

The month of March haralds-in different moods and colours. The cool breeze, the warm sunshine, the flock of warbling birds, the picturesque sights of serenity: all have an incomparable charm. It is also the month when the board candidates are in form, studying with passion towards an aspired goal. What is intriguing though, is how these examinees felt while sitting in the boardroom.

Ashish Maggo, XI, AIS Saket, Nikita Khattar, XI- E, AIS, Noida & Chirag Aggarwal, AIS Gur-46

Teacher Speak
Wear your confidence: Says Dr. Preeti Malviya, HOD Social Science, AIS Saket, “I was always a sincere and regular student. Therefore, I was self-composed and confident in the boardroom, although my fellow mates were quite anxious. In other words, it was just an air of pacified aplomb that I shall always remember.” Dr. Ruby Gaur, English teacher at AIS Saket, recalls her unnerving experience of the boardroom, “I forgot to bring my admit card on the first day itself and became quite nervous. But the authorities let me in and everything went fine once my parents were intimidated.”



Models: Teachers AIS Mayur Vihar

Boardroom bloopers: “The son of an acquaintance appeared for his class X Boards and came out in tears after the exam as he was unable to attempt questions carrying 18 marks in Maths. We gave him the usual platitudes of the Boards not being the be all and end all of life, etc, etc. However, in our hearts, we could understand what he was going through. Imagine the shock we got when we learnt that he had scored 86 in that paper! Now, that was one student who didn’t apply for rechecking!” shares Anila Kaul, English teacher at AIS Gurgaon 46. Another nerve-wracking ordeal was witnessed by Mr. Sumedh Kapoor,



Models AIS MV: (LtoR)Kritik Soman, Arush Dua, Vasundhara Gupta, Ishita Bedi, Arpit Bajaj

Pics By: Tulika Banerji

Graphic: Dinesh Kumar

BFeel the Boardroom

who teaches History & Political Science at AIS Saket. “When I looked at my mathematics paper, I literally started sweating. I had no idea how I’d pass since I didn’t know the answer to the first 10 questions and was forced to seek patronage of the last 5 markers! It was simply a horrible experience!”

Educationists speak
Board exams bring with them a whole lot of anxieties for everyone,

even educationists and people we look upto for inspiration couldn’t escape their pressure. Mrs. Mohina Dar, Principal, AIS Noida admits that she was a very anxious student, “I was really tense before my Chemistry practical due to which I even vomited in the morning. But my Chemistry teacher pampered me a lot and gave me the strength to conduct the practical. And I must admit, I fared very well too.” Mrs. Renu Singh, Vice Principal of AIS Noida quips, “During

my Class X exams, one student walked away with the answer sheet itself, since he didn’t know anything!”

Student speak
Humour in uniform: Do students share the same storehouse of emotions and memories connected to their boards? Akshay Jaggi, AIS Saket who gave his board exams nearly an year back chuckles, “During one of our exams, an invigilator asked us to talk



Source: www.theglobaltimes.in (dt.25th Feb)

quietly!” failing to hide the jocularity in his tone! In juxtaposition, Preet Bani Alagh of AIS Saket says, “I was really scared during my Science practical exam. I was tensed and restless and wanted to simply finish the paper,” she adds, matter-of-factly. Eti Rastogi of DPS, Noida who gave her class X exams last year can never forget her Science exam. Since she was sitting next to the window, her supplementary sheets got blown away with the wind.“The whole school went haywire as the peons couldn’t find my sheet anywhere. Finally, they found it hanging over a tree. From that day onwards, I ensure that I keep my extra sheets safely in my desk”, says Eti.

Saas-Bahu capers: One thing that is really annoying is the continuous blabbering of the invigilators. And if by chance, they happen to be two females, then surely there is a lot of chit chat happening. Recalls Shruti Datt of AIS, Noida who took for her boards last year, “I had a tough time concentrating on my paper with two female teachers discussing their mothers-in-law and new sarees, right over my head.”●

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Q&A with Vikas Swarup

Vikas Swarup, the much acclaimed author of the novel ‘Q & A’ whose big screen adaptation ‘Slumdog Millionaire’ fetched the prestigious Golden Globe Awards and 8 Oscars, speaks to Rohit Swarup of Amity International School, Pushp Vihar, on his cine-book sizzles in an exclusive chat .

When and where did you write the book ‘Q&A’?
I wrote this book in two months when I was posted in London in 2003.

What prompted you to write this book?
I wanted to show that sometimes street knowledge can be as important as book knowledge.

Are the story and the characters inspired by real life situations or are they totally fictional?
They are totally fictional but they have echoes of some real people too.

Do you feel that the movie ‘Slumdog Millionaire’ based on your book has done justice to your original story?
My book was about survival and hope and the triumph of the underdog and the film is also about these same things. So yes, it does justice to Q&A.

Were you surprised at the response that first your book, and later the movie based on your book got?
Yes, because I thought it was a very ‘Indian’ story and would appeal only to Indians.

How do you balance the demands of a diplomatic career with that of an author?
By having a balance in life. I write only in my spare time.

Which is your next book?
I don’t know. Probably it is not set in India.

What message do you have for Amitians who aspire to be a great writer like you?
Always believe in yourself and chase your dreams.●

‘My message for the Amitians is --Always believe in yourself and chase your dreams’

News Digest

Interim Budget

Presented by Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee on 16th February, the Interim Budget fell far short of the public's expectations. Instead of accosting the challenges faced by the



Indian economy in the financial year ahead, the Finance Minister stuck with the conventions of an interim budget. No new fall-back policies were announced that could bring about retrieval of the economy from the current slowdown. The outlay on certain infrastructure projects has been increased significantly. It is to be seen if it would be able to generate the investment required.

Railway Budget

Even though the Railway budget was a suitable prequel to the Interim Budget that followed, Laloo Prasad Yadav did announce that Railways will invest Rs 2.3 trillion during



financial year to March 2010. It was highlighted that Railways has made a Rs 90,000 cr profit and Rs 10,500 cr have been allocated for pension requirements. A few negligible sops in the form of 2 % drop in AC and mail train fares and forty-three new trains were also announced

Australia blazes

Police have so far confirmed 181 deaths as the forest fires ripped across the southern state of Victoria. The toll from Australia's wildfires could exceed 200 dead, according to top officials, as investigators warned it will take months to identify the bodies and determine whether arsonists were responsible for the worst blaze which killed scores of people. The deadly blaze, a 60-mile-long fire front killed at least 147 people and decimated several hillside towns northeast of Melbourne. Officials have come under criticism for failing to notify residents of the danger or evacuate towns facing high fire risk. Australian fire authori-

ties rarely order mass evacuations but advise people to establish a fire plan that involves either leaving early or staying to defend their homes with hoses, pumps and generators.

Miraculous escape

A US Airways jet made an extraordinary emergency landing in the Hudson River into the icy cold waters. However, soon enough, a fleet of commuter ferries, water taxis and other boats plucked all 155 passengers and crew, to safety in as little as five minutes. The Airbus A320 lost power over New York and glided into the icy river. Once in the water, the plane remained intact, enabling passengers to walk out onto its wings, from which most were rescued. Some had to plunge briefly into the river before they could be



pulled to safety. Though the landing and subsequent rescue clearly relied on skill, they also had the advantage of luck. The landing occurred shortly before 3:30 p.m., just as ferries on both sides of the Hudson were "crewing up" for the afternoon rush hour. That allowed them to get to the plane almost instantly. At the same time, the river — one of the world's busiest waterways — was apparently clear enough of shipping traffic to allow the plane to set down without hitting anything.

Crash averted

An accident was averted at the Mumbai airport, after an air plane and a helicopter that was part of President Prathibha Patil's convoy. Indian Airlines flight IC 866 aircraft was given a clearance by the Air Traffic Controller (ATC) for a take off at the same time as that of the helicopter. The aircraft was already rolling on the runway when the pilot saw the helicopter approaching. A crash was averted after the pilot immediately aborted the take



off. Confirming the incident, Indian Airlines officials said, "All the passengers on board the flight are safe."●

Purane Zamane ke Daam!

Chitra Jain

AIS Vaundhara

History repeats itself. True enough, history is repeating itself what with the comeback of the global meltdown of 1931, haunting US and the world alike. Words like recession, pink slips and other such recessionista-which were unlikely to be known earlier- are commonplace today. Fired people are struggling to make a living and fired immigrants are heading back to their homeland. So what's the brighter side of it? Low fuel prices! In a bid to "pass maximum relief to the people of India," the government has lowered the petrol prices by Rs 7 bringing it down to an all time low of Rs 40.62! When was the last time we knew of petrol to be so cheap? It's just like 'Hamaare zamane mein puraane Zamane ke daam!' Certainly a breather for the common man, these prices have brought back the smile on our faces. "I simply praise the government for finally coming out of its way and doing this! I use my bike to travel around and the fuel prices were pretty rough on my pocket. But now that the prices are low, I'm able to save the money for other things," says *Abhishek Sirohi, Class XI, AIS Vasundhara*. *Nivedita Thakur (Class X) AIS Vasundhara*, is happy, "Even if the price-cut is not at all relevant for me, I am happy that our government did



something at least."

Opines *Aakriti Garg, AIS Vasundhara*, "The difference in the previous and current price is around Rs 7-8 which is almost negligible. Cost of one barrel of petrol is now so less that even packed mineral water bottle is cheaper! A mineral water bottle costs Rs 12 whereas one litre of petrol as calculated according to the cost of barrel is roughly Rs 11. If the government reduces the price of petrol even further, it will suffer a huge loss!" *Ruchismita Bhattacharjee, AIS Vasundhara* quips, "Prices are bound to fall further but oil companies aren't going to sit idle. They will ensure that

their production rate equals the demand rate. Either they will reduce production or arrange for more demand from traders, local companies, etc. All this is not in the hands of these multinational companies alone, but it depends largely on OPEC. OPEC is an organisation which sets the international price standards for oil. But one thing is for sure, recession and low prices are not going to last for long!" *Alankrita Srivastava (IX A) AIS Vasundhara* sees a political angle, "The most important reason is the upcoming Lok Sabha elections; the government is reducing the prices to woo voters in its favour!"●

Let's switch off the lights!



Let's come together to celebrate **EARTH HOUR** by switching off the lights from -
20:30 Hrs - 21:30 Hrs
on March 28, 2009

As one of the world's biggest climate change initiative, at 8.30pm on March 28, people around the world will turn their lights off for one hour - Earth Hour. The aim is to reach one billion people, more than 1000 cities, all joining together in a global effort to show that its possible to take action on global warming. Earth Hour started in 2007 in Sydney, Australia with 2.2 million homes and businesses turning their lights off for one hour. Within a year, this event had become a global sustainability movement with up to 50 million people across 35 countries participating. Earth Hour 2009 is a global call to action to every individual, every business and every community. A call to stand up, to take responsibility and to get involved in working towards a sustainable future. Over 64 countries and territories are participating in Earth Hour 2009. Earth Hour is a message of

hope and a message of action. Join us for Earth Hour 2009, turn off your lights at 8.30pm Saturday 28 March 2009. *Ishita Bedi, VII E of AIS Mayur Vihar* gives a thumbs up, "Earth Hour is a fantastic idea! As Gandhi Ji said, 'Be the change you want to see in the world.' By

EARTH HOUR

such a simple act, if we can bring about a big change, then it will be my pride to be a part of it. Earth hour will really help us to save a lot of energy. Just think – if a billion people save energy for about an hour, then so much energy can be saved!

The earth hour is a global call, a sign that will make people think and realize that it is time now that we learn to conserve and follow the path towards a sustainable future. I and my family are surely going to be a part of this!"

Ruchi Avtar, Youth Envoy-AIS Vasundhara, is excited, "If by such a small

effort, we are able to provide sustainable energy conservation, then its definitely worth it. In my colony, children will entertain by a campfire program with songs, dances and skits in that one hour when we'll switch off the lights. We'll have lanterns and candles around and just enjoy ourselves while conserving energy at the same time!"

Chitra Jain, Class IX, AIS Vasundhara feels, "Coming from a nature-loving family, watching so many nations stand in darkness for an hour fills my heart with hope, pride and joy. It's as simple as a flick of the switch. Then why can't we all, collectively and individually, take this step that may make the difference between survival and extinction? I thank GT for letting me know about it. Tell your friends, sign up and be counted! Discover how such a simple act, can have such a profound result. Go make a difference!"●

Recession the great global depression

Ankush Jain, Class IX-A
AIS Vasundhara

Recession has taken the world by storm. There is a sudden decrease in the prices of some essential commodities like petrol, diesel, LPG, etc. It seems as if globalisation has become a curse for some, but not for all. If we take the case of our country, India is not that badly hit as compared

to US and UK. However, Indian IT industry is definitely feeling the tremors, as a greater chunk of it is US linked. **Pranjal Saxena of Class X** asserts, "During this time, one must take whatever placements any person is being offered."

