



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

[www.toistudent.com](http://www.toistudent.com)
**TODAY'S  
EDITION**

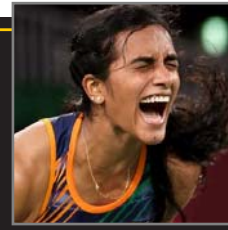
➤ Did you know the story behind the origin of the idiom 'beating around the bush'? Figure it out in the Wizard's Corner'

**PAGE 2**


➤ A teacher narrates some of the fun moments she shared with her students, as she hopes to engage with them in physical classrooms soon

**PAGE 3**


➤ Sindhu enters quarters of the BWF World Championships

**PAGE 4**

**STUDENT EDITION**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2021


**CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2**
**Parity, at last: Govt nods to raising legal marriage age for women**

## FROM 18 TO 21



The Union Cabinet on Wednesday accorded in-principle approval to a proposal to increase the age of marriage of women from 18 to 21 years. The proposal clearance comes more than a year after Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared the plan in his address to the nation on the 74th Independence Day.

In India, men are legally allowed to get married at the age of 21. The proposed reform will equalise legal marriageable ages for both genders. The government, after receiving the Cabinet's nod, is likely to make amendments to the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, the Special Marriage Act and personal legal instruments, such as the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955

**STUDENTS REACT**

■ The decision by the Union Cabinet will go a long way in creating a uniform law in the country with respect to boys and girls. More importantly, it will provide an opportunity for women to think about their education, decide on their careers and become independent before tying the knot. This change is really promising for Indian women, who have been victims of child and early marriages for long.  
**DIYA LOKESH**, class VIII, DPS North, Bengaluru

■ This was long overdue. However, as they say, better late than never. Apart from reducing gender disparity, it will also ensure that women are not only physically and mentally prepared but also financially independent before taking the plunge.  
**TIWISHA KARRA**, class X, Fr Agnel Multipurpose School and Jr College, Ambarnath west, Mumbai

■ Raising the age of marriage will allow girls to complete their education and become financially independent. It is a welcome move. But it needs to be seen how far it is implemented because despite laws, girls are married off at an early age, especially in poor families and rural areas. I feel awareness is the key to make it a success.  
**AARYA BHANUSHALI**, class XI, Thakur college of science and commerce, Mumbai

■ A welcome move, it will be helpful for girls, especially from lower income families, who are married off as soon as they turn 18 by their parents, against their wishes. With this new law, we can hope that even the rural population will prioritise the education of girls, as they cannot marry them before 21.  
**SANYA SINHA**, class XII, Manav Rachna International School, Faridabad

**SHARE YOUR VIEWS AT [TOINIE175@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TOINIE175@GMAIL.COM)**

## 'TOI student empowers young readers every day'



**A**fter giving an overwhelming welcome to the most-sought after newspaper TOI Student Edition that reached the school stands in Mumbai on Monday, **STUDENTS, PRINCIPALS, AND TEACHERS** **HAILED THE PRINT EDITION AS ONE OF THE BEST GIFTS AMID THE SEASON OF JOY.** Here's what they said...

The TOI, Student newspaper is a very good source of information for us students. The newspaper has all the information—from politics, sports and day to day happenings in our surroundings to 'Wizard's Corner', which the students love the most.  
**Parmreet Kaur**, class IX, Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School, Vashi, Navi Mumbai

The TOI Student print Edition gives us the 'feel' of having a newspaper for ourselves. It brings back the feeling of normalcy. The newspaper is very attractive, filled with information, entertainment, DIYs, and much more.  
**Sara Jadhav**, class IX, Nalanda Public School, Mulund

Children enjoy reading the TOI Student Edition. It is informative and also has news and articles by children from across different schools. The puzzles and other activities are fun and a good challenge for their young minds.  
**Nandita Sirur**, academic head, SRCC CASE, Mumbai

I like the TOI Student Edition. My parents also read it. I find the newspaper interesting, the pictures and design are attractive. It carries the news of the day, plus encourages us to read novels. It gives information in a fun-filled way and helps me build my literary quotient.  
**Sai Redij**, class VIII, Canossa High School, Mumbai



## Durga Puja festival gets UNESCO Heritage tag

The UNESCO on Wednesday accorded heritage status to Kolkata's Durga Puja festival, bringing glory to the country, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and chief minister Mamata Banerjee lauding the move. Modi has hailed UNESCO's decision as a "matter of great pride and joy for every Indian".

