enough number of times, you are bound to get permissions for the upcoming event, I promise. Find yourself hanging off Achala ma'am's counter or waiting outside Principal ma'am's room, you're doing it right.

This school has taught me to be everything that I am today and, God, am I proud. The motliest of experiences this institution has to offer is beyond comprehension. And I am thankful to have had the pleasure to be a part of it. ☹



Avoid playing outdoors during the afternoons.

My Amity storybook



Sana (L) with her teacher

When I first walked into this school, I didn't know what Amity meant then, other than that it was my school's name. It was this red bricked building with rooms. And the rooms had the cutest possible triangle shape and multi coloured tables with bowls of crayons and mattress on the side where we would all sit for "Story Time".

The only thing that mattered back then was the red star that my class teacher would draw on my face for being a good girl. The AV room was like GIP's movie lounge and the swimming pool was like an Olympic size pool for us. Standing and staring at

the aquarium was like admiring a monument. And of course, our place of worship back then - THE SWINGS! Annual Days and Sports Days were the biggest events in our lives. That was all primary and middle school. Then came senior school with the most amazing set of teachers ever, more responsibilities and more hard work. From small stage to big stage. From cheese sandwiches in our tiffin to the bullets in the canteen, and of course shouting with joy at the sight of those spring rolls! The way we would and still do jump with happiness every time we get a Munch for Chairperson ma'am's birthday! And of course, the TREE! What sector 18 is to Noida is what the tree is to Amity! That's not all

but it's just impossible to fit in a 14 year long beautiful journey into a few words.

And as my beautiful 14 years draw to a close, I would like to thank the people who made this beautiful journey possible - our Founder President, Dr Ashok K. Chauhan and Chairperson Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan.

As I gear up to step outside this red brick building, I realise that I owe my transformation in these 14 years to my teachers. Every teacher I have ever interacted with has moulded my personality in some manner. Irrespective of whether they have taught me or not, I have always had something to learn from them. They say a teacher is like a second mother to her students. At Amity, teachers are mentors, mothers and friends.

But it isn't just the teachers that treat you like your own. There are some important people who complete your family at Amity and make it your second home: the sweeper *bhaiyas*, ayah *didis*, peons, the photocopy *bhaiyas*, the canteen *bhaiyas*. It is only at Amity that your *ayah didi* from nursery will recognise you even when you have your back turned to her.

It's only here that the sweeper *didid* would come to you on a chilly winter morning and say, "Arre beta sardi mein itni subah baal nahi dhote, thand lag jaegi."

As I say goodbye, I turn back the pages of my Amity storybook, only to realise that each page has been immersed in a different emotion, imbued with a different thought, all of which now translate into priceless memories. ☹



Kashish with her friends during a GT Edit meet

My last year with GT

Kashish Minocha, AIS Saket, Alumnus

As I walk down the corridor every week, I keep checking the library now and then. And keep asking myself, when, just when will GT be here again?



I sit by the window of my room, I look outside and keep thinking. What if GT had never been a part of my life? Would my life be anything, but boring?

GT changes my every tear to a smile, GT is with what I can walk a countless miles. From goosebumps to butterflies, GT gives me everything! And this was my last year with GT, it's just heartbreaking.

I wish I had written some more, I wish the number of pages was 24. I wish there were two contest editions, all those in their last year of school, can really understand my condition.

Unforgettable memories and so much learning, incomparable excitement and endless editing! I finally got the chance to be ME, just one word says it all, you are simply the 'BEST', GT.

With every word I write, I realise, next year onwards, life's never going to be the same. That brainstorming, that creativity, in the process, yearning for serendipity!

But it soon dawns upon me, that my bylines were my claim to fame, but not any more, for GT will no longer have my name.

I'll miss picking 10 copies of GT every week, I'll miss writing for GT. And it is the GT office, I will miss the most. You have given me so much, and this was my last year with GT, I hope I made the most of it.

It's a date!

Sarina Mulchandani, AIS Vas 6, Alumnus

As I begin to pen down my life at Amity, my eyes brim with tears which I hold back with much effort. I don't have many incidents to recount, having spent only 3 years at this prestigious institution. Yet, I have innumerable fond memories of everyday occurrences, which can light up even my gloomiest days. As I go down the memory lane, reminiscing fond memories, there are some dates that are as clear as day.

