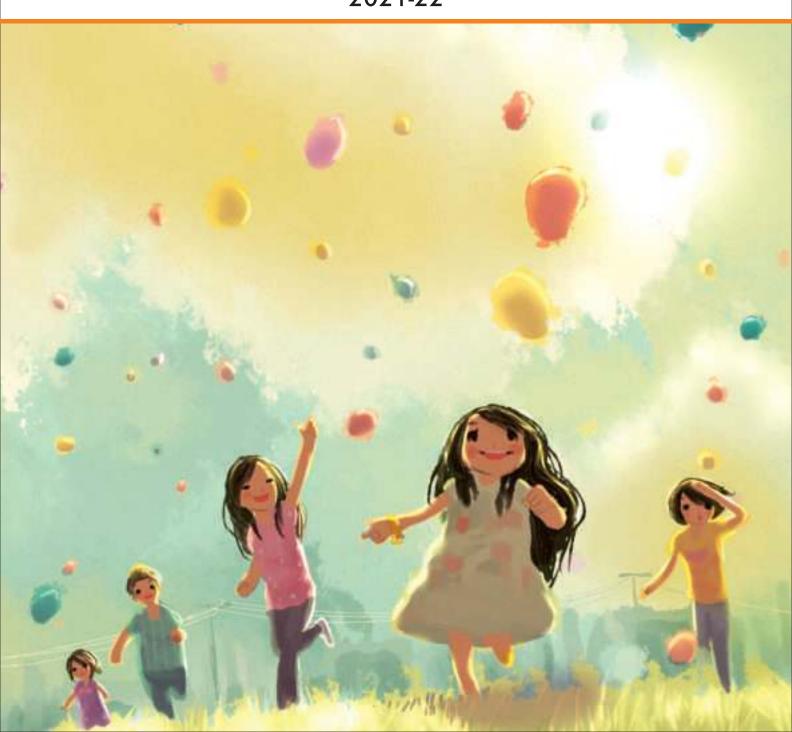
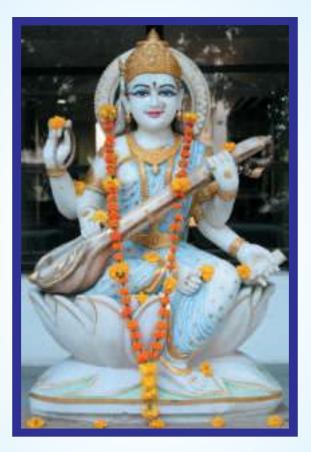


C.N.M. School & N.D.Parekh Pre-Primary School



HORIZON 2021-22





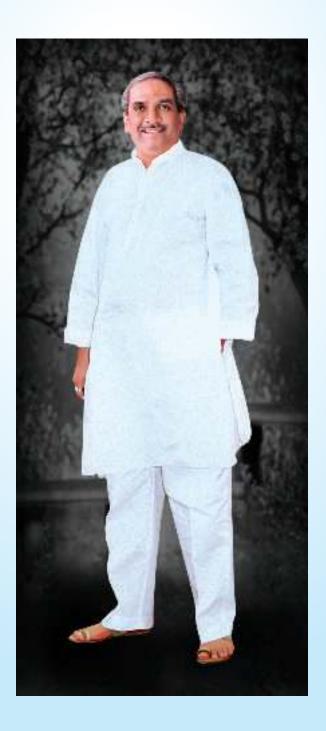
OUR VISION

To facilitate holistic learning, building character and developing skills to meet the global challenges.

OUR MISSION

CNMS strives to provide an environment conducive for creating progressive analytical thinkers. We emphasize on the physical, emotional, intellectual, social, moral and spiritual development of each child. CNMS believes in the potential of each child and provides varied opportunities to nurture his / her talent. We empower students with skills, to be able leaders and team builders enabling them to contribute in a meaningful manner to the society. Students and teachers work towards creating an atmosphere of cooperation and mutual respect for individual differences, building a peaceful and a brighter world.

The Visionary



Shri Mukesh Patel

 24^{th} September, 1954 - 15^{th} June, 2002

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Message from the President

It is a matter of pride to pen down my message for '*HORIZON*' the Annual School Magazine of CNM. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the students of Std X and Std XII of CNM School and N.D Parekh Pre-Primary School for their outstanding performance.

My heartiest wishes to the Principal- **Ms. Kavita Sanghvi**, the Vice Principal-**Ms. Aditi Vajandar**, all the **teachers**, **parents**, the **administrative** and **support staff** of C.N.M School, who have helped the students to attain even greater heights of academic success in these trying times.

Congratulations, to Principal, Ms. Kavita Sanghvi for winning the National Award for Teachers, from the Honourable President of India, Ms. Droupadi Murmu. A great and commendable achievement indeed.

The brilliant performance of our students every year in these examinations speaks highly of the excellent quality of education that is being imparted by our school. Today, CNM is one of the leading and most sought after schools in Mumbai. It gives me great satisfaction that the school is progressing in all its endeavours towards the holistic development of the students.



The challenge lies in utilizing the changing learning patterns with changes in the methods of instruction coupled with technological advancements, to create an educational experience that will influence the all-round development of students and uphold our commitment towards nation building.

CNMS is filled with enthusiastic students willing to learn, supportive parents/guardians interested in their children's education, and a dedicated professional staff committed to providing the students with quality education and it is due to this commitment that CNM has evolved into a front- ranking school with an enviable infrastructure, world - class facilities and a great team spirit spearheaded by the Principal, nurtured by the faculty and staff and enriched by domain specialist resource people. Each year new batches exceed previous batches in all fields, armed with an unstoppable motivation to excel. Together they have made CNMS a campus that strives for outstanding excellence 24*7.

I would like to encourage each parent/guardian to stay active in your child's education. I certainly realize that many of you lead busy lives, and it is often difficult to volunteer at school. However, taking just a few minutes in the evening to read to your child, talking with your child about school, or simply seeing that your child is organized for the next school day can have great benefits.

I am sure that the new batch of Std X and Std XII (2022-23) will be empowered to achieve their life's dream through the knowledge and values each and every student has gained through the portals of this great institution.

Each year the school magazine outlines the progress that the school has made during the academic year and recapitulates all events, showcasing the various activities of the school.

I would like to extend my best wishes to all those who have worked hard to ensure the magazine remains a treasure trove of memories. To me the magazine will always be an event –filled journal chronicling another exciting year that will be cherished by our students in the years to come.

'Wishing all our students and parents a bright and happy future.'

Regards,

Shri Amrishbhai Patel President, SVKM



Managing & Executive Committee 2021 - 2022

Shri Amrish R. Patel

(Hon. President & Trustee)

Shri Bhupesh R. Patel

(Hon. Joint President & Trustee)

Shri Bharat M. Sanghvi (Hon. Vice President & Trustee) **Shri Chintan A Patel** (Hon. Vice President & Trustee)

Shri Sunandan R. Divatia	-	Hon. Secretary
Dr. Jayant P. Gandhi	-	Hon. Jt. Secretary
Shri Jagdish Parikh	-	Hon. Jt. Treasurer

Shri Harshad H. Shah-Hon. TreasurerShri Shalin S. Divatia-Hon. Jt. SecretaryShri Harit H. Chitalia-Hon. Jt. Treasurer

Members

Shri Amit B Sheth	Shri Mukesh H. Patel	Shri Rajgopal C. Bhandari
Shri Bhargav N. Patel	Shri Mukul P Patel	Smt. Sneha A. Parekh
Shri Harshad B. Kawa	Shri Mukesh A Shah	Shri Sanjay A. Desai
Shri Harish J Patel	Shri Naresh K. Sheth	Shri TNV Ayyar
Shri Jagat A. Killawala	Shri Nayan M. Patel	Shri Tushar H. Mehta
Shri Jayesh P. Choksi	Shri Nimir K. Mehta	Shri Vamanrai V. Parekh
Shri Jayesh R. Gandhi	Shri Pravin H. Doshi	Shri Vinod M. Goradia
Shri Kirit P. Mehta	Shri Pruthviraj C. Shah	Shri Vinod M. Patel
Shri Maherdas J. Patel	Dr. Rajesh L. Jani	Shri Vivek .C Vaidya
Smt. Minaxi K. Mehta	Shri Ranjeet Dudeja	

Shri Vivek C. Vaidya (School in-charge)
Shri Sudhir Shrivastava (C.E.O)
Shri Mohan Awate (Addl. C.E.O.)
Shri Mukesh Khandelwal (C.F.O.)

Editorial

'Your own Self-realization is the greatest service you can render the world'.

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the Fourteenth Edition of 'HORIZON'- A platform of expression for C.N.M. School!

The Editorial team proudly presents the school magazine for the year 2021-22.

'HORIZON'- 2021-22 gives an insight of the school activities and the varied events held during this academic year.

We strive to give our readers a panoramic view of all the endeavours taken in curricular and co-curricular spheres to enhance the capabilities of our students, our students at CNM have proved themselves to be capable of not only adapting but also shining through in different challenges and events presented to them. This Magazine showcases the hard work, talent, skills, achievements and numerous goals accomplished by our students.

The Editorial Team extends their heartfelt gratitude to the Management, especially Shri Vivek Vaidya for his continuous support since inception. We acknowledge the vision of our Principal Ms Kavita Sanghvi and the timely guidance of our Vice Principal Ms Aditi Vajandar in publishing this magazine and co-ordinating between departments.

The Editorial Team wishes to thank all the members of the teaching staff and students for their enthusiastic rendering of prose and poetry, our parents and the administrative staff for their invaluable tips and continuous support.

Thanking you,

The Editorial Team Ms Kavita Sanghvi | Ms Dimple Raghwan | Ms Roshni Anthony

Principal's Address



Nothing in life is permanent and the past year is living proof of that. We commenced our academic year virtually treading our steps cautiously with the staff working physically from school so that students got a flavour of their classrooms. In October we commenced physical session with higher secondary students and the response was positive. We observed students were keen to connect with their teachers and peers and most importantly participate in sports classes. Over a few months, all classes began functioning physically.

Come March, we saw regularity and punctuality percolate into our students steadily and once more they were acclimatized to the school climate. Academically, we observed certain learning gaps during teaching learning transactions and thus we incorporated the 'Bridge the Learning Gaps' program for all classes in all the core subjects. A pre-test was conducted to analyse the learning gaps, a remedial program filled with active learning tasks was designed and executed and a post -test was conducted to assess the academic progress of the students. An action research was conducted and the efficacy of the program was evaluated. The 'Bridge the Learning Gap' program was effective as students learned through hands on activities and experiential learning and it strengthened the consolidation of concepts. Students in the post-tests showed greater achievement levels. This academic year, we hope that the concept understanding and applications are further consolidated.

The year 2022 is special as we celebrate the silver jubilee of CNM School and the joy on every stakeholder's face is evident. The teachers wish to make every event memorable, the students wish to participate in all events enthusiastically, the Management is keen to support the school in all its endeavours and the parents are supportive and wishing to collaborate. Truly, when all hands come together, success and greatness follows.

Regards,

Mrs. Kavita Sanghvi

(Principal - CNM School)

From the Vice Principal's Desk

Dear Reader,

Namaste!!!

'Education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man.' As said by Shri. Swami Vivekananda.

This thought by the great son of India, finds its relevance even today. At CNM we are discovering and exploring the innate ability of every student, by providing her/him with varied opportunities. NEP 2020 which mentions about imparting inclusive education and quality education to each and every student. It lays emphasis on curriculum to be rooted in Indian culture and tradition along with contemporary knowledge and scientific needs. Sanskrit, the oldest language in the world, is the mother of all Indian languages. We should learn Sanskrit to explore and understand the treasure –house of knowledge left for us by our ancestors.



Experiential learning by integration of subjects is an integral part of our curriculum. We at CNM have made an attempt to imbibe this. The theme of HISTEAM – Gamification in STEAM has been well accepted by our students and their parents. To emulate our culture – Assembly is conducted by students giving the importance of our traditions and festivals in various creative ways.

We are celebrating 75 Years of independence. Our country has been decolonised with the determined efforts of our freedom fighters. We are still in the process of **decolonising** ourselves when it comes to food, education system and much more. We should take pride in inheriting our rich culture and relating its relevance in recent times making it vivid and vibrant.

We are progressing towards **Globalisation** with the belief of 'Vasudeva Kutumbakam' – the whole Earth is one family – a credence given by our ancestors. It teaches us to appreciate – the worth of all life – human, animal and plants – and the value of their interconnectedness on Earth and in the universe.

Each one of us should ponder upon this value given to us by the Upanishads.

Best Regards,

Ms Aditi Vajandar (Vice Principal- CNM School)

Kalacidoscope Pre-Primary Section





It is time to relax, revive and refresh on International Yoga Day



Children celebrating the 74th Independence Day







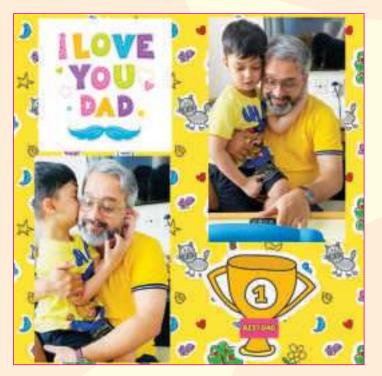
Raksha Bhandhan -Bond of love

Janmasthami Celebration





Father's Day - 'My Dad, My Hero'





Ganpati Bappa Morya



Superhero Next Gen Event



Grandparents Day



Nursery



Nursery

Diwali -Festival of Lights



Nursery



Sr.kg



Nursery



Sr Kg

Christmas Time at CNM School

Celebrating 73rd Republic Day online with our little angles Nursery

Welcoming Children Online to Offline School – First Day Nursery



Experiential learning for Play School Children



Holi – Spreading the Colours of Joy





Nursery

Sr.kg

Summer Camp



Sr Kg

Nursery

Bed time stories with Grandparents



Proud to be Myself



Salt Painting

3D Show





Climate Action – Sr Kg



Convocation Ceremony – Sr Kg



Fabulous Festivals

Fly, fly very high-Happy Makar Sankranti







Jr. Kg. Children and Parents enjoying Luau Party

Flavours of India







Animal Kingdom









Build your own vehicle



Learning about Farm Animals



Learning about Modes of Transport



Community helpers – Protect and Help our Nation





Sensorial Experience through 5 Senses









PRIMARY SECTION

International Yoga Day Making Yoga – A Way of Life



Collaboration with other Schools

Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much...



Collaboration with Serbia School for Climate Action Project



Collaboration with Stow School, Scotland – Math Quiz

HI – Steam – Space and Beyond "Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known."



STD. I - Planets - Pearls in Space



STD. I – Space Regalia – Fancy Dress



STD. II Sun– Bask in the Glory



STD. III Nakshatra- A Caboodle of Stars



STD. IV Scintillating Galaxies



STD. V A Space Odyssey



STD. VI To the Moon & Back

Std. I – My World of School Activities



Value based assemblies - Giving Purpose and Direction in Life.

Raz - Plus – Reading Programme Making Reading a Way of Life



Republic Day Celebrations – Proud to be an Indian



Virtual Online Tour of a Museum – Bringing the Ancient World Closer to Us





Std. II – My World of School Activities

Making Each Day a Celebration of Life





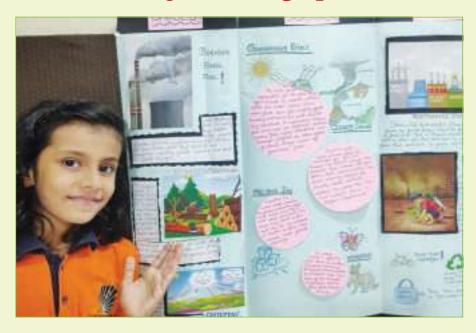




NII



Climate Action Project- Rising up to the Challenge



OUR GREEN FRIENDS





Global Outlook Activities



Pencils - Our First Choice of Writing



The Almanac- 365 New Chances

Std. III - My World of School Activities

Value based assemblies - Giving Purpose and Direction in Life

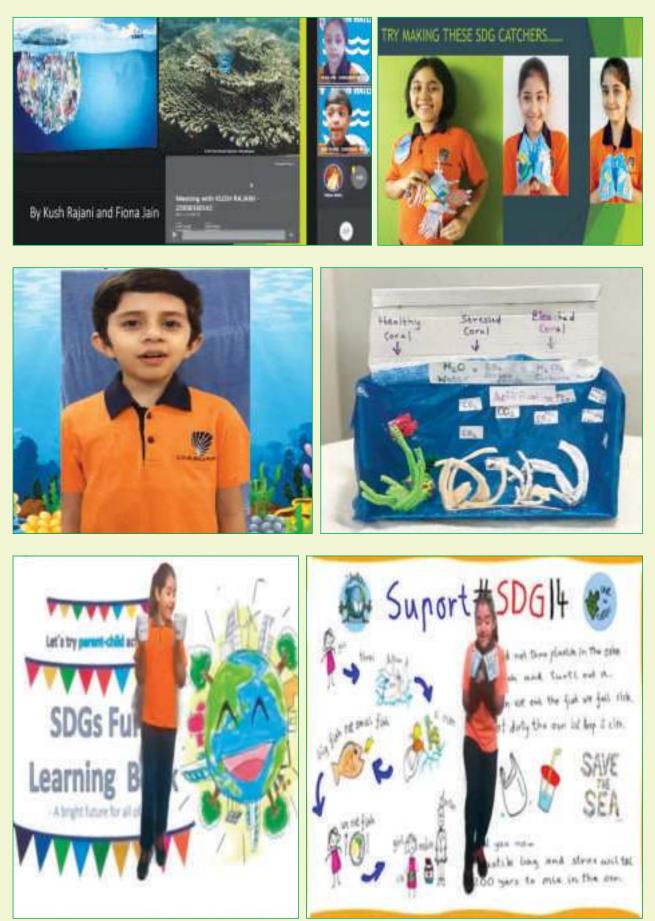


Assembly based on Sustainable Development Goals



Republic Day Assembly

Climate Action Project



Global Outlook Activities



Shine – Shine My Utensils



Traffic – Signals



Cheese on my Plate



Std. IV- My World of School Activities

Climate Action Project- Go Green - Tree Plantation Drive



Global Outlook – Paper Making – Work of my Hands



Std. V – My World of School Activities

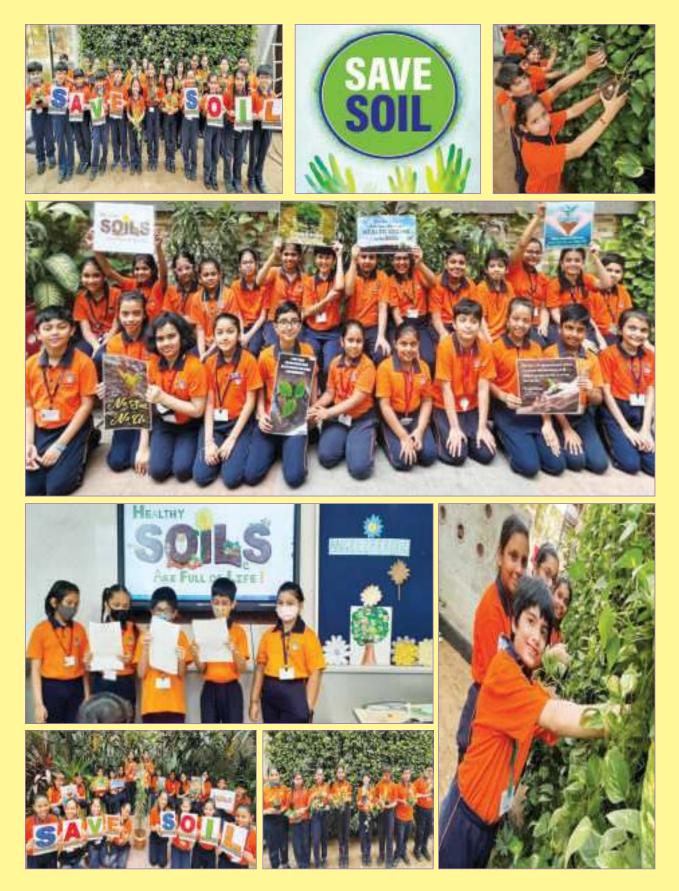
Soap Making Event



Donating The Proceeds From Soap – Making



Save The Soil Campaign *Be The Solution To Soil Pollution*



Std. VI- My World of School Activities

Global Outlook Activities

Mask – Making Behind every mask there is a face and behind that there is a story



Drape the Fabric – Re-defining fashion and Style











Toran – Making Activity











RAAS - GARBA-Feast and fun, the Raas - Garba has begun



Save the Soil – Poster Making



Salad Making Activity

























Kaladhara

An Expression in Art

































Secondary Section



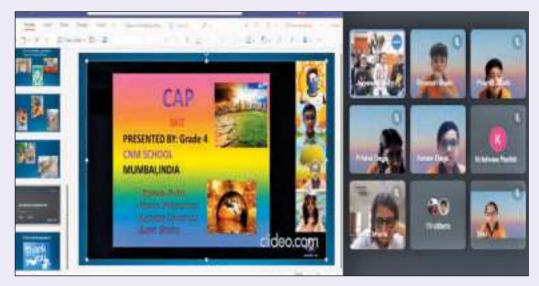
Our Trustees Shri Vivekbhai Vaidya and Shri Kiritbhai Mehta graced the Kaladhara event with their presence



Uncover Your Calling - A Webinar was conducted for Class X Students



From Setback to Comeback - An Interview with Mr. Jamnadas Majethia by Principal Mrs. Kavita Sanghvi



Primary Students in collaboration with students of Stow School in Scotland on Climate change



CNM School successfully conducted the History and Civics Cell Meeting for Std 9 and 10 on a virtual platform.



Std X and ISC students appeared for the offline exam in school

'Uncover your calling' An Interactive session for ISC students conducted by Nish Shetty and Mehek Ningoo

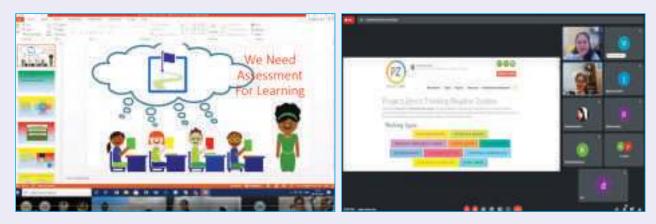


Students of the Secondary section participating in the HI-STEAM Panel Discussion

Students of the Secondary section celebrating International Yoga Day



Inter-house Activity - The AD MAD Competition



Principal Ms. Kavita Sanghvi addressing a session on Assessment for learning

Dr. Jaya Parekh conducted a workshop on 'Let's Make Thinking Visible' for teachers of CNM School



Dr. Ashok Pandey, Director of Ahlcon Group of Schools Delhi, shared insights on the National Education Policy The Cutting Edge Team takes a leap forward with selling of masks from unused material donated by the students of the school



A proud moment for CNM to be awarded as the 8th Best School in Maharashtra by Education World



Glimpses of the TEDx Youth Event 'Bridge the Gap' organized for the first time by the students of the ISC Section



CNM school was ranked the 19th Best ICSE School in India by India School Merit Awards

CNM School was honoured with the prestigious 'Climate Action Project School of Excellence' Award



Dr. Sheela Raghavan conducted a NABET Training Workshop for the staff of CNMS



Road Safety Officers conducted a session on 'Road Safety Education' for the students of the Secondary section

Students of Std VIII & IX campaigning for School Council Elections 2022-23



Covid-19 Vaccination Drive was conducted at CNMS for the students of Std IX to XII



International Women's Day Celebration at CNM with lot of dance, music and games



'From Setback to Comeback' Live Session with Mr. Pritam Kumar Agarwal– Founder and Director of Hello Kids Preschool and Riverstone Schools





Students of the Secondary Section participated in 'Learning Planet Festival' – 'Transmogrify Oneself towards Sustainability'

Students of CNM School participated in the 'Sachet Collection Drive' in collaboration with Stow Primary School in UK



CNM celebrates the Annual Prize Distribution and Investiture Ceremony



Budding authors of CNM School

Toppers of ICSE Std 10



Farewell Party



Ms. CNM Siya Joshi and Mr. CNM Krish Oza







Nursery - Fast, Forward, Rewind



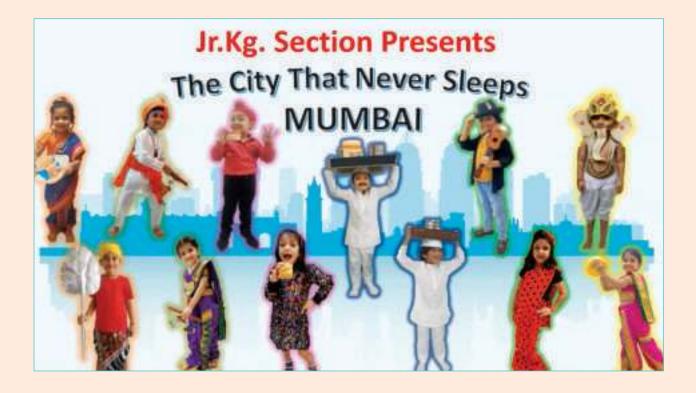
Play School – Little toddlers are ready to showcase their talent















Sr Kg Annual Day - Carnivals of the world









ANNUAL DAY PRIMARY SECTION



























ANNUAL DAY SECONDARY SECTION







































Achievers of Inter-School Competitions

PRIMARY



Aarna Raina– 1 C Is awarded as 1st runner up in Bollywood- solo – sub Jr. category.

World Dance Championship Season- 3

Geeetanjali Arts Foundation

Anaisha Yatish Doshi – I A Secured 1st Rank Mental Maths Competition Organised by: Global Maths Science Education, Singapore, 2021





Swara Pranav Chokshi – I A Anveshak Inter School Yoga Competition Organised by: Sri Sri Ravishankar Vidya Mandir – Mulund Secured 1st Position

Dhven Himanshu Mehta – 1 B Mental Maths Competition : Organised by : Global Maths Science Education, Singapore, 2021 Secured 1st Rank

Spell Bee International Competition : Secured 1st Rank in Interschool Level





Sakina Yusuf Tashrifwala – I B Mental Maths Competition Organised By: Global Maths Science Education, Singapore, 2021 Secured **1**st **Rank**

Mahika Vijay Gulvadi – I E

Mental Maths Competition 2021 Organized by – Global Maths Science Education in association with Math Vision Pte Ltd, Singapore Secured Rank 2





Nirvi Chirag Thakkar – I E Mental Maths Competition Organized by : Global Maths Science Education, Singapore, 2021 Secured 1st Rank

Reyansh Agarwal- 1 E Mental Aptitude Olympiad Organized by : LogIQids Energize- Skills like Problem solving, Analytical Thinking, Visual Analytics Category for 5 – 14 years





Alisha Thakkar – II F Secured 3rd prize in Mental Maths Competition Organized by : Global Maths Science Education, Singapore, 2021

Nirvaan Dungarwal – 1 D Secured 1st prize in Mental Maths Competition Organized by : Global Maths Science Education, Singapore, 2021





Aadhya Pritish Zavar – IV A Inter School Competition Organised by – Ashoka Universal School Secured 3rd position

Aashi Ashish Patel - IV A

Mental Maths Competition Organised by: Global Maths Science Education, Singapore, 2021 Secured 3rd rank





Aanya Chhhangani –VI B First Position For Role Play event Synergy Ecole Mondiale World School, Mumbai

Aarya Kanvinde – VI C First Position For Role Play event Synergy Ecole Mondiale World School, Mumbai





Aarav Gangan Chaudhary – V B Honour Martial Arts Academy Organised by: 1st Open National Teakwondo Online Poomsae & Speed Kicking Champion'21

National Level Secured: Silver Medal Held on 26th May 2021 & 12th June 2021

Ridhaan Sachin Modi – V B

17th Mumbai Region State Level Online Abacus and Mental Arithmetic Competition Organised by UCMAS Level Exams Secured 1st runner up Held on 12th June 2021





Yohan Matani- I C

Cleared Inter-school and State level Spell Bee competition with Accomplishment category Scored 2nd rank in Mental Math competition – International competition organised in association with Math Vision, Singapore

Shivom Raut- I C

Participated in the interschool Chinmaya Geeta Chanting Competition organised by Chinmaya Mission Mumbai on 8 Jan 2022. He was awarded the first prize in his group consisting of Grade 1 and 2

Shivom represented CNM in the category Grade 1 to 4 for Panache 2022 Soundilicious - Master the Mic interschool singing Competition. He was awarded the Third prize for his song on the festival of Holi





Nirvi Chirag Thakkar – I E Mental Maths Competition Organized by : Global Maths Science Education, Singapore, 2021 Secured 1st Rank

Jashvi Desai– I C 3rd Position in Retorica's Poetry Out Loud competition held on 25th September, 2021.





Rivaan Shah- I C

Global Maths Science Education - mental maths competition (international - singapore) Date : 19th Nov 2021 Rank - 1 LogIQids First stage Mental aptitude Olympiad State Rank - 2 International Rank - 2 Date : 21 Nov 2021 Marks - 97.2%

Sonia Beka – II D Spell Bee Intenational Grade 2 Level 1 – CNM School Topper Level 2 – Maharashtra State Topper 1st Position





Pearl Gada - II B

Gold Medal in Global Maths Science Education Singapore Grade 2
 All India Math Talent Search Exam (1st Prize)
 Little Learners Grammar Competition – 1st Prize

Shivam Bhatt- III B Is awarded as First Prize for Game Design in MID Box Evolving Education





Anaira Pai – II E

 Redeemer Talent Academy-Conducted by India Spelling Bee-National Level Second Position-1st August 2021
 Tourism Quest-Conducted by Purple Wings-National Level First Position-27th September 2021
 Painting Competition- conducted by Kalakriti Art Foundation-National Level Gold Medal-10th November 2021

4) Painting Competition- conducted by Kalakriti Art Foundation-National Level Gold Medal-30th September 2021

Anika Darooka - II E
1] Kick Off Martial Art Association of India-Thane
Karate Championship-First Position-Gold-National Level
24th October 2021
2) Shito Ryu Karate
Karate Championship -Silver Medal-National Level





Inaya Karia – II F Spell bee International

Hiya Malde – II F LogIQids First stage Mental Aptitude Olympiad – conducted in Nov – Dec 2021 1st state rank





Hasit Malde – II F LogIQids First stage Mental Aptitude Olympiad – conducted in Nov – Dec 2021 1st state rank

Jaiveer Neeraj Gangrade – III C

Global Maths Science Education Mental Maths Competition 3rd Rank at Mental Maths Competition 2021 (international Level) SOS International Rank 1





Saee Phadke – IV C

Competition was held on 28th Oct 2021 for Hindi Divas 21-22. Saee secured 1st position in this interschool competition

Mahi Golcha – I C Is awarded as 3rd prize for Spectrum In Pawar Public School Dombivali





Sukrit Kalawalia - III A

3rd Rank in Mental Maths Competition 2021-2022(International level) Organised by Global Maths Science Education in association with Maths Vision PTE Ltd, Singapore

Saee Phadke – IV C 1st position in Strotra Manjiri For SSRVM Mulund





Aanya Baig – IV C Gold medals in the long and Gold medal the short race Olympic Games association

Yuvaan Dungarwal – IV C 1st International prize in SOF – Mathematics Olympiad For British Council IEO





Aarash Kotwal – IV F Winner of under-10 cricket team 'Little Indians' Held in Sports Educare Children's Cricket League



Jaiveer Gangrade – IV C 1st international prize in SOF – Mathematics Olympiad For British Council IEO

Naksh Malik - III A

1 place in Mumbai suburban district chess association & universal chess foundation For District selection chess tournament 2022

1 prize in (under 9) and 1st prize in (under 10) Kalyan Taluka buddhibal sanstha & genius chess academy Kalyan Taluka buddhibal sanstha & genius chess academy



1 prize in (under 9) Goregaon Kala krida



Janki Patel – VI B

1st school rank, 7th state rank and the 9th National Rank in Mental Aptitude Olympiad First Stage 2021-22.

LQ Live Contest was a national level online science quiz competition conducted by LogIQids (An IIT-IIM Alumni Venture) and Techfest, IIT Bombay.

Aryan Karnik – I C Aryan. S. Karnik

2 nd Rank scoring (249/250) marks

Mental Maths Competition 2021-2022(International level) Organised by Global Maths Science Education in association with Maths Vision PTE Ltd, Singapore



Achievers of Inter–School Competitions

SECONDARY



Pranav Punatar Class: 7 E Position secured: Third Place Category: General Knowledge Quiz (Asterism)

Ananya Seth Class: 7A Competition: Articulate your words, English Elocution Position secured: Second Place





Diya Nilesh Gandhi Class: 7A Hosting school: Ramniwas Bajaj High School Competition: Panache: Face painting-Smiles of nature Position: Dedicated Participant



Diya Nilesh Gandhi Class: 7A Spell Bee International Level 3 (National Level certificate) Category- Accomplishment

Milendra Singh Rathore Class: 7A Spell Bee International- Language for Life State (L2) and National level (L3) Certificates Position - Distinction





Riya Dugar Class: 7C Spellbee International Level Competition Regional Level & State Level Certificates

Riddhi Bhavsar Class: 8 C VIDYA VALLEY ALL GK QUIZ Won: Certificate of Appreciation





Vidushi Shandilya Class: 8C Secured: Second Place in Girls Category in All India Scholastic Chess -14

Vidushi Shandilya Class: 8C ASSET Talent Search Position: Gold Scholar (First Place)





Navyaa Gulati Class: 8D The Asset Talent Search Assessment Position: Second Place

Aarya Sawant - 8E, Navyaa Gulati and Tanvi Lodhavia - 8D All –India Level Design Championship 3D Design (Online Model Making) Position: First Place





Sannvi Namdev Chougule

Class: 8A Declamation Competition at Panache hosted by Ramniwas Bajaj English High School Position: Second Place

Shreyansh H. Somaiya Class: 8E National level Open Chess Tournament Organized by Government of Karnataka, Department of Technical Education, Bangalore Position: First Place



Head Boy Article

I vividly remember the anxiety, the nervousness, and the butterflies in my stomach as our school was about to announce the new Student Council for the Academic Year 2021-22. What's even more lucid is the rush of joy and excitement I felt when the presentation displayed MY name as the Head Boy.

I was chosen from amongst other well deserving candidates by both the student body and the teachers, to represent CNM School, and I am sure it is going to be one of my most coveted achievements all my student life. I will never forget the moment when our Principal, Mrs. Kavita Sanghvi, bestowed upon me the Head Boy sash and badge in an in-person ceremony albeit with all the Covid appropriate protocols.

Throughout the school year, my school has enabled me to do a great deal as a Head Boy, along with the help of the student council and the guidance of the teachers, such as organizing the very first online farewell for our seniors, being a part of Youth COP 26 of the British Council, as a part of the Climate Connection and having the opportunity to interview our Principal. Every step of the way, I have learnt more, expanding the horizon of my knowledge.

Besides this, CNM School has participated, and performed well, in numerous inter-school competitions hosted by several schools all over Mumbai. As a Head of the Student Council, I was given the duty to coordinate and manage these events, organising the talented students of CNM. I was also given the opportunity to represent the school in various intraschool, inter-school and even national competitions, performing well and winning a few. Along with this, CNM School, for the first time, hosted its very own interschool event, Eunoia, and I received the chance to help organize events for the same, playing a small role in making the event successful, and subsequently helping build yet another CNM legacy.

Each of these roles has greatly helped me develop my character and boost my confidence, and I am truly grateful to CNM School for that. I have learnt communication skills from coordinating the various activities, and understanding all that goes into organizing such events has given me a greater appreciation for the teachers and students at CNM who do this year after year. Working with fellow Council Members and the student body in inter-house competitions and unique CNM School events like HI-STEAM has improved my skills for teamwork and helped hone my leadership skills. Even being involved in preparing and delivering speeches on topics such as the various festivals of India, Independence day or Republic days has not only helped me gain knowledge but also developed my oratory skills.

Being the Head Boy has taught me so many life lessons and essential moral skills that I am definitely richer with. I have been exposed to a range of outlooks and views that will help shape the person I seek to become. I have been able to achieve so much and have absorbed so much from this role I have been chosen for and I hope that I have been deserving of this responsibility given to me.

The position of Head Boy is one I have truly cherished, and I am eternally thankful to the students, teachers, and the administration of our beloved CNM School for giving me the honour of fulfilling this coveted role and guiding me as I performed the duties that come with it. I wish that all those who come after me take big and small steps in continuing the CNM legacy and adding to the glory of this wonderful institution.



Aryan Kaushal Head Boy - AY 2021-22 X-D

Head Girl Article

"If you have a strong purpose in life you don't have to be pushed...Your passion will drive you there"

Roy T Bennett

We all have come a long way through a tremendous journey of unpredictable times, turbulent emotions, resilience, and courage for the past one and half year and now gradually things seem to be getting back to normal. In this crisis, teachers have shown great leadership and innovation to ensure that #LearningNeverStops, and that no learner is left behind. As I look back, I can say that I have learnt a lot in terms of adjusting to new modes of technology, adapting to change, developing new hobbies, and connecting with people by building virtual relationships.

I was elected as the Head Girl of CNM school for the year 2021-22. I am extremely grateful to be given such a revered position, by our principal, respected teachers, and loving students, and I appreciate that I was given this opportunity to contribute to our prestigious school.

Our school recognizes every student as a diamond and takes the effort to polish it to shine with excellence. I feel enormously benefitted to be molded to become a leader. Through my actions, along with my talented and dedicated team of council members, we have expressed ideas and carried out activities for the school's holistic growth and cultivated a creative dynamic culture.

As the Head Girl of our school, one thing I truly believe is that CNM school does things differently. When probably all schools had their investiture ceremony virtually, we had the privilege of having it outdoors at a residential location, where all the council members were personally given their sash and badge by our principal, Ms. Kavita Sanghvi. It was a unique and memorable event. There was never a dull moment all the year around and students had ample opportunities to express their talents and be a part of an exciting school year on a virtual platform. Our school took part in various interschool competitions and as Head Girl I was responsible for managing these events. Motivating others to take part was challenging but seeing the fantastic results of the participants was exciting and heartfelt. Apart from coordinating, I personally represented the school in interschool events and achieved recognition for the same.