On its website, the UNESCO said: "The festival has come to signify home-coming or a seasonal return to one's roots. Durga Puja is seen as the best instance of the public performance of religion and art, and as a thriving ground for collaborative artists and designers. The festival is characterised by large-scale installations and pavilions in urban areas, as well as by traditional Bengali drumming and veneration of the goddess."

## BTS' V breaks two Guinness WORLD RECORDS WITH HIS INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

South Korean boyband BTS recently treated ARMY to a sweet surprise when they unveiled their personal Instagram accounts. While it only took the members a few hours to cross millions of followers on the platform, now it's V aka Kim Taehyung, who has smashed **two new world records with his current followers**. Meanwhile, besides V, other members including RM, Suga, Jin, Jimin, J-Hope and Jungkook currently have over 20 million followers each.



The Guinness World Records has confirmed that V lead the charge of follower count for the fastest time to reach **one million followers on Instagram within just 43 minutes**. Soon after this ARMY was quick to make it to **10 million after just four hours 52 minutes**, creating a new record for the fastest time to reach 10 million followers on the social media platform

## Arctic records 38 degree Celsius temperature in 2020

The United Nations agency World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) has confirmed that Arctic and Antarctic regions have recorded high temperatures of 38 degrees Celsius and 18.3 degrees Celsius, respectively in 2020 raising alarm about the intensity of global warming. "The average temperatures over Arctic Siberia reached as high as 10 degrees Celsius above normal for much of summer last year, fuelling devastating fires, driving massive sea ice loss and playing a major role in 2020 being one of the three warmest years on record," the World Meteorological Organisation explained in a statement.



The WMO said, the Arctic is among the fastest warming regions in the world and is heating more than twice the global average. It is possible, rather likely that greater extremes will occur in the Arctic region in the future, it added

## Gen Naravane takes charge as Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee

**A**s a stop-gap arrangement before the appointment of a new Chief of Defence Staff following the demise of General Bipin Rawat, the Centre has placed in an old system and appointed Indian Army Chief General Manoj Mukund Naravane as the Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee. The old system was in practice before creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff two years ago.



## OMR sheets to go to CBSE, not schools, for evaluation

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Wednesday said, the optical mark recognition (OMR) answer sheets will henceforth be sent to the board instead of being evaluated by schools. Among

other changes enforced by the board, mails with passwords will be sent to schools, followed by the operation code at 10.45am. The CBSE circular said that centre



superintendents will ensure that the students appearing in an exam are present at the centre latest by 10.45am and in case anyone reaches late, he/she should be frisked properly.

## ICC Women's World Cup 2022:

## INDIA TO PREP FOR CAMPAIGN AGAINST PAKISTAN ON MARCH 6



India will take on arch-rival Pakistan in their opening clash of the 2022 ICC Women's Cricket World Cup on March 6 at Tauranga, New Zealand. The quadrennial event will be held from March 4 to April 3 in 2022 across six cities - Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, Hamilton, Tauranga and Wellington - with host New Zealand taking on the West Indies in the opener. The first set of games will also see two

massive rivalries take the centre stage, with Australia taking on England at Seddon Park in Hamilton on March 5 and India facing Pakistan in Tauranga the following day. The tournament will also mark the return of the women's global event since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. The last global women's event played was the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in Australia in March 2020, which the hosts won by beating India in the final.

■ Australia, England, South Africa and India qualified for the event on the basis of their position in ICC Women's Championship 2017-20 while New Zealand automatically qualified as hosts.

■ The tournament will be played in the league format, where all eight teams will face each other once, at the end of which the top four teams will qualify for the semi-final

**CATCH UP**  
 Heard of Twixmas? We tell you what it is and how can you make the most of it.  
**PLUS:** Brush up your Christmas vocabulary

**HISTORY WATCH**  
 On Dec 18, 1940, Adolf Hitler authorised Operation Barbarossa

**HEALTH**  
 Superfood shots, gummies - should you be eating them?

**TRIVIA TIME**  
**NEW PAGE** Introducing a new page on all things topical to that month. This issue, we

**STUDENT EDITION**  
 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2021

celebrate a few important birthdays in December and some interesting facts about these interesting personalities

