



Food for thought

Happiness is a child's
laughter
a laughter so pure
It melts your heart, soothes
your soul
moves you to the core.
Happiness is everywhere
It's in you and me
Look for it as long as you
might
You'll know in your heart
it'd always been.

Contributed by:
Chitra Jain, X-B, AISV-6

INSIDE



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What's wrong in being Average?

Aanchal Jain

IX C, AIS Vasundhara-6

Well, "I am getting all A's, so that's good," says Monisha who has won awards for academic achievement. But what happens if someday Monisha doesn't perform well in studies? "Part of me is always worried," says his mother. Are parent's beliefs about achievement and success mirrored in terms of children's excellence in obtaining marks? Few people will disagree that parents play an important role in a child's achievement. However, some would agree that parents of some high achievers play a detrimental role by pressuring them to achieve unrealistically high goals. According to Mrs. Meenu Bhargav (Counselor, AISV Sec-6), "For

that matter, teachers also have been accused of pushing children to achieve exceptional levels which results in fostered performance anxiety in the students." The question is, are we actually preparing them for Quality Life? A child struggling in life with his studies is often looked down upon by his peers and is labeled as a dumb, slow or average child. To be considered average in Academics is seen as a sign of an average life ahead. **Chitra Vardhan (XI, AISV, Sec-6)**, having made her presence felt in music shows like TVS Saregama, etc., says, "There's nothing wrong in not being amongst top ten in class. I am happy with my achievements in the field of music. I have been bestowed with this talent and I am trying to make the best use of it." History is replete with examples

of people who failed or who were below average students but not only they were successful later in life but also changed the course of history. Ironically, Sir George Washington would have been la-

AMIT-E-POLL

Success is:

Being famous

20%

Wealth

26%

Happiness and contentment

54%

beled as a below average child in this marks obsessed world as he had very poor grammar skills. A Publishing House would have never hired William Faulkner who failed to graduate from high school as he did not have enough credits. It's an altogether different matter that he went on to win the Nobel Prize for Literature. Famous Physicist, Einstein was described as mentally slow, unsociable and foolish by his teachers. Thomas Edison, inventor of the electric bulb and 300 other patented products; his fate would have been truly sealed, had emphasis been put on the fact that he was thrown out of school when he was 12 years old because he was thought to be dumb. According to Agatha Christie, famous writer, "I was always recognized as the slow one. Writing and

spelling were difficult for me. I was an extraordinary bad speller." Many famous people like Picasso, Leonardo Da Vinci, Walt Disney, Winston Churchill, Mozart, Galileo, Tom Cruise, etc had learning disabilities but still, they not only succeeded in challenging professions but also created history. Educationists realize today that a remarkable performance in school tests need not assure future success in life. Conversely, an average school performance may not predict failure in life. So the bottomline is that every child has a special mind with its own particular strengths and weaknesses, one should grow with that and emerge as a true winner in life. The only thing one needs to do is to - stir the pot! •

(Inputs from **Sangeeta Paruthi, Teacher AIS Vasundhara-6**)

Good teaching is 1/4 preparation and 3/4 pure theatre



Mr. Abdul Latif Khatana, T.I.E Chief, Graduated from National School of Drama in 1986 with specialisation in Acting. Has been associated with the T.I.E. Company of the School since October 1992 and was made Artistic Incharge of the Company in August 1994. He has conducted more than 50 workshops on acting in this capacity and has also produced a number of plays for children. Before joining the School, he conducted playwriting and theatre workshops on behalf of J&K Cultural Academy. He has been Associate Professor of Acting in NSD since 2003. Here's Mr. Latif in conversation with Arushi Srivastava, IX A, AIS V-6...

Tell us about your journey in the field of theatre.

Well, I am from Kashmir. I got my basic education at NSD. After specialization in drama, I went back to my parents. However, at that time the social circumstances were not favourable due to terrorism, so after spending three years there, I came back to Delhi. It was then that I founded this company (T.I.E). Initially it was just an experiment and I did not expect it to be what it is today. Gradually, it took the shape of a department. It gave rise to a new concept not only in theatre but also in education. Ours is not commercial theatre, it is educative. I believe, education would not have been possible without drama and vice versa. I had an option to go to Mumbai where I had some friends but I felt that children need such exposure, which I was deprived of in my childhood.

I wanted to work for them. I wanted to bring children's theatre into the main stream. So, this is a small journey of mine.

What were your dreams as a child?

I wasn't completely outgoing. I think there are many children who are attracted by the things that are opposite to the path meant for them. I was not encouraged for theatre. But I had the will and I was determined. My first effort was appreciated and I was also invited at the state level. I applied for NSD also and got selected in the second attempt.

What is the role of theatre in education?

Well, I think it definitely plays an essential role in education. Theatre provides understanding and better understanding enables the student to learn more. This sort of learning only develops through human to human interaction and theatre is one of the strongest modes through which this live contact is possible.

What made you so attracted towards this field?

I had spent approximately 3-4 years of my life living in a village where the traditions and customs are

largely followed. As a child, I had always been witness to the cultural functions and thoroughly enjoyed them. I think this is what attracted me the most. Basically, folk culture has influenced me the most, I got pulled towards it and thus started my forward journey in the field.

What is your message to all the teachers?

I'd like to convey to all the teachers that they should think about theatre in education. *Iska fayda uthana chahiye*. Drama should prevail in classrooms, corridors and everywhere. Live-action is the key word for drama. Drama helps in sustaining the student-teacher bond and keeps it alive. I strongly believe that good teaching is just one-fourth of academic preparation and rest three-fourth of it, is pure improvised theatre.

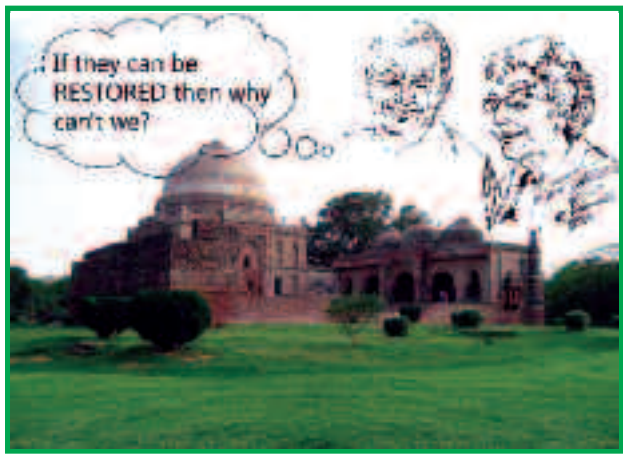
Do you think today's cinema has taken a toll over theatre as nowadays people get more influenced by cinema than theatre. Your take on this?

I don't think that this comparison is at all possible. Theatre is pure art, it doesn't intend to generate profit from what it produces. For that matter, you may compare commercial theatre with cinema as both of them commercially entertain people. I strongly feel that your inner passion and commitment is what emerges as theatre. In theatre, the characters directly develop a communication with the audience. And then each person characterizes and deduces himself to the role. Theatre is full of life and so much life- lightening. •





Before it's too late



Anukriti, X-B
AIS Vasundhara-6

It's been quite some time since the Archaeological Survey of India began erasing tell-tale marks of damage inflicted by time and visitors on ancient monuments and the results are impeccable. With experts working non-stop to refurbish archaeological monuments that bore the brunt of negligence and vulnerability, the monuments already seem to have begun a fresh innings. Though the decision was long overdue, it's never too late when it comes to restoring national pride. But is it never too late also when it comes to reconstructing bonds with the ones who're the very reason of our existence;

the elderly. As times changed, so did our lifestyles. The globe now moves at a supersonic pace and each one of us is striving to make a mark, and shape for ourselves a more meaningful existence. It's an ambition-oriented civilization and we're all part of it. But in this race for power and fame, we're leaving behind the sole perpetrators of our origin who nurtured us with endearing hearts and protective hands. They steered us ahead in times of happiness and gloom selflessly; eliminating all complications that brought us down. And now that they need steering hands the most, we back out like self-obsessed hypocrites. Everyone wants to live in a nuclear family, but they don't know how to manage without their elders who wouldn't be there to guide them through the highs and lows of life? Why are we dissociating ourselves with our traditions and the values it teaches us? Why are we becoming thankless animals who couldn't give back the love they received? And one day, when they'd be gone silently, we'd lament a loss so heavy it would shatter us to pieces. Those compassionate, selfless eyes will follow us, demanding the remembrance they couldn't receive while they were alive. It would be then that we'd repent not compromising on our lifestyle to care for those who cared for us. Monuments symbolizing wisdom, experience and warmth are living their second life with intensive reinstating; why can't we restore the love between our grandparents and us? Why can't we leave behind our materialistic worries and bring back the spontaneity in our relationships? Or are we going to wait until it's too late? •

A journey hand-in-hand

Sudhi Bhatia
GT Co-ordinator, AISV Sector-6

Celebrating all the way

The very process of working for the creation of this issue has been like a fountain of experiences that never goes dry. Each one of us reveled, enjoyed and redeemed ourselves through the course of 'rediscovering and redefining' ourselves. With the passage of time, the initial apprehensions associated with this contest transformed into heightened

spirit, better compatibility amongst team members and undoubtedly, revelation of unmatched talent of students and teachers. Under the guidance of our Principal Mrs. Shashi Ranjan, each tiny step that we took exposed the very core of Vasundharites. It was much beyond mere processing information on cognitive level. Infact, the kind of innovative involvement that was exhibited, distinctly

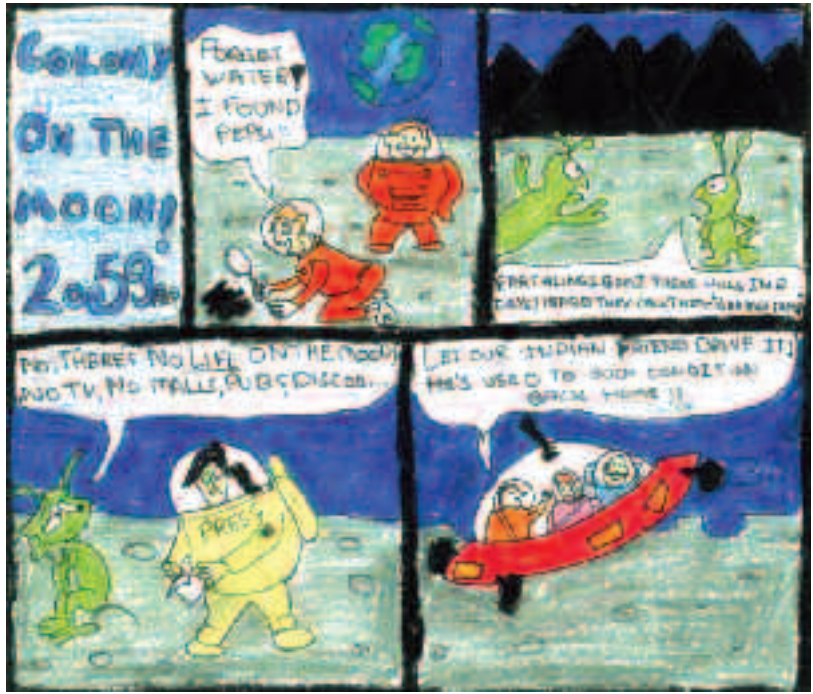
points towards our overwhelming and pervasive sense of responsibility for bringing out the essence of the existing potential. Vasundhara-6 is still a very young school, nonetheless, has a long way to go. Yet, we are hopeful, that the magnitude of hard work and intensity of determination that we have put in, will undoubtedly mirror the essential. Kudos to the spirit of Amity that is so ethereal on the one hand, and yet so real and alive on the other!•



News digest



INDIAN GIRL AT U.N.:Multi-talented scholar, farsighted Yugratna Srivastava from Luknow was the fortunate schoolgirl to share the dais with Barack Obama, Hu-Jintao and many more at UN Headquarters in New York City to discuss climate change in United Nations climate change summit. She was representing billions of adolescents across the globe; her iconic speech was cheered by one and all in the session and she is now a role model for students in India.