Our school had their first interschool event Eunoia as well, which was a grand success! The event was a platform for all ICSE schools to participate in. I had a wonderful opportunity to be a volunteer to coordinate events and host interviews for special guests and also take part in the events. CNM was engaged in coordinating various inhouse activities such as interhouse drama competitions, HI-steam events, and cultural programs online, where I also contributed to assisting in planning and executing it. My major involvement was in creating awareness through speeches and videos right from Independence Day, teachers' days to even festivals such as Eid and Diwali. Hosting the 10th Grade Farewell for the previous batch 2020-2021 was quite thrilling and a good exposure. As the Head Girl I am part of the Global youth program organized by the British council on climate change and have been part of other research initiatives for this global crisis.

Giving back is the most rewarding experience and I have been honored to work for the school in the academic session 2021 as your Head Girl. Accountability to your own self, brings in sincerity and honesty, this is what I believe in, and I follow. Let your bright energy flow through the world as it will surely come back to you.

We must acknowledge that one can go fast alone, but to go further, we should walk together with a spirit of collaboration, camaraderie, and mutual respect. As students let us take this message of hope and positive spirits, forward and be a support system to one another in the journey ahead us.



Ananya Pradhan Head Girl - AY 2021-22 X-E

WORDS WORTH

Primary Section Articles

My First Day Back in School

I walked to school, in excitement and wonder As I entered the gates again after two long years. I knew I will be happy to see my friends And my teacher will remove my fears.

I sat on my desk and saw just three more students

And was scared to think "was I the only one?" But my teacher entered and gave a warm smile And I knew that today will really be fun.

She laughed and played and taught us so well I thought I want to be here every day. Just as when I used to come to school And felt everything was okay.

I went home so happy and thrilled And told all about the lovely things I did at school. But my mom hugged me with a sad face And said you can't go now as per the new rule. Now I am back to virtual school, Studying behind the screen. But I know I will be in the class soon And there will be a change of scene.

I will laugh, play and enjoy with every one And enter the class carefree. And my teacher will be smiling at us And very soon we will all be free.



If I went to Space

One day after playing for whole day I was very exhausted so, I went to sleep early at night. That night I had a splendid dream. I dreamt that I was sitting in my rocket. From there I could see the EARTH. Then I went to Jupiter. I saw an alien. He looked very different from me. His name was also Aryan. He showed me around the Jupiter. He also showed me their Moon. Then I showed him our Earth. We took lots of pictures. We were very delighted. Then we became best friends. It was such a nice dream, I did not want to wake up.



Aryan Shah I-A

Adi and Shanaya

Once there lived a brother named Adi and a sister named Shanaya. Their family lived in a building that had three floors. Many other families also lived there. The building gate was being made. The workers had dug two holes for gate.

It was raining and Adi loved to go into the rain. There was a lot of water in the area. Adi was playing in the water. Suddenly he found himself deep inside water. He had forgotten about holes for the gate. He kept going up and down in the water. Only his hand was up. His sister Shanaya saw that from the first floor. She ran down very fast and pulled him out by his hand and rescued him.





Gifts From Santa

On Christmas day morning when I woke up, I saw a bag full of presents near my pillow. I was delighted to find all my presents. There was a red and yellow ball that could turn into a disk when pressed, and then automatically open to become a ball again. And a transparent blue watergun which had soap water with which I could make bubbles. I was also very happy to see a mouth organ, a laser gun with green laser and lots of chocolates. I can make various designs with my laser gun. My father taught me to play the mouth organ.

Advait Mayekar

1 – A

I want to thank Santa for all gifts he has given me. I promise to be a good boy next year also. But I am sad that I could not meet and hug Santa Claus. I tried to stay awake to see him but fell asleep. That left me feeling a bit forlorn too.

> Advait Mayekar I – A

A visit to the zoo

During November 2021, I went to Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan along with my parents. It is the only zoo of Mumbai and one of the oldest zoo in India. My father bought three tickets and we walked into the zoo.

No outside food except water bottles was allowed inside the zoo. There I saw various kinds of animals, birds kept in the enclosures and looked after. There were huge trees giving shade. The bats were hanging on few trees. We saw colourful and chirpy birds. Swans, ducks, crocodiles and fish were swimming in the pond.



Monkeys were active and came closer to the people to take away things. We saw elephant, tiger and deer. Hippottamus was lazing in the water.

Penguins entertained us with their cute acts. The temperature inside was changed to enable penguins to live.

Few children were teasing animals. This should not be done as it disturbs the animals and might hurt them.

We learnt about the habits and tastes of various animals and birds. They help us to get closer to the nature. This visit to the zoo was very exciting and was an interesting experience.

Stormy Night

Once upon a time, there were two friends staying in New York, the financial capital of the United States. While sleeping at night, they once heard gusty winds with a lot of storm and thunder. They hastily woke up. It was 5 am, early morning. Both got scared and kept staring outside the glass window. The storm was thunderous, as they stayed near the seaside.

They felt as though the storm has entered their home. They saw a gigantic tree collapsed down. They suddenly felt their sweet home was floating in the sea, with sharks and whales around. Then they fell into the water and were about to drown in the sea. Then they heard the ring of a doorbell and they were surprised how this can happen in the sea.



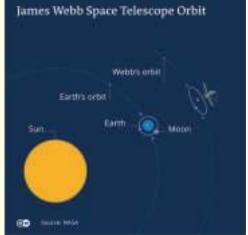
They stared searching the door bell and opened their eyes in a shock. Then they realised that it was a dream. Both started laughing and become happy that they are safe. They opened the door. It was a milkman. They drank the milk and went out to play delightedly.

Atharv Andhalkar II-C

About James Webb Space Telescope (JWST)

James Webb Space Telescope is the largest and costliest telescope in space exploration. It is a joint collaboration between NASA, European Space Agency and the Canadian Space agency. It is named after James E Webb who was the administrator of NASA from 1961 to 1968.

The telescope is intended to succeed the existing Hubble telescope since its primary emphasis is on infrared astronomy. Its unique shape of 18 hexagonal mirrors made up of gold plated beryllium provide over 100 times distinct objects detectable by Hubble telescope. It is strategically placed in the space near the Sun-Earth point called Lagrange Point i.e. L2 which is 1.5 million kilometers from earth. At this point, the telescope is protected from the heat generated by Sun, Earth and Moon at the same time. At this point, the telescope will orbit the Sun since the combined gravitational pull of the Earth and the Sun allow a spacecraft to orbit the Sun in the same time that it takes the Earth. Staying close to Earth allows data rates to be much faster for a given size of antenna.



The telescope was launched on December 25, 2021 and it arrived at its destination L2 point on January 25, 2022. Due to its precision launch, the telescope may be able to maintain its orbit for around 20 years. Over this period, the telescope shall provide numerous images which will help engineers: -

- to search for light from the first stars and galaxies that formed in the universe
- to study galaxy formation and evolution
- to understand star formation and planet formation
- to study planetary systems and the origins of life

Sriya Vaidya II A

Space Exploration

Welcome to mysterious world of Space. We all are wondering why Space is black! The Space is black because there is nothing to reflect light. From the Space, Earth looks lit up because light from our sun reflects off sea, land and other particles in our atmosphere.

Thousands of Galaxies are part of space (Universe). A Galaxy is a family of Stars, Gas, dusts, black holes and planets held together by gravity. Our solar system is a tiny part of gigantic spiral galaxy, the Milky Way. Milky Way belongs to a Cluster of 30 galaxies called the Local Group.



Milky Way Barred Spiral Galaxy



Astronaut is trained for surviving in the space for research. American Astronaut Michael Gerhardt went on four separate missions and spent more than 23 hours walking in space. Experts believe our Universe is about 14 Billion years old.

Michael Gerhardt

Looking at the dark night sky, to study about space is called astronomy. To make this easier a tool was invented called telescope. This tool was invented by Galileo Galilei in 1609.Now advance telescope James Web Space Telescope (JWST) is there in space for research.



Galileo Telescope

James web Space Telescope



Galileo Galilei

In future more invention will help us to find more about secrets of space.

Research on space can improve day to day life on earth by discovering more knowledge of universe and our solar system.

Vanshi Vadalia II A

MR COVID

Hey Mr. COVID, where did you come from? Like a thief who robbed us of all the fun...

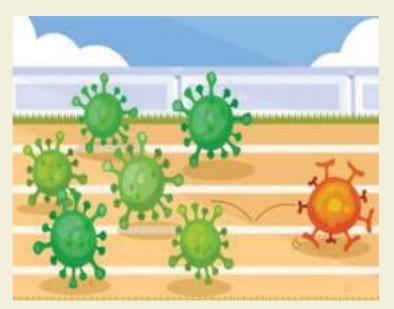
Yes, you scared us! You got things to a standstill... Life was a pause with no thrill.

Our schools were stopped, so was everything... We missed our teachers, we missed our pals But 'O' ya, Thanks for the great family time!!

We lit candles, we hit drums... Everything to scare you, and yes we won!

Life will be normal soon.. Back to school! Back to school! Is all what we want. Goodbye Covid, It's time that you are gone.

> Arnav Vora II- E

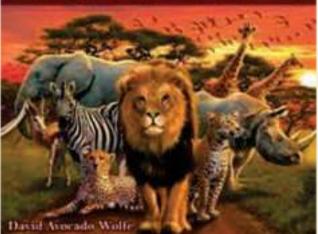


Let's Conserve Wildlife !!

Humans are the smartest beings on our planet Earth. However, we should not forget the importance of wildlife.

Wildlife means undomesticated species. For example: Tigers, lions, elephants, rhinoceros, giraffes, leopards, zebra etc. We think there are plenty of animals on Earth, but there are several endangered species. The endangered species of wild animals are decreasing day by day. We cannot sit and just watch these animals getting extinct. We need to protect these animals.

THEIR PLANET Not just for humans



Below is the list of critically endangered animals:

White rhinoceros, Giant Panda, Tigers, Whooping Crane, Asian elephant, Sea Otter, Western Lowland Gorilla etc.

How can we conserve wildlife?

- Do not buy leather items.
- Habitat destruction is the main threat to 85% of all threatened and endangered species (According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature). You can help reduce this threat by planting native trees, restoring wetlands or cleaning up beaches in your area.
- Use Recycled Products
- Report Hunting or Harassment of Endangered Species

Let's pledge that each one of us will contribute to this noble cause and protect our dear animals.

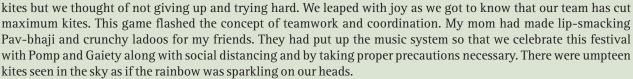
Hanishka Soni II D

Makar Sankranti

On 14th January, I woke up at the crack of dawn to celebrate auspicious day of Makar Sankranti. Our teacher Ms. Sharvari has explained us in Global Outlook class about the importance of 14th January as it is celebrated by different names in different parts of India like Uttarayan in Gujrat, Pongal in Tamil Nadu, Dahi Chura in Bihar, Magh Bihu in Assam, Maghi in Punjab and Makar Sankranti in Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, West Bengal (also called as Poush Sankranti). I was amazed about the same as our country India reflects "Unity in Diversity", always. Enthusiasm bubbled within me. As I am born and brought up in Maharashtra, we celebrate Makar Sankranti by making ladoos of sesame and donning black colour outfits on this particular festival. We distribute it by saying **"Tilgul ghya goad goad Bola".**

In the afternoon, we began to do arrangements for evening as popularly it is known as Kite flying festival too. My bosom buddies were about to visit my place for kite flying. After the arrangements, my grandfather accompanied me to buy multicoloured, diamond shaped, ecofriendly kites. Eco-friendly kites have comparatively soft thread and it doesn't harm birds when they fly in the sky.

It was a pleasant windy evening. It was perfect day to fly kites. We had a competition named "Kai Po Che" among our friends. We had made a pair of two; one for flying kite and other handles the spindle and whosoever cuts the maximum kites wins the title. There were times when we were losing the game as we lost few



After the game, we all were exhausted and our stomachs started grumbling. The aromatic smell of puranpoli made us more famished. We hogged and relished it like a glutton and drank fresh chilled butter milk. As we were dispersing, the pop up came on my mom's mobile it was an email from our school letting us know that government has granted permission and schools are reopening in two days. We were on cloud nine when we got to know the news. The excitement was on top as we were going to go to school after two long dreadful years. It was a day to remember, I had a whale of time along with my friends and family members.

Hrihaan Tamhane II D

Toys

Toys are small toys are big Toys for boys toys for girls Dolls ,cars, games and puzzles

Toys for joy, Toys for fun Toys make noise, silent Toys Toys make me laugh toys wanting them make me cry Toys make my life so fun I wish toys could come alive.

> Purav Nathani II



Hoppy

2a1

nbranti

Under the Sea

"The sea, once it casts its spell, holds one in its net of wonder forever" – Jacque Cousteau

We all know that oceans cover almost 71% of the earth, yet we know so little about them. Even with the advancements in science, only 5% of oceans have been explored by humans so far. Many animals and plants dwell in the earth's Blue Heart. The oceans are a beautiful place – a whole different world, far prettier than ours. I have never gone scuba diving but have put it on my bucket list. Nevertheless, I have seen video documentaries of deep-sea divers exploring blue territories that have never been trespassed. I have simply fallen in love with the serene and calmness of the big blue sea.

Source: National Geographic



In documentaries, I have witnessed the grace and wonder of the ocean in the form of colourful creatures that reside underneath and the vibrant flora that dance to the waves. There are over 2.4 lakh species of underwater creatures. Some of these underwater creatures have special colouring. For example, some have protective coloring to hide or camouflage themselves from enemies and some animals have bright colouring as warning to enemies to clarify that they are poisonous creatures. Truly, such a wonderful work of nature!

My most favorite sea creature is the Megalodon. The Megalodon was the biggest shark to have ever swam the seven seas. It is a prehistoric underwater creature and is unfortunately, extinct at present. Coincidently, even today, the biggest animal on this earth is also an underwater creature known as the Big Blue Whale. A Blue Whale is gigantic. It can grow more than 100 feet long and can weigh as much as 30 elephants. Interestingly, the Blue Whale is not a fish, but categorized as a mammal like us.

Another scary underwater animal is the Great White Shark. Great White sharks can smell blood from 5 km away. They are the deadliest hunters in the ocean. Their eyes glow in the dark and their blood is toxic. Amazing, isn't it?

The oceans are very deep. As you go lower in the oceans the sun's light and heat becomes scanty and it gets darker and colder. The creatures who live there have adapted to this darkness and coldness. In fact, there is a layer in the seas and oceans in which only 3 animals can live - the Angler Fish, the Dumbo Octopus and Gulper Eel. The only way people can see them is by traveling in very special submarines.

Symbiotic Relationship between Clownfish and Sea Anemone (Source: National Geogrpahic)

The oceans not only hold fierce ecosystems but also show us mutual symbiotic relationships. The mutual 'friendship' between clownfish and the colourful sea anemone is a perfect example of symbiosis, where both organisms benefit from teaming up together. Sea anemone has poisonous tentacles but unlike other fish Clownfish are immune to them. In fact, Clownfish reside in the sea anemone's tentacles, where they are provided shelter, and protection from potential predators. In return, the anemone gets food scraps that naturally fall when the clownfish eats ensuring its survival.

The oceans are vast and mysterious. More humans have walked on the moon than travelled to the deepest parts of earth. The journey under the sea has only just begun. Hope you will be a part of this journey too!

Ms. Sonia Bekal II A

My Clean School

After my home, the place closest to my heart is my school – C.N.M.S. at Vile Parle West, Mumbai where I study in Second standard. My school is where I was taught the importance of cleanliness and my school is one of the cleanest schools. My teacher gives a lot of importance to our clean surroundings and environment. I have taken that lesson to my heart. In school, I clean my desk regularly and with my friends, I also clean my classroom by picking up any pieces of papers and other garbage and throw it in the dustbin.

My school has hardworking cleaning staff that always sweeps the corridors and keeps the school very clean and neat. It is necessary that my school is clean, otherwise unclean surroundings can lead to diseases like Malaria and Dengue. My teacher always highlights the importance



of a clean school which then makes the children ensure that their house also remains very clean.

From 2015 onwards, the Government of India has made 'Cleanliness in School' a part of the school subject/curriculum. My school actively participates in the Clean School Contest and has also won awards. My school is just like my home, and I will always ensure that it remains exceptionally clean, and we the students remain healthy.

I love my neat and clean school very much.

Vedashri Nabar II-E

Back To School

We all have come back to school, back to school, back to school. The classrooms are open And it feels so cool.

Greeting our teachers and meeting our friends, I wish this just goes on and never ends.

There's so much to do and so much to learn. It's time for work and time for fun, the school has finally begun.

> Gaureeka Sethi II F



My Pet Fish

On my birthday I made a wish, Oh God! Give me one little fish.

Splish, Splash, Splish What is this?

My dad bought me Ten little fish

All through the day They swim around Going through the barrel In and out I like feeding them Dry little worms They gobble them down

Yum! Yum! Yum! My pretty little fish Swimming in the dish They made a splish Singing along splish, splish, splish

Aahana Rathod II–F



First Day at School after the Pandemic

'Yippee' my joy knew no bound and I leaped with joy as my ears were greeted with the jubilant news that the schools were reopening from tomorrow. I woke up at the wee hours of the morning with a wide grin on my angelic face. Enthusiasm bubbled within me as I was visiting my enormous school after one and half year. I promptly got ready with a well ironed dress and neatly tied pony tail. I darted like wind to my study table and started arranging my school bag. It gave me immense pleasure to pack my bag which I had never felt earlier. I humbly requested my mom to pack me extra tiffin for my friends.



There was a hustle and bustle at the entrance as students streamed into the school gate. Friends waved greetings and chatted happily. Strident shrieks of students were music to my ears. The atmosphere was a joyous one.

My eyes were as wide as a football glancing at the school yard which was adorned with umpteen colourful balloons and posters of my favourite cartoon characters to welcome us with open arms. I was dumb struck looking at my friends. A few grew towering and a handful chubby with a fat belly. Some of my friends had a different hair style. We had a whale of time giggling and chatting. We strolled around in the whole school remembering our old memories. In the classroom I sat next to my best friend. I was eagerly waiting to meet my teacher. As

the teacher arrived I gave her a miss you card. She too showered her love and blessings on me. Our teacher instructed us with a few new guidelines which we needed to follow like maintaining social distance and wearing mask throughout the time.

During the break time we friends relished our scrumptious tiffin. Though we could not share it I passed my second tiffin to my best friend. It was her favourite tantalising crunchy cranberry cookies.

Throughout the day our teacher gave us motherly love and attention. She also stuck our creative artwork done during the lock down on the board. It was a proud moment to see our achievements on the board. Being in school makes you feel like seventh heaven. I had a super duper day at school.

Samaira Shah II-F

My Yellow Bookshelf

As I entered primary, and I started to read, My mother got me books, she thought I would need We started off with bedtimes, just to initiate a habit, And soon I dreamt, of magicians and rabbits.

But then one day a strange thing happened, And I started to see that the sky had darkened, I was wearing a cloak and slipped on a ring, I swallowed the magic potion and dined with the king, The walls moved and the weather got hotter I woke up with a start, as I was dreaming of Harry Potter.

I started to enjoy reading books, about people animals and fiction, And soon there was a pile, for soaring my imagination. But now I need a put them in order, to organise I needed some help Then a new member arrived, as I welcomed my yellow bookshelf.

> Meher Chawla II- F



Teacher's Day Teachers are our sunshine to success

T-TALENTED E-ELEGANT A-AWESOME C-CHARMING H-HELPFUL E-EFFICIENT R-RECEPTIVE

Teacher's day is the occasion of birth anniversary of Dr. SARVAPALLI RADHAKRISHNAN.

In the memory of his contribution as a teacher, we celebrate the Teacher's day to pay respect and gratitude towards their unconditional devotion and dedication for their each and every student for building morals and values in their lives. It is celebrated to give them respect which they deserve to make our lives meaningful.

We celebrate Teacher's Day on 5th September every year. Teachers hold the real knowledge, empathy and generosity for their students. Teachers give us all the reasons to dream big and all the resources to achieve it. Teachers are blessings in our life. We are always grateful to them for everything they do for us. We love you, our mentors, guide and philosophers, our beloved teachers.

BELOW IS A SMALL GESTURE FROM MY SIDE FOR ALL THE TEACHERS. THANK YOU.

Mother Earth

Every year, we celebrate **EARTH DAY** on 22nd April all over the world. Earth gives us food, water and shelter to live.

There are so many things like **reduce, reuse and recycle** that I can do to help my Earth.

To save my **MOTHER EARTH** I will stop throwing garbage and stop using plastic bags and plastic bottles. I will tell people to stop cutting trees because trees give us oxygen and food. I will turn off lights when not needed. I will reuse objects like washable water bottle which can be filled again. I will recycle things like plastics, glass, paper to be remade again.



We should start using electric vehicles so that there is less of air pollution. We

should pick up trash and throw in the bins and also tell people to keep our world clean by taking small steps in improving our environment.

Let us all be kind and responsible to save our Mother Earth!





Makar Sankranti

Makar Sankranti is a harvesting festival for farmers to thank God for the crops. People fly dainty, colourful, sparkling and different types of kites on their terrace in the afternoon. I am on cloud nine when my mother makes til laddus. My friends and I go on the terrace and put loud music and cut each other's kites. We dance and sing. We dress up wearing beautiful and colourful salwaar kameez. We exchange gifts with each other. Our mothers get colourful mats and sit on them for chit-chatting. We play cards and board games all evening. We hug each other and the best part is we get to eat chocolates, cakes and chocolate bombs.

> Parini Gandhi II-B

My First Lesson

It was about four years ago when I was in Nursery Class, I used to have very few items for my lunch and dinner. I was very fussy about what I eat. Every day I ate the same food items which were not quite healthy. My mom tried a lot to make me understand the importance of having a balanced diet, but I didn't listen to her.

But mom had decided to make me understand. So she

started playing tricks on me by giving me burger, pizza, pasta, frankie with healthy ingredients hidden inside. She had learnt this from her friends who used this with their kids. But it didn't work on me as I was extra smart.

Finally, one Sunday she took me to a slum area where I saw small kids struggling for food. The kids I saw there, were happy to even have left over food.

I thanked God that I am so lucky to get everything without asking for anything. I thanked my mom for making me realize the value and importance of having food and this was my first lesson which my mom taught me and I will remember this forever.



My Jaipur Sojourn

In November 2021 we went to Jaipur and Ranthambore. I had even written about the places to visit and the things to do. Some of the places we visited were:

1. Ranthambore Tiger reserve

We went inside the forest in a canter, which is like an open truck. Initially we saw cows, wild dogs, crocodile, sambar deer, various birds, nilgai, Indian wild bores etc. Luckily on the public road itself we saw a tiger! It was at a height and moving slowly. It was very cold, but it was a good safari.

2. Jhalana Leopard reserve

We went inside the jungle in a jeep. We heard different birds chirp, it has lots of birds like Indian Pitta, Eagle, Owl, White spotted owl etc. On the way back and we saw lots of deer. When we were coming back, we saw a leopard! It was trying to hunt the deer. But the deer ran away, so then our jeep moved ahead. Just when our jeep moved ahead the leopard crossed the road. We also saw two baby leopards near the exit point!

Jaipur

We travelled from Ranthambore to Jaipur in a train. These are the places I visited in Jaipur:

1. City Palace

We had a guide. The king of Jaipur lives there, it's a very big Palace. It only has 4 floors but, each floor has lots of

importance. The best part of the Palace is that we can see all the original structures, and all the structures are very old. The names of the 4 main floors are Chandra Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, Chhavi Mahal, Pooja Ghar and 3 main gates which are Tripolia Gate, Virendra Pol and Udai Pol. In the line of the Palace there is a temple of Lord Krishana , the view of the temple is better from the upper floors. There is a horse ride which is called Bagghi Khana, visitors can also sit inside it and take a ride. The king's family also rides it; it is the European styled cab gifted by Queen Victoria. I saw many pictures of the kings who ruled Jaipur. I enjoyed learning about the kings and what they did.



2. Jantar Mantar

Jantar Mantar is all about astronomy. The best thing in Jantar Mantar was Vrihat Samrat Yantra the world's largest sundial. It shows interval of every 2 seconds, local time. Yantra Raj Yantra- Use to calculate the Hindu calendar. It is considered the world's largest sundial. With a conglomeration of such unique and accurate instruments, the mystery of space and beyond. There are lot more things but I can't write them all. I loved it, you all should visit it. I am sure you too will love it.

3. Reginal Science Center

It had a lot of things, but I'm going to write about 2 things only.

- 1) Dino Park-This is a park with dinosaurs of different era are present with their flora of Mesozoic era. These displays are supported with information regarding their size, weight, body construction along with food habits and their life span.
- 2) 3D Theatre-They showed two movies. The movies were very scary. It was a horror journey to the house of the ghosts, as we had worn 3D glasses we felt as if the ghosts were coming towards us.

I loved to travel here with so much of greenery and so many squirrels. Once I had a potato chip in my hand and there were lots of squirrels, as I bent down a squirrel came and started eating the chip! I felt ticklish on my hand but it was a cute sight. I wish we could have lots of greenery in Mumbai too. So I could keep a squirrel as a pet.

A Trip to an Amusement Park

I was zealous as it was the last day of my school and our vacation had started. To celebrate our independence all my friends resolved to go to the renowned theme park 'Imagica'. Next day I woke up at the first blush of morning with a wide grin on my cherubic face. I promptly got ready and left along with my bosom buddies for the park. Enthusiasm bubbled within me, as I was awaiting to enjoy the spectacular picnic activities. We drove by car as it was miles away from my residence.

On the way to the park I was electrified seeing the beauty of nature. The scintillating ball of fire was dazzling like a yellow sapphire cheering up the dark sky. White fluffy clouds drifted across the azure blue sky. The melodious chirps of flock of birds resonated everywhere. The cool breeze softened the humid afternoon heat. As soon as we reached a smile flashed over my face glancing the enormous theme park. The park was ringed with towering robust lush trees which were filled with flowers as colourful as a rainbow. It was packed with families. I was perplexed viewing the umpteen rides and didn't know from where to start.

First we visited the gigantic roller coaster. I had butterflies in my stomach sliding down the twists and turns of the snake like roller coaster. Shrieks and screams filled the air. Next we went to the dashing car. We rolled on the floor with laughter bumping each other. Later we headed to the cup and saucer ride. We had a whale of time swirling around like a merry go round. Then we went for the most thrilling ride "Aqua dive". We had a zap moment. We screamed our hearts out as water splashed over and drenched us like a wet cloth. Haunted house, the next ride adorned our face with sweat. My heart skipped a beat and I trembled like a jelly.

Time flew like a bird and we were exhausted, famished and parched. We sprinted like a rocket to the food court. We relished eating the scrumptious sizzling pizza, cheesy pasta with chilled Frooti. Soon the torch of sun was disappearing and the last rays were visible. The clouds were cotton candy as they blushed to wave a good bye to the setting sun. In almost no time sky was almost dark and the first set of stars were seen. Gloomy but with jubilant memories we had to depart back home. It was a memorable day.

Zoe Gala III–E



A Lovely Surprise

I woke up at the wee hours of the morning with a wide grin on my angelic face. Enthusiasm bubbled within me as it was Mother's Day. I was perplexed and was not been able to make up my mind how to make it special for my beloved mom. After a lot of brain storming a notion sprung in my mind to make my mom's favourite dish 'Sizzling Brownie'.

As soon as my mom left for her office I darted into my bedroom and broke open my piggy bank. With the money I

ordered some ingredients to bake up a scrumptious brownie. At the drop of hat, I started all the preparations. With the help of internet, I browsed a recipe which would be as easy as ABC. I mixed some crunchy cookies with milk, butter, and walnuts. I gave it a good stir and poured it in the baking dish. I baked it in the microwave for 20 mins. Meanwhile I adorned the table with some fresh flowers as colourful as rainbow candles, balloons and streamers. I made a glorious card with a heart touching message kept under on the table.



Time flew like a bird and it was time for my mom to return back home and I still had to garnish the cake. In a flash of time I melted the chocolate to prepare the sauce. Tring the doorbell rang. I switched off the lights and promptly lit up the candle. My mom was flabbergasted seeing the adorned table with the sizzling brownie. I melodiously sang and wished her Happy Mother's Day.

My mom was over the moon. Tears rolled down her cherubic face just like a waterfall. She hugged me tightly and kissed me. She thanked me from the bottom of her heart.

We had a whale of time relishing the lip-smacking scorching cake with some chilled vanilla ice-cream. It was the most memorable Mother's Day for my mom and me.

Zoe Gala III-E

Poem 1: Little Detective

I am a little detective, watching on the ground,

I want to find something, golden and brown.

I found something brown, bb brrr brown..

But I don't see anything golden on the ground.

Poem 2: Crown

Stay down, Don't make me frown.

Because tomorrow when you will go away, I will wear the crown.





Poem 3: Be There!

Be there, till the time I sit on the chair.

Because, there is a big brown bear

who is not sharing his honey over there.



Poem 4: Worry and Hurry

Don't worry and don't hurry,

You can solve all your worries with no hurries.



Poem5: My First Umbrella

My first Umbrella is colourful, It looks wonderful.

My second umbrella is black, It is the one, I like.

My third umbrella is round, I will carry it to town And it looks round.



A visit to an Aquarium

One rainy morning, my warm-hearted parents gave me a surprise. They told me about the plan to visit the aquarium located in Melbourne. I felt euphoric. I gave my parents a bear hug. It was overcast outside. We headed to the aquarium in a red gleaming car by early afternoon. It was an exceptional ride with the torrential rains outside. I was ravenous, so my doting mother gave me some palatable burgers. I was salivating and I ate the burger hungrily. My jocular father made us laugh all throughout. We entered the resplendent and spacious aquarium with a grin.

The aquarium was awe-inspiring. I was captivated by the marine life. Numerous multihued fishes were swimming happily about in enormous tanks. My parents led me towards an underwater tunnel. My blood ran cold when I saw the frightening sword fish. We saw massive sharks gliding in the water so close that we felt like we could almost reach out and touch them. I was petrified seeing the shark's sharp teeth. Few Bobtail squids were wobbling in the water merrily. I also saw tiny krill. The erudite guide informed us about the varieties of fish. I was astonished seeing the divers feeding the large sharks. Then we sat in a boat with a glass bottom. We could see the fish swimming under us and nibbling at their food. I took many ravishing pictures from the glass boat. We also saw genial penguins, gorgeous starfish and stunning seahorses. We saw lots of fish that I had seen in my favorite film Finding Nemo.



Finally, we saw a gigantic crocodile who looked like a frightening predator.

We went home feeling satisfied and exhausted. I was smitten by the cool weather on our way back home. I thanked my parents for this delightful outing, and I cannot wait to visit the amazing aquarium again.

> Mikhail Sudrani III E

When I Look Under My Bed

When I look under my bed, I see something red A rattlesnake as scary as can be! Oh, it's just a rope forgotten by me.

When I look under my bed, I see something scary A rhino as hungry as can be! Oh, it's only a toy kicked there by me.

When I look under my bed, I remember something creepy A horror show as terrifying as can be Oh, that's just an ad on my iPad left there by me!!

> Tanvi Rathi III-D



Christmas Reindeer

There's Dasher, Donner, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Blitzen And the one you know best of all... Rudolph!

And I am here to tell you knowing only Rudolph is wrong.

Even though he lights up the night with his nose ever so bright.

Just because Rudolph guides the sleigh Doesn't mean he can fly it all alone It's so wrong that he is the only one who's known.

Even though he has a whole song to himself There's no favorite of the elves. And you should be like them They like "all" reindeer in the Christmas realm.

Go to Wikipedia right now and learn about the other reindeer The other reindeer too need to be made dear!!

> Tanvi Rathi III-D



My Big House

My big house with a window and a door, And my pet cat sleeping on the floor. A kitchen with delicious food, Eat whenever I have my mood. Four bedrooms and a hall, A small room with a doll. The huge tree outside, And the little plant inside. A big playground for me to play, This is the house where I stay.



Saanvi Maheshwari III E

The Swan who Flew

One day an egg hatched The egg and the bird's colour matched. The egg was white In it there wasn't much light.

He was a swan and swans were supposed to swim But he couldn't.... poor him! He left the pool drenched to the skin "Swimming is easy", said his twin.

He was a swan so he thought let's go flying His twin was really trying. And our swan was off twirling and flying in the air

Much to the twin's despair.

Their mother said, "Wow! This is rare." She joined him in the air They danced and danced till the day was done It was so much fun!

Twirling and swirling and looking down From the sky at the town. For the first time he flew, He saw his brother stuck in water like a canoe!

> Tanvi Rathi III-D





My Country; My Pride



India is a great country where people speak different languages but the national language is Hindi. India is full of differences- castes, creed, religion, and cultures but they live together in harmony with each other. That's the reason India is famous for the common symbolic of "Unity in Diversity

India is the seventh-largest country in the whole world. India has the second-largest population in the world. India is also known as Bharat, Hindustan and sometimes Aryavarta. It is

surrounded by oceans from three sides which are Bay of Bengal in the east, the Arabian Sea in the west and Indian ocean in the south. Tiger is the national animal of India. Peacock is the national bird of India. Mango is the national fruit of India. "Jana Gana Mana" is the National Anthem of India. "Vande Mataram" is the National Song of India. Hockey is the national sport of India. People of different religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Islam, Christianity and Judaism live together since ancient times. India also has a rich heritage of marvellous monuments, tombs, churches, historical buildings, temples, museums, scenic beauty, wildlife sanctuaries, places of architecture and many more. We were led by some great leaders and freedom fighters who got India free from foreign rule.



India's tricolour is its pride with each colour having its own significance. The saffron colour that is uppermost in the flag stands for courage, valour and strength. The second colour i.e. the middle colour in the flag is the white colour and it stands for peace and purity. The third colour, i.e. the green colour, stands for fertility, progress and prosperity.

Akshita Singh IV-B

My Favorite Holiday

Some of my favorite holidays are Diwali, Rakshabandhan etc. When I hear about any holiday it is music to my ears. And on this trip, I was going to live in a tree house, I was over the moon. I hid my favorite toys in my cache. I got ready and sat in the car. We were going to Lonavla. When I reached there, the tree house was very capacious. There was a pool which was massive. It was a starchy breeze with all the trees. My grandmother, grandfather, aunt and uncle came at sunset when the view was transparent. It was night and somber. Everyone was playing cards. My sister was fast asleep. I was aloof with my phone. All were tired. I slept like a log.



Rohan Chhugani

IV-A

The Last Two Years

Wow!! It's 2022! I am so happy to wish you all a very "Happy New Year". I am very excited as it's my birthday month too. So here we go...

I am going to tell you all about my experience of 2020-22. We were enjoying our normal life and suddenly one day in the month of March, we were told that one dangerous Virus has come so we have to stay home and be safe. Yes, Covid-19 came to India and it has changed our lives. We stopped going to schools, gardens, hotels and out for movies. We could see the empty roads and hear the siren of umpteen number of ambulances rushing patients to the hospitals. No wonder then that a lockdown was announced!



Always, in the month of June, we are so excited to get ready with our raincoats, umbrellas to enjoy rains and return to enjoy the 1st day of our school. But... due to COVID-19, since last 2 years, no such thing happened. We had to only Virtual Learning. We were sitting in front of computers all day long and for a change, parents did not object to it. It was a different experience every day, excited to see our friends, teachers and of course learning about sound system, video functioning, downloading, and uploading things. It was good to participate in exams, projects, and events like Ras-garba, Climate Action Project, Annual Day, Sports, etc which were conducted online. Apart from not being physically in school, our teachers have always encouraged us to do our best. Thanks to our Principal and parents for guiding us.



STAY SAFE! BE HAPPY!

Even now, after nearly two years, the battle is still not over. The second wave came and went; the third wave is still going on. We have to be extra careful and take vaccination when it's due. Avoid crowds. Wear masks and wash hands. Follow all protocol and be cautious. I will pray to God that this shall pass soon. Hope for a better year ahead as tiny footsteps have started for returning to schools. **Just can't wait to live a normal life without fear**.

Verica Viral Mukhatyar VI B

The Wolf King

Light years ago, there was a gallant and witty king who was tricked by a ravishing but grotesque witch with long tresses which was as black as coal. They soon got married with pomp and gaiety, as a glorious wedding gift, the dashing and benevolent king gifted the terrible witch the key to his heart. The gruesome witch was

spellbound when she saw the scintillating golden key. As soon as the key was in her hand, she transformed the king into a massive, petrifying who was as grey as smoke. The wily witch banished him to a prodigious dense forest and took control of the throne. The king, the people of the kingdom were aghast, distraught and doleful. The king had a stunning daughter who was gracious and affectionate. Seeing and hearing the dreadful witch's bone chilling laughter, sent shivers down her spine and froze her blood. She too fled after her father.

One fantastic day, a robust and valiant hunter came across the king. His eyes became as wide and round like the size of soccer balls to catch a glimpse of such a colossal and fierce wolf with teeth which were as sharp as razors and resolved to kill it. He took an arrow from his quiver and aimed at the creature when like a bolt from the blue, a strident and dulcet, "No! Please don't kill my father" greeted his ears. The hunter was astonished and baffled. Abruptly, the wolf spoke, "I am

> the King of this land. I have been banished by my wife, the awful witch. If you will steal the key to my heart from the terrible witch, I will give my marvellous daughter's hand in marriage." The princess was resplendent with gilded tresses that were golden. Her skin was as white as snow and as smooth as satin. The hunter agreed at the drop of a hat. The king further said, "This task can be perilous as you have to pass three doors. Do not eat anything

offered inside the prodigious and fabulous castle." Nodding, the hunter said, "Thank you for your advice. I shall return quickly." The mighty and courageous hunter travelled umpteen miles till he reached the lavish castle. As he sneaked into the castle, he came across a

huge wooden door behind which he spotted a wide array of toothsome food items which made his mouth drool like a waterfall. He darted past the scrumptious treats and came across another door. When he opened it, he was astonished to see several bags filled with glistening gold coins and gems that gleamed like diamonds. However, the hunter turned them a blind eye to them and opened the third door. As soon as he opened it, a gasp escaped his mouth as he saw a hideous and ferocious three headed wolf. His heart skipped a beat. He was on pins and needles but being valiant, he killed the blood thirsty wolf and finally entered the dreadful witch's chamber. She hit the roof when she saw the hunter and attempted to cast a spell but the quick witted quickly slayed her and snatched the key to the king's heart and returned it to the distraught king. When the jubilant king wore the key around his neck, he let out a strident growl and transformed back to his normal self. He was elated and he leaped with enthusiasm. He reclaimed his kingdom and celebrated the hunter and his beloved daughter's wedding in pomp and gaiety.

