

"Every truth has four corners; as a teacher I give you one corner, and it is for you to find the other three."
-Confucius

New Gurukool Pedagogy

INSIDE



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Shiamal Rajen Srivastava
AIS Noida

With his technological chip made brain, he progressed swiftly on the money graph and a wit notorious to make the world settle in his big fist, 'The Billy', oops! **Mr Bill Gates** makes the perfect new Age Guru. His incomparable talent forced many hi-tech industries to pull up their socks. His techniques and innovations are a towering inspiration to the germinating software companies. Besides, the man wears a benign heart where a river of humanity flows for underprivileged and undernourished children.

Kool Factor: When Gates opens his TGH (The Gates Of Humanity) school, he may expose what that makes him so perfect.

Shivika Naveen
AIS Saket

Amir Khan, a name synonymous with intelligent cinema, is truly the embodiment of an indomitable, spirited New Age Guru. What distinguishes him from others is – originality, a trait almost extinct in today's rip-off cinema! He speaks his mind and what he truly pursues. What makes his movies outstanding is the dedication that goes into creating the cinematic brilliances that his films are. The research, the minute details, the exact likeness to real life and the ability to connect with an ordinary person, are



the qualities we imbibe from this great teacher. His ability to break free of the shackles of stereotype, his acting skills and intelligence, are indeed inspiring. It is tough to be different in a herd. **Kool Factor:** His comment, "I like to outdo myself every time."

Ritvik Chaturvedi
AIS East Delhi

The way our Ex President **APJ Abdul Kalam** has caught the imagination of people is unprecedented. What makes him different is the way he has successfully

True enough, the teacher-taught equation has bygone the Gurukul-gurudakshina stage. The new age teacher is more of a mentor guiding the pupils through thick and thin, failures and victories. Amity's voice A 7, identifies some faces who fit the bill of new age 'kool' gurus



crossed the colonial and bureaucratic barriers to reach out to the ordinary citizen. And he has done it with exceptional ease and simplicity, while occupying an office that is widely considered as a symbol of imperial hangover. The living charisma of Dr Kalam is an evidence that no king or superstar can match the dignity and grace of ordinariness when it is firmly based on honesty

and hard work. He inspires us because he is a complete visionary. He speaks his heart out openly and treats everyone as his family member.

Kool Factor: Easily approachable; writes interactive novels in simple English, a rare trait in a politician today.

Aditi Pathak
AIS Noida

Formerly Italian now Indian, **Sonia Gandhi** can be a role model to many. She is someone who commands respect, gets it and has been voted the third most pow-

erful woman by the Forbes magazine. Despite her family's heavy involvement in Indian politics, it took her almost 10 years after her husband's tragic death to succeed in reviving the party's misfortunes with her leadership qualities. She has found the time to write books about her husband, Rajiv Gandhi and spends delightful hours with her grandchildren. Probably she may be lacking the 'cool' factor but one fact remains that she teaches us how to behave with dignity, deal with tragic situations and maintain good relations with all.

Saudamini & Pranjal Jain
AIS PushpVihar

One of the most celebrated police officers, **Kiran Bedi** has had an illustrious career, earning widespread adulation for her no-nonsense attitude and devotion to work. She earned the nickname of 'Crane Bedi' for towing away the then PM Indira Gandhi's car for parking violations. She brought about reforms among the hard core criminals and has received many national and international awards. She has set up two voluntary organizations for drug addicts and the poor. She has authored several books including 'What went wrong?' and her own autobiography titled, 'I dare. It's always possible'. Her life is full of inspiring milestones and she can surely be called a new age guru.

Kool factor: Her fearlessness. •

Present Mam

Day after day, week after week, month after month and hey presto, year after year; can anyone attend school that regularly? There is always an occasional fever, cough or cold, and of course, the rare family function to attend. Yes, say the lucky, persistent ones, whose perseverant efforts have reaped rich dividends in the form of annual awards. What makes this special lot tick? How do they sail unscathed through ailments and illnesses, hails and storms, festivals and marriages? **Asst Editor Tulika Banerji** explores the regularity fundas of the 100% attendance awardees of Amity.

An almond a day keeps illness at bay
"My nani prepares a concoction of almonds and chana which is not only delicious but also keeps illness away. Plus, I don't attend late night functions; I sleep early, so I wake early," explains Shreya Sahani, class VII D of AIS East Delhi, who credits her parents' role in her achievement. Vaishnavi Sridhar of class IX E, AIS Noida believes prevention is better than cure, "Though there's no readymade remedy to be healthy, it pays to be a little cautious. I avoid too much of ice creams and cold water to ward off cold and fever."



Students AIS Saket; Photo by Tulika Banerji

Positive reinforcement

"The 100% attendance award is definitely an incentive. Each year I aim for the award and so far I've been successful," says Shreya Sahani. Garvit Jain, class IX A of AIS East Delhi, who's registered full attendance for a record 10 years, echoes, "The fact that my elder sisters had a track record of 100% attendance inspired me to follow in their footsteps. Luckily, unlike most kids, I don't fall ill."

Who'll finish the missed work?

"I just don't want to miss my classes as I don't want to lag behind for, in that case, I'll have to work doubly hard. I get up religiously at 6:30 am and hit the bed by 10:30 at night. Most children can be

regulars to school, provided they follow their parent's advice!" opines Rohan Sharma, class VII C of AIS Gurgaon 46.

Mum's the word

Says Deeksha Goel of class VI D, AIS Gurgaon 46, "My mom pushes me to attend school everyday. Sometimes, I may not feel like going, but she hears none of it." "The credit for my awards entirely goes to my mother. She is the one who wakes me up on time," quips Apaara Chawla of class VII B, AIS Saket, winner of 100% attendance awardee for three consecutive years. Schools might just constitute a new award for mothers instead, who are the prime factors responsible for their wards' regularity. Any one listening? •

"Women have a dual role to play"

The fortunate foursome who walked the red carpet as jury members at the International Film Festival in Anancy, France-Lakshaye Singh of AIS Gurgaon 43, Shaurya Athley of AIS Noida, Akshat Sharma of AIS Pushp Vihar and Ruhi Khosla of AIS Saket, found the lifetime opportunity of meeting the revolutionary CM of Delhi Sheila Dixit, a humbling experience. They tossed an interesting volley of questions to her and the CM, the spunky lady that she is, fielded them with utmost gusto.

What is the biggest challenge that you face as a Chief Minister?

The most challenging part of the role is that one has to work 24 X 7. Our country is a democracy, it presents novel challenges to deal with every day. One has to be prepared to handle such day-to-day pressures and come out successful.

How does it feel to be a woman Chief Minister?

My responsibility is only doubled. Today, women have a dual role to play. First, she has to be polite and soft spoken as a lady. Second, a woman has to stand shoulder to shoulder as equivalent to man. Irrespective of what they do outside the house, women have to take care of their homes. The society and the household are incomplete without a woman.

As a mother, how do you manage time?
My children really don't need me as they are quite old. I only need to take care of



my grandchildren. I'm always there for them, whenever they need me.

How can students contribute to the welfare of the country?

You can teach fellow students to be polite, patient and help India in her drive to be a clean country. You don't have to do big things to wheel the cleanliness drive; just take one step at a time. Throw garbage in the dustbins, do not litter on roads. Keep rivers and other public places in the same way as you keep your home clean. By taking such steps, you will be able to do your bit for the welfare of your motherland.

Your message for Amity students...

Hard work armed with polite demeanour is the basic key to many unlocked doors of happiness and success. As you are going to be the future of our nation, study well and be helpful to others. •

Hard work armed with a polite demeanour is the basic key to many unlocked doors of happiness and success.

Tata said Nano, Mamta said No-No!

Siddhant Chandel
AIS Sec 46, Gurgaon

Full-scale production of the Tata Nano, billed as the world's cheapest car, is facing delays because of violent protests led by Mamta Banerjee of Trinamool Congress and farmers over the use of their land. Production is due to begin in October but Ratan Tata, chairman of the Tata group, behind the Rs 100,000 (\$2,303) mini-car, said that he was concerned about the safety of workers at the proposed Nano factory in Singur, West Bengal state, and may have to relocate the plant. "If anybody is under the impression that because we have made this large investment of about Rs 15 bn we will not

move, then they are wrong," Mr. Tata said, "Because we would move, whatever the cost, to protect our people. I can't bring our managers and their families to West Bengal, if they're going to be beaten, if there is going to be violence constantly, if their children are going to be afraid to go to school." Though Bengal government has initiated truce and given a go ahead for production at the Singur Nano plant, troubles are far from over. Tata Motors is firm that it will not accept any change in the existing production unit.
Comments: Tushar Kapoor (VIII) Vishwa Bharti Public School, Noida: What Mamta Banerjee has done is wrong. Politicians need to co-operate



with industrialists as Ratan Tata, who are doing things for the people of the country. Bhawesh Chauhan (VIII) AIS, Sector – 46: By hindering the Tata's from setting

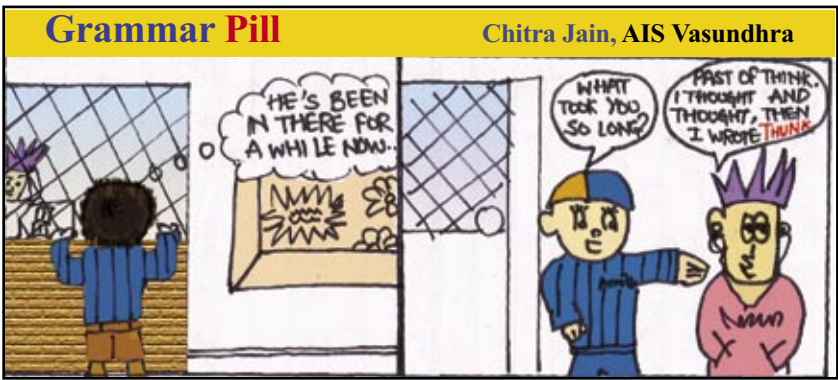
up a factory in West Bengal, Mamta is shattering the dreams of people who want to own a cheap car, into a million pieces. ●

Tickle your funny bone

Dhruv Agarwal
AIS Sec. 46, Gurgaon

Headlines 2025

- ⊙President Sonia Gandhi and Prime Minister Priyanka Gandhi receive Italian Prime Minister Rahul Gandhi from IGI airport.
- ⊙Dhoom 17 ready for release.
- ⊙"I will play next world cup," Sachin Tendulkar.
- ⊙Salman, Vivek and Abhishek attend Aishwarya's 3rd wedding.
- ⊙"Main to ab bhi jawan hoon", Dev Anand's new movie set for release where he plays the son of Aamir Khan and Madhuri Dixit.
- ⊙After remakes of 45 films of Amitabh, Shahrukh now to play Amitabh's role in the remake of 'Jhoom Barabar Jhoom'.
- ⊙Amitabh's new movie with Ranbir Kapoor's daughter 'Ek aur Nishabdh'.
- ⊙Maruti launches its new Hovercraft 'SX-25'. Honda, Toyota and Tata to follow.
- ⊙Petrol Rs. 999 per litre.
- ⊙"Kyunki saas bhi kabhi bahu thi" completed 2,50,000 episodes and Baa has completed 400 years.
- ⊙Coach Ganguly resigns, as India went out of the World Cup in the 1st round after losing to Korea.
- ⊙N. Sidhu to launch his own TV channel where he'll be the host as well as the guest.
- ⊙Riots in Parliament as newly elected MPs Mallika Sherawat and Rakhi Sawant take their seats.



"News with Views". This unique effort aimed at honing the 'newsy seventh sense' makes an interesting read. Reporting on the top-of-the-top national and international news with a youth perspective, Amitians display a lot of sensitivity and vision.

When TV channels ignore news

Pallavi Ratra
AIS Vasundhara

There are a lot of things happening in India and around the world everyday. We get to know about these happenings from the daily news. But is there any sensible news on the news channels? The new channels keep covering endless murders, fights between people and the mindless celebrity gossip. To top it all, they repeat the shows as they have nothing else to show. They

should start showing some interesting news. For instance, in the month of May, India successfully launched 7 satellites! But none of the news channels covered it as an important event; and when they did, it was only a low profile coverage which came days later than the real event. It is not that they should stop showing entertainment shows but they should neither show them in excess nor repeat the shows. Instead, they should show something interesting and informative. ●

Jammu is Burning The Amarnath problem and beyond

Akhil Bhardwaj
AIS Saket

Exactly a month before former J&K Governor S. K. Sinha was asked to vacate the Raj Bhavan in Srinagar, he ordered the transfer of 100 acres of land to Shri Amarnath Shrine Board (SASB) evoking an outcry from environmentalists and politicians in the Kashmir valley, both mainstream and separatist, religious and secular. On July 1, The J & K government cancelled the order of transfer, resulting in massive protests against the revocation that snowballed into something much bigger. The valley calmed with an agreement on Aug 31 after SASB were given the rights to use the land during the busy pilgrimage season.
Comments: Issues went beyond the Amarnath land controversy. Proposals to resolve the Kashmir issue took a long time burning the valley for over two months, claiming



many lives. It raised many questions. One, Kashmiris are alienated from the Indian state and want to join Pakistan. So should we let them go? Two, Kashmiris are a pampered lot and the mass protests in the Valley are a threat to the territorial integrity of India. The protests should have been addressed immediately. Political parties must rise above immediate electoral interests and see the long-term gains for the country. At stake in Kashmir is not merely the might of the Indian state, but also its ability to be flexible and accommodative within a liberal and democratic framework. ●

Dead, but alive!