WATER ON MOON: It's a great grab by Indians that they have found water on moon. It's quite unforeseen that a country like India which is having troubles in holding common wealth games has accomplished something like this.



ENZYME DISCOVERY WINS NOBEL: Australian-American researchers Elizabeth Blackburn and Coral Greider and Jack Szostak of US won Nobel Prize for identifying the physics of a key molecular switch in cellular ageing. It's an upheaval particularly for older people who still want to live and enjoy life.

Illustrations & Story:
Alankrita Srivastav, X-B, AISV-6

Kristi Verma, X-B, AIS Vasundhara-6

Dinner time is the time for me to procure,
The daily scheduled news information, which is surely assured.
Waiting eagerly for knowledge inspirational,
Terrorist attacks, scientific inventions, and disease that are and are not curable.

I sat last night having my dinner.
Switched on the news, encountered a 'sinner'.
Headlines flashed, again and again-
'A maniac scientist broke monkey's skull, and studied his brain.'

As I changed the channel, I met Rahul Mahajan,

Recently getting his Swayamvar done.
Listening to the concept, I got fried,
The next news appeared, "Who will be the LUX PERFECT BRIDE?"
With an italic bold message-
'This time, not the grooms, but their mummyji's will decide.'

Wow! I was relieved as the break arrived.
But I knew news would not let my glee survive.

Our next guest *ki nazar hai aap par*- BIG BOSS.

For instability inside, who is the cause?
Aditi, KRK or Rohit, who'll have to pay the loss?
God! I request them to leave and give the programme a pause.

'Side-effects of listening to music everyday'
Yelled my TV, as I stood up to move away.
Supported by, 'Paying for our sins, as RAHU will swallow the Earth anyway.'
But a ray of light clicked as I thought,
'Someday these news have to decay.'
Motivationally I switched on to another channel,

It stated- 'Latest movies released- null.'
Surprised Abhi-Ash's upcoming film-RAVAN
In a supporting roll, Bips exclaimed 'Playing Mandodari was fun.'
But the character is erased,
Despite being continuously praised,
By the media and many artists.
Now Bips is no where in 'Upcoming movies lists'.

If made to hear that rubbish again,
Without being a research item I'm surely going to lose my brain.
Sometimes television gets really insane,
Hearing these kinda news types,
Even the fittest person would be in COMA,
Bearing acute mental pain.



GT is a newspaper which is one of its kind. We can't wait to see the coming GT edition on which we have worked. We always wait with bated breath for our contributions to appear in Global Times. - Ruchi Avtar, VII C, AIS V-6

The Global Times, November 1-15, 2009



IS THE HISTORIC VERDICT WORTH THE BUILD-UP?

Boards nearing Apocalypse

Chitra Jain, X-B
AIS Vasundhra-6

The HRD Ministry's decision of replacing the mark-based Board Exams with a Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation System (CCE) has met with jumbled rejoinders, literally. Gigantic proportions of students across the nation are seemingly upset at the 'biased' decision that's granting unmerited lenience and demeaning competitive standards. At a time when superpowers like the U.S. are striving to match up their educational standards with ours, the newly-

The system boasts of 'continuous evaluation'. How would continuous and exhaustive testing strategy 'relieve pressure'?

elected government goes all out in aping the West again and keeping a fragile, naïve education structure. Not only is the current grading system being happily accepted by students of all cognitive levels but it also undermines the laborious efforts put in by the exceptionally talented. And for those who object to the practice of rewarding the intelligent while chipping away at the rest, think again, because those who receive it do deserve it; at least there is no

unfair advantage for those who believe not in working hard but working hardly. Another popular upsurge is that this decision will relieve 'children' of redundant pressure of studying. I ask, where is pressure completely absent? The world is full of opportunities and 'pressure' to grab them. What would steer us forward if there is no pressure at all? How will our decision-making skills and discipline be enhanced? Rather than making the examinations optional, making the subjects optional would be a brighter idea. As the Videocon jingle hums, change is happiness. Not always.●

How to be a Super Teacher?

Nidhi Nayyar, Special Educator
AIS, Vasundhara

Believe that all students can learn.
Use innovative instruction.
Use a needs based approach.
Pay attention to self-esteem.
Choose cooperation over conflict.
Don't be bound by tradition.
Be overwhelmingly positive.
Use the control theory.
Be consistent yet flexible.
Change the teams.

encircle them and write your corrections above them.
Take clues from the errors you frequently make.
While reading a chapter, make your own questions based on the points you have highlighted.
Put up a bulletin board where you paste a 'things-to-do-list', important formulae, and important facts etc.
Remove all visual distractions from your study location.
All the best!

How to be a Super Student?

Listen to the teacher carefully, paying attention would mean putting in less efforts later.
Plan and set a study time.
Set deadlines for yourself and adhere to them.
Verbal learning is not sufficient, in case of lack of time use abbreviated forms but do write.
Practice self check and self corrections before the answer is presented to the teacher or the parent.
Do not erase or cut the mistakes that you encounter while checking,



Career Scan



Underwater Photography

Aditi Sharma, IX-B
AIS Vasundhra

Just imagine playing with fishes, sharks, dolphins and number of aquatic animals in the magical world – underwater! You could be taking pictures with 10 meter long whales. Yes, snaps and that too in water! Underwater photography, as the name suggests, is a technique of taking photographs beneath water, usually while SCUBA diving or snorkeling. The recent release 'BLUE' is the best example for underwater photography. Did you know a National Geo photographer uses 'SPLIT-IMAGE TECHNIQUE' that

Prominent Institutes

1. University of Arizona
2. Irvine Valley College, Irvine, California: courses in photojournalism, digital photography.
3. Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan, New Delhi: Diploma in advertising and photography.
4. Sri Venkateswar University, Tirupati: Diploma in still photography.
5. Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad: Diploma in Still Photography

brings clarity to pictures? As far as darkness in the water is concerned, special cameras have underwater splash which minimizes the darkness. The picture snapped is clearer and gives even the minutest of details. You might as well opt for Underwater Photography as your career option for it is not only full of adventure and fun but could also help you explore the underwater world, or even make friends with the creatures in the aqua sphere! Who knows you might star in the next Free Willy movie or you might as well be the next Akshay Kumar in Blue 2? What say?●

Ladder of Success

Abha Sharma, XI & Meenu Bhargava
Counselor, AIS Vasundhra

"The man who has done his level best and who is conscious that he has done his best is a success, though the world may write him down as a failure."

-B.C. Forbes

Different people have different goals in life. Some wish to be successful professionals, others dream to become successful businessmen, some desire to be famous cricketers, a woman may wish to be a successful wife/mother/homemaker/entrepreneur, a student may desire to succeed in his exams. How can success in life be achieved? Here are a few simple tips to help you move your life to the path to success.

What is the definition of success?

Success is a very relative term. "A person when

he fulfills his desire to achieve what he intended, we call him successful. A wealthy person may not necessarily be a successful person though our society tries to relate success with wealth" echoes Mrs. Shashi Ranjan, Principal, AISV. "To some people success means fame and to others happiness. Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm."

Steps to Success

Success requires systematic approach. Successful people work towards producing something good for themselves and others. Planning and success are highly co-related. It is rightly said "if you fail to plan, you have plan to fail". Dreams and actions together lead to success.

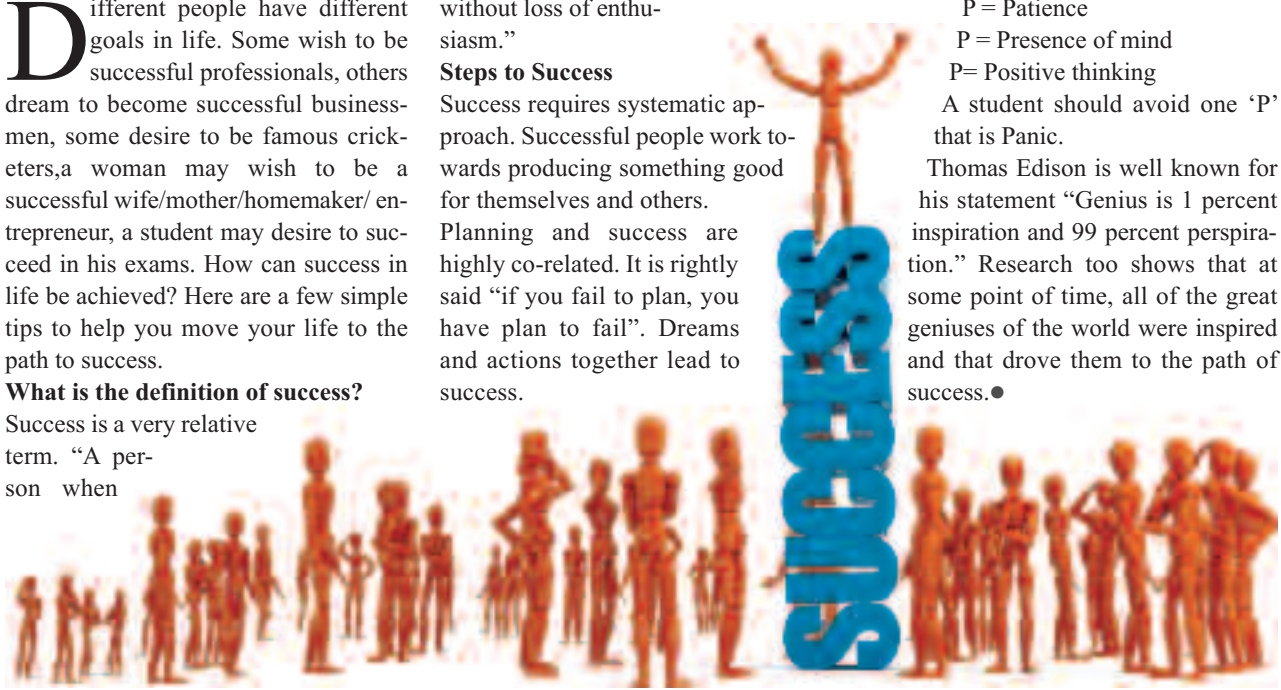
Self-belief, focus and strong determination are the personality traits of successful people. There is no alternative to hard work. A student who wishes to be successful requires starting early and follow the P's mentioned below.