Jihaan Savla IV F

Homework

I need to do my homework. I really shouldn't wait. If I don't do it right away, my homework will be late.

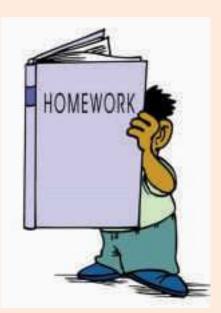
But first I'll check my messages. Oh, look, I got a text. I probably should answer it, then do my homework next.

My friend says there's a video I simply have to see. I'll watch it first, and do my homework momentarily.

But now I'm feeling hungry, so I guess I need a snack. I'll get myself a bite to eat and then I'll come right back. Oh, hey, I just remembered there's a game I want to play Just twenty minutes won't make that much difference anyway.

I'd better do my homework now and not procrastinate. Except, oh no! It's time for bed... My homework will be late.

Advik Badnore IV-D



The Sun

Oh Sun! Oh Sun! A golden star, You wake us up, To have a start.

You give us light, You keep us warm, You provide energy, To grow and be strong.

You spread bright light, Throughout the day, Animals and Birds, Merry whole day. Flowers Blossom, Spreading sweet fragrance, Our planet earth is Striking down colours.

You bring in day when you rise, You bring out night when you set, Oh Sun! Oh Sun! What a wonderful sight!!!



Jia Gala IV–D



The Wonder of Nature

Nature! Nature! So lush and green, The wonder of wonder anyone has seen. So cool, calm and full of life Makes us forget all our strife. Think of forests full of trees, Fluttering and dancing in the breeze. Cut them down and construct towers, Wait for ages to get a shower. The birds that soar high in the sky, Can we imitate however hard we try. Learn to wonder and gape at things And see how much happiness it brings. We have got such wonderful things, Do what you can and save two wings So that our children in future Can see what we have done with nature



Siddhi Gabani IV-D

The Lazy Donkey

A farmer had a lazy donkey Who slept all day and ate hay.

The farmer was angry And made him pay He told him to wait for a day.

The next day he told him to carry 2kg weight An hour later he was feeling pain.

This became his routine And had to kneel.

This went for days, and he became weak He soon freaked.

He understood his mistake And soon got a break.

The donkey became hardworking

And the farmer never yelled at him.

Vidhi Desai IV–D





ISRO's Missions for 2022



The HISTEAM for this year was based on the theme 'Space and Beyond', which got me interested in the fantastical world of Space and I decided to research more on what our country is doing on this front. Reading about advances in Space technology gives us hope for the future, something that we all need in today's challenging times.

India's space agency is called ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization) and it is just awesome! ISRO was formed in the year 1969,

under the leadership of Dr Vikram Sarabhai, with the mission to pursue planetary exploration and space science research. There are so many milestones and achievements that ISRO has accomplished but, here, I am not going to talk about all that. ISRO has around 11 launches planned for the year 2022 but the most watched would be its preparations for the country's maiden human space mission, 'Gaganyaan', which is now scheduled for 2023. Imagine going to



Space in a spaceship that is developed by our own country! I think it is a huge deal for us. So, in preparation of 'Gaganyaan', we will be sending some spaceships with just robots to make sure that it is safe. I am hoping that 'Gaganyaan' mission in 2023 is a success and this will make India the fourth nation in the world to launch a human spaceflight mission, after the US, Russia and China.



ISRO is also planning to launch 'Aditya L1' in mid-2022, which will be India's first mission to study the sun. Then we have 'Chandrayaan-3' which will be India's third mission to Moon. The earlier mission 'Chandrayaan-2' had failed because there was some glitch in the landing software. I am keeping my fingers crossed for 'Chandrayaan-3' to be a big success. Apart from all this, there will be satellite launches throughout the year. ISRO surely has a packed calendar!

> Dhvani Khathuria IV–D

Save the Environment

Take a walk down the thoroughfare. You will not be able to see even one glimpse of nature.

What has happened to our world? Concrete, Concrete, Concrete where is the real world? Have you looked at trees and their perfect beauty? If you have, you know their protection. Is stern and sacred duty

> Then I remember the wildfire Enemy in fight. So, take a pledge That, the world is my home I promise to keep it Healthy and beautiful

I love the land, The air, the water I will be the defender Of my world United with my friends We will save the world.

> Drishti Shah IV F

When I Was Getting Bored

When I was getting bored, I went to the sea shore. No matter how much COVID was, Lockdown was idleness' cause.

People between four walls, Children playing with balls. Only gadget time like mobile, TV and laptop, All the vacation planning got flop, Always wear a mask, Sending COVID back is our task.

> Aanshi Vachhrajani V C



Who is a True Friend?

A true friend is someone who sees the pain in your eyes, when everyone believes the smile on your face.

A true friend is the one who doesn't see the time

and is ever ready to help in every situation.

A true friend is the one who makes you laugh and builds a dull day bright.

A true friend is the one who can wipe off your frown and gives you happiness.

A true friend is the one who will never let you down but always motivate you in thick and thin times.

A true friend is the one with whom you have great company and can have lots of fun.

Dear God, Please maintain our friendship for years long.

> Naisha Jhaveri V C

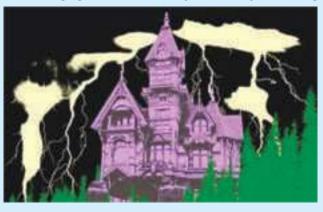


A Horrendous Night

Rohan and Sia were having a whale of time with their pet Bob gathering juicy lips smacking berries in the forest. The vociferous giggles of the kids resonated everywhere. As time flew like a bird, the scintillating ball of fire departed from the prodigious sky welcoming the blithe orb with open arms. A constellation of lambent stars adorned the atramentous sky while the white orb cast its silvery light. Scintillating light flashed in the sky as if the sky was taking

a picture using a camera followed by a strident thunder as loud as thousands of cupboard trembling down at a same time. The robust and towering trees reached towards the sky as if praying a way out. The place wore a blanket of thick fog. The kids couldn't see clearly as the fog had enveloped them like a snake coiled around branch. Bob was on pin and needles trembling like a jelly. His eyes turned wide and round as a soccer ball and the jaw fell on the floor. A gasp escaped from his mouth.

Petrified Bob darted like wind and entered the mansion which stood like a towering statue. The prodigious house was as old as hills and dilapidated. It appeared like chamber of horrors. The colossal oak door ogled at them



menacingly. The kids ambled at a snail's pace to seek Bob. They felt edgy and clasped both the hands together. Their palms were as wet as ground on a rainy day. As Rohan and Sia moved ahead mustering courage they shoved the cumbrous door. The door hinges groan as they opened slowly. Perspiration adorned their forehead as they stepped discreetly into the atramentous hallway. As they walked the floorboard made a creaking sound. They gazed around at the enormous portrait of long dead people gapping blankly at them from the crumbling walls. Bob! Bob! They bellowed on top of their lungs. The sound resonated everywhere as they waited anxiously. Their heart was beating furiously as there was no answer.

They glanced in the kitchen and spotted a gruesome and grisly snake as long as tunnel, showing its sharp fangs and a red, bloody tongue just like a fork. It sprang out just like the jack in the box. The kids were timorous and for a brief moment they were transfixed.

They peeped in the bathroom. The cob webs had adorned the wall and looming into the view was a deplorable octopus unlike anything they had seen before. The eight leg octopus leaped as rapidly as lightning like an adroit Ninja and charged forward like a bull. Rohan and Sia were astonished and their mouth opened wide as hippopotamus's mouth. The kids sprinted out like a lightning from the room. Their heart pounded furiously against their ribcage.

Then the children entered the laboratory. The cat as black as coal, resembling like a ball of fur was sitting on the table. Its eyes illuminated with a ghastly red glare and it wore a sinister expression. The kids could not comprehend whether they were deceiving the cat or it was a dream. Fear stroke up and down their spine. They scurried and hopped frantically like a timid rabbit looking for a way out.

They kept sprinting through the door and crossed the porch. Rohan and Sia flew panting heavily through the luscious bushes and out onto the road and until they caught a glimpse of the scintillating welcoming lights of their own residence gleaming in the frosty night air. Then the halted and peered through the gloomy darkness.

A wide grin plastered on Rohan and Sia's cherubic face. Their faces lit up like a Christmas tree ornament catching a sight of Bob. They squealed in delight and leaped with joy. In the twinkling of an eye their cheerful shrieks and wide grin slipped from there cherubic face. They shuddered like fleshly caught fish, their footsteps flattered and legs were trembling like jelly. Umpteen thoughts raced through their mind as they spotted Bob's hideous eyes which were as red as a danger signal and deathly sharp teeth as sharp as razor. They ambled unsteadily. They were petrified and perplexed, who was it?

Rohan and Sia resolved to get rid of this hideous creature. They hatched a plan and dug a deep hole out in the garden. Rohan offered some scrumptious food to Bob and got him out, a stone's throw away from the pit. Bob lost his control and tumbled down in the pit. Bob sustained grave injuries and bit the dust. Rohan and Sia heaved a sigh of relief. They resolved that they would never ever venture a haunted house again!!!!!

Aanya Gala VI-A

Mother India

The rising flag of saffron white and green, Reminding us of great Ashoka's reign. The holy land known far and wide, A treasure of wisdom and culture; Mother nature's abode. 0, beloved golden sparrow! We are proud to be yours. The great leaders of the nation, Who made the longest constitution, Where there is no discrimination. No matter which caste or religion, All live in unison. Along with enjoying rights, Follow duties and work hard To see our flag rise high up in the sky So, Let's salute mother India And lead it to never ending Glory Jai Hind.



Gaurang Ashar VI-A

My Dream Job

I have always wanted to be a poet, Although I have never tried to show it. When people ask, I say "an entrepreneur", But what that means, I'm not really sure.

Poets seem to be the most fascinating of all, With a twist of their words, all emotions they can call. Happiness, sadness, anger, you name it, And these emotions used in their poems are what make the poets famous.

> The berets that some of the French poets wear, Looks like a crown rested on their hair. How these wizards work their magic, I don't quite know, But now I'm getting late, so I really must go.

> > Ayan Yagnik VI – C



Moon

Hello. Mr Moon! Back so soon? All night, You shine very bright. In the dark, giving us light. The astronauts who have landed on you, inspire us too. The first visitor was Neil Armstrong Oh! The happiness makes me sing a song In your presence, nothing can go wrong. Space crafts, not just one or two, Made an attempt to reach you. Your orbit is elliptical Which is magnificent and magical. The morning has come, It's time you go. Good bye, dear moon! I hope to see you soon.



Shoubhit Vaidya VI C

Hobbies

Hobbies are something that you like to do, Like reading a book or tightening some screws. Building Legos is my idea of fun, No matter how much I build, it just never feels done!

I also like to draw or read, And talk to people about their opinions to see if we agreed. My mother likes to keep everything the right way, And if she had the time, she would do it night and day!

My father always loves to travel, Against any difficulty, he's ready to battle! Currently I'm only 10, so my hobbies are to grow, But for now, this is all I have to show.



Ayan Yagnik VI-C

Happy Valentine

Happy Valentine, I am grateful for you are mine.

You are the finest of all, You taught me how to write and walk, You taught me how to try and talk.

Happy Valentine, I am grateful for you are mine.

The mistakes I did. You made me understand and forgive. The love you gave me, For you, is all I need to be.

Happy Valentine, I am grateful for you are mine.

Words betray me, They got over, but you praise didn't. So as you see, You made me glint.

Happy Valentine, I am grateful for you are mine.



Vritti Patel VI B

Vehicles

The horns of the vehicles go beep beep, And so noisy, That wakes me up from my sleep!

Who taught me how to crawl even after a terrible fall. The engines of the vehicles start like vroom vroom, And so loud. I feel there is an earthquake in my room!

> When the vehicle brakes or squeaks I think that, They should use some new techniques!

When the wind gets hurt of the vehicles scrapes, I believe that the Surrounding buildings would collapse!

And when I say about the fuels, My advice would be to the drivers, To follow traffic rules!

> Isha Vakharia VI D



Secondary Section Articles

The Drive To Hell And Back

It was a pleasant blue morning where an azure blue sky decorated the winter morning. I was out with my family for a holiday to Panchgini our amazing Sedan car Ferrari. (It is called the Ferrari because it loves to sprint when the accelerator is pressed.)

Father opened the window to feel the boisterous breeze blowing across our faces. We were munching on scrumptious cheese sandwiches and lip-smacking macaroni's. There was a banter of ongoing people but ahead the road was as smooth as butter as there were hardly any car on the road. We were listening to heart-pleasing music.



Out of the blue, a horde of cattle came onto the road. They were a distance away from us. Father honked incessantly. The cattle reciprocated to the banter by swaying aside but a little calf still stayed there, not moving aside. He tried not to break the speed limit and tried the breaks but it was futile. It was then he announced that the breaks had failed...

As a reflex action father steered the steering wheel as a storm raged past us. With a jerk the car whirled sideways from the cattle which was walking at a snail's pace. Mother yelled as everyone was in a soup. Heartbeats were racing. All were jittery of the consequences. An eerie silence engulfed the

pessimistic and nervous environment of the car. Our hearts migrated to our mouths as we chanted all the names of gods under the Sun. We were all petrified by this unexpected situation. He moved a car in a lumbering motion at a tortoise's pace. We had to act quickly because there was a toll plaza at a distance of a kilometer away from us. Suddenly, he decided to continue as an idea clashed in his mind. He instructed us to fasten our seatbelts and clasp our hands. At the same time, he instructed mother to pull the handbrakes at the count of three. The car meta jolt as the it rammed into a mound of sand at a construction side ahead of us where work was in progress at the corner.

The car came to a screeching halt and we were in a cloud of sand. It looked as if we were in a desert safari riding across sand dunes, but our lives were saved in the nick of time.

Iraj Shah VII A

Shine From Within

Your existence is beautiful, A lot more than you can imagine. You're perfect in every way, You can never go out of fashion.

You don't need anyone to tell you, That you are "pretty" and "smart," All you need is a little more, Confidence within your heart.

You don't need to match, Anyone's expectations. Your honesty and courage, Make you the perfect creation.

The perfect people that you look up to, Aren't always real, Put your head up and walk confidently, As you come out of this ordeal. So give yourself the love, That your body seeks, Because anyone who puts you down, Is just insecure and weak.

Learn from the mistakes you make, Don't just repent and regret. Because this "enlightened you" Is going to make everyone fret.

> Ananya Seth VII A

Managing your Time Well

- **Brain** : You know, you should really complete this assignment. You won't get time for it later.
- Heart : Nah, I'll do it later, it is due for another week...
- **Brain** : How about we do this? You have a week right, so to complete the assignment what are the 7 things you have to do (read the chapter, research, draft the answers, write them down, proofread, etc.), let us plan one small task to be completed each day. Barely 10-15 minutes of your time, now does that motivate you to get started?
- Heart : Aah, I don't feel like doing it. Not today...
- Brain : Not enough motivation, I get it. What was that university you want to study at?
- Heart : Harvard
- **Brain** : Huh! Big dream for someone who doesn't want to complete an assignment. If I tell you, completing this assignment and getting straight A's is one step closer to achieving your goal, then will you do it?
- Heart : I've barely slept for 3 hours last night. You literally kept me up all night.
- **Brain** : Didn't I tell you no gadgets one hour before bedtime? If only you would stop watching that video of cats falling and picked up a book, you would have immediately dozed off. For both our sanity, from today let us establish a consistent sleep schedule. For now, indulge in a power nap.

After 15 minutes of power nap...

- **Heart** : Okay you have my attention, but there is so much to do, what do I do first? Article for the magazine, help my group with Geography AFL, Math Worksheet or the speech & drama rehearsals for Trinity or shall I quickly check my socials?!!!
- Brain : Difficulty in prioritizing, I have got your back, it is a no brainer once you get your priorities straight.

So, deadline for the magazine article is today so start with that first, we don't have much of a choice, you see. Math Worksheet and Speech & Drama rehearsals are both important but not urgent at the moment, so next focus on that and finish it well before it becomes urgent. Geography AFL you must delegate as you have done your bit and you have a very capable team. Once you everything else is check off the list, you may check your socials, but only for 10 minutes' tops!

Heart : Sounds about right, I am so glad I have you in my life.

Ananya Seth VII A

Do first Urgent & Important Important tasks that require immediate attention Do later Not Urgent & Important Important tasks that don't require immediate action. Do later Not Urgent & Important Tasks that one neither important nor urgent.

The Tree

Hello!... I'm a tree, A gift to nature for free, We release oxygen but, Still, we're being cut.

My leaves are bright green, To anyone, never I'm mean, Let me thrive and, I'll keep you alive!

I am home to a bird's nest, Under me anyone can rest, I give you'll shade, When the sun heat has made.

Delicious fruits are hanging on me, And also on my friends, Mango and Blueberry, People climb on me to get those, Or throw hurting stones.

My friends have been cut,

For branches for a hut, Fruits and paper, Or linen for a draper.

Believe

I believe, Being gloomy is a habit, But being happy is an ART, So, Believe in yourself, And believe in your path.

It is how we see ourselves, Sec That brings positive or negative vibes, Be So, Ar Believe in your efforts, As it does not matter how much you shine. Ja As, Ja Every passage of darkness, Can be lit up by a ray of light, And after every sunset, there will always be a sunny side.

It is our belief that makes us stand tall, And makes mountains of hurdles look like a mole. My leaves provide Tribes' shelter, Or for medicinal value to treat Cancer, Sound from factories is absorbed by me, And even dust and carbon dioxide for free.

I beg I pray, please plant trees until I'm finished, So that a green world may be flourished, So now I'll be cut and this is my end, but I would like to say, That a human is my best friend!

> Heth Panchal VII A



But, All is not done, till you pass it on, The belief in oneself must be carried on.

I believe, Being gloomy is a habit, But being happy is an ART, So, Believe in yourself, And believe in your path.

Jaiveer. H. Dave VII A



Buried Truth

In the blink of an eye, Ivy covered in snow, A closure falls to the go, I retrace my footsteps on each stepping stone.

People craving for attention, Just to get neglection.

Isn't it ironic, how everybody thinks? that today's a comic.

I am out of sympathy, Because it seems that no one believes! They boast about what they achieve, And forget about their humanity.

But also, it's not my responsibility, As so it may seem. Few are here to dream, And few to settle their schemes.

Perhaps I'm just a mirror, And you don't seem to notice, You just check your complexion, And don't care to focus.



Shanaaya Soni VII A

Offline School: An awaited experience

The one thing that many students like me are hoping for in 2022 is the start of offline school. This feeling strengthened when few of us were able to attend school for a few days in December.

Let me share some of the key benefits which I believe every student felt in the first few days of offline school. Students were able to grasp concepts faster than in the online mode. Teachers made eye contact with the children which helped them concentrate better.

The classroom atmosphere was also very interactive and lively, and everyone was able to experience the joy of coming back to school. All of us were able to interact with each other and even got the chance to



joke around with the teacher. Offline exams, however, were a whole new scenario. Giving exams in front of the teacher was something that everyone had not done for quite a while. Through offline exams, students were able to show their true potential and earn the teacher's trust.

The emergence of the new variant "Omicron" has threatened school reopening and has also shattered young hearts. Many students are still willing to go to school, but they do not have a choice and must stay at home. I just hope that the children of India can return to schools/colleges very soon, study hard and make India proud.

Aarya Mehta VII E

School Life

School is a daily routine for us, In the morning, we're sure to make a fuss, Even when the sun is still not up, Here we are, awake at 6 a.m. sharp.

We feel that school is such a bore, We feel that school is such a chore, Parents say, "School's fun!" We say, "Well, what do you know?"

Late sometimes remarks we get, Eyes half open, shoelaces undone,



We reach school and we see our friends and suddenly the pressure ends.

We have a chat and go with the flow, Then the bell rings; it is time to go, We may find school stressful, To have some fun, we have to break some rule.

The teachers are a helping hand, They're forever ready to listen and be our friend, They have built much confidence in us, Just not when they are being really harsh.

A wise person once said aloud -Whatever is it just don't decide to quit, Solve the issue brick by brick.

Some may see school as a HOME WORK chamber, Some cannot wait for the holidays in Summer, But it depends on how we look at school, Honestly, I must admit that school is cool.

> Draashia Jani VII E



It's Okay, Not To Be Okay, But Don't Give Up

Your mental health is not a failure game, For a moment, relax and don't blame. Here it's time for me to be a friend, Ready to heal, with full support and zeal.

I know what depression means, But running away is no big deal. Anger, rage, and pain will leave you weak, But with love and compassion you will get all the help that you seek.

Shutting yourself in a room is not a good solution, As it will only bring more confusion. If the day ahead weighs heavy and all your pain feels like a curse, Stay calm and don't feel worse.

Take rest and do not think as defeat, Relax, as life is full of sweet treats, This too shall pass, and we will emerge, Stronger than the past.



Ruhmie Pirani VII E

Do You Dare?

A world of peace, a world of hope. Not full of violence, crime and dope.

I want all that's bad to be stopped in its tracks. I want all that's good and filled with all that it lacks.

I need this world to become quiet and calm. I need all the innocent kept safe from harm.

I pray that the day will soon be here. I pray all will be protected, all we hold dear.

No more starving, illness or war. Let's step on through, open the door,

To a fresh beginning, a place of joy, A wish for every girl and every boy.

May the earth heal and feel safe once more. May it start afresh and forget all the horror and the gore.

Let it begin, step by step, let the change commence. Let's wake up and use our common sense.

Mother Earth is in pain and struggles each day. Let's all start to help her heal, take the hurt away.

I wish my dreams would come true, That we can start to save this world, make it good, for me and for you.

Let us learn from all our mess, Show more care and kindness.

To show respect for all living things, To be grateful for what all this earth brings.

There is beauty under all the bad. There is joy under all that's sad.

We need to find that space, that key! We need to act now, open our eyes and see.

We have but one home, a land for all, For each living thing that flies, walks and crawls.

We have to learn to share, to care. It's time to stop the horror, come on, do you dare?

> Siddarth Ostwal VII E



Retain Our Culture

Culture encompasses a society's ideals, traditions, arts, structures, and values, among other things. It defines people's behavioral patterns in a particular community, giving the members of a specific group a feeling of connection and oneness. It is critical to preserve our culture, histories, and heritage for several purposes. Hundreds of our languages are teetering on the brink of extinction. Due to lack of awareness, culture and languages are disappearing. Preserving it encourages others to experience it. It is a legacy we all benefit from.

Now a days, we order food from restaurants, missing on what a proper Indian meal has to offer. By doing so, we not only lose out on the nutrition, but end up abolishing our complete Indian meal which satisfies all our cravings and need, keeping us fit for the long run.

The world is looking towards Sanskrit language therefore it is being taught in top universities across the globe, whereas we Indians are looking up to other languages, trying to ape the west instead of preserving our languages. Language matters; spiritually, culturally, emotionally. Written and spoken words are an art form, a way for values and traditions to be passed down for generations. By the same measure, when language is preserved, the traditions and customs continue living in the hearts and minds of those who understand it. Language is an important part of any society because it enables people to communicate and express themselves. One way is to encourage younger generations to speak the language as they grow.

Cottage industries in rural areas should be stimulated as they not only provide rural employment, but also play a great role in preserving the cultural heritage of the region as the skills of craftsmen ship are handed down from one generation to the next. We should promote Indian made products such as khadi.

There are several Indian hacks which come handy. We believe that when the world acknowledges that our traditions were correct, we start understanding. The youth is not ready to accept our culture unless other countries approve of it. We ought to be proud of our heritage and tradition and avoid looking down on them. Scholars from foreign countries also admit that Indian long-established cultures are worth following.

So, let us make this a habit, to follow our roots no matter what others say.

Yashasvi Shanghvi VII E



The One With The Wild

When Wildebeests are migrating, it's just so breathtaking. The way they go in herds, is just so fascinating.

There's always someone awaiting, it's just so breathtaking.

They ought to realize before the predators arise,

for you never know what's their size. Fear is something that defeats the deer. Having a strong will, will keep away quiver.

You will never get bored, It's because the lioness always roars, She's very hushing even though she is rushing,

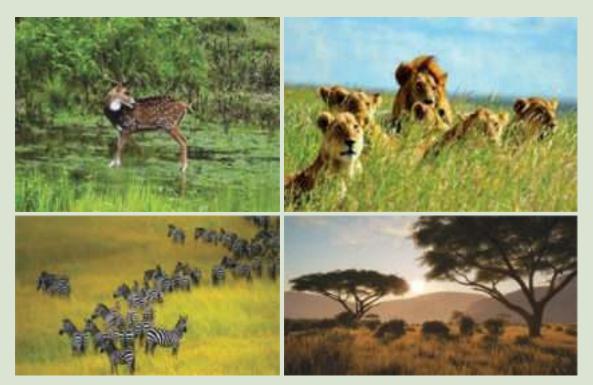
The zebras are always one, for you never know from where the counting began. The lush green grass and the stripped ones are willing to be together,

though they aren't aware of each other.

The place looks clean, and the grass looks green, it's because the vultures are in the field. You would never be fond of this great bond, if they were there to spare their share.

The pleasant sun rises, and sunsets will keep you at rest, not a single being would keep stressed. The last thing I'd like to say, is that don't you go there before May, or you'd be seeing depressing yellow hay.

> Yashasvi Shanghvi VII E



Addiction To Mobiles

There is a case that I want to file, Against that addiction to the stupid mobile, It's radiations are spread from miles to miles. Making the exotic birds fragile.

Children think playing game, is fame, But the addiction, Is a threat to their lives? Due to which they will strive.

Week by week, It makes their eyes weak, And children are constantly distracted, Surely it is a universal fact.

It is like the version of covid, The only thing which can isolate, Not letting anyone out of the gate, But don't worry it is not late. You can play, You can read, You can meet, You can be sweet, You can draw, You can dance, You can sing, So why get addicted to that mobile thing.



Aarav Saraf 7D

Her Thoughts...

Do I not have any identity? Am I not one of my own? Why do you always look down upon me? You think I'm weak but no You've broken me, countless times But I've always been there for you I've just had it now No stopping, no looking back I'm going to start my life anew You can't limit me, I won't just stand by You can't stop me, just watch me fly by You can't cage me, I'll just break through I'm a free flame I'll blaze and burn you I'll catch the stars, lasso in the moon I'll cross the horizon and travel the universe Working nonstop, midnight to noon I'll change the whole world starting with you...

> Amoli Ektate VII-C



Corona - A Boon or Bane

There came a virus in the world named Corona, And it was as dangerous as the past virus Ebola.

It caused mental as well as physical torture, And it turned many people's confidence a weak gesture.

At the same time it gave a positive attitude to live life, And face unwieldy situations in such times.

It made our life like a bird in a cage, Because of which pupils turned their mood in rage.

It is a hell that made things and life crucial, But it gave us the ability to make life special!



Dhanya Sheth VII – B





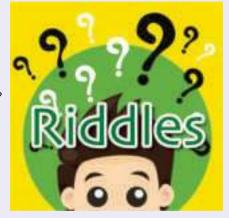
Coronavirus Lockdown: <mark>A Boon or</mark> Bane



Riddles

- 1. What are the only two things a person cannot have for breakfast?
- \rightarrow Lunch and Dinner
- 2. I come from a mine and get surrounded by wood, everyone uses me. What am I?
- → Pencil
- 3. What is full of holes but still holds water?
- → Sponge
- 4. What starts with T, is filled with T, and ends with T?
- → Teapot
- 5. I am room. I have neither windows nor doors. What am I?
- \rightarrow Mushroom
- 6. I have cities but no houses. I have mountains but not trees. What am I?
- → Map
- 7. What word looks the same upside-down too?
- \rightarrow Swims
- 8. What starts tall but the longer it stands, the shorter it grows?
- → Candle
- 9. Which alphabet is a part of our body?
- → Eye
- 10. What has a face and two hands but no arms or legs?
- → Clock
- 11. What goes up but never comes down?
- \rightarrow A person's age
- 12. What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never speaks, and has a bed but never sleeps?
- \rightarrow River
- 13. What has a single eye but cannot see?
- \rightarrow Needle
- 14. What needs to be broken before using it?
- → Egg
- 15. As I grow, the less I can see. What am I?
- → Darkness
- 16. I come once in a minute, twice in a millennium but never in a thousand years. What am I?
- \rightarrow The letter 'M'
- 17. I am full of keys but cannot open any door. What am I?
- → Piano
- 18. If you give it water, it will die. What is it?
- → Fire
- 19. If a blue house is made out of blue bricks, a yellow house is made out of yellow bricks and a pink house is made out of pink bricks. What is a green house made up of?
- → Glass
- 20. If an electric car is travelling towards the south, which way is the smoke going?
- → It is an electric car. Hence, no smoke is produced
- 21. What has hands but cannot clap?
- → Clock
- 22. A man threw a pocket watch out of the window. Why did he throw it?
- \rightarrow To see the time fly
- 23. What is so delicate that saying its name breaks it?
- → Silence
- 24. What starts with P and ends with E and has a million letters in it?
- \rightarrow Post Office
- 25. Mr. Blue lived in a blue house, Mr. Pink lives in the pink house and Mr. Brown lives in the brown house. Who lives in the white house?
- \rightarrow The President of the United States of America

Harshita Chudasama VIII – B



Children

- **C** Careless and crazy to play, Always so happy and gay.
- H Happiness in abundance they spread, By loving mothers, they are fed.
- I Indoors they hate to stay, Unless they have their favorite dolls, balls, and clay.
- L Laughter and joy they spread, But dark rooms they dread.
- **D** Do's and don'ts they fail to understand, Caress their mothers with dirty hands.
- **R** Rare is the virtue of innocence, But all they lack is patience.
- E Each one is the same as the other, Yet they fight with each other.
- **N** Nothing can stop them from crying, Yet caring mothers keep on trying.

Harshita Chudasama VIII – B

Compassion Without Action, Not Enough!

I scroll through the Internet, looking for information I can use for my project. I come across several advertisements for different products and causes. One catches my eye. Donate now! Our scientists and doctors are trying to find a cure for AIDS, but they don't have the resources. Please help us. Play your part!

I appreciate the fact that they are working for a good cause. I think, "Yes, people should donate to help these worthy causes. But I don't think they would need my help, since everyone else would send money. They must be receiving donations every minute. It won't hurt if I don't, now, will it?" I give it some thought, but soon forget about it.

I finish my research and turn off the computer. I see this morning's newspaper on the table. There, I see yet another such plea for help. Please donate! Clothes, food or any other items that may be of use. Our neighbouring city faced floods that led to mass destruction. People have lost homes. Please donate any working or useful items.

I feel sorry for those people. They did nothing to deserve such a tragedy. But my thought process remains the same. "This calamity was reported nationwide, and I'm sure people are mass donating to help these people cope."

We see people in trouble every day, and although our heart aches, and although the thought echoes in our mind, we often do nothing about it. We wonder of what use

IT IS NOT EXDICATION HE COMPASSIONARE MACT.

our voice or help will be; but so, does everyone else. And so very few end up taking initiatives to aid our community, and to give back to this society that we grew up in. We wait for others to take the first step. We have no right to blame it on other people, if we ourselves don't play our part. Be a leader, not a follower. These choices are what define us as a person. Speak. Make a change in this devastatingly confusing and troublesome world of ours. After all, little drops make the mighty ocean.



The Place Beyond Our Sight, SPACE

Come, come board my rocket Lock excitement in your pocket!

I will take you to outer space Don't forget to wear a smile on your face!

Mercury will get you feeling hot While Venus is worth a shot

Our Earth is bright and blue How beautiful it is you have no clue

Mars is red There is hope of life ahead Jupiter, the land of dust storms Neither life nor norms

Saturn is icy cold The hidden beauty now behold

Uranus tilted against the sun Living there will not be fun Neptune the coldest of yet With Pluto we have never met

Oh no! It's time to go! We'll meet again though!!

> Kiah J Shah VII B

Friendship

The greatest treasures are not gold, Neither jewels, nor works of art; They cannot be held in your hands, they're held within your heart. Worldly things will fade away, And seasons will come and go; But the treasure of true friendship Will never loose it's glow ...

The Magic of Friendship

Friendship means sharing your umbrella during stormy weather. It means lending a hand a working together.

One can make a good friend by sharing, caring, helping and having loads of fun together. A good friend is a person with whom you can giggle and jiggle, laugh and joke. A good friend is a person with whom you can share all your secrets. Friendship should be like a transparent mirror. Friends can be of any age. The friendship between Lord Krishna, the king of Dwarka and Sudama, the pauper is an excellent example of a real friendship between the rich and the poor. A musician and a singer, if best, can make a melodious tune, which gives an example of friends from different professions can make progress together. It is said that two unlike poles attract each another. As everyone is not alike, we learn to accept the other person as they are with their good and bad, likes and dislikes. The magic of friendship helps us learn co-operation, co-ordination and understanding. It helps us grow beautiful.

Friendship should be such where our friend's happiness and honor should be our top priority. The magic of friendship will bring a million – dollar smile on a friend. I admire the constant friendship of Ron, Harry and Hermione or Percy, Grover and Annabeth despite their ups and downs. I would like to conclude with the magical phrase:

"A Friend In Need Is A Friend Indeed"

Kiah J Shah, VII B

Offline classes VS Online classes

Due to covid 19 outbreak in march 2020 the government of India implemented some restrictions which included that schools have to be shut down. The final exams in our school was canceled as the school was shut down. There were many mixed feeling about this some were happy while some were sad as they studied hard for the exams. We enjoyed a long summer vacation for 3 and a half months. We were hoping to come back to school by June but it prolonged. The school started a new phase of online school in June. Personally, I was excited to try out online school for the first time but eventually I started missing going to school in person. Soon we got used to this new daily



routine of waking up, eating food, sitting for school, eating again and sleeping. It made us lazier then we used to be. We could not go outside for a long time. for the next 1 and a half years we were at home, missing out on many fun activities as socializing, meeting friends and going to school. Suddenly a big ray of hope shone on us, the cases were starting to drop; the hopes of schools re-opening were getting brighter. The school finally re-opened for the 7th grade in December. Many parents were reluctant on sending their children to school because the children were not vaccinated. After just a week of re-opening the school had to shut down because of government orders made due to the new omicron variant which started spreading like wild fire. The school re-opened again in mid-January and is still open to currant date (February). Coming back to school has been great. It's a lot more fun than online and we can actually grasp the chapters better while in person. Till date I can say that going to school in person is any day better than online school.

Ishaan Nazareth VII B

Pollution

Observe the traffic and pollution, Where is its solution? I see in my own neighborhood this sight, It's not a matter to be taken light. I see the leaves and trees dying, And the burnt fallen leaves lying. The Earth is heating, The climate is changing, The water is crying, New diseases are killing, The ozone is depleting. If we do nothing, The pollution will do. I wish that it stops soon, Otherwise we'll have to take refuge on the moon. Plants and Trees can take care of them, If we don't slay off them. Our future must be sustainable, We can do it, it's all attainable. As a team we will reduce pollution, Caring is the only solution.

> Swaraj Bowlekar VII B



My Relatives Are Weird Species

Banging doors, screaming children, arguing adults ... this is a common scene in my house every summer vacation when my relatives come to visit me. As it is said "One can choose their friends but not relatives as they are bonded with us by our birth."

We are a very close-knit family where all my uncles and aunts come together on every small or big occasion. It is fun when all these weird species come together as they all bring their nerdy characters along.

Let me tell you about my uncle who always brags about good food and healthy lifestyle and their benefits with a bottle of coke in one hand and a packet of chips in another. What an irony!!!

My aunt is one fashionista who always keeps tap of latest fashion trends. She keeps on blabbering about fancy make-up kits, trendy bags and fashionable clothes. She never steps out of the house without her make-up on. She is decked up even while buying vegetables as if the vegetable vendor is going to lower the price of onions looking at her ...

My adventure freak cousins who keeps talking about sporty cars, adventure treks but gets a cold feet when we plan one.

My grandmother is hard at hearing. She always keeps on asking questions but never lets others answer them. She is one live commentator.

When my relatives come together we discuss everything right from sports, TV serials to politics. At one moment they argue and fight to prove their point while on another moment they laugh and merry over a sumptuous meal. We kids are often confused with strange behavior.

However weird my family is I love them the way they are because I know in times of need they will stand by each other.





The Virtual World

It was a bright, sunny morning in the month of June. But things weren't so sunny for Misha. She, like all other students across the world, had to attend online school due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Misha hated online school. All she had to do was sit in front of the laptop and listen to the teacher drone on. No interaction, no videos on, no fun in school. Things would be worse when you are the student with the worst network issues. Sighing, Misha put on her uniform and joined the meeting.

But as soon as she joined the school meeting, her world changed in a flash! Misha adjusted her eyes to the new, strange surroundings around her. Apparently, she was staring at a huge screen on the wall that looked strangely like

her laptop screen. The floor, if you could call it one, was a net made from ropes. She was seated on a regular chair and table, with all her essential school supplies. "What is going on? ", Misha said to herself. The screen in front of her flickered, and she saw her teacher wishing everyone a good morning, like she did daily in the online class. Misha had a brainwave. "Maybe my brain hated online school so much, it transported me here...well, I doubt if anything about online school will change, even in this world...".



