



New is in!

NEW is always in. Anything new brings along the mystery of the unknown, leaving ample scope for you to explore. The New Year brings in the same feel. Offering you a fresh set of 365 days, it leaves you with the opportunity of smiling at new joys, creating new memories and trying a hand at everything that you missed in previous year. Starting the year on a novel note, GT takes you through a new ride. Flip through the pages to feel the freshness.

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"I have kept my promise"

...says Devgn to his fans at Amity International School, Vasundhara Sec 6, who was in town for the promotion of his upcoming film 'Toonpur ka Super Hero'



Bhawna Tuteja

“A few months back, three student reporters of ‘The Global Times – An Amity newspaper’ from Amity International School, Vasundhara Sect -6 had come to me for an interview. They asked me when I would meet them again and I promised to meet them the next time I am in Delhi. So, here I am keeping my promise”, said superstar Ajay Devgn when questioned by a media person the reason for his visit to Amity International School, Vasundhara Sec – 6. It was time for endless joy, uber excitement, thrill and a lot more at Amity International School, Vasundhara Sec-6, which stood as proud hosts to the superstar Ajay Devgn. In town for the promotion of his upcoming movie – ‘Toonpur ka Super Hero’, the star was welcomed with abundant warmth. The entire venue was set abuzz with excitement as soon as he stepped into the school premises. He joined the school principal Mrs. Shashi Ranjan in perform-



ing ‘purnahuti’ at the hawan - a customary practice at Amity to invoke the blessing of the Almighty. This was followed by Mr. Devgn inspecting the guard of honor by The Amity Cadet Corps. The school had put its heart and soul into welcoming the superstar as was evident in the animated ambience set by the school. A mere announcement of the star’s visit a few weeks back set the students into a frenzy of activity and a number of cartoon making, poster making competitions were held. Enthusiasm was the mood of the hour as paintings, sketches and hoardings decorated the school, giving it a festive look. A



All Pics. Ravinder

little toy train was the centre of attraction and brought the world of Toonpur alive. The star was honoured with a citation presented by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity International Schools for his contribution to the entertainment industry. Children cheered in joy as their hero waved at them, shook hands with his awestruck fans and even signed autographs. The entertainment quotient skyrocketed as the students presented scintillating dance items of ‘Asto ma sadgmay’ ‘jeetoge’, ‘nach mere’ and a wonderful adaptation of ‘Toonpur ka superhero’ – the star’s upcoming 3D animation movie. A video conference with Amity International School Pushp Vihar followed in the auditorium which had nearly 2000 Amity school students as its viewers. The students got a chance to know their hero better as they put forth their questions that were dutifully answered Mr Devgn . After the students, it was the press’s turn to take over the Q&A baton. Young Amitians had a day that will remain etched in their memories forever. **GT**



Encounter with a star

Rashi Khindri, XI D, AIS Saket

It is on rare occasions that one has a chance to see his/her favorite stars in person. I got that rare chance when I met Mr. Ajay Devgn. Decently clad in a brown jacket, he waved at the students signed autographs and even posed for pictures. In the latter part of the event, a press conference was held where the media as well as few students from Amity, Vasundhara interviewed the star. Here are some excerpts.

How difficult was it to undergo the change from being a serious hero to working in an animated movie?

Initially I was a bit scared, but in the end I took up the challenge as I always wanted to do something of this kind.

How was it working with your wife?

It is always easy and wonderful to work with people who you are comfortable with.

Rumours are that Shah Rukh Khan is also making a similar movie?

I don’t know the story of Shahrukh’s movie and he does not know the story of my movie. So, I am amused how the media knows the story of both the movies.

Your favourite subject when you were in school?

Geography.

Are you a very strict father?

Not at all! I am a very lenient father. My wife is always upset with me for being so lenient with kids. **GT**

Toonpur comes alive

Surabhi Dogra, XI D, AIS Saket

As I stepped into the AIS V-6 campus, I felt as if I had stepped into Toonpur itself! Beautiful artworks adorned the walls, a colorful train perched near the stage and keen smiles lit up the faces of every Amitian as they awaited to meet their favourite hero. Each and every painting or caricature displayed were a product of the hardwork put in by the fine art students. The wall of fame was another major highlight where the young achievers of

AIS Vasundhara had displayed the various medals they had won in a plethora of competitions. Taking a look at the wall of fame, Mr Devgn applauded and encouraged the students to keep up the good work. Young Amitians impressed the guests with their ‘On the spot cartoon making event’ wherein each student showed their creative skills by filling the canvas with beautiful cartoons. Drishti Kashyap, Priyanka Tandon, Priyanka Nagpal, Vaishali Jain of Amity, Vasundhara created a mosaic of Ajay Devgn using rice and colours which was highly

appreciated by the star himself. A cultural show presented on the occasion comprised performances ranging from a soulful rendition of bhajan to beautiful dances by the young amitians. Scintillating dance items on ‘Asto ma sadgmay’, ‘jeetoge’, ‘nach mere’ and an adaptation of ‘Toonpur ka superhero’ made the cultural extravaganza even more enthralling. Ajay Devgn lauded the participants and teachers for their hardwork. Hats off to the students and teachers of Amity Vasundhara for bringing Toonpur alive. **GT**



TOON CRACKED: Winners of ‘Crack the toon’ contest



The tune of excitement



Let's go to Toonpur!



Love on the canvas

“This year my resolution is to come to school regularly and complete my work on time and to respect elders. In short to become a perfect girl at home as well as in school.”
Toshavi Newaskar, Class VI, AIS Lucknow



News makers 2010



‘Raja’ of Scams

With the surfacing of allegations of embezzlement during the bidding for allocation of 2 G Spectrum, the political scenario in both Delhi and Tamil Nadu has become charged. The initial probe into the matter has tightened the noose around former Telecom Minister A Raja and his aides.

CWG: A saga of joy and sorrow

Though, CWG 2010 made India proud and laid the foundation stone for olympic bid, it also made headlines due to alleged charges of swindling of funds by top Organizing Committee officials like Suresh Kalmadi and Lalit Bhanot.

Life on five counts

Pakistani terrorist Mohd. Ajmal Kasab, was awarded death sentence and life term on five counts. Terming the case as that of ‘exceptional depravity’ judge M L Tahaliyani found him guilty of murdering seven people, helping in murder of 159, waging war against India and indulging in terrorist activities.

‘Divided’ verdict

The Lucknow bench of Allahabad High Court pronounced the judgement in the Ayodhya Title Suit, 60 years after it first went to court. The judgement entitled Hindus and Muslims as joint holders and ordered tripartite division; one-third each for the Sunni Waqf Board, Nirmohi Akhara and the party for 'Ram Lalla'.

Bihar’s Hero

Bihar CM, Nitish Kumar pulled off a stunning electoral victory on development planks. For the first time in history of Bihar, development triumphed over caste based politics. He successfully triggered hope amongst the Lalu-ravished janta. Development became the new mantra.



Kashmir burning

The year 2010 saw an unending cycle of violence in Kashmir valley. One could hear only heart rendering tales of brutal killings, stone pelting and violent protests resonating in the paradise. While these incidents paralysed the normal life in valley, the tourism too suffered a major setback affecting the state’s economy considerably.

Not Honourable

The number of couples done to death in the year 2010 in the name of so called ‘Honour’ saw a marked increase. The spurt in the cases caused the honourable Supreme Court to intervene and issue notices to Central government and nine State Governments on a Public Interest Litigation filed by a NGO Shakti Vahini’.

India Calling

The year 2010 would be remembered as a watershed year in Indo-US ties, when President Barack Obama on his longest ever visit to any country endorsed India’s claim for permanent seat in United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Recognising New Delhi’s emergence on World Stage, he announced deals worth US\$ 10 billion.

Whistle Blower Assange

The revelations by Wikileaks not only created a furore in the world leading to Julian Assange’s arrest. It even sparked political row in India after it leaked American diplomatic cables about Hindu extremism and human rights abuses.

Holy war

The Korean conflict intensified with both sides threatening military retaliations after North Korea launched the first artillery attack on South Korean territory after nearly 60 years. Looking at the sensitive issue, experts opined that Obama administration take stern measures to thwart the latest provocation from the Stalinist regime.



The Social Hero

The 22 year old Founder and CEO of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg is at the helm of a smokin’ hot social networking site. Till few years back, a non-entity with no job, money and home, he struck gold when he designed a site containing social experiences of students. He was named “Times Person of the Year”.

Breaking new grounds

Master blaster Sachin Tendulkar became the first batsman to score a ODI double century. He amassed 1,500 runs in 13 Tests in 2010..Tendulkar’s seven centuries in 2010 are the most by him in a calendar year .

Setting new Milestone

Sri Lankan off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan became the first bowler to take 800 Test wickets, reaching the milestone in the last Test of his illustrious career. He achieved this feat at Galle where he crossed the 400 mark.

Creating History

Spain became the third team in the world to win the 2010 FIFA World Cup and European Championship after the year 1974. Spain who lost the opening match of the tournament went ahead to win the championship after defeating Netherlands 1-0 four minutes from the end of extra time.

Psychic Octopus

Paul, the oracle shot to fame with his uncanny abilities to predict the results of Soccer matches during the World Cup at South Africa. English-born Paul who correctly forecasted seven times how Germany would fare died recently at his home town in Oberhausen at the age of two.



IPL Gate

The controversy surrounding Lalit Modi, BCCI, team managements and politicians brought to light the huge amount of money involved in the ‘IPL Gate’. The murky undergrowth in IPL came to light after messages posted by Modi on Twitter led to the ouster of Minister of State for External Affairs, Shashi Tharoor.

End of Road

Though, the jingle promised that it would stay with us today and tomorrow as a strong symbol of a Strong India, the company decided to stop production of ‘Hamara Bajaj’. Even Suzuki Motors’ small car Maruti 800; that changed the way Indians drove was pulled off the road because it did not comply with the new emission rules.

Smart to Smarter

India is pacing forward in the communication arena with the arrival of the smartphone. The competition in the Indian smart phone market is expected to get hotter in the months to come. The introduction of feature-rich new multi-utility models by companies like Apple Nokia and Blackberry, has brought more excitement in the market.