Arka Sain, Class IX, feels, "Of late, there was an unprecedented increase in the stock exchange, so a downfall was definitely coming."●



Attitude Pill Chitra Jain, AIS Vasundhara



"My favourite colour is pink as my favourite dress is in pink colour." Deeksha Puri, I C, Pushp Vihar

NSG Bravo-(f)acts

GT Classroom



Post 26/11 the nation paid homage to the NSG heroes of Operation Black Tornado on the occasion of the 62nd Republic day. Who were they? Where did they come from? Prashant Kaushik & Rao Harender (XI) of AIMC, Manesar give a low down on this elite force providing a second line of defence to the nation and its different facets...

History

The NSG was set up in 1984 as a FCDF (Federal Contingency Deployments Force) to tackle all facets of terrorism in the country. The primary role of this force is to combat terrorism in whatever form it may assume in areas where activity of terrorists assumes serious proportions, and the state police and other central police forces cannot cope up with the situation. The NSG is a force specially trained to deal with specific situations. As on December, 2008, Germany offered to give additional assistance, training to upgrade NSG by famous GSG9, the elite special force of the German federal police.

Physical Structure

The NSG with a total strength of 7500 personnel is divided into two groups namely the Special Action Group (SAG)

Overall Operational Result	
Armed recovered	131
Explosive recovered	100 Kg.
Terrorist killed	106
Terrorist apprehended	34
Terrorist surrendered	339
Hostage rescued	625

and the Special Rangers Group (SRG). The former comprises 54% of the force drawn from the Indian Army. The latter with members from BSF, CRPF, ITBP and RAF plays a supportive role to SAG. Those who complete the basic training period at the organisation's training centre at Manesar successfully are inducted into the NSG and given further specialised training.

Prime Tasks

- Neutralising specific terrorist threat in any given area, building, vital installation etc.
- Engaging terrorists or suspected terrorists in specific situations in order to neutralize them.
- Handlings hijack situations involving piracy in the air and land.
- Rescue of hostages in kidnapping situations.

How can one join & be trained for NSG ?

NSG is a deputationist force and therefore there is no direct recruitment. NSG commandos come from Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force and Central Coastal Guard and other Forces. The requests need to come through respective government agencies. There is no arrangement for training private individuals. There are also several physical and psychological tests to assess suitability

GT Question-4 Win SurPrizes

Name the NSG Martyrs in Operation Black Tornado ?

**Send in your answers at
The GT Q-4, AKC House,
E-27, Defence Colony,
New Delhi-110024**

Ans to GT Q-3

Q: Is the duration of day on earth increasing, decreasing or constant?

Ans: Increasing. Due to tidal effect of moon on earth, the rotational speed of earth is decreasing which increases the duration of the day.

Winner : Navanshu Aggarwal, VII D, AIS Gurgaon Sect 43

NSG's Previous Operations

May12, 1988 | Operation Black Thunder II. **April 25, 1994** | Operation Ashwamedh. **Oct, 1998** | Major Combat Missions in J&K. **July15, 1999** | Rescue of 12 hostages held by terrorists who stormed an apartment complex in Kashmir and Killed 4 people. **Sept 25, 2002** | Operation Vajra Shakti. **Nov, 2008** | Mumbai attacks - Operation Black Tornado, Operation Cyclone ●

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Pix: Pankaj Mallik

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Management Entrance examinations like CAT, XAT, MAT, SNAP etc, are cracked through customized variety programmes launched by AICE to suit the requirement of different people from different backgrounds. It caters to the rigours of post graduate management education that demands multi skilled and dedicated individuals. ●

For further detail : E - 25, Defence Colony, New Delhi - 110024. Ph. : 2433611000 9311149494, 9971912815 ■ B - 1/632, Second Floor, Nr. East Janakpuri Metro Station, Janakpuri, New Delhi - 110058. Ph.: 25573111/12/13/14, 9891549663 ■ Amity International School, Mayur Vihar Phase-I Ext., Delhi Ph.: 22710588, 9873457699 ■ Amity Campus, Sector-44, Noida - 201303. Ph.: 0120-2431842, 2431839, 9818978036 ■ Amity International School, Sec-6, Vasundhara Vojna, Ghaziabad, Ph.: 0120-2881002, 9213930982 ■ Amity International School, Sec. 46, Gurgaon, Haryana, Ph. : 0124-3240105, 9873405270, 9810960931



"My favourite colour is black because my Papa has a car with black stripes." Yash Rajvansh Misra, I C, PV



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Welcome A'board'

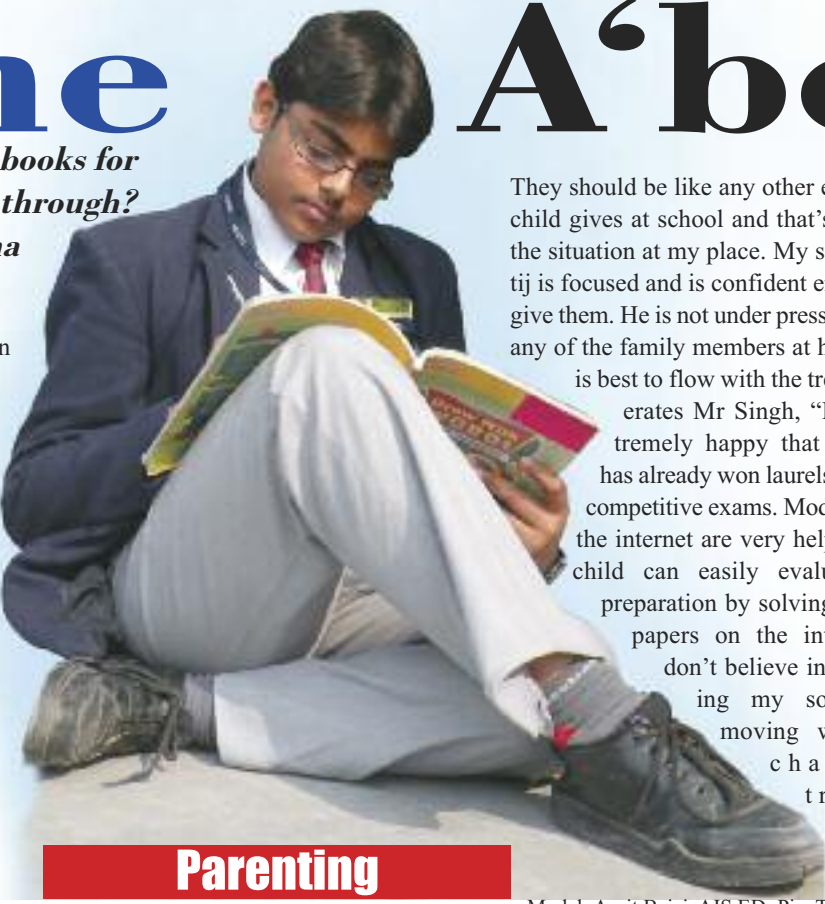
When students are earnestly craning their necks into books for the upcoming Boards, what are their parents going through?

Swati Mongia of MJMC-I, ASCO, unravels the dilemma of being a board student's parent...

Are 'good marks' good enough? Boards are the first and most important milestone in a person's educational life. However, marks may not be the end of education, feels Mrs Lauria, mother of Kshitij, student of class XII, AIS Noida. "In such competitive times, with varied job openings, good marks don't matter that much. If the child has a good personality and is street smart, he would be successful too. His personality would out shine the marks in his resume when he goes out in the world and communicates with people," she opines. Mr Singh, father of Parth Singh, studying in class X in AIS Noida echoes, "It doesn't really matter what the percentile would be, because people sometimes

tend not to give their best during an exam and get less than expected. That doesn't mean that they don't have merit. If the child has merit, he would be successful any way." He also claims that a lot of people at the top levels do not have very good qualifications. "All of them aren't from IIT's or IIM's but that doesn't stop them from being successful."

Just another exam: Boards are fast becoming 'just another exam' rather than an acid test students must go through to come out pure and refined. Mrs Lauria believes, "There shouldn't be any pressure on students going through boards.



Parenting

They should be like any other exam the child gives at school and that's exactly the situation at my place. My son Kshitij is focused and is confident enough to give them. He is not under pressure from any of the family members at home." It is best to flow with the trend, reiterates Mr Singh, "I am extremely happy that my son has already won laurels in other competitive exams. Modems like the internet are very helpful as a child can easily evaluate his preparation by solving sample papers on the internet. I don't believe in restricting my son from moving with the changing trends."

Model: Arpit Bajaj, AIS ED; Pic: Tulika Banerji

After all, it's just another exam." **Let the child be:** Today, parents believe in letting children find their own feet, rather than breathing down their necks. So claims Mr. Singh, "As a parent I am very supportive of my son and have never forced him to do anything. I have completely left it upon him to decide for himself, giving a helping hand whenever needed. An individual's growth is only possible if he learns to chart down his own path in life." Mrs Lauria, too, gives her son enough space, "We have never forced our child to choose something that we want. It was his will to take science and then follow up in that field itself. His focus is on IIT's and he knows how to manage his time between work and leisure. I don't constantly nag him, though when I see him setting his eyes too much to T.V or computer, he is sent back to set his eyes to his books. Forcing children too much will never help."●



Little scientists

Amity International School Sector 46, Gurgaon (Primary Wing) organized a Science Exhibition on 7th February 09, under the guidance of Principal Neetii C. Kaoshik and Head Mistress (Primary Wing) Suman Sharma. The junior scientists of Primary Wing displayed outstanding models and conducted experiments on various topics related to Science. Their efforts were appreciated by parents who visited the Exhibition. The aim of the Exhibition was to inculcate a scientific mode of thought among the children. The combined efforts of the teachers and students have helped in making it a successful event.●

Exam hall blues

...Contd from pg 1

"That day was the most miserable day of my entire life. I was giving my XIIth boards. A student sitting behind had thrown a chit with some notes beside my desk. Unaware, I continued attempting my paper. Soon, an examiner discovered the chit and thinking that I was the one cheating, dragged me out of the examination hall! Despite my appeals of innocence, I was handed over the rustication letter and barred to join any college/institution. I did not belong to an influential background and thus, could not appeal for justice. But, as people say that God helps 'the good'; after much struggle, I reappeared for the exams and now have completed my PhD and MBA. I am thankful to God that I have a job in the Air Force now. But I will always remember the misery suffered and the struggle which took to bring my life back to normal," narrates a relative to **Akshita Singh, AIS Gurgaon-46** on condition of anonymity. Sometimes, one board experience changes the course of one's life forever.

Scrumptious Samosa! The thing which troubles many students is when invigilators are given mouthwatering delicacies, while they have to control their taste buds and continue writing that never-ending paper seemingly unperturbed by it all. **Nihar Apte of XI C, AIS Noida** quips, "During my Social Studies exam, the supervisor was given a *samosa* to eat and I must have stared at it for a very long time as the teacher, flushing with guilt handed it over to me! I had the time



of my life, eating and writing my paper simultaneously." This is not all. **Gaurav Keswani of Class XI, AIS Saket** laments, "When the invigilator was given a *samosa* during my Maths paper, the delicious aroma of the delicacy didn't allow me to concentrate on my paper. That is why, I got less marks in Maths!" **Vaishali Singh of AIS Gurgaon 46** shares her weight issues, "In the board year, during the time between 31st January and 31st March, one's health tends to take a backseat. Studying is a sedentary job. I developed an annoying habit of munching while studying; so I gained about 10kgs sitting and studying!" Those who wish to forget the dreadful memory of the boardroom find it an inalienable part of their lives. The rest, recollect the challenging but enjoyable Board time, which is undoubtedly a crucial hallmark of the scintillating spring season. It is because of such bizarre incidents only that our board exams remain engraved in our memories for years to come and are the most memorable episodes of our life!●



The Topper is in you

A few tips to crack the CBSE Exams-●Read NCERT books thoroughly. Go through each and every line.●Give equal importance to all subjects.●Practice a lot of Model Test Papers and get them checked by teachers, so that you know your shortcomings.●Make notes for every subject in your own words. They really help in revision.●Don't compromise on your sleep. Sleep for 8 hours daily as it rejuvenates you.●Take out time for relaxation like watching TV, playing, etc.●Don't forget to pray! So friends, put in your best and leave the rest to God. Best of luck!●

ACERT embarks upon modern teaching challenges

Prerna Manchanda

Amity Centre for Educational Research and Training (ACERT), founded in 2006 by Founder President Dr. Ashok K. Chauhan, is a front runner in the field of Teacher training. The programme crafted to promote innovative teaching practices and enlightened teachers, currently offers *Montessori Teacher Training* in Delhi, Noida and Gurgaon. "Teachers," believes Ms Sapna Chauhan, Vice Chairperson, Amiown, "are the most influential factors in the life of a child. They are the role models who guide each child to discover his/her unique personality and potentials. To be a good teacher one should possess not only a sensitive and dedicated outlook but also a thorough understanding of the psychology of a child and should have effective teaching skills." ACERT ensures to build teachers, who are willing to take the challenges of modern teaching.