Akshita Singh
AIS Sec 46, Gurgaon

A new delegate joined the list of our superwomen; she is not Rani Laxmibai, who fought for our freedom, nor mother Teresa, who spent her life taking care of the poor and the needy. She is Usha Tanwar, who gave life to five after she died. Mrs. Tanwar, 67 years old and mother of Lt. Col. Dinesh Tanwar, died of brain haemorrhage on August 9 and left behind a legacy for five people who will get a fresh lease of life – through her organs donated to them by her son. Dinesh, donated her organs because she had always felt strongly about it and wanted to do so while she was alive. Her liver was transplanted into a 24 year old soldier suffering from cirrhosis on the same day. One of her kidneys was transplanted into a 54 year old veteran

suffering from end-stage kidney disease and the second kidney was flown to the Command Hospital, Pune, for transplantation. Her heart valves and eyes have been stored for later transplantation.
Comments: Vikram K Singh, Army Public School: "It feels really great when people show such an enormous act of kindness. I salute Mrs. Usha for her noble act. She surely has contributed more than just donating her organs." Akriti Seth, a class IX student at DPS Sec 45, Gurgaon feels: "Mrs. Usha has motivated me too to donate my organs. If not alive, at least I can work for the welfare of the human society after I die." Says software engineer Vidushi Tomar: "This gentle act of kindness has taught us all a lesson and inspired us to take such a splendid step towards bettering the life of the needy. God shall bless her soul for she gave them a chance to live a better life." ●

Enid Blyton: Britain's best loved author

Bhuvan Ravindran
AIS Noida

Enid Blyton, the creator of the adventurous Famous Five, Malory Towers, not to mention Noddy and of course, Timmy the Dog has been voted as Britain's best loved author of all times, in a nation wide poll commissioned to mark the 2008 Costa Book Award. The prolific writer tops the list of 50 writers with Roald Dahl and J K Rowling in the second and third positions. Writer of more than 700 imaginative and exciting stories in her 40 year writing career, her books have sold over 500 million copies. That her stories are timeless is confirmed by the fact that even after her death in 1968, some eight million Blyton books are sold worldwide every year.
Comments : Says Venkat Shukla (Class VII) AIS Noida: "Enid Blyton is one of my most lovable writers and she truly deserves to be at the top. Her engrossing narrations depicting the adventures of the timeless Famous Five, makes one feel a part of their mysteries. Her proper English structures often prompt me to speak like her charming characters." Reminisces Son Juhi, Hons. Student, St. Stephens College: "As a child, I grew up reading Blyton's books. All kids love stories involving adventure, secret passages and hiding places. I remember how quickly I devoured "Five Go to Smuggler's Top". A master story-teller, she knew the stuff childhood enchantment is made of. A superb writer." ●

Burger causing global warming

Chirag Agarwal
AIS Sec 46 Gurgaon

Movie, hamburger and coke- triple mazaa. But do you know that ham burgers cause global warming? Global warming! How? Yes, the stats guru say that 18% of greenhouse gases are generated due to animal poaching. The meat obtained thus is used for making burgers. Mc-Donald's has sold more than 100 billion beef based hamburgers worldwide. Do you still want to eat burgers? Adapt to veg burgers.
Comments: Anuj Kumar, manager BHEL: "I want to protect my Earth for future generation. I will give up hamburger."
Sushant Bhardwaj, Entrepreneur: "I shall go vegetarian. We need to do



something about global warming" Vidur Prabhakar, VI E, AIS-46 Gurgaon: "Leaving burger, no way. I may instead turn a vegetarian." ●

Has gold lost its sheen?

Raghav Jetli
AIS Noida

Gold prices have plummeted 17% during the last quarter (April to June) and the trend is expected to continue. Current prices are hovering around Rs.10000 per 10 grams. This steady fall has been attributed to the global reduction in crude oil prices and the weakening



rupee. Trade pundits predict a period of dormancy and expect no major change in the near future.
Comments: Yash Gupta, a jeweller opines: "This fluctuation will affect the reliability of gold as a sound investment." Vinaik, a lawyer is happy at this reduction in prices before the festive season and is "tempted to buy more". ●



Over to quizzing

Agrim Singh
AIS, Saket

Curiosity killed the cat, but it made the quizzier rich! From beer bottles and live ducks to jeans and shoes to laptops and foreign holidays, quizzes offer tons of expensive swags up for grabs. In today's knowledge-driven world, quizzing is no longer just another intellectual pursuit - it's a realistic and, sometimes, even lucrative career option. As the story goes, a theatre manager James Daly, once declared he could invent a new word and overnight make it part of English language. Daly hired street urchins and beggars to mark the word on every city wall. The word was **quiz**, and by the next day everyone was asking what it meant. The 'act of asking' became the meaning of the word. Quizzing is an endless mind

game; it's addictive, it's inane, it's fascinating. It becomes delightful with a heady mix of information and entertainment.

As a quizmaster, one needs to be a performer. You have to be a quizzier first in order to know what it feels like on the other side. A good quiz master understands his audience thoroughly. He keeps his eyes and ears open. One must take interest in varied subjects; one must have an apti-

Must for quizmasters

- Flawless language skills
- A fair sense of timing
- A ready wit
- Good sense of humour
- Situation handling skills
- Well informed/ well read
- Stage presence
- Constant innovation
- Be a good host
- A decent personality

tude that allows to assimilate and store a lot of information, and essentially, an ability to recall them whenever required. Good quizzers are also voracious readers. Opines Lloyd Saldanha, researcher and quizmaster Greycaps, "A quizmaster needs to understand his audience and be an entertainer at heart. He needs to have a good sense of humour." If not a quizmaster, you can be a Researcher. A lot of professional quizmasters have dedicated research teams working on the content. The questions have to be well-researched, double-checked and well-framed. Being a Quizzer is also an informal career today. However, mere awareness will not fetch you success, rather, applying a fair amount of lateral thinking is important. In one of the quizzes I attended, a question was, 'Which Indian city has got its name when

Lord Shiva showered divine nectar from his matted locks?' Though clueless, we figured out that the suitable Hindi word for 'nectar' would be *madhu*. Thus, we guessed Madurai and it turned out to be right! Giri Balsubramniam 'Pick-brain', quiz master from Bangalore feels, "Quizzing needs constant innovation and an endless thought processes. For those passionate about quizzing, this is the right time to get going." So, if you discover that you know more than your friends, remember that it's not just something to be proud of - it's something that can become your career! •



The spelling strategy

Presenting a fun way to learn your spellings

Moksha Bhatnagar
Counsellor AIS, Vasundhara

Learning spellings seem to send most kids into a tizzy. In fact, students who otherwise excel in language abilities, may experience strong and debilitating difficulties in spelling. The way most of us use our brain is very similar to using only one finger of the hand. Here's a fun way to enhance the learning of spellings.

New or difficult words

1. Look at the correct spelling; move your eyes left (if you are right handed) and right (if you are left handed) and visualise the spelling in your favourite colour on a favourite background.

For eg. If you want to learn the spelling of pneumonia, see pneumonia written in red colour on the background of the night sky. To make it more appealing, you can mentally play your favourite tune also; remember things that make you feel good.

2. Look at your mental image and verbalize or write the letters you see. Check whether what you have written is the



When learning a new or difficult word, form an image of the word in your favourite colour and back-

correct spelling. If any of the letters are missing or are incorrect, return to step 1.

3. Next, look at the mental image and spell the word backwards.
4. Compare what you have verbalized or written with the correct spelling.
5. Identify any of the letters that did not naturally appear in your image or were not clear.
6. If any letters are missing or incorrect, go back to step 2 or use the handy hints to clarify your mental image.

Handy hints

1. Trace the letters of the spelling to be learned with your fingers. This technique utilizes kinesthetic sense along with the visual image of the spelling, hence makes it easy to learn spellings.
2. Change the quality of letters that are difficult to visualize. Such letters can be made brighter, put in another colour and background or made bigger.
3. Break the word into groups of letters (typically groups of three). These groups or chunks do not need to be in the form of syllables or phonological units. The purpose of these chunks is simply to help build the image of smaller pieces. •

Top of the tops

Cracking the

CBSE boards are a tough nut to crack, feel most students. Well, if they follow a disciplined and systematic approach and make judicious use of the time in their hands, that's all it takes to attain top scores. Read on to see what the toppers of Amity have to say...



Science

"Science is one subject that calls for loads of practice. I practiced different kinds of questions and numericals. I memorised all the facts and specific points related to different topics. I also practiced all graphs and Biology diagrams at least once in a week. I got my presentation style for each answer checked by my teachers."

Rishabh Vinayak Das, AIS Gurgaon 43,
Science: 98

Economics

"It's important to give to the point answers in Economics. Some chapters like demand and supply require a thorough practice of diagrams. I took practice tests regularly to know my strengths and weaknesses."

Shwetha Balachandran, AIS Noida
Economics: 98

Sanskrit

"I would study Sanskrit regularly and since I had the subject from class VIth, I formed a good foundation in the basics. I learnt the meanings of most Sanskrit

words, besides reading the NCERT book thoroughly. My grandmother also gave me useful tips."

Aditi Upadhyay, AIS Gur 43,
Sanskrit: 97

"I followed a systematic approach to the subject and practiced 10 years sample papers. My teachers gave me assignments and mock tests from time to time which boosted my confidence. Practising different types of questions definitely gave me an edge during the exams."

Shivangi Gupta, AIS Gur 43,
Sanskrit: 97

Hindi

"I read all the chapters nicely to remove all doubts. I did a lot of practice for grammar, paragraph writing and letters through assignments and class notes. The book M3K (Maximum Marks, Maximum Knowledge) is a great one for Hindi."

Amrapali Rao, AIS Gur 43,
Hindi: 92

After all, the board is just another examination. A little dedication, a little perseverance, and you are ready to bell the cat! •

Counsel's Korner

I am 4'10" in height. Most boys in my class are around 5'5" and some over 6'. I feel terrible walking with others and hate the nickname 'pint size.' I've begun to withdraw from crowd and detest school. My grades show a marked decline.

Ankit, 16

Instead of bothering too much about your height, try to develop confidence in yourself. Look forward to stalwarts like Sachin Tendulkar and Aamir Khan and "Hitch your wagon to the stars to achieve success!"

I was invited to my friend's sixteenth birthday bash. But, I found my brother

dressed up to go with me. I knew it was my parents' way of playing safe. I was furious, but my desire to go to the party was stronger than the disgust of having a kid brother along. How can I convince my parents that I'm big enough to handle myself?

Understand your parents' concern. Instead of being furious with them, make



P S Jamwal

Tara, 15

My friend Pratyush has become impossible in class. He is like a jack-in-the-box, always running out. He is poor in studies, does not get along with his parents. Of late, he has become

them understand your point not in an aggressive but polite and respectful way. Also, you can behave in a mature and responsible manner, and give them a chance to build faith in you.

excessively stubborn.

Anuj, 12

Have you spoken to your friend? Try to find out why he is behaving in such a manner. Your friend might be facing some problem which is bothering him. You have to be extremely patient and understanding in realizing his view. Take him into confidence that you will not let his secret out and seek some elderly help to sort out his cause of concern. •



Know Guru, know God, no Guru no God




Ashima Khanna
AIS Noida

“Tasmay Shri Guruvey Namah,” meaning, I bow down to all my teachers, those who have guided, taken me under their wing and taught me all that I know.

With such a high level of respect and divine status accorded to the Guru from times immemorial, be it in the Upanishads or the System of Gurukul, the role of teachers cannot be undermined. Education without an educator is truly an inconceivable concept, something like imagining fish without water or in a

Pt. Birju Maharaj



The ‘guru-shishya parampara’ gives the Guru a status of God, that instills discipline in a disciple, essential to learn any art. I have been honoured with many awards, yet I do not use ‘Dr’ before my name. I offer all the awards to my Guru, only to forget and free myself, to collect more for the offering.

lighter vein, women without gossip! Though the role and importance of our educators has been and will always be as magnanimous as ever, the nature of this immortal relationship between a student and a teacher has undergone a sea change, owing to the changes in social pattern and lifestyle. Going back to the age of the Gurukul, teachers were idolized to the extent of equating them with God; as per a famous saying, “Know Guru, know God; No Guru, No God.” In total contrast, the status of a teacher in the present world is of a friend, guide and mentor – much closer and informal than before in nature. Nowadays, class-

room teaching does not consist of merely a lecture; rather it is a much more enriching and proactive process ensuring equal participation and enthusiasm from both sides. Although, this is undoubtedly an indicator of better bonding between students and teachers, unfortunately this has somewhat led to degradation of values. It is evident in the present context that teachers are not getting their due respect and recognition in the society. When one is blessed to find a teacher, pray that one has the clarity of vision to recognise them for what they are and the ability to take as much as possible of their precious wisdom.●

Teachers open the door, you enter by yourself

Nishita Khattar, AIS Noida

As the countdown for Teacher’s day begins each year, students compete with one another to see who’ll brew up the best concoction of cards and presents to gift our teachers. Teachers are our second family, who make the school feel like a home away from home. Our ultimate philosophers and guides, they are full of wisdom and kindness. A doctor’s fault is buried in the grave, a lawyer’s fault lies in his files while an engineer’s fault is embedded in the foundation, but a teacher’s fault is like a blot on the face of the country. This shows that a teacher is so important

and crucial in a student’s life. But some pupils don’t give as much respect to their teacher as they deserve. You all must know the story of Eklavya. When his Guru, Dronacharya asked him to cut off his thumb and give it to him as Gurudakshina, Eklavya didn’t show the slightest hesitation in following his mentor’s orders. This is how teachers were treated in the golden days. As Kabir-das once said,
“Guru gobind dou khade, kake lagu paye; balihaari guru aapne, gobind diyo bataye.”
 Besides teaching different subjects, teachers tell us the difference between kindness and cruelty, good and evil. They instruct us how to be successful, how to face chal-



lenges and most importantly, be a good human being and be loyal to our country. According to a famous Chinese proverb, “Teachers open the door, you enter by yourself.” Teachers are one of God’s greatest blessings to human beings. These knowledge givers are one of the most precious gems on earth and they are to be cherished at every step of our life.●

