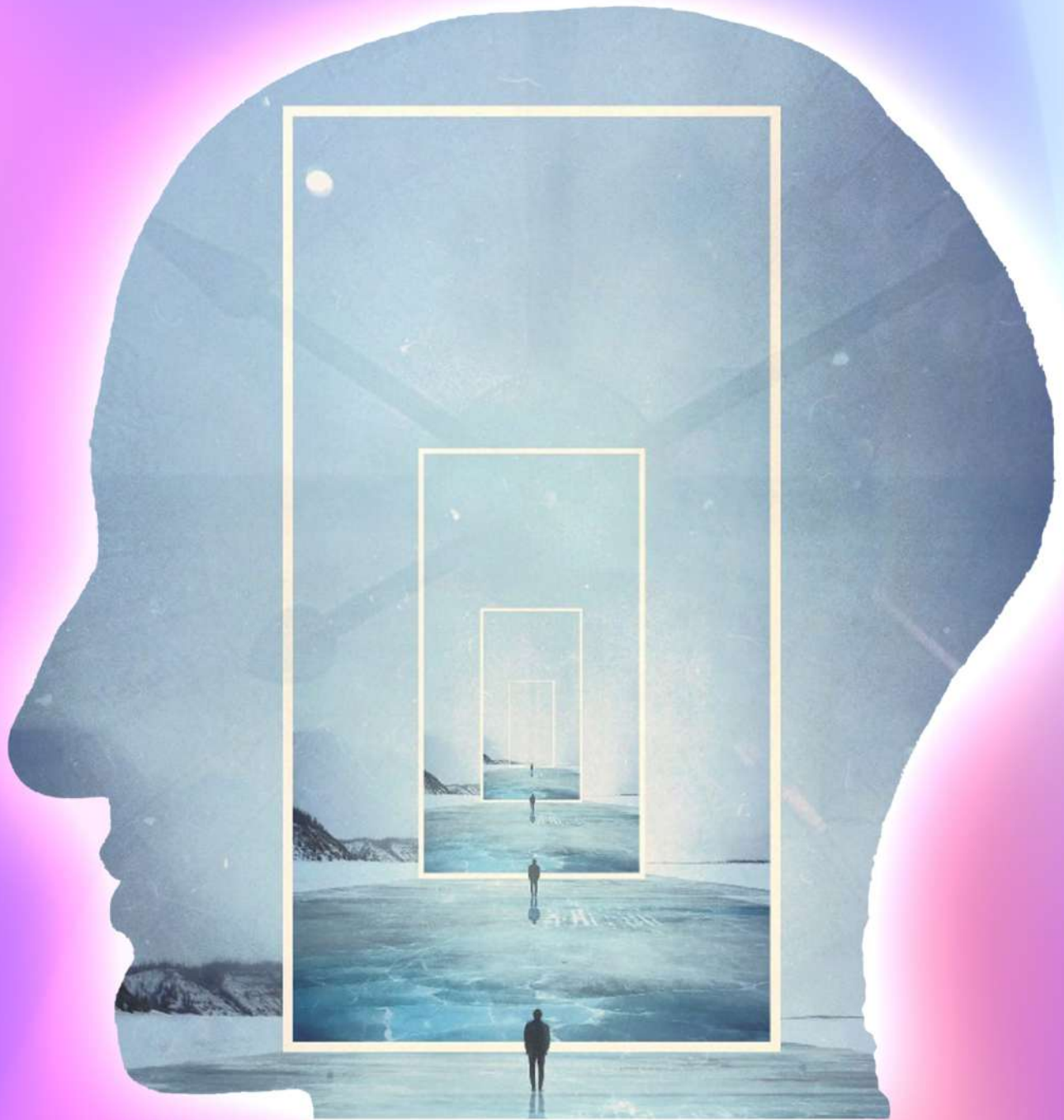


Déjà Vu

ISSUE 1 | 2021-22



“It’s like Déjà Vu: all over again”

-Berra

Director's Note

The uniform is one size too big. The shoes need breaking in. The brand-new backpack hangs awkwardly off a pair of tiny shoulders. There's a brave smile with a missing tooth or two, a final holding of hands, a hug, a kiss, a hesitant wave, and inevitable tears.

Before COVID-19 disrupted our lives and forced our kids to open their laptops and learn from home, the first day of school was a rite of passage – the start of a life-determining journey that has broadly followed the same shape and rhythm for generations.