**FILMS, BOOKS**  
 A list of Bollywood releases that were inspired from hit international films  
**PLUS:** Learn the art of embracing simplicity and enjoying the holidays - all inspired by books

**SPORTS**  
 Decoding the sport of Handball

**Your Weekender**

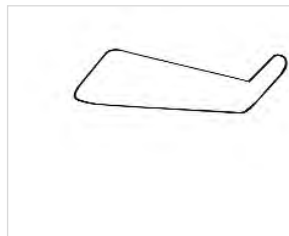




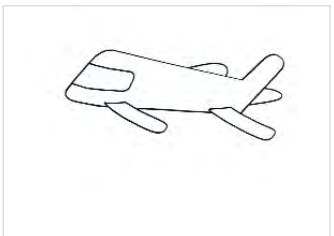
**PURVA PATEL**  
Art Educator  
Bodakdev School For  
Children, Ahmedabad

## LEVEL-1

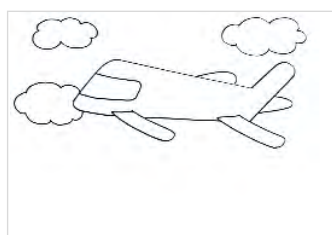
## Draw the easy way



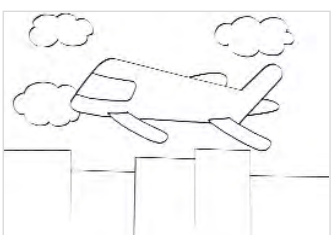
Step-1



Step-2



Step-3



Step-4



Step-5



Step-6



## 1) RCLIOF

- a. Fun b. Free  
c. Frolic d. Freeze

## 2) EICYTLVO

- a. Velocity b. Veteran  
c. Vice d. Victor

## 3) EWEST

- a. Sweat b. Sugar  
c. Sweet d. Sweeter

## 4) IMAELRTA

- a. Metal b. Material  
c. Lamer d. Elater

Answers: 1) c. 2) a. 3) c. 4) b.

Riding with the  
Riddle

You cut me,  
slice me, dice  
me, and all the  
while, you cry.  
What am I?

Answer: An onion

## DISCOVER DECEMBER!

SURYAKUMARI DENNISON, teacher, Aavishkar Academy, Bengaluru

4 Nobel Prizes are  
presented on  
December 10 in

- A) Santiago B) Seoul  
C) Sofia D) Stockholm

5 Judaism's  
festival of lights,  
ending on December  
6, 2021, is

- A) Hanukkah  
B) Purim  
C) Passover  
D) Rosh Hashanah

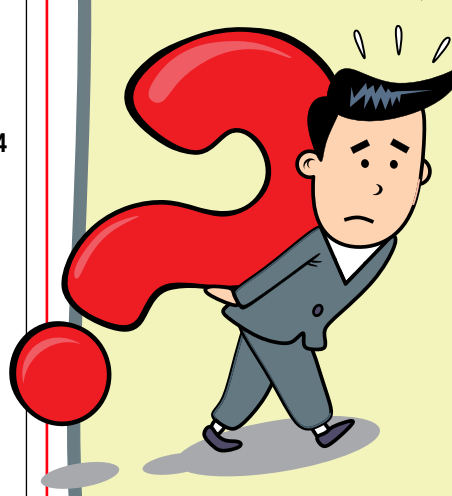
6 Not born on December  
25 was

- A) Isaac Newton  
B) Muhammad Ali Jinnah  
C) Atal Bihari Vajpayee  
D) Robert Boyle

December 2020

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 29  | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   |     |
| 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  |
| 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  |
| 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  |
| 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  |     |     |

November 2020

Quiz  
TIME

Complete these state-  
ments about this month.  
Choose Correctly!

