



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S  
EDITION**

➤ As kids are more prone to getting traumatised by troubling events, here's few tips on 'Family Time' on how to help them manage stress  
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➤ Know more about Warli art as we tell you how to create this art with coffee  
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➤ IPL 2021: KKR eye a win over RR to remain ahead in play-off race  
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**STUDENT EDITION**  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021



## THE IMPACT

**1** The nuclear waste, if released, can be toxic for humans and animals and the thousands-year-old viruses could be detrimental to society if they also break free from the icy prison

**2** In 2016, in Siberia, thawing permafrost exposed a 70-year-old reindeer carcass infected with anthrax, killing a child and affecting several other people, according to the Observer Research Foundation

**3** Another risk concerns by-products of fossil fuels, which have been introduced into permafrost environments since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution

**4** The Arctic also contained natural metal deposits, including arsenic, mercury and nickel, which have been mined for decades and have caused huge contamination from waste material across millions of hectares

**5** These compounds, if released from the permafrost, would also release food scarcity by poisoning animals and fish in the area that humans rely on for food

**6** The toxic compounds, along with the nuclear waste, would also release more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and significantly contribute to climate change

Permafrost, which remains completely frozen—32°F or colder—for at least two years straight, houses everything from microbes to chemical compounds, all of which have been trapped in an icy cage for over a millennia



## TOP 3 BUZZ OF THE DAY

### HONOUR

#### DUO WINS NOBEL CHEMISTRY PRIZE FOR WORK ON CATALYSTS



Benjamin List



David MacMillan

Germany's Benjamin List and David MacMillan of the United States on Wednesday won the Nobel Prize in chemistry for their development of a precise new tool for molecular construction, the jury said. The duo was awarded "for their development of a precise new tool for molecular construction: organocatalysis. This has had a great impact on pharmaceutical research, and has made chemistry greener," the Nobel Committee said.

- List and MacMillan, both 53, will share the 10-million-kronor (\$1.1-million, one-million-euro) prize
- MacMillan is a professor at the Princeton University in the US, while List is a director at the Max Planck Institute in Germany

### ECONOMY

#### REBOUND GALORE: MOODY'S CHANGES INDIA'S RATING OUTLOOK



Global ratings agency Moody's Investors Service on Tuesday changed India's ratings outlook to stable from negative, saying downside risks in Asia's third largest economy and its financial institutions have reduced. Moody's said India's decision to keep the financial institutions flush with liquidity also reduced the risk to the country from the financial sector.

- The Indian economy has shown signs of a strong rebound after a second wave of Covid-19 infection killed thousands of people in April and May
- The latest move by Moody's supports the government view that India is rebounding at a pace faster than earlier anticipated and doubts about its economic revival have been put to rest

### SPORTS

#### HOCKEY INDIA WITHDRAWS FROM 2022 BIRMINGHAM CWG

India on Tuesday pulled out of next year's Birmingham Commonwealth Games' hockey competition, citing Covid-19 concerns and UK's discriminatory quarantine rules for travellers from the country, a day after England's withdrawal from the junior men's World Cup in Bhubaneswar over similar reasons.



- The UK recently refused to recognise India's Covid-19 vaccination certificates and imposed a 10-day hard quarantine on travellers from the country even if they were fully vaccinated



## CLIMATE CHANGE GOES NUCLEAR

Cold War era nuclear waste and deadly pathogens, lying deep below the Arctic's permafrost, could soon be released to the surface as a result of rapidly melting ice, a new study warns. According to scientists, two thirds of the Arctic's near-surface permafrost could be lost by 2100 due to climate change, as the area is warming at as much as three times the average global rate. The researchers highlight the 130 nuclear weapons tested in the atmosphere by the Soviet Union from 1995 to 1990, which left behind high levels of radioactive substances.



isms in the deep permafrost have already been found to be antibiotic-resistant, according to the study (Source: Daily Mail)

- Along with the nuclear waste, there are hundreds of microorganisms currently frozen in the ice. As the permafrost thaws, there is potential for these bacteria to mix with meltwater and create new antibiotic-resistant strains of existing viruses
- More than 100 microorganisms in the deep permafrost have already been found to be antibiotic-resistant, according to the study (Source: Daily Mail)

### WHO TO TAKE FINAL DECISION NEXT WEEK ON APPROVAL TO COVAXIN

The World Health Organisation said on Tuesday that it will make a decision on granting emergency use listing (EUL) to Bharat Biotech's Covid-19 vaccine next week. The WHO said, Bharat Biotech has been submitting data to it on a rolling basis and provided additional information at its request on September 27.