Skill Development Programs: Teacher trainees, who constitute an integral part of the programme

learn about the psychological and holistic development of a child and acquire multifarious professional skills through its Skill Development Programs. Varied yet relevant subject areas such as story telling, speech & drama, music & movement, trip planning & execution, child nutrition & meal planning, classroom management & parent interaction, art & crafts, language development, first aid & curriculum planning

Best Practices

are covered extensively under this programme. **Teacher Training Programs:** Not just confined to theoretical teaching, ACERT maintains a close working relationship with Amiown - the caring Pre-school. While, in most Teacher Training Programs students are sent for Teaching Practice only at the end of the course, at ACERT it is an ongoing process. The unique practice of sending students for weekly observation to Amiown class-



For more information on the course, please contact: Delhi (9873398169); Gurgaon (9871198164); Noida (9873398129)

rooms encourages self reflection and enriches classroom discussions. The trainees bring with them the valuable insights into how their theoretical knowledge can be and is translated into practical methods. The opportunity to interact with children from the beginning of the Course allows ACERT students to experiment with and evolve their personal teaching style. Today, more than 200 ACERT graduates are working successfully in leading schools across the NCR. Some students have also found employment in countries like UK, USA and New Zealand.●(Writer: A former student of ACERT, she opted for the programme after extensively researching many options which included B.Ed, NTT, PTT Programs. Today she is a teacher at ACERT Gurgaon. Her journey from Student to a Teacher Trainee at ACERT, helped her rediscover herself. Inspired by the words of Rabindranath Tagore... "A lamp can never light another lamp, unless it continues to burn with its own flame."... she says, "In order to teach others we ourselves have to continuously strive for excellence and work hard to update our knowledge. Both professionally and personally, working with ACERT has been a great learning and satisfying experience for me.")

"My favourite colour is pink as it is very bright." **Ravisha Saini, I A, Pushp Vihar**

Scholastic alerts
April-2009
Institute/Exam: IIT and India School of Mines
Course/Discipline: Engineering and others
Entrance Exam: IIT-Jt. Entrance Exam
Website: www.iitd.ernet.in
Institute/Exam: CBSE - All India Pre Medical Test
Course/Discipline: MBBS
Entrance Exam: AIPMT
Website: www.aimpt.nic.in
Institute/Exam: GGS IP University
Course/Discipline: UG&PG Courses
Entrance Exam: Common Entrance Test
Website: www.ipu.ac.in
Institute/Exam: CBSE Engineering and other colleges
Course/Discipline: Engg/Pharmacy/ Architecture
Entrance Exam: All India Engg Ent. Exam (AIEEE)
Website: www.cbse.nic.in

Holi: Splash in Style

Model: Aditi Banerji, KG 15, AIS Noida



Imaging: Pankaj Mallik

Vallari Suharsh, VIII C
AIS Noida

Herald-in organic holi with home-made and safe colours

Harmful chemical colours are the perils of Holi. This joyous festival of colours can be fun and harmless if you play with environment-friendly natural colours. These are not only environment friendly and low cost but can also be made easily at home.

Most Holi colours sold in the market are oxidized metals or industrial dyes mixed with engine oil. For instance, Green comes from

copper sulphate, purple is chromium iodide and all shiny colours are result of powdered glass being added to the colors. All these are toxic and can result in anything from skin allergies, eye irritation to blindness and much more. When washed, they enter the rivers and increase pollution. By using safe, natural colours we not only save our skins but also help save our environment and conserve our biodiversity. Have you ever wondered how to make Holi, natural and healthy for our environment and ourselves? Try this out.

Recipes for organic colors

Dry Red Colour You can use red sandal wood powder. Powder of dry red hibiscus flowers mixed with any flour will give natural red colour.

Wet Red Colour Mix turmeric powder in

water and add few drops of lemon juice. Within seconds, you will get bright red colour.

Dazzling Yellow-Dry Yellow Colour: Mix two spoons of turmeric powder with four spoons of besan for bright yellow color.

Wet Yellow Colour: Mix Two spoons of turmeric in four liters of water and stir well.

Garden Green- Dry Green Colour: Make a paste out of different leaves like spinach, coriander, mint etc in water and leave it to dry. Another method is to mix mehndi and any flour.

Wet Green Colour: Take four spoons of henna and mix in two liter of water.

Marvelous Magenta - Wet Magenta Colour: Grate beetroot and soak in one liter water for magenta colour.

Sparkling Saffron- Mix a pinch of sandalwood powder in 1 litre of water for an instant, beautiful and fragrant saffron color. ●

AIS Noida Speaks

Holi not so 'Holy' anymore

Vaishnavi Sridhar, IX E, AIS Noida: Today, Holi is no more the end of evil but the dawn of unruly behaviour. People can be seen throwing water balloons and eve teasing while riding bikes in full speed.

Nikita Khattar, XI, AIS Noida: No festival can beat the spirit and exhilaration connected with Holi. But due to the way it is played today, it would not be wrong to say that it is no more a holy festival. The dangerous side of Holi colours, which are known to cause skin cancer, can ruin the spirit of the festival. Organic colours are a safer bet and eco-friendly alternative to such unsafe colours.

Bhuvan Ravindran, VIII C, AIS Noida: A festival that was supposed to signify happiness and unity has turned into a garish display of uncouth behaviour and a mockery in the name of Indianness, destroying the very essence of this colourful fiesta that reinforces human bonds. Let us all determine to restore the true holy spirit of this festival by not indulging in indecent and anti-social activities this Holi.

Kanchan Joneja, VIII I, AIS Noida: Instead of spreading happiness and festivity by rubbing 'gula' as a sign of friend-

ship, people get drunk with 'bhang' and act violently with grease and other filthy material, changing the meaning of the beautiful festival.

Aditya Garg, IX A, AIS Noida: It is very unfortunate that we, the human beings, have hurt God by turning the divine festival of colours to an opportunity for hooliganism using unfriendly colours and rowdy methods

Kritika Dusad, XI C, AIS Noida: "Holi is not a fulfilled festival anymore. It is now a brutal war waged with harsh colours. We

must remember that holi should fill our hearts with joy and not with fear and repulsion."

Amlaan Kumar, V F, AIS Noida: Holi is a sacred festival and has a mythological story behind it. People enjoy this festival by throwing colours on one another as we often experience while playing in water kingdoms at amusement parks. They enjoy in harmony with bright colours. Though a few people have tried to pollute the festival with dirty pranks, but that does not change its holy spirit. The holy spirit of holi has always been there.

A mouth-watering Avatar

Srishti Kakkar

AIS Sec 46, Gurgaon

Are you tired of your Mom telling you; "Stop wasting food! Eat those Chappatis." or, "Why don't you eat that vegetable? Do you know how nutritious it is? Well here are some really yummy ways to make those 'horrible', 'tasteless' food melt in your mouth and since most of these recipes use healthy ingredients; there won't be any complaints from your parents!!!

Mixed Vegetable Chappati Pizza (Any Vegetable you dislike)

Ingredient : Chopped onions, Sliced tomatoes, Grated cheese, 1 Thick Chappati, Oregano Pepper

Method : On the chappati, spread a thin layer of tomato ketchup. Spread the vegetable on top and sprinkle chopped onions, put tomato slices and top with grated cheese. Microwave for 30 sec or put in oven for 10-15 minutes.



NITA MEHTA TIPS: Adopt a rainbow approach while eating fruits & vegetables. Include different coloured fruits and vegetables like green, orange, yellow, etc. so that it ensures variety vitamins & minerals.

Banana Cake (Use only Overripe bananas)

Ingredient : 2 cups Flour, 3-4 Eggs, 1 ¼ cup Sugar, ¼ cup Melted Butter, 3-4 big Overripe Bananas, 1/3 tsp Baking Pwd, ¼ tsp Baking Soda

Method: Take out Banana pulp and mash. Add butter, sugar and beaten egg and beat the whole mixture well. Add flour mixed with soda and baking powder. Mix well. Add a little milk if the mixture is too thick. Pour into a greased cake tin and bake at about 200° C. Once the bread is brown, check with a wooden stick. It should come out clean. ●

Counsel's Korner

Vipula, Counselor, AIS Gur Sec 43

How can I improve my memory?



S. Vignesh IX

Association and visualization are the two strongest tools which help in better understanding and longer memory. Understand your lessons well by focusing and associating them with your previous memory.

When learning a group of items in a sequence, use mnemonics. For example: The best way to remember the old nine planets is with the help of mnemonics which goes like this-'My Very Elegant Mother Just Show Us Nine Planets.' The first letter of every word brings to mind

the name of the nine planets. Reading, Retention, Recall and Revision are the four Rs of good memory - Read and understand your lesson. Learn properly so that the lesson is well retained in mind. Recall to check and ensure retention. Revise to strengthen retention. Form mind maps of the whole chapter on a sheet in the form of tables and bubbles. This helps to form a link between the topic and its sub-topics. It will also help you to have a comprehensive idea of the chapter and will serve as an aid to remember the chapter at the time of exams. Strengthen learning, prepare a Point Sheet. It is a summary sheet where you mention the main points of each topic. This sheet serves as an effective aid in remembering the chapters. ●



मेरी आशा चित्रकला प्रतियोगिता

Colour your Dreams

Amitasha organized its first ever inter-NGO painting competition titled 'Meri Asha' on February 5, 2009 at **Amity International School, Pushp Vihar**. The painting competition sponsored by **Piddilite** and brought in association with **The Global Times** witnessed over 200 children from different NGO's namely Prayas, Chintan and Smile take part in the competition.

The event teed off with the lighting of the lamp by a student representative from each participating school accompanied with the melodious rendering of

invocation to the Lord.

The competition organized in junior (5-8 Years) and senior (9-13 Years) category provided the participants with a platform to unwind themselves with colours as they painted on the theme 'Meri Asha'. Their tiny fingers with brushes dipped in water-colour displayed their instinctive desires and wishes on a blank sheet of paper.

The event spearheaded under the leadership of Chairperson Amity International Schools Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan was a grand success. Congratulating the students, she said: "Paintings of students as

future doctors serving the poor in villages, as army men fighting enemies across the border, girls attending schools and riding a tractor, ensures one thing that our nation has a great future."

The occasion was graced by the presence of Ms Nupur Kundu Senior celebrity artist and Chief Guest for the day. Ms Divya Chuahan, Chairperson Amity School of Fashion Technology and Amity School of Fine Arts was the guest of honour. They also teamed in to judge the entries for the day.

Anu Gupta of Amitasha Noida stood first in the junior category followed by Pinky Kanuja and Rudra Thapa of Prayas at the second and third position respectively. Renu Kumari of Amitasha Saket won a consolation prize. Beena, Tanisha Ansari, Rajesh and Farida of Prayas, Amitasha Saket, Smile and Chintan received a Special Mention Prize each.

In the senior category the first prize was bagged by Renu of Prayas followed by Vikas Kumar and Radha Kumari of Smile and Amitasha Noida respectively. Renu Kumari and Deepika of Amitasha Noida won a consolation prize. Krishna, Vandana, Rashida and Rajni of Smile, Prayas, Chintan and Amitasha Saket received a Special Mention Prize each. ●

For complete story and more pix logon to www.theglobaltimes.in



L to R: Nupur Kundu, Manorama Saxena, Ms Divya Chauhan and Dr (Ms) Amita Chauhan giving away the prize



"I love the colour Red as it is my House colour." Gargi Kulkarni, II E, AIS Noida

All the best

“There is no end to education. It is not that you read a book, pass an examination, and finish with education. The whole of life, from the moment you are born to the moment you die, is a process of learning.”

-Jiddu Krishnamurti



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Every year, thousands of children across India appear for Board exams. The All India Board Exam provides them with a platform to test their school education and performance vis-à-vis their counterparts nationwide. This healthy competition, assumes a monster shape when the competition ends with stress to achieve more in the race to win. Its important to understand that the stress developed from surroundings i.e school, peer and parent pressure can only lower the performance, not enhance it.

I am proud that Amitians have performed brilliantly in Boards surpassing every previous record each year. Nikita Khattar, Delhi & NCR topper CBSE 2008, is a shining example of this. While it's important to perform and excel in your field, it is definitely not the end of everything. The objective of any examination is not to fail or pass, but to assess ones capabilities and interests. Your efforts should be directed towards improving upon your own self, and excellence just follows in. Remember, life is not about securing 99%. The ritual of Havans performed for the examinees to seek the blessings of the Almighty as they enter the boardroom, give them the strength and confidence to deliver their best. For every Amitians who enters the boardroom this year, remember one thing: I am the best. Wishing you, 'All the Best'. •

Holy colours



Vira Sharma

Every Holi reminds me of the lavish scented bath that the old wealthy man in the village indulged in. Ornamented with pomp and vigour, it was a show performed on a chabutra (platform) in the aangan, in my village, that could definitely put many Hollywood wet scenes to shame. It was an occasion to rejoice as the bath was a formal announcement of end of winter and time to splash with water.

