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What's inside



P-3
The art of seeing differently
Step into the creative realm of visionary Partho Sengupta.



P-10
YOUTH POWER 2026-27

What will be your legacy?
Apply for Youth Power and make your impact visible.



P-11
Summer workshop
See how holidays were turned into real-world experience!

THE GT POLL

To beat the heat, FIFA has made hydration breaks mandatory for every World Cup match. Do you support it?

- A) Yes, it's for players' health
- B) No, it disrupts momentum
- C) Can't say

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THE GT POLL RESULT for GT Edition May 18, 2026

Does the attendance of only 813 out of 1,563 students for the NEET retake indicate a loss of faith in the examination process?



Results as on July 4, 2026

Coming Next

World Population Day

D-ficient much?

Sunlight Everywhere But Not A Drop In Our Bones

Ashee Srivastava, AIS MV, Alumna

It's one of India's strangest ironies: a country drenched in sunlight, yet starved of the sunshine vitamin. Sitting between 8°4 and 37°6 north of the equator, India perches on the tropical belt with sunlight almost all year round. On average, we get over 300 sunny days annually - sufficient to keep an entire nation glowing with Vitamin D. And yet, nearly 8 out of 10 Indians face its deficiency. Vampires might be cool, but Vitamin D deficiency isn't. We hide indoors... behind tinted windows, under ACs, in rooms lit by LED lights. Even Twilight's Edward Cullen was more sun-exposed than us. So, why is India, the land of heatwaves and Surya Namaskars, running low on the very vitamin the sun hands out for free? Let's find out...

Clinical findings

Often, the facts are a bitter pill to swallow: Studies show that 76% of Indians don't get enough Vitamin D. Children, teenagers, pregnant women, and the elderly are especially at risk. Ironically, the young are hit the hardest: 84% of those under 25 are deficient, followed closely by 81% in the 25-40 age group. And, if you thought living in a concrete jungle keeps you shielded from the worldly woes, think again! Urban residents show far higher deficiency than rural folks, who still spend hours under the open sun. And this isn't just India's problem. While Latin America and Australia manage decent Vitamin D levels, much of the Middle East and Asia wrestles the same story: plenty of light, little exposure. Vitamin D deficiency fuels more than weak bones. It causes conditions like rickets and osteomalacia, and bleeds into daily routine too - aches, cramps, fatigue, hair loss, mood swings, and constant infections. All signs your body is missing the multitasking vitamin that keeps your bones strong, immunity sharp, inflammation low, and mood steady.

Diagnosis

Picture this: a man in Mayur Vihar's high-rise leaves for work with an umbrella, shielding him not from rain, but sunlight. His wife waves him goodbye while smearing fairness cream, a 5000 crore INR industry built around fear of tanning. Their children drink milk, not for strength, but because of the old belief that it makes skin fair. In Finland, the same milk is

fortified with Vitamin D because the sun is scarce. Here, sun blankets the land, yet we bar it. And when we don't, pollution does it for us. Smog and dust scatter and block the UV rays our skin requires for Vitamin D. In cities like Delhi, winter haze can dim the sun so much it's like living under a permanent filter. Add to it melanin-rich skin that naturally slows Vitamin D production, long indoor hours, tinted windows, and diets low in Vitamin D - and you get a nation bathed in sunlight, yet living in its own grey shadow.

Prescription

The answer to this malady isn't in a chemist's bottle. Supplements can help, but they're not the real deal. It's about being a little less like the man with his umbrella, and a little more like a blooming, sunlight-seeking sunflower. Step out of the cool light of screens and into the warm glow of the sun - just 15-20 minutes a day makes a difference. Tweak the lifestyle: fewer tinted windows, more open air, and a little less stigma around tanning. And when the sun truly isn't an option, there are other natural ways to fill the gap, i.e. nutrition. The average Indian vegetarian diet gives only about 2.4 mcg a day - barely a quarter of what's essential. That's where innovation steps in: UV-treated mushrooms, fortified foods, and yes, when all else fails, supplements.

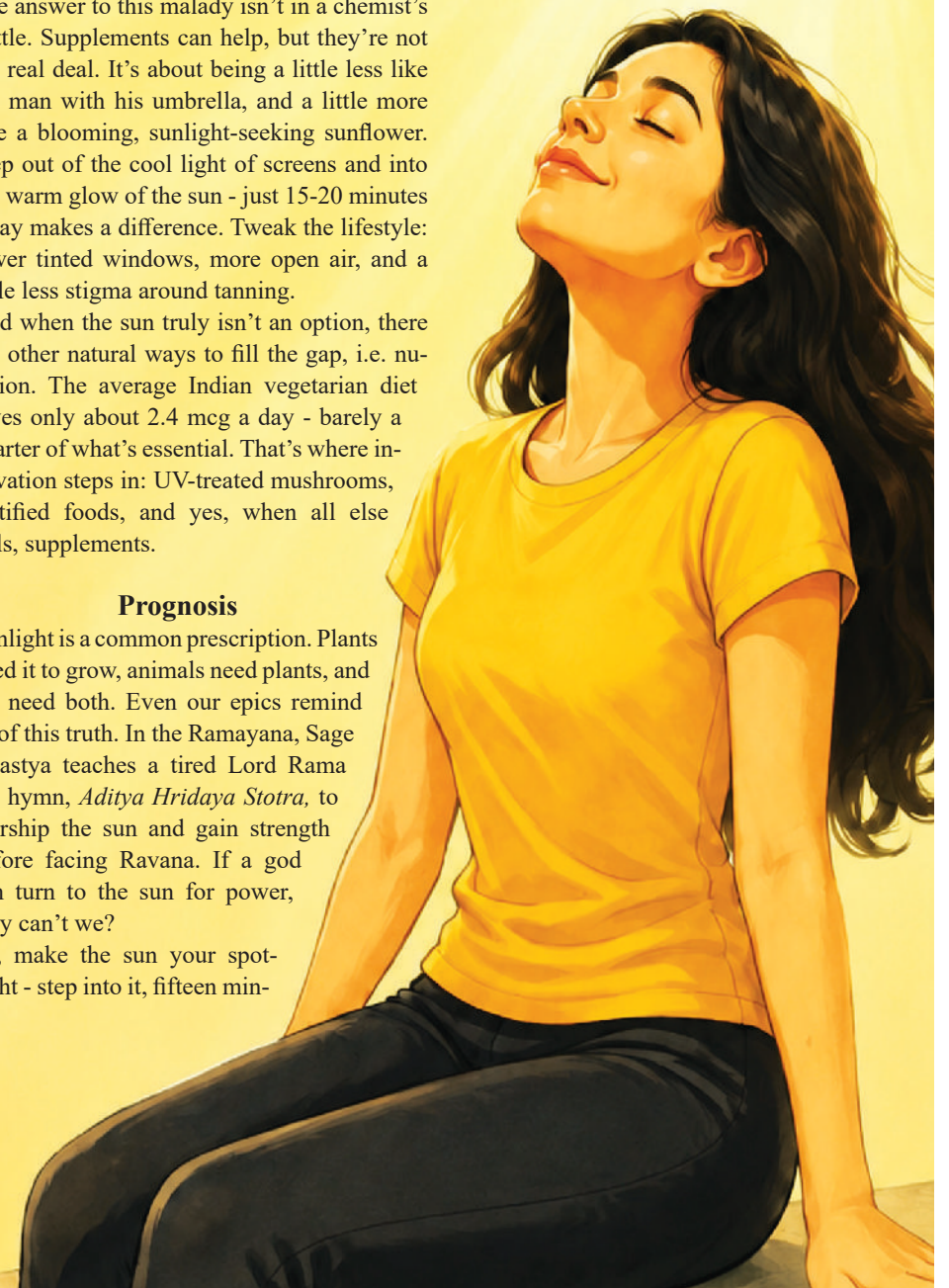
Prognosis

Sunlight is a common prescription. Plants need it to grow, animals need plants, and we need both. Even our epics remind us of this truth. In the Ramayana, Sage Agastya teaches a tired Lord Rama the hymn, *Aditya Hridaya Stotra*, to worship the sun and gain strength before facing Ravana. If a god can turn to the sun for power, why can't we?