Delightful friendships

Sakshi Gupta, AIS ED

The teenage is a very important part of our lives. They are the golden years which would never return. In this part of our lives we all have some problems which might be stress or emotional and social problems. There are even some issues that we can’t even share with our parents. So the only people who we are most free with are the peo-

F-Frank
R-Reassuring
I-Innovative
E-Energetic
N-Noble
D-Delightful
S-Sentimental
H-Helpful
I-Inspiring
P-Protector



ple of our age group i.e. our friends. Good friends are the only people in whom we can entrust all our secrets. Come what may, our friends let us through. They are always there to console and provide stability during stress and we have a sense of ease when we know that someone knowing us perfectly well is there with us. When we feel shy or hesitant in discussing some problems with our parents or teachers, we can always share them with our friends because we know that they are going through the same situation. It is often found that most of the children who are under depression are those who don’t have any friends. In times of troubles, friends are like water in a desert. Not only helpful, they are companions in fun and frolic, too. Stretch a hand of friendship and lead a happy life. Best way to describe friendship ●

Simply Sorted

Meenakshi Singh & Baanie Sawhney
AIS Noida

Did you have a fight with your mom over dinner last night? Are you broke and your Dad doesn’t give you a penny more because he thinks your monthly allowance is enough? You are fretting and fuming and have slammed the door on your parents thinking they will never understand. Don’t worry, you’re a perfectly normal teenager. But the big question is that are you really looking forward to fix things up? Mr Fix-it brings to you some time tested recipes to keep parent troubles at bay.
Keep communication lines open: Communication is like oxygen to a relationship; keep talking to your parents no matter what. Talk to them about everyday stuff, doesn’t mean you need to tell them everything, for a change turn the focus on them. When raising a difficult issue plan it out, choose a correct time, make sure they know it’s important and have your full attention. If you feel its easier, put your emotions into a letter, let them read it and then have a discussion.
Disagree without disrespect: Parents are human beings, they get offended when their views are challenged. Never make a



conversation personal. Instead of using ‘You’ statements that sound argumentative, try ‘I’ statements that tell them about your feelings like “I am feeling pressurized” or “Can I do these chores tomorrow?” Instead of saying, “That idea is stupid,” try “I disagree and here’s why.” Listen to their point of view.
Don’t mess it up: Don’t think that slamming the door on your mom or screaming and shouting on top of your voice will make the situation get any better. Talk it out and reach a mutually acceptable solution.
Anantdeep Singh of AIS Noida believes that teen emotions need to be controlled to help them evolve as better human beings. He reasons why one should listen to parents, “At this feeble junction of life, we need to conquer our senses to make them our trustworthy allies for two reasons: We need to keep our body, our chariot on this journey strong, healthy and resilient so that this chariot unwaveringly lead us to the summit of consciousness. Training our senses strengthens our will power and a strong will is required to achieve success in life and to move out of the vicious cycle of failure. So let’s just subjugate our alluring senses for these six sensational years so that we never grow old and enjoy the joy of our teens throughout our life.”●

To all the teachers on this earth- a tribute from the cadets of Amity Indian Military College, IMT Manesar

GT Message Column

The Teacher King
 Teacher, O teacher! You’re the golden light
 Children, we children, buds blooming bright
 Teach us, O teacher, taking off our first flight
 Want, we do want, tiding over tide
 Hear, O hear, hither has been no great man ever
 Without you, O teacher, who made him so clever?
 God save the teacher! My heart doth this sing
 Maker of the kings, a teacher, hail the Teacher King
Aman Singh Class X, AIMC

Teacher! You mean the most to us
 We would have been dumb creatures
 Had we not had such good teachers
 We would have ever been cheating
 Had it not been for their teaching
 Never would we have learnt to strive
 Had they not been by our side
 They have always shown us the way
 So, we say “A Happy Teacher’s Day”
Pranoy Yadav, Class IX, AIMC

Lamp-post
 Teacher is a lamp-post
 At cross roads of life
 He removes darkness
 From dim lit minds
 Good students are rare
 To come across today
 Still rarer is a good teacher
 A salute to them on Teacher’s Day
Tanay Arora, Class XI, AIMC

Priestly Teachers
 School is a temple of knowledge
 Teachers are scholarly priests
 What they teach we must heed
 Their teaching is a holy speech
 We are devotees, they are deities
 We must learn what they teach
Vibhav S Mishra, Class IX, AIMC

To my inspiration Sampurna Mam,
 This is for you Ma’am, for the only person I’ve ever come across with such an enigmatic personality. There are not enough words in the world to illustrate my respect and adoration for you. Though you taught English to us all, you taught me something even more than that. All the valuable moments, when you taught us, have been preserved in my life as some of the most memorable ones. When you thought I wasn’t looking, I was watching you Ma’am and learning how to live life to the best. You came and turned the class in to a magical place. I thank you for all the appreciation and scolding that made me a better person. I wish you could teach us forever, so that I could be lost in the magical place that you created with your magic wand. Thank you for everything!
Chitra Jain, AIS Vasundhara

To. Nandita Mam, Bhaswati Mam & Manju Mam
 I may not say it always, but I mean it whenever I say it. Thank you teacher for all the things you have done for me. I found guidance, friendship, dis-

cipline and love, everything, in one person. Wherever I go in life, I will always remember that I had an excellent guide in the form of a teacher.
Alankrita Srivastava, AIS Vasundhara
 A teacher tells, a good teacher explains, while a true teacher inspires. Thank you Ma’am for being a true teacher and making me what I am. It was your duty, just to teach us drama, instead in the process you accidentally taught us the lessons of life.
Anantdeep singh, AIS Noida
 A good teacher is like a candle - it consumes itself to light the way for others. Thank you teacher for guiding us, inspiring us and making us what we are today.
Divya Vishwanadh, AIS Noida
 Teachers, I would simply like to summarize my feelings in two short words – THANK YOU! No matter how many silly questions I come up with, not complete the homework, assignments or try to bunk classes but in my heart of heart, I honour, respect & treasure your role of being our GURUS”
Ashima Khanna, AIS Noida

Teacher
 For teaching children lessons, to help them as they grow,
 Let this gift remind you,
 You’re the best teacher we know!
 I chose this special poem because I wanted you to know,
 That I’m grateful for your hard work in helping me to grow.
 For your constant understanding and for always being there,
 To tell me I can do it and to show me that you care!
Anushree Mohananey AIS Sect 46

AMITIAN NINJAS

Conquering the Co₂ menace

Bhuvan Ravindran & Nishant Roy
AIS Noida

Ninja was a free flash game about collecting as much gold as possible as you try to escape confined space full of robots, designed to kill Ninja who relied on absurd gymnastic abilities to get away. While, we are busy negotiating the virtual robots, there's another deadly 'X'(enemy) creeping behind us. This enemy is for real and is christened 'global warming'. If the present scenario continues, the average temperature of the Earth will increase by 2 degree Celsius by the end of 21st century. The film 'An Inconvenient Truth' singles out Calcutta as a city that will be submerged. Now, only you have the controls of Ninja to beat the deadly enemy and your mission is to save the world. All of us are players in this game by default. We have the power to arrest the enemy and earn 'carbon credits'. Here are the Ten Commandments to save the world:

Reuse, Recycle and Reduce: Reduce waste by choosing reusable products, buying products with minimal packaging helps reduce waste. One should recycle various objects. By recycling half your household waste, you can save 2400 pounds of carbon dioxide annually.



There's a deadly enemy on the prowl. This enemy is for real and has been christened as 'global warming'. We must join hands to combat the menace.

Use less air conditioning: Airconditioners contain CFC's that increase global temperatures and add to the destruction of the ozone layer.

Change those light bulbs: One can use Compact Fluorescent Lamps(CFLs) as they save electricity and heat and even

money as compared to normal bulbs. They survive at least ten times longer than an incandescent bulb and emit 70% less heat.

Use the 'off' switch: Turn off lights and fans or any other electrical appliance wherever they are not in use.

Plant a tree: During photosynthesis, plants take in CO₂ and give out O₂ in the day while at night they inhale O₂ and exhale CO₂. One tree absorbs approximately 1 ton of CO₂ in its lifetime. No opportunity for planting a tree should go a begging.

Use car pools/public transport: Carbon emissions contribute significantly to global warming. One should use catalytic invertors to prevent the excessive emission of CO₂ into the air. Use car pools to keep lesser vehicles on the road which results in lesser emissions.

Shop with the environment in mind: Being environmentally conscious when planning your shopping. Your planning can retain your resources and also save your money.

Environment friendly gifts: Shift from gifting perfumes and synthetic clothes to environment friendly items like potted plants, jute/paper bags, terracotta paintings, etc. One can also gift wrap them in handmade/recycled paper.

Go organic: When organic food is available, choose it; use cockroach/fly traps instead of fluorocarbon sprays.

Something has to be done. If one follows the above listed green tips, one can significantly contribute to preserving the environment. All of us together can save the environment and look forward to a happier, healthier and cleaner future.●

Why did the apple fall?

Shivani Verma
AIS East Delhi

Have you ever wondered that why does an apple fall to the ground? Well, nearly two hundred and fifty years ago a man did so. The young man of twenty-three who had just graduated from the Cambridge University England, was sitting in the garden when he saw an apple fall. He wondered what made that apple fall. Initially, he thought that it was the earth that pulls unsupported objects towards it. But then he realised that if it was so, the moon must fall into the earth and the earth into the sun. A brilliant mathematician, he started calculating the distance from the surface of the earth to the center, the sizes and the distances between the sun and the moon and many other measurements. Finally, he reached a conclusion that the pulling power must be weaker as the distance between two bodies become greater. This explained why the earth did not fall into the sun, the moon did not fall into the earth and why the planets do not collide into each other. The young boy was **Isaac Newton** who discovered 'gravity'.

How U doin'?

Lifestyle



Vrinda Mittal
AIS, Noida

Today, we all are designer crazed individuals. We have been bit by the designer bug. Our wardrobes have a varied selection of clothing with various brand names, in a wide array of styles and choices. Children are no exception. Take the case of some students of KG from AIS, Noida- Gaurika Wahal and Vindhya Venkatesh who thrive on fashion and are already shopping for clothes that are 'in fashion'. Gaurika says, "I love fashion. The school uniform is boring!" Of course, without fashion real life is boring. Says Vindhya, "The only time I can look fashionable is on my birthdays and special assemblies. Don't you think what I'm wearing is really cool?"●

Vegetable Spice

When was the last time you tweaked your eyebrows at the sight of those green, leafy veggies? Not after you read this

Tvisha Goswami & Kaveri Modayil
AIS, Pushp Vihar

Vegetables. It's the only word a kid dreads, after milk, of course. Watch out for this scene enacted in every household: A variety of vegetables are placed right under the nose of the kid. A dreadful smell wafts up (smell that seems delicious to mums and dads) followed by the much rehearsed dictum, "Vegetables are good for you, eat up!" And silently they whisper, "We know that vegetables are good for us, but do we have to really eat them? They taste disgusting!" Vegetables may taste disgusting, but they are a rich source of proteins and vitamins. Flipping over to see the good side, they keep you healthy and fit. Just nibble a few bites of the vegetable and you will realize that they don't taste bad at all. At least, not as bad as you had expected, considering the advantages they have. They are good for health even though they don't appeal to the taste buds of people. Bringing relief to the kids who do not

Studies show that a gene called TAS2R38 may be responsible for children's aversion to bitter tastes. Every one of us carries two of these genes.

like vegetables is a study by researchers at Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia. The study showed that a gene called TAS2R38 may be responsible for children's aversion to bitter tastes. Every one of us carries two of these genes. There are two different versions of this gene, with one being more sensitive to bitter tastes than the other. If one or both of those bitter-sensitive genes are present, we are more likely to dislike bitter tastes. Mothers (likely to have undergone the vegetable dislike syndrome), however beg to differ. Children, they claim have a natural dislike for vegetables because they taste bland. Adding another blow to the damage is the new generation parenting with double income, single child and long working hours that justify un-

healthy readymade food vis-à-vis home cooked versions. The fallout -increasing obesity and other health disorders. However, not all fall prey to this trend. Eating veggies can be a delightful experience too. Anuradha Sinha, mother of two grown up teens, fought the vegetable resistance in her children with innovative recipes and tiffins. The personalised catering, firing the taste buds while keeping the nutrients intact, resulted in a compilation of recipes that she printed as 'Healthy & delicious food' under Nita Mehta publications. Listed under 'best-sellers', it was an instant sell-out, currently selling its eighth edition. So, next time you are served carrot, dip it in salsa sauce or add sweet and sour sauce over broccoli. Remember, vegetables can be spiced too.●



Health Pill Amazing Amla

Pallavi& Shivangi, VI
AIS, Gurgaon, Sec 43

Amla, a precious gift of mother nature, has various advantages. It is an unusual fruit as it contains variety of tastes, except the salty one. With sourness as the foremost taste, it is sweet, astringent, bitter and pungent, too. It forms an important part of the ayurvedic medicine. Charak and Sushrut widely mention the use of amla for curative purposes. We have seen our grannies using amla for pickles and *murabas* and its formulations for treating common diseases. Amla or gooseberry has many nutritious benefits. It is an abundant source of Vitamin C containing as much as 20 times that of an orange. Moreover, what makes it unique is the fact that the Vitamin C content of amla does not get destroyed with cooking. The fresh fruit contains more than 80% of water besides protein, carbohydrates, fibre, minerals and vitamins Minerals and vitamins mainly include calcium, phosphorus, iron, carotene, Vitamin C and B complex. It also contains gallic acid, which is a potent polyphenol.●



Obeisance Teachers

The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterwards.