As I grew up, realization dawned that Holi was not just one Bath that the entire village witnessed, but a celebration of colours with many mythological tales and many hues of moods and masti. Mythological tales have associated this festival with victory of good over evil, celebration of love and the heralding of new harvest. Legend has it that Hirnakashyipu designed death for his son Prahlada, an ardent devotee of Lord Vishnu. However he came out of the fire without any burns, while Holika was consumed by the fire. Huge bonfires lit a day prior to Holi symbolize this event from mythology, celebrating victory of good over evil.

Legend has it that Holi is associated with the love of Radha & Krishna. Jealous of Radhas's fair complexion, Krishna smears her with colours as a prank.

Legend associates Holi with God of love. On this day, Kamdev was burnt to ashes by Shiva for using his arrow of love on him to help Parvati impress Lord.

Yet, another legend, revolves around the demon Dhundi. Petrified under her tyranny, Shiva cursed Dhundi with helplessness before the pranks of young boys. Unable to tolerate the humiliation from young boys, she was forced to flee from there.

The legend may be unending, but this Holi, just let the spirit remain holy. Happy Holi! •

All in the name of 'Sri Ram'

Gaurav Sharma, XI
AIS Saket

Saturday, January 24, 2009, was just another day for the bartender. This was until forty members of the right wing, Sri Ram Sene barged into the pub, manhandled and physically attacked the women present there, under the guise of safeguarding 'culture'. They based their actions on moral policing as retaliation against women dancing obscenely and consuming alcohol.

As far as the legalities are concerned, the pub had the legal license and alcohol was being served during permitted hours. All the women were within the permitted age limit and at that particular moment and in that situation, none of them were breaking any laws or legal provisions of any kind.

The media attention to this incident has obviously created a mild political stir. The actions of these men were condemned in the strongest of terms by political leaders. A 'Taliban like' culture is emerging in India and is mainly being propagated by nonsensical extremist groups like Ram Sene. So the question still lingers: where do we draw the lines to moral policing? Since when has wearing of T-shirts and jeans by women, or consuming alcohol and dancing started to be considered offen-



sive? How can we be so liberal and accept a woman as the President of our nation and at the same time express disgust when women are enjoying their privacy, within their rights?

The answer to this question is simple. India is changing fast economically and socially. Nobody (yet) owns the culture of this country. The younger generations, who don't give as much as a second thought to politics, have started enjoying a new dimension of freedom in terms of wealth and opportunity. The older generations, the still politically active ones, are the ones that have been

left behind because they have not been able to digest these changes.

The females, whose roles were previously limited to that of the housekeeper, have realized the same and discovered a new found financial independence. The female youth of today prefers to go out and spend a 'cool evening' with friends, a domain held previously by the boys of the family, rather than as expected by the elders, to help with the kitchen, which is good enough, as it isn't really fair to restrict women from enjoying financial and social independence.

The male of the society, previously the keeper of social and economic duties, is being ruffled. For a long time, he could direct these matters arbitrarily, and now he is finding himself alone. The other females of the society who feel deprived of this change are not willing to let others enjoy it and are desperate to pull the youth back into the system in which they have for so long suffered. This is where moral policing begins.

It's sad to note that some people are using moral policing as a tool to harass the youth and that too for something as illogical as this and not for some actual benefits. To all the proponents of this kind of force, I have just a few simple questions: Is publicly hitting a woman more indecent than giving a rose to your loved one and going to pubs? Is urinating on the roadside in open more indecent or lovers holding hands?

The government should thus use moral policing (if at all) as an instrument to instill civic sense and public discipline as it is much needed among the citizens of this nation. To the members of the Ram Sene I just have to ask: Is evading income tax, practicing child labour, dowry system, drinking and driving or something as simple as not helping poor people and disrespecting women that they must be indulging in daily, more shameful than going to pubs? •

Education for Empowerment



Surabhi Mittal, VIII
AIS Gurgaon 43

The deity of learning according to Hindu mythology is Goddess Saraswati (a female), but women are forbidden against imbibing education. This reflects the hypocrisy prevalent among the Indian males. There is discrimination in the upbringing of a girl and a boy in the Indian family system, especially in rural areas. Girls are denied access to medical care, education, childhood

privileges and are kept subjugated.

The reason attributed to such gender bias is the notion that girls should be confined to the realms of the house. Boys, on the other hand, are educated because they are deemed to provide for their family and support their parents in their old age. It has been rightly said that: "If you educate a man, you educate a person; but if you educate a woman, you educate a family." Being uneducated herself, the mother is unable to teach her children and they take to wrong

ways. Child labour among the illiterate classes has resulted mainly because the mother is unable to guide her children and protect them from the menace. It can be noticed that states, where female literacy is equally emphasized with male literacy; have recorded low population growth and high standards of living. The government and NGOs should work together to achieve total female literacy. This can be a stepping stone towards the rapid development of the country. In the rural sector, apart from education, vocational training should be imparted to womenfolk. Education leads to awareness which could lead to decline in child marriage, child labour and other social evils. Swami Vivekananda said, "Educate your women first and leave them to themselves, then they will tell you what reforms are needed." Girls should be educated also because they are found to be more determined and committed towards education and they even outdo the boys at various examinations. Girls are found to be diligent, coupled with having a responsible nature and higher maturity level than boys. Thus, education of a girl child would mean the emancipation of women and social development of the nation. •

Wear your smile

Pranjal Jain, VIII B
AIS Pushp Vihar



To conquer difficulties, there is more power in a smile than in a sigh. It is very often that we're told to write essays about discipline, good manners and time management. But

has the importance of smile ever been pressed and stressed? A smile has been defined as a signature of happiness, besides being the best cosmetic to beauty. There is only one way to happiness and that is to cease worrying about things which are beyond our power. Smile is a unique medicine that relaxes our tensed muscles, reassures those around you and helps you to enjoy life even when you don't have everything that you want. It is such a thing that anywhere you take it, you win. Its charm is such that it wins you anyone's love and affection. With it, you can conquer many hearts and make new friends. A smile is a weapon with which you can easily and peacefully win your enemies without annoying them. So, next time when the going gets tough, try smiling and you will soon discover that with the expansion of your lips your troubles will contract. •

Thank You for publishing the article on my collection of books in 'I-Zone' in the February issue of GT. I was absolutely thrilled when I saw the edition. Even my earlier Hindi Mam (teacher) congratulated me and said that she liked the article. I received a lot of attention and simply loved it. Even though the euphoria lasted only for a day, it was enough to make me happy for the whole year.

Ruchismita, AIS Vasundhara



The Feb issue of GT has been beautifully designed and I was delighted to find my article 'Gift Your Love!' But as I turned to Page 7, my heart skipped a beat where articles on MK Gandhi (which made for a very enjoyable read) were there, but my article on 'herbs' wasn't present. Hoping to see it printed soon.

Sakshi Goel, AIS Gur-43

Sakshi, watch out for your article on 'Herbs' in the forthcoming issues.

Pearls of wisdom

- A mother is a person who, seeing that there are four pies for five people, promptly announces she never did care for a pie.
- Remember happiness does not depend upon who you are or what you have, it depends solely on what you think.
- Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others.
- Do not wait for ideal circumstances,

- or the best opportunities, they will never come.
- Life is what we make it, always has been, always will be.
- Happiness is a butterfly which when pursued is always just beyond your grasp but which if you will sit down quietly may alight upon you.


Compiled by
Apoorva Pandey, VII E, AIS ED

The Book Garage

From the clichéd but all time favourite childlike fairy tales Cinderella to Little Red Riding Hood, graduating to more serious sci-fi & mystery novels, engaging psychological ones to fantasy love stories, each book belongs to a different genre. **Swati Mongia** of ASCO, Amity University Noida, brings a classified collection of young, new generation favourites as fantasy, adventure, thriller, philosophical and psychological.

The Alchemist

By Paulo Coelho




The Alchemist is a magical fable about realizing and believing in dreams. It is a wonderful and a simple story of a young shepherd who follows his dreams of treasure and encounters many experiences, learning the lessons of life along the way. The story talks about how to turn lead into gold, the wonders and uncertainties of the changes one faces in his/her life, the secret of enjoying the beauty of life without bothering about harshness of reality. In the end, the shepherd finds the treasure and is a very happy young lad, not because of the jewels he has found as part of the materialistic treasure but because of the jewels he has discovered within him during his journey of success.

Soumya Wadhwa, (IX-B), AIS Sec 43, Gurgaon

The Chronicles of Narnia

By Clives Staples Lewis




Journeys to the end of the world, fantastic creatures and epic battles between good and evil, the book that has it all is The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe, written by C.S Lewis. But Lewis did not stop there. Six more books followed, together known as ‘The Chronicles of Narnia’. For over fifty years, they have transcended the fantasy genre to become an integral part of the canon of classic literature. Each of the seven books is a masterpiece, that draws the reader into a land where magic meets reality, and the result is a fictional world whose scope has fascinated generations.

Utkarsh Keswani (VB) AIS Sec 46, Gurgaon

Digital Fortress

By Dan Brown




Intelligent and beautiful Susan Fletcher, head of the National Security Agency-Cryptography division, caught in a storm of secrecy, lies and fights to save the agency whose principles and purpose of existence she completely believes in. The NSA is on a secret mission trying to break a mysterious code that holds in itself the future of the agency. David Becker an extraordinary university teacher romantically involved with Susan is sent under cover to search for the pass key which would enable NSA to unlock the unbreakable code -DIGITAL FORTRESS. With oodles of suspense and excitement, coupled with interesting characterisation makes this book thrilling, realistic and a must read to experience the adrenalin rush.

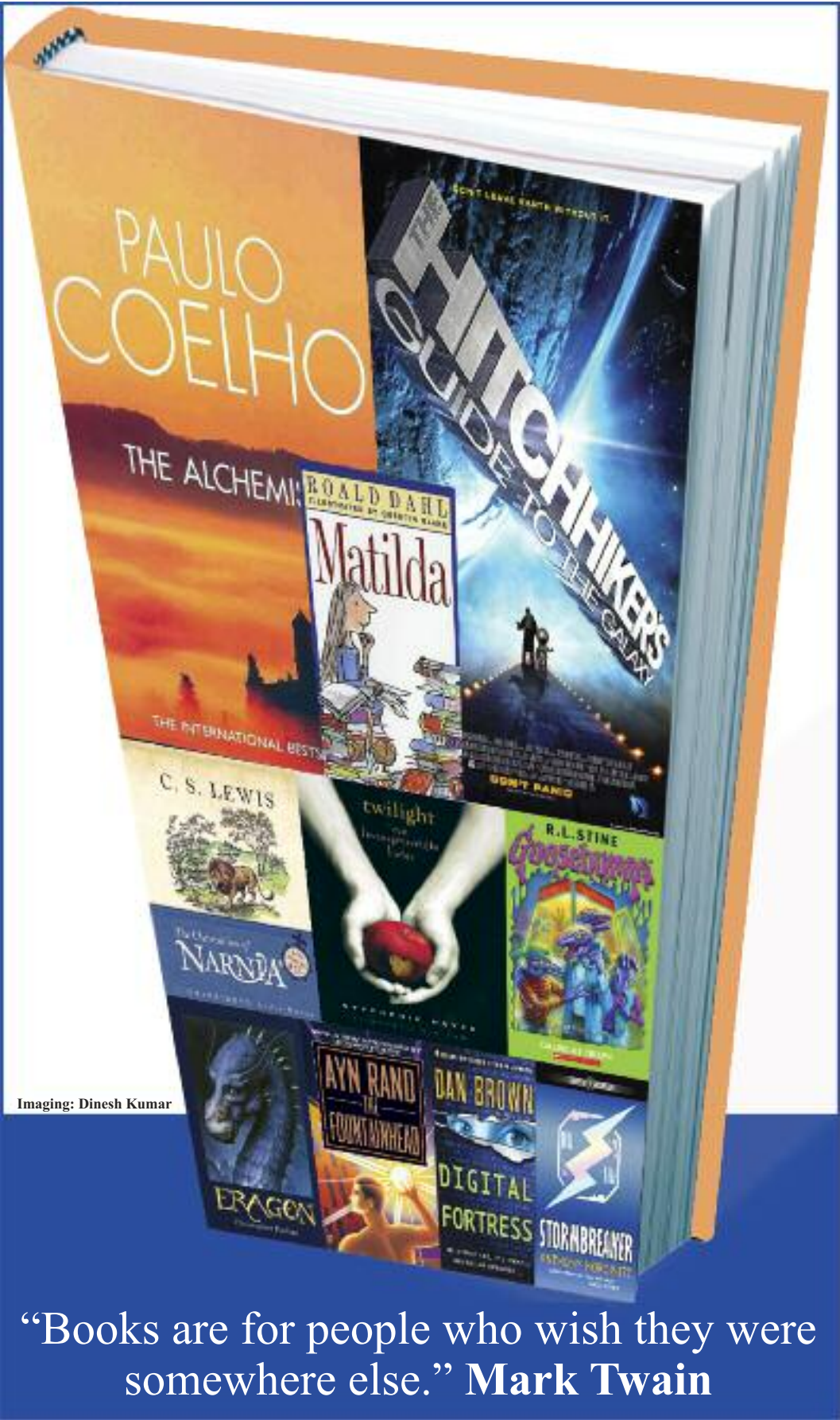
Charu Gupta (XI) AIS, Noida

Eragon

By Christopher Paolani



This story starts when a poor farm boy named Eragon, finds a polished blue stone while hunting in the cursed woods of Alagasia called Spine. He thinks it’s a normal blue rock until a dragon hatches from it making Eragon plunge into the world of magic, fantasy and war, full of dwarfs, dragons, elves, giants and a lot more breathtaking adventures. He starts his journey with an old storyteller Brom. The storyteller reveals himself as a rider who lost his dragon at a very young age and a secret agent of the varden (the good people). The story ends when Eragon slays and kills the right hand of an evil king Galbotrix. Galboltrix hates Eragon and treats him like a dog. Will Eragon be able to slay Galbotrix? Will Eragon make allies or enemies? So all you for-




Imaging: Dinesh Kumar

“Books are for people who wish they were somewhere else.” Mark Twain

tune-hunters, you must grab your copy right away!
Daksh Chhokra, AIS Sec-43, Gurgaon

The Fountainhead

By Ayn Rand




Ayn Rand has been one of the most controversial yet inspiring writers of her time. The Fountainhead, her first best seller, became an immediate success for the amusing and simply confusing way in which she unfolds her story. The story is a simple one revolving around the life of an architect, Howard Roark. He is not a usual student, he shines with a brilliance few can match, and with a rebellious sense of individualism, fewer still have. Through the book, she talks of three sections of a society. One is that part who feels it’s their birthright to control those around them, talk of virtues and righteousness and feel significant in influencing the lives of others. The second type is those who are under confident and blindly appreciate a well-worded speech because the speech also said that they were fools if they couldn’t understand it. The third kinds are those who don’t care for the first two, but will believe in themselves even if their effort breaks them.