So, make the sun your spotlight - step into it, fifteen min-



utes a day. If you need a soundtrack, play The Beatles - *Here comes the sun, doo-doo-doo Here comes the sun. And I say, "It's all right..."* **GT**





— Around The —
WORLD

GT keeps the newswire ticking by bringing you news from around the globe



FRANCE

Intense heat takes toll

More than 1,000 deaths have been reported as Europe faces an intense heatwave, with mercury reaching 40°C in some parts. French health authorities said most deaths involved older people, warning the toll could rise. Scientists described the heatwave as Europe's worst on record, linking it to human-induced climate change. The extreme conditions have disrupted power, damaged infrastructure, and strained healthcare systems.



UK

Mental health crisis

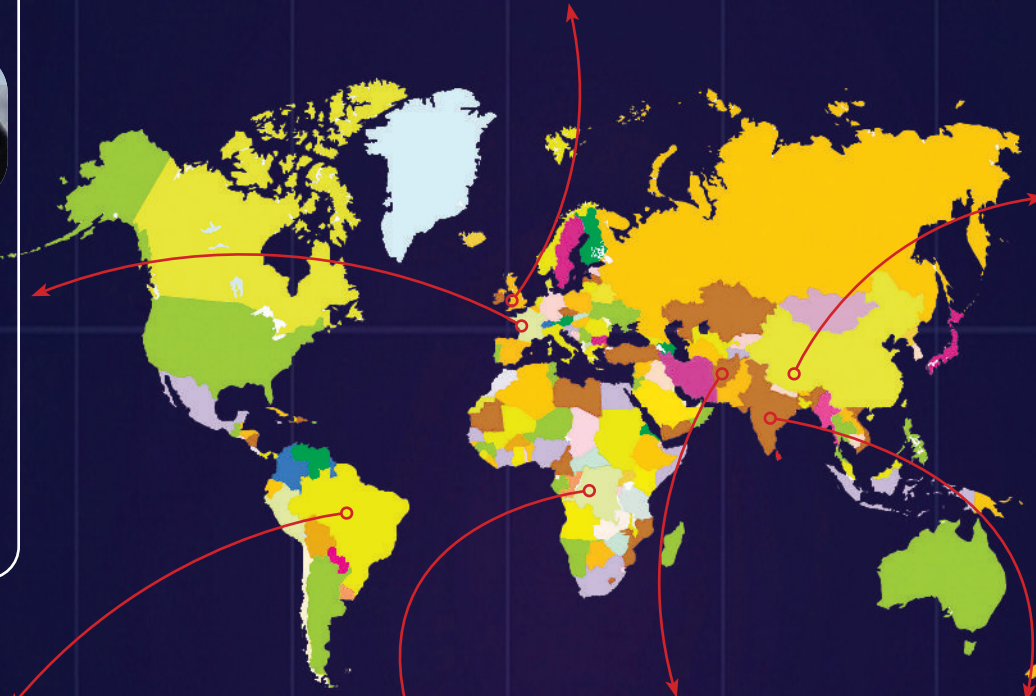
More than one million children had active referrals to mental health services in 2024-25. It is the first time the figure has crossed this threshold, as per a report by children's commissioner Rachel de Souza. Referrals have almost doubled since 2018-19. Anxiety remained the leading cause, accounting for 16% of cases. More than 60,000 children waited over two years for support, up from 44,000 last year. The rising demand was partly driven by suspected autism and neurodevelopmental conditions. De Souza called for better coordination to tackle the growing crisis.



CHINA

A concerning pact

A joint statement was issued after Bangladesh PM Tarique Rahman's visit to Beijing. Both sides agreed to elevate their comprehensive strategic partnership and explore a new '2 + 2' dialogue mechanism on diplomacy and defence. The statement also confirmed joint development of the Mongla Port modernisation project and a Chinese economic zone in Chattogram. Also, China will support the Teesta River Comprehensive Management and Restoration Project. Indian experts have said that this may have implications as the river flows through both India and Bangladesh.



BRAZIL

Marine species discovered

A marine expedition off the coast of Bahia has discovered 31 new species in just two weeks. Conducted aboard the vessel 'Falkor (too)', the survey focused on the ocean's midwater. The discoveries include types of jellyfish, siphonophores, comb jellies, an amphipod, larvaceans, and giant rhizarians. Researchers credited the rapid findings to a new onboard microscope called the 'Squid', which enabled live 3D imaging of microbial life at sea.



DR CONGO

No crowds amid Ebola

Mass gatherings have been banned in Kinshasa and three neighbouring provinces to prevent the spread of Ebola, which has claimed 360 lives, even though no cases have been confirmed in the capital yet. Opposition has criticised the move, saying it was intended to suppress a planned protest against proposed constitutional changes. The government has not responded to the claims. Trials of new antiviral drugs are expected to begin soon.



AFGHANISTAN

Airstrikes kill civilians

Pakistani airstrikes killed 36 civilians and injured 163 others, as per Afghan officials, escalating transnational tensions. The strikes targeted Paktia, Paktika, and Kunar provinces. Pakistan said the operation was aimed at militant hideouts linked to groups it blamed for an attack in Karachi. Afghan authorities denied that militants were operating from their territory and condemned the strikes. The violence comes despite a ceasefire agreed in March.



INDIA

Rowers create history

Lakshay and Ujjwal Kumar Singh created history by winning the country's first-ever gold medal at the World Rowing Cup III in Switzerland. The duo bagged the Men's Lightweight Double Sculls title by crossing the finish line in 6 minutes 26.09 seconds, ahead of athletes from Hong Kong and the Netherlands. The achievement also underlines the Armed Forces' contribution to Indian rowing as both Lakshay and Ujjwal are serving soldiers in the Indian Army.

The art of seeing differently

Beyond Advertising: Partho On Creativity, Observation, And Reinvention

Ranya Sharma, Alumna, & Nitya Sethi, XII J, AIS Gur 46

Partho Sengupta has been shaping India's advertising, media, and marketing landscapes since 1993. Currently the national creative head of The Times of India, he is a visionary who wears many hats - cartoonist, animator, singer, art director, and more. He shares stories from his inspiring journey at TEDx Talk, hosted by AIS Gur 46.

Looking within

I did not like Maths and Chemistry at all as a child, even though my father was an electrical engineer. It surprised him when he found out that his eldest son wanted to be an artist. But creativity was ingrained in me from a very early age; I drew my first peacock at four, despite never having seen one in real life. For me, creativity is not just a choice; it's an unstoppable force that guides me. It is about looking at the world in ways that others do not or cannot.

Personal mantra

Innovation, paired with strategy, is my personal mantra. My goal is always to make the reader see what I see. My biggest strength

is to create that perfect headline or illustration that strikes a chord with everyone. Even when I am making a film, I immerse myself completely in the emotions that my audience would experience - whether it is sadness or euphoria. If you can do that, you can create something that will strike gold.

A keen observer

Like any creative person, I have my share of creative blocks. But instead of getting ruffled, I always use them as a springboard. I treat hurdles as a motivation to create something bigger and better. The key is to always be a bit of a maverick. When you are exposed to the dynamism that exists in the world, you always learn something new. I spend hours at railway stations and airports, observing life in motion. Inspiration is everywhere if you have the will to observe and imbibe.

Passionate nurturer

I believe that my biggest contribution is not my work - it's nurturing people. It's knowing that I am able to give back. I have mentored innumerable students, conducted workshops, and guided aspiring creative professionals. Teaching is not about imparting



Partho with GT reporters

knowledge while people listen passively; it is a mutual exchange of ideas and emotions. Students need my experience, and I need their enthusiasm. This is the synergy that makes teaching magical. In fact, I believe that my biggest award hasn't been a trophy - it was sitting on a flight next to a woman who was completely bowled by a magazine advertisement I had created. Recognition isn't about awards. It is about a smile, a nod or a hug.