### Facebook Gaming creators can co-stream now

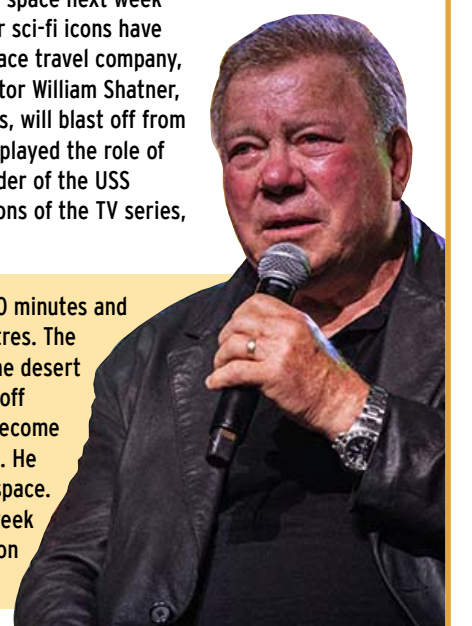
Tech giant Facebook is adding co-streaming to Facebook Gaming, a useful feature the Twitch competitor has lacked since it launched in 2018. Additionally, while Twitch's version of a co-streaming feature – Squad Stream – requires you to be a Twitch Partner, Facebook is making co-streaming available to everyone, reports The Verge.

- Starting a stream involves tagging up to three other creators during stream setup or after you are live. If the other creators tag you back, then your audience is launched into a "co-streaming viewer experience", according to Facebook
- Besides being a method to introduce creators to each other and their audiences, co-streams also allow viewers to see the same game from different perspectives
- Both Twitch and Facebook Gaming viewership blossomed during the pandemic, with Facebook Gaming up 82 per cent year over year in terms of hours of watch time, the report said.

## "Beam me up, Scotty" KIRK TO SAY FOR REAL

Captain Kirk is rocketing into space next week—Boldly going where no other sci-fi icons have gone before. Jeff Bezos' space travel company, Blue Origin, has announced that actor William Shatner, who starred in the 'Star Trek' series, will blast off from West Texas on October 12. Shatner played the role of Captain James T. Kirk, the commander of the USS Starship Enterprise, for three seasons of the TV series, and in seven movies.

- Shatner's flight will last just 10 minutes and reach no higher than 106 kilometres. The capsule will parachute back to the desert floor, not far from where it took off
- Ninety-year-old Shatner will become the oldest person to go to space. He will also be the second actor in space. A Russian actress took off this week for the International Space Station for a shoot.



## ADELE returns with new music after 6 yrs

British singer Adele has teased her first new music since her 2015 Grammy Award winning album '25', with a video clip for the song 'Easy On Me'. Known for chart-topping ballads such as 'Hello' and 'Someone Like You', Adele posted the black and white video on her Twitter and Instagram pages on Tuesday, with the caption 'Easy On Me - October 15'.