P = Plan
P = Practice
P = Perform

P = Patience
P = Presence of mind
P = Positive thinking

A student should avoid one 'P' that is Panic.

Thomas Edison is well known for his statement "Genius is 1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration." Research too shows that at some point of time, all of the great geniuses of the world were inspired and that drove them to the path of success.●



Counselors, AISV- 6

If you're too tired of face-booking all day and apprehensive about securing the right job for yourself, here are some very useful websites that will guide you through opting for just the right profession. Happy Surfing!
Medical Science
www.aiims.ac.in

www.cmc.vellore.edu
www.bhartividyaapeeth.edu
Veterinary Science
www.vci.nic.in
Pharmacy
www.nipet.nic.in
www.manipal.edu
www.jamiahamdard.edu
Agriculture
www.gb pant.ac.in
www.du.ac.in
www.iari.res.in
Psychology

Job Quester's Solace

www.nimhans.kar.nic.in
www.amity.edu
www.tiss.edu
Biotech
www.bangaloreuniversity.net
www.banasthali.org
www.siu.edu.in
www.unipune.ernet.in

Retailing
www.indianretailschool.com
www.cmdcom.in
www.asiapacific.edu
Defence
www.careerairforce.nic.in
www.joinindianarmy.nic.in
www.indiancoastguard.org
Law

www.ilslaw.edu
www.syamlaw.ac.in
www.nalsarlawuniv.org
Management
www.iimahd.ernet.in
www.iimb.ernet.in
www.fms.edu
www.xlri.ac.in
Hotel Management

www.iittm.org
www.nchmct.org
Media
www.amity.edu
www.aaft.com
www.bangaloreuniversity.net
www.timesgroup.com
www.xaviercomm.org
Travel & Tourism
www.skylinecollege.com
www.newdelhiymca.com
www.kuoniacademy.co.in

Engineering
www.manipal.edu
www.vit.ac.in
www.iitg.ernet.in
Commerce
www.icai.org
www.icwa.edu
www.icsi.edu
Call centre training
www.convergy.com
www.gecapitalindia.com
www.heromindmine.com
www.spectramind.com



DUSKa

Sick of watching cry-till-you-die, full on ‘maar-thaad’ masala flicks? Here’s our Top Ten Sci-Fi Movies of all time, just right for your holiday movie wishlist!

Harshit Tayal & Chitra Jain, X-B
AIS Vasundhra-6

1. **Mr. India (1987):** Shocked? Don’t be,



for Mr. India is and will be the greatest Sci-Fi movie ever made. The visual effects were splendid, especially for Bollywood. Arun’s saga of countering the mad genius Mogambo from taking over India by launching nuclear missile enthralled us all - ‘Mogambo khush hua.’

2. **Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith (2005):** “Use the force, Luke” declared Obi- Wan. Fans gaped and sighed at the phenomenon before them. Skywalker’s charm pulled us all to the theatres to catch a movie in a league of its own. We were transported to a time three years after the Clone Wars had begun, we were one of them. Force will be with you, Star Wars.

3. **E.T.- The Extra Terrestrial (1982):** Spielberg’s eternal classic created a space in everyone’s heart. From the adorable little Drew Barrymore to E.T.’s moving cry of help in the observatory, everything was just magical. Though low on the special effect-front, lets not forget the fact that it was made years ago. Can’t seem to forget E.T.’s words, “E.T. phone home.” Immortal.

4. **Star Trek (2009):** J.J. Abrams’s futuristic film starring heartthrob Chris Pine

turned out to be a ‘reboot’ of the original TV series with the establishment of ‘an alternate reality’ in the year 2387. It brought delight to fans as Kirk was promoted to be captain of the Enterprise in the end. Go Kirk. Go Star Trek.

5. **The Matrix Revolutions (2003):** ‘Everything that has a beginning has an end.’ Read the tagline of The Matrix Revolutions. The film was even better at sending jitters down the spine with flabbergasting visual effects, beat blasting sound and the much-tried Matrix stunt.

6. **The Day The Earth Stood Still (2008):** This remake of a 1951 movie of the same name follows the tale of Klaatu (Keanu Reeves), an alien who was sent to try to change human behaviour or eradicate them from Earth due to humankind’s environmental damage to the planet. Ironically, the movie was released on 12.12.08, the date predicted to be doomsday in 2012. Creepy.

7. **Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991):** Who can forget a hunky Arnold mouthing, “Hasta la vista, baby”? This ground-breaking release made the world gape at its flawless special effects and merciless action. Total *paisa vasool*!

8. **Back To The Future (1985):** This sci-fi



adventure tale tells the story of Marty McFly, a teenager who is accidentally sent back in time from 1985 to 1955. He meets his parents in high school, accidentally attracting his mother’s interest. Marty must repair the damage to history by causing his parents to fall in love, while finding a way to return to 1985. Marty’s thrilling adventures will take you on a roller coaster ride, literally!

9. **Krish (2006):** This quasi-sequel to ‘Koi... Mil Gaya’ about a small-town kid who inherits superpowers and fights evil



grabbed many eyeballs and set tongues wagging. Krish merchandise, Priyanka’s not-so-styled styling or even state of the art visual effects made it the biggest hit of the year. Not to mention it started the trend of naming little ones ‘Krish’ too.

10. **Koi...Mil Gaya (2003):** Remember the doe-eyed blue-coated adorable Jadoo? It’s been six years since he wiggled his way to the big screen but we just don’t seem to get enough of him. Neither can we forget the path- breaking SFX effects nor Hrithik’s heart wrenching performance. Hrithik ko A-star fame mil gaya!●

Readers, this is our Top Ten Sci-Fi favourites and it is obvious your choices may differ. Know other sci-fi movies that should’ve been on the list? Mail in your favourites at myscifimovies@gmail.com. Till then, the force be with you. Amen.



Myth or Reality

Ever wondered why your grandma insists that you should sit for a while if you sneeze before going out? Grandma would not tell you but there is a scientific reason associated with these age-old beliefs. We try to cull out some of the reasons for you...

Meghansh Khanna, VIII-B
AIS Vasundhra-6

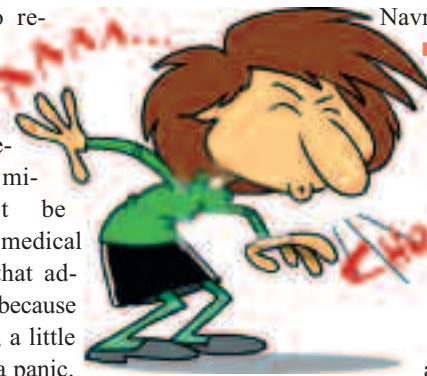
■**Sneezing is considered bad before going out:** A sneeze was never considered good. Centuries ago when medical science was still in its nascent stages, a sneeze was considered as one of the most important indicators of any disease. When we sneeze, we throw out any foreign particle that’s causing irritation in our nasal cavity. But along with those particles, we also release a number of micro-organisms. In olden days, people believed that these microbes shouldn’t be carried outside as medical science was not that advanced. Even now because of swine flu scare, a little sneeze can create a panic. Isn’t it?

■**Tulsi should be grown in every house:** Tulsi is a wonder herb. It has several medicinal properties. Unlike other plants, it gives out oxygen at night. Earlier when people used to sleep in their courtyard, a tulsi plant used to be a must for every courtyard.

■**Clothes and hair should not be washed on Thursdays:** This may sound weird, but people actually didn’t wash their clothes and hair on Thursdays to save water. It is okay to wash your clothes and hair on Thursday but what is important is that you should use water judiciously. Water conservation has always been one of our top priorities.

■**Why do we celebrate Navratri when weather changes:** A Season change

means party time for microorganisms. It is the best time for them to breed. We observe fast and maintain hygiene to keep our self away from microorganisms. According to Markandeya’s Puran (one of the 18th puran’s), 9 Goddesses are worshipped on the 9 days of Navratri. Each of these goddesses represent 9 herbs such as tulsi, alsi, petha, kushkunda etc. If these herbs are taken in, then our bodies will get immune to diseases for the next 6 months, till the next Navratri.



■**Don’t go out after taking milk and sweets:** Milk and sweets react with microbes in our mouth to form an acidic substance that can spoil our teeth. So whenever you go out after a meal of milk

and sweets, make sure that you gargle or rinse your mouth.

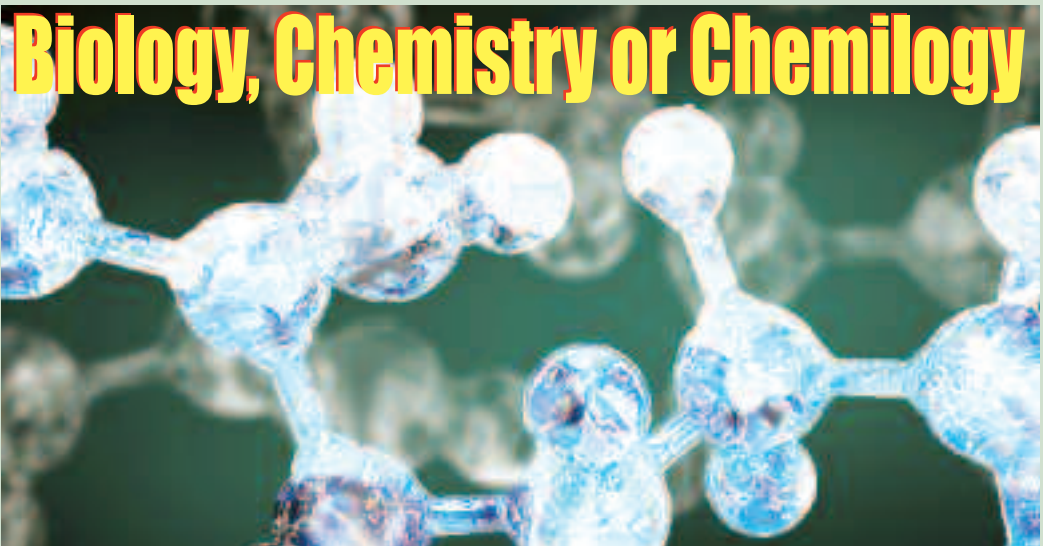
■**Don’t talk while eating:** While eating if you talk, food may enter your wind pipe and cause choking.

■**Peepal tree should not be grown in house:** Peepal tree is a fast growing tree. If grown at home, its root can penetrate in the walls making them weak.