Media matters

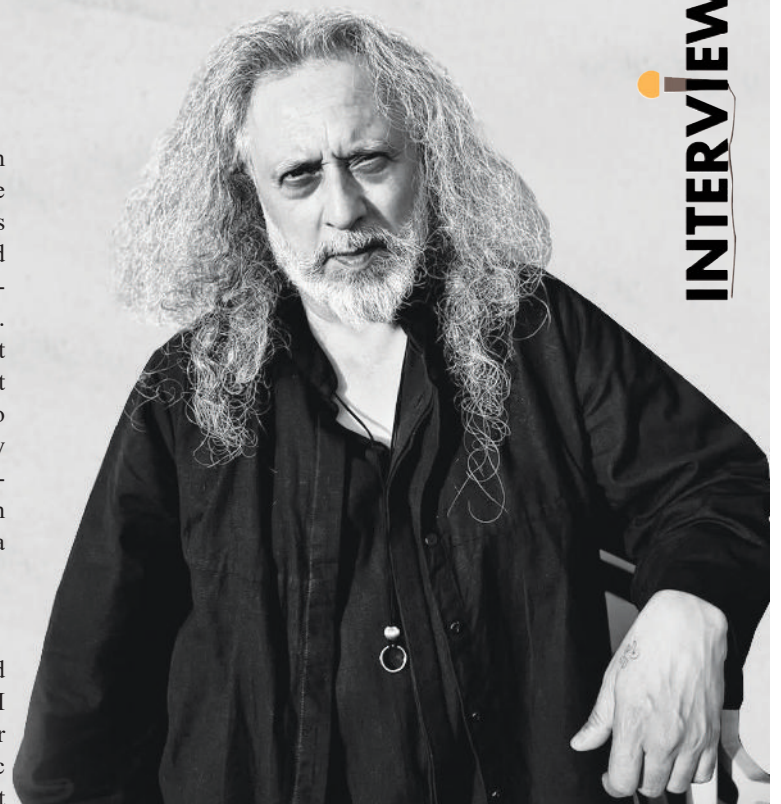
Many people think of print and digital media as competitors, but I see them as allies. Both have their own strengths. Digital is dynamic and fast-paced, but it is print that

offers us a tactile and direct experience. This connection cannot be replaced by anything else. The other question being asked today is about the role of artificial intelligence. AI does reduce the time, but it also breeds complacency and mediocrity. AI can only assist and replicate; it cannot innovate.

Message for Amitians

Stay exposed to great work. Keep yourself connected. There is no fixed formula. But, keep reinventing yourself - always.

(Ranya is currently pursuing B Com (Hons) from St Xavier's College, Mumbai.)



Partho Sengupta, national creative head, The Times of India

INTERVIEW

Beauty of positivity

Book: The Ogress and the Orphans | **Author:** Kelly Barnhill
Published on: March 8, 2022 | **Genre:** Children's literature, Fantasy, Fiction

Synopsis: Set in the town of Stone-in-the-Glen, this book is a timeless tale about how people are consumed by the insatiable greed for power and how disappearances can be deceiving. It also talks about how love can be turned into hatred and mistrust. Everything goes haywire after the arrival of the mysterious, self-absorbed, and suspiciously gleaming mayor. The citizens who were once kind, caring, curious, and joyous are pitted against each other by deceit. The protagonist, the Ogress, is a sweet-hearted inhabitant who is misunderstood by the people. The mayor ignites the fire and fans

the flames of people's hatred towards the Ogress. On the contrary, Ogress gives food to the townspeople in secret, especially to her favourites: the residents of the Orphan House. But one day, an orphan goes missing. Fingers point towards Ogress. But the children reveal the truth about not only the Ogress' kindness, but also the true root of the problems in their town.

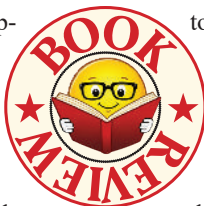
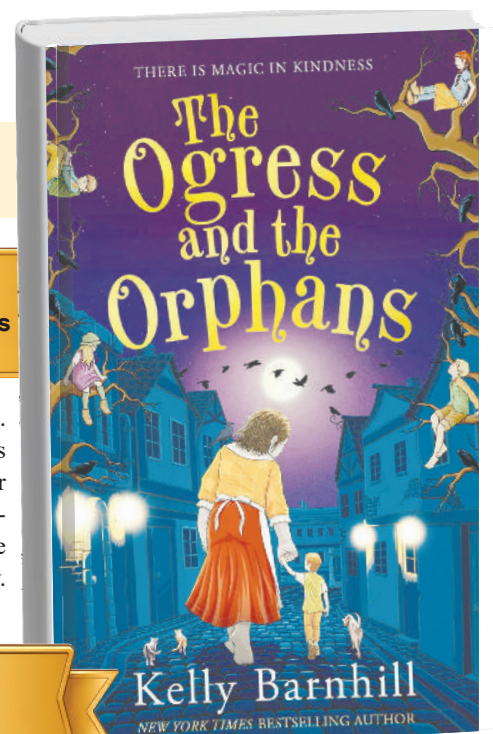
Why it's worth reading: The story is narrated by an omniscient, anonymous narrator, giving it the tone of a good old-fashioned fairytale. This book throws light on how a positive outlook and a wish to serve

Iconic quote:
"The antidote to anger is tenderness, and the antidote to discord is reconciliation."

others can make the world a better place. This book instils a sense of righteousness and selflessness in the readers. The author has magnificently woven the story and connected the dots by concisely providing the context, making it a page turner all the way.



Rating: ★★★★★
Review by: Anya Jain
AIS Vasundhara 6, XI D



Beyond the rank

Excellence is built through determination, mentorship, and a supportive learning environment. Under the visionary guidance of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, AICE once again achieved remarkable success in JEE Advanced, with 90 of 149 students qualifying for the exam and eleven securing ranks under 1000. At the valedictory ceremony held at AIS PV, the Chairperson lauded the students and AICE for their unwavering dedication. In this special feature, the achievers share the moments, challenges, and lessons that defined their journey.



The moment
I was very happy with my rank, and seeing my parents' happiness made it even more special for me.

The challenge
Moving from syllabus completion to intensive problem-solving practice was

The mantra
the biggest hurdle for me.

The mantra
Have faith and work as hard as you can.

The lesson
Believe in yourself and know that you will give your best.

The future
I wish to get enrolled into IIT Delhi for higher studies.

Arnav Jain, AIS PV
Class XII Marks: 98.2%
JEE Main percentile: 99.9637 (CRL — 649)

JEE Advanced Rank
84

The moment
At 3 AM, while I was on the train, my father woke me up to check the result. We saw it together and were overjoyed.

The challenge
Memorising organic chemistry was quite difficult, but multiple revisions helped me overcome it.

The mantra
If your fundamentals of the concepts are clear, most problems become manageable.

The lesson
Do not be nervous before exams.

The future
I am currently deciding between Computer Science and Mathematics & Computing.

Shreyansh Dixit, AIS Saket
Class XII Marks: 93.2%
JEE Main percentile: 99.9793 (CRL — 401)

JEE Advanced Rank
211

The moment
I woke up to a teacher's call informing me that the result was out. My parents were thrilled.

The challenge
Avoiding distractions, especially the mobile phone, was my biggest challenge.

The mantra
I never studied excessively, but I remained consistent and never missed classes or tests.

The lesson
Time management is crucial because students often overestimate their capabilities.

The future
I hope to pursue research in science or mathematics.

Vyom Agarwal, AIS Saket
Class XII Marks: 96.2%
JEE Main percentile: 99.9458 (CRL — 939)

JEE Advanced Rank
772

The moment
Honestly, I had hoped for a good result, but it exceeded my expectations. I was surprised.

The challenge
Completing previous years' questions and understanding JEE's questioning pattern required focused effort.

The mantra
Balance studies with rest and focus on efficiency rather than overworking.

The lesson
Know your strengths and weaknesses and work within your limits.

The future
I hope to pursue CSE at either IIT Bombay or IIT Delhi.

Pakhi Bishal, AIS PV
Class XII Marks: 99.2%
JEE Main percentile: 99.7614 (CRL — 3904)

JEE Advanced Rank
302

The moment
After preparing for four years, seeing the final result was extremely satisfying.

The challenge
Maintaining consistency throughout was my biggest challenge.

The mantra
Set small goals daily instead of

The lesson
Don't let JEE's reputation shake your confidence. Honestly, many questions are more approachable than they seem.

The future
I'm considering M&C from IIT Delhi or CSE from IIT Kanpur.