Mehngai dayan Khai jaat hai..

The high inflation rate has escalated the prices of essential commodities like pulses, vegetables, cooking gas and petroleum products to an all time high burning a hole in the pocket of the middle class who are finding it difficult to make two ends meet.

Jai Ho!

After winning Oscar last year, “Slumdog Millionaire” composer A R Rahman struck gold twice at Grammy awards. Rahman, 44, beat veteran Bruce Springsteen in the motion picture song category. Slumdog Millionaire also swept aside “Inglourious Basterds” and “Twilight” to win best compilation soundtrack for the film..

Smita Jain & Gunjan Sharma



“Happy new year to all! My resolutions are that I will cooperate with everyone, spend more time with my grandmother and also obey my parents.”

Abhinav Bhatia, Class IV, AIS Lucknow

Chocolate gurus

Nikita Madan, VII B, AIS V-6



tion that you have. This is an R&D position, which can offer you a salary as high as Rs. 1 lakh per month.

Chocolatier is a person who has both the skill and specialized knowledge of the fine art of chocolate making. This is an increasingly “in demand” profession as connoisseurs of chocolates are on the rise. Though at present there is a niche market for chocolate tasters, but the career is evolving at a fast pace. Once you are into this career, starting one’s own business is the most preferred route. The good thing is that there is very little competition in this field. The downside is that one may require RS 2 to 20 lakh as the start-up cost. If the investment seems too much for you, the job of ‘chocolate taster’ is another op-



Earn your way DIFFERENTLY

Doctors and engineers are passe. Nine to six jobs are a convention of the times gone by. The contemporary route to earning money goes through the bylanes of chocolate testing, braille translation and more. (Parents, relax!) Unusual careers is the new age moolah making mantra. Riding high on popularity charts, these new careers come across as a much needed respite from the old boring jobs. They serve the need for being different just right and feed your pockets equally well too. Make the atypical choice and who knows, you would not be earning just bread and butter but some cheese too!

Gemology

Saumya Singhal, VIA AIS V-6



Gemology refers to the scientific study of gemstones. A person involved in this career learns to identify various gems, testing methods, cutting and polishing synthetically manufactured gems, grading and up-raising. In India, gem trade is booming – the export volume of gems and jewellery is on an all time high and it is a thriving business now. Hence, people associated with gem processing and trade, obviously have a bright future.

Aspirants for this field should have a sense of design and appreciation for quality. Excellent power of observation, good hand-eye coordination, attention to detail and ability to concentrate are some of the other skills required.

Braille Translator

Aditya S, VI B, AIS V-6



stitution that caters to the blind also includes responding to questions from students, parents and staff regarding methodologies and available resources; and maintaining resource inventory for teachers and students.

In simple words, the job of a Braille translator is to translate various educational material into Braille. The translator performs a variety of Braille translations and transcribes the printed material and oral instructions into Braille code form using a Braille writer and computer. Proofreading, verifying accuracy of transcribed materials, preparing Braille copy of texts, study materials, maps, text books, charts, tactile illustrations and other related media aids are some other additional responsibilities.

The translator’s job in any educational in-

Mattress Tester

Kanchan Joshi, VI A , AIS V-6



Are you looking for a dream job where you do not have to do any work? Well, believe it or not, there is a job for you. You can make quick and easy money by becoming a mattress tester.

There is a new mattress coming up every month. Of course, the commercials show that there is a machine that tests the mattress to see how well it holds up, but those mattresses also have to be tested to see if people can actually get a good night’s sleep.

Once you get signed up, all you need to do is report for work and go to sleep.

You get a nice cozy room and if you need a little music to help you rest that can be arranged. Your bed will be made with the best bed sheets and a there’s a nice blanket or a comforter to give you all the comforts of your own bed at home. Seriously, there couldn’t be a better job!

Other offbeat careers

Shivendu N Sahu, VIII A, AIS V-6

Fortune cookie writer – Ever been to a Chinese restaurant and opened a fortune cookie to read your daily fortune? The line you read is the work of some creative individual. Ideally, writers earn up to \$0.25 per fortune.

Pet detective – Lost your pet? Don’t worry as you have pet detectives at your aid. This career is already on a boom in the US and is expected to pick up in other countries too.

Cheese sprayer – The packaged cheesy popcorn available in the market requires a lot of effort. A single

kernel is picked and sprayed with cheese powder. This exactly is the



task of a cheese prayer.

Professional whistler – Believe it or not, professional whistlers’ whistles are tuned for their living. They are well versed in several genres of music. The most famous whistlers are Ronnie Ronalde and Fred Lowery.

Mall Santa – This one is a seasonal job but pays pretty well. Who knew being fat would someday prove so beneficial?

SCHOLASTIC ALERTS

Next step after school? Various entrance examinations to board the career flight! Taruna Barthwal, Career Counsellor, Amity brings you the first step in the direction.

COURSE	APPLICATION FORMS	LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION	EXAMINATION DATE	WEBSITE
Integrated first degree programmes, B.E. (Hons), B.Pharm (Hons) (Pilani) M.Sc (Hons), M.Sc (Tech)	Online	31st January, 2011	11th May - 10th June, 2011	www.bitsadmission.com
Integrated M.A. in Development Studies, Integrated M.A. in English Studies	Online	Application online form: 19th January, 2011 Printed copy of the application: 31th January, 2011	8th May, 2011	http://hsee.iitm.ac.in/
MBBS	1st Dec, 2010	28th February, 2011	17th April, 2011	www.mgims.ac.in
B.Tech	6th-Dec,-10	28th February, 2011	16th April, 2011	www.vit.ac.in/viteee2011
MBBS	20th Dec, 2010 till stocks last or 31st Jan, 2011	1st week of February, 2011	1st May, 2011	http://afmc.nic.in/ or



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Application forms are available free of cost at www.amity.edu/aimc

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For further details, contact: 98106 99633, 98106 99595, 0120 – 4392610/11, 0124-2764744

“In 2011, I will not use plastic bags, see less of TV, will study more and not waste time. I will also assist my mother at home”

Gunika Gouri, Class III, AIS Lucknow



Amizone on your iPhone



Pix: Safal Chaudhary, ASCO Model: Ila Singh, ASCO

Amity University becomes the first Indian university to launch iPhone application for its students. Shivani Swaroop, ASCO in an interview with K N Senthil Kumar, VP, AKC Data Systems discovers special features of this application.

Amity University has many firsts to its credit. First, it became the only Indian university to boast of a wireless educational campus and now, it has earned the proud distinction of being the first Indian university to launch

iPhone application for its students. The application is bound to benefit students and faculty members alike and set a precedent for other universities to follow.

This application is likely to prove a boon to both students and teachers. Whose brainchild was this?

It is the initiative of Mr. Atul Chauhan, Chancellor, Amity University to make the Amizone (Amity Intranet Zone) available on mobile devices for the students of Amity University. Amity is known for being tech-ahead and has once again taken the lead in implementing technology.

When was this application launched?

This application was made live on iTunes App Store on December 8, 2010

What are the special features of this application?

It has multi-fold applications. The students will be able to access their class schedules, course and session plans, attendance status, exam results, news and information about the various activities happening within the campus, participate in polls and quizzes, check fee invoices



and also receive important notices on their iTouches and iPhones. Not only that, they will also be able to watch the live videos of lectures and events, post messages to the faculty and access thousands of online journals.

This application is available only on iPhones and iTouches. Don't you think that is going to limit its use?

This facility is available now on iPhones and iTouches. Very soon this will be available on Nokia, Blackberry and Android devices.

Are you charging students for providing them this facility?

No. This app is available FREE on iTunes App stores.

Do you think the launch of this service is a big step in the history of Amity?

Yes, this application is definitely first of its kind to be launched in India. Although, many universities abroad have been providing similar apps to their students, it is the first time in India that an initiative of this kind has been undertaken. A student from one of the leading universities abroad candidly admitted that the application launched in Amity University is far better than the one they have been using in terms of features and accessibility. This admission by the student filled my heart with joy. It is definitely a giant leap forward. 🇮🇳

Don't waste the 'Waste'



Pro@Project

set to make their mark in the finals with their project-'A Comparative study on chemical fertilizers and kitchen waste materials'.

Objective: To study the types of waste generated during day-to-day activities at home and utilize the bio-degradable domestic waste as a manure for plants. It also aimed at studying the effect of homemade manure on plants and soil as compared to the conventional chemical fertilizers.

Methodology: The students conducted surveys with hundred families in the neighbourhood to draw a detailed analysis of the daily waste generated in their homes and their corresponding waste disposal methods. As a part of the experiment, yucca plants planted in different soil samples were treated with fertilizers and homemade manure made of fruit pulp, leftover pulses, waste paper and used tea leaves.

Observation & Results: The soil sample of yucca plants responded differently to the chemical fertilizers and homemade manures. While the pH of the soil sample treated with chemical fertilizers exhibited higher acidic level, the pH of the other soil sample treated with homemade manure remained neutral. This adds to the fertility of the soil encouraging re-plantation.

Future & feasibility: The success of this project is a boon for the farmers as they can easily avail the dual benefit of spending less and growing more. With this method being eco friendly and economical, there is now a solution available for effective waste management and replacement for chemical fertilizers. 🇮🇳

The students of AIS Noida have yet again brought laurels to Amity by making it to the National Level NCSC (National Children Science Congress), a forum offering opportunities to young students to stimulate their scientific temperament and understand scientific methodology. They were amongst the top contenders for the final competition held in Chennai, competing with 500 children from schools all across the nation. After a thorough scrutiny at the district and state level, students **Falguni Kapoor, Manibha Sharma, Niharika Gupta, Pankhuri Jhamb** of AIS Noida, are all

Maths Wizards Meet

JaiRaj Gambhir, IX A, AIS V-6

Maths may be tedious for some but it has always been my cup of tea. Nonetheless, I had never thought that one idea would take me so far. A simple idea of 'Square Wheels in vehicles' led me to the final round of the national level MATHCOVERY Competition held from December 9-11, 2010 at Ahmedabad. Mathcovery is an initiative that provides a platform to young mathematicians, and discovers Maths in the unobvious. This was Mathcovery's first year and the best part was that it was created by students of my age. The first round saw 10,000 entries from every corner of India, which were reduced to 2100 qualifying projects in the second round from which, 21 finalists were short listed for the final round. I was among those lucky finalists who were invited to Ahmedabad to present their models. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for me! The hospitality given, the people, the participants...everything was just perfect. We were taken on a hot air balloon as well as a train ride. I got an opportunity to see IIM Ahmedabad (my dream college) which was overcrowded on the eve of its Golden Jubilee.