1 In the old Roman calendar,  
December was month num-  
ber

- A) 10 B) 8 C) 6 D) 4

2 December starts the  
same day as

- A) April B) June  
C) September D) November

3 December 16 (Vijay  
Diwas) marks a victory in

- A) 1999 B) 1971  
C) 1965 D) 1947

Answers: 1) A. 10 2) C. September 3) B. 1971  
4) D. Stockholm 5) A. Hanukkah 6) D. Robert Boyle

## LEVEL-2

## Idiom - etrics

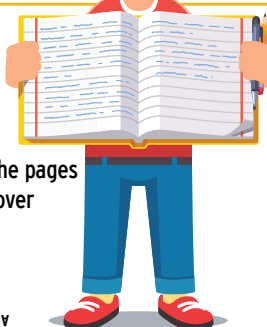
SURYAKUMARI DENNISON, teacher, Aavishkar Academy, Bengaluru

(Choose the idiom that best suits  
the situation)

Amit's classmates praised his English project.  
"You have put in a lot of effort," they said admiringly,  
"and it has turned out really well." Before submitting  
his assignment, Amit decided to go through it once more.  
While doing so, he accidentally upset a jug of water over it. The pages  
were completely soaked. Amit had to work on his project all over  
again, right from the start.

- A. All in one piece B. Back to square one  
C. One for the road

Answer: B



When asked if she had cheated,  
Asha spoke at length about  
the test being difficult, evad-  
ing a direct answer.

- A. Beat about  
the bush  
B. Beat  
someone at  
their game  
C. Beat one's  
head against a  
wall

Answer: A



## TRIVIA

A popular idiom has been in use  
since the 16th century. People try-  
ing to trap birds knew that they  
sheltered in the undergrowth.  
Attempting to draw them out, hunters  
would repeatedly strike the shrubs.  
There was often more hitting than catch-  
ing, despite the latter being the aim of  
the exercise. 'To beat about/around the  
bush' is to talk in a roundabout way  
about something unpleasant, without  
getting to the point.

EDITOR  
IN THE MAKING

## WEAVE A STORY WITH HEADLINES

Include some of these headlines to make a story and give  
it a title. Mail the story to us at [toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com).  
The interesting one will be published in the  
edition. Watch out for this space!!!

## The headlines:

- 1) Going Dutch! F1 gets a new world champ!!
- 2) Miss Universe 2021
- 3) Plastic waste sculpture museum to come up near Bengaluru
- 4) BE DILIGENT TO BOND WITH CHEMISTRY

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And the  
winner is...

**RIYA KRISHNAN**  
class VIII, Bethany High,  
Koramangala, Bengaluru

COLOURS OF  
WINTER

Winter is nice in Bangalore but  
reading about the White  
Blanket in Srinagar reminds  
me that White Christmas is possible  
in India. I love the snow and would  
like to visit this dream destination—  
Srinagar. It could help boost its  
economy too. Nobel Laureate,  
Abhijeet Banerjee talks about giv-  
ing back to society, as India is still  
below the 2019 level. I think this  
Christmas, we can organise fund  
raisers in our respective societies  
to help people in need. We can also  
give homemade food, to cut down  
on processed food to save the  
Earth. At school, our chemistry  
project is on the topic, "Global  
Warming", I was surprised to know  
food wastage leads to global warm-  
ing. Wastage of food causes signifi-  
cant increase in carbon footprint  
along with causes such as trans-  
port, industrial, fossil fuels, fishing  
etc. I like to follow news about the  
royal family. Prince William talks  
about his family's fondness for  
walks. He also recollects going to  
school with his mother, singing all  
the way, much like I used to when  
we were kids carpooling.



## NUMBER SERIES

1 Excluding stoppages, the  
speed of a bus is 54 kmph and  
including stoppages, it is 45  
kmph. For how many minutes  
does the bus stop per hour?

- A) 9 minutes B) 10 minutes  
C) 11 minutes D) 6 minutes

Answer: B

2 Two boys starting from the  
same place walk at a rate of  
5kmph and 5.5kmph respectively.  
What time will they take to be  
8.5km apart, if they walk in the  
same direction?

- A) 17 hours B) 18 hours  
C) 10 hours D) 12 hours

Answer: A

3 A car travelling with of its  
actual speed covers 42 km  
in 1 hr 40 min 48 sec. Find the  
actual speed of the car.

- A) 12 km/hr B) 26 km/hr  
C) 10 km/hr D) 35 km/hr

Answer: D

Learn a NEW LANGUAGE  
GERMAN

|              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 1) Januar    | Meaning: January   |
| 2) Februar   | Meaning: February  |
| 3) März      | Meaning: March     |
| 4) April     | Meaning: April     |
| 5) Mai       | Meaning: May       |
| 6) Juni      | Meaning: June      |
| 7) Juli      | Meaning: July      |
| 8) August    | Meaning: August    |
| 9) September | Meaning: September |
| 10) Oktober  | Meaning: October   |
| 11) November | Meaning: November  |
| 12) Dezember | Meaning: December  |

## Work sheet



Q:1 How will you say month of May?