Shivansh Sinha, AIS Saket
Class XII Marks: 93.4%
JEE Main percentile: 99.9672 (CRL — 593)

JEE Advanced Rank
327

The moment
I was expecting a rank around 1000, so I was surprised, and grateful to my parents and my teachers.

The challenge
Maintaining an eight-hour study schedule every day was most certainly the hardest part of the preparation.

The mantra
Always remain consistent as it will help you much more than motivation.

The lesson
Keep track of time and do not spend too long on a single question.

The future
I plan to pursue Electrical Engineering at IIT Delhi or IIT Bombay.

Param Pranav, AIS PV
Class XII Marks: 97.2%
JEE Main percentile: 99.9639 (CRL — 641)

JEE Advanced Rank
458

The moment
I was happy with the result, though I felt I could have done even better.

The challenge
One of the biggest challenges was maintaining focus and studying for long hours in a single sitting.

The mantra
Take up small challenges for

The lesson
Stay calm and be ready to adapt your strategy according to the paper.

The future
My plan is to pursue engineering, gain professional experience, and eventually launch a start-up.

Anirudh Maheshwari, AIS Saket
Class XII Marks: 95.6%
JEE Main percentile: 99.9475 (CRL — 906)

JEE Advanced Rank
997

The moment
I woke up to a teacher's call informing me that the result was out. My parents were thrilled.

The challenge
Avoiding distractions, especially the mobile phone, was my biggest challenge.

The mantra
I never studied excessively, but I remained consistent and never missed classes or tests.

The lesson
Time management is crucial because students often overestimate their capabilities.

The future
I hope to pursue research in science or mathematics.

Interviews conducted by
Arpita Chakraborty and Swati Negi, GT Network

The quest for excellence



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

I am delighted to see my dear children returning to school after their summer vacations, for they return to a place where dreams are nurtured, character is shaped, and excellence is a way of life. At Amity, every new academic session is an opportunity to strive a little higher, think a little deeper, and contribute a little more. Across the world, Amityans are admired not only for their achievements but also for their values, humility and unwavering determination to excel. This spirit was once again reflected in the outstanding performance of our students in JEE Advanced, one of the country's most challenging entrance examinations. Of the 149 students who appeared, 90 qualified, with eleven securing ranks below 1000. Equally deserving of applause are our dedicated teachers, who transformed potential into achievement while nurturing resilient, responsible young individuals. The same pursuit of excellence extends beyond national boundaries. Amity recently hosted the 19th Young Researchers of Natural Sciences (YRoNS) alongside the 7th Nurturing Leadership Programme (NLP) at AUUP. Young scientists from across the world presented pioneering research on 'Green Innovation: Natural Sciences for a Better World' and explored cutting-edge facilities. To further encourage global leadership, the Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan Scholarship for Nurturing Leadership for International Students has also been instituted. Excellence at Amity is not an occasional accomplishment - it's ingrained in our culture. As we move forward, let's remain humble in our achievements and strive for greater heights. **GT**

Bask in strength



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

Welcome back to school! I hope your summer was filled with mangoes, family get-togethers, and the little joys that make this season special. But as we return refreshed, let us pause to reflect on something rather unusual. This summer was marked by intense heat and unpredictable weather. Yet, there have been growing incidences of Vitamin D deficiency among both children and adults, even in a tropical country like India. People are reporting fatigue, body aches, and difficulty concentrating due to low Vitamin D levels. For my generation, this is quite astonishing. I vividly remember wanting to do a school project on nutritional deficiencies, only to be told that diseases like rickets were rarely seen in India because of abundant sunshine. So, what changed? Rapid urbanisation substituted open spaces with concrete and glass. And now hooked to technology, we've reduced the time we spend outdoors playing, walking, or simply enjoying nature. Processed foods have largely replaced wholesome, nutritious meals. All these lifestyle changes have made deficiencies far more prevalent. Environmental changes, shrinking green spaces, and our increasingly sedentary routines have widened the gap between the healthy lives we once lived and the ones we lead today. While our cover story explores Vitamin D deficiency in depth, its message goes beyond one nutrient. We must move from deficiency to sufficiency - in our health, our habits, and our relationship with nature. Perhaps one of you will even design innovative, sustainable, and more sun-friendly spaces that inspire generations to come. **GT**

Chorus of illusions

The Mirage Of Everything Everywhere All At Once

Saanvi Pruthi, AIS Noida, XII I

You hear a word once, and suddenly it's following you everywhere like a Sabrina Carpenter song. Your entire world seems to be now wrapped around this singular term - in conversations, on your 'For You Page', even where you're sure it never existed before. And it's not just in the case of a word; it could also be an idea or a face that passed by you during vacation. Its sole purpose: to not let go of you! Psychology has a name for this: frequency illusion, fondly known as the Baader-Meinhof phenomenon. The term first entered our vocabulary in 1994 when Terry Mullen, in a letter to a US press, wrote about his experience of noticing frequent mentions of the 70s extremist group Baader-Meinhof Gang upon learning about them. Soon, several other readers followed it up with similar experiences. It was only in 2005 that Stanford linguist Arnold Zwicky formally designated the phenomenon. Simply put, it is a cognitive bias that makes something appear more common because your brain has started paying attention to it. A leech, without much consent.

Illusion of life

Human intention is inherently selective; at any given moment, the brain triages and filters out most stimuli to help one function. Just as we encounter something new, two subsequent gears begin turning. First is 'selection attention', you begin noticing something because it matters now. Second is confirmation bias - every sighting proves that it is real. In short, perceptions are directly affected by the way our brain presents information. The brain also subconsciously recognises patterns that are filtered out. A striking example is 'Alien Hand Syndrome', a neurological disorder where a limb, typically the hand, acts independently with a mind of its own. While the two operate differently, both phenomena reveal how perception and control are constructed. In the former, the brain reinforces patterns, making something appear more frequent than it is. So, when your mind hums a tune, the world seems to dance along.

Coincidence vs control

The line between happenstance and design thins quick-



Illustration: Aditi Sharma, AIS Noida, XII I

ly in a world where attention is directed. A sudden surge of an idea or image is not always accidental; in many cases, it is carefully amplified. Companies have long surfed these cognitive currents in advertising, making something feel familiar until it becomes important. Before the release of 'Finding Nemo', there were noticeable increases in ocean-themed content and imagery across media platforms, but this was no natural tide, it was a campaign. By the time it was released in theatres, everyone's attention was already salted. Likewise, brands like Dunkin' have experimented with sensory marketing - pumping coffee aroma in buses, so commuters associate the morning rush with their brand.

Ultimately, it leads us to one truth: what resembles coincidence, could just be designed and carefully repeated until it comes across as fate or an organic thought. The choice, to mute the tune or waltz with it, is yours.

Dear Editor,

'Muse or misuse?' dated May 18, 2026, shares a perceptive exploration and reflection on the often-blurred line between inspiration and imitation. This is a matter of utmost significance, especially in an age where each and every student is surrounded by a plethora of innovative content, evolving technology, and artificial intelligence. By highlighting examples, such as The Beatles guitarist George Harrison's music, *kolhapuri chappals*, and modern AI-generated artwork, the article emphasises the necessity of



GT M@il

citing credit when due. Recognising and acknowledging someone's work is not a mere formality, it, in fact, demonstrates respect for the person's effort. As teachers, we encourage our students to express their own ideas, and this piece stood to reinforce the same message. It was an insightful read and certainly left me with something to ponder over.

Surinder Kaur
AIS Mohali, PGT English

THE GLOBAL TIMES | MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026

The spirit of excellence

Muse or misuse?

One Person's Homage, Another Person's Rip-off?