Adhiti Raman (XI D) AIS Noida

The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy (Trilogy)

By Douglas Adams




An Earthling Arthur Dent whose house is bulldozed for the construction of a bypass meets a hitchhiker from Betelgeuse, namely Ford Prefect while the earth is about to be demolished by a group of Vagon ships. He hitchhikes on a Vagon sip and lands up meeting Zaphod Beeblebrox, the runaway president of the Galaxy and his fiancée Trillian who is also an earthling. From here they go on a journey across the cosmos encountering various adventures including the dinner at the Restaurant at the End of The Universe and the saving of the Universe from the wrath of the Krikkits. Marvin, the Paranoid Android, also plays an important part in their journeys through the various regions of ‘varying degrees of difficulty’. A classic work of modern science fiction for those who aspire to read spy fiction or sensational journalism.

Digant Pandey, AIS Noida

Matilda

By Roald Dahl

Five year old genius girl- Matilda’s parents think




that she is a rebel, good for nothing girl. However, Matilda is a genius who has this special ability of moving things with her eyes. She along with her favourite teacher, Miss Honey, teach their malicious, vicious principal Miss Trunchbull, a lesson. Roald Dahl, won the Children’s Book Award for this book that has also been made into a movie. So you better catch this book fast!

Riya Pal (VII – E) AIS Noida

Stormbreaker

By Anthony Horowitz




‘Stormbreaker’, awarded the New York Times #1 Bestseller (children series), that features the teenage super spy Alex Rider on his first mission, is a non-stop thriller, with action and suspense crammed into every page. Badman Herod Sayle, is a cunning mastermind, who evidently had something to do with Alex’s uncle, Ian Rider’s death. An apprehensive Alex steps into his uncles shoes to find out that there is more to his uncles death than the simple car crash. He was not an ordinary banker as everyone thought him to be, but a spy for MI6 –Britain’s top-secret intelligence agency. Soon, he is caught in a deadly game of cat and mouse where he must rely on his wits and strength to remain alive and fighting. Complete with virtual reality full of high-tech and Horowitz’s uncanny humor, the book is a mind-blowing read, with a racing plot, deadly stunts and deadlier criminals.

Anisha Agrawal (IX C), AIS Sec 46.

Twilight

By Stephenie Meyer




The story revolves around a 17 year old girl, Isabella Swan, who has to move to her town called Forks. She meets Edward, an extremely good looking and mysterious boy. Eager to unravel the blanket of intrigue surrounding, Bella discovers that Edward is a vampire! But don’t be disappointed because he doesn’t feed on human blood. And lo! Edward and Bella fall in love! The twist comes now, Bella and Edward have to overcome many obstacles, because vampires love the scent of Bella’s blood. Edward has to protect her from dangerous vampires. This thrilling book will transport you into an electrifying world where myths are real and fairytales come true. And for those who don’t like reading much, they can watch the Twilight movie too.

Nishita Khattar (VIII E), Amity Noida
Esha G Nayar, AIS Gur 46

‘Calling all creeps’- The Goosebumps series

By R L Stine



Belonging to the Goosebumps series, this book surely manages to scare all. Primary class student, Ewen living in New York City, is part of the school newspaper writing group. Though he is appreciated by all, his boss, Katherin, threatened that he would take his place in the group saying that his work was not good. Sad, but angry Ewen decides to take revenge. He writes on a page “All creeps feeling bored could talk to Katherin”. And then Ewen starts getting calls from children who said that they were creeps with purple rough skin. Dismissed as a joke initially, one night, he gets a call from those creeps who want him to meet them near the old phone booth. When Ewen went there then... Grab your copy to unravel this mystery.●

Vivek Sadhu (VI-B) AIS Vasundhara





GT Crown for March undoubtedly belongs to the Indian Tennis Trio (Yuki, Sania & Bhupathi) for keeping the Indian flag high in the international tennis arena.

Indian Trio Creates History in Australian Open

Bhuvan Ravindran, VIII-C
AIS Noida

The 2009 Australian Open saw India creating history as Delhi boy, Yuki Bhambhani bagged the Junior Singles title on 31st Jan, becoming the first Indian to win the coveted trophy beating Alexander Georgoudas of Germany, 6-3, 6-1 in the finals. It was also one of India’s most spectacular Grand Slams as Sania Mirza and Mahesh Bhupathi won the mixed doubles on February 1, 2009. The duo was given a wild card entry for the mixed doubles beating Nathalie Dechy and Andy Ram in the final round. For Bhupathi it was the eleventh, but Sania was the first Indian woman to bag the title. The

rise of India on the tennis grounds has given a lot of encouragement to this sports in India. Shreya Pasricha, of Class VIII, AIS, Noida, a professional tennis player at the National and Asian level says, “It is a matter of great pride that a young Indian has achieved such a great feat. Her unbelievable performance will give our players the much needed fillip to win the top slots.” Aditya Deswal, class VII, AIS Noida, a regular at tennis tournaments quips, “Yuki’s commendable performance rests on his clever serves and volleys. Sania has proved that periodical injuries cannot deter a committed and seasoned player from reaching the top. Both should continue to strengthen their present performance.” Sania Rana, Class VII, AIS Noida adds enthusiastically, “I feel very inspired that such a young Indian has done us proud. Yuki, Sania and Bhupathi, will certainly keep the Indian flag aloft.” Well, kudos to that! Here’s hoping fervently that Yuki gets strong sponsors to finance his coaching.●



Imaging: Dinesh Kumar

Sports Spotted

Gilli Danda India’s galli cricket!

Chirag Aggarwal
AIS 46, Gurgaon

Breaking News- Sachin is ranked world’s number 1 in Gilli Danda... Gilli Danda? Strange!

This is apna galli cricket, our wonderful past which can still be seen in the bylanes of small towns. But remember, small towns. Today’s children prefer to take a Kook-aburra bat or a Nike soccer ball out to play. In earlier times, it used to be a royal sport. It was a major attraction in Alexander’s time. The Indian subcontinent had 1 out of each 2 children playing gilli danda. But now it’s not the same. Viti-dandu(Marathi), chinni-dandu(Kannada), kitti-pullu(Tamil), gooti-billa(Telugu), base-cricket(English) or gilli danda (Hindi) does not require any special equipment. Equipment required: Take a gilli and a

danda and start playing. Number of players: You only require more than 3 players. What to do: The game is to use the danda to strike the gilli. A circle is drawn in the ground in which a small hole is dug. This hole is smaller than the gilli but as the play progresses, the size may increase due to wear. The gilli is inserted into the hole. The danda is swung to strike the gilli. Run or Out: If a player catches the gilli or if the player nearest to the gilli hits the danda placed in the hole of the gilli with the gilli then the player is Out. If none of it happens then you get a run Fact: Many people believe that cricket originated from gilli-danda. So guys, Who is going to be the next Sachin of Gilli Danda? Play this game and share it with others. Hope you enjoy playing it as much as cricket! You will enjoy it as it is ‘Gaily’ danda that is ‘Happily danda.’●

Sportsman Camaraderie

Ankur Sharma, IX-B
AIS Vasundhra

The year 2008 was a year devoted to the cultivation of sports at Amity Vasundhara. The school hosted a number of Inter-House, Inter-School and Inter-State tournaments, where students participated with full enthusiasm and excitement. The numerous opportunities extended helped to develop a sense of responsibility and team spirit among them. The school commenced the sports initiatives with the inter-house football match. Alaknanda House bagged the winning cup and the blue flag was raised. This was followed by the prestigious Inter-State Shooting

championship hosted by the school. The event witnessed teams from schools across the state take part in the championship. The all time favourite Inter-House Cricket Competition was cheered by one and all. Mandakini House uprooted the stumps and won the competition. In the Inter-House basketball match, Alaknanda House, once again lifted the championship trophy. The 4th Annual Sports meet marked the culmination of the sports year, enjoyed by all sports enthusiasts. By now the all time winners and champions Alaknanda House lifted the Winning Cup followed by Bhagirathi as the first Runner-Up. As a keen sportsperson, I have ob-

Sports Highlights 2008

Inter-House Football Championship
Inter-State Shooting championship
Inter-House Cricket Competition
Inter-House Basketbal

served that my school strives to give utmost priority to sports. The support extended by our Principal to provide us with opportunities to develop our skills so that tomorrow, we may set new records is paraiseworthy. Our sport teachers are considerate, approachable and understanding and give their cent percent to teach the right skills. They know the importance of sports and exercises in one’s life. So, fellow mates, I would only say “Live the game!”●

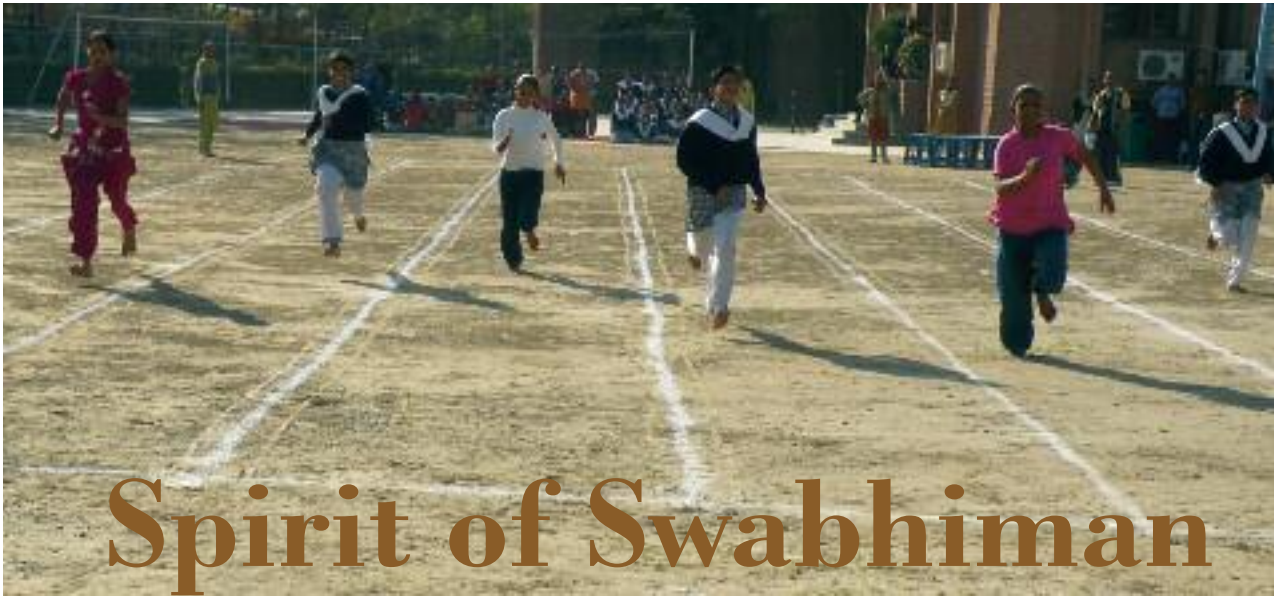
Legend Revisited

Lewis Hamilton-A Hurricane on the wheels

Anirudh Mital, IX-B
AIS East Delhi

Hello, dear fans, welcome to the world of F1 racing. Do you know about the youngest 23 year old winner of F1 championship? Yes! He is the very popular Lewis Hamilton. Born on January 7, 1985, at Hertfordshire, England, Lewis Carl Hamilton’s motor sport career started in 1993 when he was just 8 years old. By the age of 10 he had won his first British