Adele released '25' in November 2015. It topped charts around the world and scooped the coveted album of the year prize at the Grammy Awards

The video shows the singer in a car, putting a tape into a cassette player, checking the rear view mirror, increasing the volume and then driving off in a vehicle carrying packed up belongings. Soft piano music plays in the background as sheets of music fly out of the window



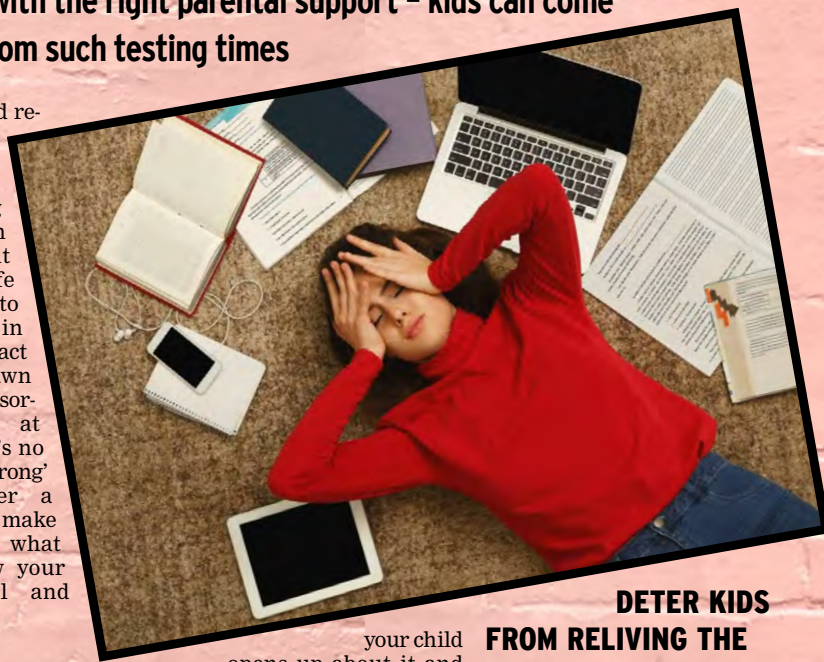
# Help your kids cope with STRESS

In comparison to adults, children are prone to getting traumatised by troubling events easily, and this makes it important for parents to help their children when the times are tough. It could be a bad accident, an unprecedented pandemic or other disasters, but with the right parental support – kids can come out stronger from such testing times

Every child responds differently to disturbing events: What children feel about a current disaster in their life and how they react to it can come and go in waves. Children can act moody and withdrawn at times, struck with sorrow and fear at other times. There's no absolute 'right' or 'wrong' way to feel after a traumatic event, so make sure not to dictate what your child or how your child should feel and react to the event.

## ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO BE TRANS-PARENT

Just make sure you let your child know that whatever feelings they're experiencing is normal. The unpleasantness will pass if



## DETER KIDS

### FROM RELIVING THE DISTURBING EVENT

your child opens up about it and that the phase is temporary. While many teens may be reluctant to talk about their feelings with a parent, encourage them to confide in another trusted adult such as a family friend, relative, or a counsellor teacher. It's important to talk—even if it's not with you.

Dwelling over, watching the footage, or imagining the event can be overwhelmingly stressful for children and this stress can even block their nervous system. However, to negate such things from happening, encourage activities

that keep your child's mind occupied so they're not obsessive about the event. You could encourage your children to read, play games together, or simply watch an uplifting movie.

## COCOON YOUR CHILD WITH WARMTH

In order to reassure your child that they are safe with you and feel secure, that the worst is over, your physical affection is important in making them feel safe again. Teens may try to be tough through it and avoid being held, but they still need the proximity.

## MAINTAIN ROUTINES

Establishing a predictable structure and schedule for your child's life can help to make the world seem more stable again. Try to maintain regular times for meals, homework, and family activities. Make sure your child accommodates time and space for rest, play, and fun. Keeping up with a schedule can help countercheck the obnoxious feeling of stress and worry in children

about the future being dark, hopeless, and unpredictable.

## ACKNOWLEDGE AND VALIDATE YOUR CHILD'S CONCERNS

The disastrous events in life may give place to unrelated fright and concerns in your child. However, understanding and accepting

Try to maintain regular times for meals, homework, and family activities. Make sure your child accommodates time and space for rest, play, learning and fun

your child's present state is a comfort for the child. If at any point the child blames himself for the event, make it clear that the event was not his/her fault.

Irrespective of the age of your child, it is vital for parents to offer that extra support following an unsettling event. The traumatic event may bring up unrelated fears in your child. However, by accepting their thoughts and replacing their fear with your love and direction, the sadness and anxiety will fade away.