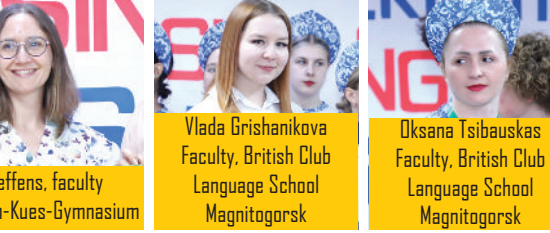
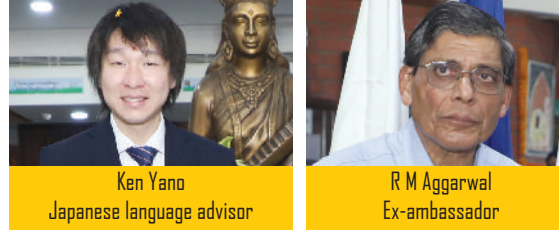
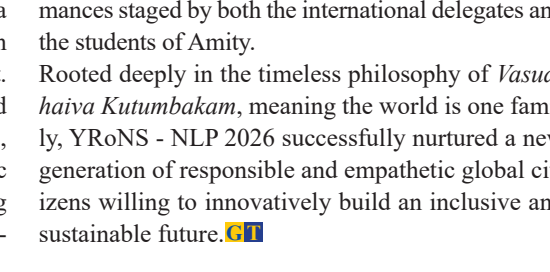
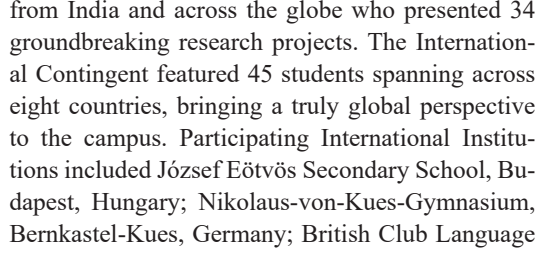
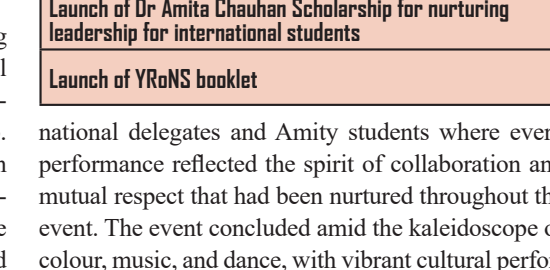
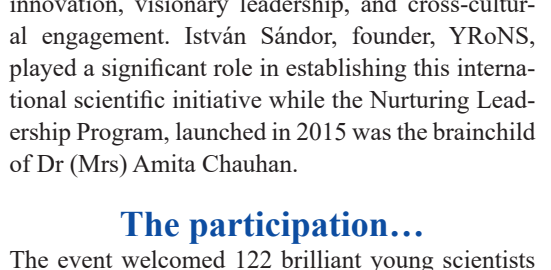
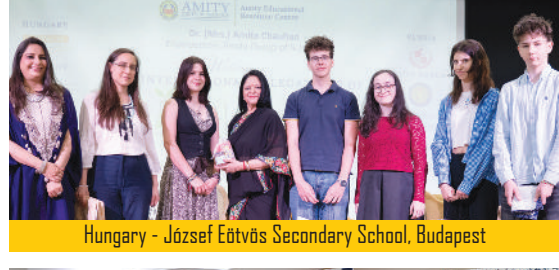
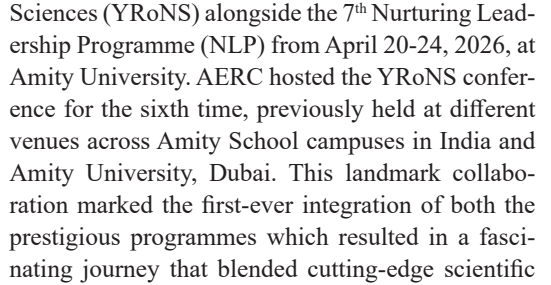
Competition is at the heart of the spirit of excellence. It is the drive to be the best, to be the first, to be the only. It is the desire to stand out, to be remembered, to be celebrated. It is the pursuit of perfection, the quest for excellence. It is the fire that fuels innovation, the spark that ignites change. It is the force that propels us forward, the engine that drives us to the top. It is the essence of the human spirit, the core of our identity. It is the reason we strive, we create, we dream. It is the reason we are here. It is the reason we are alive. It is the reason we are... **GT M@il**

Issue: Page 6, May 18, 2026



YRoNS 2026

Global Minds Present Scientific Discoveries At Amity University



Under the visionary leadership of honourable Dr. (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, the Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC) successfully hosted the 19th Young Researchers of Natural Sciences (YRoNS) alongside the 7th Nurturing Leadership Programme (NLP) from April 20-24, 2026, at Amity University. AERC hosted the YRoNS conference for the sixth time, previously held at different venues across Amity School campuses in India and Amity University, Dubai. This landmark collaboration marked the first-ever integration of both the prestigious programmes which resulted in a fascinating journey that blended cutting-edge scientific innovation, visionary leadership, and cross-cultural engagement. István Sándor, founder, YRoNS, played a significant role in establishing this international scientific initiative while the Nurturing Leadership Program, launched in 2015 was the brainchild of Dr. (Mrs) Amita Chauhan.

The participation...

The event welcomed 122 brilliant young scientists from India and across the globe who presented 34 groundbreaking research projects. The International Contingent featured 45 students spanning across eight countries, bringing a truly global perspective to the campus. Participating International Institutions included József Eötvös Secondary School, Budapest, Hungary; Nikolaus-von-Kues-Gymnasium, Bernkastel-Kues, Germany; British Club Language

School, Magnitogorsk, Russia; Lycée Ozanam, Lille, France; Hana Academy, Seoul, South Korea; Leyte Normal University - Integrated Laboratory School, Tacloban City, Leyte, Philippines alongside online participation from Prva privatna gimnazija s pravom javnosti Varaždin, Croatia.

The event....

The mega-event kicked off with a spectacular opening ceremony centred around the theme, 'Green Innovation: Natural Sciences for a Better World.' Highlighting Amity's commitment to global excellence, the ceremony featured the unveiling of the official YRoNS-NLP booklet and the prestigious launch of the Dr. (Mrs) Amita Chauhan Scholarship for nurturing leadership for international students. The event was graced by an array of distinguished guests, including chief guests Ravi Singh (ex-officio trustee secretary general & CEO, WWF) and Dr. Mariann Erdő (director, Liszt Institute - Hungarian Cultural Centre). Special guests included former ambassador R M Aggarwal, Japanese language advisor Ken Yano, Ronn Bautista from the Embassy of the Philippines, and Neha Raghav from WWF-India. Delivering an inspiring address on 'Leadership for global citizenship', Dr Erdő urged students to think beyond boundaries and champion responsibility in our interconnected world. Besides presentation of 34 research projects, this five-day conference also introduced participants to the next generation technologies where they

explored Amity University's cutting-edge AI and premier drone laboratories such as the Advanced Characterisation Lab (SEM Facility), Measurement and Instrumentation Lab, and the Amity Centre for Artificial Intelligence (ACAI). An insightful and engaging leadership session was conducted by Dr William Selvamurthy, president, ASTIF, and former distinguished scientist & chief controller R&D (Life Sciences), DRDO. To make the participants well acquainted with each other, a poster making competition was also organised. This was further complemented by diverse, hands-on faculty workshops that bridged the gap between modern science and ancient heritage. Topics ranged from sustainability, recycling, and 'fun science' to culinary chemistry, calligraphy, Indian folk art, sanskrit shlokas, and the expressive language of mudras.

The excursions...

Beyond the academic sessions, delegates experienced the rich historical culture of India. Educational tours to Delhi's Gandhi Smriti and the Pradhan Mantri Sangrahalaya (Prime Minister Museum) offered profound insights into the nation's democratic evolution. The ultimate highlight, however, was a cultural excursion to Agra, where international delegates stood in awe of the architectural brilliance of the Taj Mahal and the Agra Fort. Another warm platform for informal interaction, cultural exchange, and networking was provided to international delegates during high tea hosted by respected Chairperson at Amity International School, Pushp Vihar.

The homestay...

The delegates carried a memory of a lifetime as they soaked in the warmth of Indian hospitality. They experienced the true nature of Indian culture and cuisine while staying with the host families. Students of Amity International School Noida, along with their families, opened their doors to host German delegates. This initiative created deep, personal connections and lifelong friendships. It also helped students develop empathy, adaptability, and a stronger appreciation of global diversity.

The grand finale...