It is high time that we look back at the scientific exploration made by the generation gone by and thank them for empowering and equipping us with some very important lessons. With their powerful foresight, they have shown us the right way. Let us not lose focus and associate them with social myths and stigmas. Let us draw a line between myths and facts.●

This year, once again, the Nobel Prize for chemistry has gone to people working on the structure of biochemical molecules. Last year too, they were biologists who were honoured. That a scientist of Indian origin Dr. Venkataraman Ramakrishnan has received the prize is a matter of pride. The other winners are Thomas A. Steitz of the US and Ada E. Yonath from Israel. A Ribosome is basically a chemical factory. It reads out the message contained in the messenger R.N.A. The message contains a collection of three letter words called codons in the D.N.A area transcribed into messenger RNAs. The messenger RNA comes over from the Nucleus- the site of D.N.A carrying the message and sits on the ribosome. There all the words are read. Each word has a corresponding amino acid (building block of proteins). A ribosome is an assembly line. The words strung together are an RNA-like beads in a necklace—they are read in the ribosome

and then the ribosome assembles for every codon its appropriate amino acid. A ribosome is a collection of several RNA molecules and some protein molecules. It makes different proteins in thousands of forms and functions. What is the structure of the amino acid and RNA



molecules in the ribosome? That has been completely worked out by RamaKrishnan and Co. It helps us understand the structure atom by atom and their positions in the ribosome. For this they have employed a variety of biochemical and physical techniques.

It was way back in 1930 when Dr. C.V. Raman was awarded the Nobel Prize for Raman effect in Physics. With the magnitude of potential and intensity of determination that we people possess, it is not that we have failed to make the best use of it, rather our caliber and resources are being directed elsewhere.

Don’t you think it would be better if our scientists stayed back in India and catalyzed scientific achievements? It’s a long way to go and who knows if that young bright soul is being nurtured here in Amity? So don’t give a second thought and get going to touch the sky!

Compiled by: Shivani Gupta, X-A, AISV



Working for Global Times has always been a pleasure. This time it was even more of a pleasure as it was our school's very own issue. I love working for GT and will do it till I am here in Amity. - Mayank Tikkoo, XI, AIS V-6

The Global Times, November 1-15, 2009

A-la-mode Potpourri

Yashika Sharma, X-A
AIS Vasundhra-6

From head covering *sarees* to halter blouses, from oiled-hair-dhoti clad village folk to svelte, 'coolly' dressed teenagers, Indian fashion has come a long way.

Fundamental style:

*'Mirror, mirror on the wall,
Who's the coolest of them all?'*
Dudes!'

Today's dudes' fun(ky) quotient equates with all things- music, motors and more. They are not afraid to wear a chunky accessory to school or branded shoe wear. They are almost trendsetters what with the spikes, vibrant eyewear Mohawks, et al. These dudes surely rock!

Kissa saree ka: The world's oldest existing garment and one of the longest, the Saree, is the most versatile attire present today. Though some love adorning the six yards fabric, others wish to differ.

Saree hid the facts: Though the saree has been adorning svelte, celeb figures and going places, it is still the most graceful of items for other-

wise voluptuous Indian bodies. "The sari is the PERFECT garment for anyone, irrespective of age or size. I don't have to worry about camouflaging my flab because I know I look good." confesses Mayuri Shah, a homemaker. So is the 5000 year old garment meant just for looking fab? "Oh! Not at all!

It has been in our heritage for generations. We just identify with it; its part of being Indian," avers Mohini Kumar, teacher AIS V Sec-6. But is the younger generation ready? Why not? "I love adorning pretty *sarees* and dressing up. It's so much more fun draping a *saree* than putting on the same old clothes. I funk-up my *saree* when I am wearing one," says Priyanka Kapoor, who passed out from DPS RK Puram earlier this year. You heard it, folks! Sari's the way to go!

Comfort quotient: Though a *saree* spells elegance, it does not really square with comfort. "Though I admire donning saris, I cannot manage one. As a Primary teacher, I need to be on my toes all the time with the little energetic angels and a saree is not much of a help. Hats off to those who manage saree every day!" exclaims Sangeeta Paruthi, teacher of II A, AISV Sec-6. As for young girls, they just wanna live free. "A sari's too bulky to wear. It's nice to wear it for an event or two, but everyday? Sounds scary!" admits Pooja Jain who is doing her senior year in BTech from Amity University, Noida. Saree or No Saree.....you decide!●

Caricature by: Isha Jain & Ms Manju Jain

Chennai weaves

A sari studded with gold, diamonds, emeralds and other precious stones- the textile house has woven, what it claims is the world's costliest sari, costing Rs 40 lakh and weighing around 8kg. The sari is adorned

world's costliest 'sari'

with a Ravi Varma painting woven into it. It has already entered the Limca Book of Records, the company says it will try to enter the Guinness Book as well. It took 30 weavers around seven months to make the sari and its launch was also star-studded with actors Suhasini Mani Ratnam, Shobhana and Jeeva attending the event. (By: Ms Sangeeta S)



Imaging: Dinesh Kumar

Social Networking Sites: Passing trend or here to stay?

Bhavya Mehta, VII B
AIS Vasundhra-6

Children today have more friends online than they do in a class or in their neighbourhood. They have even kept virtual pets; so much more easier to handle than real ones. The reason being that they spend more time online than in the park or a play field. Popular social networking sites, including MySpace, Twitter, Facebook, linked in are changing the human fabric of the Internet. As quickly as users flock to one trendy Internet site, they just as quickly move on to another. For the moment, MySpace and Facebook are hot and both the companies are planning to extend their reach beyond the computer screen to cell phones that

are starting a service that will allow users to post messages on Facebook's home pages. MySpace has a wireless joint venture that will allow users to send photos and update their blogs or profiles by cell phone. This will revolutionize the way we use facebook, my space etc as these sites will be much easier to access and monitor. But these sites are very susceptible to lose their popularity as soon as something new and trendy comes along.

We all know the sudden rage among the youth when hi5 came out, the trend then moved on to Orkut for which we constantly itched to check our scraps. Then it was Facebook which provided us with a wider base of applications. We feel hooked on to facebook right now but perhaps only till a new site comes and sweeps all the users away!

The art of calligraphy

Sanshika Sharma, XI B
AIS Vasundhra-6

The word 'calligraphy' literally means beautiful writing. It's an art that just anyone can pick up. All you need is a pen and paper and you are ready to do calligraphy. It has become quite rare among the youth as it requires time and patience to reach the level of perfection that will lead to self- satisfaction. (If anyone had seen my handwriting more than six years back, they would be, well, just surprised.) Even now when I look at my old slam book, I feel as if there are ants over my pages that too in a haphazard manner! The idea of calligraphy was not even on my mind. But continuous reinforcement from teachers to improve my handwriting to a legible level made me start practicing writing few pages from the newspaper every day.

And gradually my handwriting improved. I fell in love with my handwriting and compliments started pouring in. Slowly and gradually, I started writing in my pass time and developed it as a hobby and it worked for me as a de-stressing technique too. Now my aim is to copy all the fonts available on the net. I know it would take me ages but let's try; maybe I succeed to some extent. If you have only fifteen minutes in a day to just write anything from the newspaper maybe your favourite article (I used to do that) who knows maybe you too would develop it as an addiction and probably it would turn out to be your future career. One important thing is that whatever you learn just practice it. Best of luck! I hope that 'the ants to pearls' in my handwriting would inspire you to do the same. HAPPY WRITING!



Bachhe yeh bindaas hain!

Nikita Madan, VI B
AIS Vasundhra

Some years back, a 'stressed out' child was unheard of. Children enjoyed their lives thoroughly before they were ready to take up responsibilities. As years rolled by, coping with studies, competitive world, pressure from parents, peer pressure have all added to a new word in the lives of children – stress. Today's children are no ordinary kids. They are perceived as super kids by their own parents. They are expected to come first in class, be proficient and highly talented, learn extra skills, a foreign language, computer and be good in recreational activities like swimming or any other game. From waking up time to bedtime, each hour is accounted for. There is no free time to play or relax or just be on their own. This kind of rigid lifestyle puts stress on the child as it is tough for him/her to cope up with so many demands. To remain healthy, one must learn to cope with stress by having a positive outlook towards life. Recreation is a positive stress buster. Other relievers are physical exercise, meditation and yoga. Listening to good music also soothes frayed nerves. Mind and body are inter-linked. Since, the mind controls all the body functions, you cannot expect to be physically healthy unless you are emotionally healthy. Remember, a healthy mind ensures a healthy body.●



Models: (Clockwise) Shagun, AIS Noida & Sahej, AISV-6 with a friend; Pic: Ms Sangeeta S, AISV-6



Childhood memories

"We plan our lives according to a dream that came to us in our childhood, and we find that life alters our plans. And yet, at the end, from a rare height, we also see that our dream was our fate. It's just that providence had other ideas as to how we would get there. Destiny plans a different route, or turns the dream around, as if it were a riddle, and fulfils the dream in ways we couldn't have expected."

Ben Okri



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Childhood is certainly the most beautiful phase of life. As a small child we all dreamt of building castles in air with fairies and flowers. As we grew wiser, the castles took new shapes, moving from imaginary to assuming a more realistic, practical existence with a visionary goal that set us into motion. Yet, the castle remained at the corner of every sketch. That's the beauty of childhood dreams. While we move on in life to assume bigger responsibilities, it's the beauty of childhood dreams and memories that give us that additional strength and momentum to pursue our goals. Recalling childhood memories instantly brings a smile on every face. Schooling constitutes one of the most cherished childhood memories. Friends, Teachers, cultural participations, excursions, outings, birthdays, group studies, exam time...are shared and recounted innumerable time. At Amity, my earnest efforts have been to provide my students with all this and more. From Amiown to University, from castle building to world class architectural delights, the mission is to give your memories and dreams a shape.

Parenting, they say is a big challenge today. However, a mother of several thousands Amitians today, I see it as the biggest pleasure and boon. Wishing you all a Happy Children's Day.●

New challenges



Ms Shashi Ranjan
Principal
AIS Vasundhara-6

At Amity, everyday brings new challenges and newer opportunities. With the inter-school newspaper making contest, our Chairperson wanted to give Amitians another taste of unexplored territory, and AIS Vasundhara made full use of it.

The whole school was roped in and students and teachers were assigned different pages. The response, to say the least, was heartening; we were flooded with articles, and it was a tough task sorting them out.

Our cover story, "What's wrong in being average?" brings out the newer responsibilities schools and parents have to undertake in the changing scenario. Anxiety levels are increasing for parents as things get multidimensional at all levels. Parenting has become a tough call. I am reminded of a story I read somewhere.

While doing a simple Maths problem, a primary teacher asked a little girl, "How old are you?" "Eight," the girl replied. "And how old is your father?" the teacher asked next. "Eight," the little girl was prompt. "I am asking your father's age," repeated the teacher. "Eight ma'am," the little girl was persistent. "He became a father only after I was born."

Dear parents, your experience at parenting is as young as that. Don't be anxious, you are doing a marvelous job. We need to give our students roots to lean on and wings to fly. With unconditional love and support from both school and parents, children are just waiting to take that leap of faith. Happy Children's Day to all our young readers. You can achieve whatever you want, just believe in yourself.●

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Schooling v/s education

‘Let your schooling not interfere with your education’

When Mark Twain said these words, he believed there is a vital difference between the two, which goes unrecognized and creates a battle between the two. **Pallavi Ratna** of Class VII and **Shruti Mahajan** of Class VIII find out what AISV-6 parents have to say...