From kindergarten to Grade 12, classrooms are run by teachers who deliver lessons that start and end with a bell. They set tests, watch over examinations, and post grades that might delight, disappoint, or even surprise parents.

Enter 2020. The year 2020 sneaked stealthily into our lives and changed it forever. Life turned topsy turvy with the intense fear of sickness and death looming over our heads. A range of unprecedented social isolation and safety measures had to be implemented and barely any aspect of daily life was left unaffected. Alternative methods and technologies had to be adopted almost overnight. Online learning became an urgent necessity, rather than an option. Educators were forced, with little warning – to familiarize themselves with a range of online platforms in order to deliver entire courses on a fully remote basis.

As lockdowns ease and schools start to reopen, it's as good a time as any to take stock and look at the likely future of education. Children who start school from now on will grow up to be workers and leaders in a digital-first world that will demand new skills and new ways of thinking.

To succeed in life and at work, they will need all the social, emotional, and academic support they can get via rich and flexible learning experiences that will differ vastly from the schooldays of their parents.

In short, education's age-old three Rs – Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic – are being joined by a fourth: Rethink.

Rethinking will translate into revamping the education systems and methodology from the school's perspective complemented with sincere effort from the students. Children, always remember, tough times are a blessing in disguise. They make us stronger and more determined.

Appreciate these challenging times as one fine day, they will be another success story in your life. On that hope inspiring note, let's forge ahead together towards another milestone in life.

Editor's Note

Déjà vu. Loosely translated from French, its language of origin, it means “already seen”. It refers to a feeling of having already experienced the present situation. Most of us have felt this at some time or the other - that chill which runs down your back when you do something, closely followed by a feeling that you’ve already done it before, even though you can't remember when.

Coming back to school after a year of online classes has reignited a lot of amazing memories. And yet, walking through the same old corridors and studying in the same old classroom seems inexplicably foreign - when was the last time we were taught on a blackboard? In our opinion, “Déjà vu” captures this feeling of misplaced familiarity perfectly.

And so, keeping our return to school in mind, the first edition of the school magazine for the academic year 2021-22 was made.

The support we received from the students and teachers has been overwhelming, with over 150 different students sending in their work. Selecting the best of these was a very difficult process, since everything we got was all made with a lot of effort put into it, but we’ve tried to do our best to select the best work.

If your work sadly didn’t make the cut, don’t be disheartened - we’re already accepting entries for the next edition, so you can always send in your work again! Just email it to antseditors@gmail.com, along with your class and grade. Keep articles and stories below 300 words, and make sure to send clear scans of your artwork.

That’s all we have to say for now, so enjoy the magazine. Hope you all like it!

-The Editorial Team



MEET THE TEAM



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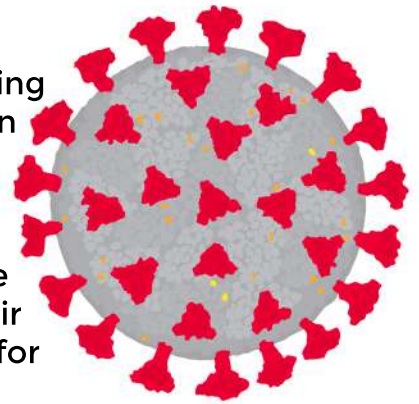
Writer

Articles

LIFE DURING THE PANDEMIC

It's no secret that our lives have taken a drastic turn since the Coronavirus Pandemic struck us. Even amidst the unsettling surroundings, people didn't let the anxiety get to them and made sure to make the best of the circumstances.

Imprisoned in the jail of our houses, most of us took to cultivating new hobbies. Be it baking or coding, we were bestowed with an abundance of time to focus on our personal development. The lockdown inspired the hidden chefs in many of us, and from whipping up dalgonas to baking cakes, almost all of us tried our hand at cooking. As time elapsed, COVID-19 made us more watchful of our lifestyle. Most people made adjustments to their diet, and some even began to exercise regularly out of concern for their health.



The solitary lifestyle also caused an exponential rise in zoom sessions, where people sought social connection through virtual means. And ironically, being imprisoned in our houses brought us closer to our friends and family. We put exceptional efforts to celebrate our special occasions, like preparing birthday collages or hosting virtual parties. Perhaps in the end, lockdown was what it took for us to realise how much we valued our free and unrestrained lives.