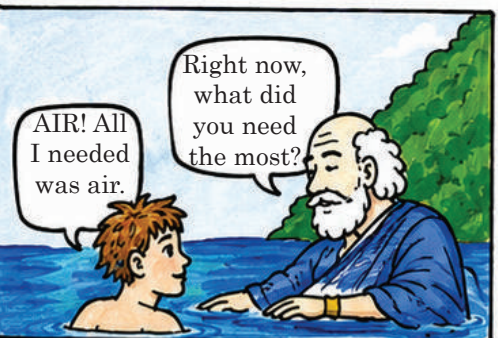
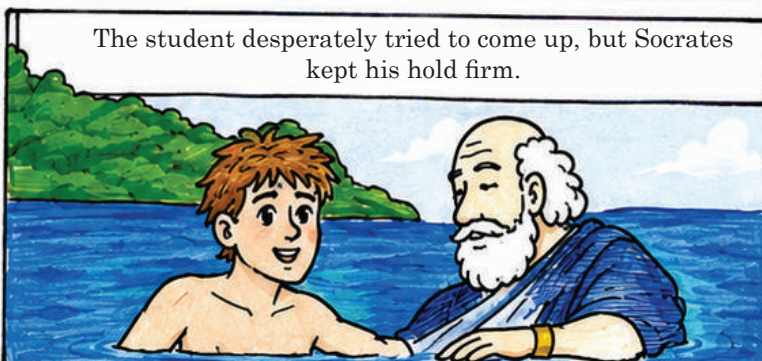
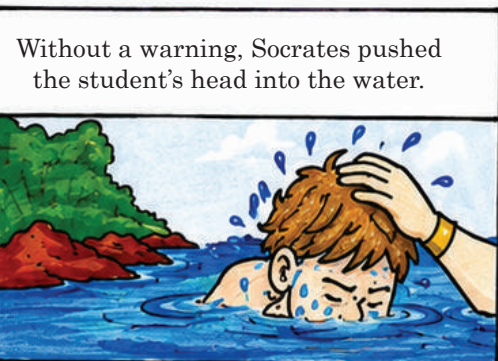
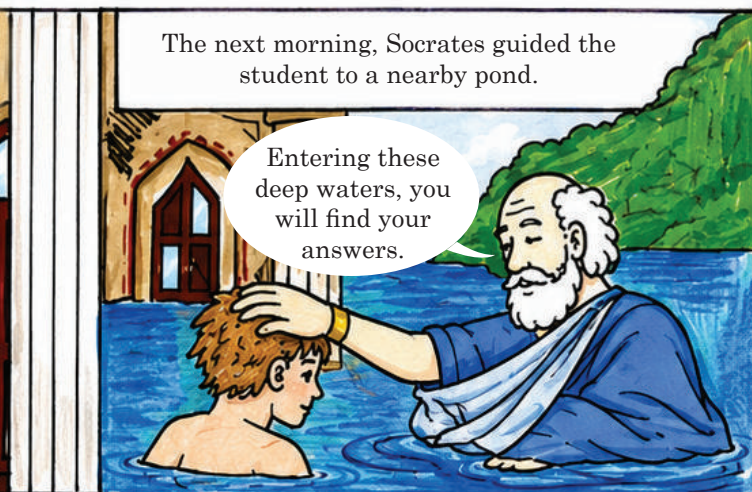
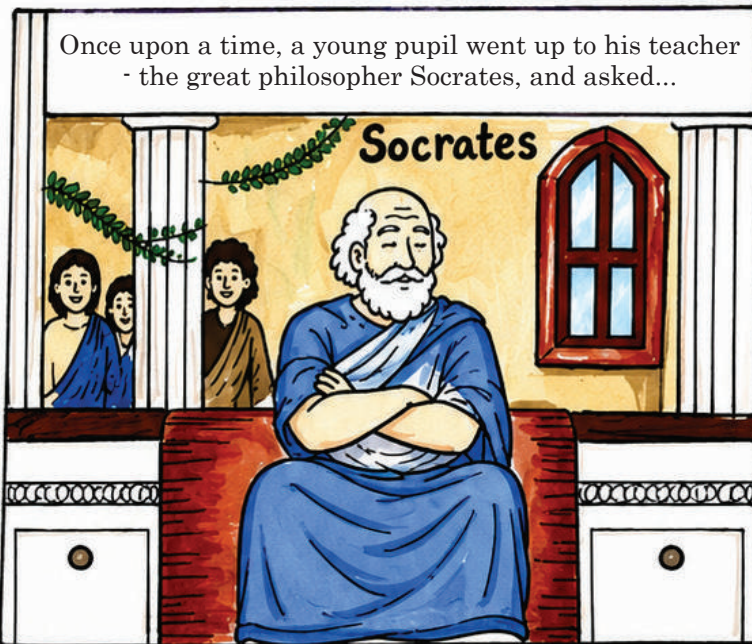
Finally, the event culminated in a remarkable closing ceremony featuring global insights from international educators and experts, each sharing unique perspectives on science, education, and global citizenship. Molnár Boglárka (Hungary) spoke passionately on 'Youth empowerment at Eötvös High School', highlighting the role of young learners in shaping future societies. Elizabeth Kim (South Korea) presented 'International symposium on human agency in a changing world', focusing on adaptability and human potential in a rapidly evolving global environment. Christian Franzen & Nina Steffens (Germany) shared insights on 'Roman viticulture on the Moselle River', connecting historical practices with modern scientific understanding. The cultural segment of the closing ceremony showcased vibrant performances by inter-

8 Countries participated
122 Participants
34 Research projects
5 Student-led workshops
6 Science workshops by faculty
3 Leadership workshops
1 Poster-making competition
Key highlights
Launch of Dr. Amita Chauhan Scholarship for nurturing leadership for international students
Launch of YRoNS booklet

national delegates and Amity students where every performance reflected the spirit of collaboration and mutual respect that had been nurtured throughout the event. The event concluded amid the kaleidoscope of colour, music, and dance, with vibrant cultural performances staged by both the international delegates and the students of Amity. Rooted deeply in the timeless philosophy of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*, meaning the world is one family, YRoNS - NLP 2026 successfully nurtured a new generation of responsible and empathetic global citizens willing to innovatively build an inclusive and sustainable future. 🌍

Inspired by the timeless tales shared by **Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan**, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, GT presents **part XVI** of a vibrant comic strip series, crafted by **Devyan Batra, AIS Pushp Vihar, IX D.**

**Success
Like
Aizu**



A burning desire is the starting point of all accomplishments.

END

Words Verse

The diadem of ignorance

Zoya Negi, AIS Noida, XII I

"Ignorance is bliss," their smiles wry
Watching the nobles cast into exile
Tiaras gleaming, dresses swirling tonight
Untouched by war, blind to every stride

Hell reeks beyond these fortress gates
A reflection of history in the modern age
Oh, distant cries I hear, fraught and wild
Entangled in fury under skies beguiled

Nescience is a throne adorned with pride
No love, no loss, no pity for the deceased
Existing delicately, untouched by the fray
In feathers and finery, your realm's array

Your golden kingdom, oblivious to pain
Yet, echoes of suffering smear each grain
Generations pass, but you're all the same
Completely intoxicated by the untamed

Affluent souls in endless wealth delight
Centuries pass, echoing the same plight
Flee from your shallow prestige, and see
The world under truth's unrelenting siege.



The girl who ate words

Anoushka Arya, AIS Vas 1, XI A

There once was a girl in class IV B
Who gobbled words for afternoon tea
She nibbled on nouns, bites of verbs
Slurping through the describing words

Her teacher scolded, "Naughty child!
Your grammar habits are very wild!"
She would grin with bits on her lip
"Don't worry, ma'am! I left you a tip."

She burped poems, coughed out prose
Sneezed a story all over her clothes
And that's why in the school library
They whisper when they look at me.

The sweet shop



The shop, with all the paint chipping off its wall and a neon sign that no longer lit up, always seemed rather off-putting. But he had no choice now.

to be appreciated. “Desperate for sweets? Got someone to impress?” The man broke the silence, snapping Rahul out of his reverie. Rahul spoke helplessly, “No, just doing it for my mother.” The old man’s gaze softened, “All you kids are the same; always thinking there’s more time left.” he trailed off. Perhaps it was how Rahul’s shoulders slumped or how he ran his hand through his hair before turning to leave that appeared pitiful to the old man. Suddenly, he called, “Wait,” with a warmth in his voice, “I was putting some *kaju katli* away for my family but I think I can spare some for you. After all festivities are all about sharing and caring.” This simple act of kindness gave Rahul a new perspective on festivities; it isn’t just about celebration, but love and empathy too. **GT**

It's Me!