Sarita Koul (Mother of Sukant Koul, VII-B)
AIS Vasundhara-6



Few questions that come to our mind as we think of schooling versus education: Does academic excellence as seen in schools only determine success in life? Is being literate same as being educated and does a child learn only by going to school?

If the answer to all these questions is 'NO,' then we appreciate that there is a 'school' outside the classrooms and that children learn about life not only from inside a traditional school but from outside school as well. The most prominent teachers of this 'school' are the parents who have a profound influence in shaping the character of a child.

Nowadays, in the age of information and technology, the sources of information/education that a child is exposed to are available both inside the formal school and outside 'school,' ie, in his daily life.

The ideal state obviously is that teachers and parents work in a team as the goal is same – educating the child and preparing him or her to face the real world ahead.

Gita Ratna (Mother of Pallavi Ratna, VII-B)
AIS Vasundhara-6



Education is not just restricted to the school, it is not just about going to school and learning how to read and write. Education is about studying our surroundings and learning from our mistakes so that we don't repeat them. Education has two aspects, the first is related to acquiring bookish knowledge and the second aspect is human values. Education in its true meaning should be the deep understanding of values and knowledge and imparting this knowledge to students. To get education we go to school, college and then get a job to earn a living and learn the 'Ins and Outs' of the business, but after a certain stage we stop learning. I think education must not begin

Pic by: AISV-6



and end with school, it should continue well into the last years of our life. Experiences that a man gains in his life are the practical knowledge which is passed on to the next generation for their betterment. Education is thus a life long process and one must keep learning throughout his life.

Jasvinder Khurana (F/o Harsimran, VIII-C)
AIS Vasundhara-6



"Education means drawing out the best in the child and man - body, mind and spirit." This quote by Mahatma Gandhi brings out the real essence of education. Basic education links the children, whether of cities or the villages, to all that is best and lasting.

Literacy is not the beginning of education nor the end and so is schooling, for, it is an introduction to education and it lays the foundation to a lifelong learning process.

We as parents have somewhere lost the essence of wholesome education and have started to measure education in terms of grades obtained in school or degrees attained in college. Every child has his/her own personality and traits. Real education is to harness these and mould the future by polishing the traits. There would be some chinks in the block but they would get smoothened with the passage of time. Schooling gives the children a platform to learn, imbibe and express- thereby preparing them for the world. ●

(With inputs from Ms Sangeeta P)

Catastrophic! The Doomsday is approaching

Ankush Jain, X-B
AIS Vasundhara-6

Imagine a day...EARTH ENDS. How would the people react?

Let's see their reactions-

An old man...Praying for our wellbeing and that of the earth, too.

A scientist...Wanted to complete his research as soon as possible!

A Bindas teen... All rubbish!

A 7 year child...Started crying!

But this awful news was announced a few weeks back. Earth's doom is forseen in 2012. The day is not too far; just three more years are left with us. Maybe this time, the fittest or maybe none will survive. The Maya tribe of

Mexico in America has the Mayan Calendar with dates only upto 2012. What will happen in 2012?

According to scholars, it is only the end of a major cycle. The media has tagged this date as "2012 Doomsday". The civilization 5,125 years old ends on that day. However, just because the calendar ends that year does not prove that, time or the world, or life will end!

Ruchismita Bhattacharjee, AISV-6, a fifteen year old says, "I will be 18 in 2012. Even if the world ends, I will at least get

The Maya tribe of Mexico has a calendar dating only up to 2012. What happens after 2012?

to be an adult. Then why shouldn't I enjoy every bit of my life? I wouldn't have to do a job and earn a living and I won't also have to know the complications of an adult's life. The last thing I would like to do will be to hang around with friends 24X7 and in between finish reading all Jeffery Archer books!"

Skand Bharadwaj of AIS Mayur Vihar worries, "We can't stop our progress because we don't know whether the earth will end or not! This mystery will only be revealed only in 2012 and till then, I am just working seriously."

Mr. Kartikay, Maths teacher says, "If it is going to happen then I will surely take several loans for buying Sedan cars and huge farmhouses and 5-6 personal loans." May God bless the banks! ●

The big fat Indian... shame?

Aishwarya Kansal, XI B
AIS Vasundhara-6

Delays, missed deadlines and endless postponements. Bagging Commonwealth Games 2010 seems to be a big blunder. The present situation is making the world wonder - are we good enough? As the organizers begin their countdown for the Commonwealth Games 2010 to be held in New Delhi, the Games Federation is having a hard time

gulping down the fact that even with less than a year in hand, the organizers are still flexing their muscles and not getting down to action. Of the five major projects, none is complete and just two are midway through. Interestingly, work on the Games Village hasn't even begun yet.

It is disheartening to know that India's path to crowning glory is blocked by a typical Indian organizing committee that's been missing deadlines, defending accusations and hoping that 'everything will turn out

fine.' Where is the urge and passion to surpass every other event that's taken place in history? When all resources have been allocated, why is there an unsatisfactory result? Even if miraculously the organizing committee winds up construction and meets deadlines, it is highly doubtful if Indian hospitality and civic amenity standards will be held acceptable by visitors; which not only includes athletes but tourists who'll be here cheering for their nation. Till then, all we can say is Amen.●



Pearls of wisdom

We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that he is someone today.

Stacia Tauscher

To value his own good opinion, a child has to feel that he is a worthwhile person. He has to have confidence in himself as an individual.

Sidonie Gruenberg

Bitter are the tears of a child: Sweeten them. Deep are the thoughts of a child: Quieten them. Sharp is the grief of a child: Take it from him. Soft is the heart of a child: Do not harden it.

Pamela Glenconner

Nothing you do for children is ever wasted. They seem not to notice us, hovering, averting our eyes, and they seldom offer thanks, but what we do for them is never wasted.

Garrison Keillor

A child educated only at school is an uneducated child.

George Santayana

Don't limit a child to your own learning, for he was born in another time.

Rabbinical sayings
Compiled by:
Ruchi Avtar, VIIC,
AISV-6



Working with GT team was a great experience I truly got to learn many fascinating things about the way a 'Newspaper' works. Contributing to GT was fun. I truly admire the GT team. -Kristi Verma, X B, AIS V-6

The Global Times, Nov 1-15, 2009

Big story

7

Children's Day Special

Little mermaid:
Ruchi Avtar



My Journey, India & abroad

With Children's Day round the corner, AISV-6 takes stock of the experiences of kids who've tasted life both in India and abroad, and finds out what rocks where..



Missing New
York: Ishita
Chabra

The language shift

We moved to USA when I was just one and a half years old. We lived in Salem, Massachusetts. Salem is nicknamed "The Witch City" because it was famous for its witch trials. Nearby is the capital of Massachusetts- Boston. When I was in Class 1, I studied in Witch Craft Heights Elementary School. My class teacher was Ms Wallace. She loved everyone and everyone loved her. She did many activities with us. After moving to India, I successfully sought admission in Amity Vasundhara. In the Hindi period, our teacher wrote some questions and answers on the board. I couldn't understand anything, so I didn't write. When my Hindi teacher and parents got to know about my problem, they taught me Hindi and encouraged me. The confidence gained here enabled me to achieve 4th rank all over India in Maths Olympiad. All thanks to Amity!

Kanchan Joshi, VB, AISV-6

Arabian nights

I took admission in Abu Dhabi Indian School when I was 5 years old. Although all the students were Indians, two of our teachers were Arab who used to teach us Arabic language and the social science of UAE. It was a new experience to learn a new language from a teacher who spoke English with a very different accent. In fact I could hardly understand her words. So my parents hired an Indian teacher to teach me Arabic language. One thing that I really liked about the school was that there was no stress of studies. Though the school was fun I used to get bored at home because children could not go out to play in the open because of the heat. I missed talking in Hindi which is my mother tongue. I also missed celebrating Holi and Diwali the way it is celebrated in India.

Sanyam Jain, VII A, AISV-6



The big change: Shubhi Singh

Survival of the fittest

Schooling in America is free of cost and taken care of by the government although there are private schools too, which charge for schooling. Schools in America are more fun for children and devoid of stress. All said and done, the dropout rate in schools in America is very high due to the easy life there and easy availability of employment and dignity of labour. Even an uneducated person can find a job for himself and live a life unimaginable in India. However, children in India learn to live and handle stress better than children in America because of the immense competition. In fact, if all of them were to be brought together, it would be the Indian who would prevail as it will be 'survival of the fittest.'

Akanksha Mohan, V B, AISV-6

Santa Treat

In USA, my life was joyful and wonderful. During my stay, I used to go to Tiny Toddler learning school. It was like my play school in India. There was a lot of playing stuff and activity material, different kinds of building blocks, puzzles and attractive story books, etc. We used to play with them as per our wish. We celebrated festivals like Christmas and Halloween. We exchanged gifts with other kids in Christmas. The best

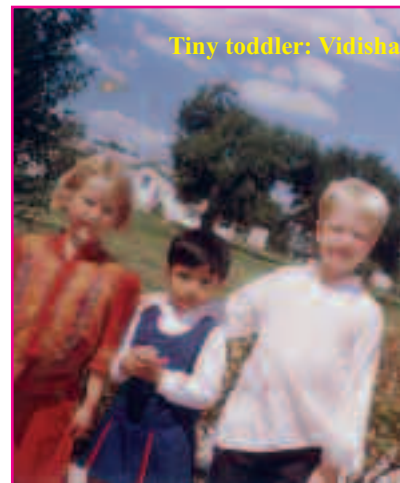


Stress free: Akanksha

Best of East and West

When I was 3 months old, I started day care in California and continued in the same school until 3rd grade before moving to India. The homework was not too much and would be over by the time we came home or at most we had to sit for 30 minutes. Weekdays had a very tight schedule but come Friday evening and life changed!

Eating out, meeting friends over potlucks, TV time, family trips on bicycle trails, extra classes for soccer and Hindi, trips to parks/museums/library, sleepovers, etc until Sunday evening when the routine would kick in again. In India, school is different - different in many ways. My sincere



Tiny toddler: Vidisha

and responsible nature helped me get more responsibilities each day. Being an extrovert and confident girl saw me take part in various inter-house, interschool activities and also clinch the first Youth Power title and an award from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam! The teachers have been very motivating and every event has me discovering a new talent/strength in myself. I am thankful for the exposure each country has given me and if ever my wish came true then I would like to be in a place, which has the best of India and US combined!

Ruchi Avtar, VII-C, AISV-6

Safe and sound

I have cherished memories of New York. I went to US when I was 2 years old. In US, they follow the play-way method of teaching and believe in giving more of practical exposure than theoretical teaching. USA also has very strict rules regarding safety for children. At the time of boarding the school bus and getting down, all the traffic on both sides is stopped. It becomes much easier to cross the road and go home safely. The best season of all is wintertime of New York. I really miss it.