-Anatole France



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Wherever one goes, however old one becomes, the influence of teachers in one's life never ceases to flow. She is the one who makes the school a 'home away from home'.

At Amity, I am proud to say that we take utmost

care to ensure the best teachers, for our students. We build the 21st century teachers who acquire many more intangible roles as facilitator, a role model, a counselor, and an advisor for all of us, students and parents as they lay the foundation for creating enlightened citizens for the nation. The excellent performance of our students in academic and co-curricular activities carving a niche for themselves while making a global impact speaks for the dedication and love of our teachers.

One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers, but with gratitude to those who touched our human feeling. Teaching is more difficult than learning because what teaching calls for is: to let learn. The role of teachers in a student's life is so predominant that without them, life would be meaningless, directionless terrain. A good student is one who can extract the maximum from the teacher.

As the Buddha once said, do not believe in anything simply because you have heard it. Do not believe in anything simply because it is spoken and rumoured by many. Do not believe in anything simply because it is found written in your religious books. Do not believe in anything merely on the authority of your teachers and elders. Do not believe in traditions because they have been handed down for many generations. But after observation and analysis, when you find that anything agrees with reason and is conducive to the good and benefit of one and all, then accept it and live up to it.●

"I still think of myself as a pupil"

Mr Arvinder Singh Lovely, Delhi/State Education Minister, in an exclusive interview with The Global Times, shares his journey from the first day in his office that sounded "no news is good news" to education being in the news everywhere. Successfully curbing the high drop-out from 17.55 to 5.8%, Mr Lovely has a lot more to his credit. "Education is very important in today's times. Therefore, I feel that developing all facets of education has been my prime endeavour," he says with pride. True to his vision, through his tenure, he always tried to divide his attention equally towards all aspects of education. The condition of government schools that were on decline were brought almost to par with public schools. The existing work culture and attitude towards government schools have been completely transformed. Delhi schools' winning performance at National School Games, strongly reflects the improved sports utilities and infrastructure. Delhi today boasts of one of largest number schools in the world that includes around 1500 public schools, 1100 government schools, 2000 primary schools, 280 government aided schools and 50 central schools. The message that education is very important has percolated to the lowest strata, so much so that even a rickshaw puller realises that it's important to send his children to schools.

A student of Political Science, Mr Lovely entered politics by choice. When asked about the subjects he liked and disliked, as a student, he answers with a smile, "My likes and dislikes have not changed over the years as I still think of myself as a school student (comes with the job!).●



Learning to Teach India



Vira Sharma

The month of September instantly brings in the flavours of student-teacher relationship and the next big thing that catches your attention is the Teach India campaign. A noble initiative well begun, with registrations clicking, has swelled into big numbers motivating many to join it. While Teach India inspires, it implores each of us to ask ourselves, how we can be a part of this movement in our own little ways. Many may simply shrug it off with a snap: "I don't have the time to teach." Well my friends, it's not about time but inclination that changes the meaning of the word 'teaching'. If I am to believe myself, teaching is a lifelong process. Are we committed enough to teach life-skills to make ourselves and those around us, in our small ways, better human beings?

Last week I called up my parents who had just returned from their Europe tour, enquiring about their trip. "So Mom, how many English words did you learn?" I quipped chirpily. Pat she replied, "None, in fact I taught all my 40 co-travellers from across the world, *Namaste*". How sweet, I thought. In

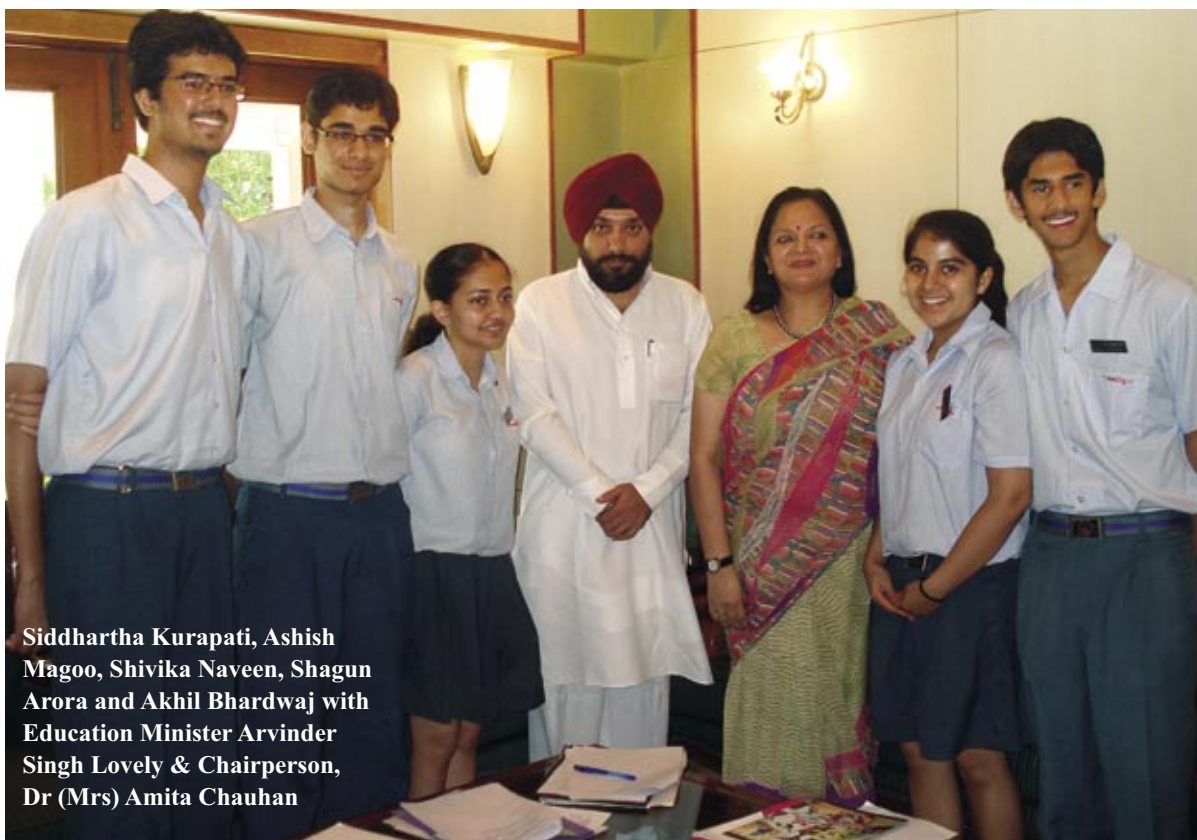
Teach not as a duty, but with passion. Teach not as a fad, but because you feel for it. It's not a school where your seniors appraise or students score. It's life's assessment.

the race to learn and acquire knowledge, to excel, to build that competitive edge, we forget to Teach. Teaching is perhaps the biggest learn-

ing. My paternal uncle, an IPS in Bihar has been voluntarily teaching IIT/engineering aspirants from poor/rural background for last several years in a school titled 'Super 30'. The success rate has been as astounding as 100%. I indeed thought that it was a noble gesture to 'teach' until I met him. "I am not teaching them. Rather they are doing a service to me by hearing me. I did not realise my inner self until I met this bright lot of students who honed my skills with their thirst for knowledge." Rightly said, he reminded me of the quote: "A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer; it sings because it has a song." Teach, not as a duty, but as a passion. Teach not as a fad, but because you feel for it. It's not a school where your seniors appraise or students score. It's life's assessment. Learn each day as if there were no tomorrow. Teach each day, amassing life's precious wealth: knowledge. ●

"Teachers are the building blocks"

Mr Arvinder Singh Lovely, Delhi/State Education Minister, in an exclusive interview with The Global Times Reporters of AIS Saket.



Siddhartha Kurapati, Ashish Magoo, Shivika Naveen, Shagun Arora and Akhil Bhardwaj with Education Minister Arvinder Singh Lovely & Chairperson, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan

Are you satisfied with the current system of admissions i.e. through interviews/tests? What, according to you, is the ideal criteria for nursery admissions?

Officially, interviews/tests were never allowed. I agree that there should be some rule of law but no policing can be done in an education system. The running of a school and admission of students are the schools' prerogative. There is no shortage of schools in Delhi, yet the growing problem because schools are now being treated as a measure of social status and not institutions of education.

With the towering cut offs for undergraduate admissions, the mediocrity feels neglected. What does our education system have to offer them?

The answer lies in introducing new colleges and even universities. The newly inaugurated BR Ambedkar College for Arts and Commerce for students is an effort in this direction **Mention one superlative aspect of our education system that sets it apart from all others?**

The Indian values and ethics embodied in our schooling system makes it superior from the others. Along with developing a scientific temper, we also succeed in making good human

beings out of young children who will one day serve as an asset to the society. The new generation is testimony to this fact.

What is the one major loophole holding back our system today?

It is the psychological pressure by parents or otherwise that is restricting the personality of the students from blooming fully and thereby marring their overall performance.

Do you think that our education system has justly addressed the needs of 'special' children?

We have tried to address this issue in

"The Indian Values and ethics embodied in our schooling system sets it superior from the others."

the best possible manner with available resources. We are already in conversation with many schools to make them handicapped accessible. I believe that they should be integrated within the same school.

Teachers play a crucial role in nation building. Teachers in general have a feeling that their profession is underpaid and undermined?

I totally agree that teachers help in set-

ting-up of the building blocks of the country, but do not concur that the teachers are undermined. I feel that teachers are highly paid and are given their perks and promotions timely. I also consider that being a teacher or lecturer, at present, is the best job. Honestly!

As per the current system of education the CBSE and competitive exams combined are resulting in increasing stress levels amongst students. The 'Synchro study programme' initiated by Amity has successfully combined both the CBSE and competitive curriculum comprehensively. Do you think a similar model can be adopted by all other schools too?

Yes, of course. We have already made many efforts in this area. Governments schools have now started with CCEP examinations. Also many new and varied subjects are being introduced. We feel that every child does not have to be gifted in Maths or Physics. Each child should be offered subjects and opportunities equivalent to his/her capabilities. A model based on this principle is bound to succeed and we hope to see through one such design of curriculum in the near future. ●

From bench to benchmark!

Shrey Parmar
AIS, Noida

While most higher secondary students (both front and last benchers!) would hate to give exams, the various competitive exams that they have to appear is a mammoth target. They slog hard, walking zombie, relegated to pariah status, an umbilical detachment from the rest of the world. Crammed in rooms, they continue mugging notes till wee hours of the morning only to spill them on exam tables, the next day. Do such exams actually serve the purpose they mean to? In fact, educationist have actually began to question the format of IIT entrance exams that have resulted in the mushrooming of factories evolving recipes to crack the boards, defeating the proposed objective. Students end up wasting two 'precious years' of their lives attempting to clear prestigious exams, without questioning, only to realize that they could not secure an admission and in the process performed badly in school too. The frustration and disappointment, thereafter often results in depression, stress and suicides.

The call of the day is to create a system that helps identify the subject of their choice and focus on facts (not cramming). Exams should test the fundamentals and basic concepts, instead of seeking complicated answers. Albert Einstein hated the school curriculum. He created his own exotic environment where his thoughts were not influenced and found answers to most 'Why's'. This probably explains his path breaking discoveries.●



Congratulations for a yet another successful issue. The Vasudha update and the entire competition has been covered very well. However, our students who had participated so enthusiastically were disappointed that there was no photograph at all of any aspect of 'Vasudha' in AIS, Sec- 43, especially since all other schools had been covered.

Dr. (Mrs.) Rekha Ranade
Principal AIS Gurgaon-43
Amends. Look out for pix on Pg 10

I wanted to thank you for publishing my article on 'uniforms' in The Global Times. I want to write more frequently for the paper. Can you please inform me how many times it is published in a year and when should I send my articles to you? Thank you again and take care.

Aditi Phatak
AIS Noida

It is a monthly newspaper. You may send in your entries at the mailing address given below.

Thank you very much for encouraging Raghav Paul of AIS East Delhi and publishing his interview in your esteemed paper 'The Global Times'. I would further appreciate, if you could send us some extra copies for our archives. If you want, Raghav would be delighted to cover photo assignments, interviews for GT and of course he will be posting pictures from time to time.

Dheeraj Paul
Father of Raghav
Thanks for your involvement and offer. We shall be in touch.

The Big Fight

Substance Abuse, a Global Burden

The alarming rise in substance abuse calls for people to join hands in the fight against this global menace. GT reporters bare the stark realities, to create awareness on what lies behind the fad that is eating away our health, family, economy and progress. More on the big issue....

Kartik Mehta & Saksham Singh
AIS Sec 46, Gurgaon

What is substance abuse?

It is the overindulgence in, and dependence on a drug or other chemical, leading to detrimental effects on the individual's physical and mental health, or the welfare of others. Substance abuse is sometimes used as a synonym for drug abuse, drug addiction and chemical dependency, but actually refers to all use of illicit drugs in a manner not dictated by convention (e.g. according to physician's orders or societal norms).