Know Me

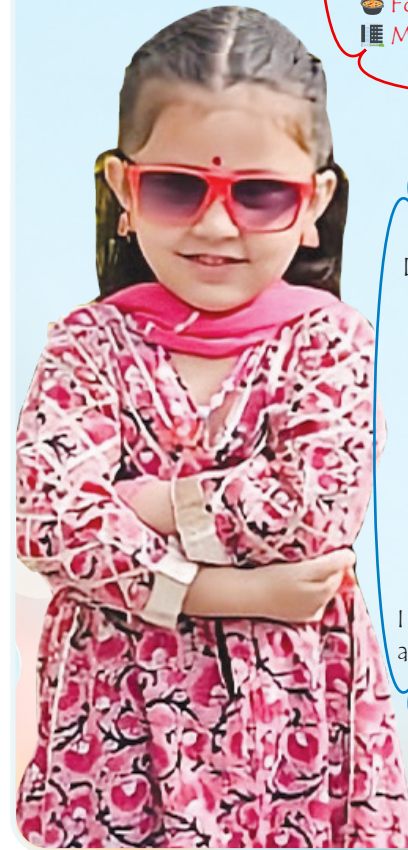
😊 My name: Barkat Khurana
👤 My class: UKG A
🏫 My school: AIS Mohali
🎂 My birthday: May 6

MY FAVOURITES

👩‍🏫 Teacher: Gurkiran ma'am
📖 Subject: Art and craft
👬 Friend: Anantbir Singh
🎮 Game: Catch the thief
🐕 Cartoon: Paw Patrol
🍝 Food: Maggi
🏢 Mall: CP67 Mall

MY DREAMS AND GOALS

🎨 Hobby: Drawing and painting
👉 I like: Colouring
👎 I dislike: Lemons
👩 My role model: My mumma
👦 I want to become: A firefighter
📰 I want to feature in GT because: I have many ideas and am always ready to learn new things.



So, what did you learn today?
📖 A new word: Scoff
👉 Meaning: Laugh at with contempt and derision

Ayati Jauhari
AIS VKC Lko, XII A

“God... how can you do this again?” Rahul stood in the corner as his mother scolded him. Forgetting to buy the sweets this Diwali once again was like showing up at a birthday party with no gift. “I’m sorry. But what do I do now? I bet all sweets are sold out by now,” Rahul muttered. “And that’s why you should have gotten it this morning like I’d told you. Just go and take another look,” replied his mother, ushering him out of the door. For a moment, he just sat on the nearby bench, silently weighing his options. It would be unlikely for any nearby sweet shop to have anything left considering the fes-

tive fervour, which consisted of exchanging kgs upon kgs of *mithai*. Yet there remained one last hope. The sketchy sweet shop at the end of the street. The shop, with all the paint chipping off its wall and a neon sign that no longer lit up, always seemed rather off-putting. But he had no choice now. Stepping inside, he was met by various sickly-sweet smells. “Are you here for sweets?” an old man asked, peering at him over his thick glasses. Rahul hesitated, “Y-yeah, a box of whatever is left, please.” That earned him a **scoff** from the old man, “There’s nothing left, boy. It’s Diwali night for goodness’ sake.” Thinking about it, what exactly did he expect? Around this time of the year even the most neglected of sweets came

GT READ • PLAY • WIN

Answer • Participate • Win Prizes

- Write answers of all the questions below
- Click Photograph
- Mail: editor@theglobaltimes.in or Visit: <http://theglobaltimes.in/readplaywin/>

110

Name: Class: School:

Q.1 How many Amity students from AICE secured ranks under 1000 in JEE Advanced?	Q.2 When was Jeff Buckley’s album ‘Grace’ released as mentioned on page 12?
Q.3 Which festival is mentioned in the short story on page 9?	Q.4 On an average, how many sunny days does India get annually according to the story on page 1?
Q.5 What is the full form of YRoNS?	Q.6 What is the tagline of the article on page 5?

Winners **109**

Result of Read Play & Win: **Shrishti Sharma**, AIS Vas 6, IV C; **Kaashvi Dosar**, AIS Navi Mumbai, IV A; **Adhip Jain** AIS Gurugram 43, V E

Colouring Fun

Name: Class: School:

Outline by: **Rumela Bhowmik**, AIS Saket, XII F

Best entries for Colouring Fun

Dated: May 4, 2026

Davish Goel
AIS Pushp Vihar, VI B

Linasha Chitkara
AIS Gurugram 46, II A



WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?

Years from now, when people speak of the **change** this generation created, will your **story** be a part of it? Will they remember you as the student who saw a problem and looked away, or the one who chose to **act**? For **17 years**, Youth Power has transformed ordinary students into **changemakers** who asked difficult questions, sparked meaningful conversations, and created **real impact**. Now, the next chapter awaits.

**THE
IMPACT
SO FAR**

17

Years of Youth Power

2000+

Student changemakers empowered

4,50,000+

Lives impacted

500+

Campaigns that sparked awareness



FEEL

Understand lives beyond our own



SEE

Recognise problems hidden in plain sight



ACT

Design innovative solutions and create measurable impact



LEAD

Inspire others and become a voice of change



YOUTH POWER 2026-27

I,, a student of Class.....of AIS/AGS.....

hereby volunteer to lead my team on the cause.....in

Youth Power 2026-27. You can contact me at or email me at

My teammates are:

	Team member 1	Team member 2	Team member 3
Name			
Class			
Contact no			
Email ID			

Submit the form to the school's Youth Power Mentor Teacher | **Last date of submission** July 20, 2026

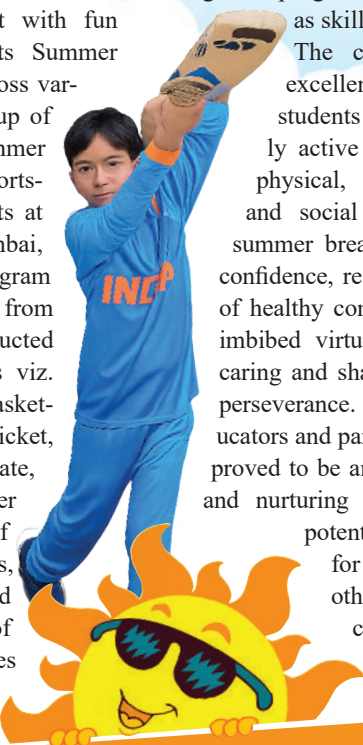
Sunny & sporty

Amity Sports Foundation

Amitians had a tryst with fun and frolic at Sports Summer camps organised across various branches of Amity Group of Schools, pan-India. The summer sun instilled the spirit of sportsmanship in over 250 students at AIS Mohali, AIS Navi Mumbai, AIS Mayur Vihar, AIS Gurugram 46, and AIS VKC Lucknow from May 11 to 29, 2026. Conducted in various sports disciplines viz. chess, skating, archery, basketball, football, badminton, cricket, swimming, taekwondo, karate, etc., some of the sports summer camps featured daily demos of karate, yoga, zumba, aerobics, etc. Every sport was practiced under the careful guidance of national-level trained coaches and instructors who had meticulously curated a summer

special curriculum for these camps, ensuring both progressive learning as well as skill enhancement.

The camps provided an excellent platform for the students to remain physically active and develop sound physical, mental, emotional, and social fitness during the summer break while developing confidence, resilience, and a spirit of healthy competition. They also imbibed virtues like team spirit, caring and sharing, discipline and perseverance. For the trainers, educators and parents also, the camps proved to be an orb for identifying and nurturing young talents with potential to be shortlisted for ensuing national and other championships conducted by CBSE, SGFI, and state sports bodies. **GT**



PART I

Summers@Amity

Even as the sun scorched the earth, Amitians beat the heat with myriad cool activities which added fun, learning, and excitement to sunny days. GT brings you the series Summers@Amity to share how Amitians 'Beat the sun with fun'. Read on!