The next day is bookmarked in my life's Golden Book for ever. That day we had

First Person



Proud moment: JaiRaj exhibiting his model

our final battle. The judges for the competition were Prof Amber Habib (Mathematical Sciences Foundation, Delhi), Ms Meera Raghavan (Maths Expert, Bangalore), Mr K Subramaniam (Sr Faculty at Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education) and Ms Manjri Patil (Math Expert). I was extensively grilled by them when I presented my model.

As the time for results approached, the hall was filled with anxiety! I had my fingers crossed and was absolutely elated to be awarded the 2nd Runner up Prize. It was a mindblowing experience to be a winner amongst 10,000 entries from all over India! I was ecstatic and have no words to express my feelings. I was on cloud 9! 🇮🇳



“My new year resolution is to not fight with my little sister and learn ways to control her.”

Karrthik G.K, Class V, AIS Lucknow

THE GLOBAL TIMES | JANUARY 1-15, 2011

U, Me & Hum

Whose life is it anyway?

5

The old you in a new uniform



Vaishnavi Sridhar, XI
AIS Noida

Every student tends to view his or her uniform as second skin. And there is absolutely no harm in giving your second skin a fashionable touch. Case in point – the winter uniform! Winters tend to be the time when everything around tends to be dull and we students do need some variation from the monotonous winter colours. Changing a few simple combinations to create new variants in school could just make your day. Here are some changes that could be incorporated.

TROUSERS – I think we are done with the age old baggy trousers. Can we have the new slim fit version please? A well fitted pair of black trousers would be a good break.

SHIRT- The demand lies in bright and distinct combina-



tions like white with fawn stripes. White with pink stripes or navy blue stripes is an equally good option.

TIE- Polka dots and stripes look good almost everywhere and that includes the tie too. Monochromatic ties in multiple shades of the same shade could add a fashionist touch to the uniform. And if we are game for some real change, then a scarf instead of a tie would be a great bet.

SKIRT – Since plaid has been the call of the runway this year, plaid skirts in red, black or green are a great bet. Sailor style skirts in navy blue with white stripes at the bottom could be a great choice.

SHOES – The trademark black shoes have no competitors in this regard. However, shoes imprinted with graffiti or funny caricatures could up the fun quotient of the ensemble.

Whatever our views of a new uniform be we should hold back our grievances and continue wearing our school uniforms with panache and enjoy the sense of affiliation to school, that comes with it. (After all, we should respect our uniform as it our second skin!)

FRESH as evER

Roshni Punjabi
BJMC – I, ASCO,
Amity University Rajasthan

Time flies! And I realize this today, as the final semester is nearing its end. I take a break to look back at the events in my life during this past semester. So, fasten your seat belts people. We are on a journey into the past-9th August 2010, AMITY UNIVERSITY RAJASTHAN. Whoa! My first day at Amity!

It was obviously not an experience similar to the one that I had on the first day of my school. My excitement and enthusiasm knew no bounds. The reasons – the excitement of finally being able to live a college student’s (so called CARE-FREE) life plus a completely new environment and system. And above all, being in ‘AMITY UNIVERSITY’!

GOD! This was seriously going to be something different... something new...

Everything seemed to be going pretty well - the orientation, introduction with the HODs and the other faculty members. And what’s more? This was just the beginning. The introduction with the batch-mates was still to come! The question – ‘SENIORS KAISE HONGE YAAR?’ buzzed in my head every now and then. But thankfully I did not meet the fate of the typical Bollywood protagonist who is man-handled by a bunch of mean seniors. My seniors turned out to be pretty sweet and nice. College life started off pretty well from the next day onwards... the time table sheets, lectures, notes... seriously OMG! It was actually a bit too different for me personally. A science student suddenly plunging into mass communication is not really a swift jump. The subjects were new, the topics were

new and so was everything else...huh! One question I frequently faced...and which later on was simply dreaded - “Why the sudden jump from science to mass communication?” It seriously got to me but eventually I learnt to live with it.

Events like the ice-breaking session and introduction rounds with the seniors became a part of my beautiful journey. Then came the mid semesters – another fresh experience to be dealt with. I guess this is the reason why we are called FRESHERS!

Up next was showtime. Stepped in - SANCHAAR 2K10! It was an unforgettable and unimaginable

event, a result of the hardcore dedication by the students of ASCO. But, the fun ended soon as next in the queue were: End Semester exams...

It was study time again. I call it the RUSH HOUR! Everything started all over again... notes ... completions ... submissions... viva ... journals...date sheets... and the most dreaded one - the DEBAR LIST.

Traversing this never ending lane, I have almost completed my first semester in college. I am not a fresher any more but the freshness of this new chapter in my life is still intact.



Weighty rides

Bhawna Tuteja

So far we have only bothered about weight issues to ensure that we fit into that lovely black dress or that dapper jacket. But now the word obesity brings along other hindrances too; stepping into a rickshaw being one of them. At least, that is what a local law introduced in Aligarh has to say.

A local law introduced by the district administration calls for penalty in case one is found straining the rickshaw puller due to excessive weight. You could be pardoned if you display some courtesy by getting off the rickshaw before the rickshaw puller reaches his exhaustion levels. And if being discourteous is second nature, then get set to shell out a fine of Rs 500. The problem of excessive weight already brings along numerous woes and it looks like that obese people have another one to deal with. Of course, if you believe in being human already, then there is little that you need to worry about.

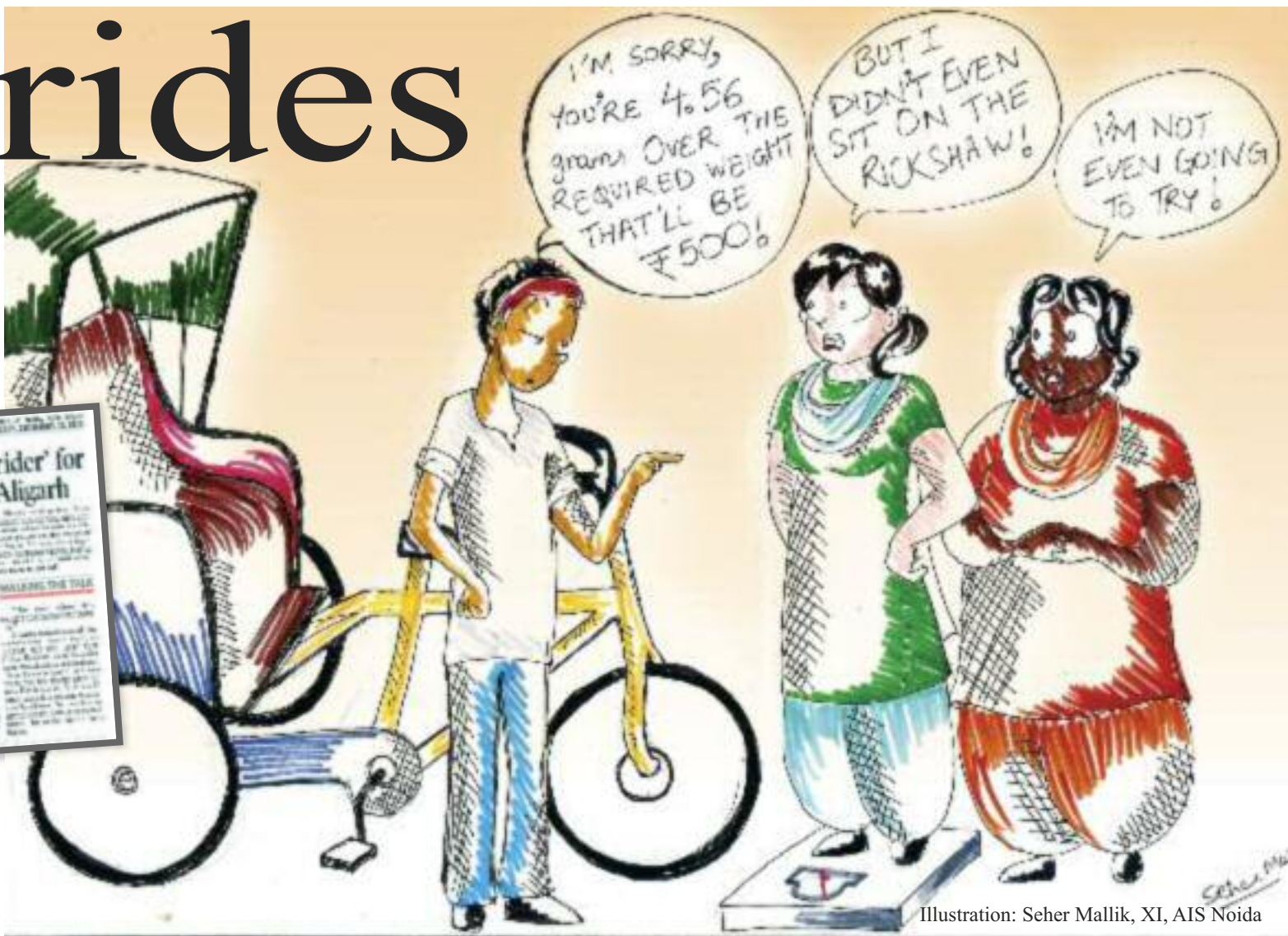


Illustration: Seher Mallik, XI, AIS Noida

"I will help everyone at any time. I will spend more time studying than watching cartoons this year."
Arpit Anand, Class II, AIS Lucknow



Concoction of life



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

The gates for the New Year have been opened, allowing entry for not just a new calendar but new friends, new joys and new memories. As we take a stride to lap up all things new, it is important that we do not leave the old behind either. Even though

novelty is always a welcome trait, it should not be a blanket to your past. After all, it is your past that formulated the foundation of your existing present.