Effects of substance abuse

Though the reasons for substance abuse may be varied, the society pays the cost for sure. Abused substances produce intoxication that alters judgement, perception, attention, or physical control. The toll can be seen in hospitals and emergency departments, in the form of direct damage to health and its link to physical trauma. Jails and prisons also tally daily, the strong connection between crime and drug dependence and abuse. Studies have made it clear that drug education and prevention aimed at children and adolescents offers the best chance to curb abuse nationally.



Shiv Khara

Substance abuse = Self abuse

"Substance abuse, in other words, amounts to self abuse. People with high self-esteem do not indulge in self abuse and those who do have low or no self-esteem end up slaves of substance abuse. It all amounts to 'identity crisis'. People who do not have an identity of their own, simply 'go along' to overcome that identity crisis falling prey to substance abuse in the process. 90% of people become smokers before the age of 19. What needs to be analysed is what makes them so vulnerable at a young age? Where are they taking their values from? It's important for the media and celebrities to behave more responsibly."

Reality bites



Tobacco: Smoking is responsible for nearly half a million death each year. It costs the nation an estimated \$100 billion a year, mainly in direct and indirect health care costs. Besides the primary hazard nicotine, cigarette smoke also damages health, causes heart disease, lung cancer, emphysema, peptic ulcer disease and stroke. Withdrawal symptoms of smoking include anxiety, hunger, sleep disturbances and depression.

Alcohol: Although many people have a drink as a

'pick me up', alcohol actually depresses the brain. It lessens one's inhibitions, slurs speech and decreases muscle control and coordination, may even lead to alcoholism. Officials associate alcohol abuse with nearly half of all fatal motor vehicle accidents.

It is the most common cause of liver failure and can cause heart enlargement and cancer of the esophagus, pancreas and stomach. It can be

consumed orally, rectally inhaled or insufflated.

Drugs: They alter the mental state in ways that are considered by social norms and defined by statute to be inappropriate, undesirable, harmful or threatening. The commonly abused drugs as amphetamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, cocaine, methaqualone, and opium alkaloids affect the Central Nervous System (CNS), produce changes in mood, levels of awareness or perceptions and sensations resulting in repeated adverse social consequences, such as failure to meet work, family, or school obligations, inter-personal conflicts, or legal problems. An overdose of drugs can be fatal.

The risk for drug abuse varies from person to person. The more risks a child is exposed to, the more likely the child will abuse drugs. An important goal of prevention is to change the balance between risk (teenage pressure) and protective factors (strong parent-child bond) so that protective factors outweigh risk factors.

Reading early signs of risk

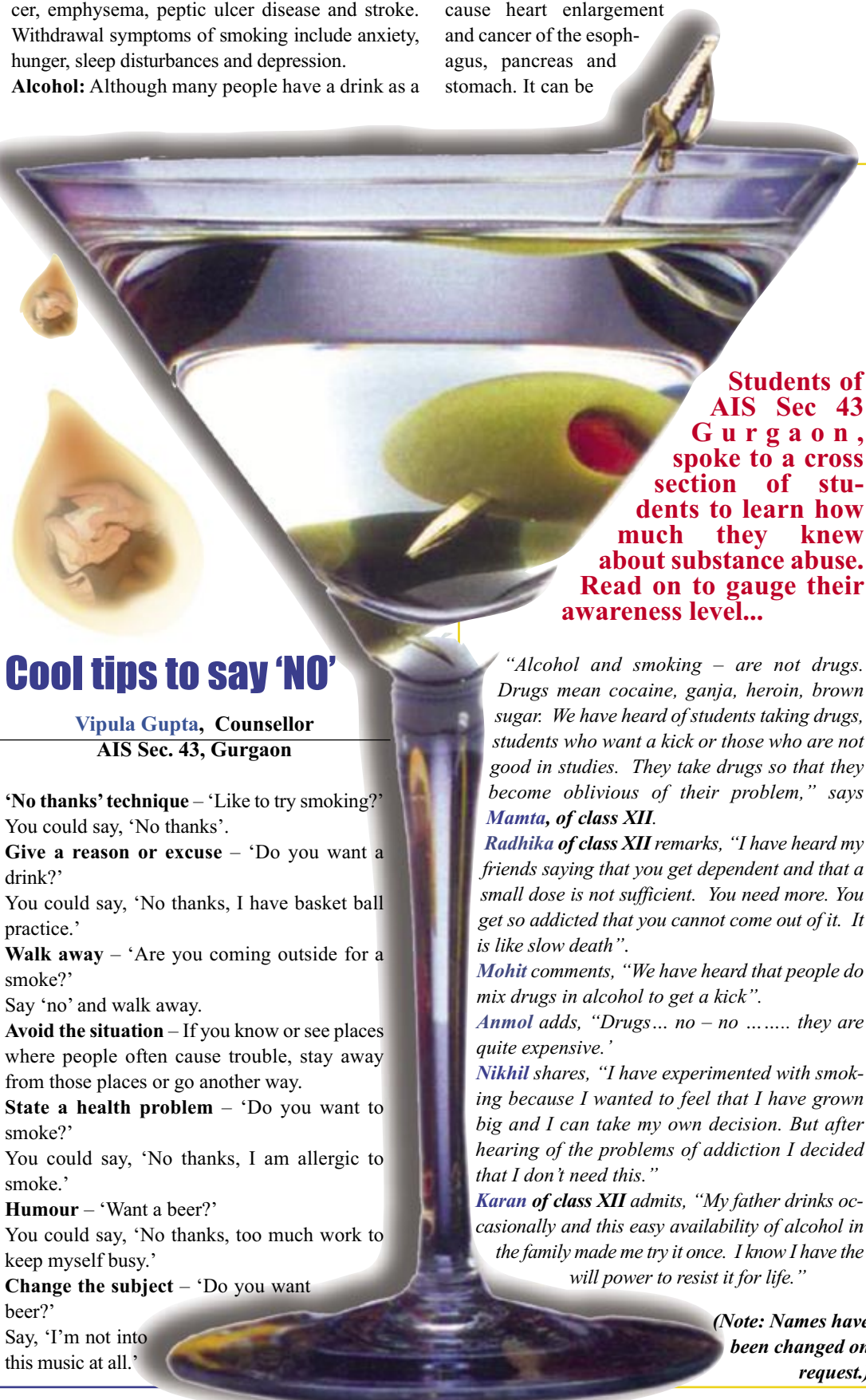
In early infancy or childhood, the symptoms include aggressive behaviour, lack of self control, or difficult temperament. As the child gets older, interactions with family/school within the community affect that child's risk for later drug abuse. Sometimes, family situations such as lack of attachment and nurturing by parents or caregivers; ineffective parenting; and a caregiver who is dependent on drugs heighten a child's risk for later drug abuse. Interactions outside the family can involve risks for both children and adolescents, such as poor classroom behaviour or social skills, academic failure and association with drug-abusing peers.

Remember...

Substance abuse is not the solution to any problem but aggravation of the same, because once a person gets dependent on it, it becomes impossible for him to overcome the dependency because of withdrawal symptoms (commonly called 'cold turkey'). Our body gets so used to the drug that not having adequate dosage leads to symptoms which compels the person to a 'devil may care' attitude to obtain his fill of the same. Coming out of addiction is not easy and requires medical assistance where doctors take care of the withdrawal symptoms by prescribing alternate drugs. Keeping the person under strict supervision helps solve the issue.

Prevention or cure?

Definitely 'prevention is better than cure'. Experimenting with drugs, be it smoking or alcohol or any other substance has nothing to do with the growing up process. Drugs do not help a person to deal with problems, rather problems often worsen with drug intake. ●



Students of AIS Sec 43 Gurgaon, spoke to a cross section of students to learn how much they knew about substance abuse. Read on to gauge their awareness level...

Cool tips to say 'NO'

Vipula Gupta, Counsellor
AIS Sec. 43, Gurgaon

'No thanks' technique – 'Like to try smoking?' You could say, 'No thanks'.

Give a reason or excuse – 'Do you want a drink?' You could say, 'No thanks, I have basket ball practice.'

Walk away – 'Are you coming outside for a smoke?' Say 'no' and walk away.

Avoid the situation – If you know or see places where people often cause trouble, stay away from those places or go another way.

State a health problem – 'Do you want to smoke?' You could say, 'No thanks, I am allergic to smoke.'

Humour – 'Want a beer?' You could say, 'No thanks, too much work to keep myself busy.'

Change the subject – 'Do you want beer?' Say, 'I'm not into this music at all.'

"Alcohol and smoking – are not drugs. Drugs mean cocaine, ganja, heroin, brown sugar. We have heard of students taking drugs, students who want a kick or those who are not good in studies. They take drugs so that they become oblivious of their problem," says Mamta, of class XII.

Radhika of class XII remarks, "I have heard my friends saying that you get dependent and that a small dose is not sufficient. You need more. You get so addicted that you cannot come out of it. It is like slow death".

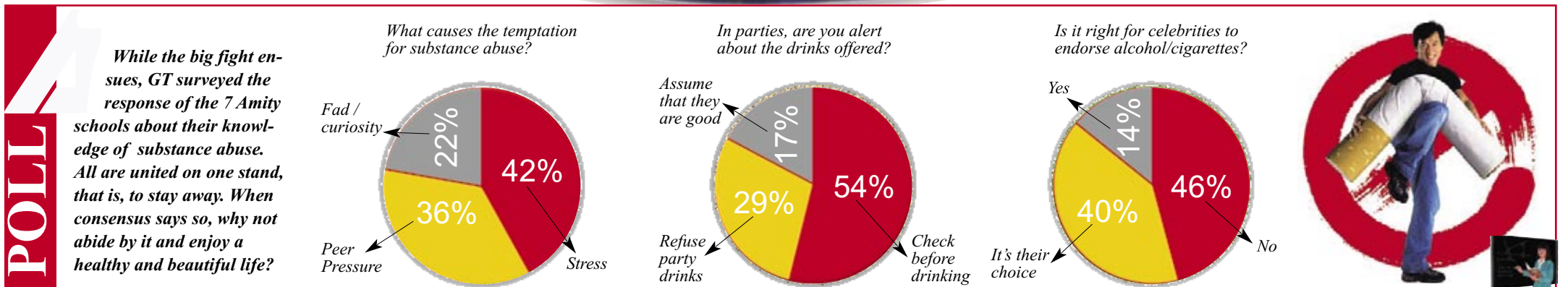
Mohit comments, "We have heard that people do mix drugs in alcohol to get a kick".

Anmol adds, "Drugs... no – no they are quite expensive."

Nikhil shares, "I have experimented with smoking because I wanted to feel that I have grown big and I can take my own decision. But after hearing of the problems of addiction I decided that I don't need this."

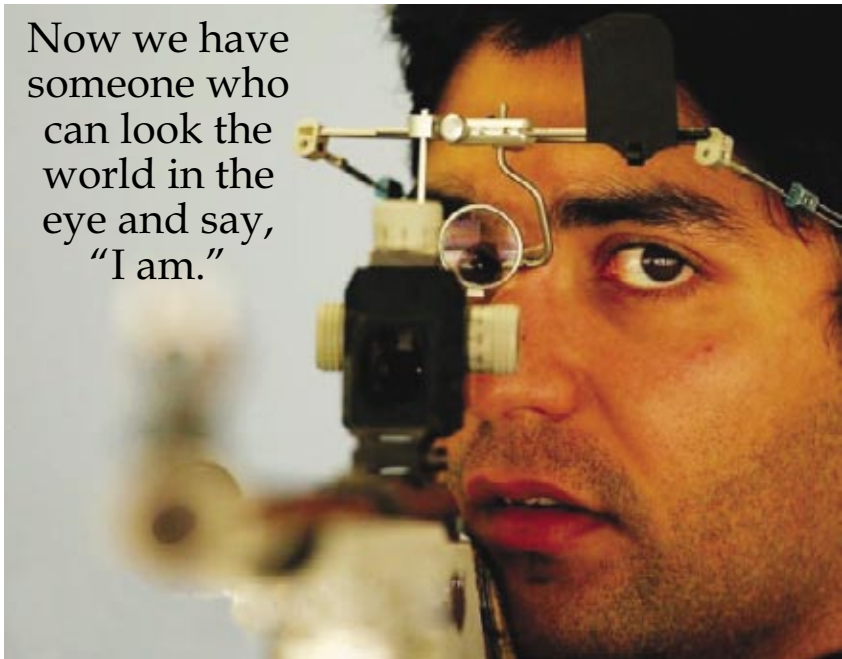
Karan of class XII admits, "My father drinks occasionally and this easy availability of alcohol in the family made me try it once. I know I have the will power to resist it for life."

(Note: Names have been changed on request.)



"The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught, as that every child should be given the wish to learn."-Sir John Lubbock, British banker

Gold rush



Now we have someone who can look the world in the eye and say, “I am.”

Aishwarya Singhal
AIS Noida

Well, the title is misleading at best, as in comparison to almost all other major nations the Indian Olympic endeavour looks, puny. But Abhinav Bindra’s gold in the 10m air rifle can be seen as a crack in the dam. The Olympics have ever been the height of human physical prowess and achievement and now we have someone who can look the world in the eye and say ‘I am’. The school sports captain comments: “Well, we have the people, we have the desire but what we don’t have is the money and organisation at the top to make it happen.” Perhaps

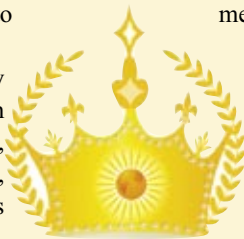
India can now be spurred on to realise its potential and not let countries with populations less than Uttar Pradesh win more medals. And this victory will reverberate across the land as more and more people will be impelled to let go of the blame-it-on-the-government attitude and achieve greatness through sheer personal hard work and dedication. I saw two 10 year olds running around shooting at imaginary targets with toys guns. I stopped them and asked why they were doing this. They said in unison, “2020 gold medal”. They may forget that tomorrow and one individual gold medal may not go too far in changing much on its own but it can ignite that change. It can light that spark.