The first period started. Gurleen miss unmuted her mic to speak. But what could Misha hear? Nothing! Instead of hearing miss' voice, she heard loud, cracking, sound. The net floor was tearing apart. Before Misha could do anything, the floor collapsed beneath her, and she was falling. After falling endlessly for five minutes without ever reaching the bottom, the screen reappeared. Another net caught her and created another floor for her to sit on. "I guess the net was the network. Something must have happened to the network in real world, so I guess the net below me collapsed.", Misha guessed.

So, the next few periods were spent by falling through the floor again and again. In the Marathi period, Misha started to go in slow-motion. After being in slow-motion for more than two minutes, she froze. She stood rooted to the floor and watched ice cover her up. Swati miss looked very puzzled to see Misha's face stuck with a weird expression when her video froze. And the day went on, with Misha trying to avoid the many different obstacles coming her way.

But everything was not so bad after all. When net floor was stable, she could see amazing holograms appear from the teacher's shared screen. She witnessed the Mahabharata battle in Guajarati period, roamed the Amazon rainforest in Geography period, and travelled the Bazaars of Hyderabad as Sarojini Naidu in Literature period.

Finally, the school day ended. Misha climbed a ladder to press the leave button at the top of the screen. There was another blinding flash of light, and she found herself home again. She changed out of her uniform and jumped into bed. She was exhausted. She closed her and fell asleep, thanking her creative mind for making such an amazing world, and dreaming about new adventures the next day, without getting frozen in a block of ice.

Prutha Desai VII C

My Cats Vomit

Quick, quick The cat's been sick

Where, where? Under the chair.

Hasten, hasten Fetch a basin.

Too late, too late, 'This all in vain, The cat has licked it up again .



Quarrel

My sister and me had a fight, It was tough and nothing seemed right. She hid my toy, where no one could find, I got really crazy and lost my mind. I knew it was her, I wanted to shout, I controlled my feeling, the toy, it was not about, She wanted to irritate, In my heart it was hate. I went ahead to hit her, And accidentally slipped, And fell to the ground. She screamed with horror, As it was a big thumping sound. She picked me up And hugged me tight Oh ! what a wonderful end to a fight .

> Shreeya Dave VII C

The Annual Day

A little boy I was, When I thought there was no loss.

To choreograph and teach a dance group, Representing as a leader of your loyal school troop.

Three students would be sure for that day, Teaching with grace and attitude they lay, I wished to have an opportunity too,

This year it happened; it came true.

It is not so easy, is it?

Putting your friends at the back since they are not fit. Judging and placing mates according to their dance, My hears stuffed with suggestions, everyone wants a chance!

Changing of songs, anger of teacher,

Both combined then formed my frustration feature. Should love challenges, as I did at that time, Then the add ons and taunts will seem as a chime. Shouting loud, losing patience and strives, Teaching repeatedly a hundred times, is just a parcel of life.

Going in the corner, trying to keep me mutin' Laughing on what you just did, became a routine.

Your counterpart leader being against you, Better than teacher's enragement, is flu.

Editing songs multiple times, head booming loud, No one doing steps correct, just standing in a crowd.

The day soon comes when you stand on stage, Dancing with energy and grace, now turn the page. There the hooting makes you proud, Patting on the back as you move through the crowd.

Finally the teacher announces your name, Credits you with efforts, your fame.

That feeling in my heart, I can't explain, Try this next time, just never be plain.

Jash Nikunj Modi 8B





How I Deal With Failure

"Never put passion in front of principle. Even if you win, you'll lose." -some dude whose name I forgot. No one has ever published a book on how to be the perfect human being. And if they did, someone would definitely find a typo in it and we'd realize it was all a sham. Growing up adults loved to play the comparison game with me. "Aahaan, why can't you be a good boy like so or so?" And so I spent most of my life comparing myself to others and feeling like I'm just not good enough. But eventually, I realized that most parents and teachers play the comparison game with children. So, we all end up feeling the same way. And that's probably why social media became so popular in the first place. All people do is show off their grand lifestyles so they feel less small inside. So you could feel like you are good enough. When we look at successful people around us, we see their highlight reel. No one ever asks them to share their failures.

They only want to learn about their wins. Talking about successful people Jack Ma once applied for a job at KFC when it first came to China,23 people out of 24 were selected he was the only one who wasn't. Today his company, Alibaba is worth much more than KFC itself.Khaby Lame the guy who made 68.9 followers on Instagram and 2.7 million USD without saying a word was once fired from a factory job due to covid. Thomas Edison failed 1000 times while making the bulb. When someone asked how he felt about it he said "Proud. I never failed a 1000 times I discovered a thousand ways to make this not work "In our high-achieving society, failure is often seen as the worst situation that one can encounter.



Rather than embracing failure as a learning and growth opportunity, those who fail in some aspect of their lives will often see it as an immovable barrier, telling them that they are not capable of overcoming their weaknesses. The truth is that failure is never the end of the road. It is simply an indicator that there are some parts of ourselves and our lives that we need to put more effort into in order to get the results that we desire. The older we get, the more we learn that life is not fair. You wake up one morning feeling fabulous and suddenly life kicks you around with its heel in the face. You get an F on a test. You suspend. You fall in love with a girl, and another guy comes along and takes her away from you.

They set fire to your car. When you think things start to go well, everything falls apart. Is that how it works. Life has no mercy, that's why neither we do. You don't be a failure when you lose, it's when you quit because when life knocks you down it's you who chooses to be a snake in the jungle or a sloth that will never have the power to rise back up. Rise back up like a champion, like a fighter and a Hawk in the sky who knows within that this was not how you are going to lose and you are way stronger than this. "Never let success get to your head; never let failure get to your heart."

Aahaan Pancholi 8C

A Narrow Escape

There! Finally, my office work is done and I can go home and relax. It was quite late and the clouds hid the moon every now and again. I was dog-tired and wanted to reach my home as quick as possible so I decided to take the little shortcut lane which goes through the forest to save time. I had recently started working as an intern for work experience. I walked to the office daily as it was not a very long walk for I lived fairly near my office.

Half – asleep, I dragged myself through the shortcut lane. It went straight for about twenty metres through the forest. It saved ten minutes of walking around it. So, I went through the shortcut lane, completely unaware of the surprise

that waited for me. It didn't occur to me to rather be safe than sorry as I went through the lane. I could hear nothing, except for the hooting of owls perched at the top of the trees. About halfway through, suddenly someone loomed from the darkness and covered my mouth, before I could utter a startled cry. "Don't dare to shout. Do what I say and you'll come to no harm." He was fairly tall, and, in the moonlight, I could make out some of his facial details, which were a square head with a long nose, scruffy eyebrows and cropped blonde hair. He had the thinnest lips of a person I had ever seen. His tiny black beady eyes stared into mine dangerously. I was scared out of my life. My legs were rooted to the ground. I tried to get free but he twisted my hands together with his one hand. The man growled again, "You can do this the easy way



or the hard way. Come with me quietly." I was petrified. My heart was in my mouth. I struggled a bit but, seeing that it was of no use, gave up. The man led me towards a van on the other side of the forest. Beside the van was another man, the complete opposite of the first one. He was short, hunch-backed, with a circle face and a small round nose with thick red lips and curly brown hair. They both appeared to be accomplices. They shoved me into the boot of the van and rattled off. It hadn't occurred to them to tie me up or anything so I didn't say a thing about it.

The first man told the other one who was driving, "Finally we can pay off the debt and gamble again." "Should we take this one to my house or yours?" asked the second man. And then started an argument as to whose house they would take me. They didn't seem to realise that I was sitting behind, listening. Suddenly, I had a brainwave. I knew that the goons were dumb as they were fighting in front of me and it didn't occur to them to have decided the place earlier. I also knew that I couldn't get out of the van without them letting me to, so what if I outwitted them into doing so? I had it. I had the plan. The thugs were still having an altercation. It seemed to me that very soon they would start fighting. I piped into their sweet conversation, "I say, what if I decide? I am the one who is to be taken anyway." The second man who seemed goofier than the first one said, "Yes, yes, what a wonderful solution. You decide." The first man also didn't object. I acted as if I were in deep thought and replied, "I can't make the decision myself. After all, it is a matter of life and death. Drop me at my house so that I can ask my parents. They should also have a right to know where you'll be keeping me, otherwise how will they pay the ransom?" They seemed convinced. It was a lot easier than I had thought it to be. As soon as we entered the street where my house was, I told them that they could drop me there and I would soon return with news as to whose house I would like to go. As soon as I was out, I ran for my life and reached my home. I closed the door hurriedly seeing their van passing my house. They had finally realised that I had outsmarted them. Thankfully, there were many houses there and they couldn't guess which one I was in and even if they guessed correctly, they couldn't drag me out from my own house. I was dumbstruck at this narrow escape.

It was no use calling the police now as they had already escaped. I vowed that I would never go through that lane again, not even if I had no other option. This was an experience which I would not forget easily. It had proven the fact that one should rather be safe than sorry.

Vidhi Agrawal 8D

The Scholar's Mate

Once upon a time in Ancient England, in the province of Staunton, there were once present two neighbouring kingdoms – Stalwhite and Treblark. These kingdoms were always at war with one another. Usually, as noticed in history, the King held absolute power, but in this case, it was not so. It was actually the Queens of both the Kingdoms that made the entire empire run on their fingertips. They held the absolute authority of their respective nations. However, the King was not to be forgotten, either. It was a practice that whenever a King was forced to surrender, his enemies automatically won the war.

The story begins when once the queens got fed up of the bloodshed and decided to have a conference. They introspected that they must end their long-driven violence and settle their disputes with a final battle. The winner of the battle would inherit the entire empire of the losing side, whose Royal family would subsequently be banished. Both the sides agreed and the deal was made. The King and the Queen of both the kingdoms made grand plans and assembled their entire empire for this fight. People from every part of the empire, like the peasants, the Knights and even the Pope of the Church joined the fight. Even the castles were reinforced with new defences and when the battle finally began, both sides showed their grandeur. They fought which great courage and determination. The battle seemed to be endless and it even extended till dusk, yet no winner was found. It seemed as though there would never be a clear winner. Then, however, during a quick rest in the middle of the war, once of the scholars named Matthias quickly ran towards the Queen and told her that he finally had a way to end the battle once and for all. He whispered a plan in her ear. The Queen's eyes lit up. She thanked the scholar and promised to reward him later. Then she ran up to her Knight and gave him a few orders, telling him to follow the same and instruct the Pope to do so too. After this, she began to execute her plan. So, she made her way to the other side of the field where the Treblarkian Queen was protecting her King and waited. As planned, her Queenside Knight snuck up to the Treblarkian Queen and killed the labourer who rode her chariot. Enraged, the Queen attacked him viciously. While they fought, The Bishop snuck up to the King's chariot, and killed his Kingside Knight. The King tried fighting the Pope, but was overruled by his superior prowess and was forced to retreat. He tried to escape but as soon as he turned, he saw the Queen of Stalwhite holding her sword right at his neck. With the flag of victory in her hand, she held him at the point of her sword and cried out, "CHECKMATE!"

The game between the white and the black sides was over. Peace had been restored to the Staunton Chess Board placed at the centre of the room. Carlsen stood up, shook her hand and offered her his King. Beth took it. She couldn't believe it. She had defeated The World Champion, Magnus Carslen using the most unbelievable checkmate ever, The Scholar's Mate.

Aarya Sawant 8E



Growing Older

Cartoons like doreamon were favourite of all Dresses and chocolates were our only shoppings in mall Never knew how time would make us so tall And now we all study only on call

Santa is real that's what I was told Mom had me put a jacket when I was cold We did daily chores to have a clean household Now as we study much, our brains may seem to explode We don't know when but we started growing old

Our primary school memories still stay evergreen We shared our delicious food memories in the canteen But we can't go to school due to Covid-19 Now all that we see is a pixelated screen

> Our friends are our gold We had our secrets being untold When we can be bold And can no more have blindfold We don't realise but we start growing old

Sharing our notes to our friends from our tuition Was always there as a solution We always focused while reading wimpy kid and Geronimo stilton, As Each day there would be turns to read the fiction.

> One day we wake up And feel an awful ache Its when we realise that the candles won't fit upon our cake. I wish we were told What was the feeling of growing old?



Aishleen Kaur Mann 8A

Are we really alone?

Two trillion galaxies, 200 billion trillion stars and 700 quintillion planets orbiting them and yet, no aliens found thus far. Ever looked up at the sky and thought, where is everybody? With so much around us is it really possible for us to be the only civilization ever?



An Italian physicist, Enrico Fermi shared the same thought as you! He used to think- millions of years of humanity living under the stary sky and not a single creature from another heavenly body passed by for a stopover?! If our alien mates want to evolve or come into existence, they need a sun which is much of muchness of ours! Neither too big nor to small and not too bright, hot, or cold so that they do not fry to crips or freeze to deaths or pass sleepless nights. The planet which they reside on needs to be in a habitable zone just like our Earth so, all mention requirements of the great filter should be passible. Now the foremost difficulty starts form here. We have Jupiter to protect us from asteroids, a perfect shape moon to control as well as affect the tides, Chemical elements like oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, sulphur, carbon and oxygen and phosphors. They need them too! And phosphorus is rare in milky way overall and originates only from supernova explosion. We do not know about our alien

buddies as of now but one we can conclude is that Earth is a rare planet indeed and we need to protect it at all cost.

Anushka Mishra 8 D

Existence

Existence. What a tricky word, isn't it? It possesses a lot of distinctive meanings, but they all end up giving us the same message "something that exists; a being."

Everything exists in this world, the things we perceive, the things we believe and even the things we want to believe in. There are some bizarre things that no one knows the origin of like what is god? How did the earth spring with everything we needed? Are aliens real? These quizzing sentences are huge. But, even the smallest of things like sub atomic particles in an atom, unnoticeable bacteria and elements, abstract feelings of hope and belief, have their own identity, own meaning, even their place in the dictionary.

This is the motto of our life. Achieve great heights, accomplish success, do something that will bring about a change in this world, and impact it. Do not let yourself be a mystery like ghosts, aliens, the vast ocean ,god ,our solar system, our galaxy, the whole universe...Let the world know who you are...let them know that you EXISTS!



Aanya Nayak 8E

Autumn

The brazier end leaves made a small rustling sound as we entered the forest. An autumn gale blustered as we further moved in to the forest. We could hear the treble of heaven's harmony, and just as the dusk settled, we could hear the fox yammering boldly; making a shiver run down my spine. I shrugged my shoulders and walked ahead. We halted at a forest clearing where heather grew and chomped on some roasted marshmallows and hot cocoa. We could feel the dampness of earth beneath us and smell the earthly aromas of mushroom. The stars peeked out of the clouds and watched us. It was just as late as midnight when we fell asleep on squishy and mushy heather below us.



Heer Jain 8D

COVID – 19

This is a worldwide epidemic Which soon became a pandemic

It has been named COVID 19 It affects all whether it is a senior citizen or a teen.

COVID 19 a coronavirus A very fast aggressive virus

Prevent and stay hidden like a scared mouse

Better be in your own comfortable house

Go outside not for a want but a need The doctors, nurses and others plead

Mask and gloves you must wear Take the utmost care

You must have heard, I am sure That prevention is better than cure

Don't pay heed to any rumour Read them with a sense of humour

Be positive and read positive information Spread happiness and become an inspiration

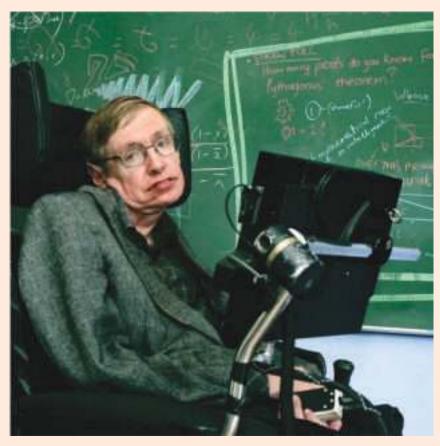
The second wave is gone, the third is here If you stay take precautions, there is nothing to fear.

> Vidhi Agrawal 8D



Stephen William Hawking

Stephen William Hawking CH CBE FRS FRSA was an English theoretical physicist, cosmologist, and author. Let's give a tribute to this notable personality by harking back to his great innovations. Hawking studied physics at University College, Oxford (B.A., 1962), and Trinity Hall, Cambridge (Ph.D., 1966). In the early 1960s Hawking contracted amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, an incurable degenerative neuromuscular disease. Hawking worked primarily in the field of general relativity and particularly on the physics of black holes. In 1971 he suggested the



formation, following the big bang, of numerous objects containing as much as one billion tons of mass but occupying only the space of a proton. These objects, called mini black holes, are unique in that their immense mass and gravity require that they be ruled by the laws of relativity, while their minute size requires that the laws of quantum mechanics apply to them also. In 1974 Hawking proposed that, in accordance with the predictions of quantum theory, black holes emit subatomic particles until they exhaust their energy and finally explode. Hawking's work greatly spurred efforts to theoretically delineate the properties of black holes, objects about which it was previously thought that nothing could be known. His work was also important because it showed these properties' relationship to the laws of classical thermodynamics and quantum mechanics. Hawking's contributions to physics earned him many exceptional honours. In 1974 the Royal Society elected him one of

its youngest fellows. He became professor of gravitational physics at Cambridge in 1977, and in 1979 he was appointed to Cambridge's Lucasian professorship of mathematics, a post once held by Isaac Newton. Hawking was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 1982 and a Companion of Honour in 1989. He also received the Copley Medal from the Royal Society in 2006 and the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2009. In 2008 he accepted a visiting research chair at the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. His publications included The Large Scale Structure of Space-Time (1973...co-authored with G.F.R. Ellis), Super space and Super gravity (1981), The Very Early Universe (1983), and the best sellers A Brief

History of Time: From the Big Bang to Black Holes (1988), The Universe in a Nutshell (2001), A Briefer History of Time (2005), and The Grand Design (2010; co-authored with Leonard Mlodinow). He did amazing works in his life. He died on March 14, 2018.

Haley Patel 8 C

Resilience

In the snowy winter days,

One morning, the ghost-grey skies

With flakes afloat, like a crystal clear pond Adorned with white lilies, I did see in that beautiful sight,

A pine tree great, bend to adapt in the snow. In the golden sands of Arabia, The blazing sun that had set The ground on fire, I did see The wild cactus grow, without leaves To adapt in the flaming torrid heat.



The pink vibrant lotus whose fresh petals stand Determined outside the water Thus it is the glory of that land. Nature shows us to be resilient, And adjust with the tide of time, Not crib and complain wishing for worldly pleasures, But smile and thank the Almighty, For creating such a wonderful world.

Let us learn from nature to adapt to the means of this world, And be the shining pearl of the society.

Hetvi Ashar VIII-A

Holi

The radiant sun shone today,

Not on a land green but on a colourful Earth without dismay.

A twinkle of mischief shone in the eyes, A sense of playful freedom began to rise. Showering colours- Green, Scarlet and Pink,

The children ran with glee marking those shades with joy distinct.

On the vivacious Holi day, Your thirst for joy will get quenched, There will be no compromises for getting drenched.

No man that was found was but wet and bright.

I returned home with a rainbow on a face lit with the festive delight.

Hetvi Ashar 8A



Abyss

Humans and robots coexist now- what a crazy reality! Our predecessors imagined flying cars and space elevators and all insane technology of that sort, but to say the least, we have something that could potentially outdo that. Well, to say 'coexist' is a bit of a stretch but we're getting close, nonetheless.



Androids are smart-it's an understatement to say they're getting smarter to be honest. The year's 2034 and we've got probably the greatest technological leap since the iPhone (2007 of course, the 13 pro max is just the longest smartphone name ever). Eureka, a real-looking Android robot, with features so detailed, it could pass off as human. Donning a teal, knee length, full-sleeved dress, socks that came up to her knees, a long brown hairdo, and a titanium corset hidden under layers of clothing, was a military grade weapon, the world's most intelligent machine and possibly, a reminder to humanity that we have something called 'hope' for this generation-but ,was she? Plot holes aren't a rarity. And no, she was definitely not named Eureka for her massive price tag of 3 billion USD;absolutely not.

Unlike other elaborate technological devices of her class, she didn't get a fancy reveal to the public; her task was to blend in. Of course, tech insiders caught this news like this robot would catch a ballpoint pen falling from the Empire State Building- quickly, before anyone else can. The 300 bidders? Expected. Somebody willing to pay 8 times more for this thing? Not. The scientists behind its creation weren't willing to give up without a fight, they decided to offer the bidder, a huge billionaire CEO, a testing period of a week, in a desperate attempt to hold on to their creation. This CEO was the largest shareholder of his company, Nam Do San. Straight out of a drama, right? It is. As they head towards the lab to begin the testing period, Eureka began to glitch out of reality, along with Do San. They're both transported to a different world, the real world. The greatest epiphany approached them through a very, very unicorn- like deer- They were both fictional characters in a novel, both brought there by an evil writer! Of course, they didn't know that, and no, their brains didn't

explode. And Eureka wasn't a robot, she was a real-life inventor named Kim Da Mi. As for Do San- yep, still a billionaire CEO. You'd assume they'd know of such a huge change- they didn't. You see, almost like magic, they were back into their real identities and world in 2022- right after the appearance of the deer, almost as if they were brainwashed to forget the past. The most surprising part? Nothing had changed; not even a particle out of place. They were, to each other, strangers who didn't know each other. The writer was somehow stuck in the reality he created, as the robot, and it's not the prettiest sight(not that the scientists noticed)

For those wishing they'd meet in an alternate reality, the pair did end up meeting, weirdly enough along with the writer, in his robot attire. You see, Do San's company hired Da mi as an inventor, and the writer was somehow, magically glitched into their creation of the same type of genius robot, that was Eureka! Except they named it Abyss, for no particular reason, it's just a really cool name. Legends say that every night the writer turned to robot Abyss visits the only other one of his uh, species(?) to play chess with Eureka. As for, Da Mi and Do San, they carried on and made the company uber successful- still unaware of their once reality in abyss.

Jasleen Kaur 8F

Lockdown A Boon Or A Curse

"LOCKDOWN!!" As the word comes in our mind, we all start recollecting the crucial, critical and the tough times we all had gone through in the year 2020. There were several disasters taking place from country to country like The Australian Bush Fire, Uttarakhand Forest Fire and many more, but the major, deadliest and the worst disaster that flourished in year 2020 worldwide was the pandemic of the coronavirus and its paramount Lockdown.

What...do you remember lockdown just by clapping our hands or banging our metal utensils during the day time and by lighting up candles during the night? I don't think so. Well, if you have made just this amount of memories in

lockdown, I am sorry to say but you are such a boring guy. Now, if the question arises in this manner 'Lockdown a Boon or Curse?' I would rather say both. Like it's a curse for the world economy as firstly all the markets, shops except medicals and doctors all was shut down, secondly no one was allowed to moved out of their houses to go for a trip or so thus the government did not received any taxes so the economy of the respective country got affected. It's a boon too as the families got more close to their family members, the new born and the senior citizens got more



attention otherwise all used to be busy with their work life and I bet, lockdown was the best time to make memories with your family and with your neighbors. That's the reason lockdown is considered as both a boon as well as a curse.

I am recollecting a golden memory that we created on 10th May 2020. So the day begins like this- I got up from my bed and started operating my mobile phone, I asked my mom what's on the dining table for breakfast? After sometime I realized that today is 10th May! My mom's birthday! I wished my mom and continued with my daily routine. Around 3:00pm my mom slept so I decided to make a cake for her at home with the help of my father. We planned all the things needed for decoration and we saw YouTube videos like homemade decoration form waste out of best and how to make homemade cake but forgot that mom will get to know if we make cake at home, so we decided to make the cake in our neighbor's house so that she doesn't get to know and I have warned my grandparents so that they don't tell my mom that we are planning a surprise party for her, we proceeded in our neighborhood. Neighbors advised that their relatives has tried making cake with biscuits like Parle-G, Marie Gold and with Oreo toppings it was looking tempting and was apple of one's eye.

We made the cake in the same manner and was looking the ditto. We kept the cake in their refrigerator so mom shouldn't get a clue also for the same. Then we started decorating the living room with waste out of best things and we saw a number of YouTube videos for that too. We all had fun tonight with playing board games, cards, etc. till midnight with The Epic of 'RAMAYANA' on T.V. I had asked my nana-nani, mama-mami, grandparents and other relatives to send a video wishing mom with good wishes and a great year ahead. I have kept this thing secret even to my dad. I had organized a zoom meeting also where all the relative will join and I will present the compiled video of all then continue the birthday celebration ahead. I had organized a quiz session namely WKMTB (Who Knows Mom the Best) for the online guest so that they don't feel lonely and a boring celebration. In this game, mom will ask a certain questions about herself and we have to answer it correctly. We had the apex fun that night and I believe that lockdown was the best time I had with my family, neighbors and relatives.

Daksh Satra VIII C

The Dreadful Night

Looking at the glistening moon, I was thinking about yesterday's noon. How I was crying my heart out in pain, And all my energy in drain. The dark night, the spider's web, and the ropes tied to my stinging leg. I was traumatized to such an extent That I forgot living to my content. If only I could meet my family, my last desire was to live happily, But I still had the determination, To combat for life or termination. The kidnapping made me so depressed, that I forgot to love myself. But I had to forget about all those things, And start with new beginnings. I had to fight for my delight, just like the Stars shine on the darkest night. So let's shread all our fears, And start with a bright new year.

> Raashe Bhandari 8E

A Day Full of Perfectness

It was one of the best days of the year though the year had just started, the main reason would be the yacht trip but there is more to it.

First thing in the morning between boring online classes, making the day dull, if you get the aroma of crispy hot tasty jalebis it actually makes your day. Add to it my favourite khaman and fafda and the day is near perfect. Having this treat with cousins was obviously Great !!



Then we dressed up and went for a day trip to the Gateway of India. There we had a two hour yacht ride chilling with everyone in the middle of Arabian sea ! Can't explain how invigorating it was.. add to it hot piping idlis with chutney which nearly seemed never ending to me.. the restaurant had been running since my since my dad's childhood days and was really famous, my dad was nostalgic. But the funny part was that my younger sibling was drinking juice but didn't know how it fell on the seat, I barely could contain my laughter. As you know Indian parents.... the entire blame was on me

and my older brother . We obviously had to clean it. After cleaning I went off dozing on the front seat of the car. The next moment I opened my eyes and I was at Juhu beach.. literally amazing ! We went to the beach, being a foodie family, we filled our bellies with dosas and pav bhaji and what not!

Then we played tag where my poor brother fell twice, in reality I made him fall once and second time it was my aunt... it was so hilarious, everyone burst out laughing.. we did feel bad for him, but he is a sporting guy and didn't take it seriously.. then we took our last trip of the day and went home. I then had a hot steam bath to relieve out my tiredness. Definitely,this was such a perfect day. I would thank everyone who made it successful whether dad, uncle or mom or aunt or boat wala uncle or the guy making our food. It was ultimately because of them we experienced perfectness. But the day has not ended yet, we don't know what will happen later !

Death Awaiting You

We are all scared of ghosts, spirits and darkness or at least some of us but one wrong step in life and poof it's all over. This is a story of Nichole Patterson a news reporter who had recently reported a death of a young girl who was in her

teens and Nichole had recently shifted to that house. According to the police report, the girl Brittany had died in an accident, she had been underage, she neither had a licence nor knew how to drive. She drove the car because one of her friends had challenged her but there was something oddly suspicious about her death. Nichole investigated the case very minutely but couldn't find much evidence. One day she left her office late when she reached home, she found the door unlocked. She thought that she had forgotten to lock the door. After going in she would regret her decision. She felt a cold breeze go through her spine and she tried to excuse the mess in her house, she felt something was odd, suddenly she saw the room light flicker.....she slowly took small steps towards the room and opened the door with hesitation. She saw a faint shadow near the curtain and swished her hands across it. To her surprise there was a young girl looking at her with a distorted face. She was so terrified she couldn't utter a single word. The young girl soon spoke up and said "I am Brittany the 17-year-old you reported about and you.....you were the one who did not give me justiceYou don't deserve to



be a reporter if you can't report on real evidence, I was not killed in a car accident but brutally murdered" as soon as Nichole went to speak, she felt a sharp object stab through her back. The next day the police found her body, but no one could uncover the truth about Brittany.

> Pari Dedhia 8F

Riddles

- 1) You measure my life in hours and I serve you by expiring. I'm quick when I'm thin and slow when I'm fat. The wind is my enemy. Who I am?
- ANS CANDLE.
- 2) I come from a mine and get surrounded by wood always. Everyone uses me. What am I?
- ANS PENCIL LEAD.
- 3) There is a one-story house in which everything is yellow the walls , the floors etc. What is the colour of staircase?
- ANS There is aren't any in one-story house.

5) What can you break, even if you never pick it up or touch it? ANS A PROMISE.

A man who was outside in the rain without an umbrella or hat didn't get a single hair on his head wet. Why?HE WAS BALD.

7) I shave every day, but my beard stays the same. What am I? ANS A BARBER.

8) Three different doctors said that Paul is their brother yet Paul claims he has no brothers. Who is lying? ANS No one is lying because the three doctors are Paul's sisters.

- 9) I have branches, but no fruit, trunk or leaves. What am I?
- ANS A BANK.

10) I have cities, but no houses. I have mountains, but no trees. I have water, but no fish. What am I? ANS A MAP.



⁴⁾ I can fly but I have no wings, I can cry but I have no eyes. What am I? ANS CLOUDS.

The New Normal

As the world is fighting against the COVID- 19 outbreak, more than 130 countries have closed schools affecting 80% students globally. Write a narrative on your nostalgic experience on missing in person learning experience.

In all probability, the most significant truth I have learnt in my life is that every event is unpredictable. People who pulled up their socks can survive and pull through such tricky situations like the COVID-19 outbreak that has grabbed all in its clutches. As a student my traditional school has transformed itself in an online school on my table.

The thing I miss the most is my learning medium – my classroom. That substantial room repleted with alacrity and eagerness. Entering a step into it filled my heart with hope for new learning. The colourful charts, blackboard and cupboards filled with books and my bench are absent in the virtual school. On catching sight of my friends I would chase them down and we would inevitably chatter, laugh and play.



Friends and teachers are the most integral part of studying. Learning with teachers and having fun with friends would create an equilibrium for

stable learning. But now only learning bereft happiness fills my heart with dread. As Everyone knows, 'All work and no play make jack a dull boy' the same is happening with all students globally. I miss my friends' laugh and mine too. As everyone is confined to their homes meeting is impossible. Thus, only learning in school gives a sense of incompleteness.

Another thing related to my personal learning is that I miss my projects and exams. I remember the sight of students filling the corridors, classrooms and making informative charts, pinning them on soft boards and chit chattering in a whisper. Also, exams, the most important part of the curriculum is now online. I would see students armed with books glancing through the pages doing last minute revision. We would take up work for friends that would boost our confidence; now nothing is possible.

Everyone has adjusted to the 'new normal' but as they say nothing can replace the original, there is so much superior and special in person learning.

Riya Shah 8D

What would going back to school be like?

What's on our mind since the last 15 months? The COVID-19 pandemic! And when we think about it, what comes to our mind? The lockdown, social distancing, hospitals, etc. But keeping it aside, let us look at it from a student's perspective.

March 2020, we were all preparing for our final exams, not sure whether they were to happen. And then, one day, came the news that we all were promoted to the next grade, without any exam! Oh my god! What an exciting news it was! The first of its kind! But we didn't know what was to follow. When online classes began in June, virtual classes became an excitement.

Waking up to find oneself just walking from one room to the next to attend school was utterly satisfying. Having to just brush your teeth and splash some water on one's face before attending class, combing our hair using our fingers, all these contributed to the drowsy look on everyone's face in the mornings. If not able to answer any question, then always having the convenient excuse of one's microphone not working. Google has probably become the world's most used software because of its unmatched capacity to answer any question one could possibly ask. Switching off the camera to play a few quick games on your mobile, or checking your WhatsApp Notifications and grabbing something to munch on is all relatable.

But of course, who doesn't miss school? Although, we have such a convenient time attending school right from the comfort of our homes, there is something that lacks in our day. It is the school. It is the same school which used to allow us to have a face-to-face interaction with our teachers and fun with friends, the importance of which, we understand now. It is the same school which taught us things that textbooks could never. It was in the school, that we learnt how to follow rules, how to become disciplined and so on. School made sure that we had our daily dose of physical activity,



whether it was carrying our books from one class to another, passing a message for the teacher or even the weekly Sports class. At home however, the daily dose of physical activity just involves walking from one room to another to search for the mobile's charger.

Then, of course, there are the epic examinations. All of a sudden, online exams have just washed away the amount of stress that always comes along when the Exam Time Table approaches. Students don't worry much about exams; It is just a piece of cake for them since they have their own sets of tricks for the examinations.

So, coming back to the pandemic, it can be described in one word- Chaos but this Chaos has not caused misery only, it has provided learning too, in its own way. Yes, we have lost near and dear ones, and the pain can never be measured, but it has extended humankind's wings much, much farther. The pandemic has taught us the importance of freedom, the role of our teachers, friends in our lives and more importantly, it has brought the world closer together, instilled a sense of unity among all the nations. This pandemic didn't bring the world to a standstill though. We still continue to attend schools, offices and carry on with our day-to-day activities right from our homes.

Overall, yes, we did have our own share of fun in the online classes, but there is nothing that can ever take over the pleasure of being in an actual classroom.

Thank You!

Sannvi Namdev Chougule 8-A

ISRO

The Indian Space Research Organisation is the national space agency of India. It was founded by Vikram Ambalal Sarabhai on 15th August, 1969.Vikram Sarabhai was an Indian physicist and astronomer who initiated space research and helped develop nuclear power in India. He was a part of India's first satellite launch THE ARYABHATA SPACECRAFT along with A.P. J Abdul Kalm and Dr. Homi.J. Bhabha. The rocket was carried in parts on a bicycle to the launch site, a church in Thiruvananthapuram in 1963. The launch sent NASA-made Nike-Apache rocket to space and led to the foundation of ISRO. Till now ISRO has successfully completed 75 spacecraft missions out of which 46 Launch Missions have been successful. Today ISRO has reached the height of any other space organization and has made India proud several times.



Sahana Mehta VIII-C

Nature's Season

Autumn is considered to be one of the most beautiful seasons of the year. It is filled with vibrant colours such as yellow, orange, red, purple, and brown.

The beautiful hues of the sky, the gentle cool breeze blowing like a soft caress, just add to the mesmerizing beauty of this season. The trees burn bright as the sun, then become a cool flame with the purple and brown leaves, proving themselves as one of nature's many astounding miracles that mankind has been blessed with. Festivals like Halloween, Bonfire Night, Diwali, etc. are celebrated during Autumn. Foods like baked potatoes, pumpkins, mooncakes, toffee apples, chocolates and many other such delicious savouries that make our mouth water. The crunching of leaves beneath our feet, the cries of



geese flying south, the wind blowing and making trees and leaves sway, the light drizzle that accompanies the zephyr are just compliments of the wonders of this season. The enchanting scents of sweet cinnamon pumpkin, apples, sandalwood, the smouldering bonfires, the rich zest of limes, passion fruit and pomegranate, make this season one whose arrival is eagerly anticipated by one and all. The festive atmosphere adds to the happiness and cheer.

All in all, autumn, for me, is the best season of the year. It is undisputable the season that does most justice to the splendiferous beauty of nature.

Siya Maheshwari 8 D

Spirit, The Sapient Wolf

A strong wind bellowed through the capacious, ancient courtyard. The Herculean pillars stood adamant, impervious to the aggressive gusts of wind. A sallow, gaunt woman crouched against a classical rock column, shuddered due to the cold, cruel blow. A queer creature rested on her feeble lap and whined as the aged traveler stroked his pearl white fur. The wolf gazed into the narrow eyes of the emaciated woman- Imelda Pencroft, only to see ineffable sorrow swarming in their ghost-grey irises. She bemoaned in a croaky voice, "Decades have passed since I last embraced my daughter, bidding her farewell as she embarked on a new journey of her life. I desire to meet her one last time and have a glance of what has become of her before my spirit surrenders this withered body. I am too frail to go further. Spirit, your company is what has kept me alive. Ferry my daughter as I wait at this abandoned fort." "Please." With tremendous effort, she raised her bony arms and garlanded the wolf, Spirit, with a heavenly chain and a snowflake shaped pendant that opened to expose an age-old picture of a delighted family huddled close together. "Go get my Snowflake"- she panted, pointing her crooked index at an illuminated, isolated settlement far in the distance. In the cold, desultory panorama tinted with monochromatic shades of white and grey snow, was an eye-catching stain of warmth and hope that gravitated the weary and the languid, with a commiserating aura. Spirit, the sapient wolf seemed to comprehend the confessions and extreme emotions of the mother. He turned for the city, in a composed countenance, assuring disconcerted Imelda that the work would be done.

Spirit leaped. He trotted impetuously across the bleached carpet. His disciplined poise expressed his determination. The wolf's supple legs functioned tirelessly; his head locked, and impenetrable eyes fixed at the linear path to the city. His fleet-footed self seemed a fierce competition to the aggressive storm itself. The vista of warmth gradually grew larger and larger. It beautifully transformed from a slapdash daub of warm colours to a luminescent, azure jewel; its ridges defined by the refined network of peddle stone streets and illuminated, thatched huts.

There was a hiatus in Spirit's brisk trot as he came to a halt right before an undefined entrance to the urban woods. A fivesome of beautifully carved bronze statues were rooted firmly, bordering a heavenly representation of the majestic sun personified with a short moustache, fierce eyes, and pursed lips, grooved intricately on a clean-swept ground. Realizing the hostility of the two-legged mortals towards unknown perils, Spirit preferred to slide away and keep himself out of their sight.

"AHH!" Screeched a female hysterically. Her earpiercing shriek caught the wolf unaware! His startled self , barked instinctively, terrifying the frantic pedestrians even more. "Wolf at loose!" groaned an individual, summoning his men, directing them to surround the petrified wolf and threaten him away. The robust beings closed in on Spirit. Alarmed but resolved, he remained astir, somewhat circumscribed by the mortals and mortal-resembling, antique statues. His aim and confidence to ferry 'Snowflake' to Imelda, remained unwavering. He sought a chance, to fracture the semicircle of death and escape deeper into the village only to find Imelda's daughter ; and so, he took it.