Come to think of it, you would not be in the present class had you not been in the previous one. You would not know the meaning of friendship had it not been for your old friends. You would not have your existing bank of knowledge had you not been educated about the same. It is the past that paves way for your present and consecutively your future as well.

So, when you are all set to plunge into the New Year, it is important that you push your past forward too along with your self, driving it along as you take new paths.

Your past experience, knowledge, friends, memories coupled with the new ones gives you a beautiful concoction – the concocation of life. Use your previous experiences to deal with future situations. Know your existing friends better to be able to form stronger friendships ahead. Keep your past knowledge intact so that you can sit proudly amongst the intellectuals.

Don't just brush off the old, whether it is good or bad. Let it be a layer of memories and you can continue to add many more such layers in all the new years to come. [GT](#)

Do the new



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

1st January 2011 is a date that opened a fresh chapter in our lives. It is again that time of the year when we are all geared up for a new start. But, have you ever wondered what really is new about the New Year? Well, nothing really, if you choose to be the same old you.

2011 brings along the same months as 2010. However, the very thought that you can make a difference in life in the coming 365 days at your disposal, makes it exciting. It certainly sounds like a good idea to be as lazy as you have been in the past year. But, life would certainly be more fun if you choose to vaccinate yourself against the laziness syndrome and try your hand at a few more things.

Read up books that you have wanting to in your free time, but never grabbed the chance. Ditch your phobias and give your adventurous streak the wing to explore.

To cut it short, try your hands at all the things that you have not tried so far (the good ones of course).

There is no harm in being a little experi-

mental (as long as you are sticking to within the boundaries of 'mom's do's and don'ts'). You never know you might just surprise yourself with some talent in you that you did not know before. Besides, you get a break from the regular monotony too.

As they say – variety is the spice of life. Go ahead, explore the unexplored this new year and give your life a dash of tadka. Meanwhile, savor the 'GT tadka' with the 'it's new' section as you flip through the pages. [GT](#)

Published and Printed by Mr R.R. Aiyar on behalf of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan from E-27, Defence Colony, New Delhi 110024 and printed from HT Media Ltd, B-2, Sec 63, Noida (UP). Editor Ms Vira Sharma.

■ Edition: Vol 3, Issue 1 ■ RNI No. DELENG / 2009 / 30258

Price both for free distribution and annual subscription of Rs. 240.

Opinions expressed in GT articles are of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors or publishers. While the editors do their utmost to verify information published, they do not accept responsibility for its absolute accuracy.

Excellence in passion



Army is a lot more than just a wing of the Defence forces. With Army Day being held on January 15, 2010, The Global Times unravels the spirit of the army in a conversation with Brigadier Bipin Bakshi.

Shivangi Mittal, AIS Gur 43

What inspired you to join the army?

I wanted to serve the nation and pursue a life of adventure. Also, both my father and my grandfather have served in the Defence Forces. Hence, Army was my obvious interest and choice.

Today most young people from cities do not want to join the army. Comment.

Life in Army is tough, but very satisfying. Most young people look for easier options, but, they don't realize the satisfaction that one gets in guarding the borders of one's own country. Youngsters should be made to visit army areas. A little awareness about the army will surely motivate them.

Do you think that the work done by the army is not recognized by the common people?

No. I think we have our rightful place. The media helps create awareness about what the army is doing. For in-

stance, during the Commonwealth Games, the army was present during the unfurling of the flag and provided security for the Queen's Baton Relay at many places across the country. Our role in assisting the nation during various calamities also draws attention towards us. Besides this, the army is brilliantly highlighted during the Republic Day Parade every year. Our role in maintaining internal security is well known too. So, we do get the due attention from time to time and our work gets acknowledged.



Brigadier Bipin Bakshi, is a recipient of the prestigious Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM) for his service in the Kargil Sector. He has served in Kashmir & China border and is now a part of the Department of Counter Terrorism Intelligence. He was also accredited with a Gold Medal and Sword of Honour for being 1st in the order of merit at the IMA Passing Out Parade in June 1982.

What do you think about women in the army?

We were facing a shortage of officers and one of the measures we have taken to overcome this is enrolling lady officers. They're doing a fine job and are a motivated lot. They are working very well and shouldering responsibilities along with their male counterparts.

What changes and improvements do you foresee in the army's future?

Our Army needs further improvements to be able to

face complex challenges of future conflicts as well as those we are facing now. We will have to fight across various levels of conflict, which range from conventional to sub conventional. We are also planning to enhance our capacity to project our forces in the subcontinent, in keeping with India's rise as a regional superpower.

Would you like to give us a message for the youth?

I'd like them to know that a career in the army is an excellent way of life. Maybe they'll earn more in corporate jobs, but most of the people who get rich while working in big companies don't find the time to spend their money. We don't have that much of money, but we know how to spend it judiciously. Also, a day spent in a corporate office is very different from army life. You can't really have a healthy life encaged in A/C cabins. A healthy mind rests in a healthy body. This is a challenging job, but it certainly is one of the best. [GT](#)

Who cares!



Saksham Singh, AIS Gur 46

Have you ever had an experience which changed the perception of your life? Have you ever felt the need to do something and prove to the world that, you are not some unnoticeable dot on a paper? Well I am sure everyone has had such an experience sometimes or the other in their life. But I am also pretty sure that, that most of us would have forgotten that realisation and moved on to the same path on which our lives headed.

Recently, I had an experience like this when I saw an orphan boy nearly my age who had three sisters. He had got one of them married and with that, he had a loan of 1 lakh on his weak shoulders and still had two more sisters to marry. His job paid him a meagre Rs.1500 a month.

Now that very morning I had literally begged my parents to buy me a cycle which cost Rs.16000, which I thought was a pretty reasonable demand. I thought the price was justified as it was the latest, the best and the coolest cycle around, I would ride it every day and I would even be the cynosure of all eyes in my class. But hearing the boy's story, I realised how amazingly idiotic I sounded, reasoning for an amount of money which the boy could only earn in around a year and half! We are kids who get phones worth Rs.7000, watches worth Rs.6000 and what not, and we try justifying them and still have never ending demands. Of course, we think we deserve some remuneration for the hard work we put into our studies, in the comfort of air conditioners in the summer and under warm blankets in the winter.

As I think of the plight of many unfortunate children of my age in this country and what they have to go through in life, I feel ashamed for what I stand for today. I feel that I should start right now, do something good, make my parents proud, make every dime spent on me by my parents count. But then again.... the comfort of my life kicks in and the same sentence echoes in my mind, "Who cares?" I move on... perhaps one fine day, my soul will stir out of its slumber and one day, I will... [GT](#)

It's the little things...

It's the Little Things....

You might remember, the head of a company survived 9/11 because His son started kindergarten. Another fellow was alive because It was his turn to bring donuts. One woman was late because Her alarm clock didn't go off in time. One was late because of Being stuck on the NJ Turnpike due to an auto accident. One of them Missed his bus. One spilled food on her clothes and had to take Time to change. One's Car wouldn't start. One couldn't Get a taxi. The one that struck me was the man Who put on a new pair of shoes that morning, Took the various means to get to work But before he got there, he developed a blister on his foot.

He stopped at a drugstore to buy a Band-Aid. That is why he is alive today. Now when I am stuck in traffic, miss an elevator, turn back to answer a ringing telephone, and deal with all the little things that annoy me, I think to myself, this is exactly where God wants me to be at this very moment... Next time your morning seems to be going wrong, You can't seem to find the car keys, You hit every traffic light, Don't get mad or frustrated; It may be just that God is at work watching over you. May God continue to bless you With all those annoying little things that bother you everyday And may you remember their possible purpose. [GT](#)

(An internet forward)



Dear GT Team,

Wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year!

The contest issue of The Global Times, issue dated December 16-31 prepared

by our school has come out extremely well. The school students, teachers and parents are all very proud of this issue. I would like to thank everybody in the GT Team who have guided and helped us all along the way, in churning out this newspaper. Your inputs seemed to have done a great job for us! [GT](#)

Edit Team, AIS Gur 46



“This year I will learn music and some household work to help my mother.”
Hilor Newaskar, Class I, AIS Lucknow

THE GLOBAL TIMES | JANUARY 1-15, 2011

Big Story

Customized gift time

7

Designs on you

It's raining gifts! New Year is a great time to shower gifts on friends and family. **Tulika Banerji** brings to you some customized gifts, designed with you in mind...

Say cheese!