It would be safe to say that the year proved to be a blessing in disguise for several people, keeping aside the initial period of despondency it brought. With schools reopening, we seem to approach better times.

However, it is important to remember that the virus still lurks around us. For if we shun the precautionary measures we have adopted, our road towards a normal future may lead us down a cliff.

-Aashvi Rajani, 9E

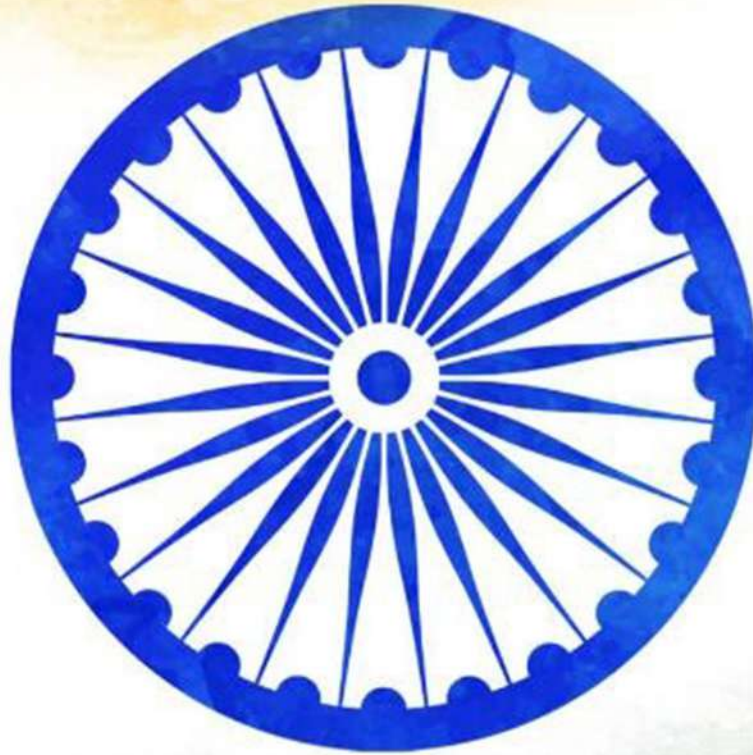


INDEPENDENCE DAY 2021

Two years ago, festivals promised the feeling of euphoria, from grooving with hundreds of others to dancing to the tune of ear-splitting music blasting from an exorbitantly lit stage. Cut to 2020, and we are all in front of our laptops, sipping coffee while attending them online, comfortably snug in our pyjamas.

But how does the experience of big on-ground festivals, the sense of community being the biggest takeaway, translate digitally? 2020 was a year full of experimentation, and it saw dance and music festivals adapting online.

Independence Day celebrations at school often mean a beautifully decorated campus in ribbons and balloons of the national flag's colours. Students of all grades come together to proudly sing the national anthem and look forward to presenting memorable dance and song performances. However, under the shadow of the pandemic, schools have had to ensure that the fervour of patriotism lives by shifting their Independence Day celebrations online. This drastic deflection from Independence Day tradition added a twist to the 74th Independence Day celebrations.



Students composed song and dance numbers, singing and performing in the confines of their homes in the virtual company of parents and teachers. The art, debate, poem recitation, fancy dress competitions, among others, were all fully organised in advance. Students had to submit photographs and videos of their entries. The entire program was later compiled into a single video and presented live online for everyone to see.

The success of this online event is a testimony to the ability of the students to cooperate despite difficult times, enabling them to not only showcase their talent, but also to overcome the academic and mental pressure through celebrations.

This new take on the Independence Day has left us with memories that we will cherish for the coming years.

-Keya Dubey, 9I

NAVRATRI 2021

The transition to the virtual world post COVID-19 has been anything but breezy. Be it lectures or meetings, every significant engagement for the day requires a laptop and an inexhaustible network connection. And in the midst of this mayhem, the most integral and exhilarating parts of our lives had begun to dwindle away: Festivals. Under normal circumstances, festivals meant enormous gatherings and cheerful evenings, accompanied by succulent Indian delicacies. But being in lockdown meant that none of this was possible, and we were left to wallow in our memories of the past.

In spite of that, our spirits remained undeterred. Schools managed to adapt and found new ways to observe the event with an equal zeal and vigour. If the entire world was functioning on online meetings, why wouldn't our festivities thrive in the same outlet?