Ishita Chabra, V D, AISV-6

The big change of my life

At the age of five, my life took a drastic change. I was suddenly on a plane and then in some new place. A place I had never seen or heard of. The new and beautiful place that I was in, was none other than Canada. It was a lonely, isolated but a beautiful place, very pleasing to the eyes. You would rarely see a person walking down the road. The flowers that bloomed were really beautiful but they had no scent in them. Whenever it would rain, it reminded me of India. Here in India, a lot of pressure is put on everyone, children especially. Everyone wants their child to top, I doubt that it was the same thought they had in their minds when they were children and knew the importance of enjoying life which we Indians have forgotten completely. The thing that I love about India is that it is my country after all, no matter how it is. During my stay in Canada for those five years, I missed my family and my country a lot because when I was there, I felt like some stranger in a foreign country, it never felt like home and I didn't have any friends there, but here I have the best friends one could have. ●

Shubhi Singh,
VII C, AIS V-6

Inputs by: Ms Subhashini



Fun time: Kanchan
Joshi (encircled)

Children's Day is celebrated as the birth anniversary of Chacha Nehru. He loved children, that is why Children's day is celebrated. I love Chacha Nehru -B. Saksham Rao, III- B, AIS V-6



War of the Worlds



Caricatures by:
Ayush jain, X A, AISV-6

The age old debate of science-came-first-or-sports might wrap up for Miss Sci-Fi and Sporty Dude, but they have been overheard by

Savi Khanna and **Chitra Jain, AISV-6.** Let's see who wins the battle?

Sporty Dude: Man! I'm so popular with kids and adults alike; no one can conquer my brawns!

Miss Sci-Fi: Lord! I'm so admired by all; none can conquer my prowess.

SD: What is it that I hear? None can conquer *your* might? I am the one who's indisputable!

MSF: Don't you know? All your sports have science behind them. Shot putting involves Physics wherein a player finds out an optimal angle for the best throw. In Cricket too, fielders pull back their hands while catching the ball so as to reduce the momentum which otherwise hurts them.

SD: But we sportspersons are not far behind either. Did you know that adolescents who are involved in sports activities eat healthier food? 80 per cent of teens playing sports regularly concentrated on eating right nutrients. And I see here, Miss 'Sissy'- Fi your science 'geeks' aren't what I'd call healthy. *(Giggles wickedly)*

MSF: Oh don't you point fingers at my

delicate souls! Did you know the bicycle was an ordinary high wheeler with no safety technology? Look at 'em today; they're safe enough to tour the whole of France! Sports car drivers entail driving techniques solely based on Physics.

SD: That's interesting! I mean..ahem..that is baloney! My pal Usain Bolt's astonishing feat of running 100 meters in over 9 seconds has triggered analytical researches!

MSF: Your sportspersons often do well through chemically-developed steroids that boost performance. And don't you forget about advanced health care *your* sportsmen receive; they're all bequeathed by science!

SD: You want to mess with me, lady? Bring it on!

MSF: BRING IT ON!

(Both enter into one monster of a brawl! But at the very moment enters our savior!)

Mother Nature: Peace, children, peace. You two are meant to work together; not in contrast with each other. If there were no sports or science, the unthinkable could've happened. Now do you under-



stand?

In Chorus: Yes, we do Mother Nature.

Mother Nature: The battle's resolved then. Off I go!

(Mother Nature vanishes)

MSF: I apologize for any discomfort, Dude.

SD: You don't need to be sorry; I'm the one who should be ashamed.

MSF: You can't be sorry. I'm sorry!

SD: I'm sorry!

MSF: You wanna mess with me? Bring it on!

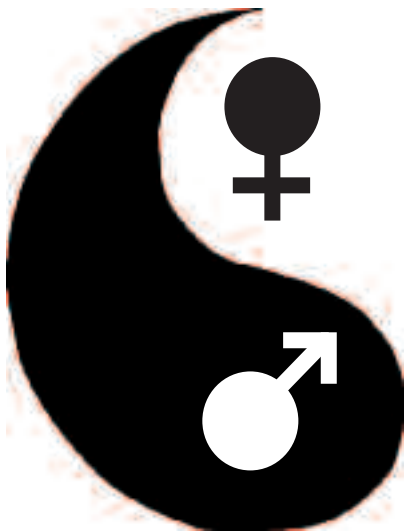
SD: Oh yeah? BRING IT ON!

And so you see, the battle continues. But we, for one, know now that Science and Sports are two sides of the same coin! ●

Ying meets Yang

Savi Khanna, X-B
AIS Vasundhra

If Dhyan Chand were to be alive today, he would've been shocked to the core at the very sight of masculine sports. Hard- hitting games like soccer, rugby, wrestling or even biking, now find enthusiastic supporters-as well as players-in women. Ever heard of Mildred Dickinson? Go Google! Sissy is in. the quintessential Indian 'Mard' has been replaced by a regular, cool guy who's not afraid to wear pink. Neither is he is afraid of playing 'sissy' games which includes not just G.I. Joe-meets-Barbie but other female-dominated games like croquet, badminton etc. Go male power! ●



Thinko!

Arushi Nagpal, XI-A, AIS Vasundhra

Solve the jumbled words to find names of popular sports. Have fun!

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| 1. ISNETN | 6. NCEFGNI |
| 2. CORSEC | 7. GWBLNOI |
| 3. SCRLAOS | 8. SCSHE |
| 4. GURYB | 9. OLYVLALELB |
| 5. CHRYAER | 10. MSGIWMIN |



Answers: Tennis, Soccer, Lacrosse, Rugby, Archery, Fencing, Bowling, Chess, Volleyball, Swimming. (P.S. the answers are meant to be inverted.)

Martial Arts for Self Defense

Rubina Mulchandani, XII-A
AIS Vasundhra

Martial Art is an art of self defense which is fast becoming popular the world over. There is a growing interest among youngsters to learn it as a tool for self protection, after all everyone has to fight his/her struggles independently and martial arts is a great step towards achieving this objective.

We as students fight morning blues for school every-

day, some for furthering their academic education; others to catch up with friends. But one major social problem children face is bullying.

Statistics reveal that about 5.7 million youths in grades 6 to 10 have either encountered bullying or bullied their peers themselves. Martial Arts has been a great means of equipping children to handle a bully. Kids learn how to counter bullies without getting into physical confrontations. Its sessions teach not to retaliate violently at the very instant but how to prevent harm without inflicting severe damage. Fighting is the last resort.

Considering the advantages of the art, it can be considered a powerful guard among females. Looking at the abnormally rising levels of crimes against women, mastering such an art is of prime importance for a woman today.

This art form not only helps in self-defense but also instills a sense of patience, discipline and respect among learners, three qualities that the generation today needs to learn the most. ●



Models: AISV-6

AjAB Sports Ki GHazAB Kahani

Here's a look at the wackiest, weirdest sports that are sure to tickle your funny bone!

Sanchit Kumar, IX-B
& Ruchismita, X-B
AIS Vasundhra

CHESS BOXING: Dutch artist



Lepe Rubingh came up with this funky idea of merging chess and boxing. The sport alternates between games of boxing and chess and waiting for a checkmate or a knockout. There is even a World Chess Boxing Fed-

eration whose motto is 'Fighting is done in the ring and wars are waged on the board.' And so much for sanity.

GURNING: Gurning is apparently a word for pulling a face and there is a World Gurning Contest for it! Believed to have been originated in 1297 at a fair in UK, here people make their ugliest face possible while wearing a horse collar and the ugliest 'gurnin' wins. Peter Jackman is the current World Gurning Champion with



a face called 'Bela Lugosi'. Wait until Rakhi Sawant reaches UK.

WIFE-CARRYING: As the name suggests, this sport involves men running through an obstacle course while carrying the wife. Here's the catch, they have extremely strict rules: each one must have fun, wife must weigh at least 49 kilos, a 15 second penalty for dropping the wife and the wife must wear a helmet. And if you lose or drop the wife, consider it a divorce!



CHEESE ROLLING: This is proba-



bly the simplest sport out there. From the top of a hill, a round of Double Gloucester Cheese is rolled and competitors chase it. The first one to reach the finish line with the cheese wins (the cheese, of course). In 1997, the cheese took a wrong turn and accidentally injured a spectator. We advise you not to try this

game as the cheese may 'injure' you very badly.

FISTBALL: Despite not being well-renowned in the media, fistball is an old sport that's practiced all over the world. Like tennis and volleyball, the purpose of the sport is to hit the ball with your fist or arm and place it in the opponent's half where they won't



get to it. After all, *mutthi mein hi to dum hai!*

Осрораш: Octopush, also known as underwater hockey, is



a non-contact sport where two teams compete to maneuver a puck across the bottom of a swimming pool and into 'goals.' The game is extremely popular in UK, Australia, Canada and South Africa.



Thanks to Amity, now I even have an experience in newspaper making! Ruchismita, X B, AIS V-6

The Global Times, November 1-15, 2009

Money saved is money earned

Short Story



Shriya Harish, II – A
AIS, Vasundhara-6

It was the first week of the month and my mother had paid salaries to all the household help like Chowkidar, Dhobi, Maid, etc. Suddenly the door bell rang and the Gas Cylinder delivery boy was standing at the door. He had come

two days before the informed date. My mother was not prepared for this and she did not have money to pay the Gas cylinder delivery boy. My mother was perplexed as she was wondering whether to rush to nearby ATM or to borrow from our neighbour. But she had to do none of these as I provided her a solution. I have the habit of collecting money in my piggy bank; what ever amount, big or small, I put it in my piggy bank. So I understood my mother’s problem and gave her my piggy bank and told her that she can use my money. My mother was delighted to see my presence of mind, helping nature and my habit of saving. Later when she got money from the bank, she praised me and repaid double the amount that she had taken from my piggy bank. – Money saved is Money Earned.●

Little hands at their creative best



Pic by: Aditya Negi, IX A, AISV-G

Brain Teasers

Rishita, I-C, AIS Vasundhara-6

- 1.Which letters will you never find in the alphabets?
2. Which word is spelt wrong in every dictionary?
3. Name ten parts of the body that are spelt with three letters.
4. If I were in the Sun, and you were out of it, what would the sun be?

Answers: 1. The ones in the post box. 2. The word 'wrong'. 3. Eye, Ear, Leg, Arm, Toe, Jaw, Gum, Lip, Hip, 4. Sin

My Guru

Kartik Gupta, III-D, AISV-6

My idol, my guru
Is special in every way
Mrs Anupama is her name
She teaches maths like a game.
Things are to be linked is her belief
When we do it right,
She heaves a sigh of relief.
She says problems are like stairs,
When you leave off some steps
It’s a fall you will take.
She knows what is right
She is my inspiration
For a future bright.●



Tanay Mittal, II A, AIS, Vasundhara

India is a big nation. India has three colours in its flag. Saffron is for bravery, White is for peace and Green is for happiness and prosperity. Mahatma Gandhi is the father of the nation as he had played a key role in India’s inde-

pendence. Lotus is India’s National flower, tiger is the national animal, peacock is the national bird and mango is the national fruit. Hindi is our national language. India believes in ‘Unity in Diversity’ since there is peace and harmony amongst all religions. I love my country and I am proud of it.●

Globally Global

Ishan Mehta, III A
AIS Vasundhara

Global Times contains many a page For every taste, profession & age. A man or a woman, a girl or a boy Whoever reads, will surely enjoy. A novel attempt of its own kind The like of which you will not find. It bubbles with Amitian pride & mental refreshment, side by side. Sports, culture, news, science Have been shown in friendly alliance. A reflection of curiosity and ability By the students & teachers of Amity.