Q:2 How will you say November-  
December?

Q:3 How will you say month of March?

Q:4 How will you say month of June?

Answers: 1) Monat Mai 2) November- Dezember  
3) Monat März 4) Monat Juni



## Magic of yoga for future generations

### Blossoms International School of Excellence Hyderabad

**Y**oga is the best way to connect with nature as it helps balance the mind and body. It is a kind of exercise that improves posture and can get one to have control over their breathing.

Hence, Blossoms International School of Excellence incorporates yoga for its students to promote holistic development. The programme has been well accepted by children, which has improved their focus, strength and flexibility.

Students practice Hath Yoga and the asanas, in the long run, help them to participate actively in decision-making during the learning process.

Focus, memory, self-esteem, academic performance and class-



room behaviour of the students have all showed clear improvement.

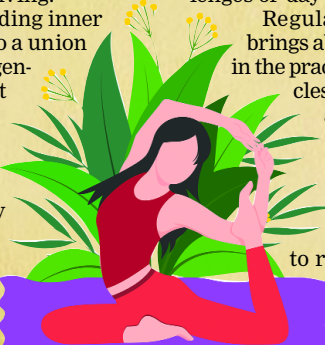
Stretching, meditation and relaxation as well as games and music related to the practice of yoga are also implemented which re-

duces anxiety and stress in children. In addition, the classes emphasised the breathing awareness and the adoption of basic values of social interaction, tolerance, truthfulness and respect towards everyone in society.

**Y**oga has its origin thousands of years ago and is practiced worldwide today. People have learned about the merits of Yoga and accepted it in the form of exercise and meditation.

The management of Delhi World School conducted yoga classes for students. Yoga is not only a form of exercise but it is an ancient wisdom for a healthier, happier, and peaceful way of living.

It helps in finding inner peace and leads to a union with self. People generally think that yoga is a form of exercise that includes stretching and folding of body parts, but it is much more than just an exercise. Yoga is a way of



### Delhi World School Shadnagar

life or art of living through the mental, spiritual, and physical path. It allows to achieve stillness and to tap into the consciousness of the inner self.

Yoga also helps in learning how to rise above the mind, emotions, and bodily needs and face challenges of day-to-day life.

Regular practice of yoga brings about positive changes in the practitioner - strong muscles, flexibility, patience, and good health.

People generally prefer shortcuts like the use of medicine, steroids, or surgery to reduce weight which have ill effects over a period of time.



## IF I WERE A FAIRY

**I**f I were a fairy, I would cast a spell and free our planet from Covid-19 so that life gets back to normal for all beings. I would help the needy and the poor people. I will make our planet pollution-free and make the earth a happy place to live for everyone. I would declare four holidays per week for all the kids!

**ADITI GUNNAM, class IV, Jain Heritage A Cambridge School**



## Many species face climate change threat

**T**he United Nation's Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the world's definitive scientific body on the topic, published, "Global Warming of 1.5°C", a special report on the impact of global warming on the world.

Over 90 scientists from 40 countries reviewing 6,000 studies prepared the IPCC report in response to a 2015 Paris climate accord request. Its purpose was to differentiate between the effects of global warming at 1.5°C (2.7°F) versus 2.0°C (3.6°F). The Paris accord called for holding warming below 2.0°C while pursuing ef-

### English Educator, MGM International School Hyderabad

orts to limit to 1.5°C. For example, should temperatures increase to 1.5°C, the report found that of the 105,000 species studied, four percent of vertebrates, six percent of insects and eight per cent of plants would vanish from their climatically-determined geographic range. At 2°C the percents double to triple. At 1.5°C we will lose 70 to 90 per cent of coral reefs, at 2°C there will be a 99 per cent loss.



## WHEN THE LATECOMER WENT TUMBLING DOWN

**O**ne day my teacher was teaching us in our class and we were all listening to her. It was very interesting. Then, one boy who was not interested in listening wanted to play some prank. He started trying to disturb the other children, but all the students were busy with the lesson.