Celebrating Navratri virtually established the fact that there would be no vast grounds adorned with dazzling lights, no extravagant events like the usual years. Despite these drawbacks, the enthusiasm of the students and teachers didn't waver.

Holding on to our customs, the virtual Navratri commenced with an auspicious Aarti. Following that, the students carried out a marvellous garba performance in the safety of their homes. Adding to the exuberance of the event was the fact that every student was decked out in vibrant traditional outfits, displaying their excitement for the festival.

With the teachers and parents as their virtual audience, the students were met with a large applause at the end. It was an applause that didn't just appreciate their performance, but also their spirits and vigour to persevere in such gloomy times. Virtual Navratri was an experience like no other.

And given that the event was such a shining success, conducting festivities virtually could be the next addition to our ever-growing repertoire of safety precautions.

-Aashvi Rajani, 9E



REPUBLIC DAY 2022



From a country that was hopelessly bound by the shackles of British colonialism not even a century ago, India has transformed into one of the most powerful nations in the world.

26 January 1950 marks a momentous day in our post-independence transformation. It was the day we adopted the Indian Constitution and finally declared ourselves a sovereign nation: the result of a century of resistance against British Raj.

Republic Day, as it is now called, celebrates our sovereignty and upholds patriotism in the country. The President unfurls the Tiranga at Rajpath, armed forces march from Rashtrapati Bhawan to Red Fort, and bravery awards are presented to civilians and military personnel.

Anand Niketan's own Republic Day celebrations are looked forward to by every student. Students from each of the four houses duke it out in competitive races to earn their house the title 'House of the Year'. Electric dances and acrobatic performances help maintain a boisterous atmosphere throughout the event. The day concludes with the newly appointed school and house captains being awarded their badges and leading their respective houses in the school march.

Unfortunately, none of that was to be: COVID restrictions ruled out the possibility of carrying out the usual celebrations. But this did not dispirit the students of Anand Niketan. Students traded physical activity for mental stimulation, as discussions regarding Republic Day were held instead, online. Many presented short speeches that quickly transitioned into full-fledged discourse, with everyone participating and throwing in their own opinions and ideas. Themes such as the 'the importance of Republic Day', 'is patriotism good for the country?', and 'what changes should be made to the Indian Constitution?' were conferred upon, among others.

The enthusiasm of the students translated into a lively and riveting discussion, which helped them learn about and gain a broader perspective on a variety of topics. Republic Day was a resounding success.

-Saksham Mathur, 9E

CHESS

Chess is perceived by many as an ancient game with no place or real significance in the modern world. But the multitude of recent chess fans will care to correct you. In reality, the 64 squares have never been more a more happening place before.

While the outbreak of Covid-19 has caused much death and suffering, it has also given chess a new life: the alleged 'chess boom' saw its peak in the backdrop of the pandemic. The most popular chess website, Chess.com, has reported more than 11 million new users since March 2020. How did this centuries-old game make such a dashing return? The pioneers of this boom are the numerous titled players who have been providing chess content on platforms such as YouTube and Twitch through the course of the pandemic, entertaining and educating millions. The most notable mentions are Grandmaster Hikaru Nakamura (GMHikaru on YouTube), International Master Levy Rozman (GothamChess on YouTube) and Candidate Master Antonio Radic (Agadmator on YouTube), who have amassed more than a million subscribers each on YouTube, since the pandemic struck.

The release of the Queen's Gambit, a chess-based Netflix show, was fuel to the fire. Receiving more than 60 million views from all over the world, it propagated chess to an even wider audience, becoming one of the most watched limited series on Netflix ever. The recently concluded world chess championship match between current champion Magnus Carlsen and challenger Ian Nepomniachtchi was a nice finishing touch to a busy two years for chess. For many new chess enthusiasts, it was their first world championship match. The live coverage of each of the 11 games received a peak viewership of more than 300,000 viewers, one of the games even reaching close to half a million viewers.

Reflecting on the last two years, it has become quite apparent that the legacy of chess has changed forever- from a forgotten game of the past, to a game that is loved by several millions.

-Saksham Mathur, 9E



GLOBAL WARMING



More than 150 species of animals are going extinct every day. Humans are next in line. Global warming, a monstrous progeny of the human species itself, has caused the global temperatures to rise by 1.1 C since 1900. A further increase of just 0.9 C is all that keeps the world from facing a sixth mass extinction.