Find 16 Foods Good for Health

Contributed by: Swayam Jain, KG-D, AIS Vasundhara-6

S	M	R	W	M	I	L	K	T	P
I	Z	D	F	R	X	E	A	Q	E
D	X	P	S	V	O	T	I	N	A
L	C	A	R	R	O	T	Y	F	R
Y	F	L	O	I	Z	U	D	B	C
N	R	A	K	C	A	C	P	A	O
A	O	K	M	E	B	E	A	N	S
P	S	S	D	R	I	F	N	A	D
P	W	Y	A	D	A	L	E	N	K
L	O	A	T	Z	O	P	E	A	S
E	B	R	E	A	D	I	R	L	T

Answers: Milk, Carrot, Beans, Oat, Dal, Peas, Bread, Idli, Apple, Palak, Rice, Date, Lettuce, Paneer, Banana & Pear

Amazing Facts

Why dogs bark?

A dog barks to alert its friends or owner about the stranger’s presence in its territory, as well as when it is hungry, agitated or excited.

Why do crocodiles open their mouth?

Generally after finishing their meal, the crocodile lies down on the sea shore to get his teeth cleaned up by

tiny birds, who get the food stuck in the crocodile’s teeth.

Why do ducks swim easily in water?

Ducks are adapted for aquatic life. Therefore, they have

webbed feet to allow easier movement in the water. Their feet act as rowing paddles.

Why do bats hang upside down when they are asleep?

Bat is the only mammal in the

world that can fly. It has a distinctive system of tendons in its legs to pull the claws together and provide the bats with a strong grip helping them in their sleep.

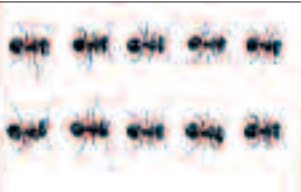
Why do cats lick themselves?

Cats have scent glands under their chin. When it rubs its legs with these glands and then licks the legs, the scent spreads in the whole body.

Why do ants march in a queue?

A soldier ant discovers a food source and leaves an odour trail as it walks back to the anthill. The worker ants march one after another in a queue to reach the food tracing the odour trail of the soldier ant.

Contributed by: Evam Bansal, KG B, AIS Vasundhara-6



Chacha Nehru used to pin a rose on his ‘sherwani’ every day. He loved children so we celebrate Children’s Day to show respect to him. -Nishant Aggarwal, IV –D, AIS V-6

Photographs: Dinesh Chaudhary



An awe inspiring synchronised march past presented by the NCC Cadets: Girls (Left) and Boys (Right)



Founders President offers prayers at the Holy Havan



Highlights

Awards

- 15,000 participants
- Fencing Display by AITTM
- Release of the newsletter 'Sangathan 09'
- March Past by youngest contingent of Amiown, Amity Global School and Amity, London

- ABS bags Sangathan 2009 Championship Trophy (15 gold, 9 silver s and 8 bronze)
- Amity Institute of Aerospace and Amity School of Engineering and Technology shared the Second Position (11 gold, 10 silver and 10 bronze medals)
- Amity International Business School secured Third Position (12 gold, 6 silver and 11 bronze)

- AIMC awarded Guard of Honour
- Amity Institute of Education, Noida adjudged best marching contingent (senior)
- ALS Noida adjudged best marching contingent (junior)

Mere Sang Chal Sangthan 2009

Bigger and Better, Sangathan 2009 celebrated Founders Day in the form of a month long mega Sports Meet that included a magnificent display of 45 sporting events like Discuss Throw, Long Jump, Shot Put, Badminton, Basketball, Carom Board, Football, Handball, Hockey, Judo, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Lawn Tennis, Shooting-Air Pistol, Squash, Swimming, Table Tennis etc. Over 15,000 students from all the Amity Campuses and Amity Schools including the youngest contingent from Amiown, presented a perfect picture of team spirit, camaraderie, sportsmanship and unity and extended their heartfelt greetings to the Founder President, praying for his long life, health and prosperity. The valediction function that coincided with the birthday of Dr. Ashok K Chauhan- Founder President, Amity Universe was graced by Dr. Ashok K Chauhan, Dr. (Mrs.) Amita Chauhan-Chairperson, Amity International Schools, Mr. Atul Chauhan-Chancellor, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, Mr. Aseem Chauhan-Chancellor, Amity University, Rajasthan, Maj. Gen K J Singh- Vice Chancellor, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, Mr. Johan Lindgren- CFO, TE-

LENOR and his wife Mrs. Christina Lindren and Prof. Kapil Kumar-Chairman, Faculty of History, IGNOU levitating the standards of education in the country. The ceremony witnessed an impressive March Past by 81 contingents from different schools, colleges and institutes of Amity followed by Lezium Display by the students of Amity School of Physical Education and Sports Sciences and Fencing Display, first time included, by the students of Amity Institute of Telecom and Technology Management.

United we Stand

Vira Sharma

The tug-of-war finale at Sangathan 2009 was the finest display of strength and togetherness where every head of the institution was on the field to encourage the participants. Cheering aloud was AITTM, who's both teams (girls and boys) have been winning consecutively for many years, once again contesting the finals,

keeping the tradition alive. AITTM boys, winners of 3 gold and 2 silver in the past, put up their best against ASET ECE team, with the latter winning the gold medal this time. An elated ASET ECE vice captain gives the entire credit to his trainer, HOD Computer Science, Kesar Sir. "He chose the team carefully, picking the most robust participants. His tips on tilting body to the correct angle, tilted the victory in our

favour." Nostalgic Rohan Khanna, final year AITTM may have lost the gold, but not the spirit. Shares Rohan, "I have been participating in this event for the last four years, winning a medal every time. This was my last chance to win Gold. I shall always cherish the two months of unadulterated fun and togetherness that Sangathan provides us." The power puff AITTM girls, though put up a brave performance winning the gold against their rivals

ABS. Blessed by the Founder President on the occasion, Supriya Nanchani (4th year) calls it the 'Graduation Goal.' The success story of girls winning team as propounded by Khushboo and Saina, MBA telecoms, differs from the boys winning mantra. "The body mass is not a very important factor. Our opponents had it in plenty. Some of our participants as Akansha Attray, Geetika Multani and Swati Dua even lost some weight before the finals." "The credit of success goes to the AITTM killing spirit and support of AITTM alumnus as Priya Narula (also present on the occasion to cheer) who come every year to cheer us," echoes AITTM.



L to R: ASET shows muscle power, Power Puff girls: winning team of AITTM, AITTM Cheerleaders hold tight, Tough Girls

Amity wins top honour at MUNOG



Amity delegates at Germany; Inset: Best Delegate Awardee: Rajat

Thirteen delegates from Amity International Schools (Saket, Noida, Mayur Vihar, Vasundhara and Gurgaon) participated in Model United Nations of Goldberg Gymnasium, Germany, 2009 held from October 17 – 21, 2009. The conference organized by Goldberg-Gymnasium in Sindelfingen was a journey that they shall cherish a lifetime. An unofficial interaction with the delegates from 16 countries in the morning was followed by an impressive Opening Ceremony where all ambassadors of their delegations made opening speeches and were cross questioned by the other countries. The proceedings from Day 2 onwards made it very clear that the Indians were serious MUNers. Armed with meticulous planning and

Rajat Rai Handa as the team leader, they dazzled the MUNOG committees with their seemingly limitless knowledge, impeccable speaking abilities and exemplary diplomacy. The last day saw all of the delegates coming together to discuss resolutions in the General Assembly where most things went in favour of Amity MUNers. The glittering Prize distribution ceremony saw the Amitians receive several awards including the top honours of the Best Delegate Award. Stationed with several host families, the delegates got the first hand experience of German hospitality, sharing their culture and cuisine. Touring and shopping at Stuttgart city, visiting Ludwigsburg Castle, Pumpkin farm, Mercedes-Benz museum, enjoying

jumping in the hay, Germany was indeed special all the way.

Highlights

- Rajat Rai Handa, got the Best Delegate Award and won an HP iPAQ Business Navigator Mobile Phone. He pulled off a major coup by convincing all the P5 nations of the Security Council to sign his resolutions. Rajat remarked, “The presence of students in MUNs proves that the new generation is not apathetic but that they do want to have a say, be heard and make a difference in the world.”
- Agrim seared through clause after clause, raising incisive points of information to the other delegates.
- Mayank, Siddharth and Garvit engaged in classic debates in their committee on matters of global importance, from the

situation in the Middle East, to the condition of Antarctica.

- Ojasvi, Arjun, Ambika and Sarthak contributed much to the general debate. Surkiti, Rudhir, Akash and Bhavye were likewise impressive, to say the least, thanks to their great research.
- The delegation of China helped to save the UN Charter from a serious set of violations!

The Delegates

- China: Rajat Rai Handa, Agrim Singh, Sukriti Singal, Arjun Hans, Bhavye Garg and Siddharth Uppal represented China
- South Africa: Garvit Jain, Ambika Vadehra, Aakash Gogia and Sarthak Vaish
- Egypt: Ojasvi Khare, Mayank Tiku and Rudhir Sharma ●

Kick Hard Sid



Success is bound to come to those who know the art to change impossible to possible. Once again cadet **Siddharth Chauhan of Amity Indian Military College, Manesar** proved his mettle. Ahshay Kumar 1st National Karate Championship was held at Andheri Sports Complex, Mumbai in October. The total number of participants was 32 and each one was the best of the trade. A Karate fight is no less than a battle for life. One wrong move and one would find oneself in the hospital and it becomes deadlier when it is fought on national level. But our tall and sturdy hero Siddharth Chauhan displayed skill, practice, stamina and strength and brought laurels not only for himself but for the entire Amity family by winning the bronze medal. No doubt, this is a milestone for Sid but not the destination. As for him, “Sittaron se aghe jahahan abhi aur bhi hain, Ishq ke imti hain abhi aur bhi hain.” We wish you all the best, Sid! ●

AIS Gur-43



Saluting teachers

Teachers Day Class Party

**Shashank Aggarwal, VIII A
AIS Gurgaon-43**

This Teachers Day gave us a moment of fun that we'll remember all our life. We organised our bash with full pomp and show. Everyone danced with the rocking beats ranging from hip-hop and rock to techno. Our happiness knew no bounds when our friends from other sections also joined us. There was a variety of food to choose ranging from pasta and Maggi to 'kulcha.' It was the best

Teachers Day ever celebrated. Let's see what Amitians think about our class party: **Anoushka:** The party was rocking and made people mad with dance and laughter; the food was excellent too.