Then he took his water bottle and poured water on the floor which nobody noticed. He didn't tell anyone. At that time one of our classmates who is a regular latecomer came to the door. He was worried whether the teacher would let him in or not. The teacher gave him a stern look but asked him to come in. Delighted he ran inside the



### CLASSROOM ANTICS

class with joy, but he stepped on the water and fell down. All the children began to laugh. He was in pain, but he too laughed. He slowly got up and the teacher began to yell at us.

She told us not to laugh at somebody who is in trouble. Instead one should help them. We all helped him, but couldn't control our laughter. We always laugh when we think of the incident.

**JOVELYN I JOHNY, class IV, Carmel School, Peyad, Thiruvananthapuram**

## Painters' Gallery

**BIG CAT:**  
G MAANVI REDDY, class V-A, Jain Heritage A Cambridge School, Kondapur



**CLICK HERE TO VIEW ONLINE**

**XMASSY:**  
RAJAMAHANTHI ANVITHA, class V, Massachusetts, Silveroaks International School, Hyderabad



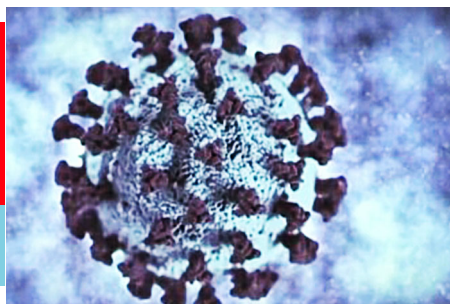
**SHINE ON:** VARSHITHA, class VIII-A, The Global Edge School, Vasanthnagar

**FRIENDS FOREVER:**  
IRAM MIRZA, class VII, Insight International School, Mehdiapatnam



## How WHO named it Omicron

**Shreyas Nair, class VII A, The Global Edge School**



**O**micron, another dangerous variant of Covid-19, is believed to have started in the African continent. But, did you know that this new variant has a good reason for its name? WHO has been naming most of the Covid variants by the Greek alphabets. For example, the Delta (fourth Greek alphabet) variant. But people were curious to know why WHO skipped two Greek alphabets, and considered to name this variant Omi-

cron. Well, WHO wanted to maintain the suspense, but finally they cleared people's curiosity as they announced the reason for skipping two alphabets. The Greek alphabets were Nu and Xi. Nu sounds like new, which wasn't apt as per WHO. In addition, Xi is a common surname, thus WHO did not want to offend any culture by tagging a deadly variant of Covid to a popular surname. Hence, they finally named it Omicron!



## 'End violence against women'



### INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

"Violence against women is an everyday reality, act now, always, and forever before its too late."

"The aim of education is the knowledge, not of facts, but of values"- William Ralph Inge

**A** thought provoking assembly was conducted on the topic "International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women" to give students a chance to introspect and imbibe the qualities of empathy and social responsibility.

The assembly began with the salutations to God followed by the pledge. Students learnt about the day's history, importance of enabling women to be self-

reliant and capable of protecting themselves from violence.

Students of class IX presented speeches and videos to bring awareness and to awaken the people to eliminate violence against

women. The assembly concluded with encouraging and motivating words from the Principal. She mentioned about the #Me Too campaign that worked wonders and was an eye-opener for many women.

### Pallavi Model School Bowenpally



# ARSENAL BEAT 10-MAN WEST HAM

Put captaincy tumult behind them to win 2-0 for place in the top four of Premier League

**A**rsenal quickly forgot about the team's off-field distractions with forward Gabriel Martinelli and substitute Emile Smith Rowe scoring in a 2-0 win over 10-man West Ham on Wednesday that put the Gunners in the top four in the Premier League.

Martinelli latched onto a throughball from stand-in captain Alexandre Lacazette that sliced past three defenders and set the Brazilian clear on goal from the left. Martinelli made up for a miss late in the first half by curling the ball into the far corner in the 48th minute at Emirates Stadium.

Smith Rowe sealed the victory with a clever run and a fine strike from the edge of the area in the 87th that wrong-footed West Ham goalkeeper Lukasz Fabianski. The players ran to a corner to celebrate as manager Mikel Arteta could finally be allowed to break into a smile on the sidelines.