He took a calculated leap. Its deceptive appearance seemed as if a voracious, raged monster with jaws wide open to expose its ivory, sharpened fangs, was to jolt over a man and tear him up violently. By human instinct and involuntary reflex, any individual would get cold feet and dodge the strike. As Spirit anticipated, the men did just so. He grabbed the opportunity and seeped through the human fortress. He sprinted, deeper into the settlement.

THUD! Alas! Little did he know- sly, camouflaged booby traps lay waiting there for their prey. One moment, he was galloping triumphantly. The second, he found himself taking a wild somersault; his gut twisted miserably, and his gem-like eyes bulged with dread. The third, he was dangling over an unending gulf. Taken aback by the sudden ambush of surprises, his heart pounded deafeningly while the mind attempted to catch up. The maniacal sun had split in halves to disclose a caliginous abyss. The statues smirked dastardly, the glint of fire reflecting onto their sinister eyes.

Rhythmic footsteps and trots pounded the peddle-stone road, pulsating across the entire block. A regiment of disciplined comrades evolved from the interior of the city. They neared the site of chaos with an air of authority about them. The central figure commanded the troop to halt. She dismounted her swift, heroic stead and marched towards the compatriots huddled together, head and shoulders held high in dignity. "What's the whole mayhem about!", questioned the general. "General Pencroft!" "It's the wolves!", remarked a distraught couple.

Snowflake gave a quick glimpse at Spirit. At his sight, her dazzling eyes tapered in wonder. She neared the wolf cautiously, eyes fixed at his throat. Her vacuous face dissolved into an emotional one. She asked the guards to shut the abyss and bring down the wolf. Spirit felt relieved though he didn't let his guard down. The fearless general advanced towards Spirit, her countenance transforming with every step. She kneeled before the wolf and gently placed her hands on the diamond-set snowflake pendant. Her sapphire eyes melted away into a stream of diamond water that trickled down her rosy cheeks, glistening in the light. An automatic link had been developed between the two minds and a chain of deep thought travelled continuously through it. With unspoken consent, snowflake mounted on Spirit's furry back and the two leaped for the abandoned fort.

Spirit bolted. He dashed at hypersonic speed. Snowflake attempted to remain poised but couldn't hold back her sobs. The ghosts of her past swarmed in her mercury eyes. The deserted fort neared. On arriving, Spirit concluded his trot, allowing Snowflake to slide down his back. Just one word reverberated in the chambers of their minds, "Imelda." There she was, still crouched against the cold pillar, clawing to her last breaths. Two days had passed since Spirit had left for Snowflake. Snowflake hurried to her mother, Imelda. Spirit followed suit. A grateful smile on Imelda's frozen, rumpled lips, thawed their grief-stricken hearts. Snowflake wept incessantly. "Snowflake"-gasped the wizened mother. "Look-at-you. A va-liant - one of - a kind - General. I'm-so - proud." "Spi-rit." "Tha-nk- You." She held Snowflake's hand in her own and Spirit's paw in the other. Her bones crackled as she endeavored to hold them tighter. Obliged, contended, and consented, she closed her eyes, never to be opened again. Her relieved soul gracefully left the withered body, completing her arduous yet beautiful journey of this life.

Navyaa Gulati 8D

Bon Voyage ?

'Let's just get this over with,' said Kyra as she got on to the ferry.

It was a pleasant autumn morning on the shore of Manhattan. The rising sun cast a rosy hue across the morning sky and the golden fingers of sunlight lit up the landscape. The waves were gently drenching the sand and there was barely any sound except for the giggles and groans of about 50 teenagers getting onto the ferry headed to the Fang Island for a month-long camping trip.

You know how there are those very few museums enthusiast like Ross while others are just forced, it was a very similar case here as well. There were these who were living every moment, while the remaining few dreaded every second; and one of those was Kyra – A snobbish, spoilt, rich daddy's girl with a tag along friend – Fiona. Along with them was Peter, Aron, Kayla and couple of others who too had joined the group.

The supervisor of the camp was Mike, who was the son of one of the biggest tycoons in the world, Carlisle. Carlisle happened to die about 3 years ago on this very same island due to unknown causes and as a remembrance, Mike started a teenage camp to make a yearly visit to the island. It took them nearly 7 hours to hit the sack for the day!



Disappearances

After a week or two, when Aron was rearranging his stack of clothes, he came across the Ouija board he had packed. Ouija board is basically related to the supernatural theories where questions are answered in an eerie manner. After vaguely hearing about the ghost of Carlisle haunting the island, that was the first question that struck them. Mockingly playing this game, no one had anticipated an answer in return – the board piece started moving and the lights started flickering...freaked out by what they witnessed, first human instinct made them close the Ouija board and bury it deep into Aron's bag.

The next morning, they woke up to chaos and commotion. Mike was speaking through his megaphone. A kid from the first cottage happened to be missing. His roommates claimed that he was there when they had gone to bed. Nobody was allowed to roam these islands alone not because of the ghost rumors but because of the wild animals present in this region.

The five kids, Kyra, Fiona, Aron, Peter, and Kayla were quite shaken from what happened last night, so they didn't much care about the disappeared boy. Mike who had to take care of everyone's safety decided that instead of going on another trek that day, they would split into groups of 5 and go searching for the missing kid, Noah.

All of them started to look for their campmate but came back empty-handed. There was no sign of Noah anywhere, nor was the sign of his footprints in the damp soil. In fact, after 3 consecutive days, 6 teens were missing. As a result,

Mike decided that it was very dangerous to keep any kids on the island, he called the mainland using something called a telephone to send a ferry on an urgent basis.

They replied affirmatively but didn't send anybody. Another day passed and the number of missing teens increased by 1. This kept going on and on till the ninth day. When there were only 5 people and Mike left.

Call it a coincidence or an irony or cliché, but those 5 were none other than Kyra, Fiona, Kayla, Aron, and Peter. All of them were aware what was going to happen the next day, hence none of them slept that night.

Following what they had decided, none of them fell asleep that night. They were so relieved when they found out that nothing had happened to any of them. But were quite surprised when they didn't hear Mike call them for breakfast.

They together went to check on Mike, but the moment they opened the door, they saw a sight they couldn't unsee. It was Mike! - Lying on the steps with eyes closed a huge dagger into his body and blood still oozing out of the wound. He... was... Dead!

That was the last straw for Peter, he packed all his supplies and decided to call the ferry and leave that island immediately. He went into Mike's cottage and called the mainland, the voice who answered the phone was gruff but said that the ferry would arrive at 7 p.m. They all unanimously agreed to get out of the campsite as soon as possible, even if that meant hanging out by the shore for 2 hours waiting for the ferry.

All bundled up together, they started walking towards the shore, taking small steps, making the least amount of noise they could. They reached the beach and had no option but to wait.

Thankfully, time flew, and it struck seven quite quickly. They saw a boat pull up and a silhouette of a plump, short-looking fellow. All five of them went directly to that man and asked him to get them off the island.

The man was facing the shore wearing a black hoodie so they couldn't see his face. When the man didn't respond to their plea, Kayla went ahead and took off his cap from the hoodies and they saw the second sight in one day they couldn't unsee.

It was the face of the tycoon, the rich man, Mike's dead father. Human Instinct again. Well what can you do if you see a live dead ghost – You just run, even if that means running a 40K. Unfortunately, they were so stressed that they stumbled upon each other and fell into a rather large rabbit hole.

End Game

The hole didn't seem to end. And when it did end, they hit the ground so hard that they were sure some of their bones would have cracked. But that didn't stop them from running, and the rustling of leaves and footsteps above them gave them motivation.

The hole they fell through was in fact, a tunnel. They started walking through the dark pathway lit by several fire torches. They just kept walking till the pathway turned into a huge room that had 45 teen bodies with no face hung upside down. Those 45 children were the same people from camp. There was silence. Each one of them trying to digest what they saw and what has been happening.

Sadly, they didn't have much time, from behind the ghost of Carlisle came in with a huge grin on his face. 'I see you found my secret hideout,' he said. Kayla, the bravest of them all, asked him what was going on. They didn't get an answer, but they did hear a peal of loud evil laughter coming from the tycoon's mouth.

He said, 'I can't tell you anything, but since you found out about this place and the fate of the children who come to this camp, I have to do this.' The walls in front of them opened and 5 bullets shot out, all five of them were quick to dodge them but they didn't expect what came next, the wall behind them opened and they were shot dead .BANG.

And Kyra awoke with a loud jerk.

Thank the lord!

Kyra was back at camp, tucked nicely into bed. Kyra let out a sigh of relief. It... Was... A... Nightmare!!

Interestingly, everyone awoke at the same time Kyra did. But she was too confused to notice that she just started speaking about her terrible nightmare to everybody in the room. Their faces started turning paler and paler as Kyra went on to complete her nightmare. And it wasn't because they found her nightmare scary, it was because...

'I had the same dream Kyra,' Fiona had said. 'So did I!' Kayla continued. 'Me too.' said Aron. 'Me three.' replied Peter.

All of their faces were in shock, they were sure that whatever they were doing with the Ouija board last night had affected their sleep. They decided to shake it off and move out of the cottage to get some fresh air and sunlight.

Out of their cottage, there was chaos and commotion. Mike was speaking something through his megaphone. The scene seemed very familiar. They asked one of their campmates what was going on, the person responded by saying that someone wasn't there.

That's when they realized, there weren't 50 teens on camp anymore, there were 49. Noah was missing.

Brutal Childhood

Child labour? What is child labour? Is it the crime where small children are used for labour and paid for it? Is the crime done in countries with low economy, unemployment and poverty? To all those questions a big YES!



Few days ago, my friend Pari who works in an NGO went to a restaurant for lunch with me. When we were ready to give our order we called out to the waiter. The waiter looked awfully young for a job like that. The name tag on his shirt said that his name was Saksham. While having our lunch, we called out to him and asked him his age and he hesitated."Nine...nineteen" he stuttered. I knew he was lying. Saksham's eyes said that it was not his words. After our lunch, I gently summoned and whispered to him, "Meet me downstairs in ten minutes". He was confused, but agreed to meet me. Pari accompanied me and asked him why he was working at such a tender age, he should spend afternoon's playing with friends or studying. He said "Madam, trust me, I am nineteen" .After she introduced herself he said "I come from a small village in Rajasthan, my father was an alcoholic and my mother died when my little sister was one. Five years ago, my father died too. I didn't think orphanages could support so I started working to send my sister to school and pay for food and clothes. I left my sister at an orphanage and became a waiter at this restaurant." Pari told him all about her NGO Camp and even told that every single day more than 126 million children under the age of 12 go to work and thus become a victim of child labour.

Pari was moved by his story and opened an orphanage for children starting with Saksham and his sister, both of them received free education at a private school through Pari's NGO. There are millions of children like Saskham in India who are victims of child labour. When given the opportunity these young minds can transform the face of their country.

Veyanka Daga 8-F

Life in 2050

2050... A year everyone has their minds on, as of now. So, what will life be like, in 2050? There are so many things that could actually happen by the time this year befalls.

If things keep going the way they are going on now, global warming would surge up like anything. The rate at which glaciers are melting would shoot up. Climate change would reach a new level and the escalating impact of climate change could lead to further and rapid melting of glaciers accompanied by a great rise in global warming. Mary Robinson, an international activist for human rights, quoted, "The exigency of this situation must not lead us to despair, rather it should propel us into action". I could not agree more! The only reason the world is not becoming a better place is because we humans are acting lazy, languorous and lethargic.

There are so many green-house gases in our atmosphere. Carbon-dioxide, methane, and what not. We should bring about an amelioration in this environment, shouldn't we? If I were given a choice to rule the world, I would make sure there was awareness about the current situation, and hence, strive towards making the world a safer haven.

On the brighter side, in 2050, we might have better facilities too. I would dream of a world with modernized infrastructure and high-quality education, irrespective of gender. Electricity will be generated using solar panels, to avoid the wastage of our resources (if at all we have any left by that time). All vehicles will run on electricity and not fuel. This will avoid the release of fumes from the automobiles. There is also a high possibility that the scarcely-used-environment-friendly products will be enforced upon us by the law. Like the ongoing research on Mars, other planets might also show a chance of handling human civilization andthere will be a wider variety of planets available, because the resources on Earth are getting exhausted and it would not be able to sustain life for too long.

The advancement in technology will be cosmic! With such technological advancement in the near future, anything could be possible, but not all prospects will be ethical. The best part about shopping is to visit countless shops, stores and malls, but with technology, there may be no more shops available. The only thing we will be able to rely on is online shopping, which might be convenient, but we'll lose the charm of it. It can lead to innumerable problems, both physically and mentally. There will be no more physical school. The only form of education would be 'online education'. Ugh! The sound of it makes me want to shed tears. We all have had a ginormous dose of online education due to the COVID-19 pandemic and I don't think we can take any more of it. On the other hand, for around 20% of the population, it might be considered advantageous as the schedule will be more optional to choose as long as it suits time and purposes.

Speaking of technology, there is a possibility that the world will be taken over by robots and drones by 2050. Household work, agriculture, pharmaceutical work, healthcare, manufacturing, proof-reading, military... all these professions can be taken over by robots. You better watch out in the future! Technology is indeed very ambitious. You can lose your jobs. Due to the immediate change in lifestyles i.e., switching to online mode of communication, you will not get enough exercise. This can make you obese. Moreover, the communication system might have also become more superior.

According to me, life in 2050 would be quite different than what it is right now. That change will be for the better or worse, it is up to us to decide. There is still a tiny ray of light to brighten these dark times. So, let's not waste this glimmer of hope and make this world a better and safer place to live in.

Yashvi Shah 8A



A Family So Known

The luminous family of the burning star, Each member so varied, so different and far.

The sun is the father, the provider of all, The earth, the frail old mother wrapped in a delicate blue shawl.

The jealous red sister stared at the mother with spite, By a matter of a few million kilometres, who do you always get to be in the planets' spotlight?

> The youngest sisters, closest to their father's heart they are, Forced to endure the temper of the continuously burning star!

Following the fourth one are two unbothered girls, Too worried about their looks, they show off their round rings and necklaces with whirls.

> Next are two boys who yearn for their father's love, For all they got from him, was a humongous icy dove.

The last is the member so tiny and missed, The long-lost member with its little soul just disappeared in the solar mist.

> Each member so different, so far but closely knit, Moving around their father, a candle that's always lit.

Their differences and feelings though different from each other, Is the beauty of the family that keeps them together.

-Vidhi Kumbhat 9 D



Stop Labelling An Eco Student's Point of View

Just because I'm an economics student doesn't make me any less capable. Yes I agree that science students do have to study a lot more but why is the pressure of "either you're a science student or you're dumb" being build up on economics students.

Some don't have the capability to study as much in 9th and 10th so they simply drop science, whereas some of us who have our careers settled and have no relation with science have chosen economics.

Simply because someone's career choice is different than yours doesn't give you the right to talk the wrong way about them. "Oh never mind you're an economics student; you won't get it" even though I've studied basic science till 8th. "You eco students have a lot of time to waste, we don't" say the science students who haven't even studied economics. "I'm not like you, I took science till 10th" we all are different. It is extremely easy to say "You don't even have to study. Look, I study so much." You my friend are definitely not getting my marks so it's better you look out for yourself.

Science was a subject that we were taught right from the beginning whereas economics is a totally new subject which is tougher to study right from the start in 9th while dealing with the comments. When you



comment on someone's career options again and again while knowing that it's hurting them is not a joke.

Personally, my mother took science, my brother did two theory subjects like CA and science and I have great respect for them but when someone talks about not being good enough just because you chose a subject that people think is pretty easy, is not fair.

Why does this barrier of eco and science lie? Like I have seen people being very partial towards science students which again I don't understand. Many may say that I'm wrong but here, "never mind you're a science student and this time, you won't get it."

> Ananyaa Banka **9B**

Seasons Allure

Closing my eyes under the bright sun Playing red shadows upon my eyelids The heat kissing my skin To opening them in the meadow of rain Lucid pearl drops on every leaf around me The petrichor enveloping my senses Auburn leaves or mother nature's kiss to the world? So gentle the air around, caressing my cheek as it passes As I felt myself transported into a world of white glistening's Reflecting the sun around me in a manner so stately which tenderly crafter snowflakes dotting my raven hair Spring seemed never so stately As the flowers bloom wide, welcoming the oncoming bees

For high is nectar's tide Oh the fragrance of rebirth so fresh in the air Doesn't it make my soul too, pure as a pyre?



WAR

The world is full of miseries and war being the biggest out of all. It is the greatest catastrophe that befalls human beings. It brings death and destruction, disease and starvation, poverty, and ruin in its wake. Wars have taken place since the times of kings and queens and have always brought affliction upon everyone.

In our modern world people have started realising the harmful effects of wars, how they can destroy not only a common man's life but also completely turn a nation into ashes. All living being from animals to plants and humans everyone faces death due to war. On a global level wars hinder productivity and economic activity, destabilises institutions and reduces business confidence. Violence disrupts the economy, resulting in adverse and ongoing negative effects even after conflict subsides.

Even after understanding the futility and detrimental effects of wars there is an ongoing war taking place between the Russian federation or Russia and Ukraine. This very disturbing war has begun by Russia attacking and invading Ukraine by launching their well-planned armed aggressions. This war has caused a number of casualties and presently 5,000-6,000 Russian soldiers have died fighting and The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) verified a total of 564 civilian deaths during Russia's military attack on Ukraine as of March 10, 2022. Of them, 41 were children. Not just deaths, building and houses have collapsed due to the blasts, people are living underground for days to avoid dying. Students from various different countries studying in Ukraine have been affected too and have been left stranded while many countries like India have evacuated their citizens the number being Nearly 16,000.

The situation is so bad that the civilians have taken up arms and are ready to fight for their country. They are making homemade bombs to protect themselves. These units are made up of military veterans and ordinary civilians – men and women of all ages and backgrounds – who keep their day jobs and train for combat on weekends or otherwise periodically.

In the end this heart wrenching and depressing war has affected people far and wide. People without any politics have been dragged into it and have been impacted severely. Their entire lives have been uprooted. In these tough times one can only hope for the betterment of humanity and keep the people being affected by this war in mind and pray for them.



Ashna Chaturvedi 9 B

Great Things Never Come from Comfort Zones

Today we are living in an extremely competitive world where in any field you go, there are millions of people standing beside you aiming for the same goal you have. But this journey is not easy, as it is accompanied by obstacles, miserable failures, melancholic days, and sleepless nights. I always believed that endurance, dedication, determination and persistence are salient to achieve great things, until one day my dance teacher, brought to my knowledge an exemplary idea to keep in mind while working towards achieving greater feats.

I was training under my teacher since several years but classical dance was my only forte till then. One day, I was selected for an international event. As an aspiring artist and one of the many children eyeing for the same prize,

bagging the first prize in that competition would be a huge accomplishment for me. However, having had exposure to various events and competitions earlier made me realize that versatility was the key for greater performances. My teacher explained to me that our complete potential is like an iceberg. Just like the small portion of the iceberg seen above water when its floating on it, we have acknowledged and recognized only some of our potential and made use of it while most of us fail to see the remaining 90% of the iceberg hidden below water, that is, our complete potential. Initially I started out with trying my hands on some of the folk dances of our country, and learned many special characteristics



from them which helped shape me as a dancer. Slowly and steadily, we proceeded towards trying western dance forms like jazz, contemporary and ballet. The techniques and musicality of these dances was Greek to me and in the beginning, I was completely filled with doubts. There were days when I used to sit in one corner of the classroom with a listless expression, extremely reluctant to learn any further. But my dance teacher had my back and he pushed me to keep continuing. Slowly I was intrigued by the dances and in no time, developed a great interest for them. As a classical dancer, my body was very rigid, but with contemporary dances, I explored new ways of being flexible, performing movements with greater fluidity and finesse.

Finally, the day of the competition arrived. I knew what could make my performance really unique from the rest- a fusion of both classical and western dance. From the grace and serenity of classical to the strong and intense moves of western dances, my act was filled with a kaleidoscope of colours of all dances. The thought behind the act and the incorporation of all the characteristic elements of the major dance styles really pushed the boundaries and thus I was able to win the competition with flying colours, thereby realizing a dream a little girl had always been looking forward to with wonder-waiting eyes. Experience is the greatest teacher of all times. This competition has enlightened me about the need to step outside our comfort zone. Success lies beyond what we are comfortable in. None of us can go anywhere by doing what we are used to. Progress only happens when we try out something different. So let's not be afraid of the change, but in fact be excited of the great possibilities ahead as 'Great things never come from comfort zones.'

Oorja Shah IX-C

Russo-Ukrainian War

All U Need To Know

The Russo-Ukrainian War is an ongoing war between Russia (together with pro-Russian separatist forces) and Ukraine It began in February 2014 following the Ukrainian Revolution of Dignity, and initially focused on the status of Crimea and parts of the Donbas, internationally recognised as part of Ukraine. The first eight years of the conflict included the Russian annexation of Crimea(2014) and the war in Donbas (2014–present) between Ukraine and Russian-backed separatists, as well as naval incidents, –cyberwarfare, and –political tensions. Following a –Russian military build-up on the – RussiaUkraine borderfrom late 2021, the conflict expanded significantly when Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022.

In 2021 and early 2022, there was a major Russian military buildup around Ukraine's borders. NATO accused Russia of planning an invasion, which it denied. Russian President Vladimir Putin



criticised the enlargement of NATO as a threat to his country and demanded Ukraine be barred from ever joining the military alliance. He also expressed Russian irredentist views, questioned Ukraine's right to exist, and stated Ukraine was wrongfully created by Soviet Russia. On 21 February 2022, Russia officially recognised the two self-proclaimed separatist states in the Donbas, and openly sent troops into the territories. Three days later, Russia invaded Ukraine. Much of the international community have condemned Russia for its actions in post-revolutionary Ukraine, accusing it of breaking international law and violating Ukrainian sovereignty. Many countries implemented economic sanctions against Russia, Russian individuals, or companies, especially after the 2022 invasion.



Ukrainian soldiers have been putting in their best to keep the country and the people safe, one of the Ukrainian soldier has taken down 6 Russian Air Forces in a single day , he has become an inspiration for the soldiers and the people of Ukraine , he has been given the title as the " Ghost of Kyiv". The President of Ukraine himself is participating in the war , when he was asked to take shelter in one of the neighbouring countries he refused and asked them to send military supplies. Russia has lost more troops since the last 14 days than Syria lost in its decade long civil war. A Russian tennis player was seen writing " No war please" on the camera. The Russian football team has been suspended from playing in the 2024 FIFA world championship. Movie and series streaming service Netflix has been removed from Russia .

The Taekwondo black belt has been taken away from the Russian President Putin. A Russian businessman is offering to give 1 million dollars to anybody who kills the Russian President. People of Ukraine themselves are participating in the war which shows their courage and bravery. Ukraine is giving a tough fight to Russia but Russia has the strongest army in the world so if the war continues it will be impossible for Ukraine fight against them

Harshill Damani 9/B

Fashion

Fashion is a form of self-expression but it is not restricted to that alone, it is a mean of self-empowerment and confidence as well and an outlook of life. Don't we all love fashion! While going out in public, don't we spend hours searching for the right attire to make ourselves look presentable and at our best, and oh the joy and satisfaction you feel when you find the perfect outfit! Doesn't it just make your day better and exuberant? It helps you in revealing your true identity.

Fashion is a non-verbal way of communication that conveys a lot about the person's personality, background and style. Trends in fashion unify women and men around the world, yet they still allow people the ability to portray their own individual style and essence of their personality and beliefs at the same time. Earlier it was exclusively the world of the affluent, celebrities and royalty. However, fashion is now within the reach of the common man, especially the youth.

Fashion is not only limited to clothing or makeup but in a much broader sense includes accessories like shoes, perfume, hairstyle, mannerism, etiquette and attitude towards life. We all love getting complements about any slight change we make in ourselves. It makes us feel good and positive.

Fashion is important because it reflects the culture of a place. It makes our life colourful and changes it with time. In a way it also adds variety to life, providing an opportunity in trying out something new. In the 21st century the style trends of the fashion industrydominate the world more than they ever did. Nowadays, fashion is bold and daring, and this reflects a noughties generation that is not afraid to say what they think, or wear what they want.

Fashion is so important that magazines and TV programs dedicate hours of its time to the subject, and people discuss it between their friends continually. To keep up with the latest fashions, people subscribe to fashion magazines, keep a keen eye on what has



appeared in shops and what has been there for a long time, and go to fashion shows to see what the designers are putting on the catwalk this season, and therefore what will make it in to the shops. Some people even have personal designers who help them keep up with the current trends.

It may portray your emotions and can change from one second to the next, but what never changes is the hold it has over society, and the role it plays in the modern world. Social influences certainly play a major role in influencing Fashion and many have become fashion symbols. Another significant factor which influences Fashion trend is technology. There certainly has been a rapid growth of technology in the Fashion industry. Furthermore, 3D printing technology and the internet have also made an impact on Fashion.

To sum it up, Fashion certainly has become a part and parcel of human life. It certainly is a force that is here to stay. Most noteworthy, Fashion has immersed every place on Earth.

Kavya Parekh 10 E

Light in the Dark

A stretch of uncountable diamonds that constitute The vast ceiling staring at the human race In the black of the otherwise dreary night.

A watchful, omnipresent eye looking down below Upon the ever-changing dates and the rise and fall Of mighty civilisations and heavy-handed regimes.

A distant, luminous beacon for all amongst us That are lost, clueless, washed far up ashore To steer our journey through lands unknown.

A fragment of infinite shimmering swirls of hues That fill up our eyes with utmost wonder, for they paint The canvas that cannot be imitated by the highest painter.

What are stars, what are these brilliant balls of light? If not, the sole preservers of our impending destiny For millions and billions of eons to come?

> Rianna Trivedi IX-D



Lights, Camera and Action

"Aaj mere paas gaadi hai, bungla hai, paisa hai... tumhare paas kya hai?", "Rishte mein to hum tumhare baap lagte hain, naam hai Shahenshah", "Kitney aadmi the" Bollywood the second largest film industry the world and largest by number of feature films produce has been booming the international film industry for years with produce over three hundred films each year. But what Bollywood is today is not what it was when it was pioneered, things were quite a struggle so let us walk down the memory lane when this industry was being forged.

Well how many of you know when was the first hindi film made? Maybe 60 years ago, 70? It was 108 years ago!! Wow that sounds timeworn. It was the film Raja Harishchandra released in 1913.It was a silent film directed by the father of Indian cinema Dadasaheb Phalke . Phalke was in charge of scriptment, direction, production design, make-up, film editing, along with film processing. Trymbak B. Telang handled the camera. Phalke completed filming in six months and 27 days producing a film of about four reels. Imagine going to a cinema in 1913 even before television itself was not invented, here's another fun fact since Phalke could not get any woman to play the roles due to the traditions at that time male actors played female roles, that would have been weird. In the 1930s and 1940s while most of the Indian cinema were flourishing with the new camera system and enthusiasms among people for films, some of it had to find a way through the independence movements world wars and violence of that time. Many film makers passively contributed in the freedom struggle. The lyrics of "Door hato ae duniyaa waalon Hindustaan hamaaraa hai" 1943 was only approved by the British government because its lyrics featured Germany and Japan instead of England. This song was featured in the blockbuster movie kismet that grossed around 1 cr. The golden age of Indian cinema was after the independence up to 1960s where hundreds of films were released and there rose several legendary actors Raj



Kapoor and many extremely successful and powerful female actors including Nargis, Vyjayanthimala, Meena Kumari, Madhubala, Nutan, Waheeda Rehman, and Sadhana.the films were mostly lyrical that produce a bulk of evergreen songs.

The Indian cinema progressed significantly over the years producing thousands of films and inspiring many generations through its films, songs and stories what it has come a long way from where it started and this credit should be given to those founding fathers who in spite of the social barrier at that era came forward and hopefully it will rise further to represent the country around the world because "picture tho abhi baki hai"

– Aarya Sorankar IX D

Lost Memories

London was surely worthy of poetry in the winter. You are walking on Whitechapel Road at a relatively late hour. The dry wind of November raises the hair on your neck as you hitch the lapel of your coat higher and move ahead, the brittle snow crunching under your feet. The winter sun was slowly fading and when you look up, it has completely disappeared behind the dark mass of clouds that oddly resemble the features of- never mind. You're hallucinating. As much as you like London in winter, it's hard to separate true darkness from an illusion of darkness. The costermongers are packing up their wares for the day and a little girl in dark braids is running about with a burning torch clutched rather tightly in her puny fist.

You're lost in thought as a sudden force finds your shoulder and you yelp in pain to see that you have run into a person. A very heavily hooded person. You attempt to excuse yourself but the person bids you no attention and



rushes off but not before you notice the pointed tips of their ears. You smack yourself on the head. "You need sleep", you tell yourself, "And do not read those supernatural stories at this late an hour". All these things are myths. They are just stories. But there is still a shard of uncertainty poking at your gut. You shake it off and continue to make your way at a faster pace. You raise your hand in greeting at the passing residents and then you notice her. She is wearing a gossamer dress, her auburn

hair up in an elaborate updo with a concerning amount of pins holding it. You blink in surprise because there is barely any light to see the road in front of you, much less a woman with so much detail but it was as if she was radiating light. You can't stop looking at her - the gaunt face, the aquamarine eyes, and the strange wooden staff in her hand. She looks at you, her light eyes fixating on you as her thin lips curl upwards and she raises a finger, beckoning you. In a tranced state, you walk towards her as she leads you deeper and deeper - in the heart of London.

It is like everything you had seen and nothing you would ever see. It is familiar like a mother's touch but uncertain like trying a new food. It is right and wrong. It is the most beautiful thing you have ever seen and the most horrifying sight your mind will ever conjure. The leaves are green as clovers and flowers blue as the cerulean. The vines hang in curtains and butterflies, the colors of the rainbow flutter in them like lights in a dark encapse. The woman before you holds out her hand and one of the butterflies perches on her outstretched palm. She turns to look at you and you gasp. The gauntness is replaced by what human words can only describe as a cascade of faces of varying looks. You see the face of a woman with coffee eyes and dark satiny skin, and the next second, the person before you is an enchantress with hair the colour of seaweed. The "woman" closes her eyes and you see her again, the red hair and blue eyes. She touches your cheek and you are falling. You have no idea where and the panic lodged in your throat breaks free in a scream like a gunshot. You find yourself standing at Blackfriars Bridge now, The Thames flowing underneath you. You have no recollection of how you ended up there or whatever happened. All you remember is the face of a woman, a meadow in blossom. You make a mental note to have a drink of water before catching a cab to get home and laugh at yourself with the things you imagine.

She is looking at you, but you cannot see her anymore. She looks at you from the darkness where she is so well concealed and she looks wistfully at the shadow of your cab as she whispers to herself in words as ancient as life itself. She whispers in the agony of a woman mad with grief why we don't believe anymore. All you see is a dark mist from the window of your cab as she returns to her abode, clutching in her hand a glimmering vial of shining moonlight as evanescent as the memories it holds.

Mishti Gopani X – A

Life After School

School is a place that prepares us for our future endeavours in life. We learn, we fail, we are punished but all of this is what helps us to write our own destiny after passing out- that time of our life which is no less than a roller coaster.

Life after school is a journey through which we meet new people, make friends and enemies, bunk classes and make people mark our proxy and become successful. We go through set-backs but also come back all rejuvenated. Studies become an important part of our life but not more than our friends. There are fights, there is sadness, there is confusion. But above all we learn to live our lives to the fullest. Life after school also brings with it various tensions of unfamiliar aspects like deciding our stream. Many people are confused about what they want in life and choose the career suitable to them. Friends start to play a crucial part in our lives. Bad friends ruin our life and good friends make our life beautiful. People become vulnerable to drugs, smoking drinking etc. the rehabilitation of which is very difficult. Load of studies also increases but we don't mind it much because we are allowed to study the subjects of our choice unlike in schools. But if you want a break from classes you can always bunk them along with your friends!!There are a lot of projects and assignments to be finished and at the same time you have to strike sparks off each other during college fests and various other activities. You are allowed to go on trips with your buddies and above all get the license to drive. That time is priceless. The life that you have always dreamt of as a child is finally here! But after 15-20 years when sitting at the leisure of your own home and browsing through internet you come across a picture of your school days, nostalgia will come running back to you giving you tears of joy and sorrow as you sit there remembering those invaluable memories, those fights but most importantly those friends.

Life is agathokakological. We suffer many problems like stress, depression, peer pressure etc. but we always have to be panglossian about it, because life after all is a journey to live and not a destination to reach.

Nishka Rakesh Shah 10– E



Peace danger brings

Do you call me inside oh dear waves? For I hear your beckoning lure How enchanting is your visage? The sun reflects on your rippling silver silk The moon too adorns it's face on your surface Below which is a universe yet to explore What may lie there no one knows Angels lulling you to sleep Or even manifestations of malice, sinister and dark Teeth glistening with blood Lulling you to sleep forever.



Bound

One ring is sadness The other for misery and pain An added for efforts in vain One for hopes that sink And here I one for heartbreak The rings of sadness make a chain He bind the untamed spirit Weigh down our minds chasing our dreams Break these chains and set thy spirits free For what binds, cannot be for me



Enchantment

The stars glistening in her eye As she hears the night sing Sing to her of shining streams Sing to her of falling stars As they reflect the light of dreams Dreams so bright They overtake the night into day Light up her eyes as never before A chance all she wanted a chance life gave her



Vedika Shah 10-A

The Last Day of School

I always knew this day would come, The once smiling faces on the desks were glum, We won't be coming after the summer has ended, The journey of all these years was truly splendid. The pencils have become tiny, The teachers say goodbye with confetti, All are relieved as well as sad, They'll be proud to see us when we are grads. Erasers have become flat, Now the two enemies won't ever combat, They said they wouldn't cry, But now we wonder how time does fly. The benches have become vacant, Even the quietist student isn't latent, All want to be their best, They're even ready to write an extra test. The desks have become neat, In the last lunch break, they slowly eat, With smiles on their faces and tears in their eyes, They realize that bittersweet are the goodbyes. The crayons are the broken, So little words are spoken, The class is wild. For the first time, the teacher did not scream as she turned behind. Now yesterday is gone, Everybody is moving on, They are starting another chapter in the book, Cannot go back, they can now only look. The diverse groups are on every page, Memories all will always save, It's the ending of a long show, And they feel like they have nowhere to go. The needle of time does sew fast, They felt a void as the lecture being last, They unravel the gift of time thread by thread, They leave behind a part of them to wave at life ahead. They bid silent goodbyes to their desks and chairs, To the auditorium where they had their prayers, To the various subjects and teachers, To their respective classes and booth,

They bid a silent goodbye to their youth.



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The Train

Painted with blue and silver and shining by the moon, I'm a new train meeting my passengers soon. As I reach the first destination, people are pushing and are in a rush, They have two whole minutes and yet against each other, they brush. People of different castes, languages and religions have boarded me, Together till the end, only some people will be, Some are bonding and talking, While some, for luggage space or legroom are squawking. As I rush past ten stations, Some people have reached their destinations, I come to a screeching halt, now comes the TC, checking tickets and berths, waiting for an exalt. Some folks ride me looking out the rear, Watching miles of life roll by and disappear, While some folks play cards and read books, Looking for a new world inside the nooks. The trees and the houses go wheeling back, As I continue the sturdy track, I see a red light and must stop, As the colors of dusk pop. Then come the people selling their goods, Some have jewelry while some have food, They scream at the top of their lungs, So that they can feed their little ones. As night falls, The little child brawls, All the beautiful stars in the sky, Only I can see them as they die. The silver doves of the forest of night, The moon emitting its bright light, Are my only companions in the dark deep, As my passengers drift off to sleep. As I reach my destination, People rush about, though only a little population, They see a bright light fill the vastness of the view, They see flowers blooming, new. The hour of quiet dies down, Another train, another riot, comes around. As the ecstatic nightbird sings a beautiful song, I bid a silent goodbye to the people running along.



Prakruti Vakharia 9th C

School Recess

The school bell rang and the sound of it rang through every class, every hallway, and every floor. Just as the teachers left their classes, students poured out of classrooms like an army and began to splinter into groups. In a corner, stood a group of grinning boys, smacking one another and chuckling. A group of girls stood by the staircase, giggling and exchanging their lunch boxes. The air was dense with the aroma of different foods, and brimming with exceedingly loud noises of students talking, laughing, and yelling. There was a cluster of students in the classrooms, fidgeting with the class board, dropping food on the floor, and rushing to call the maids. Some students sat on their benches, trying to complete their homework last minute. Others sat sporadically singing songs.



O! That You Were Your Self But Love You Are

O, that you were yourself! but, love, you are No longer yours than you yourself here live: Against this coming end you should prepare, And your sweet semblance to some other give.

So should that beauty which you hold in lease Find no determination: then you were Yourself again after your self's decease, When your sweet issue your sweet form should bear.

> Who lets so fair a house fall to decay, Which husbandry in honor might uphold Against the stormy gusts of winter's day And barren rage of death's eternal cold?

0, none but unthrifts! Dear my love, you know You had a father: let your son say so.



Oh, how I long for you to be yourself forever, unchanged, but, my love, you don't have any identity for any longer than your time on earth.

You should prepare yourself for this approaching end and pass your sweet likeness on to someone else.

In that way, the lease that you hold for that beauty would not expire and you would survive after your self's death, when your beautiful children would carry your beautiful form.

Who allows such a lovely house to fall into decay when it could, with good management, be properly protected from the stormy winds of winter and the frustration of the eternal coldness of death?

Oh, no one except the irresponsible. My dear love, you once had a father: let your son be able to say the same thing.