Sakshi Goel: The party was really great. Rather than the Teachers Day, it seemed like students day! I am glad to be part of this class.

Sakshi Asthana: I enjoyed the party a lot. We even clicked photos. This was the best Teachers Day ever celebrated.

Shashank Aggarwal: I have gone to many parties but this was the funniest and coolest party ever! My friends made this party loads of fun.

AIS Noida

AIS Noida observed Teacher's Day on 5th September 2009 in recognition of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan's service to education. During the day, the teachers presented a hilarious cultural programme that had every one engaging in “hearty and healthy” laughter. Principal, Mrs. Mohina Dar urged her teachers to fuel teaching with passion, philosophy, values and ethics by facilitating the ‘Gurukul System’ to today's current life and trends. Amitians kept the “Guru-Sishya” relationship alive by showering their beloved teachers with love, reverence, roses and cards. ●

AIS Noida

**Usha Verma
Teacher**

Theatre in teaching

On 29th August 2009, Primary teachers of AIS Noida attended a theatre workshop given by Ms. Shaina Marwah from Theatre n Techniques, Delhi. The workshop incorporated how theatre techniques help children in enhancing their learning skills in terms of developing better speech, expression, voice modulation, acting ability, body language, posture, interactive skills as well as build an extensive English vocabulary. Theatre across the curriculum should be integrated in class room teaching to inculcate overall confidence and well-groomed students.

Workshop: Their Magic Years

From 3rd to 5th September 2009, Mrs. Shalini Khanna, Coordinator, AIS Noida, attended a workshop titled, ‘Their Magic Years—Early Learning and Initiative Teaching’ at the Indian Social Institute, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. Over these three days, a number of extensive sessions were held that had eminent resource persons address the participants. Day 1 had a key note discussion lead by Geeta Dharamrajan, Executive Director, Katha who gave exact statistics on the number of Delhi children attending schools and the dropout rate by the time they had reached class V. Speakers such as Ranjana Pandey, Veena Mishra, Vrinda Dutta and other UNESCO officials emphasized the urgent need for early childhood care and education. During day 2, there was a talk by Dr. Anubha Rajesh, Senior Associate ICF International and Ms. Bhavna Negi, Lecturer, Indian Institute of Home Economics, University of Delhi titled, ‘Developing Need Based Teaching.’ On the final day, ‘Dynamic and Intuitive Teacher’ saw a discussion initiated by Dr. Amita Shaw, Director, National Bal Bhavan and Dr. Amita Govinda, Consultant, ECCE. The session ‘Educational Assessment’ by Dr. Jessy Abraham from Jamia Milia Islamia ended the series of workshops.

German Connect

The German Teacher, Ms Milan Sharma of AIS Noida journeyed to Germany from 2nd to 15th August 2009 to attend the International German Teacher's Conference held at Jena and Weimar. Over 3000 teachers from all over the world gathered for an invigorating interaction with each other. The cultural exchange enhanced their knowledge on how to better impart the teaching of the German Language. She also attended a week long seminar at Berlin, titled “German identity”, which focused on developing closer ties between the teachers. The session imparted knowledge on Germany culture so that the teachers could infuse the teaching of the German language with its culture.



I'm Aryan... naam to suna hi hoga



Vrinda Tayal, IX C, AISV-6

When Aryan Bhatnagar came across a photographer few years back, little did he know that his life was going to change so drastically, for it was that brilliant day in August 2007 that Aryan got his first opportunity as a model for Atlas cycles. Soon this little boy of six became a wondrous model, doing photo shoots for famous brands as 'Vardhaman Knitting Yarn', 'Jagran City', 'Sakhi Magazine' and many health magazines. Says Aryan, "The advertisement for Dabur Real Juice is my personal favourites because of the skating the shoot required. Even my photograph came out the best there." This budding model is a natural and despite never having been professionally trained, he has reached enormous heights in modeling so early in his young life. The best moment of Aryan's life was when his favourite cricketer Mohammad Kaif asked him for his autograph. When asked who he takes inspiration from, Aryan says, "I love Shahrukh and Salman. I love the way they act and the ease with which they face the camera. Being a model myself, I know the apprehension your face before the camera however on their faces, it's missing!" Surprisingly, Aryan does not plan to take up modeling as a career. His parents, like any other parents, want him to become an engineer, and follow in his father's footsteps. Aryan's 'first priority' is academics and modeling is just a pastime. Aryan's flair and success as a model does not stop him from working hard in school. Cheers to Aryan!●

(Inputs by: Ms Tanushree Batra)

What's your Rashee?

(From the personal diary of a student)

Aries: March 20-April 18... Exams are over. But classes for the next academic year about to start. God, why so early! Well, the brighter side is teachers don't take too many tests.
Taurus: April 19-May 19...Time for planning holidays, picnics and parties. But the sad truth is teachers are planning a lot of homework, too! Why is it that everyone wants to jeopardize our plans?
Gemini: May 20- June 20... Hip Hip Hurray! Holidays and travel plans are already underway. Homework can wait. We must have something to do when we come back. I am excited about my trip...
Cancer: June 21- July 21... School is about to reopen. I haven't finished my homework as yet! I have to ring up my friends to check their status. Maybe I am not the only one...
Leo: July 22- August 21... Homework, class work and assignments..a whirlwind of work, barrage of homework and tornado of class work! But there's a trip too! So maybe all's not lost.
Virgo: August 22-September 21... Exams! Subjects like Physics, Chemistry, Math to deal with. God, this never ends. We are planning a party with the new students of our class. Looks like fun!
Libra: September 22- October 22... Festivals galore! Dussehra and Diwali! I am planning to buy a new laptop for myself. I might go to Germany this month. 'MUN' zindabad!
Scorpio: October 23-November 20... This is a long month. No holidays! Teachers have touched torque level speed in finishing the syllabus. Jet age and classrooms have a lot in common. I don't think I can keep pace with either.
Sagittarius: November 21- December 20... Unit Tests are not a big deal but require hard work. I wish exams are banned forever! What fun that would be!
Capricorn: December 21- January 19...

Christmas holidays. I hope I have a major role to play in the annual day. I am good in everything, it's only the teachers who refuse to see it from my point.
Aquarius: January 20- February 18... Freezing winters. Getting up for school is torturous. The brighter side is I can play the whole day, if only the teachers take the days off...
Pisces: February 19-

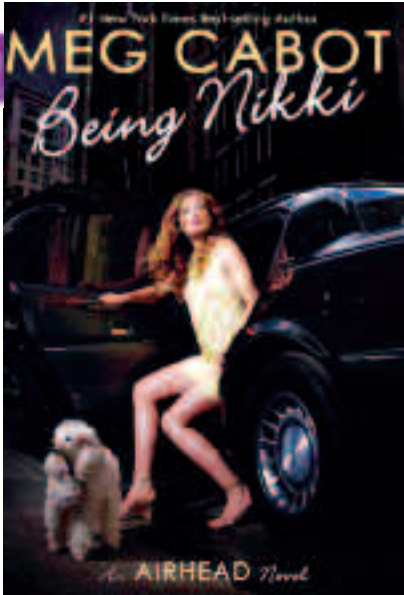


march 19... Final exam-the biggest hurdle. Parents go on and on about the virtues of scoring high marks. Teachers sing the same song at school. Well, if I work hard and score, maybe I can get the new i-pod that my dad promised... Life is fun after all.●

Arushi Nagpal, XI A, AIS V-6
(Inputs by: Ms Subhashini R)

Book-Review Being Nikki: What a book Sir Ji!

Chitra Jain, X B
AIS Vasundhara



If there were to be a Tsunami in Delhi (which is seemingly impossible, unless Rakhi Sawant floods the area with her endless tears over potential grooms betraying her) and I could save just one thing from my drowned home; Being Nikki would be the thing. The sequel to an equally incredible book-if not more- Airhead by popular teen fiction writer Meg Cabot, Being Nikki transports you to a whole new world, a world of teen glitz, glamour and super-villains. The first book revolves around the life of Emerson Watts, a regular American teenage tomboy who has had a looong crush on his best friend, Christopher. But life takes a U- turn when Em suffers with an accident at the opening of a mega store while at the same time, the biggest teen supermodel in America, Nikki Howard collapses of a 'supposed' aneurysm. Everything turns topsy-turvy when Em's brain is transplanted into Nikki's body, who now has to live the

life of a supermodel. This might have been a teenage girl's dream come true, but not for Em, who thinks cat walking in eight inch heels is illegal torture and that supermodels are the 'Walking Dead'! In the second book, however, the focus shifts to how Em tackles everyday problems being Nikki, and the return of a long-forgotten brother, desperately searching for their missing mother. That's not it! Em's-or rather Nikki's-world is rocked to its core when she discovers that Nikki Howard's brain is still alive in someone else's body and that Nikki didn't die of an aneurysm but was murdered by an enterprise because she knew a secret she wasn't supposed to. Meg Cabot explores the darker side of teen fiction with Being Nikki and delivers a brilliant novel-full of humor, emotion, love and pain. She proves that there is more than meets the eye. A must-read for all teen fiction fans, if this doesn't make you cry, nothing will.●

I wanna be a rockstar!

Vaishali J & Ruchismita B, X-B
AIS Vasundhra

Nickelback, a Canadian rock band from Hanna, Alberta, was formed in 1995. Founded by members Chad Kroeger, Mike Kroeger, Ryan Peake and then-drummer Brandon Kroeger, Nickelback is one of the most commercially successful Canadian groups, having sold 30 million records worldwide. Nickelback ranks as the 11th best selling music act of the 2000s, and is placed as the 2nd best selling foreign act in the US, just behind The Beatles! Its name originates from the nickel in change that band member Mike Kroeger

gave customers at his Starbucks job, he would frequently say, "Here's your nickel back." Nickelback's first release was a seven-track EP called Hesh in 1996. In the same year, Nickelback recorded their first full-length album Curb. "Fly" was released on Hesh and Curb and was the first single produced by Nickelback. In 2001, Nickelback released the Silver Side Up album, which propelled them into the mainstream. The single "How You Remind Me" was a huge success, peaking at #1 on both American and Canadian charts at the same time. Their next single was "Too Bad," which also hit #1 on the Mainstream Rock

Chart and had a small amount of success on the pop chart. The final single from the album was "Never Again," another #1 hit on Mainstream Rock. Till date, Nickelback's most hit song has been ROCKSTAR. There are other hits too like 'Gotta Be Somebody' and 'I'd come for you' from their comeback album in 2008 'Dark Horse' but none could beat Rockstar. It appealed to the people most because it showed the exact picture of what people think a rockstar's life might be and made them wish to be one. Rockstars don't have to stand in long queues for everything and they own 50 cars at a time and live in top houses. Indeed, everyone wants to be a rockstar.●