# 5 PODCASTS FOR PARENTS WHO NEED A BREAK

The Covid-19 pandemic has created a secondary epidemic of burnout among parents, and back-to-school season may not provide much relief. After more than a year of juggling at-home schooling with remote work, parents must now weigh the risks of letting their children return to school against the academic and mental health effects of keeping them home.

If you're one of the many parents who could use a break this month, these seven podcasts will provide a sense of community and useful tips for just about any parenting scenario. There are also a few shows in here to help keep your children entertained.

## 'The Longest Shortest Time'

"The parenting show for everyone" may sound like an easy tagline, but Hilary Frank's insightful show actually earns it, telling fascinating human stories that will appeal just as much to those without children. One of the longest-running parenting podcasts in the game, 'The Longest Shortest Time' started life in 2010, after Frank experienced a traumatic injury during childbirth that left her in chronic pain. Desperate to feel less alone, she started podcasting. Despite being told that a show about parenting wouldn't have wide appeal, over the next nine years Frank built the show into an award-winning hit. It ended its run in 2019, but the full archive is available, offering a gold mine of stories about the challenging, miraculous and unpredictable process of raising small humans.



## 'But Why: A Podcast For Curious Kids'

Curiosity is a wonderful attribute in children, one to be celebrated and cultivated. But for overstretched parents, managing a barrage of 'why' questions can become taxing pretty fast. Enter Vermont Public Radio's 'But Why,' a show that avoids talking down to children by inviting them to dictate the topics. Each episode begins with a recording of a young listener asking a question—for example, "Who invented money?" or "Are seeds alive?"—which the host, Jane Lindholm, answers by enlisting an expert. Delivered in short, digestible chunks, the explanations keep children entertained while filling in some gaps in adults' knowledge.

## 'Good Inside With Dr Becky'

"There are numerous podcast hosts out there offering parenting advice, with varying levels of qualifications to back it up. Dr Becky Kennedy, a clinical psychologist (and mother of three), began her show in April, and offers an appealing blend of expertise, personal experience and calming mind-management techniques. Many episodes are geared around advice on how to respond to challenging situations—for example, when your child is lying, or rejecting you or showing aggression—while other 'Deep Dive' episodes focus on Kennedy speaking to parents about a problem they're facing. Kennedy's actionable solutions always take into account the psychology of both the child and the parents, which makes the podcast a validating listen.

## 'One Bad Mother'

"We aren't all magical vessels," is the unofficial catchphrase to this long-running conversational show, referring to the toxic myth that new motherhood should be a natural and seamless transition for every woman. As the hosts, Biz Ellis and Theresa Thorn, know from personal experience, becoming a mom can also be isolating, painful and traumatic, particularly when it feels like everybody else is effortlessly doing it right. To combat that culture of shame, Ellis and Thorn started 'One Bad Mother' to have candid conversations about how unnatural and imperfect motherhood often feels—and how that takes nothing away from the joy of it. With a catalogue of more than 400 episodes, the show is an invaluable antidote to mom shaming.

## 'Smash, Boom, Best'

A debate show for children might sound like a tough sell, but this is a godsend for parents trying to find alternatives to screen time. Created by the same American Public Media team behind kid-friendly science show 'Brains On!', each episode of 'Smash, Boom, Best' begins with a simple question: Which of these two things is better? Chocolate or cheese? Bikes or skateboards? In each episode, adult debaters argue their side to a panel of young judges, who then pass judgement on which is cooler. The format of this show teaches kids how to argue respectfully and back up their opinions with facts.

## 'Respectful Parenting: Janet Lansbury Unruffled'

"Take the mobile off the bed, take care of their needs, and leave them alone." This quote, from early childhood educator Magda Gerber, inspired former actress and model Janet Lansbury to rethink her entire approach to child care. Gerber pioneered an approach known as RIE parenting, which emphasises authentic communication with children of all ages (that is, speaking in a normal adult voice, even to babies), giving them space to play independently, and treating them as capable and autonomous.