If you want your kid or even yourself to look like a model and have a portfolio at less than half the cost of a real one, look no further. Delhi based advertising photographer couple Siddharth and Reena Misra have come up with 'My Book of Cheese', a customized book of pix from their company Tasveer. **The idea:** At a time when “We are surrounded by an ocean of images,” as Siddharth avers, “print pictures are almost on their way out. To prevent the print media from going extinct and bring alive real pictures, 'My Book of Cheese (MBOC)' promises to capture the innocent moments of young kids whose antics and expressions melt everyone's hearts.” **The USP:** Pose, say cheese ... and then what? You get a picture of yourself, which does not look half like you. Why is it that most people consider themselves not-so-photogenic and their picture seems to echo the same? “That's because when they pose for the camera, it's akin to someone pointing a gun at

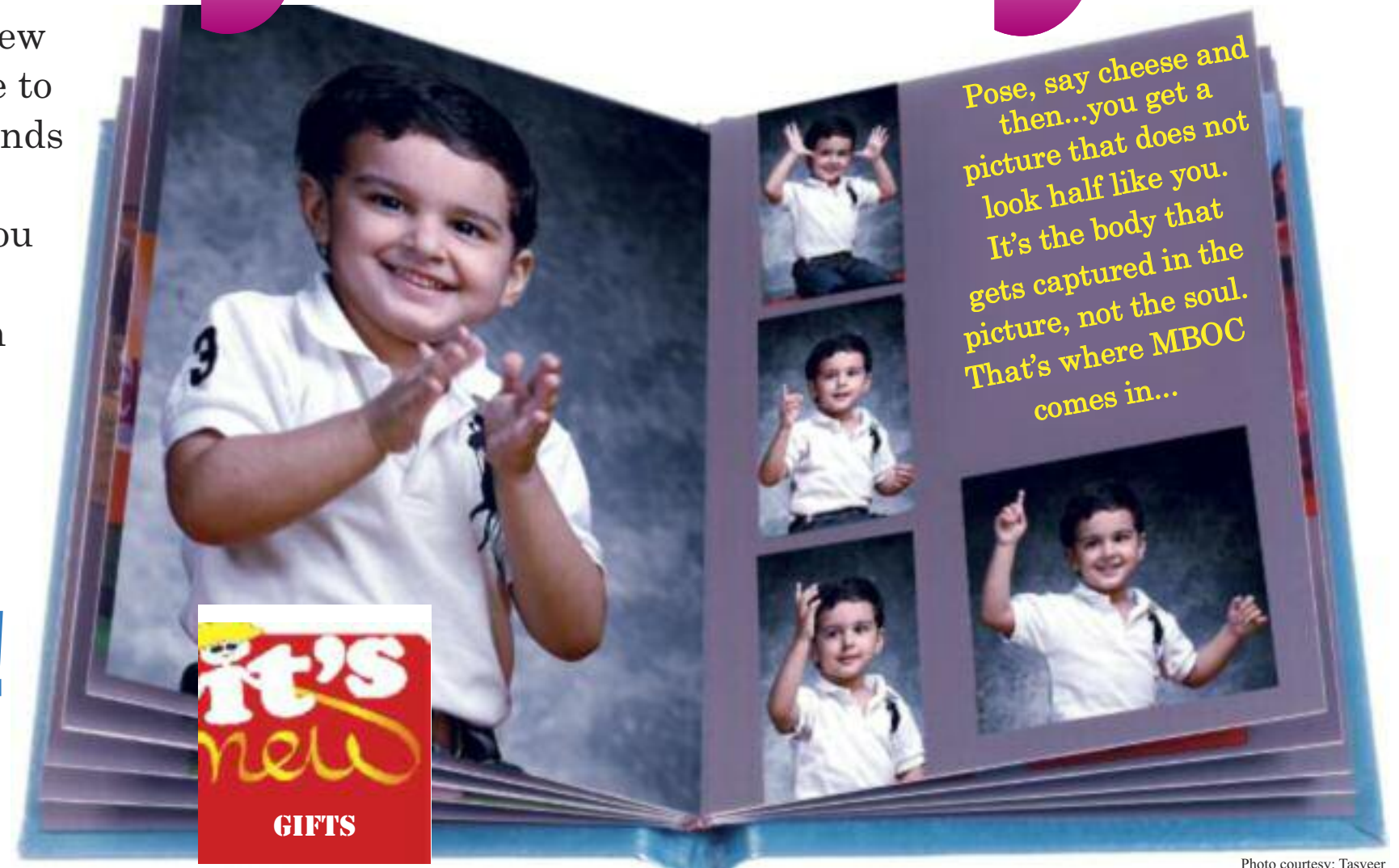



Photo courtesy: Tasveer

them, and their soul moves out of the body. It's just the body that gets captured in the picture... resulting in pictures that are not-so-you,” says Siddharth who has been creating cutting edge photographs for the past 20 years. “We specialize in ‘true to life’ images. One feels it's the camera which takes the picture, but in reality, it's the person who is giving the picture!” **Why MBOC:** As Siddharth points out, “The name ‘My Book of Cheese’ came about because when you keep the book down, you are filled with ecstatic happiness, just the way you feel after a wholesome meal. We focus on 30-35 pictures per book; anything less, it's just like the tastemaker and anything more, it gets stuffy!”

Trade threads: At a cost of Rs 7500 for the standard 12”X18” size and Rs 10,000 for 15”X24” jumbo size, it's not a bad deal considering a regular portfolio costs more than double this amount. A shoot that lasts 4-5 hours at a preferred location of the client (you can alternately get the shoot done at the Tasveer studio), all care is taken to ensure that you are absolutely at ease to deliver the most natural pictures. The images are then photo-shopped and edited by a team of experienced professionals and bound into a hard cover book that reaches you in about a fortnight along with a framed portrait that is absolutely free! MBOC is a great gift for New Year, birthdays, anniversaries and even, farewells! Log on to www.mbo.com to book your copy. 


Gift a part of you

If you really wanna perk up someone's mood this New Year, there is no dearth of options to choose from. Here's bringing you some more handy customized gift ideas... **Calendars:** Why not gift a custom made calendar with your precious pictures or art work splashed across the months? The pictures will surely add much warmth to each month and will be cherished forever. Customized calendars can be excellent return gifts too! Check out www.myntra.com or www.snapfish.in for interesting picks. www.tshirts.in is also offering your name spelt out in a dozen creative ways on a custom made calendar. They have 12 pre-designed templates for each month right from a simple car vanity plate to your name carved on a chocolate cake at an offer price beginning Rs 299!

price beginning Rs 250. **T-shirts:** www.pringoo.com offers exciting Harry Potter designs on Tees, available in small, medium, large and XL sizes. Just take your pick! www.tshirts.in provides COD (cash on delivery) facility which definitely makes it worth a try. You can also get a T-Shirt or a mug with your Caricature Print from the same




Mugs: Imagine sipping your Sunday morning cuppa from a mug that has pictures of your favourite buddies, or you and your pet or maybe, siblings? Whatever be your choice, you can get such a mug made and home delivered to you in no time. Websites like www.myntra.com and www.pringoo.com create customized mugs on order at a reasonable

website. You can get Tees for as less as Rs 349-549 at www.myntra.com as well. **Table mats:** Now this one's really simple. Take some of your random paintings/pictures/other art work; get them laminated in a regular table mat size and hey presto! You have innovative table mats which make the dining experience so much more fun. This gift will surely bring good cheer in the New Year. 

Star in your own story

You go to the zoo and fall in the tiger's den! And just as the tiger lugs at you, Mommy yells, “Wake up sleepy head, it's time for school!” Alas! It was a dream! How about re-living the thrill of this and many more such exciting adventures? Well, in that case you just have to order a personalized story book with you and your friends as the central characters from www.iandmystory.com! You can even gift the book to all your friends! **‘You’ in your story:** A novel venture of Rajiv Aggarwal, who after spending forty years in Europe, came up with the idea of a book that revolves around the child's personal experiences, elaborates, “Personalized books are a sure shot way of bringing alive the reading habit among kids. Even if a non reader gets a book which has him featuring in it, he'll take pride in showing it around to his friends and might be lured to reading it aloud to his grandparents, thus nurturing the skills of narration. Such a book is likely to be preserved


forever!” These books are targeted at two age groups: below and above 8 years. The illustrations and story line remains the same. For junior level, the content is less and the fonts are larger. **Your book's just a click away:** Getting your own personalized book is as easy as 1,2,3. Log on to www.iandmystory.com, view the catalogue, select the story to be personalized and place your order. You can choose from a collection of eight interesting titles, send in your and your

friends' names, and just wait for a week's time before you can place your hands on a beautifully illustrated, hard cover book custom-made especially for you! At a cost of Rs 390 per order plus Rs 60 shipping charges, it's actually an unbeatable deal. You can also get your photograph inserted on the first page at a little extra cost. With the tag line ‘Personalized books with you in mind’, they're sure to win your heart. **Their USP:** Rajiv shares, “The stories have been written keeping Indian values in mind and are high in educational quotient. For instance, the zoo story has a synopsis at the back of the book which talks about different kinds of wild animals. So the kids get to learn something new each time. All stories are in present tense, and as the child features in them, it is an unforgettable experience.” www.iandmystory.com is coming up with customized wooden jigsaw puzzles made out of your or your family pictures or your first painting. Now that's cool, isn't it? 



And some more...

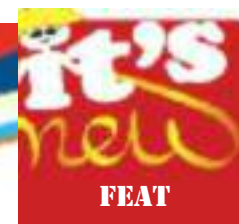
Key chains: www.pringoo.com
Name plates: www.woodencorporategifts.com
Posters: www.snapfish.in
Bags: www.alibaba.com
Playing cards: www.perfectplaying-cards.com

Mouse pads: www.sparket.in, www.picsquare.com
Mobile/ ipod skins: available at any mobile/stationery store in your neighbourhood.
Chocolates: www.mokshachocolates.com 

“I will study hard and obey elders. Also, this year I will participate in all activities and not waste water.”
Aman Prakash, Class IV, AIS Lucknow



AMITY plays sport at CWG 2010



If CWG proved monumental in the history of India, then Amity University played a pivotal role in scripting its success. **Smita Jain** brings you some proud Amitians who kept the Amity flag high during these spectacular games!

“I bagged my first job working at CWG”

While many Amitians were busy winning the hearts of visitors with their hospitality, there were some like **Johny George** and **Satish Kumar** who were handling sensitive portfolios like security at the Commonwealth Games, 2010. They proved their mettle by working day and night just to ensure that the games went on smoothly, without any technical glitches.

“Handling a sensitive portfolio like security was a challenging task for us. We had to apply theoretical knowledge acquired in the classrooms to practical use here. It was a good learning experience for us as we got an opportunity to understand the nuances of the job. Initially, I found it very difficult to work in

different shifts. But, I rose up to the challenge and proved my worth to the top officials there who even offered me a job,” an elated Johny George Thottan, a student of **Amity Institute of Information Technology, AUUP** said. Echoing similar sentiments was his batchmate Satish Kumar, also a student of Amity Institute of Information Technology. “This opportunity helped me to be a part of this historical event and I am glad that I was able to make a difference through my contribution,” Satish said. He added, “I used to be scared about taking up security as a career. This opportunity has changed my perception and prepared me for a career in corporate houses and the stipend given by the company proved to be an icing on the cake.”



Johny George and Satish Kumar of Amity Institute of Information Technology

Volunteer pride

Meet our young Amitians who stepped on the Commonwealth Games Volunteer bandwagon to serve their motherland...