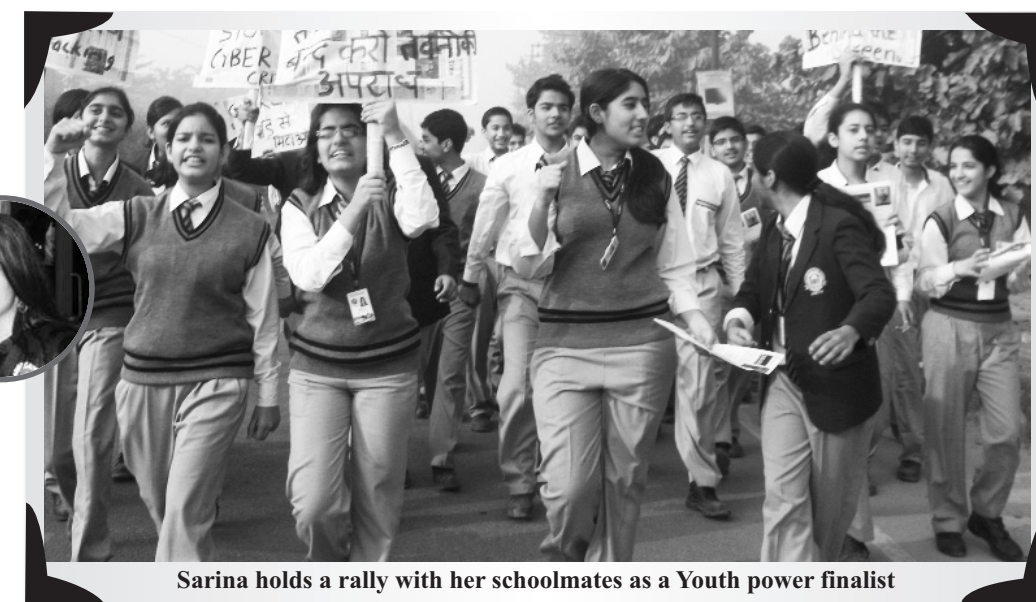


January 6, 2011: My parents had decided to bring me to Amity and I was informed of the same. I was upset, at the thought of leaving behind fond memories and beloved friends, unknown to the bliss that was awaiting me here.

February 19, 2011: I had been to the premises once earlier, and here I was today, ready to write my future in my own handwriting, in the form of my admission test!

March 25, 2011: I was now a student at Amity, and had been called to get my uniform and books. The feeling was weird, the attire strange and the surroundings alien.

March 28, 2011: My first day at Amity! I remember my mother telling me "You will love it."



Sarina holds a rally with her schoolmates as a Youth power finalist

I don't know how she knew it back then, but soon Amity became a part of my life, my very own self.

April 27, 2011: It was our Chairperson ma'am's birthday! It was the first time I had been to Amity Noida, and the grandeur of celebrations clearly spoke volumes about the love that we hold for her.

August 22, 2011: I came in touch with our school principal for the very first time. Quite contrasting to her decorous personality, she came across as absolutely approachable. And to date I am thankful for that first meeting or I would have missed out on countless important lessons of life.

September 30, 2011: I was chosen for Youth

Power. Ecstatic, excited, nervous, all at the same time! Seven months of labour, fun and enlightenment; it really proved to be an enriching experience for me.

My journey at Amity truly has been a joyride, which I have enjoyed to the fullest. When I go down the memory lane, I see how it all has changed. The playground tells stories about the fun I had on Sports Day. The bricks are inscribed with the moments I contemplated and pondered over, leaning on them. The stairs have been imprinted with my footprints of all those incidents when I pranced on them with joy and sometimes even tripped and fell. To leave it all is breaking me apart, yet I know it cannot be averted! Thank you Amity for all that I ever dreamt of. ☹

A hollow feeling

Vathul BS, AIS Gur 46, Alumnus

7 years of schooling in Amity. 7 glorious years. As I sit to write down about my life at Amity, I realise that the task at hand is impossible for putting down countless emotions, memories, joys, sorrows into words is not easy. It has been about two months since I have left school and the void still remains.