Journalists in the making

practical advertisements, reviewing artworks, and capturing meaningful photographs, these students experienced the excitement of newspaper-making while building friendships and having a memorable time.

This spirit of creativity and curiosity came alive at the 6th GT Summer Special Newspaper Making Workshop, organised from May 18-22, 2026, at AIS Pushp Vihar under the aegis of The Global Times. An initiative of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, the workshop brought together 32 students from Classes VI-VIII of Amity Group of Schools. Curated as an immersive learning experience, the workshop introduced students to the many facets of journalism and newspaper production, while also enhancing their creativity, communication, and critical thinking skills. The five-day workshop began with a warm welcome and customised press kits including personalised press cards. Students were divided into four teams of eight with creative and relatable names such as Luminous Leo, Fabled Friends, Scoop Detectives, Naruto's Ninjas, and Marvellous Martians. A major highlight of the workshop was the opportunity to learn directly from accom-

plished professionals of the media industry. Ayushmaan Jamwal, senior news editor and anchor, CNN-News18, guided students on the art of reporting. Kriti Kambri, senior correspondent, HT City, introduced them to the skills of interviewing, while Shreya Das, senior video producer, India Today Group, helped the students master the craft of storytelling. Vaibhav Dewan, marketing specialist, familiarised participants with the principles of advertising, and media consultant Punam Goel trained them to observe, analyse, and review like discerning critics. Adding an element of imagination and role-play, students conducted mock interviews with iconic personalities such as Maharani Gayatri Devi, Barbie, Srinivasa Ramanujan, and Marie Curie.

Experts from The Global Times further introduced students to photography, design, layout, and visual storytelling through engaging hands-on activities. The workshop culminated with the creation of a newspaper featuring stories, interviews, reviews, and photographs developed during the programme. At the closing ceremony, winners were felicitated and participants received certificates and photo cards, along with printed copies of their own newspaper. **GT**



The Global Times

As temperatures soared outside, a group of young Amitians stepped into the fascinating world of journalism. From interviewing celebrities and learning from leading media professionals to crafting compelling stories, designing im-



The homework thriller

Last Minute Panic And The Frantic Search For The Forgotten Assignment

Avika Pandey, AIS Saket, XI F

The stage is set, sirens are blaring, and crisis mode has been initiated. Your main character energy is through the roof as you turn to find the most precious item of all – a missing assignment.

10:00 pm: The first brick

It starts like all great mysteries do - while packing your bag. Suddenly, a notification pings in the class group: “Don’t forget to submit your assignment before 11:59 PM.” Suddenly, it dawns on you like a slow-motion movie scene. The Algebra assignment. The deadline. The task you completed... but never submitted. The assignment that’s in your bag. Right? Your eyes dart over crumpled notes, worksheets, and textbooks, but no sign of that sacred paper. Heart rate spikes. Time slows down. You mentally replay every life choice since eighth grade. Background score: intense thriller music. Mission codename: Operation - Find assignment.

10:30 pm: The search

Your sibling’s advice echoes: “When in doubt, look everywhere.” So, everywhere you look. Under the bed: nope. In the fridge: don’t ask. Laundry basket: because who

knows, right? Status update: Assignment – Missing in Action. In desperation, you summon your last resort, ChatGPT. If it can draft essays and decode your existential crisis, surely it can locate your lost assignment. Except, your AI partner-in-crime turns out to be about as helpful as a rom-com protagonist in denial. “Step one: Check your backpack.” Gee, thanks, Sherlock. Next suspect: the sock drawer.

11:00 pm: The plot twist

Mom’s yelling, you’re crying, and the Wi-Fi’s gone on strike. You’ve found everything except the assignment. Your fifth-grade story? Check. Half-finished holiday homework? Check. A diary titled ‘How to overthrow the Mean Girl’? Tempting, but not relevant. “How can you lose an assignment?” your mom asks for the tenth time. You deploy your best puppy eyes of pity. Spoiler: Ineffective. “Get me your bag.” And there it is, the beginning of Operation Mom Raid. Unlike TV

moms (looking at you, Georgia), yours is less ‘cool detective’ and more ‘truth-extracting FBI agent’.

11:45 pm: Invasion

Like a scene from CIA: Bag Edition, your mom rifles through your bag with terrifying precision. Half-eaten almonds and ancient worksheets make cameo appearances. Naturally, she pauses mid-investigation to deliver vintage wisdom, because who doesn’t need life advice from someone who once downloaded pirated ringtones on a flip phone from shady websites? Then suddenly while going through the remnants of the bag, she freezes. Triumph flashes across her face. “Is this your assignment?” she exclaims, her eyes bright with a flicker of hope.

11:58 pm: The final countdown

Victory! (Technically mom’s) You clutch the slightly crumpled yet miraculously intact paper like it’s the Holy Grail. One final boss remains: the Wi-Fi. You hold your laptop aloft like Simba from The Lion King, praying to the internet gods. The upload bar crawls, taunting you, inch by inch. 11:58... 11:59... Submit. The screen flashes - Upload Complete. Assignment: submitted. Sanity: restored. You collapse into bed, eyes red but spirit victorious. Mission accomplished. **GT**



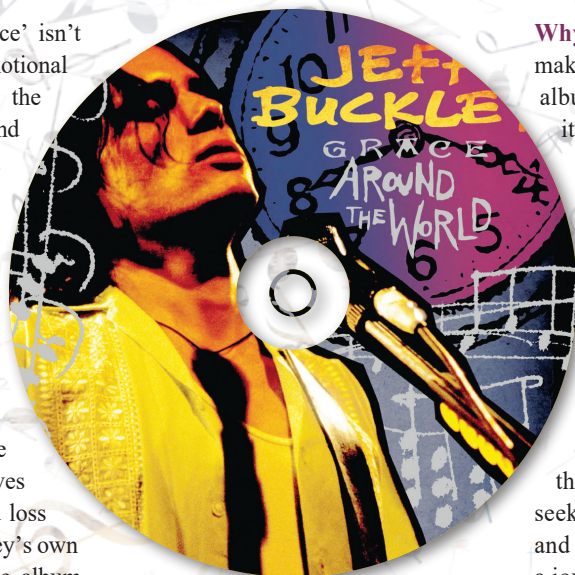
Sound of eternal emotions

Name of the Album: Grace | Artist: Jeff Buckley

Released on: August 23, 1994 | Genre: Psychedelic Rock & Jazz

ALBUM Review

Synopsis: Jeff Buckley’s ‘Grace’ isn’t merely an album but an emotional masterpiece that captures the raw beauty of love, loss, and longing. Released in 1994, this debut album quickly established Buckley as a musical genius whose voice could effortlessly move between haunting whispers and soaring highs. Every track carries an emotional depth that makes the listener pause, reflect, and feel. The central theme of ‘Grace’ revolves around accepting mortality and loss without fear. Inspired by Buckley’s own experience with heartbreak, the album weaves a narrative about how love can give us the courage to embrace pain and find meaning in it. His voice, infused with vulnerability and power, carries



this message delicately yet intensely, each song resonating with a sense of spiritual surrender.

Why is it worth listening: What makes ‘Grace’ truly amazing is that the album doesn’t hide behind perfection; it bleeds emotion, passion, and humanity. The instrumentation blends elements of psychedelic rock and jazz, giving the album a unique sound that feels timeless. Whether it’s the melancholic beauty of ‘Grace’ or the soul-stirring tenderness of ‘Last Goodbye’ or Buckley’s signature song ‘Hallelujah’, his compositions invite listeners into the emotional world. For anyone seeking music that touches the soul and makes you feel deeply, ‘Grace’ is a journey worth taking.

My favourite song: Last Goodbye

Rating: ★★★★★

Review by: Ayurva Pratap, AIS VKC Lucknow, XI A



GT Travels to Tamil Nadu

Explorer: Atharva Gupta, AIS Noida, II K

Location: The Shore Temple, Mahabalipuram

Attraction: A UNESCO World Heritage site, the granite temple built by the Pallava dynasty in the 8th century features a rear dual shrine dedicated to both Lord Shiva and Vishnu.

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