The man with midas touch

THE GLOBAL TIMES

Nikita Khattar
AIS Noida

Crown...goes to Abhinav Bindra, man with the Golden Gun. The deafening chants of “hip hip hurray” that I heard on the television screens the day Abhinav Bindra won the first individual Olympic gold medal for India in the men’s 10m air rifle are still echoing in my ears and fail to die down. The serene and classy shooter, who has been given the Global Times Crown, triumphed over all odds, overcoming spinal injuries and loads of criticism to become the poster boy of Indian sports. With more than a whopping Rs. 200 crores riding over him, AB is hot property today and yes, the most eligible bachelor in India too!



The ace marksman is a glaring example of believing in your dreams and focusing on nothing but the bull’s eye to materialize these dreams. The fact that he doesn’t owe this gold medal either to the state governments or the entire government system further inspires us to be dedicated and devoted towards our goals. The rest will be taken care of automatically. The most striking feature about his persona was the way he remained so calm and unfazed by all the media attention he got after his unprecedented achievement. So let’s hope that this golden moment doesn’t just remain history and many such medals follow ahead, thus changing the face of Indian sports. May the millions of Indians, who have been inspired by AB follow in his footsteps and make his ideals of conviction, focus, determination and hard work their own ideals too.

But the most amazing thing was how he actually won the medal. Bindra and the guy in third place Henri Häkkinen were tied going into their final shot. A friend says, “That guy is so cool, it’s almost scary. Just look at how he handled the media. Many of our politicians can take a lesson from him.” And yes, Bindra with his now trademark reserve and apparent lack of tension just stood there

and pulled the trigger and when the smoke cleared – a bull’s-eye! Yes indeed, a quite melodramatic but anticlimactic ending one would say as Henri shot much lower than bull’s-eye and got third place. And thus our man of the century staying very true to his Indian roots beat up the villain in the end and came home with the heroine which in this case was the Olympic gold.●

Sporty Lessons

Vira Sharma, ANN

There is no feeling like success. All strive for it. All compete for it. And when it comes, the euphoria is magical. Every success leaves a trail of lessons, to be discovered and understood. Let’s take the case of Olympics. India finally achieved gold only to open and shut its Olympics gold account tally, to be followed by two Bronzes (Three cheers!). What Abhinav Bindra gave to the gold-starved nation was lapped by all. To hog the limelight, politicians, businessman, organizations etc poured rewards in crores. (When will we stop flaunting money?) What’s peanuts for Bindra, could have been easily invested to train the abundant talent to secure more gold medals. As a child, sports was all about participation. As we grew up, the competition became tougher, more fierce and intense. Then it was only about winning and some more. The applauding performances of Jitendra, Akhil and Sushil brought them the deserved media limelight. Hailing from small towns, they sustained the matches till semi finals. Cash awards trickled in and was forgotten after sometime. Where has the sporting spirit vanished? Despite the complete lack of support extended by the state apparatus, our participants definitely put in a great performance.

The magnificent host that China played in Olympics may please be noted. How prepared is India to host the Commonwealth Games? Do we have the planning, infrastructure and will to hold such a grand event? Let’s atleast learn our lessons clear...

Lesson 1: *Jo jeeta wahi Sikander*
Lesson 2: *No medal, no reward*
Lesson 3: *Be optimistic* ●

Towering olympians

The Gr-8-st Ever

Michael Phelps:His-story, who made His-tory



The Olympics is primarily a team event; however every once in a while, there comes along an outstanding individual story. Michael Phelps has been, perhaps the best individual story of this year’s event, followed by Usain Bolt. Their jaw dropping performances makes them truly ‘Records Par Excellence’

Purushottam Sharma
AIMC Manesar

Who is He ?

We call him a hungry shark or a dolphin. Phelps, the self-described Klutz, a real fish out of water on land to win seven gold medals with right wrist injured (note the surgical scar) was just awesome, when he created history on 17 August, 2008 at Beijing Olympics. It was a charismatic spectacle, an unprecedented feat, an unparalleled record while winning 4X100 meter Medley relay. The world stood aghast, mesmerized in standing ovation and uproarious approbation to give tribute to the greatest ever champion who completed his tally of 14 Olympic gold medals overall.

History rewritten

Standing splendid six feet four inches and weighing

around 88.4 kg Phelps broke the record of Spitz which lasted for 36 years. In 1972, Spitz swam two strokes, freestyle and butterfly, and none of his swims covered more than 200 meters. Phelps swam all four strokes, at distance ranging from 100 meters to 400 meters, and was faced with three swims in each individual event, one more than Spitz had.

Impossible made possible

Phelps’ groundbreaking landmark left a fiery trail of questions. How can a 23 year old, afflicted with Attention Deficit Disorder as a child, win eight gold medals at one Olympic, something nations brimming with billions like ourselves have failed to do, with the medal tally never crossing one precious little gold medal thus far. It is no short of miracle to win eight gold with five individual and two team world records within a week of fame and flamboyance. Phelps

was right when he said, “I have dared to dream big and worked hard to accomplish those dreams.” A champion of sternest mettle but modest manners, Phelps paid regards to Mark Spitz after smashing his compatriot’s record of winning seven gold medals at a single Olympics, saying it provided the inspiration he needed to keep going through day after day of grueling training. Responding to Phelps achievement, Spitz said, “What I had done in 1972 was the equivalent of being the first man on the moon but what my successor Phelps has achieved makes him the first man on the Mars.” But, Phelps candidly confesses, “Records are made to be broken, no matter what they are. Anyone can do anything they want if they really want to do it. I have said all along I want to be the first Michael Phelps, not the second Mark Spitz.”

Running in dancing shoes

Swayami Navangule & Akshita Singh,
AIS sec. 46, Gurgaon



What it takes to be a champion ?

A lot of pluck and aye, and some luck make the recipe of success. For Phelps, it may not be the end, not the beginning of the end, but surely the end of a beginning. High regards to this

legend as he already is! Now the world is awaiting what Phelps will be setting up for posterity because he has set much higher standards than aspired for and achieved in the past. Hats off to the great Michael Phelps and his gr-8-st golden achievements.●



“The dream begins with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and pushes and leads you to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called ‘truth’”-Dan Rather

Beauty of recycling

Aman Atal & Skand Bharadwaj
AIS, Vasundhra

All of us can do a great job by recycling day-to-day garbage and other items like newspapers, book covers and popcorn containers. When you are away from home, are your water bottles and coke cans thrown in a dustbin or tossed away on the footpath? Let's try to utilise these small items and create new and useful things out of them.

Bookmark

You need: Stiff-paper (you can use old cards), ribbon, pencil, pen, colours.

Procedure: Take a stiff paper of suitable size. Draw a cartoon on it which you want for your bookmark. It could be anything like a butterfly, Tom & Jerry, etc. Paint the cartoon with bright colours. Cut the cartoon along its edges creatively. Attach the ribbon to one of its ends. Your book-mark is ready.

Wall-hanging

You need: Paper plates, coloured paper, hardboard, pencil, marker pen, thread



and a wonderful thought /quotation.

Procedure: Take the paper plate and cover it with a light coloured paper of your choice. Write the quotation with the marker calligraphically. Decorate it beautifully. With a pencil, make a hole at the top of the plate. Now tie the thread through the hole and hang it wherever you want. Your wall-hanging is ready.

Pen-friend

You need: Pen (without cap), water, flour, salt, plasticine clay, cling film.

Procedure: Take a pen and wrap it with cling film several times. Take a cup of salt, flour and water and mix them thoroughly. , apply them on the pen and make some figures by sculpting it. Let it dry. Paint it in colours of your choice. Your pen-friend is ready.●

The mysterious 11

Shlok Sahni
AIS, Sec. 46, Gurgaon

We all know about the tragedy that occurred in the United States of America. Everyone believed that no one could ever harm US. But on 9/11, all assumptions proved wrong. What is the mystery behind number 11? Here is what it is all about...

●If you concentrate on the structure of the twin towers before the attack, you will realize it closely resembled the number 11.



●Now pay attention to the number of passengers on each plane 65 and 92. Add up the digits in each of the numbers. The digits amount to 11 (9+2=11 & 6+5=11)

●Astonishing fact: It was 254th day of the year. Note it, when you add up the three digits you get 11 (2+5+4=11) Till date 13 was said to be an unlucky number and now it seems that number 11 has also joined the same league. Anybody staying on the 11th floor? Check out.●

JOKES

Shreyas Misra
AIS, Sec. 43, Gurgaon

What do you call a girl who never laughs?

Hasi na!

What do you call a sardar who lives under water?

Jal Andar Singh!

What will be the sardar's name if he comes out of the water?

Jal Andar Singh, you can't change one's name!

There are 10 fish living in the water, 1 of them dies and the water level comes up. How?

Because of their shedding tears for their friend!

Harbajan gets a Coke can. He gives it to Sachin as a gift and Sachin gives it to Sehwag. Why?

Because Sehwag is the opener! ●

Know THE GLOBAL TIMES CONTEST

Friends, by now you must have browsed through this issue of The Global Times. Answer the following questions and check how well you know your paper.

1. Who is 'Mr Fix-it'?
2. How does a burger cause global warming?
3. Name the ten commandments to save the earth.
4. Name the former President who recently visited the Amity University?
5. Who is the creator of 'Dennis the Menace'?

Send your answers to:
The Global Times, AKC House,
E-27, Defence Colony, New Delhi - 25
Five early bird entries will win special prizes.

Winners of Know the GT Contest (August):
Chitra Jain AIS Vasundhara; Kushagra Bhalla, VII C, AIS ED; Alankrita Srivastava AIS Vasundhara; Ar-nish Jain, VII D, AIS ED; Palak Grover, IX B, AIS ED.
The prizes will be delivered to the school

Youth Power enters fourth phase

The third phase of search for 'Youth Power' witnessed 70 students participate in 'Group Discussion' across seven Amity branches in Delhi and NCR region. The topics ranging from 'Honesty is the best policy', 'Mobile Phones: A necessary evil', to "Internet has made life simple or more complicated and "Cinema: A boon or a bane?" were discussed with poise and confidence. The topics announced impromptu were received well and discussed amicably for 30 minutes. Judged by experts, who imparted their valuable feedback was a learning experience for the budding Youth Powers enthusiasts. The participant s, who were judged on content, leadership traits, team spirit, decision making skills and the ability to conclude the Group Discussion shall compete for the fourth phase to be announced shortly.

The participants from the seven Amity branches who have made it to the fourth phase are:

AIS Noida: Ashima Khanna & Mayank Joneja
AIS Mayur Vihar: Ankita Marwaha & Satrajit Sahani
AIS Saket: Akhil Bhardwaj & Mrida Lakhmani
AIS Pushp Vihar: Utkarsh Rathi & Shantanu Dey
AIS Vasundhara: Skand Bharad-waj & Ruchi.
AIS Gurgaon Sec 46: Sayesha Bhattacharya & Chirag Agarwal
AIS Gurgaon Sec 43: Procheta Chattaraj & Harshita Bansal



Preeti, Class - VI, Amitasha Saket

I don't believe in luck

My day starts with a bright light
Enters my heart and lightens it bright
It is the blessing of God I get each morning
Even though, I never sit to pray
The tasty breakfast is ready in the tray
Which I hurriedly eat as I'm always late
But I never miss my bus
I'm always on time at my school's gate
In the class I'm always praised
Even though my hand is never raised

Thank you

Every time someone helps you
Or gives a gift to you
Wishes you well or greets you
You just need to say, "Thank You"

The cat purrs after it laps up the milk
It walks up to you and rubs itself against your leg
It cannot speak to you
But this is how it says, "Thank you"

Ojaswini, AIS East Delhi

In the break I'm always the center of attention for all
Even though my talks are most boring of all
While returning home I get the best seat for all of us
Even though I'm the last one to enter the bus
What will you call it? Luck, destiny or fate
I'll say none they all are fake
There is just one truth that I've seen
Each morning, my mother praying for me.●

(This poem is dedicated to my mom.)

Kalash Gupta, AIS Saket

A dog also cannot communicate
But wags his tail for the bone you gave
If animals express their thanks to you
Then why can't you?