The corridors, the canteen, the endless conversations, the unmeasurable love of teachers and peers...all of it remains etched in my mind. It is funny how we all have to start with a clean slate only to be filled by numerous memories. Amity has helped to create a niche for all of us and endowed us with qualities which will help survive all phases of life, for we have had first-hand experience of most experiences. I am no more the head boy of the school. I am

no more part of the MUN fraternity. My batchmates and I, will soon be part of the history of this grand institution, but nobody can ever strip me of the joy of having been a student of Amity; one with a strong moral fiber, a high sense of self esteem and efficacy and above all, an instilled sense of patriotism and pride in my country. I am almost done with this write up, and here I am still contemplating that this isn't doing justice to what Amity has given me. And perhaps it never can, for putting your life at Amity in words is not that easy. Wherever I go, I shall always remain an Amitian at heart.



Vathul accepts the flag of honour on being appointed the school head boy

Memoirs of a lifetime

Training or intuition, knowledge or patience? What makes a great teacher? Know it all as ACERT alumni reminisce the golden days spent at their alma mater, and the invaluable lessons learnt there



Surangma Batch of 2012

What was the best part of the ACERT course?

Mary: Along with the exhaustive curriculum, the best part of the course was the beautiful interaction between the teachers and students.

Surangma: The hands-on experience provided by ACERT was definitely the high point. The demo classes organised in real classrooms, skill development programmes and workshops added value to the curriculum.

Aditi: The well designed curriculum was the best part of the course, giving us insight

into both traditional and modern concepts of education.

Sonali: Getting to meet different people from different backgrounds, working towards the common goal of learning and understanding children, was the best aspect of the course.

Parul: The well-framed curriculum and working with Montessori material was an incredible learning experience.

Monica: Making people from diverse backgrounds work together efficiently as a team, was the best part about ACERT.

Alumni speak

ACERT, the teacher's training arm of Amiown, offers a comprehensive, one-year course to prospective teachers. ACERT alumni **Mary Rani Cherian & Surangma Nagpal**, Gurgaon, 2012 batch; **Sonali Jain**, PV, 2011 batch; **Aditi Baijal**, PV, 2012 batch; **Monica Sharda**, Noida, 2012 batch & **Parul Bhatnagar Saxena**, Noida, 2013 batch shed light on the course curriculum and its high points.

What was the most important lesson learnt at ACERT?

Mary: I learnt to adapt to new situations and adjust to all sorts of people.

Surangma: ACERT taught me punctuality and delivering every task with heart and soul.

Aditi: Learning that each child is different and the teaching style should be updated time to time, based on the need of the child, was the most pertinent.

Sonali: I learnt that each child is unique and there is no one way for a child to express his/her needs, rather there are hundred languages in which they can express themselves.

Parul: The most important lesson I have learnt is that each child has diverse competencies, so being a teacher, one shouldn't expect children to behave in an ideal manner.



Aditi Baijal (extreme right) Batch of 2012

Monica: Preparedness, planning and patience were the things I learnt here.

How did ACERT curriculum help you in your current placement?

Mary: After sitting at home for many years, I lacked confidence. The course at ACERT helped me to get my confidence back.

Surangma: The course curriculum focuses on child-centric approach, which helps me in my current job.

Aditi: At the school I work, teachers are trained on philosophies, but I have an edge over them as they were taught at ACERT.

Sonali: Learning about different educationists and their theories has helped me become a better facilitator.

Parul: ACERT gives knowledge about various teaching methodologies which helps in



Monica Sharda Batch of 2012

getting better placements.

Monica: A holistic exposure towards inculcating values in children, has helped me in my work portfolio.



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Your favourite memory at ACERT?

Mary: I am a trained classical dancer and at ACERT, I got the opportunity to be on stage after a long gap. I still can't forget the excitement and the nervousness I felt then.

Surangma: Among the many splendid memories, my favourite is, a story demonstration, which I did with my batchmates.

Aditi: From the circle time activities to confidence building through group and individual presentations to the excellent



Mary Batch of 2012

faculty, I can't forget even a bit of it throughout my life!

Sonali: My most memorable

experience was working with Amiown children when I went there as a trainee; it enhanced my personality, both personally and professionally.