The novel coronavirus has swept through the world, killing us, wrecking our economies, and transforming our lives as we know it. This is just a taste of what lies ahead if global warming isn't curbed. We have seen the disastrous impacts of climate change caused by the Australian Bushfires and the Earthquakes in Haiti.

The most disheartening part is that we have been unsuccessful in the fight against climate change so far, despite having conducted annual global events such as the COP since 1995. The Conference of the Parties brings together different countries to discuss how the impending doom of Global warming can be prevented. The COP26 held this year, however, proved to be a lot more promising than its predecessors.

The cuts made in global greenhouse gas emissions are still far from ideal for preserving a livable climate, and support for the most vulnerable countries affected by climate change is still insufficient. To overcome this, each of the 200 countries that took part in COP26 left with certain goals that they aim to achieve by 2022, through implementation of policies. This includes decreasing the carbon dioxide emissions by at least 45%, phasing-down on fossil fuels like coal, and providing economic aid worth 100 billion dollars to developing countries.

The situation is now so grave, that if action isn't taken now, all will be lost. If countries invest their time and resources into the prevention of global warming, the same way they did to ameliorate the current pandemic, we could do wonders. If humanity had the ability to change the climate of the Earth in the span of a century, then humanity must also have the ability to reverse this effect.

-Aryan Rajvanshi, 9I

POVERTY IN THE LOCKDOWN

In reviewing the history of the perception of poverty, it is shocking how much conventional thinking has changed over the last century. A transition in the debate between the two radically diverse thoughts on poverty is evident.

Early on, there was little reason to think that poor people had the potential to be anything other than poor; poverty would inevitably persist. Renowned scholars even argued that poverty was necessary for economic advancement, since without it, who would farm the land, work the factories and staff the armies? Avoiding hunger was the essential motivation for doing work. In the more modern view, poverty is seen as a moral issue that can be prevented through public effort and doing so is broadly consistent with a growing economy. Poverty is no longer some inevitable, even natural condition, but something that can and should come to a halt.



This shift in thinking, unfortunately, came with much struggle. Numerous people protested, joined a community or a religious group, participated in labour and civil rights movements and political coalitions of sorts to campaign for governmental steps to help fight chronic poverty. Regrettably, resistance to these efforts was often quite vast. Plenty of courageous people sacrificed their freedom and even their lives in those struggles over centuries.

In recent times, the impact of Covid-19 on poverty has been very severe - the pandemic has seen a considerable rise in poverty rates. Advanced and developing countries alike have experienced massive job losses, economic contraction, falling investments and exports, and declining tourism funds. Countries have responded to the pandemic with immense social spendings, ranging from 7-28 % of their GDP, to mitigate the worst of the economic shock and keep families afloat. The battle against poverty has been slow in some periods, and the cycle has broken at times, with quite a few setbacks. We still see this today, with impoverished people being blamed for their poverty and even being criminalised for it.



TECHNOLOGY IN THE LOCKDOWN

Tech has played a pivotal role in the 21st century and has changed lives forever. About 97.2% people on the Earth use some form of tech in their everyday lives. You could go as far as saying that technology is the only reason we are alive in a near post-COVID era.

Tech like AI, robots and drones played a major role in the analysis and research of this virus that no one had heard of. It allowed firms to experiment and develop vaccines, medicines and guidelines that saved countless lives. Online platforms like Zoom, Classroom and Meet allowed companies to survive, employees to continue working and students to continue studying through specific tools designed for these conditions. Not only that, it brought everyone together in a time where it wasn't physically possible. The internet rapidly became the go-to place for anything from education to extra skills and all-day long entertainment. Thanks to portals like Udemy, Skill Share, Netflix and Hotstar, people could learn and watch basically anything right from the comfort of their homes.



A lot of different industries have profited during the pandemic. The lockdown triggered the entry of some blockbuster online games and they quickly became the activity to do for relaxation. Another segment that saw a major boom was the online shopping segment. Platforms like Amazon and Zomato made people's lives simpler and easier. The global E- Commerce industry grew to a whopping \$26.7 trillion, all thanks to the pandemic. The advancements in the pandemic have led to an overall betterment in tech. We now have access to tools like Google Classroom and proper online meeting portals that not only helped us in the pandemic but will also continue to help us moving forward. Judicious use of technology is a boon to society that has improved our lives forever!