Hasleen Kaur, AITT, AUUP

“The very thought of being part of this extravaganza was thrilling but it was the feeling of patriotism that made me take up this prestigious assignment. The routine at Guest Pass centre was tiring but it was fun. Moreover, the opportunity to brush shoulders with tennis sensation Sania Mirza was amazing.”



Priyanshu Jora, ASCO, AUUP

“Earlier I was disheartened with the thought of not being posted at the CWG venue. But I was elated to discover that I would be assisting a delegation from UK. It was an overwhelming experience to operate from ‘The Oberois’ and it was nothing less than being at one of the CWG venues.”

Vidur does India proud!

Vidur Agarwal, the National Swimming

Champion from Amity Institute of Biotechnology, AUUP who featured earlier in the I-Zone column of The Global Times school edition, has done it again! Amity’s shining star competed with eight other nations for gold at CWG 2010. “Getting an opportunity to represent India at this magnum event was a feat in itself and qualifying for the finals in the 1500 meters freestyle category was



like a cherry on the cake,” an excited, Vidur said, adding, “It took me just 16 mins, 20 seconds to clear quarter finals.” Drawing inspiration from Michael Phelps, Vidur says, “You don’t need external motivation to set new records at international championships. It is the ardent desire to win laurels for the country that keeps you charged. I express my gratitude to Director - AIB, Mr Shrivastav and Mr Uday Pratap for extending support and nurturing my talent.”

Amity Teachers lead the way at CWG

It was not only students, who with their sheer dedication, left the guests awestruck. Even teachers from Amity, left no stone unturned to ensure that the visitors took back fond memories. Whether it was handling press operations or training over 30,000 volunteers, they stood out.

Faisal Haq, Official CWG Trainer

For Mass Communication students at ASCO, AUUP, he is Professor Faisal Haq, the most proficient and friendly teacher around. But for the 30,000 CWG volunteers, he was not only their official trainer but an actor too. Starring in a movie, which taught them all aspects of volunteering, Mr Haq performed his duty diligently. Mr Haq has added a lot to his memory bank during the games. He recalls, “I was embraced by Founder President Amity Universe Dr Ashok Chauhan during one of my training sessions.”

“I was involved in training the 30,000 volunteers to ensure that the games are a huge success. Apart from general and soft skill training, I taught them how to

deal with athletes and also independently handle hospitality, transportation and other important departments,” Haq said. He added, “Representing Amity University at the international event has instilled in me a great sense of pride, even though, it meant shouldering additional responsibilities.. I feel indebted to Amity for providing me this opportunity to serve the nation.”

Amit Chawla, Assistant Manager - Press Operations

Handling international media is not an easy job. But Amit Chawla, Professor, ASCO, AUUP, rose up to the challenge. “Thrill, excitement, ecstasy, patriotism and a sense of pride was what I felt at this international sports event. I got the opportunity of being the face of the nation at an international event of this magnitude which I had never thought would be a part of my life,” reminisced Chawla fondly.

He also got the golden chance to interact with national and international sportspersons, team managers, coaches and high profile people like Prince Charles, Her Highness Camilla Parker

Dancing glory!

Have feet, will dance! That’s the mantra of some talented Amitians who left the audience enthralled with their performances at Commonwealth Games 2010.

Avantika Tahim, Amity Institute of Biotechnology, AUUP

“Through our presentation we showcased how music and dance have the power to unite people from diverse cultures and languages. The rehearsals left us completely exhausted but the hard work and efforts we put in, was worth it as I got an opportunity to perform with Shamak’s troupe and exhibit my talent in front of so many people.”



Mehak Walia, ASCO, AUUP

“I consider myself lucky that I got an opportunity to perform with my guru Shiamak Davar and 1000 other dancers. We performed on a melody of 16 songs which was a combination of both Hindi and English numbers. I am highly grateful to my teachers Faisal Haq, Raksha Raj and Col. R K Dargan, Director ASCO, for extending me full support to enable me showcase my talent during the games. Dancing to the tune of national pride sure has its own high!”



Amit Chawla (R) with Her Highness

Bowles, Prince Edward, P Chidambaram, and honorable Chief Minister of Delhi, Sheila Dikshit.

“It was also nice to meet eminent musicians like Pentagram, Half Step down,

Daler Mehandi, Euphoria, Indian Ocean, Sivamani, Hariharan, Mohit Chauhan to name a few.” he adds.

With inputs from Gunjan Sharma



“I will try to become more responsible and will work harder this year”
Shivansh Singh, Class VI, AIS Lucknow

The fairies in Sad Land



Avni Mittal, IV H, AIS Gur-46

Once upon a time, the three daughters of the Queen fairy of heaven came on a visit to the planet Sad Land. Not knowing the fears and sadness of Sad Land, they entered the planet. All the three fairies were very beautiful with a magical smile. They had divine powers. The first fairy could make any person in trouble happy. The second fairy could calm down a crying person. The third fairy could erase all the emotions except happiness. Amidst the three fairies, the third fairy was very proud. One day, they saw a man who was crying. His son had died in an accident. When the fairies saw him, they thought of helping him. They then remembered that the queen fairy had told them to use their powers only in dire need. But, the third fairy was very proud and she used her powers on the man immediately. Suddenly, the man lost all his emotions and started laughing. All his friends and relatives tried to stop him but he wouldn't listen. As a result, people started talking ill of the man. Now, the third fairy felt guilty and ran to the fairy land and asked the queen to help. The queen told her that all the emotions are important and she should learn a lesson from her mistake. Then the queen used her powers and the man became normal. The three fairies pledged not to use their powers unnecessarily without being aware of the consequences.

National flag of Niger



National flag of Cote D'Ivoire



Flags like our Tricolour

Yati Rai, IV B, Vanshika Boobna & Divyam, IV E
AIS Pushp Vihar

Every free nation of the world has its own flag. A flag is a symbol of a free country. The national flag of India was designed by Pingali Venkaya and adopted in its present form during the meeting of Constituent Assembly on July 22, 1947. In India, the term tricolour refers to the Indian national flag which is a horizontal tricolour of deep saffron at the top, white in the middle and dark green at the bottom in equal proportion. In the centre of the white band, is a navy blue wheel (chakra) taken from Ashoka's pillar at Sarnath, and has 24 spokes. The saffron colour stands for strength and courage, white indicates peace and truth and the green

stands for fertility. Did you know that the Indian flag is not the only one to have tricolours? Let's find out...
Niger: The upper orange band represents the northern region of Sahara desert, the centre white band stands for purity and hope while the lower green band represents the fertile lands of Southern region. The orange circle in the middle represents the sun.
Cote D'Ivoire: The orange colour stands for the land, the savannah and its fertility; the white represents peace and green represents hope and also the forests in the southern part of the country.
Republic of Ireland: The green represents the Irish nationalist tradition of Ireland and orange represents the 'Orange tradition' with white representing peace between them.

My dream school

Aditi Banerji, II A/W A
AIS Noida



Though I love my school Amity; what if I could design a new school? My dream school will be 'The Strawberry School.' It will be a strawberry shaped school with strawberry shaped classrooms. My new school will have a big, red, heart



shaped gate. Mango shaped lifts will take us to our classrooms. In my class, there will be bright pink curtains and strawberry shaped chairs and tables. We will also get fairy dresses to wear to school. My class will have teddy bear shaped blackboards and lots of coloured chalks in red, orange, yellow and pink. We will have magic pencils to do our assignments and get no homework! What fun!

POEMS



What's life?

Maitri Surana, I A, AIS V-1

This life, which seems so fair,
Is like a bubble blown up in the air.
Life is a challenge, just to accept
Life is a happiness, just to enjoy
Life is a mirror, just to watch
Life is a mystery, just to struggle.
Ultimately 'Life' is not eternal...
And my life is dedicated to my parents.

The falling star

Pavani Sahrawat, III B, AIS, PV

I saw a falling star slide
down the sky,
Blinding the north as I went by,
Too fast and too quick to hold,
Too lovely to be bought or sold,
Good only to make wishes on,
And forever to be gone.

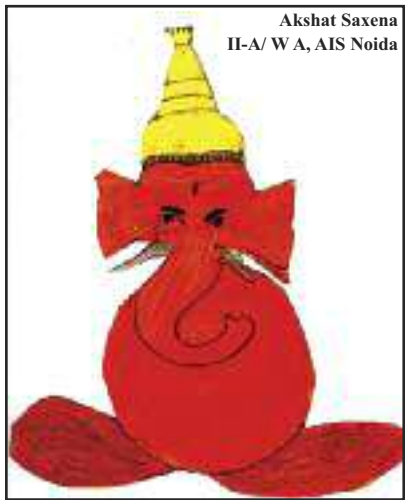
Painting by Ishita Gupta, II B, AIS PV



Riddle Fiddle

Devyani Goel, V B, AIS, Saket

What is always behind time?
The back of a clock!
What starts with an 'e', ends with an 'e' & usually contains only one letter?
Envelope
Why shouldn't you tell a joke while you're ice skating?
Because the ice might crack up!
Forward I am heavy, backward I am not. What am I?
Ton
There was a man standing on a 50 foot ladder. He jumped off & walked away without even a scratch! How is it possible?
He jumped off the bottom rung.
What did the traffic light say to the lorry?
“Don't look now, I'm changing.”



Akshat Saxena
II-A/ W A, AIS Noida

"I will participate more in extracurricular activities and will be friendly to everyone around."

Amay Raj, Class VI, AIS Lucknow



Grand Convocation Ceremony



Shivani Swaroop (BJMC), ASCO, AUUP

Over 10,000 Undergraduate and Postgraduate students of Amity University received their degrees and diplomas during a grand convocation ceremony organized at Amity University, Uttar Pradesh campus.

The sixth convocation ceremony which was spread over three days beginning December 16, 2010, embarked with the traditional Amity band leading an impressive procession comprising the Board of Trustees, Members of the Management, Office Bearers of the University and Faculty Heads. Even the graduants in their smart black gowns and red scarves representing 49 different programs presented a picture perfect frame.