Parul: A favourite memory is, when I got an opportunity to assist Amiown teachers for two days during sports day practice.

Monica: The fun sessions we had debating on various issues is my most treasured memory. When we would discuss our viewpoints, we would feel most alive, creative and motivated.

What is your message to ACERT aspirants?

Mary: This course is ideal for you if you are an aspiring pre-primary teacher. It will help you get over your inhibitions and give you ample skill, exposure and training.

Surangma: They say well begun is half done. If you have joined ACERT, you have already taken your first step towards becoming a good and successful teacher. So, congratulations on taking the first right step!

Aditi: What a school looks for in a good teacher, is talent, confidence and knowledge about the education system, which ACERT curriculum provides in abundance.

Sonali: Implement what you learn during the course in your personal and professional life, to become a better human being.

Monica: If you plan to reach unimaginable heights, keep faith and believe in yourself.

Parul: The course is a well-defined one since it provides specialisation in Montessori and education management with a complete focus on the current teaching pedagogy. Try to grasp as much as you can and learn the most out of it so that you can implement this knowledge later in life.



Parul Bhatnagar Saxena Batch of 2013



Sonali Jain Batch of 2011



Never stay in a parked car or sleep outside for very long.

Vying for top spot

Various inter house competitions kept Amitians on the edge

AIS Lucknow

Shloka gyan: Sticking to our cultural roots, a 'Shloka Gayan' competition was organised on May 3. Apart from reciting *shlokas*, the students explained their meaning and relevance in the present times. Pawani house stood first while Mandakini came second.

Recitation: On May 8, Class II - V participated in the junior recitation contest on topics ranging from laughter and merriment, preserving nature to working in the kitchen, etc. Mandakini house came first, while Alaknanda bagged the second spot. In the senior elocution competition for Class VI - X, different aspects of life were showcased through poems. From 'The Charge of the Light Brigade' to 'The Bazars of Hyderabad', students avowed the audience with their brilliant recitation of beautiful poetry. Alaknanda bagged the first prize followed by Bhagirathi at the second place.



Students participate in junior recitation competition

PPT competition: The competition, held on May 8, showcased delightful presentations on 'Are women safe in India', 'Do aliens exist', 'Internet is producing copy cats' and 'Is man or

nature to be blamed for the catastrophe in Uttarakhand?' Mandakini and Pawani were declared joint winners for their flawless performance with Alaknanda coming a close second. **G.T.**

En route Bardsville!

AIS Vasundhara 6

To commemorate the 450th birth centenary of renowned playwright, poet and author, William Shakespeare, the English department organized a mega literary event called 'Bardsville'. The event, spanning a week, from April 21-24, saw active participation of students from Classes VI to X in a gamut of interesting, hands-on activities. The celebrations culminated with an exhibition, which was widely appreciated by parents during the PTM. Class X students prepared crosswords based on the great bard's plays. Class IX



The vibrant exhibition brought Shakespeare's works to life

enacted popular scenes from Julius Caesar, Twelfth Night, As You Like It, Merchant of Venice, etc. Class VIII made caricatures of the bard while Class VII designed banners and kites with his

dialogues and achievements. Class VI showcased photo albums and posters as a tribute to the man whose works have universal appeal and have withstood the onslaught of time. **G.T.**

Gearing for robotics

AIS Pushp Vihar

Space and Robotics Club organised an orientation programme for students of Class V - VIII on May 10, 2014 in the school. Conducted by Siddharth from JB Robotics, the orien-



Robotics orientation in full swing

tation explained the importance of the club and its activities. JB Robotics creates training modules to promote individual thinking and provide educational solutions. They also develop tools for teachers that make it easier to implement robotics curriculum into today's classrooms. The students were introduced to robotics through a presentation on robots, made with Lego kits. The resource person explained that Lego Mindstorms kits contain software and hardware to create customisable and programmable robots. One of the fundamental goals of the club is to inspire and excite future researchers, engineers and scientists. **G.T.**

Parent orientations

AIS Saket

AIS Saket organised the orientation program for Class I and V on April 7 to put to rest the anxiety of parents.