Shanelie Chaudhari

Some Intelligent Comebacks

- Some anonymous actress and Ilka Chase : Anonymous actress – "I enjoyed reading your book. Who wrote it for you?" Ilka Chase – "Darling, I am so glad that you liked it. Who read it to you?"
- Winston Churchill and Lady Astor : Lady Astor – "If you were my husband, I'd give you a poison." Winston Churchill – "If you were my wife, I'd drink it"
- Winston Churchill and George Bernard Shaw : George Bernard Shaw – "I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend if you have one" Winston Churchill – "Cannot possibly attend first night, I will attend the second; if there is one"
- A member of parliament and Disraeli : Member – "Sir, you will either die on the gallows or of some unspeakable disease" Disraeli – "That depends sir, whether I embrace your policies or your mistress"
- Dorothy Parker and a drunk man : Drunk Man – "I can't bear fools" Parker – "Apparently, your mother could"
- Winston Churchill and an MP : MP – "Mr. Churchill, must you fall asleep while I'm speaking?" Churchill – "No. its purely voluntary"
- British captive officer and French privateersman Robert Surcouf : British Officer – "You French fight for money while we fight for honour" Surcouf – "Each of us fights for what he lacks the most"
- Fritz Hollings and Henry McMaster : When Henry McMaster challenges Hollings on a TV show to take a drug test Hollings – "I'll take a drug test, if you'll take an IQ test"
- Edward Everett Hale and US Senators : When asked if Edward prayed for the US senators Edward – "No. I look at the senators and pray for the country"
- An anonymous singer and Miriam Hopkins : Anonymous singer – "You know, my dear, I insured my voice for fifty thousand dollars" Hopkins – "That's wonderful. And what did you do with the money?"

~By Soham Punatar XE - 34

Special Memories

Shouting of students, pacifying attempts of teachers, A place of learning, of so many tiny creatures. Friends chatting secret talks that are never succinct, But do they even know that the teacher has a hint?

Long history explanations talking about the past, While bored eyes are fixed upon the clock to see how long the period will last! Chemistry teacher trying her best to fit formulae into the head,

Yet we are down in the dumps when it comes to copper and lead.

The sheet, once immaculate, turns into a puddle of ink, As the English teacher introduces a new essay with a wink. For students having an animosity against mathematics, The human calculator finds exciting ways to solve problems with new tactics!

From the hibiscus dissection by our biology teacher, To the livelong wait for a world tour with our geography teacher, From physics numericals to a new computer application, The memories created in school are beyond any clarification.

No wonder how long I can write and sing, About school. It's a place of sheer joy, a place where hopes embark,

A place with thousands of special memories close to our hearts!



Oorja Shah IX-C

The Call of Nature

Immaculate white sand rushing from under the feet, As the giant waves rush in great speed towards me. Lush green tall trees, and in its shade, I take a seat, As the reach towards the vast azure sky, calling you and me.

Crisp cold winds fill me with gratitude,

Flowers forming a colourful kaleidoscope in solitude The bliss of their picturesque view is unlike reality This enthralling call of nature beckons you and me.

> Oorja Shah IX-C



The Soulmate Equation

"I believe that happy endings are a false reality created by books. They don't exist. I don't believe that anybody dies completely happy or fulfilled. And if they do, they've lived through a miracle,"

There are only two ways you can receive that statement. Just two, no in-betweens. Either you call it pessimistic or, be a little bolder and call it realistic, and I'm not asking you to make a major life decision right now. Opinions like these can change, over years, months, days, hours, minutes... seconds.

Because when you find someone who you genuinely enjoy being with, and this can be anyone, a friend, a significant other, even just an acquaintance, something in the human brain seems to snap. Everything becomes fun, right? Skirting around each other, feeling all dizzy and ditzy because you don't know how, but you know that this one person is going to stick around... for a while at least.

A wave of complete and absolute euphoria.

According to Greek mythology, humans originally had four arms, four legs, almost like two humans attached to each other, physically and emotionally dependant on one other. But, like most stories in Greek mythology, Zeus didn't like this. So, he decided to split them up, right down the middle, and then sent them to earth. The catch here was that the human would always long for their other half, always looking for them, trying to become whole again, and they would spend their entire life doing so. Zeus giggled.

There's this common misconception that soulmates HAVE to be your significant other; and to that I say nothing. Sure, they can be your S/O, but it can also be your best friend, a sibling, a parent, a colleague... even someone you've never met. I know at least a hundred people, including myself who find so much comfort in someone they've never met. Their favourite celebrity, artist, sportsperson. There's just something about that one person that makes you feel all warm and gooey and safe, like books do, but in real life.

In the words of our saviour, Taylor Swift, "Your Midas touch on the Chevy door, November flushed and your flannel cure"

> -Avanti Sowani IX-D



An Eternal Slumber

With millions and billions of whimsical notions formed about death, We slowly yet gradually are conquered by it.

Some embrace it with utmost patience for they lived surplus years than others While some suffer from it after being mere minutes past creation

Some live in utter fear of it, internally pleading to be safe from its menacing approach, And some accept it's inevitability with grace, entering heaven, hell or some utterly different place.

Those who are engulfed in the tormenting grip of death, suffer a slow, agonizing effect before they take their last breath.

While others are blessed to be taken in its merciful hands, peacefully and swiftly entering the afterlife lands.

For some of us, death is our darkness, Which the devil elegantly wears as a cape, While for others, death is complete solace, For if life worsens, it's our place of escape.

Some remain speculating the realm of afterlife, others are too engrossed in wrath and strife. Death, around us, it does lumber





The String of Humanity That is Breaking

It is rightly said that a person's individuality sets the person apart from the rest of the world. Individuality is something that does not arise from profession, one's sartorial choices or appearance, whereas, it is influenced by the qualities the individual possesses. Individuality is simply who you are from within. This world is filled with people who are distinguished from each other by their values and actions, by the path that each person chooses to walk on but at the end of the day, we are all joined by that one string of humanity. This string however, is fragile and is almost broken, because, even today in the twenty-first century, the people of this world are not ready to let go of their rigid mindsets and notions. The world has grown, fought countless battles and has overcome endless trials and tribulations but despite all of that, gender equality is still at a setback from the rest of the world. It is devastating to think that a lot of members of the LGBTQ+ Community have to fight, just for the sake of their survival. there are so many people in this world who are just trying to fit in or who are just trying to figure out their purpose in the world. Their identity should not be in danger. Each person should be allowed to choose the person they want to love. The government may let go of those who have committed heinous crimes but apparently accepting people as who they are and not shunning them from the society because of whom they choose to love is too much to ask for. How sad it is to think that there are so many people in the world right now who are maimed by unacceptance while we are ensconced in safety and the warmth of love and acceptance. Conversion therapy, which is still practiced in many countries has resulted in the death of several individuals. Practices like conversion therapy are known for inflicting pain and suffering on members of the LGBTQ+ Community, ultimately leading them to believe that euthanasia maybe the only solution. Hence, resulting in suicide. several studies have shown that suicide rates among the LGBTQ+ Community are much higher as compared to the rest of the world population. Conversion therapy forces individuals to change their sexual orientation only so that they can be considered as "normal." But the question is, what is normal anyway? We, as citizens of this world, have experienced in the past two years a pandemic, bush fires and unfathomable natural disasters. The truth is that the definition of "normal" is constantly changing-the world is evolving in every sphere but the concepts of empathy and accepting people as who they are, are still foreign to it. It is vitally important to note and to spread the message that you are who you are, and that is unique and that is rare.

> -Aarna Gandhi 10 B



Sorcer Saga

"You're a wizard, Aarush", said Harry. I sat there bewildered. Had Harry Potter just jumped out of the illustration in my book and told me I was a wizard? Reality was impossible for me to comprehend.

It was a normal Sunday morning. In my hand, I had a thick Harry Potter book, the illustrated edition. I was admiring an image of Harry running towards the Nine and Three quarters station when he jumped out of the book.

I was gaping at him with wonder. He looked exactly like the illustration. He told me I was a wizard and offered me a tour of the beautiful world of Hogwarts, extending his right hand towards me. I was too speechless to respond so I clutched his hand and we hopped back into the book.

In the blink of an eye, we stood there, at the gates of the prestigious Hogwarts. It was lunch time and so he took me to the Gryffindor table in the grand dining room where I saw Hermione, Ron, Fred, George and many other familiar faces as depicted in the book. Next, we went to the Gryffindor and Slytherin Quidditch game where Harry played. I watched with fascination as fourteen students flew around on their brooms throwing boulders into the opposing hoops. Gryffindor won that game by a hair-like margin. After the game I pleaded with Harry to teach me spells but he didn't as I didn't have my "custom wand" yet. So we made our way to the Hogsmeade village where we bought myself a wand and then went to the Shrieking shack where he taught me all the spells from Accio (the Summoning spell) to Expelliarmus (the Disarming spell).

Time flew by so quickly. It was dusk and now it was time to go home. He asked me to hold his hand again. So, I kept my wand in my pocket and did so and we were back at my home. I sat down on my chair as Harry vanished again. I looked outside the window and it was still dawn. I checked inside my pocket but found no wand. I sat there, astounded.

Aarush Gupta 10th F



Love Yourself Tour: A Personal Experience

It was only around 6:00 p.m. contradicting to which the sky showed its true colors of a vivid orange mixed with hues of crimson. Even though it was almost summer, a chilly breeze in Chicago is a norm. Waiting in the stadium, I was



full of zeal, as this was going to be my first concert. There were easily no doubt more than ten thousand people over there, all hollering at the top of their voices, bobbing up and down to the music played before the actual star of the show themselves performed. My mom had accompanied me, despite not being a fan, she gave it a chance. Soon enough as the sky started to fade into a Cimmerian gloom, a slight drizzle could be felt, marking the arrival of the seven boys on the stage ready to start the show.

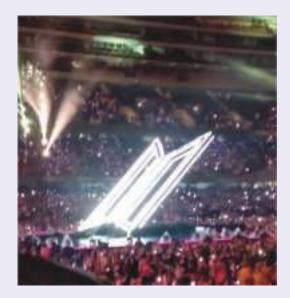
They started out the show with a new song from their latest album, a major hit worldwide. They went on to perform a variety of songs, some old some new. Whatever it was, it was always the same amount of energy and affection from both sides, the fans, and the band themselves. I also recall that they played a "game" of American football and interacted with the

fans, cracking up at their own jokes, which brought that sense of realism portraying that they too are normal human beings like us who have emotions and aren't "perfect" versions of what we see on the screen. Even though I wasn't having a one-on-one conversation with them I really felt this strange connection which made me feel right at home. Another set of songs were performed, this time in a more leisurely and light manner. Always the prodigious performers they kept the crowd all hyped up.

At last, the concert was nearing its end, as all of them visited each corner of the stage saying their goodbyes to all the fans present, some above, some below in the pit. They also told us to have a warm bath and hot cup of tea, which sounded splendid considering the temperature was shifting to the negative degrees plus rain. The concert lasted for about three and a half hours; unfortunately, time flies by fast when you're having fun. Upon boarding the bus back home, I felt a wave of emotions pass through me. I could hear the songs all stuck in my head, replaying themselves repeatedly. I smiled and was more than satisfied and felt lucky that I could actually and witness them live right in front of my naked eyes, as many people don't get that opportunity, I was grateful. I reached back at the hotel and fell asleep with the fresh memories of the



concert still running through my mind. I did record almost the entire concert and saved them in a folder, so whenever I didn't feel like myself, those recordings make me much better and make me feel like it was only yesterday I had the time of my life. That day is unquestionably one of the ideal days of my life and will remain to be.



Aashrita Narayan 10 A

"Au Revoir"

'School,' such a fascinating place, isn't it? A place that was once this unusual building with colourful rooms, tiny chairs and tables and people of varying heights. Little did we know that in no time they would turn into examination centres with big chairs and tables meant for older kids to start thinking about their future!

When I recall all those years I have spent in this school, Surprises meant waiting to know the destination for the school trip. Happiness meant many hands digging into that one tiffin box with the best food. Dedication meant looking constantly at the watch while listening to the stories of Tughlaq's dynasty or learning about Cell - the unit of life! Instead of walking down in a single file it was running or sliding down the handrails. The greatest achievement of a student, I would say, was to manage to *eat in class while the teacher was teaching (I could never pull that one off :/*)

Then suddenly all of this jovial atmosphere disappeared and all that was seen was a flat black surface on which a series of images were projected that had an attached keyboard and a mouse extending outwards. It's rightly said, 'humans can adapt and adjust to the environment quite easily,' and that's precisely what happened. With online education, things started getting quite cozy. Everything was easily accessible from within those four walls of the most comfortable place in the world – *Home*.

Soon those incessant conversations in the classrooms started becoming chats and the classrooms became silent. I found happiness in being with myself, my laptop in my room. Rather than going out for movies and hanging out with friends, it was all Netflix and me. It was a feeling of bliss to stay indoors and not walk those stairs leading to the classrooms early in the morning.

However, it took me a while to realize that soon I would get nostalgic about avoiding the dreaded staircase climbs and those endless conversations! Luckily, after seventeen months, we were back for a partial time. The enthusiasm, commotion, ecstasy was back! The unending conversations, the laughs, the squeaks, the pre-exam anxiety were all back!

But who could say it was all momentarily? Who can even predict if we will get that last trip of school life, the farewell, the last class photograph, that feeling of every minute being equal to an hour during the period before the break when even the teacher knew nothing got into the head! Who can even say whether skipping classes for practices for the annual days, sports days, or inter-house activities will ever come back!

Here we are today, terrified at the constant reminders of the Semester – 2 exams, petrified of choosing the right field and the right school for the next two years and completely freaked out at the thought of leaving school and everybody getting separated to lead their own lives. But we are not the first and surely not the last to experience this feeling, but definitely those who missed the two most memorable years! Nevertheless, with the vaccines coming in, one can certainly hope to bid those final goodbyes, those T-shirt signings and post-exam feasts.

I know I will never have the same people together in the same classroom again or ever run around the school trying to find those runaway participants for the inter-house events or having a completely free zero period where each classroom is a unique world by itself, but for what it's worth, they will be those precious memories that will truly remain priceless!



Tiredness

I'm so very tired right now Don't feel like doing anything Feeling as lazy as a cow It's like my brain loosened it's hinge.

You'll say that teens shouldn't get tired Do me a favour, tell me something, What is the proof that is required? To convince you i'm not bluffing?

We also need to keep up with This humdrum life, which is joy-sucking, So believe me, it's not a myth, In the race of life, we are rushing.

My pupils cannot stay at rest, A wrecked mind my brain's driving, My limbs and torso is so stressed, I don't know how i'm surviving.

An array of some random thoughts Into my mind is entering, Like astronauts making gunshots Or a woman giving a cat scolding. It's like i'm drunk, losing my senses, While walking, into walls i'm bumping It's now i know the consequences Of too much work and too much hustling.

The moment i lay my head down, The universe starts caressing me, In the ocean of bliss i start to drown, And resurface in a refreshing glee.

I honestly don't know if my tiredness Came physically or mentally, But i do know that all that stress, Will never show you empathy.

We weren't meant to live like this, To do something till we're out of bliss, So chill out, or there's a lot you'll miss,

If you live a life full of tiredness.

Atharv Agarwal 10 D



The Road Less Travelled

One of Robert Frost's famous poems tells us about a man who takes the road less travelled. Describe an incident when you also chose the less travelled path and the effects it had on you.

As a phenomenal poet, Robert Frost's poems continue to influence the modern world, and one such poem is The Road not Taken, in which, Frost describes a man who comes across two roads, one used by many and the other not walked by man. This man takes the less traveled road and it changes his life, presumably for the better. I found myself in a similar predicament myself.

It all began on a dull winter morning; the wind was dry and carried the message of change. I was bunched up in my blanket, too lazy to even drink my warm cup of coffee that sat just inches away from grasp, almost as if ridiculing me. I sighed and slowly snaked my arm out, and grabbed the cup. "Yes!" Exclaiming, I took a sip of the bitter black coffee and it was off to another tedious day with caffeine pumping through my veins. During the winter break, my art academy had asked me to create a piece for an upcoming competition that would be viewed by accomplished critics and painters. I wanted to bring honor and pride to our academy. The general idea given to us was 'Seasons and Feelings', something I didn't quite understand.

I had no idea. It was safe to say the ship was sinking before even setting sail. I planned to draw a woman on a winter street. I knew it was the safest option for someone with no ideas on a sinking ship but it felt so overused! I wanted something fresh, something that would shock the critics in a good way. Feelings...this drawing didn't have feelings. I tore away the paper and threw it.

I didn't want to tread down the same overused path, and hence, I made a decision, painting a warm, flowery spring on the cold winter morning. I decided that I would paint the same in front of the judges.

My canvas, depicted the pinkish-blue sky, lilacs, whites and pinks, along with a distant figure, which was a stark contrast to the others' works, which showed cold skies, sulky gazes and deep blue shades at every turn. As the critics eyed my piece, one asked, "and what does this convey?" I, quite ironically froze. Well, I had chosen to travel the grassy road, I had chosen to be avant-garde. "It conveys a young man's feelings. His excitement that the snow has thawed and flowers have blossomed is unmeasured. He picks out lilacs for his lover, a symbolism of renewal and spring." They only nodded and moved on. After my little show of stupid boldness, I knew I was losing but to my utter shock and pleasant surprise, when the results were announced, I was first, with a gold medal waiting for me.

The medal and painting are more of a symbolism that an achievement: It is now a reminder that sometimes, the road that has been worn down with repeated use might not yield the best results while the grassy unused path holds answers and consequences one would never have imagined.

Dhruvi Singh 10 D

Education – An Essential Necessity

Education nowadays, is a necessity and a right, It is of utmost importance in this modern age. Lack of education truly is a global plight, Since millions cannot write properly on a page.

Marginalization, poverty, and inequality, Bar students from accessing education. Discrimination on gender and cultural identity, Increases this problem in each and every nation.

There are drastic effects of this illiteracy,

Since it leads to poverty and homelessness. This poverty often reduces life expectancy, And the lives of those suffering are a mess.

Moreover, a lack of education in one, Leads to greater unemployment rates. Absence of jobs or often lower income, Affect people adversely in all of the states.

This takes a toll on a nation's economy, And even leads to a rise in misery and crime. There is no voice for the illiterate citizenry, They rarely achieve success in their lifetime.

It is therefore the need of the hour, To provide a stronger academic foundation, To ensure that rural schools are not far, So the same walks the fathers took, needn't be taken by this generation.

Governments should improve realization, About the importance and mission of literacy, And onboard the good teachers of the nation, Taking advantage of their proficiency.

This is how we can improve our situation, And help all those in need of assistance. By imparting correct knowledge and education, But not agenda-based type, enabling their sustenance.

Education nowadays, is a necessity and a right, It is of utmost importance in this modern age. Lack of education truly is a global plight, Since millions cannot even write properly on a page.



-Aryan Kaushal 10-D

Infinity

The stars shine tirelessly and the moon smiles so joyfully, Every unexplainable phenomenon, The waterfall runs down incessantly, The Milky Way gleams so beautifully, The way every piece of this puzzle of a world, Falls so beautifully in place, every single day, Is the mere proof that infinity exists. For the reason we close our eyes every night, In the hope to accomplish something the next day, The faith in the impossibly possible dreams, The chase to surpass the ordinary, 10 D The fuel within a being to become extraordinary, And the struggle to find the 'super power' in this process, Is what drives this world.

Every manifested dream turning into reality, Is driven by the 'extraordinary'. The power, the desire, the faith, the love, the hatred Are a plethora of emotions, in this gigantic universe, Induced by someone unknown, And our lives are so meaningfully incomplete, For you and I are just small pawns, in infinity's chase.

Litisha Bagadia

Is free will real or just an illusion?

Free will is the idea that we can have a certain choice in the way we act, that the choices we undertake are wilful and voluntary products of human reasoning. Free will is a rationalised response to a variety of needs, wants, and desires. 'Free' in a general sense can be defined as being open to choose, rights, and liberty. This sense of free moral and neurological will runs deep within our various social societies and is used in certain instances as a vital ideology.

An ideology that goes against the concept of free will is determinism The concept of determinism is a philosophical idea that in every single human decision, action, or event, there is an inevitability and necessary consequence of



antecedent states of affairs. It is also an idea held in physics that all laws of nature, for example, Isaac Newton's laws of motion are something known as causal laws. Causal laws are something held from casual determinism; every idea is necessitated by antecedent conditions together with the laws of nature. Determinism completely goes against the idea of any free will, although any type of determinism is vet to and will likely not be able to empirically prove that free will is an illusion. Determinism has generally been regarded as a metaphysical claim, not proven thus far by empirical findings. On the other hand, for many years we have known that the functioning of our brain has to do not only with the belief that we have free will but also with the existence of free will itself. An example to suggest the presence of free will is the case with most justice systems and courts of law. In a court of law, an offender would be

held morally responsible for his/her actions, and would most probably not represent themselves to a judge or a jury with a deterministic approach; their offence was not biologically or physically determined. Free will overrides the concept of determinism in this case by suggesting that we are in control of our actions and that any determined ideals can be taken over. In a logical sense, a determinist, someone who believes in the idea that every action has been preset by other biological or physical deterministic values, would portray their mannerisms and behaviour patterns as results or causes of those deterministic ideas. If a person commits a crime or cheats on a test, they would be deterministic in their reasonings as to why those immoral acts were committed. In a way for our society, with an example of its various justice systems, such a thing would lead to no conclusion of why to morally judge the person or people. It would be far easier to believe in free will, as it stands as a crucial benefactor in the decision-making process for moral reasoning. Free will may be an illusion, but we're better off believing in it.

> **Manav Sharma** X C

Joys of Teenage life

Riding bikes are fun, but dangerous at the same time, when riding in an apartment basement, with no light traffic or no cars are packed in between. The danger that a motorcycle brings is mainly falling especially when someone is sitting behind you, hitting a wall at excessive speed or even a rock can cause you to lose control of your motorcycle. I remember that day when this incident happened with one of my close friends (Aryan). After our examination we decided to meet up. That day Aryan was carrying his mother's motorcycle keys and he suddenly appeared with the bike in typical 'swagger and drift'. We took turns sitting behind and having a ride in the building basement where no cars were parked in between but many other obstacles in the way, but who



cares anyway! The first person sat behind for a round, Aryan accelerated the turbo bike and released the breaks and went 'Vroom Vroom' at a speed of 50 km per hour. The person sitting behind was looking terrified, when he came back, he challenged the other person (Keval) to take a ride. He confidently sat behind and did not even hold anything for support. The first round went well, in the second round the bike went like a flying jet. Aryan lost his control on turning the bike where he accelerated instead of applying the breaks and crashed against the wall. Our stomachs hurt while laughing, but he ended with a big scratch. We helped them both get up but could not stop laughing. Aryan held his stomach and limped. The next day when we met, his mother called me and asked why the motorcycle's handle shook so much". All of us began laughing like hooligans in public. He was blank for some time but later told her the truth. I can never forget this incident. it will always remind me how teenagers enjoy life.

Prem P. Gangar X – C

The Power of Your Dreams

"Those who dream to change the world are the ones who actually do it."

Dreams are scary. They give you the power to create an alternate dimension, an alternate universe, where you are the main character. The only difference between dreams and reality is that dreams don't restrict you, while reality really does. Dreams transcend resources and time and help you build a vision for yourself, after you which you get to build a roadmap between the present and the day you reach that dream. Different people have different dreams, be it becoming a social activist impacting a million lives, or the most successful entrepreneur in the world, or making a groundbreaking discovery as a space scientist, but not every human in this world of 7.7 billion is able to make that happen. Every time you see someone inspiring you in your field of interest, what one forgets to notice is the hard work, grit, determination, sleepless nights, and failures that went behind it. Dreams fuel your brain and heart to take the tougher road, the road less traveled, in order to reach your goal. You fall, and fail, and have a million setbacks, but when you dream of that day standing proud of yourself, you stand back up, clean that bruise, and try better again. Dreams push you to work harder, and you need to build skills, a network, and street smartness along the way. Even the sky is not the limit for a dreamer, and no matter how many people let them down along the way, they already have a parallel universe of their dream running in a loop in their mind always. Don't know where to start? Start by dreaming. Allow yourself to be intimidated, and put those hours to turn what intimidates you into what makes you proud.

-Litisha Bagadia, 10 D

Amidst Nature

Have you ever pondered how much we, humans, are caught up in our digital world of computers? The fact that we barely have time to appreciate what mother earth has endowed us with, namely nature, is truly lamentable. I believe that all of us should revive the beauty of wilderness in our minds by taking a break from the monotony of routine life.



Fortunately, last summer, I got the rare opportunity to connect with nature by joining a seven day trekking expedition on the forested hills at the outskirts of our city. On the first day, at the break of dawn, my friends and I assembled and set out, marking the start of our expedition. The sun gradually rose and lit up the sky with a soft glow just as we began walking up the slope.

During the climb, I could feel the soothing breeze brushing my skin, providing relief from the scorching heat of the sun. I found solace in simply staring and observing everything. By mid-afternoon, we stopped for a picnic under the shade of

a canopy of trees. After an entire morning of hiking ceaselessly, it provided much needed relief. That night, we camped in our tents amidst the resounding chirping of crickets as if they were singing a lullaby, lolling me to sleep.

The following two days, we scaled the acclivous terrain, trudging forward arduously. We came across a magnificent waterfall. It was like the sky on a crisp winter's morning, majestic and graceful. It looked like a wall of blue satin threaded with silver. The beauty of it left me spell bounded. By dusk, we had finally reached the summit which consequently lead to cheers of jubilation among everyone.

That night, the dark blue sky was dotted with a plethora of stars, twinkling with delight. It was as if they were reflecting my happiness! We spent the next day talking to each other, playing games and clicking pictures. At twilight, we made a bonfire since the temperature was cooling down.

The following days, we headed back down. Having woken up early, majority of us were half asleep, yawning loudly as we plodded along the bushes of wild flowers. However, their strong fragrance invigorated me completely. Halfway down, it suddenly started raining. The ground underneath became muddy as the water soaked it, turning it a few shades darker. Immediately, we scrambled for shelter under trees and stood there until the rain passed.

Once the sky cleared, a faint scent of petrichor lingered in the air. The drenched trees and plants looked even more alive. I smiled in delectation of having seen all phases of nature. By the time our trek ended, a wave of nostalgia hit me as I glanced back at the green hills. It had truly been a memorable trek for me as I realized, it is only when I took out time to connect with nature did I understand how beautiful and inexpensive a treasure it is.

Pari Bhandari 10th F

Awaiting Results

Hoping to pass with flying colours Mixed emotions of hope and fear SSC results already declared I wonder how ICSE has fared

Curious neighbours wanting to know When I will meet them with sweets to show My performance at the board exam And of course my future plan.

I say "Have mercy, we're the Covid batch" With challenges and uncertainty unmatched But we have given our utmost best To the year full of doubt, full of test

You will see us shine like a superstar Hardworking CNMites that we are



Piyush Rana 10th F

Parallel Universe

The question building up in the past few years is that do parallel universe really exists? First we'll go into its depth and learn what parallel universe actually are.

- It is hypothetical self-contained plane of existence. It is a reality or a world that exists simultaneously with ours. The sum of all potential parallel universes that constitute reality is known as 'multiverse.'
- The theory of parallel universes are no longer just the feature for a movie or books, there are now a few theories that support the idea of a universe beyond our own.
- Our universe is unimaginably big. There are not billion, not trillion, but infinite galaxies in the space without us having a single clue, and not only that, each galaxy has its own limitless number of stars.
- One of the examples for an existence of a multiverse would be an observation which was recorded in the late 1990's. It stated that the dark energy of roughly the expected magnitude was detected and it would be our first evidence for a huge multiverse
- Multiverse theory is still infancy, but as Leonard Susskin wrote, "I would bet that at the turn of the 22nd Century philosophers & physicists will look nostalgically at the present and recall a



golden age in which the narrow provincial 20th century concept of universe gave way to a bigger better mindboggling proportions."

- The headlines that came out in the recent week, reporting scientist in Antarctica have found an evidence for the existence of a parallel universe, and if it true, it would be absolutely a revolutionary experience. There could be so much more if its claimed true, some of our wildest science fictions dreams would be possible and we could live a life just like how it's shown in the Spider-Man movies.
- The universe indeed is mysterious thing like there would be so much more out there and we won't even be aware of it.

Riddhima Agarwal 10 A

The Sacrificed Sleep

Some animals have a peculiar characteristic of NOCTURNALITY. Unfortunately, we humans do not. We humans are not born nocturnal. But when our need turns into greed, we tend to be up late nights when our system is not accustomed to activity during night and slumber during the day. For students nocturnality plays the role when they study late nights to complete the portion for the exam the next day. But little do they know about the immense damages of lack of sleep to the body. According to a study by Texas A&tM Medical College, it was observed that studying late into the night can result in a sharp decrease in performance for specific learning and memory tasks. Our peak cognitive efficiency happens earlier in the day and by studying late night we're fighting against our natural body clock. Before an exam a sound sleep for at least 6 hours is needed. Sleep is the best investment one can do before an exam. And it's the universal truth, whatever we study post-midnight is never asked in the exam :)

All the excuses of peace, lack of disturbance and other benefits of late-night studies just overpower the disadvantages of lack of sleep. The truth is that, MELATONIN the sleeping hormone is only secreted when one experiences darkness and is tired enough to go to bed.

And under secretion of the same leads to depression and fatigue. Also, the blue light emitted by your cell phone screen restrains the production of melatonin. Two hours before the sleep phone should be kept at an arms distance lest one should bear the repercussions. Say no to sacrificing sleep!

-Shriya Shah 10C



The Blessed Drop

Rainy season, the one that comes right after the hot melting summer to cool us and our planet. People face quite a few problems during summer like skin diseases, water shortages and so on. After standing right under the fan to cool ourselves for months, drops of water touch the ground with giving everyone and the environment a new, relaxed life.

In the Hindu calendar months of Asadha and Shawan comes my favourite season, monsoon. The entire ecological system revives and we get gorgeous scenic views everywhere with everything turning lush green. When going to my village during this season, I used to spend hours by a breathtaking lake near our field to watch the ripples on the lake water. The chilly breeze would brush against my hair along with dropping a few tiny droplets of rain on my cheeks. It really makes my heart smile when I see people of all ages gaily dancing under the rain. With children jumping into puddles, splashing water, the smiles on their faces show how the smallest things in life are enough to make one happy.

It's not only dancing under the rain that makes people happy, it also gives immense joy to the poor farmers of the backward and rural areas. India being a country almost fully dependent on agriculture, it is a crucial matter when the farmers have no yield due to the droughts through summer. Not long after that comes rain to help the hardworking farmers earn a living. Hence the village people worship the rains because they are a blessing for them.

Keeping farmers aside, the very reason I long for the monsoon season is so that I can sit in my balcony while reading a book, listening to the rain drops patter on the roof, filling the essence with the scent of wet mud. There is no better combination than a view of blooming flowers, rain and a novel to vanish into.

Siya Joshi X-A



Topic– You were on a school trip and on your way back to the hotel late one night when your school bus, full of children, broke down in a lonely area. Describe what you saw and experienced when you looked around. How was the problem solved?

An inerasable school trip

Life consists of a few euphoric moments and a lot of unexpected events. You're never sure of what to expect of it. Everything could be alright and in just a blink of an eye, your life could turn upside down. Fate always has a few tricks up it's sleeve, never letting us predict what could happen next. Things can, and will change at any moment, but we usually trick ourselves into not believing this most of the times.

School life is said to be one of the most knowledgeable and unique experiences of our life. School trips are a part and parcel of the school curriculum. Memorable moments are created in these handful of days. We are surrounded in a cocoon of joy, wrapping us delicately and sending us in a state of utter ecstasy. The feeling of being surrounded by the ones you care about and creating sweet moments which could send you in a state of nostalgia, only by the mere remembrance of it.

This year, the school decided to take us to Nainital and the Jim Corbett National Park. Jim Corbett is famous for it's tigers who are said to be ferocious, majestic beings. The trip was for three nights and four days. The first two days were supposed to be spent in Nainital while the other half in another resort near Jim Corbett. To say that I was exhilarated would be an understatement. I filled in all the details necessary to sign up and the details for the stay were given to me. On the day of our departure, we boarded our airplane and headed towards our destination. We were taken in a bus to our hotel and the teachers allotted us to our rooms. The stay in Nainital was a pleasant one, with breath-taking sceneries and a serene atmosphere. We left for Jim Corbett on the third day and our safari was scheduled for the same day. The day consisted of gaping at unrealistically gorgeous animals and some chattering here and there. We were returning to our hotel when our bus broke down in the middle of the forest. The bus screeched to a stop with a shrilling noise, alerting us of the problem.

The jungle looked gorgeous at night with the sky painted black and the stars looking like little specs of white in a pitch black canvas, and the moon casted a silver glow, lighting up the path with a dim glow. While I was busy staring at the marvellous scene in front of me, there was loud growl heard close by. It was clearly detectable that a tiger was nearby. We were scared and huddled up in a corner of the bus, trying to calm our palpitating hearts. The tiger came into our view, his coat was a gorgeous orange, with stripes of black and white running through the length of it. His eyes were settled on us and with a curious glance he started approaching us with painfully slow steps. We desperately clung onto our last string of courage, not letting a scream slip through our mouth. Suddenly, there was a bright light, indicating that a vehicle was approaching us. The tiger, being obviously surprised, ran back into the shadows and comfort of the jungle. We all let out a breath that we didn't know we were holding and went back to our seat. Later, the patrolling officers had found us and they took us back to our hotel.

This experience, even though scary, left me fascinated on how in just a few moments our supposedly enjoyable trip turned into something scary. I knew that this trip was going to be forever etched in my memory with the jovial as well as the slightly frightening moments.

- Somya Shah X A

The Time Crusade

Is time travel feasible? Short answer: Yes, and you are doing it right now – hurtling into the future at an impressive rate of one second per second. We all are moving through time at the exact speed, whether you are waiting for your paint to dry or wishing you could sit and binge watch Money Heist!

However, this is not the kind of time travel that science fiction writers have found captivating. Be it travelling forward to the future or back to the past as seamlessly as pushing buttons on the dashboard like Back to the Future or Doctor Strange doing his green-sparkly thing with the Time Stone that he generally does or the adventures of Captain Kirk on board the Enterprise!

'Time travel' is simply two random words that are combined! As of today, it is impossible and not ideal to travel back in time. Say, for instance, you broke your arm while riding your bike. What if you could go back in time and tell yourself not to ride on a rough patch? If you were successful, you'd never fall and break your arm. So, what does this mean for your arm? Did it break, or not? Puzzling, isn't it? We consider time to be a sequence, i.e.: a straight line. Had it been true even Albus Severus Potter would have been successful in whatever he was trying to accomplish.



But for all those Back to the Future fans who might question, if not the past, how about the future? Technically, we are already travelling forward in time because time is passing. Every second we travel one second into the future and this happens to all the 7.8 billion people on Earth. Who knew it was so common?!

On the contrary, two people can feel time at different rates. Time goes faster for a person playing cricket while slower for the person sitting in a history class learning about the Khilji Dynasty! Interestingly, if you had flown around the world for more than four million years, according to the principle of time dilation, people on the ground would have experienced only one more second than you. Although many people are fascinated by the idea of changing the past or seeing the future before it's due, time is a mysterious thing; it's powerful but when meddled with dangerous! And the best evidence of sitting in a time machine and going through timelines is not thriving is that Earth doesn't yet need a Men in Black agency!

Though there is a 'but' that follows this theory! Okay, so we can't travel time. But we can see into the past, every night. Light has a fixed speed, 3×108 ms-1. It's fast but things are not so outside the Earth's atmosphere. When we look through a telescope to see stars and galaxies, we see it as it was an exceptionally long time ago. Or, when light arrives from the Sun, it left the sun 8.20 minutes ago. So, although we can't see time travel ourselves, we experience it and to feel the moment one has to simply look up at the sky and you will be able to see the past every night!

– Aayushi Lodhavia X-C

> – Keya Parekh X–E

ISC Section

The Most Memorable Moment of My Life

Life- as we know and live it is a fleeting moment in its self with every tick of the clock going by unnoticingly. The events however are much too many to cope with such a swift ongoing. So much so that hours of scrolling through my albums or tapes were of no help. "What is your favourite colour ? or which is your favourite book? - are the most trivial questions which one sometimes doesn't know the answers to. Scrunching my eyebrows, squinting my eyes, I thought too that it would be the day I went to the US or maybe the time I received my first phone. These are the one time explicit experiences, hence why they might sound the most memorable. How ever my definition isn't the same. Memorable is the day I recollect even now and smile to myself- it is the day I find a sense of not only achievement but also being and more importantly belonging.

Only when I closed my eyes and sighed for a second did I realise which incident it really was. The scene flashed through my eyes like it had just passed a minute ago.

I was on a trip but the place isn't impertinent here. I skipped down to the garden and as usual played my playlist and laid down on the grass. How I had the courage to do what I did next- I had no idea.

I had always been one to bleed through my pen, one to let my writing reflect my emotions. That particular evening however I decided to put it up for the world to see. I know it might not sound a lot but for a person living under a facade all the time with the only reality being themselves in their poems- it damn sure was. Driven by impulse, I created a cover, preface and everything else at a faster pace than I ever could and within an hour ten of my articles were already in that book. Pride? No.

The exact emotion I felt then was one of those very rare fleeting moments when you finally manage to acceptmoreover love yourself. I remember an instant reaction of the people to the book and it was something I'd never expect. Readers liked it - they related to it and that somehow gave me a sense of acceptance, a sense or not being alone.

I still recollect that particular moment when I switched off my phone – set it aside and just closed my eyes. The wind hitting my face and my slow breaths calming my mind. It didn't last long but just for a minute there, I didn't hate myself as much.

-Aanvi Kapoor XII Commerce

Peace Amidst War

In the deadly cold winter of Germany, where the leaves died, homeless people huddled together in a flimsy blanket at the corner of the street and the birds never sang sweet tones of music, Mr. Hoffmann believed that spring would be close by. Spring would bring all the flowers to life and give the birds the will to sing at the top of their voices and never stop. Spring would help the homeless people find food and hope. He was an optimist that never gave up hope for the better. He found peace in the feeling of hope.