-Sanchit Garg, 9E

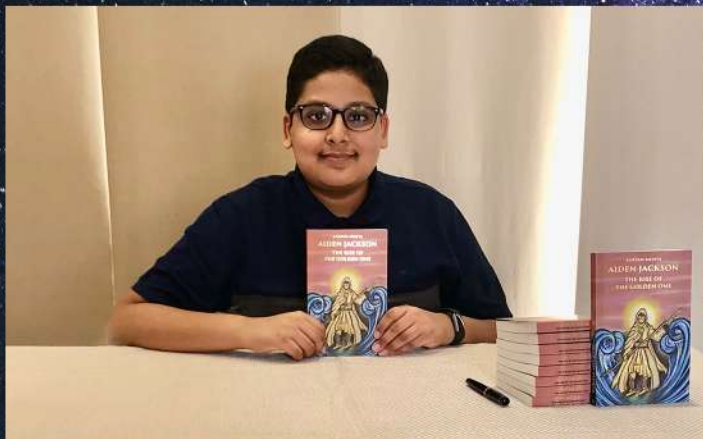
A LITERARY JOURNEY

During the COVID-19 pandemic, everyone has found some form of hidden talent hidden within themselves, whether it be art, poetry, craft, or anything else under the sun, which they pursued during the hours of free time we all had back when schools were shut down for months on end. During the initial start of the lockdown in Gujarat, I started pursuing something which I've loved for years - writing.

I've been obsessed with reading ever since I learned the alphabet, and after you read a lot, writing comes to you naturally. I started with just a couple of names in mind and then let myself go loose, spending hours on end at my computer, typing out a story. Words seemed to flow as I wrote, and I kept going, eventually hitting 50 pages, then a hundred, and then 184, where I decided that it was best to continue the story in a sequel. I wove a story of a world which was divided into two factions - Order and Chaos, a story of the life of a young man living in this world, a young man who is more than what he seems to be.

After a lot of research and guidance from friends and family, my book, Aiden Jackson - The Rise of the Golden One was self-published to the Amazon Kindle store on the 19th of October, 2020, and later released in paperback form in early January of this year. But my literary journey doesn't end here. I'm working on two future sequels for the book. Writing The Rise of the Golden One has helped me grow a lot, both as a person and as an author, and I plan on using this new-found knowledge to take my writing to new heights.

-Aaryan Mehta, 91



Student Articles

MENTAL HEALTH

"There is hope, even when your brain tells you there isn't."

This is a beautiful quote by John Green from the book *Turtle All the Way Down*.

The WHO defines Mental Health as a state of well-being in which the individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.

In Indian society, there is a stigma attached with mental health issues. People are reluctant to consult mental health professionals for fear that society will ostracize them. Mental health problems are seen as an individual's weakness and hence not accorded the same importance like other diseases are.

Mental health is important at every stage of one's life, but I think this issue is more pertinent for students, as they are extremely impressionable and can easily end up making the wrong choices. In recent years, this problem has assumed serious dimensions. An early education and knowledge on this topic would definitely help them deal with such problems. Mental Health Awareness should be included in the syllabus of each and every school so as to let students know it's OKAY to be suffering from a mental illness and that there is nothing wrong with them.

Society should empathize with and not criticize people when they come out and acknowledge that they are suffering from any kind of mental diseases. The communication gap between people beset with a mental illness and the society needs to reduce, and the acceptance should, ideally, be increased.

It is a positive sign that nowadays people are talking about mental health issues in the mainstream media. Newspapers, television, even popular movies are addressing this problem. Such discussions would go a long way in bringing this topic out from our drawing rooms, and into the open. We actually need to now stand up for what we believe in and support the people we love and be there for them when it actually matters. Even the smallest of things can help a person feel better about their self and help them cope with their illness. The cause of spreading awareness about Mental Health is achievable only if we work together.

-Shreeja Mitra, 11H



TEACHERS

'A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning.'

- Brad Henry

My hearty greetings to one and all!



They are the esteemed, enlightened and great souls who are there for students through thick and thin. In the extremities of the time also, they never give up. After all, only a teacher is capable of doing all this. All my teachers are angels to me who spread the light of knowledge, imagination and enlightenment in the young minds of pupils like myself. Is there anything a teacher does not do for a student? The simple answer for this is 'no'. I would like to thank all my teachers who have played a very important role in my life. I am obliged and blessed to have them!