The win came a day after Arsenal stripped Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang of the captaincy and was exactly what the Gunners needed to put the tumult at the club behind them. Arsenal is now in fourth place with 29 points, leapfrogging the Hammers, which are in fifth with 28.

"We needed a win," Martinelli said. "It was so important for the team. We know the potential we have."

The visitors had a chance to equalize in the 53rd when Arsenal midfielder Martin Odegaard lost possession and the ball fell to West Ham forward Jarrod Bowen. But his effort from just inside the box was pushed over the crossbar by goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale.

West Ham manager David Moyes bemoaned a string of injuries within his squad, especially in defensive positions, and he hopes that the club doesn't have to resort to the transfer market next month. He said Ar-

## DORTMUND HALT BAYERN MUNICH

Erling Haaland scored twice as Borussia Dortmund beat last-place Greuther Furth 3-0 on Wednesday, preventing Bayern Munich from stretching its Bundesliga lead any further. Haaland took his tally to 13 goals in 10 league appearances and kept Dortmund six points behind Bayern with just over half of the season remaining.

Dortmund had to wait until the 82nd minute for Haaland to seal the result, however, with Donyell Malen getting the team's third. Dortmund missed the chance to take the Bundesliga lead when it lost 3-2 to Bayern earlier this month, then lost further ground with a draw at promoted Bochum. "It was important after the last two games to get three points again," Dortmund goalkeeper Gregor Kobel said.

Haaland's 33rd-minute penalty had given Dortmund the halftime lead against Furth, which claimed its first season win against Union Berlin. But the visitors were furious before the break when Jude Bellingham escaped a second yellow card after fouling Max Christiansen. Furth coach Stefan Leitl was booked for his protests. "If that had been a (Furth) player, he would have been gone," said Furth director Rachid Azzouzi, who suggested unequal treatment from referees.

senal was tough to handle, but that mistakes let his team down.

"There were a few poor bits of play that led to their goals," Moyes said. "The second goal that was given away was heartbreaking for the boys who were running for 90 minutes."

The Gunners failed to convert a penalty after West Ham right back Vladimir Coufal kicked Lacazette in the shin in the 66th. Coufal was sent off after being shown a second yellow card. Lacazette's spot kick was pushed away by Fabianski.

"I'm really pleased with the performance, the quality, the energy the passion that the team was able to transmit," Arteta said. "They are a really difficult team to play against."

## CAPTAINCY ISSUES

Aubameyang was stripped of the Arsenal captaincy on Tuesday after another disciplinary breach, with Arteta saying the striker hadn't worked "to the rules and standards" set by the club. Aubameyang reportedly was allowed by the club to travel to France for a family matter last week, after the 2-1 loss at Everton on Dec. 6 which he started as a substitute, but he returned a day later than agreed upon.

The focus in Arsenal's match day program was about unity, with no mention of Aubameyang's troubles. Arteta said after the match that his players weren't distracted by the situation. "They were fully focused and they wanted to show how strong we are as a team," he said.

When asked if Lacazette would be Arsenal's next captain, Arteta said: "He's the next in line. And he's taking it with pride and commitment." AP



Erling Braut Haaland

# SINDHU enters quarters

Beats Pornpawee Chochuwong of Thailand, will meet Tai Tzu next

**D**efending champion PV Sindhu stormed into the women's singles quarterfinals of the BWF World Championships with a straight-game win over Pornpawee Chochuwong of Thailand at Huelva, Spain, on Thursday.

The world number seven Indian defeated her Thai opponent, ranked three places below her, 21-14 21-18 in the pre-quarterfinal match that lasted 48 minutes.

With the win, Sindhu, seeded sixth in the showpiece tournament, extended her head-to-head record against Chochuwong to 5-3.

Sindhu also avenged her twin loss to Chochuwong this season -- group match of BWF World Tour Finals earlier this month and All England Championships in March.

The double Olympic medallist Sindhu faces top seed and world number one Tai Tzu Ying of Chinese Taipei, who beat Kirsty Gilmour of

## ASHWINI - SIKKI BOW OUT IN PRE-QUARTERS

■ The women's doubles pair of Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy on Thursday lost in the pre-quarterfinals match of the ongoing BWF World Championships 2021 in Huelva.

■ The Indian pair was defeated by Thailand's Jongkolphan Kititharakul and Rawinda Prajongjai in straight-sets 13-21, 15-21, in a match that lasted 38 minutes.