So never forget to say "thank you"
And "No mention please" if someone says it you.
You may say "Shukriya" or "Dhanyavad" in Hindi
"Xie, Xie, Ni" in Chinese and in Tamil "Nanri."●



Tammana Yadav V-A AIS Sec 43, Gurgaon



Aditya Singh I-A AIS Sec 43, Gurgaon

Without a laugh a day

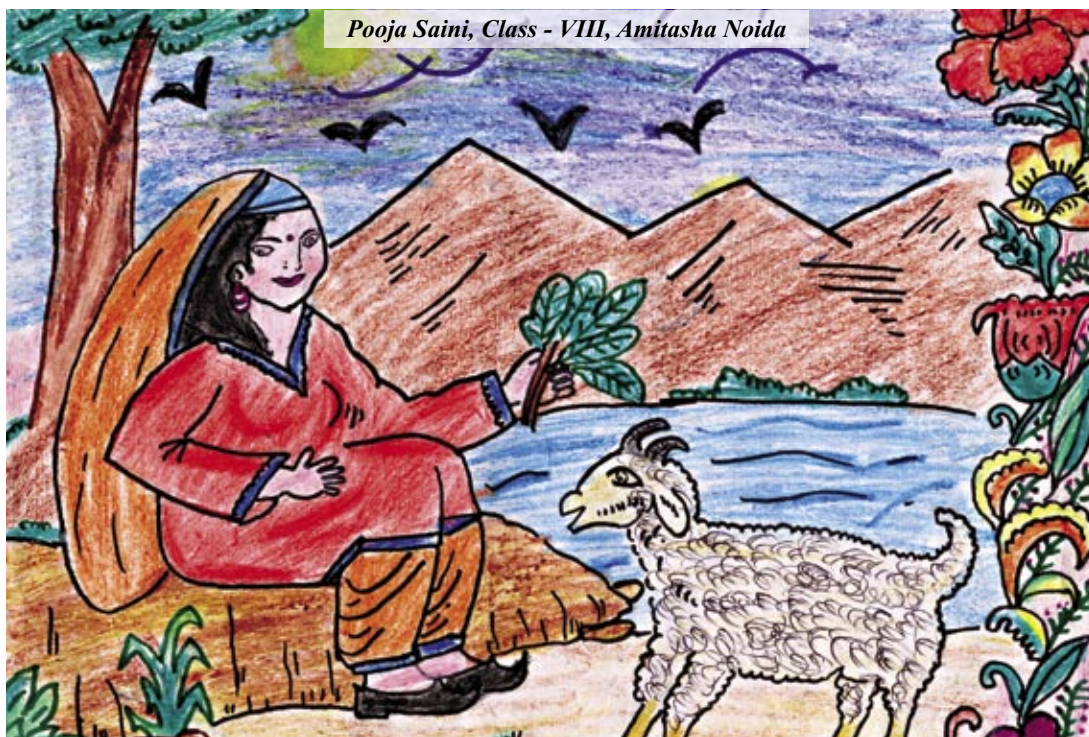
Amrithaa Seshadri, AIS Vasundhara

Some people about money,
they worry themselves gray.
but is life worth living
without a laugh a day?

Who could not love the sound of laughter?
to it there is such a happy ring,
and the simple gift of laughter,
it is such a marvelous thing.

And those without the gift of laughter,
deserve some sympathy.
For sad faced and humourless people,
do not make good company.

The people who cannot laugh at a party place,
and with those with a happy and smiling face.
Those who say laughter is the best of medicine,
How could one disagree?
As life will be quite boring without a laugh a day.●



Pooja Saini, Class - VIII, Amitasha Noida

My little sister

Vaishali Tikoo, AIS Sec 46, Gur



My little sister is so nice
she is full of sugar 'n' spice
she is the star of all eyes
when I am with her, time flies.

She wants to grow up and
reach the sky
and go high, high, high.

I don't know why she always smiles
if she is scared she will never cry
because she is a baby born to smile.

I know she can do all kinds of things
she is a brave girl to grow and shine.●



Venture Funding



Around 100 startups and early stage companies attended a one day workshop on “Raising Venture Funding: Bridging the Last Mile!” organised by **Amity Innovation Incubator** as its mandate to foster entrepreneurship on August 9. The workshop that focused on Venture Capital Funding was aimed for the Entrepreneurs/Startups looking for Fund Raising for their Existing or New Ventures. The speakers for the day included VC’s who have funded the startups and the directors of Investee companies like Sameer Guglani of Morpheus Venture, Mukul Singhal of Canaan Partners, Abhishek Sinha of EKO and Ankit Maheshwari of Instablogs. Mr Aseem Chauhan, CEO, Amity Innovation Incubator emphasised on the importance of Venture Funding during the inauguration of the Programme.●

Topics discussed

- The essence of venture funding - “Understanding what Venture Funding holds for your venture” by Ajay Kapur, CEO, SIDBI Venture Capital Ltd;
- Is your startup venture worthy? “Difference between being a good company & a fundable company” by Angel Investors Ranjit Shastri from PSI & Devangshu Dutta from PVC Partners;
- What do investors look for when evaluating potential ventures? – “An Investors Perspective” by Rahul Chandra and Rohit Agarwal
- Dealing with Venture Capitalists-Key Insights – “A practitioner’s perspective” by Sameer Guglani

HR Summit



Amity International Business School organized its two day Annual Global HR Summit that focussed on “Revitalisation of Global Human Values through New Corporate Religion”. The summit was inaugurated by Arbind Kumar, Chairman and MD, NPCCL; Anil Gupta, MD, KEI Industries; Rajan Kalia, Executive Vice President, Max New York Life Insurance; Kirti Manucha- VP (HR), Religare Technova Ltd.; Rahul Soni, Vice President, Rockman Group of Companies; Aseem Chauhan, Additional Vice President RBEF and Dr. Gurinder Singh, Pro-VC, Amity University & Director General, Amity International Business School. In the summit, two awards: Amity MEDIA Excellence Award and Amity HR Excellence Award were given away. Distinguished panelists for the summit included Sanjeev Srivastav- MD, Asotech Limited; Varun Mehra- Group President, Ranbaxy Insurance and Dr. Santrupt Misra- Global Director (HR & IT), Aditya Birla Management Corporation Pvt. Ltd. The HR Summit was a roaring success as it was marked by the presence of distinguished luminaries who shared their valuable insights and experiences with the august gathering.●



Alternate Dispute resolutions

The area of Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) has emerged as one of the powerful instruments by which disputes can conclusively be resolved. ADR is no more restricted to traditional areas and is increasing its scope and ambit. To evaluate the existing law and explore new areas where ADR can be applied, Amity Law School (ALS) organised a two day annual National Seminar on “Alternative Dispute Resolution in the Era of Globalisation” at Amity Campus, Sector- 125, Noida. The seminar was inaugurated by Justice RC Lahoti, Former Chief Justice of India; Justice VA Mohta, Former Chief Justice of Orrisa High Court and Dr. Subhash C Kashyap, Former Secretary General of Lok Sabha. Prof. M K Balachandran, director, Amity Law School welcomed the guests. Over 50 Students participated in an essay writing competition in which the students expressed their views on different propo-

sitions including seat of arbitration: Relevance after harmonization of National Arbitration Laws, Ad Hoc ADR v/s Institutionalized ADR, International Conventions and their application to ADR in India. The students were judged by renowned members from the judiciary, senior lawyers and academicians. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Arun Jaitely- Former Union Law Minister said that globally, dispute redressal is not preferred in India because of too much judicial interference and poor quality of arbitrators. He suggested that judicial interference should be minimized to maximize foreign investments in India, thereby ensuring higher profitability for foreign players in India. On the second day of the seminar, eminent judiciary members, politicians, senior lawyers and academicians including Mr. Kapil Sibal, Union Minister for Science and Technology; Mr. Harish Salve- Sr. Advocate, Supreme Court; Prof.



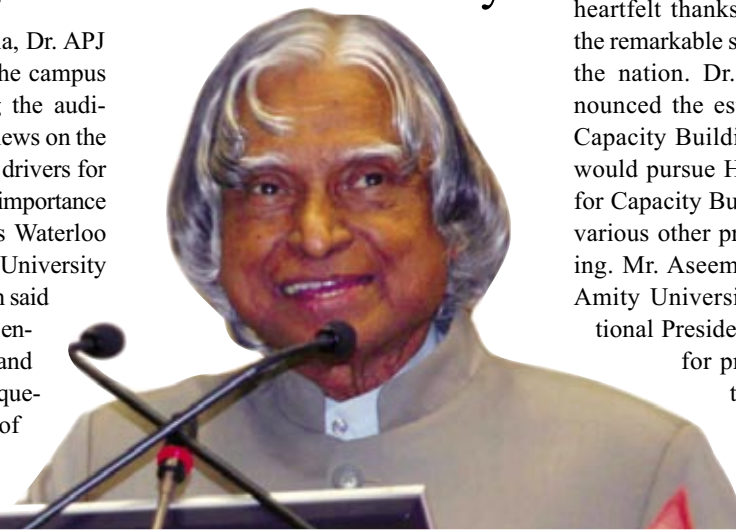
Surendra Nath, Former Chief Secretary, Govt. of M.P and Dr. K. N Chaturvedi- Former Law Secretary shared their values thoughts and experiences with the distinguished gathering. Mr. Kapil Sibal opined that the issues related to ADR cannot be analysed from local point of view, they need to be assessed globally. He said that for every 1 million people in U.S.A, there are over 100 judges; for every 1 million people in Canada there are over 75 judges, whereas in India, for every 1 million people there are only 10 judges. This miniscule figure justifies the colossal work load of our lawyers. He shared poems from his first literary venture ‘I see partial observations’, which has numerous poems ranging from politics, global warming, terrorism, cricket and feminism. Dr. Ashok K Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe thanked Mr. Sibal for enlightening the students. ●



Kalam's Vision

Former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam enlightens students of Amity

Former President of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam visited the campus in August. Addressing the audience, he shared his valuable views on the topic ‘National Challenges as drivers for research.’ Emphasizing on the importance of research globally vis-à-vis Waterloo University, Carnegie Mellon University and Rice University, Dr. Kalam said that research and development enrich the quality of teaching and vice versa. He shared the uniqueness of five great minds, all of them noble laureates, each one having unique traits. He concluded by expressing his hope



that Amity University would generate a pool of ‘creative leaders’ for participating in the national development mission. Maj. Gen. K J Singh- VC, Amity University welcomed him with a sapling. Dr. Ashok K Chauhan- Founder President, Amity Universe expressed his heartfelt thanks to H.E and eulogized the remarkable services he has done for the nation. Dr. Chauhan, further announced the establishment of “Amity Capacity Building Foundation” which would pursue HDVT Knowledge Grid for Capacity Building programmes and various other projects of Nation building. Mr. Aseem Chauhan, Chancellor, Amity University, Rajasthan & Additional President, RBEF thanked H.E. for providing such informative and life changing moment to all Amitians, which would transform their lives beyond imagination.●

Environment Warriors on mission

How today’s modern amenities like video-games are affecting our climate, presented by Hari Aditya, Arnav Dania, Somil Mathur and Milind Srivastva (Class VI AIS Noida), supported with models and charts during the Inter-Amity School level Science competition, left the audience sensitised to the colossal e-waste being burdened on Mother earth. “We have participated in many competitions relating to saving our environment, and what makes Vasudha different from others is the objective. Unlike any other competition, this is a movement which we pledge to carry forward. Our team has formed an e-waste club where we shall be spreading awareness on how to reduce, reuse and recycle the toxic wastes,” announced the team with conviction. This, and many other similar projects formed a part of the competition organized under the aegis of Amity Children’s Science Foundation (Amity ICSF) at Vasudha Level 2 held at Amity Noida on September 1 and 2. 1000 Amitians studying in Classes 5 to 12 from all branches of Amity Schools presented a total number of 195 projects to the panel of judges at 8 venues named after exotic birds. The eminent, twenty-five-member jury hailed from Vigyan Prasara, NCERT, Department of Science and Technology (Govt. of India), National Centre of Global Warming and Ecological Studies, Amity Institute of

Vasudha Level-2



Vasudha Level 1 at AIS Gur Sec 43

Telecom Technology and Management (AITTM), Amity Institute of Nanotechnology and Amity Institute of Organic Agriculture. Dr. Rekha Agarwal, (National Science Popularization Award Winner from NCERT), Pushpa Ravindra and Usha Agrawal Department of Education, Govt. of India were just a few names amongst other renowned scientists who evaluated the competition.●

Fashion philosophy

Amity School of Fashion Technology (ASFT) organised a panel discussion by eminent experts from fashion industry. Department head Smita Bagai welcomed the panelist comprising Sunil Bhargava, MD, Ragtrade India Ltd. & Additional Secretary, Noida Export Cluster; Navin Sahani, Quality Head, PDQ, Asia; Neena Khanna, Fashion Journalist; Tandeep, Buying Agent, Pre-



vue Ltd.; Karan Rana, Prevue Ltd. and Deepti Kiran, Entrepreneur, Opus Concepts with saplings. Students posed a torrent of questions to the panelists including the necessary traits of an employee in the fashion industry, importance of theory v/s hands-on practice, curriculum of fashion designing courses in India vis-a-vis abroad, etc. Dr. Ashok K Chauhan, Founder President, Amity University extended his heart felt gratitude to the panelists.●

Corporate

Amity International Business School (AIBS), Noida invited all industry mentors for its annual special get together, the ‘Corporate Meet’ to ignite the spirits of passion in the students on August 8. AIBS felicitated the Academic Industry Interface Award for the most valuable contribution they have made in guiding our students and building the rep-



utation of our business school. The Corporate Meet reflected the strong interface that AIBS shares with the industry in enhancing the academic quality in the country by sharing Amity’s vision of making India a Superpower by 2030. ●

Jumbo Visit

Mr. Peter McElwaine, CEO of Jumbo Electronics, Dubai visited Amity University in August. He was welcomed by Maj Gen K.J Singh, Vice Chancellor, Amity University, UP, Dr. Balvinder Shukla, Pro VC (A), Apporva Sharma, Manager, Amity Innovation Incubator and Mohina Dar, Principal AIS,



Noida. Jumbo Electronics, one of the biggest names in the field of consumer electronics, information technology, telecommunications, home appliances, office automation and entertainment in the UAE, with a network of retail stores across the emirates expressed interest to collaborate with Amity to start Schools in Dubai and UAE.●



Amity Noida wins the prestigious Columban Open Quiz 2008

The school created history on July 25, when Aishwarya Singhal, Kshitij Lauria, Parth Singh and Digant Pandey of the school won the prestigious Columban Open Quiz 2008 spanning over 3 days at St. Columbas School, New Delhi. Rated as one of the biggest quiz contest s of its kind in North India, the contenders emerged victorious after a grueling ordeal of 4 sets of preliminaries, 4 quarter finals, 2 semi finals and one final, beating schools like St Columbas, Delhi Public School (Vasant Kunj), Delhi Public School (Noida) and AIS (Saket) in the process.