But in the winter of 1939, when not only Germany but the entire world came to a standstill, was the first winter in Mr Hoffmann's life, where he felt that there would never come a spring in the upcoming times. He had lost all hope in a prosperous future in the lives of his family, friends, neighbours and the birds and with that he lost all his peace as well. The world had turned into a graveyard of young men dying in a futile war. A war that was started by an overambitious dictator with no purpose, except his own desire to conquer the entire world. A war that lead to the destruction of millions of lives, humble abodes of harmless citizens, and most of all, the destruction of a man's peacefulness, his hopefulness for the future, shattering him to pieces.

Mr. Hoffmann sat in his armchair, with a glass of the best whiskey in his hands, across from the window that looked outside to the bleak and deserted street where children would play catch, women would chatter in groups and men would travel up and down trying to earn a living. Now it was like the sun never came out, never shone its rays on top of their world and snatched away a promise for new beginnings.

A loud siren rang out across the entire neighbourhood, a warning against the bombs that would fly out of the sky like raindrops on a teary day. Everyone rushed out of their houses, with their most treasured belongings that they could hold on to and rushed to the bomb shelter a few yards away. Mr. Hoffmann ran out of his house with his precious bottle of whiskey and a glass. That's all that he wished for in this world that lacked peace and hope, two things that consumed his entirety, few months ago.

How do you find peace when everything around you is going to be under heaps of concrete in a matter of seconds or maybe hours or maybe days? After a while Mr. Schneider pulled out his flute from under his jacket and played out such a beautiful tune, that it melted Mr. Hoffmann's heart. It brought him down to reality that he wasn't alone. He was surrounded with people who had the same fate as him. The music filled the entire room, brimming it with beauty that you could never find anywhere else. Later, Emma, a little girl that lived down the street, pulled out a book and read it out loud for everybody in the room to try and calm them down. The story was truly mesmerizing and captivated everyone in the room. Her voice was all that they could hear and fixate upon.

The chatter of the kids, the hushed conversations, to hear each person's life story, it was just a feeling of belonging that he hadn't felt in a long time. A sense of family that they had created in that small bomb shelter. This, Mr. Hoffmann realized, brought him the peace that he was searching for in this bleak and despair filled times. This peaceful place he found himself in, amidst the chaos of war. Maybe he wouldn't live to see another day, but at least he would die, knowing that he was at peace, even till his last breath.

-Ananya Berani XII Science

Starry Starry Night

A canvas, blue grey swirls with shimmering yellow circles, whose starlight mixes with dark tones and the city below gazing in awe. Starry night, a painting with such precision and beauty, made by Vincent Van Gogh, the read-headed madman of the city. Such contrast between the painting and its maker.

Vincent grew up with a traumatic childhood, having only the shoulder of his brother Theo to rest on. Having found art to cope with manic anxiety and depression, Vincent started his art journey using cheap material with the financial support of his brother. However, living in solitude worsened his mental state. Stale bread, coffee, and absinthe weren't always enough to feed his impoverished hunger. He was unable to sleep and even hallucinated of being poisoned. It drove him to such an extent that he picked up a knife and cut off his ear, wrapped it up in paper and gifted it to a woman.

Inevitably, he was forced to move into a lunatic asylum. Lonely as ever in the two celled rooms with barred windows and a single painting studio, his illness had a significant effect on his work, for the better though. His works that used to have dark and sombre tones transformed into bright contrasting colours with loose brush strokes. He started seeing patterns in the wind and became absorbed in the boundless, yellow fields. Although his mental state started to improve after a while at the asylum, it went downhill again very fast. He committed suicide with a gunshot straight through his stomach, at an open field.

He now is the most influential and inspiring artists of all time. He had a great mind trapped in an ill body, or people rather say a great mind as the result of an ill body but either way, it is a pity that his impeccable success approached after he had taken his own life away. He found a way to channel his hardships and suffering into artwork with genius originality. Moreover, his art was non-conventional and at the time, it went unappreciated. He just proved that external validation is not needed if you are proud of the work you do.

Friendship!

Friendship - what is friendship? Is it just companionship with whom you spend your entire day? Is it all about sacrifices and commitments? Or is it a really pure relationship you have with someone, where you put them before yourself? Well, friendship is a mixture of all of this. It should involve compromises and both of them should value each other equally, to such a great extent, that in spite of not having time for each other, to make time. The other day, my father's friends came over and seeing them joke around, being all frank, it struck me - I had it all wrong, friendship should not involve any give or take, it is all about the bond you share with your friends. What if one of my friends has a hectic schedule and is unable to come visit me? What if one of my friends is dry and shows no excitement while meeting me? That is just his personality.



What matters is being there for each other, not only through roses, but also through the thorns. I know, that no matter what, when all is gone and nothing remains, they will be there for me. My father once told me, "Hritik, you know, you and your brother will go abroad for further studies and later your mom and I will have no one but our friends." Post which, I put into it some thought. I noticed a similar situation with my grandmother. Despite being occupied all throughout the day, the only part of the day she looks forward to, even after being extremely tired, is the time she goes for her evening walk, indulging in conversation with her friends. It is indeed true that friends are there for each other, they give companionship. I strongly believe that though my friends may not have time for me right now or I do not spend every minute of mine with them, when the time arises, I will have them for support or help of any kind and so will I be there for them. A friend cares for you though they may not show it. In front of you, they will tease you, make fun of you but behind you, you see, dare anyone comment anything about you. Now that's a friend worth a diamond. A true friend is as difficult to find as a needle in a haystack, but when you do, you know from your heart, that it is a friendship worth protecting.

-Hritik Kotadia XII-B

Take the Leap!

My best friend loved anchoring events. Every year, he would compere at the annual function of the society. He was simply amazing at it, however, one area where he was a little weak was scripting and I was always there for him helping him in speeches, improving his content. He always told me to anchor the events myself but, honestly, I never had the nerve to do it. The D-Day was nearing and just ten days prior, my friend fell sick - he was infected with jaundice. The secretary of the society sympathised but was worried what would happen without the anchor of the event. My friend, overcome by guilt of not being able to perform, promised him that he would get a replacement. Well, that's where I entered the picture. Since I helped him write the script, I knew



what certain parts of the script needed and if not performed in accordance might not produce a show as enjoyable. With a little encouragement and convincing from my friend, I reluctantly took the leap. The next ten days were spent with in numerous script-reading. I added a few extra facts and jokes and the critique was done by my elder brother. To gather confidence, I convinced my parents to be my first audience and practiced in front of the mirror.

Then came the day of the dress rehearsal. The societal board watched closely and broke into laughter at certain parts indicating that the script fit well. Feeling more confident than ever, I went up on stage the next day and did my part. Half-way through the event, I got all jittery and there was silence in the auditorium. I remembered the inspiring words of my friend, "Remember, in case you mess up, crack an impromptu joke and act as if it was all a part." I was pleasantly surprised at the outcome. This experience of mine was something unique and the journey was a ride. Since then, I have been taking part in most events as a co-host with my best friend. All I am saying is, we must believe in ourselves, conquer our fears, be confident and TAKE THE LEAP!

Hritik Kotadia XII-B

An Open Letter

Why do we dislike **PAIN**? Its temporarily- permanent after all. Distractions and riddance, work only momentarily. However, I feel we misunderstand its purpose. Let's give it a chance to explain itself, shall we?

Dear mankind,

You misunderstand me. I know that our meeting is inevitable, but I never have bad intentions. It's never my motive to hurt you. Everywhere I go, all I meet are tear stained faces. All I receive is blame. And to tell you the truth, it hurts to be so unwanted. My purpose isn't to see you in despair and dislike the life that you've been given. My purpose is to make you see a tiny glimmer of hope in the negativity that surrounds you.

I never got the fortune of life. Instead, I became an EMOTION that nobody wanted but couldn't get rid of. Trust me, that hurts a lot more than your petty breakups, bad grades and unemployment. In your case however, you have at least one person who will listen to you and comfort you. I don't.

I cry when I see you unhappy, but I don't have anyone to care for me.

When I see you progress, I feel proud of you, and I feel terrible when I burst your bubble of happiness. But like all of you, I too have my duties and responsibilities.

Now I know that you hate me and that will never change. I must play the antagonist in this play of life, but all I want to tell you is if you ever have the misfortune that I must intervene in your beautiful life, there will always be hope.

There will be a *dawn after the darkness* and trust me, you will cherish it. The happiness you receive will be unimaginable and you will show your 32 beautiful teeth in a wide smile, that gets lost in your life with its hustle-bustle.

When I'm not around, consider yourself lucky and smile. Be happy. Enjoy those moments. Before you know it, I might be back. I know you will never embrace me, but all I ask is for you to understand me. When I come, know that I'll only be *temporary*.

Yours faithfully, Pain.

> Rashi Shah XI-A



Her voice, admired, her legacy remembered

It was a sombre mood at my home since morning and I assume would be the same at all households where music brings everyone together. It was the end of a colossal era. The Nightingale of India was no more. As the day of goddess Saraswati Puja passed, our own goddess Saraswati Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar ji passed away too leaving a void in our hearts which can never be filled. Music has always been my go-to antidote and her voice is engrained in every Indian and we will all cherish her forever

Belonging to the generation -Z, I had little interest in old melodies of millennials but it was my familial cell which never wanted me to get completely detached from it. Lata ji formed a kind of personal connection only by the sheer beauty and magic of her sempiternal music and voice. Some of my best childhood memories were long trips with my family, old Lata ji songs playing in the car, her music has filled the four walls of our household long before I existed and will continue to do so. She defined Indian music for generations and lived an extraordinary life, and now her unparalleled legacy is etched in the history of time forever!

Her true possessions have always been a cotton saree and a silken voice, and yet the flag representing billion people flies half-mast in her honour. Lata ji has nurtured the minds and moods of many generations. Her melodious voice and inspiring character will continue to resonate in the hearts and homes. We as Indians pray that the legend whose voice enlivened countless stories, is in a better place now.

- Shruti M Shirke XII B (Science)

मराठी विभाग

'मराठी भाषा गौरव दिन'

मराठी भाषेची दैदिप्यमान परंपरा युगानुयुगे चालू राहावी तसेच मराठी आणि अमराठी विद्यार्थ्यांची या भाषेशी नाळ अशीच जोडून राहावी या उद्देशाने विद्यालयात 'मराठी भाषा दिन' साजरा करण्यात आला. प्राथमिक आणि माध्यमिक अशा दोन्ही विभागातील विद्यार्थ्यांनी अतिशय उत्साहाने यात भाग घेतला व हा सोहळा यशस्वीपणे पार पडण्यास उस्फूर्त प्रतिसाद दिला. ज्ञानेश्वरांच्या पसायदानापासून ते कुसुमाग्रजांच्या कवितेचा जागर, अगदी विठोबा माऊलीची पालखी, हातात भगवे झेंडे फडकवत जल्लोषात हा दिन साजरा झाला.

विद्यार्थ्यांद्वारे विविध रंगीबेरंगी कार्यक्रमाची रेलचेल सादर करण्यात आली. त्याच कार्यक्रमाची एक झलक खालील काही चित्रांमार्फत सादर करण्यात आली आहे. हा कार्यक्रम शिक्षक आणि विद्यार्थ्यांच्या परिश्रमातून यशस्वीरित्या पार पडला.



मराठी भाषेचा गोडवा काय वर्णावा



अस्सल मराठमोळा साज !



वारकरी परंपरा, दिंडी, पताका



मराठी कविता आणि गीतांचे सादरीकरण

मराठी भाषेचा झेंडा असाच गगनी फडकत राहो !!!



आंतरशालेय स्पर्धा - स्पेक्ट्रम २०२१-२२

दिनांक	:	११ डिसेंबर, २०२१
आयोजक	:	पवार पब्लिक स्कूल, डोंबिवली
विषय	:	भूमिकाभिनय
स्पर्धक	:	सई फडके
सादर केलेली भूमिका	:	राजमाता जिजाऊ





ऑफलाईन शाळा – माझा अनुभव

ऑफलाईन शाळा हा खूपच आनंद देणारा अनुभव आहे. आम्ही सर्व मित्र-मैत्रिणी जवळपास दोन वर्षांनी एकमेकांना प्रत्यक्षात भेटलो. काही मित्र खूप जाडे झाले होते तर काही उंच. पहिल्या दिवशी शिक्षकांनी अतिशय उत्साहात आमचे स्वागत केले; त्यामुळे आम्ही फारच आनंदी झालो. शाळेच्या मैदानात योगासने करून हात-पाय मोकळे झाले. मधल्या सुट्टीत आईने डब्यात दिलेला खाऊ खाल्ला. तसेच आईने दिलेल्या पैशातून शाळेच्या उपाहारगृहातून पास्ता आणि आईस्क्रीम घेतले.

वर्गात शिक्षकांसमोर बसून अभ्यास करताना फारच उत्साह वाटला. आतापर्यंत संगणकाच्या चौकटीत दिसणारे शिक्षक आता प्रत्यक्षात समोर दिसत होते; ही मजा ऑनलाईन वर्गात येत नव्हती. आता फक्त मास्क लावून शाळेत जावे लागते याचा कंटाळा येतो. मित्रांबरोबर बोलताना तसेच शिक्षकांनी विचारलेल्या प्रश्नांची उत्तरे देताना थोडे मोठ्या आवाजात बोलावे लागते.

आम्ही सर्वजण आता देवाला एकच प्रार्थना करतो की, ह्या करोनाच्या संकटापासून आम्हां सर्वांचे रक्षण कर व लवकरात लवकर या मास्कपासून आमची सुटका कर !

सार्थ चोणकर

(चौथी- अ)



ओळखा कोण ????

- १. तिखट मीठ मसाला चार शिंगे कशाला ?
- २. तीन पायांची तिपाई, वर बसला शिपाई.
- ३. पाने नाहीत पण हिरवा आहे, माकड नाही पण नक्कल करतो.
- ४. सगळयांच्या जवळ आहे पण कोणी सोडू शकत नाही.
- ५. सूपभर लाहया, मधोमध रूपया.
- ६. करकर करते, वेळ सांगते, भिंतीवर राहते, कोण बरे ?
- ७. आडवी असते ती साखर, उभी असते ती कोण ?











खडीसाखर



लवंग

चूल





पोपट

सावली

गानकोकिळा लता मंगेशकर

लता मंगेशकर यांचा जन्म मध्य प्रदेशातील इंदूर येथे २७ सप्टेंबर १९२९ रोजी झाला. दीनानाथ व शेवंतीबाई मंगेशकर यांच्या त्या सर्वात मोठ्या कन्या होत्या. मीना, आशा, उषा व हृदयनाथ ही त्यांच्या भावंडांची नावे. लता मंगेशकरांना लोक प्रेमाने 'लतादीदी' म्हणत.

लतादीदींना संगीताचे प्राथमिक शिक्षण त्यांच्या वडिलांकडून प्राप्त केले. वयाच्या केवळ पाचव्या वर्षी त्यांनी दीनानाथांच्या बरोबर संगीत नाटकात काम केले. वयाच्या तेराव्या वर्षी दीनानाथांच्या मृत्यूनंतर लतादीदींनी गायिका व अभिनेत्री म्हणून काम सुरु केले. त्यानंतरची सहा दशके लतादीदींनी आपल्या अतुलनीय कलागुणांच्या जोरावर भारतीय संगीतसृष्टीवर राज्य केले. तीस हजारांहून अधिक गाणी, अनेक चित्रपटांना संगीत दिग्दर्शन, ३६ हून अधिक भाषांमध्ये गायलेली गाणी हे सर्व लतादीदींच्या अथक परिश्रमांमुळे शक्य झाले. आजही जगातल्या विविध देशांमध्ये सकाळ, दुपार, संध्याकाळ, रात्र अशा कोणत्याही वेळी लतादीदींच्या सुरेल स्वरांमध्ये गाणी वाजतच असतात. जवळपास तीन पिढ्यांमधील अभिनेत्रींसाठी दीदींनी पार्श्वगायन केले. अनेक संगीतकारांबरोबर त्यांनी काम केले.

लतादीदींना त्यांच्या कारकीर्दीत अनेक पुरस्कार मिळाले. भारताचा सर्वोच्च नागरी पुरस्कार 'भारतरत्न' त्यांना २००१ मध्ये प्रदान करण्यात आला. २००७ मध्ये लतादीदींना फ्रान्सच्या सर्वोच्च पुरस्काराने सन्मानित करण्यात आले. भारतीय चित्रपट सृष्टीतील सर्वोच्च 'दादासाहेब फाळके' पुरस्कार त्यांना १९८७ मध्ये देण्यात आला. ह्या सर्व पुरास्कारांपेक्षाही जनतेने दिलेल्या 'गानकोकिळा' ह्या संबोधनाचा त्यांना सार्थ अभिमान होता.

आपल्या जवळपास ८० वर्षांच्या अविरत सेवेदरम्यान लतादीदींनी अनेक सामाजिक कार्यक्रमांना मदत केली. सीमेवर लढण्यासाठी सैनिकांसाठी त्यांनी गायलेल्या 'ए मेरे वतन के लोगो' ह्या गाण्याने पंडित नेहरूंना हेलावून टाकले होते. क्रिकेटवर लतादीदींचे विशेष प्रेम होते. १९८३ च्या विश्वविजेत्या संघातील खेळाडूंच्या मदतीसाठी लतादीदींनी खास कार्यक्रम केला होता. आपल्या वडिलांच्या स्मरणार्थ त्यांनी पुण्यात दीनानाथ मंगेशकर रुग्णालयाची स्थापना केली. अशा विविध समाजोपयोगी कामांसाठी त्या नेहमीच मदत करत असत.

खऱ्या अर्थाने 'भारतरत्न' असलेल्या अशा लतादीदींचे ६ फेब्रुवारी २०२२ रोजी देहावसान झाले. अंगी असलेल्या गुणांना जाणून प्रचंड कष्ट करण्याची तयारी असेल तर माणूस काय साध्य करू शकतो ह्याची प्रेरणा आपल्याला लतादीदींच्या जीवनपटातून मिळते.



- **आर्या भोसले** (सहावी इ)

आजी

आजी जशी सगळयांची, तशीच माझी लाडाची कशी, सगळया गोष्टी प्रेमाने सांगणारी, माझी लाडकी मैत्रीण जशी बाबा जेव्हा रागवायचे तेव्हा वकील होऊन मला सोडवणारी, आई जेव्हा चिडायची तेव्हा पदराआड मला लपवणारी राजा-राणी आणि जगातल्या अनेक गोष्टी सांगणारी, तिच्या डोक्यात जणू गोष्टीची पुस्तके कधीच नसत संपणारी कितीही जरी मी रूसले तरीही ती नेहमी मला हसवते, देवालाच ठाऊक कुठून ती एवढी ऊर्जा कुठून आणते ? सदैव हसत राहणारी आजी एके दिवशी बिचारी गाढ झोपली, आई-बाबा म्हणाले देवालासुद्धा तिची ओढ आता खूप लागली आजी जशी सगळयांची, तशीच माझी लाडाची कशी, देवबाप्पाला गोष्टी सांगून निजवते आपल्या कुशीत !

> - प्रिशा मुंडणकर (आठवी - ड)



निसर्ग

वाहतो पाण्याचा झरा, वाहतो थंड वारा पाहून असा नजारा, आठवतो समुद्र किनारा

संध्याकाळच्या वेळी सूर्य जणू पाण्यात बुडे, संध्याकाळच्या या दृश्याने, थवा पक्षांचा उडे

दिवसानंतर रात्र संपूनी, रात्रीनंतर दिवस संपूनी पाहून असा नजारा, आठवतो समुद्र किनारा

- सायरा शिरवईकर

(आठवी - ड)



भारताची शान – महाराष्ट्र

महाराष्ट्र हे भारतातील दुसरे-सर्वाधिक लोकसंख्या असलेले राज्य आहे आणि क्षेत्रफळानुसार भारतातील तिसरे सर्वात मोठे राज्य आहे. हे भारतातील सर्वात विकसित राज्यांपैकी आहे, पण महाराष्ट्राविषयी काही असे तथ्यही आहेत जी केवळ काही लोकांनाच माहिती आहेत. आज मी तुम्हांला या राज्याबद्दल असेच काही गोष्टी सांगणार आहे जे त्याला इतर राज्यांपासून वेगळे करतात:

- १. ५२००० वर्षांपूर्वी पृथ्वीवर उल्का आदळल्यावर निर्माण झालेले जगातील एकमेव खारट सरोवर महाराष्ट्रात आहे.
- महाराष्ट्रातील शनी शिंगणापूर हे भारतातील एकमेव शहर आहे जिथे घरांना दरवाजे नाहीत. चोरीचा प्रयत्न करणाऱ्याला शनि देव शिक्षा देतो, असा लोकांचा विश्वास आहे.
- ३. नवापूरचे रेल्वे स्टेशन दोन राज्यात बांधले आहे, एक भाग गुजरातमध्ये आणि दुसरा भाग महाराष्ट्रात आहे.
- ४. भारतात सर्वाधिक करदात्यांची संख्या महाराष्ट्रात आहे.
- ५. मुंबईच्या लोकल ट्रेनमधून दिवसाला ६०,००,००० लोक जातात, जे इस्रायलच्या संपूर्ण लोकसंख्येपेक्षाही जास्त आहे.
- ६. कळसूबाई हे महाराष्ट्रातील सर्वोच्च शिखर आहे ज्याची उंची ५,४०० फूट आहे. हे महाराष्ट्राचे एव्हरेस्ट म्हणून ओळखले जाते.
- ७. दादासाहेब फाळके यांनी भारतातील पहिला चित्रपट महाराष्ट्रात बनवला होता.
- ८. महाराष्ट्रातील नाशिक जिल्ह्यात जगातील सर्वात मोठी कांद्याची बाजारपेठ आहे.

- आर्या सावंत (आठवी इ)



व्यायामाचे महत्त्व

आरोग्य ही संपत्ती आहे असे म्हणतात. गमावलेला पैसा परत मिळवता येतो पण आरोग्य बिघडले तर ते परत मिळवणे फार कठीण आहे. तब्येत बिघडली तर आपला मेंदूसुद्धा नीट काम करत नाही कारण मेंदू फक्त उत्तम आरोग्यात काम करतो. मित्रांनो, प्रगती करायची असेल तर आपण आपल्या आरोग्याची काळजी घेतली पाहिजे. निरोगी राहण्यासाठी व्यायाम केला पाहिजे.

सकाळी केलेल्या व्यायामामुळे आपले मन ताजेतवाने राहते. सकाळच्या सूर्यप्रकाशापासून व्हिटॅमिन डी मिळते ज्यामुळे हाडेही मजबूत राहतात. व्यायामामुळे आपले वजन आणि रक्तदाब नियंत्रणात राहते. आपल्याला जास्त भूक लागते आणि पचनशक्तीही वाढते. अशा प्रकारे आपले शरीर निरोगी राहते.

सकाळचा व्यायाम करताना निसर्गाचा देखावा खूप सुंदर असतो. सूर्योदयासोबत पक्ष्यांचा किलबिलाट, स्वच्छ हवा, उमलणारी फुले आणि हिरवळ पाहून छान वाटते.

तर मित्रांनो, स्वतःसाठी वेळ काढा आणि सकाळी व्यायाम करा.

- आर्ना आचरेकर (आठवी इ)

हिन्दी विभाग

जन-जन की भाषा है हिंदी भारत की आशा है हिंदी । जिसने पूरे देश को जोड़े रखा है वो मजबूत धागा है हिंदी । हिंदुस्तान की गौरवगाथा है हिंदी एकता की अनुपम परंपरा है हिंदी । जिसके बिना हिंद थम जाए ऐसी जीवन रेखा है हिंदी । सरल शब्दों में कहा जाए तो, जीवन की परिभाषा है हिंदी ।

हिंदी, भारत देश की मातृभाषा । गर्व से स्वीकारते हैं कि हम हिंदी भाषी हैं । अनेकता में एकता का स्वर हिंदी के माध्यम से गूँजता है। जीवन में भाषा का सबसे अधिक महत्व होता है । एक भाषा ही हममें तहज़ीब का विकास करती है । इसी कारण सभी देशों की अपनी एक मूल भाषा होती है जिसका सम्मान करना देशवासियों का कर्तव्य है । माना कि भाषा भावनाओं को व्यक्त करने का एक साधन मात्र है लेकिन इस साधन में वो बल है जो दुनिया को बदल सकता है । विभिन्नताओं के बीच एक भाषा ही है जो एकता का आधार बनती है और हम सभी को इस एकता के साधन का सम्मान करना चाहिये । हिंदी हमारी मातृभाषा है जिसे सम्मान देना हमारा कर्त्तव्य है ।

इस कर्त्तव्य का निर्वाह हम अपने विद्यालय में सतत करते हैं । हिंदी मात्र एक भाषा के रूप में पढ़ाई-लिखाई नहीं जाती बल्कि विभिन्न सहशालेय क्रियाओं के माध्यम से छात्रों में अंतर्निहित प्रतिभा व योग्यता का विकास व जन जागृति लाने का सफल प्रयास किया जाता है ।

हाय स्टीम - इस वर्ष हिंदी भाषा का विज्ञान से समन्वय कर 'हाय-स्टीम' के अंतर्गत छात्र-छात्राओं ने अपनी प्रतिभा का प्रस्तुतीकरण किया। विभिन्न कक्षाओं हेतु विभिन्न प्रकार की प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन कुछ इस प्रकार किया गया –

प्राथमिक विभाग

१) कक्षा पहली व दूसरी – बालगीत	2) कक्षा तीसरी – ध्रुवतारे की कहानी	३) कक्षा चौथी – आकाशगंगा
४) कक्षा पाँचवी – अंतरिक्ष भ्रमण	५) कक्षा छठी – चंद्रप्रवास	

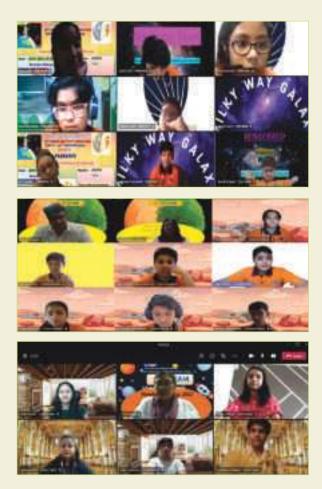
माध्यमिक विभाग

१) कक्षा सातवीं – सप्तर्षियों की कथाएँ २) कक्षा आठवीं – कथालेखन – जब हम पहुँचे मंगल पर ३) कक्षा नौंवी – कॉमिक स्ट्रीप ४) कक्षा दसवीं – भारत के महान वैज्ञानिक

हाय स्टीम – कुछ झलकियाँ

हिंदी पर विचार करें। आओ फिर एक बार हिंदी में संवाद करें।

हिंदी में बात है, क्योंकि हिंदी में जज्बात है।



युवा - राष्ट्रीय मंच पर वक्ता । विषय: - भारत में खेलों के प्रति उदासीनता- कारण और निवारण- पैरा स्पोर्ट्स का भविष्य और भारत

अन्वेषक २०२१ के श्री श्री रविशंकर के तत्वाधन में आयोजित स्त्रोतमंजिरी कार्यक्रम में विजेता छात्राएँ -



विधि कुंभट नौवीं- डी



शनाया ठक्कर दूसरी - सी



सई फडके-कक्षा चौथी-सी

पद्य विभाग

सवेरा

छोटी -सी पर भोली -भोली , चिड़ियों ने हैं आँखें खोलीं। ठंडी -ठंडी हवा चली , नाच उठी हर फूल कली। सूरज भी मुस्काया है , देखो , नया सवेरा आया है।

शनाया ठक्कर

दूसरी- सी



कोविड का पिंजरा

आओ सुनाऊँ कोविड वाले पिंजरे की कहानी । सुनी होगी आपने किसी से, पर खास है मेरी जुबानी । गए थे हम नानी घर घूमने, दो दिन भी ना घूम पाए । तीसरे दिन सर्दी बुखार ने जकड़ा, मुँह से निकला 'हाय' । RT-PCR वाले अंकल ने हमें बहुत सताया कोविड का पॉजिटिव रिजल्ट, हमारे जेल का वारंट बन कर आया । मैं और मम्मी कमरे में बैठे, खिड़की पर नज़र लगाए । कैलेंडर में आज़ादी के लिए दिन गिनते जाएँ। गोल- गोल गोलियाँ, गरम -गरम भाप। कड़वा -कड़वा काढ़ा, जैसे लगा हो कोई श्राप। तबीयत सुधरी, पिंजरा खुला और आज़ादी आयी। पानीपुरी से हमने आज़ादी की ख़ुशी मनाई। कोविड से पता चला क्या होता है पिंजरा और क्या होती है आज़ादी। क्योंकि कोविड ने नानी घर में बैठे- बैठे नानी ही याद दिला दी।



दिव्य अग्रवाल पाँचवीं- बी

जीवन

मेरी कहानी मुझ जैसी है, है तो अधूरी पर अच्छी है। झूठ पता है उसका सब, पर वह कहती वो सच्ची है। कोई करे लाख जतन पर, मिटती सबकी ही हस्ती है। बड़े-बड़े महलों की खातिर, खतरे में रहती हर बस्ती है। जीवन जीना कठिन है लेकिन, मौत यहाँ बिल्कुल सस्ती है।



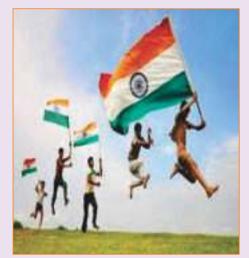
रेवा मिश्रा छठी – ई

मेरे सपनों का भारत

हम सब ने मिलकर देखा एक सपना, जहाँ हो प्रगति और विकास अपना। मिले सबको शिक्षा का मौका , ना हो किसी के साथ किसी प्रकार का धोखा ।

भाईचारा सब में बना रहे, ना हो धर्म जाति पर कोई विवाद। ना हो कोई भेदभाव, हो सब में बस प्रेम का संवाद। ना कोई सोए खाली पेट, मिले सब को रोजगार और भरी रहे सब की प्लेट। बिजली से भरा रहे घर मेरा, ना हो किसी भी घर में अंधेरा। ना हो किसी का अपमान, लड़का - लड़की सब हो एक समान । चलो आज मिलकर पूरा करें सब यह सपना, महान बन जाए फिर भारत अपना । बन जाए देश की आन, बान और शान, भारत देश ही है मेरी पहचान ।

> **मोक्ष पांडे** सातवीं - डी



मेरी जिंदगी, मेरी माँ

कहती मुझे, मेरी प्यारी और दयालु माँ "आ मेरे गले लग जा"। वह मुझे पौष्टिक खाना खिलाती है और मेरे हर कदम पर मेरा ख्याल रखती है। उस मेहनती माँ का मान करिये, क्योंकि वही हर रोज, तुम्हारे चेहरे पर मुस्कान लाती है। उन्होंने ही मुझे कदम उठाना सिखाया और इतने अच्छे से मुझे सँभाला।

मनाती है मेरा जन्मदिन इतने धूम धाम से और सिखाती है मुझे सब कुछ बड़े प्यार से। मुझे बहुत प्यार करती है जो, और मेरे हर काम में मदद करती है वो मुझे इस दुनिया में लायी है जो, हाँ, मेरी माँ ही है वो।

- सानवी चौगुले

आठवीं - ए

मुंबई! मेरा शहर मेरी शान

गणपति जी, दुर्गा पूजा गुड़ीपाड़वा क्रिसमस, ईद या हो प्रकाश पर्व, जहाँ अनेकता में एकता के स्वर गूँजते हैं,

गेटवे ऑफ इंडिया से नरीमन प्वाइंट तक बिना जात पात के जहाँ त्योहारों के रंग सजते हैं |

बरखा रानी अपनी छोटी-छोटी बूंदों से पहले तो मन बहलाती है,

फिर मुम्बई को हरा भरा रखने का आशीष झूम झूम कर देती है |

सिध्दिविनायक, महालक्ष्मी मंदिर हो या हाजी अली, आस्था के रंग भरे इस शहर का एक नाम है मायानगरी |

स्वर साम्राज्ञी लता जी के साथ करोड़ों लोगों की कर्म स्थली, तो दौड़ती भागती जिंदगी में, व्यस्तता की धूम मची रहती है गली गली |

हाँ यह है मेरा प्यारा सा शहर, इसको ना लगे किसी की बुरी नजर |



- नाव्या जैन आठवीं- बी

ये दोस्ती हम नहीं तोड़ेंगे

क ख ग घ सीखते थे, तबसे यारी जारी है, चोरी करती खाने की तुम, भरपाई मुझसे करवाई है । भुलूँगी ना मैं कैसे तुम मूर्ख मुझे बनाती थी, फिर भी हमारी दोस्ती की कीमत अरबों में तोली जाएगी। जब -जब आँसू मेरे द्वार पर दुख का पैगाम लाए हैं, दुख में सहारा बनने वाली बस तेरी यारी मैंने पाई है। कान्हाजी ने सुदामा को महल और दौलत दिलाई थी, पर तुमने दौलत से अनमोल यादें मेरी सजाई हैं । दुनिया वालों ने जब मुझ पर उँगली उठाई है, विश्वास ने तेरे ढाल बन, मुझे टूटने से बचाया है। जग के कोने- कोने में खोजा, कहीं ऐसा याराना न पाया। तेरी इस दोस्ती का एहसान, कैसे करुँगी मैं हलका ?

तोड़े ना तोड़ा जाएगा ये रिश्ता, छोड़े ना छूटा जाएगा ये रिश्ता, क्योंकि किया है हमने ऐसा वादा, " ये दोस्ती हम नहीं तोड़ेंगे"। इतिहास के पन्नों पर स्वर्ण अक्षरों में लिखा जाएगा हमारा फसाना, यारा, स्वर्ण अक्षरों में लिखा जाएगा हमारा फसाना !