## REVELATION

# 44% millennials skipped breakfast amid pandemic

A recent study has shown that 44% of urban millennials skipped breakfast during Covid and delayed meals due to

increased household chores and late start to the day. The study also stated that 64% of urban millennial respondents were driven towards a healthy immune system.

The study was conducted with 1,000 respondents in the age group of



Additionally, it was found that 71% of urban millennials leaned towards the popularity of fad diets, including keto and intermittent fasting among others to maintain weight.

18-50 years, focusing on urban millennials in Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Kolkata. The study further pointed out that increased consumption of fruits, veggies and whole grains, emerged as the key trend during the pandemic.

Vidhi Sharma, consultant at a market research company said, "While millennials acknowledge the importance of breakfast, they often tend to skip breakfast due to their work schedules."

# THE YOUNGEST PERSON TO TRAVEL TO EVERY COUNTRY

## TRAVEL DIARY



We have all dreamt of touring the world, but only a handful can make it happen. Here is someone who has made it possible at the age of 21. Lexie Alford, who is now 23 years of age, is the youngest person to have ever travelled to all the countries in the world.

Alford began travelling with her parents, as her mother owns a travel agency. By the time she was

18, she had already been to 70 countries. Alford said in an interview that one of her biggest dreams was to live a year of her life without school or work, so she saved up, and took a gap year to travel the world.

According to her, it was

her parents who saw the importance in exposing her to every way of life around the world, and that had a huge impact on her.

## HER FAVE PLACES

Though she can see it all, Alford is particularly fond of Indonesia for diving there (yes, she's a diver). Venezuela, she says, is absolutely beautiful, and its natural beauty is extraordinary.

## DO YOU WANT TO TRAVEL TOO?

Travelling alone teaches you a lot, especially about independence. If you really want to travel when you attain the legit age, would you want to do it like Lexie Alford? Share your travel dreams and aspirations with us at: [timesnle175@gmail.com](mailto:timesnle175@gmail.com)



## Whipping up a bond with Maldives

The Shri Ram Universal School Hyderabad



The Shri Ram Universal School, Hyderabad hosted an international culinary event in collaboration with Ghiyasuddin International school, Maldives as a part of the International Dimension in Schools (IDS) project - 'Farm to Plate'.

Students of class V of both the schools exchanged recipes on 'Eat Right Future Bright' - the fireless cooking challenge.

The event was conducted live on the virtual platform where students from the two schools prepared various unique and mouth-watering dishes like Shri Booster, The Bounty Meal, Masroshi, Watermelon Juice, etc. Students emphasized on the

ingredients and nutritional value of the dishes.

Around 200 students, teachers and parents were a part of this integration of culture and tradition of the two countries. Using collaborative and peer learning, students demonstrated innovation and presentation skills while preparing and presenting their dishes. The collaboration encouraged students to understand more about the people of Maldives, their culture, tradition and food habits.

As a part of reflection through interaction, children of both the coun-

tries got to know more about the staple food, crop production, climatic conditions, celebrations and festivals of both the countries. The enthusiasm of the students to learn about each other was commendable.

The students reflected on the diversity in the world and realised that though different, people across the world are still the same and all of us are connected. It reaffirmed faith in the power of collaboration to promote world peace.

The session concluded with the national anthems of both the countries and everyone took home many precious lessons.



## Remembering Gandhi

Students of Pre-Primary took part in a special assembly to pay their respect and remember Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation on Gandhi Jayanti.

The teachers organized a virtual show on the life of Gandhi where they narrated episodes from his life and displayed the articles he used in his day-to-day life. This was followed by

Birla Open Minds International School Kollur

the Charkha colouring activity by the students. The students enjoyed every moment of it and all of them later sang Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram, which used to be regularly sung in Gandhi's meetings.

## Let's celebrate the good in us

Silver Oaks International School Hyderabad



Celebrating the good in us! Ramleela is conducted in Silver Oaks International School to symbolise the triumph of good over evil and negative thoughts. This is a 16-year old tradition in Silver Oaks that is celebrated before Dussehra.