When Quiz Master, Kunal Savarkar of Quizcraft presided over the finals, Aishwarya began to "feel the ghosts of tension," as questions and answers ricocheted around the venue. Things started to literally 'boil' when the younger boys—Digant Pandey and Parth Singh (from Class X) with extreme confidence, responded successfully to the volley of questions, not even batting an eye lid, and thus bagging the fantabulous trophy and a cheque for Rs. 6000. With a clear eye on their goal, the determined AIS, Noida team emerged as the winners of the prominent Columban Open Quiz 2008.



CHESS Champs

Vaibhavi Thakur (VII) and Raj Kishor (VIII) of AIS Sec 46 Gurgaon participated in 'The Chess Championship Spectrum I Competition' in the 'under 15 category' held in the Brain Games Chess Academy in Gurgaon on August 3 and 4. Vaibhavi won the first prize while Rajkishor stood second in the competition.

Let's step up

A unique creation of AIS East Delhi, 'Project - Let's Step up' is an innovative and holistic enterprise that involves all faculty and students in a united endeavour to address specific problem areas. With busy schedules, there never seems to be enough time for value based holistic teaching based on personality development. The project tackles a host of issues in an extremely cohesive and creative way like manners, cleanliness, conduct, politeness and personal grooming. Not only is this project implemented, but also evaluated by the Principal and Headmistress. With extra marks given to special efforts, creativity and consistency, at the end of the session, the class that manages to earn maximum marks, wins!

Heal blind faith



On August 2, 2008, the senior members of the Interact Club of AIS Sec 46 Gurgaon and a few Rotaractors, visited the Chandanlal School for the visually handicapped students in village Fazilpur, Gurgaon. The school gifted some games and craft material which were appropriate for the stu-

dents. It was a learning experience for the students to see how the school functioned. Like any other school, it had a computer lab, a library, a laboratory and a music room. The tech-savvy children learnt how to use the computer with the help of software which enabled them to hear whatever they typed, making it

Conserve my campus

AIS Noida empowers students to be effective ambassadors and carry the 'Conservation' message forward

Conservation of our environment is a crying need of the hour. Most of us think about ways to improve our immediate environment, but do not actually get down to concerted efforts with regard to implementation of our ideas. Not so at AIS, Noida. Under the able guidance and initiative of Principal, Mohina Dar, the school launched the green campaign, 'Conserve My Campus' in July that aims at encouraging its students to play an active role in the battle against environmental degeneration. "The campaign hinges on children as we feel they are the most effective ambassadors of carrying the message of conservation in its entirety," she explained. The programme follows a 3-step plan to measure, detect and control

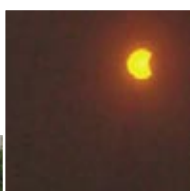
energy consumption and will be implemented at intra-school, inter-school and finally at national level through online tests, group discussions, role plays, slogan writing, collage competition and interaction with energy management experts. The student who clears all competitive hurdles will emerge as the National Champion in Energy Conservation. "The programme grooms and empowers students to spread Amity's message of a greener world to their homes and neighbourhood" adds Jyoti Arora, Resource Centre Coordinator. Ms. Kavita Saxena, a parent coordinator and documentary film-maker and Ashima Thulwani, Co-ordinator, Conzerv India Ltd., Bangalore are other members involved in this mammoth project.



AIS Noida hosts Inter-Amity Patriotic Song Competition

Nationalism peaked to great heights as Amity International School, Noida hosted the Inter-Amity Patriotic Song Competition on August 13, 2008. Disciples of Pandit Birju Maharaji, vocalist Pandit Indu Prakash and tabla guru Pandit Nirmal Maharaj were the esteemed judges. In the junior category (classes 4 to 7), AIS Sector 43, Gurgaon stood first followed by AIS, Noida and AIS, East Delhi respectively. In the senior category, the host school stood first followed by AIS, Sector 43, Gurgaon and AIS, Saket.

Solar Eclipse



AIS Vasundhara organized a social awareness campaign on August 1, 2008 in the school premises to spread awareness about myths and superstitions associated with solar eclipse. Various

schools from nearby areas witnessed the spectacular view through telescopes arranged in the school grounds. It was a commendable initiative to propagate scientific attitude among the masses.

Artistic cumen



Vaanya, a student of Amity Saket excels in depicting her thoughts beautifully and most explicitly on canvas thereby winning a lot of appreciation. Recently, she bagged the second prize in Rangalap at Birla Vidya Niketan on August 6. During the Unmesh celebration, she was adjudged a winner for her painting "Unity in Diversity".



AIS Noida holds workshop on 'Understanding life skills and dealing with pre-teens' for teachers by resource persons Geeta Mehrotra and Akansha Saxena (Primary School Counsellor).



Serenading to safeguard sovereignty : Cadets of Amity Indian Military College presenting a patriotic group song on the auspicious occasion of the eve of the Independence Day at AIMC, IMT Manesar, district Gurgaon.

possible for them to make use of the computer. Children had been provided with individual Braille typewriters. They solved sums faster than normal ones using the special board and pegs provided to them. The library included 1000 books, popular children's magazines and literature printed in Braille. All instruments in the lab assisted the children to overcome their disability and learn. The weighing machine would read out the weights, the thermometer would call out the temperature; the calculators informed the users which key had been pressed and announced the answers! The host school treated them to a special dance show.

While interacting with the staff and students, Amitians observed the several hardships faced by them, which the Interactors decided to take up as a project in their ensuing year's agenda.

State award



AIS Sec 46 Gurgaon received the State Award for 5th Computer Literacy Excellence Awards for Schools-2007, consisting of a trophy and cash award worth Rs 1.5 lakh.. The award was handed over to the Principal by

Jyotiraditya M Scindia, Honourable Minister of State for Communications & IT and Thiru A. Raja, Honourable Minister for Communications & IT at a ceremony held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.



‘Jazz’ up the volume



Mitalee Sharma
AIS Noida

Music is a universal binder—that’s a known fact, but a renowned example of it would surely be jazz music. Jazz and Blues, popularly known as the ‘bro-sis’ genre, are among America’s greatest cultural achievements and exports to the world community giving powerful voice to the American experience. Developed at the turn of the 20th century, this genre of music, strings together African folk, light classical and popular European beats. It represented a break from Western

Be it a formal ambience, sophisticated or a lazy lounge one, jazz music rules!

musical traditions (and for the better!) where improvisation was many a time done on the spot. Phew! Very daring musicians I must say! Nevertheless, their beats always thrilled the audiences (check out Dream Girls- the movie to really get the feel) and they still do. Be it a romantic ambience, a formal and sophisticated or a lazy lounge one, Jazz music rules when it comes to adding that extra zing to the atmosphere.

Gen Y says...

Comments Arnimal Kaul of class XI, “Jazz music really brightens up my mood whenever I’m low. It provides me the relaxation I need.” Adds Yashvi Malhotra also of class XI, “It has that bewitching power that no other genre has. The nostalgia transfers me to an entirely new world.” And their favourites? Surprisingly both

love the saxophone player Kenny G for his earthy tunes (quite interestingly, he is my favourite too!)

Evergreen and upcoming artists

So all those who haven’t ventured into this genre yet, here’s an exclusive list of artists whom you want to listen to: •Louis Armstrong •Joe King Oliver •The Temptations •(And of course) Kenny G! And for all of you who want to try out the contemporaries, don’t worry; we have some suggestions for you too: •Ryan Farish •Joe McBride •Hiroshima, and the list goes on. Hope all upcoming jazz fans have enough music to listen to. So hit the play button, dim the lights and be ready to go astray in a new world.●

Dennis the Menace

Apoorva
AIS, Sec 43 Gurgaon



Hank Ketcham created the wildly popular Dennis the Menace series in 1951. Inspired by the antics of his four year old son named Dennis, he created the the lovable brat with tousled hair who tormented the crotchety Mr. Wilson. It made its debut in sixteen newspapers and the strip blossomed with popularity through the decade. In March this year, Ketcham’s panel celebrated 50 years of the cartoon’s publications running in 1000 newspapers across 48 countries. The strip also inspired several books of cartoons, a musical, a television series, a movie and a playground in Mexico where Ketcham has his studios. He once said “The world related to and needed a mischievous boy like Dennis appear but

he is a product of good intentions, mis-directed helpfulness and possibly an overactive thyroid.” Ketcham wrote in his 1990 autobiography ‘The Merchants of The Menace’, “What a dull world it would have been without Dennis, peaceful maybe, but dull.” Mischief is another name for Dennis, the Menace. Dennis, with his adorable antics, makes an enjoyable read. Quite true. A world without Dennis’ mischief, well, can’t even imagine!●

An evening in Paris



They’ve been written about, their experiences talked about, but they themselves have maintained a dignified silence about their achievements. At an age when kids are usually being judged for their performance in academics or co-curriculars, what does it mean to be part of an elite jury at an international film festival? The four lucky ones, who have walked the red carpet at Annecy, France as jury in the International Animation Film Festival, share their once in a lifetime experience with GT...

Reminisces **Shaurya Athley of AIS Noida**: “1st April ‘08 was one of the most memorable days of my life, when I got to know that I was to be part of the junior jury. In the next two months, life became a whirlwind. For the closing ceremony, as I walked proudly on the red carpet, there were butterflies in my stomach. I had never been on a platform so big. It was a proud moment to be an Amitian but even more proud to be an Indian. Even today, when I recollect that moment, I have twin feelings: one of pride and other of humility. I am privileged and grateful to have enjoyed my moment of glory under the Sun.” “The visit to Annecy was a great opportunity to enhance our knowledge in the field of animation. Getting a chance to meet and interact with world famous animators like Michelle Ocelot was an educating experience. We also met Mr Ram Mohan, better known as the father of Indian animation. He congratulated us for reaching such heights in such a short time. I was glad that I made my family, my school and my country proud. The experience will be cherished by me for the rest of my life,” says an excited **Ruhi from AIS Saket**. “My France experience was awesome! I met many famous people like Matt Groening, the creator of Simpsons. It is one thing to be a participant and quite another to a judge. Being a judge in an international event of that stature is a once in a lifetime opportunity,” believes **Akshat of AIS Pushp Vihar**. **Lakshya (VI) of AIS Gurgaon 43** loved everything about the French rendezvous, “It was a truly great experience. Meeting renowned people was an experience in itself. The best part of the trip was the sightseeing in Paris; we saw the church, river Seine and the fully lit up Eiffel Tower which looked so breathtaking at night! Our visit to Le Gobelins School was an interesting experience too. All in all, an excellent trip!”●

Learning banks: books

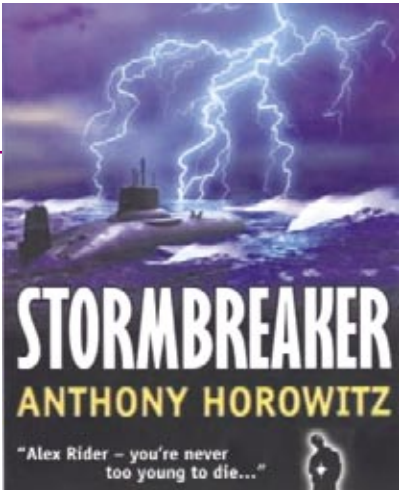


Shivangi Seth
AIS, Noida

These days, every second house has a computer and an internet connection, and children are perpetually glued to it. One who does not have an e-mail is not considered to be moving with the times. Though, in every way I do regard it as a very useful facility but one should not sideline the importance of books. The attitude of children is changing fast. Unfortunately, they do not realize how

important books are and what a significant role they play in our lives. We all know that the computer is very useful and informative but yet what we forget is that a) it is a machine and b) not everyone can afford it. If at any point of time the machinery runs out due to some fault and there is a desperate need for some information, then at such a time, books are what one can fall back upon. They are our basic learning banks, one’s best friend and the most accessible. So what are you waiting for? Go and

quickly grab a book. **An ode to books** Books are the best, If you’re feeling lonely and do not have a friend to play; Then books are the ones that will keep you occupied all day. They help to nurture your mind, They’re also a good way to unwind. Don’t ever leave the habit of reading, Do you know, in a way your mind, you are feeding? So pick up books, they’re really nice, And for this don’t ever think twice.●



out what Herod Sayle is hiding, Alex is a bit apprehensive, but has no choice. Soon, he is caught in a deadly game of cat and mouse, with no way out. Alex must rely on his wits and all his strength to remain alive and fighting, for help is not coming soon...●

Non-stop thriller

converted into a film and video-games are available. It has been awarded the New York Times # 1 Bestseller (children series). Horowitz’s lively writing style makes every situation in the book play itself out flawlessly in front of your eyes, and creates a sense of virtual reality. Full of high-tech gadgets (including zit cream and a Nintendo Game Boy) and Horowitz’s uncanny humour, the book is a mind-blowing read, with a racing plot, deadly stunts and deadlier

Book Review

criminals. Danger lurks around every corner: the risk of being cut into two, charred by flame-throwers, or worse still, stung to death by an enormous jellyfish. The villain, Herod Sayle, is a cunning mastermind, who evidently had something to do with Alex’s uncle, Ian Rider’s death, who Alex simply cannot believe died in a car crash or that he was not an ordinary banker, but a spy for Britain’s top-secret intelligence agency. When he has to step into his uncle’s shoes and find