-Saumil Raheja, 8V

PROJECT BUMBLEBEE

Since a very young age, I have been very fond of automobiles and one of my favourite characters was Bumblebee from the Transformers, which was a 1979 Camaro.

3 years ago, my dad bought a 1979 Chevy Camaro as a surprise for me as a first project car for me to work on and I could do whatever I wanted with the car. Being the only '79' Camaro across India, I wanted it to be distinct from most cars, a proper American muscle car with a 6.2L LS3 Supercharged V8 under the hood making 650hp and a custom chassis to handle the power along with an upgraded braking system and suspension setup. I started locating and arranging every part one by one from across the globe, although the pandemic delayed the entire building process. The car is still a work in progress and will be hopefully completed in the near future.

"There's a point at 7000 RPM... where everything fades. The machine becomes weightless. Just disappears."

~Carroll Shelby

-Taran Nanda, 9I



CULMINATIONS

At the end of each year we have an annual program called the "Culminations". Due to the current covid situation in 2021, the Culmination was virtual, and thus a bit tough to prepare.

Our final program was scheduled on 23rd April 2021, and thus we started our preparations from 6th April 2021 after our vacations ended. I was in the fusion dance and every day we had dance practice at around 2:00 - 2:30pm. My friend Rhea was the choreographer and we prepared our dance moves on the song 'Waka Waka This Time for Africa' and 'Memories'. On 15th April, while practicing, I was doing gymnastics, fell down and hurt my leg. For about 5 days, I could not practice and rested my leg. After 5 days, my leg was fine and I could start practicing again. The next day on 21st April, we discussed what we would wear, what makeup to put on and the accessories. On 22nd April, my section had a dry run of the overall performance to ensure everything was perfect.

On the final day, all the parents joined on Zoom to encourage the kids; it started with the prayer dance, the skits, the fusion dance, academic report and the 'Finale'. That day everyone enjoyed, great feedback was given by the parents and the teachers, and once the parents left, we had a party with our teacher. We played riddles and ate what we wanted to in our respective homes. When the meeting ended, we hosted another one with friends only and again saw a few videos together. It was a memorable event and a good way to end the academic year. Thanks to my teachers and friends for making it exciting despite the lockdown.

-Aisha Rajvanshi, 5I

THE DOOR

It's locked.

Walking down the corridor in my house
At night when the candles are doused
I tip toe past my kitchen pantry
And through its window I see a massive banyan tree

Few steps ahead
"Never go there" my mum said
But something is ruling me in
I go, and see a large black door, thin

Palms sweating
Foreheads wetting
The mystery has taken over me
So here I go, 1 - 2 - 3

The shackle of the door hinge opening
But being held back by some sort of imaginary string
My suspicion is blocked
The door is locked

-Ariha Patel, 7E



LIFE AS A TEEN

I entered my teens,
when I turned thirteen.

In juvenescence,
nothing makes sense.

I consider myself a fashionista,
but always confused with the shades of
green, sea or 'pista'.

With girlhood, I have become mean,
which will last until I am nineteen.

I start to push away my parents,
but feel closer to my friends.
who might influence me badly at the
end.

In youth, 'Perks of being a wallflower',
'Gossip girl' seem an inspiration,
but sadly it is a deception.

Social media seems a great captivation,
But my scores speak of it as a great
distraction.

With everyday a new idolization,
All leading to my friends' vexation.

Little fights in teens,
create epic scenes.

'I wonder when will this get over'
so life can again become sober.

-Kashish Sharma, 8N

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

I wish I had Thrived for it...

I remember those days,
When we played those plays
Having fun,
Without any run.

Teasing those teachers,
Acting like preachers
Being told,
Wish we never get old.

Going through heart breaks,
Which we knew were fake
Those puppy loves,
Felt like true loves.

Now we all are apart,
Trading different trail and path
I remember those days,
When we played those plays.