■ Ponnappa and Sikki earlier defeated Liu Xuan Xuan/Xia Yu-Ting 21-11, 9-21, 21-13 in 51 minutes to enter the pre-quarterfinals. ANI

Scotland 21-10 19-21 21-11, in the quarterfinals.

Sindhu took an early 5-1 lead but Chochuwong rallied to narrow the gap to 5-4 and then to 10-9. The Indian zoomed ahead from there on as she made it 15-10 and then 19-11 to pocket the first game.

The second game was a tighter affair though Sindhu began on the front foot with a 3-0 lead. Sindhu led 11-6 at the change of ends and the second half saw some long rallies with the Thai player winning a few of them.

Sindhu was leading 16-10 but Chochuwong made a comeback of sort as she reduced the gap to 18-15 and then to 19-18. But Sindhu won a crucial point after a long rally to make it 20-18 before winning the second game and the match.

Sindhu, who got a first round bye, had beaten Slovakia's Martina Repiska 21-7 21-9 in the second round. PH



Photo: AP

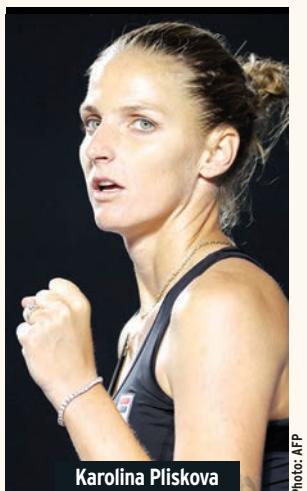
# PLISKOVA OUT OF AUS OPEN DUE TO INJURY

**K**arolina Pliskova has withdrawn from next month's Australian Open and two warm-up tournaments because of a right hand injury sustained in training.

Australian Open officials on Thursday confirmed the world fourth-ranked player's withdrawal, and said in a tweet: "wishing you a speedy recovery."

Pliskova had earlier said on social media "unfortunately I hurt my right hand in practice yesterday and I won't be able to play in Adelaide, Sydney and Australian Open this year."

The 29-year-old Czech Republic player is a two-time Grand Slam finalist. She lost to No. 1-ranked Ash Barty in this year's Wimbledon title match and in the 2016 U.S. Open final to Angelique Kerber after Pliskova beat Serena Williams in the semifinals.



Karolina Pliskova

Pliskova's best finish at Melbourne Park was the semifinals in 2019, where she lost to eventual champion Naomi Osaka after beating Williams in the quarterfinals.

The Australian Open begins Jan. 17. AP

## QUIZ TIME!

**Q1:** Who is the only athlete to participate in 8 Winter Olympics?

- Nathan Chen
- Sven Kramer
- Noriaki Kasai
- Wu Dajing

**Q2:** The term "16 yard hit" is associated with?

- Football
- Hockey
- Cricket
- Volley Ball

**Q3:** Which country ranks first in the FIBA Basketball Men's World Ranking?

- United States of America
- Spain
- Australia
- Argentina

**Q4:** Who became the oldest golfer to win the Men's US Open?

- Gary Player
- Hale Irwin
- Lee Trevino
- Nick Faldo

**Q5:** Who established the Olympic Charter?

- Pierre Trudeau
- Pierre de Coubertin
- Jesse Owens
- Edwin Moses

**Q6:** Mohamed Salah scored his 10th goal in 10 Champions League games for Liverpool and



Mohamed Salah

his 17th in all competitions this season. Against which team did he score the goal?

- Atletico Madrid
- Porto
- A C Milan
- Manchester City

**Q7:** Who was the captain of the Indian Women's Hockey team that won the Asian Cup in November 2017?

- Savita Punia
- Rani Rampal
- Gurjit Kaur
- Navjyot kaur

**Q8:** Which country is the champion of Men's Greco-

Roman Wrestling championship 2018?

- Japan
- China
- Russia
- Hungary

**Q9:** The Asian Games are normally held every \_\_\_\_ years?

- Four
- Two
- Six
- All of the above

**ANSWERS:** 1 c. Noriaki Kasai  
2 b. Hockey 3 a. United States of America  
4 b. Hale Irwin 5 b. Pierre de Coubertin  
6 b. Porto 7 b. Rani Rampal 8 c. Russia  
9 a. Four