The acorns of Silver Oaks burn the effigy of Ravan along with a list of "not so good habits". The idea behind burning these is to let go of the negativity in us and try to become a better version of ourselves.

All the students actively participate in

the celebrations. This is also an opportunity for students to don traditional wear and the event is followed by a Bathukamma dance. Bathukamma is a floral dance festival that is predominantly celebrated in Telangana. After the Bathukamma dance, the Ramleela celebrations are concluded with a lot of music and dance!

The Ramleela celebrations make students realise that good will always prevail and it is the driving force that transforms one into responsible citizens.

Delhi Public School Nacharam

Students of classes I and II of Delhi Public School, Nacharam celebrated Bathukamma festival on October 5. A special assembly marked the commencement of the celebration where videos were shown explaining the cultural significance of this festival of Telangana. The little ones were dressed in traditional attires and displayed beautiful arrangement of flowers. The children danced with full fervour on the songs played by their teachers and ended the day with smiles on their faces.



## WALL DECOR DO IT YOURSELF



### THINGS WE NEED:

- Few white papers
- Colour papers
- Cutter
- Glue
- Square shape cardboard
- Rice



- PROCEDURE**
- Take a piece of cardboard and trace the picture of a peacock body and cut it. Keep it aside.
  - Next take some white papers, cut them into rectangular shapes and make rolls.
  - Use those rolls and stick the rolls on the cardboard peacock. It should look as if it is a feather strand.
  - Take a colourful paper and cut ten to twelve numbers of leaf shaped pieces out of it using scissors.
  - Slowly cut the sidelines. It should look like a broomstick.
  - Take some rice, stick it in the middle of the peacock body, and paint them in dark blue colour.
  - Colour the rest of the body accordingly, and decorate.

SHAIK MAHVEEN, class VI, Aravinda High School, Kunchanapalli, AP



## Spelling prowess on show

Back on popular demand, the second annual BVBPBS (Vidyashram) Spelling Bee 2021 was held on a grand scale by Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's Public School (Vidyashram), Jubilee Hills.

The level 1 of the competition saw an astounding participation of more than 400 enthusiastic students from classes II-X. Category-wise Finales were held, with the top scorers from Buds

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's Public School Vidyashram

(Classes II and III), Petals (Classes IV and V), Flowers (Classes VI and VII) and Blooms (Classes VIII, IX and X). The finalists could successfully crack the spellings of even the toughest words.

The student organising team conducted the online

event successfully with the support of Principal Arunasree and Vice Principal Venkatalakshmi and the guidance of Head of Department (English) Madhumati and English teacher Suvarchala.

The team was overwhelmed with the huge positive response from students as well as parents who enthusiastically cheered on their children during the online competition.

## BOOK REVIEW: MATILDA BY ROALD DAHL

My favourite book is Matilda written by Roald Dahl. It is about Matilda Wormwood, an extraordinary girl who is more knowledgeable than most children her age.

Her parents Mr. and Mrs. Wormwood think that she is a nuisance and that she should be watching more TV and reading fewer books. Her principal Ms. Trunchbull treats her very badly, but her teacher Ms. Honey thinks she is a genius.

Her horrible parents and principal had better watch out as Matilda has a few extraordinary tricks up her sleeve.

This book portrays the different opinions, emotions and perspectives people have in a simple and engaging way.

What I particularly liked about the book was how it was relatable but unreal at the same time. For example, all of us can relate to getting angry when our parents do not take us seriously, but knocking over a glass with our eyes seems impossible.

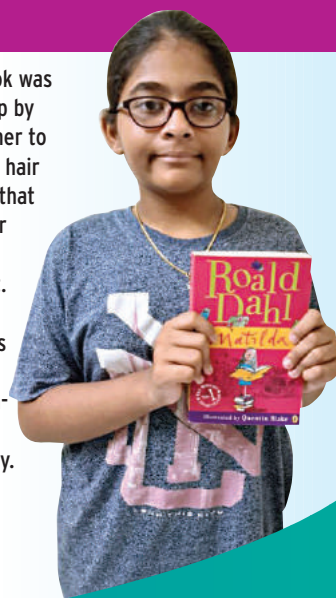
My favourite character is Ms. Honey. She supports her students no matter what. My favourite part in this book

was when Mr. and Mrs. Wormwood agreed to let her stay with Ms. Honey. This part portrays Matilda's happiness at finally being given something she yearned for.