The ceremony began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by Founder President, Amity - Dr Ashok K Chauhan; Chancellor, Amity University Uttar Pradesh, Mr Atul Chauhan, Vice Chancellor - Mr KJ Singh; Pro Vice Chancellor - Balvinder Shukla and Chancellor, Amity University Rajasthan - Mr Aseem Chauhan. Mr KJ Singh, in his inaugural address, highlighted the key achievements of the University in the year 2009-10. He also shed light on the cutting edge tech-

nologies launched and various research work undertaken by scholars and researchers at the University.

Speaking on the occasion, Founder President Dr Ashok K Chauhan said, "More than 95 per cent of the men on earth lack vision and mission and they perish without leaving a mark. Amitians are fortunate as they know about their mission and vision in life succinctly."

He said that Amity University is one of the best universities in the world because of its dexterous students, luminaries, virtues and strong belief in human values. The values imbibed by the students at the university will help them face challenges posed by life.

Dr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman,

Planning Commission, graced the ceremony on the second day where he was conferred honorary Doctorate Degree of Philosophy (D. Phil).

Dr Ahluwalia, in his address to the students, said, "The economic prospects of India look very bright at present. However, the challenge lies in sustaining it. To realize India's true potential, it is essential to make higher education more accessible. In Indian universities, about 11 per cent of each cohort registers for higher education which is similar to figures quoted by China ten years ago. China has managed to expand from 10% to 20% in the last ten years and India is likely to take ten more years to reach that mark." He also emphasized the need to set up more universities through public-private partnership. The last day saw Justice Markandey Katju-

Supreme Court Judge, encouraging the students to work hard to make India a super power in the field of Science and Technology.

"There was a time when India was leading the whole world in Science and Technology. We invented the concept of "Zero" and "Plastic Surgery" two thousand years ago. We were far ahead in mathematics, medicine, astronomy and engineering. Now, the West is far ahead of us. How did this happen, when we were far ahead of them at one time?" Justice Katju questioned emphatically and asked the students to find answers to 'Needham's Grand Question.'

He called upon the students to ensure that science and technology spreads to every nook and corner of the country so that all Indians develop a rational and scientific outlook and earn respect from the international community. He also lauded the efforts of Dr Chauhan and said that Amity University is doing pioneering work in the field of education by providing higher education to a large number of students. A large number of awards and medals were given away to the meritorious graduants for bringing laurels to the university through their hard work and for contributing to the cause of development of their respective institutions. 🇮🇳

Go adventurous this winter!

Richa Maheeswari
(MJMC), ASCO, AUUP

Winters are the best time of the year. What makes them exciting are festivals and vacations! An adventure filled holiday is like an icing on the cake. Winters are one of the best times to rush your adrenaline and do something you have always dreamt of. So pack your bags and head towards snow capped Himalayas and enjoy a host of adventure sports. Here are some adventure activities that can add thrill to your chilly winters:

Go Skiing

Vast snow-covered peaks glistening in the winter sun gives the most breath-taking view that adds to your adventure adrenaline. Skiing blends the fun in snow and adventurous spirit together. Skiing usually starts by the end of December and lasts till March. Some of the famous ski destinations include Gulmarg, Manali, Kufri, Narkanda, Auli, Rohtang, Munsiyari and Dayara Bugyal. In particular, Auli located at the height of 9,500-10,500 feet in Uttarakhand with its snowy slope and pine trees, makes it an exciting des-

tination for both skiers as well as nature lovers. Additionally, Heli skiing in Manali and Gulmarg provide enormous varieties of ski runs and routes.

In the Air

Paragliding can prove to be one of the most enthralling adventure experiences. It is one of the best ways to conquer your fear of heights. At the same time, it is a beautiful experience to just fly like a bird and feel the cool



breeze sweeping your face. Billing (8,500 feet) in Kangra valley in Himachal Pradesh is one of the best destinations for paragliding in India. Solang and Kullu valley near Manali gives a perfect bird's eye view of the exquisite and surreal landscape. Bedni Bugyal in Uttarakhand and Kunjapuri on the peaks

of Himalayan Shivalik range offers exquisite view.

Trekking

The blossoming forests, wildlife sanctuaries, exotic flora and fauna, and majestic waterfalls beckon the trekkers to North India. Himalayan mountains are

the paradise for trekkers. There are various trekking routes which are recommended for their sheer beauty and adventure. These include Hanging Valley of Gods in the Garhwal Himalayas, Binsar Trek, Chopta Tungnath Trek, and many more. These treks are graded as per their levels of difficulty. For example, a grade I level means a soft trek that can be visited any time of the year and so on.

So Get Going

It's time to try something different than confining yourself to sight seeing. It's time to look for new avenues to get more out of your vacation than the usual. So gear up for an adventurous holiday – one that will last lifetime! Happy Winters! 🇮🇳

AIIT faculty at Intl Conference



Himanshu Gupta, a Faculty Member at Amity Institute of Information Technology, presented his research paper on "Multiphase Encryption" at an International Conference on Intelligent Networking and Computing at Kuala Lumpur during November 26-28. The research paper titled "Multiphase Encryption: A new concept in Modern Cryptography" would be included in reputed IEEE Xplore as well as indexed by Ei Compendex and Thompson ISI (ISTP). The paper was also short listed and selected for presentations on research papers submitted by eminent professors and scientists hailing from 20 different countries which were reviewed by international experts. As a part of its endeavour to encourage research and innovation, Amity University sponsored and supported the international visit. 🇮🇳



“My New Year resolution is to play more sports particularly football. I want to go more frequently to the amusement park and never be a bad boy.”

Shubhankar Darbari, Class V, AIS Lucknow



Maths wizkids sweep Ramanujan



From 21st to 23rd December 2010, AIS Noida hosted 10th Ramanujan Inter-School Math Competition under the aegis of Amity Centre for Excellence in Math (ACEM). The National level competition saw the participation of 26 prominent schools with over 550 contestants. Ramanujan endeavours to increase appreciation for the subject by providing immense opportunities for students. Here is a day-to-day follow up of the event.

Day 1: A stimulating Math Fun Activity had Classes IV-VIII solving a booklet of puzzles. Classes IX-XII were involved in a mind-boggling Math Quiz. The first round of Math Quiz had 25 questions to

be solved in one hour, with 46 teams from 17 schools battling it out. In the Math Project Competition, 23 teams presented innovative PowerPoint presentations on diverse topics including Trigonometry, Algebra, etc. Prominent

Ramanujan Inter-School Math Competition 2010

mathematicians Mr Pankanj Soni, Mr Krinendu Ghosh, Mr Atul Kumar and Mr HC Lohumi judged the event.

Day 2: Classes IV to VIII attempted hard-hitting problem solving sums. 23 teams from Classes IX-X participated in Speed Round which had 15 multiple

OVERALL RESULTS

Team Event (IV & V)
AIS Mayur Vihar-Gold
Khaitan Public School Noida-Silver
AIS Gur-46-Bronze

Team Event (VI, VII and VIII)
AIS Noida - Gold
AIS Saket - Silver
Sardar Patel Vidhyalaya – Bronze

Speed & Challenger Round (IX-X)
Mother’s International, Modern School Barakhamba, DPS Faridabad-Gold
Manav Sthali New Delhi, AIS Gurgaon

46, MB International School Kota Rajasthan-Silver
AIS Noida, AIS Saket, Ryan International School-Bronze

Problem Solving (XI - XII)
AIS Gurgaon 43, DPS Sec 19 Faridabad, Khaitan Public School-Gold
Tagore International School Delhi, Mother’s International School, Sardar Patel Vidyalaya-Silver
AIS Noida, AIS Saket, AIS Gur 46 Gurgaon—Bronze.

choice questions to be solved in 45 minutes and Challenge Round with higher order questions (55 minutes to solve 11 questions). Classes XI and XII indulged in Problem Solving for 3 hours which allowed the use of external resources as

books, internet, calculators, etc.

Day 3: The final day commenced with Math Fun Activity for IV & V where 6 teams participated in creative activities like Mathematical Poster Making, composing pictorial patterns, etc. The outdoor activity, ‘Ami Trail’ for VI-VII was

a super hit. The Second round of the Math Quiz for classes IX-XII had challenging, questions which captured the students’ attention. The Math Project (Round II) had ten teams from Classes XI - XII with presentations on topics as Square Wheel Cycle, Recreational Maths, Mathematical Fallacies and Paradoxes, Space Mathematics, etc.

The Valedictory function on December 22, 2010 coincided with the birthday of famous mathematician, Srinivasa Ramanujan. Chief Guest Dr. S.C. Arora, former Professor of Math, University of Delhi and Guest of Honour, Mr. Satish Verma, HOD, Dept of Mathematics, Khalsa College graced event.

AIS Gur-43

Pool cool

In the North Zone II CBSE Swimming Championship held at Jalandhar from 27th to 29th September 2010, Anwesha Maitra of AIS Gur 43 won 1 Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze Medal and also qualified for the National Level.

Quizzing wizards

Senior school students Shefali and Jasnoor participated in the Inter School Cooperative Quiz Contest organised by the National Cooperative Union of India and won the first prize, the winner’s trophy and a cash award of Rs 3,000/- sponsored by Afro Asian Business Chronicle. They also won a 50% discount for a detailed career counseling program by Educomp & Career First for Senior School which includes seminars/workshops/tests/parent counselling. The event was organized in Siri Fort Auditorium, Delhi and had 11 participating schools.

Debating Gurus

AIS Gur 43 participated in a debate competition organised by Power Grid Corporation as part of the ‘Vigilance Week’, in the school. The topic was - “When Vigilance Ceases, Corruption Prevails.” The school won the first prize in this inter-school competition bagging a voucher worth Rs. 4500/- for Landmark bookstore. The participants were Saksham Agarwal, IX (for the motion), Prankur Arora, X (against the motion) and Shivangi Mittal, X was the Interjector.