Karting championship. A further four British Karting championships followed in 1996 and 1997. At the age of 13, Lewis was talent spotted and subsequently signed to the McLaren and Mercedes-Benz Young Driver Support Programme by McLaren Group Chairman and CEO Ron Dennis. The program, established by McLaren and Mercedes-Benz Motorsport, provided Lewis with a long-term contract guaranteeing financial and technical support to help with his future motorsport career. Lewis makes sure that he enjoys his time away from the track as well, spending time with friends and family. On December 8th, 2008, Hamilton received the prestigious Segrave Trophy at The Royal Automobile Club in Pall Mall for his record breaking debut Formula 1 season in 2007. He was also named International Racing Driver of the Year at the Autosport Awards in London. He returned as the youngest Formula 1 world champion. He was presented with the award by another McLaren legend, world champion Mika Hakkinen. ●



Pix: Tulika Banerji

The first ever Amitasha Sports event

Smile Foundation partnered with Amitasha for a Racing Competition to celebrate the “Spirit of Swabhiman” for adolescent girls of Swabhiman and Amitasha at Amity

Saket on February 7, 2009. Over 80 students from Swabhiman and Amitasha schools participated in a number of races held in three categories 10 - 12 years, 13-15 years and 15 years &

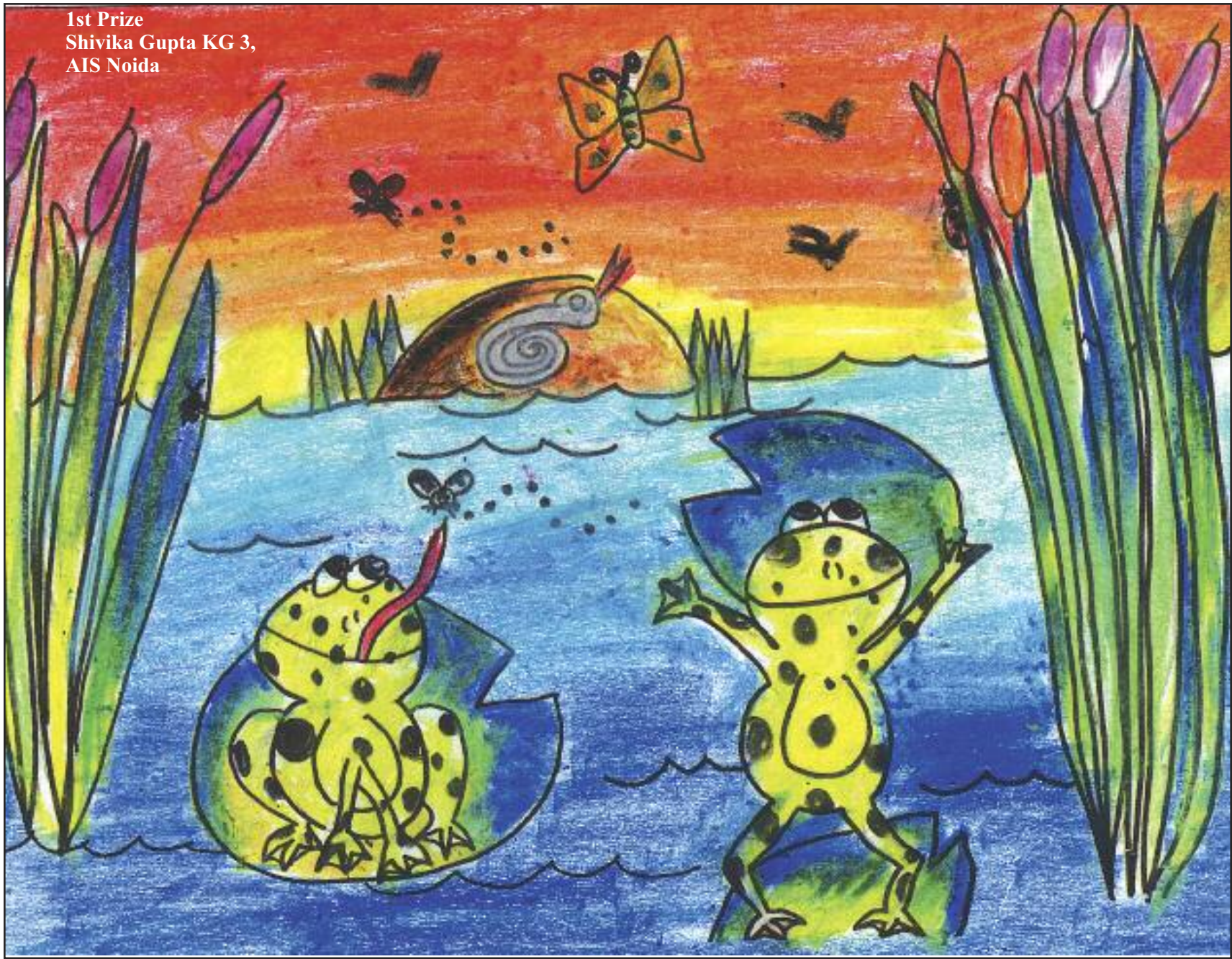
above. The races manned by Amity Saket sports teacher commenced with 50 mts race, followed by obstacle races, bead races, garland race, balloon race and relay races. They concluded with all the participants taking part in musical chairs. Out of the 22 prizes given away on-the-spot, 9 prizes were bagged by the Amitasha Students. The prizes were given away by Chief Guest Ms. Reeta Dutta, Chief Public Prosecutor, Karkardooma Court, New Delhi; Mr. Karamchand Sharma, Officer of district incharge, Civil Defense; Ms Manorama Saxena, principal Amitasha and Priyanka, Project Officer, Smile. The event dedicated to Smile’s community leaders, Health volunteers and Amitasha’s underprivileged girls, concluded with a “Pledge for empowerment of Girl Child”.●



“I like Red as it a very bright colour, and it is also the colour of apples.” Muskaan Mittal, I A, Pushp Vihar

Painting Contest

WINNERS KG: 1st Prize: Shivika Gupta, KG 3, AIS Noida, **IIInd Prize:** Vivaan Taneja, KG B, AIS Saket, **IIIrd Prize:** Shyama Goyal, KG A, AIS Pusph Vihar, **Spl Mention:** Oorvi Gupta, KG 4, AIS Noida; Anika Agarwal, KG 10, AIS Noida
WINNERS NUR: 1st Prize: Anvi Shandilya ,Nur-D, AIS Vasundhra, **IIInd Prize:** Aditya Aneja, Nur-D, Amiown Sec 27, Gurgaon, **IIIrd Prize:** Anadi Kishore Nur-8, AIS Noida, **Spl Mention:** Vikhyat Khandelval, Nur F, AIS Pusph Vihar; Kashyapi Ganjoo, Nur-7, AIS Noida



1st Prize
Shivika Gupta KG 3,
AIS Noida

**Know 8
THE GLOBAL TIMES
CONTEST**

1. What is Earth Hour and when is it celebrated?
2. Name the author of Q & A.
3. Name the person known as ‘Hurricane on Wheels.’
4. What is the name of the famous series penned by Stephanie Meyer?
5. Who is the person that has been ‘Framed’ in this edition of GT?

Send your answers for
Know Your GT - 8 to:
The Global Times, AKC House,
E-27, Defence Colony, ND - 24

Naveen Daga, VI.C, AIS Vasundhara
• Baldip Singh Bijlani, IV D, PV
• Ujjwal Jindal, VII D, AIS ED
• Anushka Mukherjee, VI A, AIS ED • Sarthak Gupta, II B, AIS Ed

Glory be thy name

Ashima Khanna, XII
AIS Noida

Institution of my childhood
Amity Dear,
within my heart you will always dwell
and these memories shall cheer
and comfort me.
Thanks, you made me.
Thanks, you gave me.
Thanks, you understood me.
Thanks, you made me understand.
Thank you for giving me my best days
in you.
I owe my wisdom to you.
Achievers know that taking
salutations from you
will make them like you -
strong and conscientious.
Today at the Altar of Worldly Ways,
a final Good-bye with tears we say.
The stairs that took us to you one day,
now lead us to our practical days.

Singh is King

Prisha Singh, IV D
AIS Gurgaon-46

East or West
My Dadu is the best!
He gets us many things
Sometimes, even fairy’s wings
He wears many rings
My Dadu’s name is RP Singh
And for me, he is the ‘King of Kings’!



Crazy Traffic

Raghvi Kabra, VI-D
AIS East Delhi

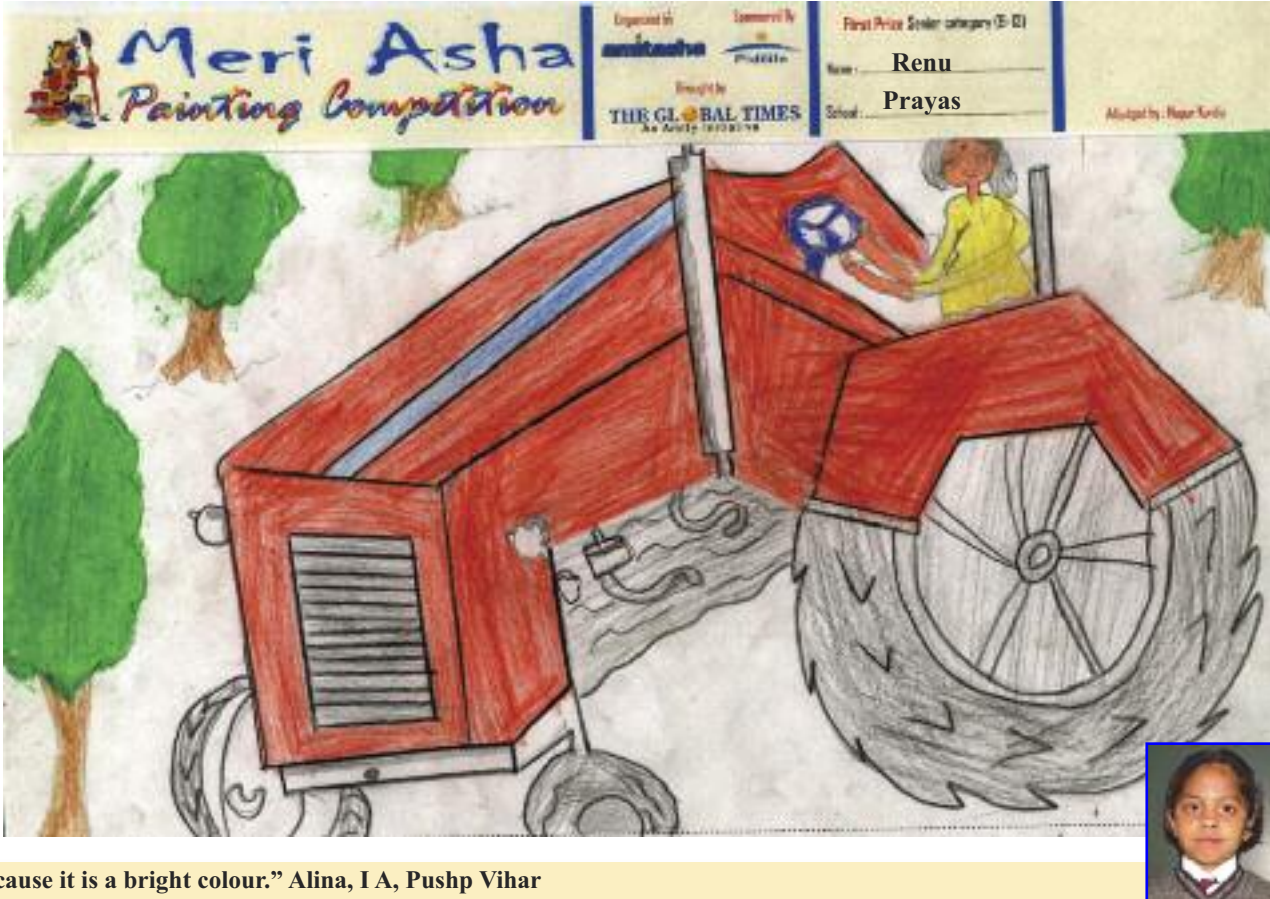
Vehicles here and vehicles there,
buses, trucks and scooters everywhere.
Mad, mad morning rush,
all leading to a crush.
Drivers sound their horns & others curse,
as traffic jams get worse and worse.
Each passing day, vehicles increase,
their number is yet to decrease.
Though owning a vehicle is an advantage,
it’s not without disadvantage.
What happens when there is an accident,
it is no minor incident!

The vehicle gets a dent,
to the hospital the victim is sent.
Please stop this mad, mad rush,
to make this world a peaceful country!

Blue bird

Shatakshi, IV-A
AIS Pushp Vihar

I saw a blue bird on a tree,
Singing very merrily and freely,
laughing around and about,
on a tree which has many beautiful leaves.