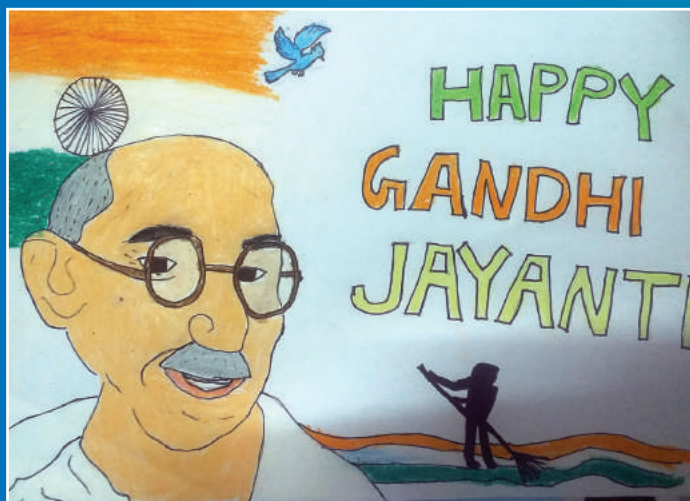
Another memorable part in the book was when Ms. Trunchbull lifts Amanda Thripp by her hair, whips her around and throws her to the ground just because of the way her hair was done. This part is so unimaginable that even if Amanda tried complaining to her parents, they would never believe her.

This book also made me laugh a lot. Everything from Ms. Trunchbull's weird attire to Lavender's sweet revenge, was hilarious. This story really gripped me and kept me turning the pages. I recommend this book to young readers and fans of mystery stories and comedy.

ANANYA NAIR, class VII, Jain Heritage A Cambridge School, Kondapur



## Painters' Gallery



SWACCHATA: P SAI SREE, class IV, Little Flower High School, Abids

OF PEACE: B PRIYANKA KUMARI, class VI, Sister Nivedita School, Hyderabad



SRI GANESHA: LIKHITHA KUSANI, class IX A, The Global Edge School, Kukatpally

ON A MISSION: SWIKRITI, class IV L, Delhi Public School, Nadergul



IPL 2.0

# CSK START FAVOURITES AGAINST PBKS, AIM TO FINISH IN TOP TWO

The K L Rahul led inconsistent Punjab team is all but out of the play-offs race

The three-time champions, who have roared back from a forgettable IPL-2020 and became the first team to secure a spot in the play-offs this season, have been in good form in the second phase and is among the sides to beat. The Super Kings batsmen are in superb nick, especially the stylish Ruturaj Gaikwad, and they will be eager to continue the good work. Gaikwad and veteran South African Faf du Plessis have been good at the top while Ambati Rayudu has shown in the middle-order. Moeen Ali has done what has been asked of him but the struggles of Suresh Raina (who missed the Delhi Capitals game) and skipper Dhoni are worrying signs for CSK heading into the next stage.

## CSK BOWLERS TO MAKE AMENDS

Ravindra Jadeja has time and again underscored his value as an all-rounder, making crucial contributions and will be key if the Super Kings have to go all the way. The bowlers, though, did not have a happy outing against Rajasthan as Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shivam Dube went on an all-out attack. They will be eager to make amends. Deepak Chahar, with 12 wickets so far, has been more than a handful for opposition batsmen upfront but he tends to go off the boil when pressed into the attack in the later stages. Shardul Thakur



## SAM CURRAN FACES AN INJURY SETBACK

CSK all-rounder Sam Curran, who has been ruled out of the rest of the IPL season this year because of a lower-back injury which also put paid to his hopes of representing England in the ICC T20 World Cup later this month, has said that he is "gutted" by the setback and "absolutely loved" his stay with the Chennai franchise. The 23 year-old Sam complained of pain in his back after the match against RR at Abu Dhabi. The scans later revealed the nature of his injury and ruled him out of both the marquee tournaments.