Creating Ripples



Kavya Sharma, IX H, AIS Noida is a national level swimmer, winning many laurels in the short span of her two-year innings as a swimmer. Having started regular practice from class VII, she has amassed numerous medals thus far. Balancing academics with a rigorous sports regimen is no mean feat. “I practice between 3-5pm and sometimes in the morning too in the 5-7am slot. I leave for practice as soon as I come back from school and immediately after, plunge into my studies, sometimes burning the midnight oil too! It does get a bit pressurizing at times, but since swimming is my passion, I enjoy striking a balance,” says Kavya of her balancing act. A firm believer in consistent practice, she shares, “I don’t practice too much on the day before a competition because I don’t want to strain myself. It is regular every day practice which helps me sail through.” Training under her mom who

Winning Strokes

CBSE National Swimming Championship, Jaipur (U 16- 19)
200 mt Butterfly - 5th
400 mt Individual Medley - 4th

CBSE East Zone Swimming Meet, Sahibabad (Under 16-19)
200 mt Butterfly - 1st
400 mt Individual Medley - 2nd
400 mt Freestyle - 2nd
200 mt Backstroke - 3rd

UP Junior Aquatic Championship, Lucknow
400 mt Individual Medley - 1st
100 mt Butterfly - 2nd
400 mt Freestyle - 2nd

7th Noida Open Swimming Championship
200 mt I.M. - 2nd
100 mt Backstroke - 2nd
100 mt Butterfly - 2nd
200 mt Freestyle - 3rd
100 mt Backstroke - 3rd

District Gautam Budh Nagar Swimming Championship
200 mt I.M. - 3rd
100 mt Butterfly - 3rd
100 mt Breast Stroke - 3rd
50 mt Breast Stroke - 3rd

is a former national level gymnast, Kavya’s favourites are “Butterfly stroke and long distance swimming.” Her multifaceted persona reflects in the diverse fields she dabbles in. Be it Cyber, Science or Maths Olympiads, dance competitions, debates, drawing or story telling sessions, Kavya has drawn aces in all, even winning the 100% attendance award in school. And, her idol? “Michael Phelps! When I grow up, I also want to break records just the way he does!”

Mamma’s day out



Mamma’s day was a day full of fun and surprises. Mammams were welcomed with children applying ‘Tilak’ and showering rose petals. Teachers, children and mammams joined in for prayer followed by many interesting activities. Mothers came fully prepared with special Story Sessions, for which Ridhima’s mama especially bought a large print picture book and Nivera’s mama narrated ‘Little Red Riding Hood’ in the old Grandma style, complete with actions, voice modulation and expressions. The children listened attentively and applauded enthusiastically. Taksheel’s and Raghav’s moms gave an animated rendition of the song story ‘Mere Paas aao mere doston’; while Taksheel’s mama played Lion the Hunter, Taksheel played monkey, Raghav played Hanuman and Raghav’s mama gave the voice over. Props and simple costumes were used to

enact the song drama and animal faces were painted on the children’s faces who later joined in with their mamas. Up next was poster making competition that witnessed the display of intricate creativity with mothers and kids working together. Rakshit’s mama came up with a beautiful SHERA of Common Wealth Games with the slogan ‘Save Tiger and save me!’ Ayaan’s grandma made a beautiful picture with the slogan ‘Save the Cow’.

Amiown, Gurgaon

Mothers got a peek into a typical day of their child at school. Most of them became children themselves, moving about their tasks effervescently, asking for stars on their hands for working well and demonstrating childlike innocence, thus becoming one with their inner child. Mrs. Manjusha Sehra (M/O Raghav,

Nursery – F) shared, “It gave me great pleasure in participating with my child on Mamma’s Day celebration. I recalled my childhood days on this occasion. I am thankful to the Amiown family for giving me a chance to participate. Such events give children the right exposure, encouragement and confidence.” Mrs Bhavisha Buddhadeo (M/O Taksheel, Nursery – F) quipped, “From waking babies up in the morning to hushing them to sleep at night, mammams’ lives revolve around their children. Such occasions celebrate the special bond they share. We heartily thank Amiown for bringing this opportunity for mothers to be with their kids and share some memorable moments.” Mamma’s Day reiterated the Amiown philosophy that when parents and teachers work together, there is a positive impact on the child’s development and learning.

“I will finish my work on time and see to it that nobody litters around the school.”

Poorva Singh, Class V, AIS Lucknow



Be a better you everyday

...says TV heartthrob Karan Singh Grover. Join Abhinav Bansal, IX B, AIS PV in a casual chit-chat with the hunk

How do you feel being the new heartthrob?

Wow! It really sounds like an achievement. I feel very grateful and honored that people of my country are appreciating my work.

Who is your role model?

My role model is my father because he has always done what he has believed in. He has always been my partner, guide and a very good friend.

Did you ever think of becoming such a popular actor

when you were a child?

Not really! I come from a hotel background. It is true that everyone dreams of becoming famous one day and so did I. However, I did not expect that I would become such a popular model and actor.

Do you think that your success was destined?

I don't really believe in destiny. I only believe in the choices and decisions you take in life. I don't like the fact that my life should be decided by anybody else.

According to you, what is the key to success in the glamour world?

Well, the most important thing is that one should be humble, honest and most important true to one's work.

What is the one thing that you like about yourself?

The best thing that I like about myself is that I follow



my heart and would always continue to do so.

Where do you see yourself in the next five years from now?

Well, hopefully in the top of the game and not only doing television but also movies. 🇮🇳

KNOW ME BETTER: Favourite food-Tandoori chicken | Favourite spot-Venice, Italy | Favourite sport-Basketball | Favourite movie-Matrix | Favourite actor-Johnny Depp | Motto-Just being a better me everyday

Groove it..2 Masala Bhangra!

Pratiti Diddi, GT Network



Like grooving to Punjabi music – a la Bhangra style? If yes, then you have a reason to rejoice. Bhangra sheds its conventional image of a typical Indian folk dance and dons a new avatar by the name of Masala Bhangra. Already amidst the top five fitness workouts in the US, this new fitness regime is finding many takers abroad. A certification from American Fitness Boards, including the Aerobics and Fitness Association of America serves as the icing on the cake. If the word ‘Masala Bhangra’ sounds alien, then here are the basics. It is a con-

cept conceived and designed by Sarina Jain, an American of Indian origin, comprising an hour-long cardio workout incorporating turns, sliding steps, jumps, squats and several wrist and hand movements set against upbeat modern Bhangra music. Age and fitness level is no bar for this unique and new form of dance aerobics. Join the gang and you would be indulging in a rigorous cardiovascular workout with pacy dance moves. Fa-



mously called as the Indian Jane Fonda, Sarina Jain says, “My mission is to inspire kids to stay physically and mentally active on a daily basis, grow healthy and teach them a little bit of my culture at the same time.”

With a workout regimen like this one, exercising seems like a fun party. While fitness dancing in the US has begun moving to a desi beat, the fever of Masala Bhangra is yet to catch on in India. Here is a take on what students

have to say if Masala Bhangra is introduced in India as well.

“When I hear about this unique dance form and how popular it is in US, I immediately felt like leaving my usual salsa classes and join a masala Bhangra class nearby. Grooving on Desi beats is far better than on western numbers!”

Tarana Faroqi (X C) AISMV

“It seems to be a very exciting way to keep fit. I’m surprised we didn’t think of it here first. But I can’t wait for it to start somewhere nearby. I’d be the first one to



enroll.”

Chitrangada Singh (AIS XII) Noida

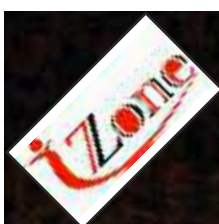
“Salsa..ball..jazzz... are all passe & naacchne me toh masala bhangra me hi asli mazza aata hai”!!!!

Varun Khanna (X D) AISMV

I think it perfectly blends traditional dance and modern hip dance. It surely should be a lot of fun.”

Apeksha (XF) AISMV

Who knew that what began as twitching shoulders to jazzy rhythmic music, will soon become a rage amongst people as an exercise regime. If the rising popularity is a criterion to go by, emergence of the same as a new sport too cannot be ruled out. What say? Are you ready to groove? 🇮🇳



I am blessed with art on my body

What happens when you meet someone who has more facets than you could ever explore? Amusement and bewilderment!

Bhawna Tuteja, GT Network



Sakshi: “You have the power to transform yourself!”

Rebellious or responsible? Insane or mature? Restless or calm? That’s the dilemma Sakshi puts me into as I speak to her about her life, interests and more. A first year student of **Amity School Of Interior Design**, Sakshi comes across as a multi faceted personality resplendent with all the vibrant hues.

A glance at her and you are sure to spot something unusual about her. For some the atypical quotient could lie in her funky hairdo that she scissored on her own. “My aunt and uncle run their own salon. And I was always fascinated by the way they cut your hair. One fine day I took a section of my hair and chopped it off with my dad’s razor. My mom was flabbergasted but dad was pretty cool.” The tattoo on her shoulder is another distinction of her individualistic persona. A Tibetan chant, the tattoo reads ‘Om Mani Padmeh’. And she wears this chant on her sleeves quite literally. “This chant essentially means you can transform yourself and I quite believe in that,” says



Sakshi. Talk about talent and the girl has it all. Photography, playing guitar, singing, sketching...and the list goes on. No wonder, she bagged the Ms Freshers title at college. And mind you all of these talents come instinctively and not by some methodological training.

“It was 1st January and it was raining heavily. I went upstairs and started clicking pictures. And since then, I found my calling in photography. After my boards, I used to sit by the roadside clicking pictures.”

While Sakshi’s multiple talents alone are enough to leave you bewildered, it is her unusual thought philosophy that leaves you awe-struck. Such is her optimism that even her leukoderma leaves her unscathed. She says, “I had these white spots on my body and everyone used to make fun of me. One fine day I looked closely at my white spots and realized that they are beautiful patterns. I feel lucky that I am blessed with art on my body!”

Despite having a streak of crazy insanity, Sakshi realizes her responsibilities pretty well. She did not pursue a professional course in photography because she realized that she could not “while away dad’s hard earned money.” She even took on some part time assignments to finance her interests. So, if you spot someone clicking on the roadside, pause and pose, it could be Sakshi! 🇮🇳