“I love the colour Red because it is a bright colour.” Alina, I A, Pushp Vihar



Snap Shots

Shotgun

Amity Student, *Mansi Singh, Batch- CSE, B.Tech (2007-2011)* of ASC won a Silver Medal in National Shotgun Championship held at Jaipur.

Bull's eye

Divya Rewali K and Arkaw Sinha of **Amity Business School** won Bullseye Contest at IIM Lucknow's Annual festival, Manfest 2009. They won a whopping Rs. 20,000 as prize money.

This contest includes 10 teams selected from across India, out of which, 2 teams were from Amity Business School.

National accolade

Ketan Nagpal, a student of **Amity Business School** participated in the 52nd National Shooting Championship held at Kerela and qualified to become a National Shooting Player. This esteemed achievement in a short span is a result of his judicious use of time from the busy schedule of classes.



L to R: Lecturer AIGW & ES Debojyoti Chakraborty; Director AHF Dr. Chanda R Akhouri; Vice President AHF Maj. Gen. Dr. Surendra Kumar and Principal AIS MV Sarita Aggarwal. For more pix logon to www.theglobaltimes.in

Saving our Earth

Arush Dua VIIIA, Ishita Bedi VII E & Arpit Bajaj VIII A AIS ED

"Making new things is our ability, Using the old ones is our necessity, But saving our earth, any day is our biggest responsibility."

Amity Humanity Foundation organized National Environment Awareness Campaign 2008-09 on climate change and global warming at AIS Mayur Vihar on Feb. 11, 2009. Chief Guests of the day Maj. Gen. Dr. Surendra Kumar, Vice President, AHF and Dr. Chanda R. Akhouri Officiating Director AHF were accorded a warm welcomed by host school principal Sarita Aggarwal. The auspicious lamp was lighted amidst the chanting of the 'shlokas'.

The chief guests enlightened the students

with their words of wisdom. His thought provoking address was followed by students presentations on climate change and global warming. Siddhant Nair and Sameera Khurana (VI) gave a presentation on the causes of global warming. Ishita Bedi and Panya Baldia of class VII shed light on the impact of global warming. Arush Dua, Sarthak Batra and Arpit Bajaj of class VIII educated all on the

Amity Humanity Foundation

methods to minimize the carbon footprints. The interactive session with Debojyoti Chakraborty, lecturer at Amity Institute of Global Warming and Ecological Studies (AIGW & ES), raised many queries ranging from what are Carbon Credits to why government is not promoting solar energy on a large scale. The valedictory function commenced

with 'Ram Stuti' dance followed by the global warming anthem – the lyrics of which were penned by Gulzaar and set to music by Shankar Ehsaan Loy. The students of class VIII who went to an organic farm during the day at Amity University Uttar Pradesh in Sector 125, Noida, shared their experiences with everyone present in the auditorium.

Prizes were given away for poster making and slogan writing competitions held during the occasion. Arushi Kumar (VII D), R. Mallika Iyer (VI B) and Ishita Verma (VII B) stood first, second and third in the poster making competition. Aashna (VI B), Kopal Gupta (VI B) and Stuti Sharma (VII E) were awarded the first, second and third position respectively in the slogan writing competition. Consolation prizes were given to Akanksha and Ananya of class VII.●

Breaking the Chakravyuh

Amity Business School secured an overall First Runner up Position in Sports Meet 'Chakravyuh' organised by IMT Ghaziabad. This was 72 hours non-stop sports meet in which ABS earned 300 points. ABS won gold in Tennis, Badminton and Table Tennis.

Moments of laurel:

- Rajinder Bhisht & Deepali Rao won all Badminton Singles matches
- Anirudh Singh had an undefeated record in Tennis Singles and was awarded the best performing athlete
- Panchali Bharaili won the Women's Table tennis singles
- Mayank and Gautum Basu of the Table tennis team proved their ex-

Amity Business School



traordinary game throughout their matches ●Manish Pathania and Archana Shankari Stood undefeated in their tennis mixed doubles ●Striker Abishek Dutta secured 5 goals in 2 matches ●Deepali, Archana, Himangini and Panchali of throw ball reached the semi finals.

For ABS Participating team logon
www.theglobaltimes.in

AURA of prosperity

Sampada Sansara, ANN

Amity School of Business (ASB) organised its two day management cum cultural festival AURA. The fest theme "Plutus in Absentia, the accession of the frazzled economy" aptly addressed the turbulent times faced by all worldwide in the wake of recession. *Prof. Alka Munjal, Director, Amity School of Business* apprised the audience with the panorama of management and cultural events. Former international cricketer, *Kirti Azad* in his motivating address said, "Ups and downs are bound to come in one's life but one should not be bogged down and should learn to tame and master one's mind", asserted Azad. He implored them



to persistently follow the 4 D's in their life namely Desire, Determination, Dedication and Discipline.

Talking about the prevailing corruption, nepotism and erosion of culture and values in society, *Maj. Gen. K J Singh, Vice Chancellor, Amity University*, called

upon the students to put in their wholehearted efforts to direct their energies so that the coming generations get a better place to live.

Also, present during the inauguration was *Nicky Bhagnani- Executive Producer* of the upcoming film "Kal Kisne Dekha."

During the day, several events took place including 'Copia's Wrath-Management Game (Finance)', 'Dark Sun-Management Game (HR)', 'Chanakya- Management Game' (Strategy), 'The Rider of the Trojan Horse- Best Manager Competition', 'Kurukshetra- Quiz' and 'Bail Out- Dramatics.'

Participants from different colleges sashayed on the dazzling ramp showcasing their ingenuity and creativity.●

What Education means to me

Vatsala Srivastava, MJMC(1st)
ASCO, Amity Univ, Noida



Fourteen years of having to get up in the wee hours of the morning (and cribbing incessantly about it).. in rain, shine and fog..completing the unfinished homework on the bus..invariably forgetting about tests and then, wishing, that the teacher be absent ..having a

haven to escape to when home became 'Mein Kampf' nonetheless and appreciating it..being literally thrown in the world of college life where there was much freedom and much apprehension..but later comprehending the consequential role of stability in one's life..reading books which talk of dreams, faraway civilizations, pain, and elusive emotion- happiness..interacting with teachers who dazzled with their brilliance, ..and finally because of all this, discovering one's place under the Sun. Education means all this and much more.●



"I like the colour Golden as it shines very bright." *Roshni Srivastava, I A, Pushp Vihar*

'Endeavour' to be the best

Amity Business School (ABS) organised its three day annual management festival 'Endeavour, 09' to provide the students a platform to interact with the captains of the corporate and learn from them the nuances of the industry.

Abhivyakti: The knowledge and entertainment extravaganza started with the Best Quality Practices Round 'Abhivyakti' in which several companies took part. They were adjudged by Dharendra Yadav, Ex GM, Maruti Udyog Ltd.; Dr. S K Gupta, CEO, Controls and Switchgear India Ltd.; Venkataram Arabolu, Chairman, BSI and Vikash Arora, Vice President, Lite Bite Foods Pvt. Ltd.. Hotel Crown Plaza stood first followed by Fiser V as the Runner Up.

Big Bang: During the Marketing event 'Big Bang', ten different teams from management institutions in Delhi/NCR including IIT Delhi, JIMS-Rohini, IMT Ghaziabad, BLS-Ghaziabad and IILM-Delhi participated. Students were asked to develop a new concept on the theme 'Slumdog to Millionaire Boss' followed by a quiz. Eminent judges included Abhishek Srivastava, Manager, HDFC Bank; Abhijeet Sharma- Territory Manager, Samsung; Rakesh Misri, Business Head; Jovice, Sandeep Lambha, Sr. Manager, Nokia Siemens Network & SCD Gupta- Director, National Informatics Centre.

Arena- the Debate Competition: It had IMT, Ghaziabad team bag the first prize on the topic 'Global warming fight to be a casualty of economic meltdown'. IIPM, Delhi was the runner up.

Best Manager Competition: Participants were adjudged on different perspectives required of a manager like HR skills, people skills and communication skills through Group Discussions, HR and Supply Chain Round judged by corporate giants as B Balachandran Regional Sales Manager, The Hindu; Dharmesh Zaveri, GM (Exports), Paharpur 3P; Col. Ganesh Athley, Director Operations, I Quest Consultants; Sudhir Agarwal- Country Head, Sify Technology; Rishabh Neb, EXL Services and Vishal Yadav- GM, Motorola.

Retail Conclave: The last day of the fest hosted HR Summit and Retailier- the Retail Conclave. Veterans of the industry Anuraag Maini Sr. VP (HR), DLF Pramerica Life Insurance Company Ltd.; Biplob Banerjee- Chief People's Officer, Dainik Bhaskar; Sunil Khanna, Jt. Managing Director, Grey Cells 18 Media and Vasant Nair, VP (HR), Green Ply Ltd. presented their views on "Global Meltdown Challenges for HR."

The festival regaled the audience with dance performance by the 'Kohinoor Langa Group' and an Odissi Dance performance by Padmashree Ranjana Gauhar.●



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Congrats Amitians!

 Himanshu Sarin 99.8 Percentile, B.Tech - CS (ASEET, Bussness)	 Vandana Gupta 95.8 Percentile, B.Tech - CS (Amity University)	 Soniya Shree Selected for IB Course in IGFA, B.Tech - CS, (Amity University)
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Bidding Adieu



AIS Noida held the Citation Ceremony on 30th January, 2009 to bid adieu to the Class XII batch of 2008-09. It was an evening of nostalgia and the mood was sombre as the students gathered to be formally felicitated for the last time. The ceremony commenced on an auspicious note with a special ‘havan’ for the students and their parents. This was followed by the lighting of the lamp and ‘Shloka Gayan’, followed by a song rendered by the choir, ‘Samay Ki Ret Par.’ In her welcome address, Principal Mohina Dar inspired the children to scale

new heights of success and make a meaningful contribution to society. She reminisced about the time when they entered the portals of Amity as reticent toddlers and are now prepared to face the world with confidence and conviction. Chairperson, Dr. Amita Chauhan graced the occasion and blessed the students. She emphasized that self-discipline, humility and faith in oneself are the qualities essential for success. She also advised the students to keep the Amitian motto proudly emblazoned in their hearts forever, uphold the values instilled in them and carve a niche for

themselves in the world. The evening was aglow with brightly lit ‘diyas’ which lent an ethereal air to the night, enhancing its beauty. The citations were presented to the students who received them with dignity and pride, against an awe-inspiring backdrop of ‘Amity’s March Towards Peace and Progress’ in colourful hues. They held the ‘diyas’ as the citations were read out, a symbolic gesture of the path of enlightenment and true knowledge on which they would traverse. The parents who were invited to share their experience, lauded the role of Amity in providing a ‘holistic’ education and honing the personality of students in a way that they become good and responsible citizens. Head Girl **Ashima Khanna** and Head Boy **Aishwarya Singhal** shared some of their memorable moments at Amity. Class XI students bid an emotional farewell to their seniors with a soulful rendition of ‘Hum Rahe Ya Na Rahe.’ Vice Principal Renu Singh urged the students to make their alma mater proud through their noble deeds. The function concluded on an emotional note with the entire auditorium resounding with the song, ‘Showers of Blessings’ amidst the sprinkling of fragrant rose petals followed by the School Song.●



Solar punch

On February 6, 2009, AERC organized a visit of Amity students to American Centre for a Youth Meet on climate change organized by Indian Youth Climate Network (IYCN). 11 schools from around Delhi attended the meet. They were greeted by ‘Solar Punch’- a band using only solar powered instruments. The motive of the band was to spread the message of saving the environment. They sang songs on environmental problems like pollution, global warming, ozone depletion, etc. Inspired by the band, students proposed to start their own school music band on environment! They also participated in a workshop ‘Kabaad Se Jugaad’-creating best out of waste where they created showpieces like birds, balls, flowers and stars

by using magazines and newspapers. Amitians also gave a presentation on Amity School Children Science Congress 2009-VASUDHA. It provided wonderful interaction and a great learning experience. The workshop was attended by **Sparsh Agarwal** with teacher Alka Saxena, **AIS Saket**; **Arimal Kaul & Medhavi Arora** with Puneeta Chaddha, **AIS Noida**; **Utkarsh Mareed & Shruti Mahajan** with Veena Mishra from **AIS Vasundhara**; **Oorvi Tevatia & Suvarcha Bhatia** with Reena Chauhan, **AIS Gurgaon 46**; **Aditya Mathur** with Archana Sharma, **AIS Gurgaon 43**; **Nidhish Sharma and Priyanka Singh** from **AIS Pushp Vihar** and **Sparsh Paul** from **AIS Mayur Vihar**.●

Speed champion



Muskaan Chauhan of class 5-C of **AIS Gurgaon-46** represented Haryana in the Open School Nationals and Federation Nationals of roller skating which were held at Chandigarh and Faridabad respectively. She brought pride to her school and coach Rajesh Sharma by winning two gold medals and one bronze medal in the first tournament and a silver and a bronze in the second tournament. She was awarded the ‘Speed Champion Trophy’ at the Open School Nationals. She was the only Haryana team skater who managed to get a position in the inline category that was evading the state for the past 2 years.