## CAN PUNJAB STILL QUALIFY?

Inconsistency has been the bane of the K L Rahul-led Punjab team that lies sixth in the table with 10 points. The skipper leads the season's charts with 528 runs while his Karnataka state-mate Mayank Agarwal has 429, but the others haven't contributed much which is one of the reasons for Punjab Kings' woes. On the bowling front, Mohammed Shami (18 wickets from 13 matches) and Arshdeep Singh (16 wickets) have been the stars while Ravi Bishnoi, who had been surprisingly benched on occasions, had had his moments. Rahul and Co may find the going tough against CSK and a win may keep them in contention for a top-four spot, albeit only mathematically. The Super Kings, on the other hand, will be eager to wrap up the league phase with a win and head into the play-offs with confidence. A loss could potentially jeopardise CSK's chances of finishing in the top two and Dhoni is aware of that. m



Ambati Rayudu

Photo: PTI

# KKR EYE HANDSOME WIN OVER RR TO REMAIN AHEAD IN PLAY-OFF RACE

Two-time champions Kolkata Knight Riders will play against the struggling Rajasthan Royals in their last round-robin game today

With 12 points from 13 matches, KKR are currently sitting at the fourth position in the pecking order, just ahead of defending champions Mumbai Indians on net run-rate. MI too have 12 points from 13 games and still have a match to play against bottom-placed Sunrisers Hyderabad on Friday. If both KKR and MI win their last matches, then it will boil down to net run rate and that's where the Eoin Morgan-led side (0.294) would have an edge as it currently enjoys a positive run rate compared to the Mumbai outfit (-0.048). KKR had a mixed bag in the second leg of the tournament so far, winning four and losing two games. While KKR started the second phase with back-to-back wins over Royal Challengers Bangalore and MI before suffering a defeat to Chennai Super Kings, they came back to beat table toppers Delhi Capitals. A defeat against Punjab Kings followed before they outplayed SRH by six wickets to keep their nose ahead in the race for the final play-offs spot.

## STAR PERFORMERS OF KKR

KKR have been impressive in the second half and even their two defeats were narrow, where they lost in the last over. In the batting department, Venkatesh Iyer has been the star per-



former in the second leg for KKR, while Rahul Tripathi too has been impressive this season. Young Shubman Gill scored a fine half-century in KKR's last match, which holds good for the team. Nitish Rana, up in the batting order, has also done well but the form of skipper Morgan remains a cause for concern. The induction of star Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib al Hasan in the last match for the first time in the second leg, has given a new dimension to the side. In bowling, mystery spinner Varun Chakravarty has been the team's go-to man while Sunil Narine too has been among the wickets. In the ab-

sence of Andre Russell and Lockie Ferguson, who missed a few games following injuries, Tim Southee and Shivam Mavi are the new pace bowling pair for KKR. Pacer Prasidh Krishna did well to snap four wickets in the matches that he had played, before being dropped for conceding 22 runs in the 19th over, against CSK.

## RR'S BATSMEN LACK INTENT

RR are out of the race, languishing at the seventh spot in the eight-team standings with 10 points from 13 games. And come Thursday, RR would look to dent KKR's hopes and end their campaign on a positive note. RR have been hit hard by the form of their Indian batsmen. Barring Yashasvi Jaiswal and skipper Sanju Samson, the team's Indian batsmen lacked intent. With Mustafizur Rahman as their most experienced overseas signing and young Chetan Sakariya in the ranks, RR's bowling is a bit thin on experience. m

Obviously, he (Morgan) is one of our senior players, he is one of our international batsmen and as captain as well in his own, he would love to contribute a lot more runs. He captains the side very well tactically, but you want some more runs from (him), no doubt in that.

KKR coach BRENDON MCCULLUM



Venkatesh Iyer of Kolkata Knight Riders plays a shot during the IPL match between KKR and RCB

Photo: ANI