विदुषी शांडिल्य

आठवीं-सी





ये दोस्ती हम नहीं तोड़ेंगे, एक दूसरे का साथ कभी नहीं छोड़ेंगे । खेलकर, झगड़कर, बनी हमारी दोस्ती गहरी, हम दोनों की यारी है बहुत सुनहरी । मन खिल उठता है जब करती हूँ तुम से बात, मुसीबत में बँटाते हैं हम एक दूसरे का हाथ। हमारी दोस्ती का नहीं है कोई दाम, हम दोनों की मित्रता को करती हूँ मैं सलाम| बस तू ही है मेरा एक यार, करते हैं हम एक दूसरे से बहुत प्यार | तेरी मेरी यारी, देखे दुनिया सारी, क्योंकि है ये सबसे न्यारी ।

-आरना आचरेकर आठवीं- ई



दीपावली

रोशनी का त्यौहार कहो या सत्य की जीत, राम सिया का आगमन कहो या परिवार की रीत । दीपावली के दीए की चमक की कहानियों पर नज़र डालो, उस ज्वाला में छिपी कथाओं से पर्दा हटा लो। सिया का हाथ थामे रामचंद्र उस ज्वाला से होते हुए अयोध्या पधारे, प्रतापी कृष्ण ने नरकासुर का वध कर सोलह हज़ार जीवन सँवारे । महावीर ने मोक्ष के द्वार खोल दिखाए, वही द्रौपदी संग पांडवों ने आशा की किरण बन हस्तिनापुर के कपट को धर्म के पाठ सिखाए । यह तो हुई देवी देवताओं की बात, पर छिपी है इसमें संपूर्ण भारत के हर परिवार की एक खुशहाल जगमगाती रात । नए वस्त पहने बच्चों की वह मासूम किलकारियाँ, बड़े बुज़ुर्गों का आशीर्वाद और यारों की हसीन यारियाँ माँ के हाथों के पकवानो में खोये पल. फूलों और रंगोलियों से सजे सारे स्थल। माँ लक्ष्मी की आरती हम गाते, दीयों का थाल घुमाते। एक छोटासा दीया कितना कुछ कह जाता है, अनगिनत कहानियों की एक झलक दिखा जाता है । एक दीपक की ज्वाला में समाया यह विशाल त्यौहार है दीपावली नाम है इसका, यह खुशियों से पिरोया हुआ, भारत का हार है।



- **विधि कुम्भट** नौवीं- डी

सारे जहाँ से अच्छा हिंदुस्तान हमारा

जहाँ जन्म लिया है महान क्रांतिकारियों ने, जहाँ लड़ाई की है रानी लक्ष्मी बाई जैसी नारियों ने, जहाँ रहते हैं सभी धर्म के लोग एक साथ, यही है भारत की खास बात ।

जहाँ हिमालय से बहता है गंगा का पानी, जहाँ थे आर्यभट्ट और चाणक्य जैसे ज्ञानी, जिसका है इतना गौरवशाली इतिहास, वही तो बनाता है भारत को खास ।

जहाँ किसान करता है मेहनत दिन रात, जहाँ मनाए जाते हैं हर त्योहार प्यार के साथ, है जहाँ ताज महल जैसी प्यार की निशानी, जहाँ भाइयों ने बहनों की रक्षा करनी है ठानी।

चाहे रहे हम कहीं भी मुंबई, कोटा, दिल्ली या झांसी,

अंत में हम सभी है भारत के निवासी।



मिलोनी मगियावाला दसवीं - बी

कल रात देखा मैंने एक सपना । धरती से आकाश तक सबकुछ लग रहा था अपना। कल रात देखा मैंने एक सपना धरती सोना उगल रही थी, बर्फ पानी में पिघल रही थी। किसान गीत गा रहा था, खुशी का बादल छा रहा था। रामू ईद की सेवैया बना रहा था, आसिफ दिवाली माना रहा था। एक सुकून था ,एक शांति थी, एक एहसास था,एक क्रांति थी। अच्छा लग रहा था ये सब वापस आना। कल रात मैंने देखा था एक सपना। बेटी निडर होकर चल रही थी, खुशी हर आंगन में पल रही थी।। सब के हाथों में काम था, कोई भी व्यक्ति न आम था। फिर कोयल पेड़ पर चहक रही थी, चिड़िया मिट्टी में बहक रही थी।आज फिर हवाएं मन को भा रही थी, आज फिर मिट्टी से खुशबू आ रही थी। बस चले जा रहा था,पता नही था कहाँ रुकना | कल रात मैंने देखा एक सपना। सुबह नींद खुली तो सब वैसा का वैसा था। कुछ भी नहीं बदला सब जैसा का जैसा था। काश ये सपना सच हो पाता | भारत मेरे सपने सा हो जाता। जाने कब कौन खुशी के बीज बोएगा | जाने कब पूरा देश सुकून से सोएगा। सांसों की गिनती में जीवन मुट्ठीभर लगता है। सही कहूं तो अब खुदसे खुदको डर लगता है। आज फिर जल्दी सोना है, आ जाए कुछ अच्छा सपना। जैसा कि कल रात देखा था मैंने एक सपना।

- तन्मय आमेटा

दसवीं - डी



प्रकृति के रंग

प्रकृति के अनुपम रंग, मिल जाते हैं एक दूसरे के संग। सुबह होते ही सूर्य की स्वर्णिम किरणें, रात के अंधकार को करती हैं भंग, पशु पक्षियों पर छाकर उनमें, भर देती है उल्लास और उमंग। सुंदर नीला समुंदर, हीरों सा जगमगाता, इतना मनोहर दृश्य देख, कौन अपनी प्रसन्नता को रोक पाता? लाल गुलाब, सफेद मोगरा, गुलाबी कमल, सभी हैं खिलते, हरे पेड़ों पर लगे पत्ते, वायु के अनुभव से आनंदित होकर हिलते। वर्षा के आगमन से भूरी धरती में भर जाती है जान, बारिश की बूँदें गिरकर बढ़ा देती हैं हरियाली की शान। सूर्य के ढलते शाम धीरे-धीरे हो जाती है काली, पर इस अंधेरे को काटती है, चाँद की रोशनी निराली। विभिन्न रंग हैं इंद्रधनुष की शालीनता का प्रमाण, अलग होकर भी, सब हैं एक समान। प्रकृति के दिव्य रूप का, मानव ने नहीं किया सम्मान, इस पृथ्वी को दूषित किया, होकर परिणामों से अनजान। चाँद सा उज्ज्वल, मोती सा सफेद ताज महल, आज प्रदूषण से पीला पड़ रहा है पल-पल। हवा में उड़ते काले धुएँ को देख सबका मन घबराता, और इसी के दुष्प्रभाव से सृष्टि का तापमान बढ़ जाता। जलवायू परिवर्तन से पीडित है, संसार का हर प्राणी, प्रकृति के रंग रूप को बचाने का प्रयास करो, यही है हर महापुरुष की वाणी।

- केया पारेख

दसवीं - ई



फिर सोने की चिड़िया भारत को बनाना होगा।

है बड़ी प्रसिद्ध और पुरानी, हमारे स्वतंत्रता संग्राम की कहानी। यह भमि कहलाती है धराशिरोमणि. ईश्वर का इस पर आशीर्वाद है, यही विद्वानों की वाणी। है इसका गौरवशाली अतीत. यहाँ के वीरों ने हासिल की है अपने हर शत्रु पर जीत। यह धरती है महाराणा प्रताप और छत्रपति शिवाजी का अभिमान. इसकी गरिमा के लिए इन्होंने ख़ुशी-ख़ुशी न्योछावर की अपनी जान। क्रूर अंग्रेजों ने की हमसे बेईमानी, लेकिन हमने भी याद दिला दी उन्हें उनकी नानी। मंगल पांडे ने था पहला कदम उठाया. पर अंग्रेजों ने उन्हें फाँसी पर लटकाया। इससे भारतीयों को आया बडा रोष, फिरंगियों से लडने का बढ गया जोश। फिर आए एक-एक कर सब आगे, सबने कोशिश की कि अंग्रेज यहाँ से भागे। आए भगत सिंह, सुभाष चंद्र बोस जैसे कई लोग, कहा सबने, "नहीं हारेंगे अब हम लोग।"

आई इनके साथ हमारी प्यारी महारानी, जो थी झाँसी की रानी। खुब लडी वह मर्दानी, नहीं सही उसने अंग्रेजों की मनमानी। फिर आए एक महात्मा, थे वे गांधीजी जिन्होंने की हमारी सहायता। अहिंसा से लडी हमने लडाई, दांडी मार्च की राह अपनाई। दुश्मनों का किया हमने सामना निडर होकर, भारत छोड़कर भाग गए अंग्रेज़ मुँह की खाकर। आख़िरकार हमने आज़ादी पाई, आज़ादी के साथ ख़ुशियाँ भी आईं। हमारे पूर्वजों की है महिमा न्यारी, पर भूल गए हम वो बातें सारी। हमें जागना और जगाना होगा, भारत की गरिमा को वापस लाना होगा। पूरे विश्व में अपनी सभ्यता व संस्कृति का डंका बजाना होगा, फिर सोने की चिडिया भारत को बनाना होगा।

> - जानवी शाह दसवीं - ई



भारत

यह भारत देश इतना अनोखा, ऐसा वतन हमारा जो महानता और सुंदरता से भरा हुआ सितारा। अनेकता में एकता जिस भूमि का प्राथमिक नारा इतना सुन्दर और बेमिसाल, यह भारत देश हमें प्यारा। अकबर, अशोका और शिवाजी ने यहीं पर जन्म लिया है, अनगिनत राजाओं ने शासन इस भूमि पर किया है, लक्ष्मीबाई और पोरस ने जिस देश के लिए जीवन दिया है, उसके मान की रक्षा करने इन वीरों ने जिया है।

आश्चर्य का भौतिक रुप है इस भूमि की सुन्दरता, जहाँ तेज़ गति से गंगा बहती, और हिमालय गगन चूमता, जहाँ पशु-पक्षी और हरियाली की बिल्कुल नहीं है न्यूनता, जहाँ हिन्द महासागर लहराता, जहाँ पवन खुशी से झूमता।

विविधता से पूर्ण है, अपनी यह भारत भूमि, जहाँ कोई मनाता ईद और कोई मनाता है होली, प्रथा और परम्परा का हर भारतीय है जुनूनी, हिंदी, उर्दू, तामिल न जाने कितनी है यहाँ बोली। यह भारत देश इतना अनोखा, ऐसा वतन हमारा जो महानता और सुंदरता से भरा हुआ सितारा। अनेकता में एकता जिस भूमि का प्राथमिक नारा इतना सुन्दर और बेमिसाल, यह भारत देश हमें प्यारा ।

> **- अथर्व अग्रवाल** दसवीं- डी





धरती के मसीहा : डॉक्टर

भगवान के बाद अगर इंसान के सामने उम्मीद की कोई किरण है तो वह है डॉक्टर। अगर हमें कोई भी तकलीफ होती है तो डॉक्टर अपना तन-मन-धन लगाकर हमारा जीवन बचाते हैं। अभी दो साल से आई कोविद समस्या के समय डॉक्टरों ने अपना घर-परिवार, जीवन सब कुछ त्याग कर ऐसी मिसाल प्रस्तुत की, कि हम उनके इस उपकार का ऋण कभी नहीं उतार सकते। कितने डॉक्टरों ने तो दूसरों का जीवन बचाते हुए अपनी जान भी गँवा दी। ऐसे फरिश्तों की कर्त्तव्यपरायणता के आगे सिर स्वयं झुक जाता है और बार -बार नमन करने को जी चाहता है।

- रोशनी करमचंदानी

छठी – बी

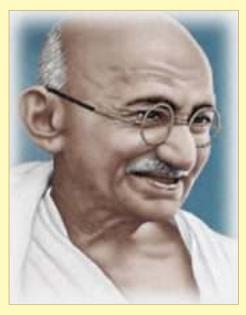
अहिंसा परमो धर्मः

गांधीजी एक सत्यवादी व महान परमपुरुष थे। उनकी सिखाई गई महत्वपूर्ण बातें हम कभी नहीं भूल सकते हैं। उनकी परम सीख थी "अहिंसा परमो धर्मः" अर्थात अहिंसा ही सबसे बड़ा धर्म है।

हर मनुष्य को शांतिपूर्ण और विकसित बनने के लिए अहिंसा के सही मार्ग पर चलना चाहिए। हिंसा पाप है, अतः इसका त्याग करना समझदारी का काम है । हिंसा से बड़ी आसानी से किसी देश पर विजय पायी जा सकती है परन्तु व्यक्ति के

दिल पर नहीं, अतः किसी के दिल पर विजय पताका फहराने के लिए व्यक्ति का अहिंसावादी होना जरूरी है क्योंकि हिंसा हमारी काया की शक्ति दिखाता है, जबकि अहिंसा हमारे मन और जज़्बात की शक्ति दिखाती है। अतः हम सभी अहिंसा परमो धर्मः का सिद्धांत अपनाकर अपने साथ -साथ अन्य लोगों के जीवन को भी सार्थक बनाने का प्रयास करें और यह छोटी सी कोशिश करें कि हम हिंसा के गलत मार्ग पर कभी नहीं भटकेंगे।

> **रिद्धि शाह** छठी – बी



ગુજરાતી વિભાગ

પદ્ય વિભાગ

પ્રકૃતિનું સૌંદર્ય

સોનેરી સૂરજ ઊગ્યો આકાશમાં અપાર આશાઓ લાવ્યો પ્રકાશમાં! ગગનમાં તરતા વાદળોના ટોળાં કલરવ કરે પક્ષીઓ ધોળાં ધોળાં! વાદળોના પડદાની બહાર સૂરજ આવ્યો વાદળી આકાશ સોનેરી રંગે રંગાયો ! તાજી હવા આવતી જોરમાં વૃક્ષો નાયતા હવાની તોલ-તોલમાં ! ખળખળ કરતી નદીઓ વહે વિશાળ પર્વતોમાં પ્રકાશ રહે ! સુંદર ફૂલો બાગમાં ખીલે રંગબેરંગી પતંગિયા મલે! કેવું અદ્દભૂત આદ્ધાદક પ્રકૃતિનું સૌંદર્ય! આપણું અંતર પણ આટવું જ સુંદર છે.

જંગલમાં લાગી છે રેસ…

જંગલમાં લાગી છે રેસ, સસલાભાઈ ને કાયબાભાઈ આવ્યા ફેસ ટૂ ફેસ તેમની વચ્ચે લાગી શરત જે હારે તે ગણાશે બળદ આપણાં સસલાભાઈ થઈ ગયાં ઓવરકોન્ફિડેન્ટ, અને તેનાથી થઈ ગયું એક નાનકડું એક્સિડેન્ટ, તેણે લીધા જંગલના લાંબા રસ્તા, અને વચ્ચે કરવા બેઠા નાસ્તા, જ્યારે તે પહોંચ્યા ફિનીશ લાઈન, ત્યાં કાયબાભાઈ કરતા હતા ડાઈન, સસલાભાઈએ ભરવી પડી ફાઈન, કારણ, શરતના ડોક્યુમેન્ટ્સ પર કરેલી તેમણે સાઈન.

> - **મીત પારેખ** ૭ એ



- ગૌરાંગ આશર ૬ એ



પપ્પા મારા કેવા?

ઇન્ટરવ્યૂમાં પૂછે મને મારા પપ્પા કેવા? હું આનંદથી હસતા કહું મારા પપ્પા એવા, પ્રેમ સદા વરસાવતા મુજ પર, યૉકલેટ લઈ આપતા, વ્હાલા પપ્પા મારા. થાય કદી ભૂલચૂક તો, સમજાવી પાછા હસાવતા વ્હાલા પપ્પા મારા. કથા રામાયણની સાંભળવા માટે, અડધી રાત્રે જાગતા વ્હાલા પપ્પા મારા. હર વખતે હર સમયે હર ઘડીએ, રક્ષા મારી કરતા વ્હાલા પપ્પા મારા. ઈન્ટરવ્યૂમાં પૂછતાં મને, મારા પપ્પા કેવા? હું આનંદથી કહું કે મારા પપ્પા સહુથી ન્યારા!

- કેનીશા દોશી ૭ બી

અનોખો મારો પરિવાર

દાદા સૌથી મોટા, એતો શીખવે વખત સાયવતા, પપ્પા મારા મોજીલા, એતો શીખવે કસરત કરતા, મમ્મી મારી પ્રેમાળ, હું તો એના જેવી વાયાળ, બા મારા ભોળા, તેમને ભાવે મીઠા કેળાં, બહેન મારી નાની, તે તો મસ્તી કરે મજાની, અનોખો મારો પરિવાર, હું તો માનું પ્રભુનો આભાર.

> **- સારા જોશી** ૭ બી

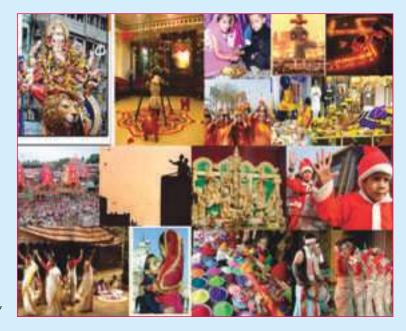
જો મને પંખીની જેમ પાંખ મળે તો....

જો મને પંખીની જેમ પાંખ મળી જાય, તો બસ ઉડ્યા જ કરું. ગગનના ગોખમાં, આભના યોકમાં, હું તો બસ ઊડ્યા જ કરું. સવારે સૂરજ અને રાતના યાંદને, હું તો બસ નિરખ્યા જ કરું. ટમટમતા તારાના સુંદર પ્રકાશને, હું તો મન ભરી માણ્યા જ કરું. ઊંચેરા ઝાડની એક સુંદર ડાળીએ, હું તો સરસ મજાનો માળો બાંધું. નાના નાના બચ્યાને માટે દાણા લાવવા, હું તો બસ ઉડ્યા જ કરું.

> - **કુશ પારેખ** ૭ સી

મારા પપ્પા કેવા?

માંગુ ને આપે એ ભગવાન છે, ન માંગુ ને આપે એ પપ્પા છે ! જીવનનું ધડતર મારી મમ્મી છે, તો જીવનનું યણતર મારા પપ્પા છે ! મુશ્કેલીમાં સલાહ આપનાર ખજાનો છે, આંગળી પકડી રાહ પર ચડાવનાર પપ્પા છે ! ત્રણ-ચાર ભૂલ તો સહુ કોઈ માફ કરે , હજાર ભૂલ માફ કરી લાડ લડાવનાર પપ્પા છે ! મારી ખુશીનું કારણ મારા પપ્પા છે, મારું જીવન મારા પપ્પા છે. દીકરો મારો બોજ નહીં, મારા જીવનની મોજ છે, આમ સમાજને કહેનારા મારા પપ્પા છે !



- નિધિર મકવાણા ૭ સી

આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની

આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની, હસી-ખશી સંગ લાવી, લીલાં તોરણને અવનવી મીઠાઈ, મસ્તી અને ધૂન આંગણમાં દેખાઈ, આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની वरसाहनी હेલी કरे सौने घेली. રંગ ઉડાડી રમી મેં તો હોળી. ઉતરાયણમાં ખાઉં હું તલ-મમરાની ચિક્કી, રક્ષાબંધને બાંધું ભાઈને સુંદર-સુંદર રાખડી, આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની નવરાત્રીએ રમ્યા માતાજીના ગરબા. દિવાળીમાં ફોડ્યા જાત-જાતના ફટાકડાં, ગોફળ અષ્ટમીએ ફોડી મટકી, ત્યાં આવી બાપ્પાની સવારી, આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની. સુખ આવે શાંતિ આવે, ધરમાં ખુશીઓની બહાર આવે, આનંદથી ઉજવશું અનેક તહેવાર, રહેશું અમે બની દેશનો પરિવાર, આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની

મારી મા

હું મારી મા ને છું પ્યારો તેની આંખોં નો હું છું તારો

એક રાતે થાય ઝગડા ને હું કહું મમ્મી… બસ! બીજા દિવસે બધુંજ ભૂલી, તે મને પૂછે કેવો રહ્યો દિવસ ?

તે મારા માથા પર હાથ રાખે તો હું થઇ જાઉં છું સુખી એના રહેતા હું ક્યારે નથી થતો દુઃખી

પરિવાર, મિત્રો નું પણ છે મહત્વ મારા જીવન માં પણ સૌથી પહેલું સ્થાન છે મારી મા નું મારા હૃદય માં

મારી મા જ મારા માટે સર્વસ્વ છે તેના ખોળા વગર મારું જીવન મોળા કંસાર જેવું છે

> **જૈત્ર શાહ** ૮એ

- માહી શાહ ૮ એ 209

છે મારા ભારતની વાત ન્યારી !

છે મારા ભારતની વાત ન્યારી. જ્યાં ભારતવાસીઓની વાત નિરાળી. જ્યાં બધાના છે અલગ અલગ વેશ. આગળ છે મારો ભારત દેશા છે મારા ભારતની વાત ન્યારી. જ્યાં લોકો છે સૌ હિતકારી. સરહદ પર જવાન આપે બલિદાન. એવો મારો દેશ મહાન છે મારા ભારતની વાત ન્યારી. જ્યાં બધા તહેવારોની થાય ધામધૂમથી તૈયારી, હિંદુ, મુસ્લિમ, શીખ હોય કે ઈસાઈ, બધા રહે બની ભાઇ ભાઇ. છે મારા ભારતની વાત ન્યારી.

જ્યાં દરેક મુશ્કેલીમાંથી બહાર આવી, આત્મનિર્ભરતાની વાત સ્વીકારી, ભारत દેશનો ડંકો વાગે વિશ્વમાં ભારી !

> - ટીશા મહેતા ૮ બી



આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની....

આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની. સૌ પહેલા તો વાત દિવાળીની, ધરે ધરે દીવા પ્રગટે અને રંગોળી પૂરાય, ફટાકડા ફૂટે અને લક્ષ્મીપૂજન કરાય. મકરસંક્રાંતિમાં તલ, લાડુ, શેરડી ખાઈએ, ધાબે પતંગ ચગાવતા ઊંધિયું, જલેબી-પૂરી માણીએ, હોળીમાં ભક્ત પ્રહ્લાદને યાદ કરીએ, ધળેટીમાં રંગોથી રમીએ.

ગુરુ-શિષ્યના પ્રેમને બિરદાવતી આવી ગુરુપૂર્ણિમા, રક્ષાબંધનમાં ભાઇ-બહેનનો પ્રેમ બતાવતી નાળિયેરી પૂર્ણિમા, સ્વતંત્રતા દિને દેશપ્રેમની ભાવના રાખીએ. જન્માષ્ટમીએ કૃષ્ણ જન્મનો મહોત્સવ માણીએ.

રુમઝૂમ કરતાં ગરબા ગાઈએ, નવરાત્રીમાં ઢોલના તાલે મોજ ઊડાવીએ, આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની. હવે પછી વારી દિવાળીની.

> - હેલી પટેલ ૮ સી



વૃક્ષ કહે છે…

હું ગર્વથી કહું છું હું એક વૃક્ષ છું. પ્રાણવાયુ આપતી આ પૃથ્વી પર મેં મૂક્યા છે મૂળ. એકવીસમી સદીમાં તમે જોશો અમને ઓછા, કારણ શહેરોએ મને સાઈડ પર છે મૂક્યા. રહેવા માટે મકાનો કરવા છે ઊભા, ભૂલી ગયા હું છું તમારા છતની પહેલી રેખા આપતા તમને છાંયડો અને ફળ મીઠાં મીઠાં, નથી માગતા અમે એકેય રોકડા. કરું તમને મારા જીવનનું સમર્પણ, અને તમારી જરુરિયાત કરું છું પુરી પણ. આરામદાયક જીવનની અને પૈસાંની લાલયમાં, વિનંતી કરું તમને, ભૂલશો નહીં અમને વાવતા.

- રિદ્ધિ ભાવસાર

૮ સી

બસ હવે તો નિશાળે જઈએ જ…

બસ હવે તો નિશાળે જઇએ જ. પાછા મિત્રો જોડે રમીએ જ શિક્ષકોની વઢ સાંભળીએ જ બસ હવે તો નિશાળે જઇએ જ… કોરોનાને બાજુએ મૂકીએ સ્કુલ બસમાં મસ્તી કરીએ, કેન્ટીનનું ખાવાનું ખાઇએ, બસ હવે તો નિશાળે જઇએ જ… ટેક્નોલોજીની થોડા દિવસ આવી મજા. પણ પછી તો ગમતી વસ્તુ લાગી સજા, થોડા મહિનામાં આવ્યો કંટાળો. પણ હવે મળી ગયો મોબાઈલથી છૂટકારો, તો ચાલો હવે નિશાળે જઇએ. નિશાળે જવું છે ભાઈ, મારે તો નિશાળે જવું છે. નિશાળે જઇને ભણવું છે, બસ, હવે તો નિશાળે જઇએ જ.

> **- વિરાજ દોશી** ૮ સી

વિવિધતામાં એકતા

છે મારા ભારતની વાત ન્યારી, ભારત માતા છે મુજને પ્યારી. અનેક ધર્મી અનેક ભાષા, વિવિધતાની છે બલિહારી. વિવિધતામાં પણ એકતા પ્યારી, છે મારા ભારતની વાત ન્યારી. ખેડૂત પિતા છે ને માતા ધરતી, મળી બનાવે ભૂમિ હરિયાળી. કાશ્મીરથી લઈને કન્યાકુમારી, છે મારા ભારતની વાત ન્યારી. રંગોની હોળી ને પ્રકાશિત દિવાળી, શોભે ભારત ભૂમિ કેવી રુપાળી. ગર્વ અનુભવું હું ગુજરાતી, છે મારા ભારતની વાત ન્યારી.

આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની !!

રે આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની !! શ્રાવણ માસ આવ્યો ને, આવ્યો ભાઈ-બહેનનો તહેવાર ! રક્ષાબંધન આવી મોસમ તહેવારોની !! રાંધણ છઠ્ઠના દિવસે મમ્મી બનાવે આઈટમ, ઉજવીએ શીતળા સાતમ,ખાઈને શીળી વાનગી જન્માષ્ટમીની મટકી ફોડી ઉજવીએ આઠમ. હવે આવશે પર્યુષણ, અમે કરશું ક્ષમાપન, મિચ્છામી દુક્કડમ ! મિચ્છામી દુક્કડમ !! એક, બે, ત્રણ, ચાર,ગણપતિનો જય જયકાર પધાર્યા ઘેર ઘેર ગણપતિ ગજાનન. ગરબાના રસિયા જુએ નવરાત્રીની વાટ, આમ દિવસ નીકળતા આવી દિવાળીની રાત, ચારે બાજુ ફટાકડાં ફૂટે ફટ ફટ, ચાલો રજા માણીએ ને બોલાવીએ રમઝટ.

- રીયા શાહ

૮ ડી

- સક્ષમ નિસર

મારા સપનામાં આવ્યા...

સપનામાં આવ્યા મારા સપનામાં આવ્યા. દસમાની પરીક્ષામાં મને પૂરા અંક આવ્યા, ધરમાં મંજીરા અને ઢોલ વાગ્યાં, આઈસ્ક્રીમ, યોકલેટ અને મીઠાઈ સંગ લાવ્યા, વડીલોથી સોગાત મળી, મિત્રોની સંગત મળી, સપનામાં આવ્યા એ મારા સપનામાં આવ્યા ધરમાં માતાએ જાતજાતના સ્વાદિષ્ટ ભોજન બનાવ્યા. પપ્પા રાત્રે ભેટ સંગ લાવ્યા. દાદા તથા દાદીએ લાડ લડાવ્યા. મોટા ભાઇ વિદેશથી કપડાં લાવ્યા, સપનામાં આવ્યા એ મારા સપનામાં આવ્યા..... સપનામાં આવ્યા એ મારા સપનામાં આવ્યા. માતા-પિતા મને વિદેશ લઇ આવ્યા. કરી-રમીને મોજ કરી. વિદેશમાં પણ મિત્રોની કોજ કરી. સપનામાં આવ્યા એ મારા સપનામાં આવ્યા....

એલાર્મ વાગતા પૂરા થયાં , સપના એ મારા પૂરા થયાં, પલંગથી પડી નીચે, પડતાં જ મોટેથી ચીસો પડી, મમ્મીને સપનાની વાત કરી, મમ્મીએ આપ્યા આશિષ નિર્ણય કર - નિશ્ચય કર, સપના તારા પૂરા કર…

> **- હિતાક્ષી શાહ** ૧૦ બ



પપ્પા તો બસ વ્હાલ કરે

થાક ધણો હતો ચહેરા પર, પણ અમારે માટે પરિશ્રમ કરતા જોયા છે, સાહેબ મેં તો પિતાને બસ વ્હાલ કરતા જોયા છે. તકલીફના વાદળો યારેબાજુ હોવા છતાં, અડીખમ ઊભેલા જોયા છે. સૂર્યની જેમ શીતળતા આપતાં જોયા છે, સાહેબ મેં તો પિતાને બસ વ્હાલ કરતા જોયા છે.

પોતાની તકલીફ ખિસ્સામાં મૂકી, અમને એ જ ખિસ્સામાંથી ખુશી આપતા જોયા છે. પોતાના શમણાઓને રોળી, અમને હોળી ખેલવતા જોયા છે. સાહેબ, મેં તો પપ્પાને બસ વ્હાલ કરતા જોયા છે.

> **- આર્યન કાકડિયા** ૧૦ સી



મારું બાળપણ છિનવાયું તે જ દહાડે

મારું બાળપણ છિનવાયું તે જ દહાડે, જ્યારે સ્થાપ્યું કોરોનાએ સામ્રાજ્ય ડર વડે, છીનવી લીધી મારી શાળા અને મિત્રોની મજા, જાણે આપતું હોય કોઈ પૂર્વ કર્મની સજા. યાદ આવે છે શિક્ષક પાછળ મૂંગી વાતો કરવાની, યાદ આવે છે મિત્રોના ડબ્બામાંથી ચોરી ખાવાની, યાદ આવે છે રમતમાં પડીને પછી ખડખડાટ હસવાની, યાદ આવે છે મારા નિર્દોષ બાળપણની.

કેદ થયેલા પક્ષી સમ થયું છે જીવન નિઃશંક, કાપી કાઢ્યા છે કોઈએ મારા સપનાના પંખ, મારું મન માંગે છે ફૂંકવા આઝાદીનો શંખ, જાણે જગતે છેડી છે કોરોના સાથે જંગ મગજમાંથી ભૂલાઈ ગયો છે શાળાનો નકશો, હે ભગવાન ! તમારા બાળકોને તમે જ રક્ષો, જેથી પૂરા કરી શકીએ અમે જીવનના લક્ષ્યો, બચી ગયેલું બાળપણ કોઈ તો અમને બક્ષો! કોઈ તો અમને બક્ષો!

- શ્રિયા શાહ

૧૦ સી

પપ્પા તો બસ વ્હાલ કરે…

મારા ધરમાં સૌથી બળવાન છે પપ્પા, આખા ધરના હૃદયની ધડકન. ધરની જાન છે પપ્પા. મારી ઈજ્જત, મારું સાહસ, મારો રુત્બો, મારી હિંમત, મારું અભિમાન છે પિતા. મારી તાકાત, મારી પુંજી, મારી ઓળખાણ છે પિતા. એકડી ધૂટાવતા આકરા થતાં, પરીક્ષા વખતે સવારનું એલાર્મ થતાં, ક્રિકેટમાં છગ્ગો મારતાં દડાથીયે વધુ ઉછળતા મારા પપ્પા. કોઈને તકલીફ વર્ણવતા ન હતા, પણ અડધી રાત્રે ખુલ્લી આંખે, અમારા ભવિષ્યના સપના સજાવતાં જોયા છે પપ્પા. અસહ્ય તકલીફો વચ્ચે વિના એકલે હાથે, હિંમત હાર્યા વિના લડતા જોયા છે પપ્પા ધરની એકેક દિવાલમાં ભળ્યો જેનો પસીનો. આખા ધરની રોનક ને શાન છે પિતા વ્યક્તિ એક છે પણ વિશેષતાઓ અનેક. પિતા સ્વરૂપે સર્જનહારને જોયા છે મેં પિતા… મારી આંખોમાં સતત જેમની છબિ. એવું વ્હાલ કરતાં મારા વ્હાલા પિતા.

> **વિરાજ શાહ** ૧૦ સી

પપ્પા તો બસ વ્હાલ કરે

જન્મ થયો, આંખ ખોલી રડતાં રડતાં, સામે હું ઝીલાયો હસતાં હસતાં, ત્યારે ખ્યાલ આવ્યો કે, પપ્પા તો બસ વ્હાલ કરે.

ભૂખ લાગેને, ઊઠું ગાદલું ભીનું કરતાં તોયે પપ્પા તો બસ વ્હાલ કરે. પા… પા… પગલી ભરી તેમની આંગળી પકડતાં ત્યારે ખ્યાલ આવ્યો કે, પપ્પા તો બસ વ્હાલ કરે.

સાયકલ શીખવી, મારી સાથે તે પણ અથડાતાં-પટકાતાં ત્યારે ખ્યાલ આવ્યો કે, પપ્પા તો બસ વ્હાલ કરે. વર્ગમાં પ્રથમ આવ્યો, ત્યારે તાળીઓ સાથે આંસુ નીકળતાં જોયા ત્યારે ખ્યાલ આવ્યો કે,પપ્પા તો બસ વ્હાલ કરે.

પોતે બેવડ વળી જતાં, તોયે મારો કોયડો ઉકેલતા, મારી જીદ્દ પૂરી કરતા, ત્યારે ખ્યાલ આવ્યો કે,પપ્પા તો બસ વ્હાલ કરે.

જોયા છે તેમને ચિંતામાં જાગતાં, અનહદ પરિશ્રમ કરતાં તોયે, પપ્પા તો બસ વ્હાલ કરે.

તકલીફોમાં એકલા હાથે ઝઝૂમતા, વ્યક્તિ એક પણ અનેક વિશેષતા, એ વિશેષતા જોઈ ત્યારે ખ્યાલ આવ્યો કે, 'પપ્પા તો બસ વ્હાલ કરે...'

> - હ્રદય મહેતા ૧૦ એફ

ઑનલાઈન છે બધું ભાઈ ઓનલાઈન

સવારે ઊઠી, ન બ્રશ, ન નાહી શાળામાં બેસી ગયો રે ભાઈ. પથારી પર બેઠો, ઓઢી રજાઈ, આ જોઈને મમ્મી ખીજાઈ!

હવે ઑનલાઈન થઈ ગયું ભણવાનું, ઓનલાઈન થઈ ગયું રમવાનું. હવે ઓનલાઈન થઈ ગયા બધા કામ, હવે તો ઓનલાઈન દર્શન પણ આપી રહ્યાં છે શ્યામ!

આખો દિવસ નહિ કામ, નહિ કાજ, ચાલી રહ્યું છે ધરમાં ઈન્ટરનેટનું રાજ. પહેલાં લાગતું ધરમાં રહીને આવશે મજા, પણ ઓનલાઈન જમાનો બની ગયો છે સજા.

મમ્મી કામ આપે તો કહી દો, 'હું છું ઓનલાઈન ક્લાસમાં' ભલે ભણવાનું મૂકી દીધું હોય સાઈડમાં, વાઈફાઈ વપરાતું હોય નેટફ્લિક્સના સિમરન અને રાજમાં. મજા પડે જ્યારે ઝૂમ લેક્ચરમાં ઊડે વાઈફાઈ પણ મિત્રો સાથે ચેટ કરવા જાય તો મચે હાય હાય

જોઈએ છીએ હવે બધા વેક્સિનની રાહ, ક્યારે આપશે કૉરોના આપણને રજા? યાદ આવે છે હવે મને મારી શાળા, અને કરવી છે મને મિત્રો સાથે ફરી મજા.



-નાયશા દેસાઈ ૯ એફ

અહેવાલ

વિશ્વ ગુજરાતી દિવસ

યત્રભુજ નરસી મેમોરિઅલ સ્કૂલ દરવર્ષે ગુજરાતી દિવસ ધામધૂમથી ઉજવે છે. આ વર્ષે "Hi-Steam" અઠવાડિક કાર્યક્રમનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. ગુજરાતી દિવસને HI-STEAM સાથે સાંકળી લીધો હતો. જ્ઞાન સાથે ગમ્મત દ્વારા ગુજરાતી દિવસની ઉજવણી ઉત્સાહભેર થઈ હતી. આ કાર્યક્રમની ખાસ વિશેષતા એ હતી કે પ્રાથમિક અને માધ્યમિક વિભાગના દરેક વિદ્યાર્થીઓએ ભાગલીધો હતો. કાર્યક્રમની વિગતો નીયે મુજબ છે.

ધોરણ	પ્રવૃત્તિ	વિષય
٩	બાળગીત	આકાશગંગા–સમૂહ કાવ્યપઠન
5	બાળગીત	યાંદો, સૂરજ, તારા
3	AURAL	ચાંદામામા જંગલમાં (MS,F)
۲	वક्तूत्व स्पर्धा	વિશ્વના વૈજ્ઞાનિકો
с,	નિબંધ લેખન (કાલ્પનિક)	જો મારી શાળા ચંદ્ર પર હોય તો… ચંદ્ર પર મારા મિત્ર… જો હું ચંદ્રના પ્રવાસે જાઉં તો… જો હું અવકાશયાત્રી બનું તો…
9	વાર્તાકથન	સપ્તર્ષિ અને ગ્રહોની પૌરાણિક કથા અને સાંપ્રત સમયમાં તેની પ્રાસંગિકતા
د	સ્વરચિત વાર્તાલેખન–વાર્તા કથન	જ્યારે હું મંગળ પર પહોંચ્યો
હ	કૉમિક લેખન (વિનોદી ચિત્ર વાર્તા)	એલિયન સાથે મુલાકાત
૧૦	PPT Presentation	અંતરિક્ષયાત્રી/વૈજ્ઞાનિક

Picasso



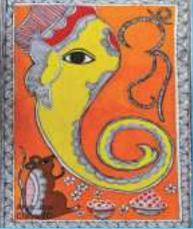
ARHAM PORWAL -7C



ARYA ZHA - 7C



DRUSHTI SHROFF - 7C



ARYA ZHA - 7C



ASHVI SHAH - 7B



NIA JINDANI - 7E

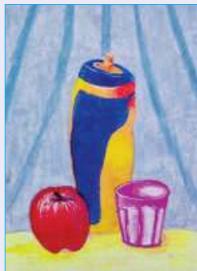




NIA JINDANI - 7E



NIA JINDANI - 7E



RIDDHI SHAH - 7E



RIDDHI SHAH - 7E



RIDDHI SHAH - 7E



RIDDHI SHAH - 7E





SUHANI AGARWAL - 7C



SHOK SHAH - 7E



SWARA LAKHOTIA - 7C



VIHAAN SHAH - 7C







YASH JAIN - 7E

YAGYA GALA - 7C



YASH JAIN - 7E



YASH JAIN - 7E



MEET SHAH - 8D



MISHHIKA JHAVERI - 8D



PRISHA VAGAL - 8C



VRITI SANGHAVI - 8C



PRISHA VAGAL - 8C

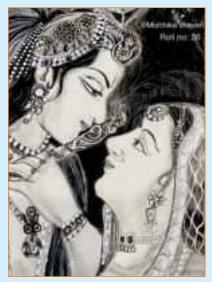


ANANYALKSHMI BHAT - 8D

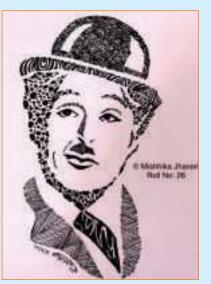
ANANYALAKSHMI BHAT - 8D



MEET SHAH - 8D



MISHHIKA J - 8D

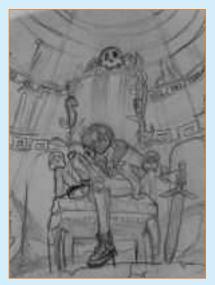


MISHHIKA JHAVERI - 8D



MISHIKA JHAVERI - 8D





PRISHA VAGAL - 8C



PRUTHA



VRITI SANGHAVI - 8C



SAIRA M - 9TH



SAIRA M - 9TH



SAIRA M - 9TH



SAIRA M - 9TH



SAIRA M - 9TH



SIYA SHAH - 9C



TANISHKA PATEL - 9C



TANISHKA PATEL - 9C



FREYA SHARMA - 10TH



FREYA SHARMA - 10TH



FREYA SHARMA - 10TH





FREYA SHARMA - 10TH



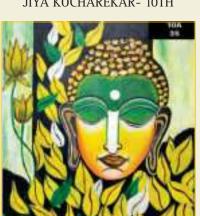
JIYA KOCHAREKAR- 10TH



MALISHKA SACHDEV- 10TH



MILONI MAGIAWALA - 10TH



VARUN SHETH - 10TH



HELEE VORA - 10TH



HELEE VORA - 10TH

THINKING

WALTER D. WINTLE

IF YOU THINK YOU ARE BEATEN, YOU ARE IF YOU THINK YOU DARE NOT, YOU DON'T, IF YOU LIKE TO WIN, BUT YOU THINK YOU CAN'T IT IS ALMOST CERTAIN YOU WON'T.

IF YOU THINK YOU'LL LOSE, YOU'RE LOST FOR OUT OF THE WORLD WE FIND, SUCCESS BEGINS WITH A FELLOW'S WILL IT'S ALL IN THE STATE OF MIND.

IF YOU THINK YOU ARE OUTCLASSED, YOU ARE YOU'VE GOT TO THINK HIGH TO RISE, YOU'VE GOT TO BE SURE OF YOURSELF BEFORE YOU CAN EVER WIN A PRIZE.

LIFE'S BATTLES DON'T ALWAYS CO TO THE STRONGER OR FASTER MAN, BUT SOON OR LATE THE MAN WHO WINS IS THE MAN WHO THINKS HE CAN!



Dadabhai Road, Vile Parle (West), Mumbai - 400056. Tel.: 42333000 /42333001. Fax: 26703645 Email: cnmschool@gmail.com • Website: www.cnms.svkm.ac.in