Wonder on wheels
Muskan Chauhan, VA: Received 2 Gold and 1 Bronze Medal in National Schools Games Skating Championship.
Ritu Saini, XI B: Awarded 1 Silver Medal in National schools Games Skating Championship.
Apoorva Singh, VII C: Received 1 Bronze Medal in National schools Games Skating Championship
Naman Thakran, II B: Received Gold medal in the 1st Dhammika Kai National championship held at Brig. Hoshair Singh Stadium- Bahadurgarh from December 26 to 27, 2008 in the event ‘KUMITE’ under the category 7-8 years.●

Alumni meet

An Alumni Meet was organised at **AIS Noida** on December 20, 2008. The enthusiastic response of the students at a very short notice really reflected their love for their alma-mater. It was a proud and nostalgic moment for both teachers and students as they gathered in the school premises reminiscing their bygone days. The school echoed with the sound of dance and foot-tapping music. Teachers and students actively participated in the interactive games organised to revive the joy of being back in school. Principal Mohina Dar appreciated the students who had taken out time to attend the meet. She expressed her desire for a larger gathering in the coming years. Chairperson Dr Amita Chauhan blessed all the students and encouraged them to keep aloft the Amity flag.

Inter-Amity Heritage Quiz



India’s cultural Heritage and Glory transcends the vastness of its area and the immensity of its population. The Inter-Amity Heritage Quiz organized by **Amity Inter School, Saket** on January 22, 2009, strived to foster fresh thinking and imbue in the students the rich, varied and vibrant culture of India. Initiated by the pragmatic vision of the Chairperson Dr. (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, the event is earmarked in the annual academic calendar. The quiz was conducted in three

categories – Senior, Middle and Junior. A volley of questions by Quiz Master Aditya Mubayi of Quiz Craft, were absorbing and informative for both participants and audiences alike. The questions on a range of multifarious topics like Indian culture, religion, literature, history, art, mythology and architecture were confidently and promptly answered. The overall championship trophy was won by the host school **AIS, Saket** and first runner up was **AIS, Gurgaon-46**.●

Top Scores

AIS, Saket	256
AIS, Gur-46	246
AIS, Vasundhara	141
AIS, Noida	86
AIS, Pushp Vihar	58
AIS, Gur-43	48
AIS, East Delhi	32

Amitasha pays musical tribute to Babu on Martyrs day

On special invitation, **Amitasha** students of Noida participated in a choir that paid a musical tribute to Mahatma Gandhi to commemorate the 61st anniversary of the Martyrdom of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi on January 30, 2009 at Gandhi Smriti, Tees January Marg. Thirty students of Amitasha Noida, under the guidance of music teacher Usha Mankotia undertook a five-day training at Gandhi Darshan Gandhi Samiti and presented 6 songs in the group choir at the historical venue. They were trained by professionals from the Gandharva Maha Vidyalaya.

The programme was attended by a huge gathering comprising Delhi CM Shiela Dixit, senior politicians, members of the Gandhi Family and musical icon Padamshri Pandit Jasraj who also paid a musical tribute on the occasion. An elated Priyanka of Amitasha comments, “Being part of the Sarv Dharma Prathna Sabha gave me an opportunity to watch people of different religions pay tribute to Gandhi ji. I also got an opportunity to hear Pandit Jasraj pay a musical tribute and meet many important people as Delhi CM Sheila Dixit, Mahatma Gandhi’s grand daughters and others.”

12th Kamagata Cup



Top Scorer

1. Ranbir Sawhney (Shodan) 1st Dan Black Belt
2. Uday Kwatra (Shodan) 1st Dan Black Belt
3. Kirti Gandhi (Shodan) 1st Dan Black Belt
4. Anamika Tiwari (Shodan) 1st Dan Black Belt
5. Aditya Garg (Shodan) 1st Dan Black Belt
6. Udit Garg (Shodan) 1st Dan Black Belt
7. Shaunak Adkar (Shodan) 1st Dan Black Belt
8. Aditya Tiwari (Shodan Ho)
9. Viraj Ranjan Singh (Shodan Ho)
10. Suchet Sawhney (Nidan) 2nd Dan Black Belt
11. Tejasvin Samarth (Nidan) 2nd Dan Black Belt

The 12th Kamagata Cup All India Karate tournament was held from January 9 to 11, 2009 in Delhi at Babu Samaj Sewa Kendra Panchkuian Road, New Delhi. 86 students from class KG to XI participated. Ajay Maken, Minister of State for Urban Development graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. Isamu Kamagata, World Chief, Seigo-Kai Karate-Do was the Special Guest of Honour. Arvinder

Singh Lovely, Minister of Education and Transport was Chief Guest for the award ceremony. Dr Amita Chauhan Chairperson, Amity International Schools and Alka D. Pathak, Principal DPS Bikaner (Rajsthan) were the Guests of Honours. AIS Noida’s Karate Coach Raju Roy participated with his team that did the school proud by winning 6 Gold, 13 Silver and 20 Bronze medals. **AIS Noida**

was declared 1st Runner Up in this tournament. Soshi Isamu Kamagata and Takayasu Aoyagi also conducted a workshop for the students the next day. Over a hundred students took part in this workshop. They taught the children many international techniques in self defense. World Chief Isamu Kamagata awarded the Black Belt to the students of AIS Noida.●





Mehak and Vasundhara of AIS East Delhi, unravel the magic of dancing queen Payal Mathur, Class IX student of AIS Noida who danced her way to the Limca Book of Records, dancing non-stop for 24 hours, in a candid tete-a-tete.

Vasundhara: Who inspired you to learn Kathak?

Payal: Kathak is a famous dance form of North India and is purely based on your facial expressions. The elegance and the grace of the form fascinated me. My interest and my parents' guidance made me join Kathak classes. I have always been inspired by my dad who takes a keen interest in dance. I have been learning Kathak for the last six years. My parents are a pillar of support and encouragement for me. The 24 hour non-stop feat that I performed was solely due to my mother's motivation. Also, I have an elder sister who helped me a lot. In fact, she is my best critic.

Vasundhara: In Kathak, who is your inspiration?

Payal Ki Jhankaar

Payal: I am inspired by Rani Khanna and Nalini Kamalini Gururji as they have excellent flexibility and expressions. I have been under the able guidance of Ms Swati, who is my Guru and mentor.

Mehak: Besides dancing, what are your other hobbies?

Payal: Acting has always fascinated me. I have completed a three year course with National School of Drama. Apart from this, I like swimming, painting and listening to music.

Vasundhara: How do you balance your studies and hobbies so well?

Payal: After reaching home from school at 3 pm, I have dance classes from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Then from 6:00 to 6:30 pm, I practice dance. Thereafter, from 6:30 to 8 pm I have my tuitions and between 8 pm to 9 pm, I go out to play. Thereafter, I study from 9:00 to 11:00. With this routine, I am able to manage studies and Kathak together. I'm thankful to my teachers at AIS Noida for being extremely supportive and co-operative and helping me with all the work that I missed during stage shows and performance.

Mehak: What is your ambition in life?

Payal: I have acted in many tele-films till now and my aim is to be one of the best movie directors. A dancer, who wants to direct movies, that's a lethal combination. A girl with a lovely smile and sunny disposition, a steely resolve and splendid determination, we wish Payal a success in all her endeavours!●

Child play



Aditya Agarwal

VII A, AIS Pushp Vihar

Toys are a child's best friend. Friends may leave you, but toys will be by your side unless you throw them away. Toys increase our concentration, analytical and reasoning skills. Even when playing alone with a ball, our concentration improves as we try to catch and hold the ball. And when playing with others, team spirit is fostered. Educational toys, games and puzzles enhance a child's curiosity, spirit of discovery and creativity. A five year old's doctor set helps gain knowledge about doctor's tools. Abacus, enables us to do calculations fast. So, let's enhance our skills with toys and enjoy too!●

“Yeh Dilli haimere yaar”- Delhi- 6

Vatsala Srivastava
MJMC-1 ASCO

Delhi- 6, the latest production from the makers of Rang De Basanti has the quintessential purani dilli feel to it. Be it the narrow galis, the bustle in the crowded lanes, the proverbial havelis, the halwai ki dukaan round the corner, the traffic jams, the mandir and the masjid in the same street or the people, the countless scattered people who wear their hearts on their sleeves- Rakeysh Mehra has recreated Chandni Chowk, on screen with much verve and exactness. The film begins with Roshan, flying in with his ailing grandmother and before he knows, he is sucked into the 'vortex' himself.

But that leaves much to be desired, because in the course of getting the setting perfect, it seems that the director momentarily forgets about the screenplay. The infamous Kala Bandar, (an interesting metaphor), gets most screen footage than the leading lady. In spite of these setbacks Delhi- 6 effectively captures the spirit of the dwellers of the

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walled city. There are some amazing shots of the namaaz at the Jama Masjid, the nicely choreographed Ram Lila scenes, the caricature of the corrupt police officer and the sweeper executed brilliantly by Vijay Raaz and Divya Dutta respectively. The cast delivers, with stellar performances by Rishi Kapoor, Waheeda Rehman, Om Puri and the like. Abhishek Bachchan convinces as the Yankee-Burger chaap American, and Sonam Kapoor is pleasant. The background score is excellent with the dargah track - Arziyaan being a personal favorite.●

Sanchita Bhargava
AIS Gur-46

It is believed that every child has a musical side, so it is best to bring it out. Some can sing and others can play musical instruments. Just grab any music instrument and rock n' roll on it. Drums or Tabla, Guitar or Sitar, Indian vocals or Western - all make a heart-stunning blend. Your musical side is the finest way to get rid of exam stress, soothe you and keep your mind in peace. "Music relaxes me," quips Kamya Singh, a student. Amity schools have a variety of music facilities and provide us a fantastic opportunity to develop our talent. "Music is food for my soul" believes Mrs. Madhu Uppal, a teacher. Agrees Jaideep Singh, a

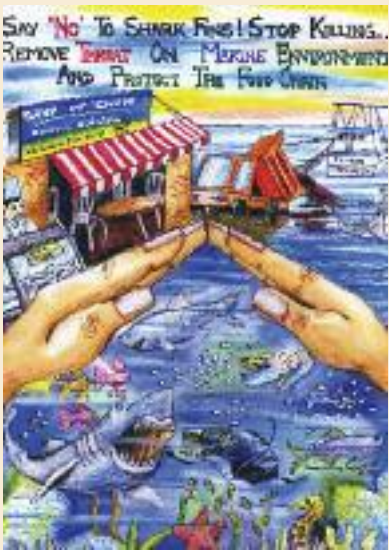
student, "Music is my heart, music is my soul." It is an excellent de-stress mechanism and uplifts one's mood instantly. "Music is a mood changer and stress buster" observes Deepti Sharma, also a student. Some people connect with the Almighty through their love for music. "Through music, we can reach God" believes Mrs. Savita Arya, a teacher. If your parents force you to learn music and you hate it, the best way to skip the boredom of day-to-day, is that you should start taking interest in it. Nothing in the world can stop us from becoming musical and enjoy life to the fullest!●

Music in our Soul



A palette of winning colours

That timid little lass escaping to show what she has drawn is today a confident painter delineating it all over. Talent gets recognized only if acknowledged and this is



where Susnata, **class XI E student of AIS Noida** is privileged, says she. Commencing her painting in class five with a formal training from Bengali Academy of Fine Arts under the excellent guidance of Md. Asif, she has come out chiseled, pruned and a tuned painter at the young age of sixteen. Her understanding of colors received reverence with the first prize at HT Pace – 'Colors in life' in 2003. Since then, she has never looked back. A milestone in her career came in 2004 when she secured the scholarship from CCRT.

'My world of Happiness' competition organized by Mc Donalds saw her piece as one of the 24 most creative paintings from over 5000 entries which was later framed as calendar for the year 2004. Decked with a style sui generis and a distinct temperament she has a hat-

<<< Framed >>>



trick record of winning the first prize in 'The Hindu -Young World' competition consecutively in 2004, 05 & 06. 'Times NIE Color Splash' recognized her as a forerunner in the year 2006. She also made her stand in the Inter-School Competition held by Ministry of Environment & Forest on 'Interna-

tional day for preservation of ozone layer' securing position in 2005 & 06. The second prize at 'All India painting competition by Canadian Embassy on Climate Change' in 2005 inspired her to cogitate on global issues and cater to the international avenue as well. Susnata's dexterity and sensibility in focusing on the subject and showcasing them with strokes of brush and colors mesmerized the global audience too. She successfully culled the silver medal in 'Shankar's International competition' in 2004 & 05. 'Walk Around the World' competition arranged by United Nations' World Food Programme in 2006 also showered on her the first prize. An Ambucar designed by her at the 'Dream Car' painting competition organised by Toyota, Japan fetched her third position, displaying her as an innovative and thoughtful young artiste.

It is only being experimentative and her refinement in finesse that has so far fetched her over 120 prizes to her credit.

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