The orientation program for Class V was graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools, who eased the parents' anxiety by sharing her own experience. Principal Ameeta Mohan focused on exam anxiety and effective measures to deal with it. She also highlighted the need for constant parental supervision and guidance at this age. Vice principal Anshu Mittal gave details about the curriculum and how to facilitate child's growth. Guest speaker Dr Bindu Sehlot, parent counselor, Amiown Pushp



Class V graduates lead the way

Vihar, spoke about changes to be expected at this stage and ways to handle them. An interactive session followed. The orientation of Class I kicked off with a great show put up by Class I graduates. School principal asked the parents to devote time and affection to children while, vice principal Anshu Mittal shared ways to strengthen learning skills of children. **G.T.**



The triumphant Amity team

MUNers rise to glory

AIS Saket

AIS Saket had the honour of representing the Russian Federation and Libya at GD Goenka MUN (GIMUN) organised by GD Goenka School, Vasant Kunj on May 2-4, 2014. More than 40 schools and 400 delegates from all over India participated in the event. Team Amity comprised 11 students and their MUN advisor, Sumedh Kapoor.

The Amity delegation won laurels for their school by winning the best delegation award. Bringing further glory to the school, seven delegates also bagged individuals awards. Shyam Rajgharia, XI F won best delegate while Simran Gulati and Anusheela Gosh, XI E bagged high commendation awards. Prashant Revanati, XI C; Shreya Bageja, XI D; Siddharth Kapoor & Parinay Gupta, XI received special mention awards. Others who received participation certificates were Taranjeet Singh, Advaryu Srivastav and Akhilesh Budhiraja, X C and Chetan Anand, XI D. **G.T.**



Teachers in rapt attention at the TERI workshop

TERI trains teachers

The workshop on environmental issues broadened the horizons of teachers

AIS Saket

TERI (The Energy & Resources Institute) organised a one-day teacher's training workshop on environmental concerns at Indian Habitat Centre on May 7, 2014.

Around 21 teachers from different schools of Delhi attended the training programme. Ambreen Kausar from AIS Saket participated in the workshop.

The workshop began with an introductory session on the resource persons and participants, followed by a discussion on environmental concerns through a powerpoint presentation. An interesting video and a group activity on the topic, captured everyone's attention. For the group activities, teachers were divided into various teams comprising 4-5 members, each with a group leader. Ambreen was the group leader for her team and presented the team's thoughts

and notions about the topic assigned.

Another group activity followed, where teachers designed an action plan for their eco clubs, keeping in mind the current environmental issues.

During the course of the workshop, the teachers were apprised of the 'Green Olympiad', an environment based MCQ examination for students of Class IV-V and VIII-X. They were also informed about the 'TERI School Leadership Camp' for students, which is held at Mukteshwar, Uttarakhand.

The teachers' workshop concluded with a group discussion on the methods of evaluating eco clubs. All the teachers received participation certificates, a poster on Green Olympiad and a CD on environment concerns and eco-clubs. Participation in the workshop was an enriching experience for everyone. **G.T.**

(Contributed by: Ambreen Kausar, AIS Saket, teacher)

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Parth Gupta, AIS Noida, III B



It's your Day



Each one of us waits for that one free day to do whatever we want, however we want. However, when that lucky day does roll around, we find ourselves... lost. But not to worry, here's your very own guide, customised to suit your tastes. From bookworms to foodies, this is your Bible. In this **Part 1** of ten part series, we bring to you a day exclusively planned for book lovers.

Bookworms

*Bookworms have evolved from hard bound copies to sleek Kindles; from libraries and bookstores to Flipkart, but the love for the written word remains the same. Hop on as **Snigdha Shahi**, AIS Noida, Alumnus takes you on a bookworm-ish voyage*

Pic: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network



Love for books meets 21st century technology. The result - some cool apps for book lovers. Try these.

Wattpad: This app distributes content written by professional writers, as well as undiscovered, amateur writers.

iBooks: Enjoy access to Apple's iBookstore, including more than 18,000 free ebooks.

Goodreads Application: Discover and share books, organise them into virtual bookshelves and connect with other bookworms! This app is available on iPhone and iPad.