-Maahi Todi, 9N



The Art Corner



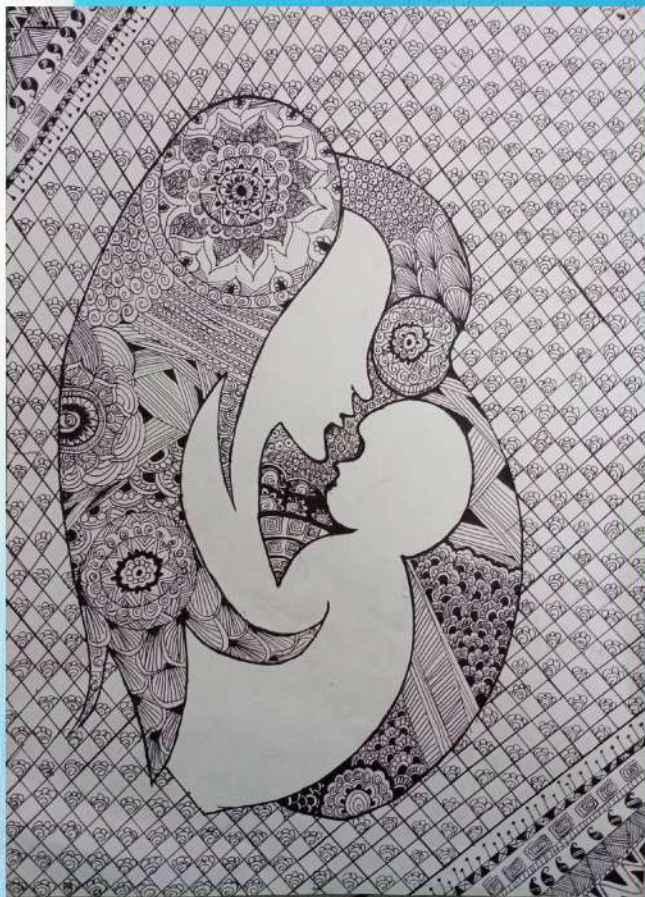
Dhanashree Paun - 9I



Miraya Agarwal - 3I



Keya Dubey - 9I



Janessa Chhawchharia - 8A



Sohani Dube - 1E



Paraj Parikh - 11 Commerce



Aashay Mehta - 5I



Nevaan Mehta - 3L



Hanaya Kejriwal - 2C



Rian Patel - 1E

“Art is not a thing, it’s a way”

-Elbert Hubbard



Ridhan Mehta - 1E



Hardi Shah - 8V



Karvi Shah - 3E

Photography



Vanaalika Mohapatra - 9V



Aarya Gohil - 7N

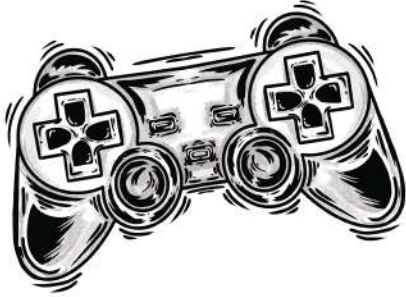


Hiya Chotalia - 9A



Disha Thakkar - 9N

GAMES CORNER



7			1					
1	4						8	9
		8	3	4				
4	5			1		8	3	
			8		4			
	2	6		7			4	1
				3	2	4		
6	3						7	2
				1				3



SUDOKU



Dilbert.com DilbertCartoonist@gmail.com



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COMIC STRIP

1. You answer me but I never ask questions. What am I?

A: The phone.

2. What can be as big as an elephant, but weighs nothing?

A: A shadow.

3. What is blue and smells like red paint?

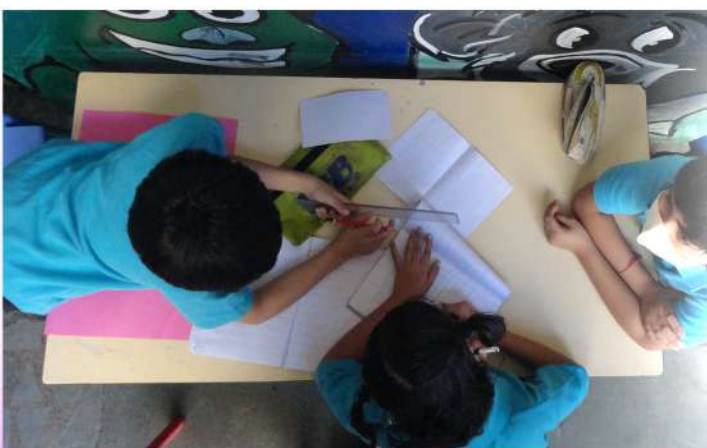
A. Blue paint

4. What has ten letters and starts with gas?

A. Automobile

RIDDLES

BACK TO SCHOOL



MADE BY STUDENTS FROM GRADE 9 INTERNATIONAL