Honey without money

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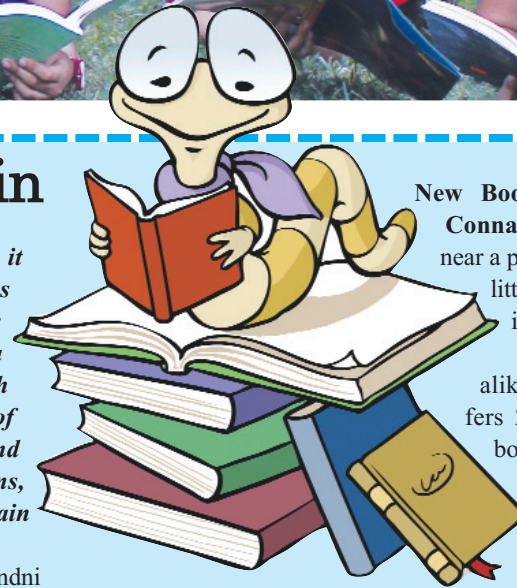
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Field Trippin

Flipkart sure has made it possible to have books delivered right at your doorstep, but if you enjoy browsing through beautiful spines of books, then go ahead and check out these havens, where a reasonable bargain is more or less assured.

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New Book Land, Janpath, Connaught Place: Situated near a peepal tree, this quaint little circular shop draws in compulsive shoppers and bibliophiles alike. The bookstore offers 20% discount on all books. Isn't that great?

Bargain Book Store Shop No. 1, Mini Market, Janpath: Chart paper signs announce novels for

Rs 20, and 'Buy 1 Get 1 Free'. Also, the owner encourages you to read the books and get back 50% of the cost upon return. You could easily miss this one, so keep your eyes wide open !

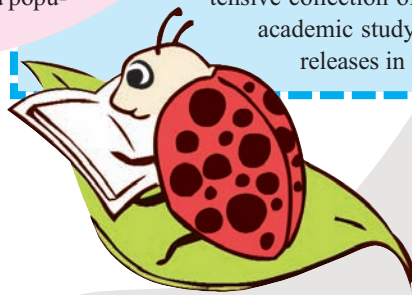
Organise

Are your books out there in a cluttered heap, collecting dust bunnies? Time to sort out stuff.

Donate. Your kindergarten's 'The Ugly Duckling' would be better off donated to a preschooler or your maid's little daughter.

Go digital. Read books on your computer or your smartphone, and reduce the pile around you.

Get yourself a new bookshelf. The mere thrill of using a cool bookshelf will pique your interest in sorting your books.



Rendezvous

There is one thing bookworms possibly love more than reading - discussing it over a cup of coffee and snacks. Head over to these book cafes to chill after a long and tiring week.

Café Turtle, Khan Market: Creating a stellar reading-cum-cafe experience, Café Turtle offers quick bites and intellectual conversations.

Spell and Bound, SDA: Buy awesome books and grab a quick bite at 'The Kathis' on the first floor.

Cha Bar, CP: Cha Bar, located inside the Oxford Bookstore (it's Hogwarts for wannabe-wizards y'all) offers a vast range of teas to slurp and sip, and delectable quick bites to enjoy.



COMING NEXT
A day for photographers

Webbed

Take a look at some websites that share your bookish love.

fanfiction.net: Fallen in love with fictional characters? Head to fanfiction.net, where fans bring them to life, my way or the highway style!

Goodreads: Organise your books, keep track of the upcoming ones, interact with your favourite authors and connect with people who share your literary tastes.

byliner.com: Discover great fiction and non-fiction, from classic works to exclusive stories.

As much as you might love lazing around with a book and potato chips on the couch, it's good to soak in some sunlight every once in a while.

Join a book club: Connect with people who harbour a similar book-love.

Attend a book release: Autographed

copy, teté-a-teté with the author, and free food (if you're lucky). Need we say more?

Read out a book to the blind: Visit a local school for the blind, and recreate for their senses a beautiful world, fascinating and full of possibilities.

GT Travels to Wagah Border



Aaryan Bansal, V K & Arnav Bansal, III K, AIS Noida flaunt their copy of The Global Times at Wagah Border. The border lies on the Grand Trunk Road between the cities of Amritsar and Lahore. The place is more particularly known for the elaborate 'Wagah border ceremony'.

Got some clicks with GT while on the go? Get them featured! Send them to us at gtravels@theglobaltimes.in