



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S EDITION**

➤ Worried about sibling rivalry in your family? Check out the ways on how to mitigate this issue  
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➤ Hear it out from your peers on their weekend plan  
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**STUDENT EDITION**

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021


**WEB EDITION**
[CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2](#)


## +880 is the calling code of which of India's neighbours?

Clue 1: Mohammad Abdul Hamid is the President of this country

Clue 2: It is the world's second-largest exporter of clothing after China

Clue 3: The world's longest natural sea beach, Cox's Bazar Beach, is situated here

**ANSWER: BANGLADESH.** The country emerged as the most-polluted country in the world last year, according to IQAir, a Swiss group that measures air quality levels, based on the concentration of PM2.5. While PAKISTAN AND INDIA were ranked second and third, respectively, New Delhi was the world's most-polluted capital for the third straight year in 2020, according to IQAir's report

## RIGHT TO REJECT SHOULD VOTERS HAVE THIS RIGHT? SC ASKS CENTRE, EC

### THE QUESTION:

Eight years after giving the voters 'none of the above' (NOTA) option in the elections, the Supreme Court on Monday asked the Centre and the Election Commission whether it would be legally permissible to reject all the candidates in the fray, if NOTA votes exceeded that of the candidate securing the highest number of votes.

### WHY NOW?

The apex court's query came after it agreed to entertain a PIL, in which the petitioners have claimed that though NOTA was an option for the voters, it didn't appear to have prodded political parties to select "good candidates" sans criminal antecedents, as the number of NOTA votes had no impact on the outcome of elections. The apex court, however said, such a move could cause disruptions in the formation of Parliament and Assemblies after polls.

### VIEWPOINT



### DOES NOTA MATTER?

Opinions are divided. Votaries of this option are of the view that NOTA is a tool of political dissent to express disillusionment with the ruling party. It also tells the opposition that for the NOTA voter, there is no worthwhile alternative candidate or party to turn to. The 'no vote' is also about participating in the electoral process, instead of just sitting out of it. In other words, it is a way of saying that your voting helps cut down bogus voting

**Q Should NOTA be taken seriously by political parties?**

Please share your views at [toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com)

### THE OPTION

NOTA as an option was introduced in EVMs on the basis of a 2013 SC judgment. Before NOTA, the voter had to inform the presiding officer of

his/ her decision, in case, he/she decided not to vote for any candidate. In 2013, the SC ruled that this violated the freedom of expression of the voter and the ethics of secret ballot

### THE LIMIT

On October 29, 2013, the EC had issued a circular saying that in the event of NOTA getting votes, which exceed the number of votes polled by any candidate, then the one with

the highest number of positive votes would be declared as the winner. This meant that even if NOTA got a majority of votes cast in an election, it would have no impact on the outcome of the poll

## SPECTATORS BARRED FROM TOKYO OLYMPICS TORCH RELAY START: ORGANISERS

**SPORTS**


Spectators will be barred from attending the beginning of the Tokyo Olympics torch relay, organisers have said, announcing a pared-back launch, as the countdown to the postponed Games begins in earnest. Fans were told to stay away from the next week's "simplified" starting ceremony and the first leg of the nationwide relay, which was put on hold a year ago when the Olympics were delayed over the coronavirus. "The grand start ceremony and the first section of the Fukushima torch relay... will not be open to the public," organisers said in a statement, adding that the festivities would be broadcast live online.

**1** The announcement comes ahead of a decision on whether fans from overseas will be allowed to enter Japan for the coronavirus-delayed Games, which is expected to be taken before the torch relay begins on March 25

**2** The torch relay will begin in Fukushima prefecture, which last week marked the 10th anniversary of the 2011 earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster that left 18,500 dead or missing

**3** But the torch, headed for the Olympics opening ceremony on July 23, will get a more muted send-off than originally-planned, the organisers clarified

## 'AVATAR' BEATS 'AVENGERS: ENDGAME' to become highest-grossing film of all time



Director James Cameron's 'Avatar' has claimed its box office throne as the highest-grossing film of all time, overtaking Marvel's 'Avengers: Endgame'. This comes in nearly two years after the Marvel superhero film created box office history by grossing an estimated \$2.797 billion. 'Avatar', which re-released in China last Friday added another \$12.3 million to its overall haul in the first two days, thus taking its worldwide gross to an estimated \$2.802 billion.



'Endgame' took the first spot on the box office board in 2019, when it beat Cameron's 1997 film 'Titanic', which held the top spot for over a decade with an estimated global collection of \$2.194 billion

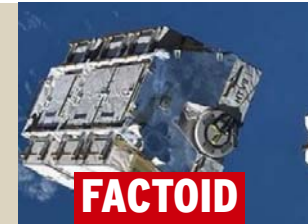
## New children's book to tell story of Raja Ravi Varma

**BOOK**


A new illustrated book, which brings alive the life and times of celebrated Indian artist Raja Ravi Varma, will hit the stands in April, publishing house Westland has announced. The book, titled 'Prince with a Paintbrush: The Story of Raja Ravi Varma', is written by author-poet Shobha Tharoor Srinivasan. Published under Westland's 'Red Panda' imprint, it aims to inspire young readers to learn about the famed artist, and how he made his entry and mark in the art world.

### 2.9 TON

pallet of 48 nickel-hydrogen batteries were discarded by the International Space Station (ISS). Believed to be the most-massive object ever jettisoned by the ISS, the space junk is expected


**FACTOID**

to fall back to the Earth in two to four years. Called EP9, short for 'Exposed Pallet 9', this pallet is the recently-jettisoned object. EP9 came to the station last year on a

Japanese H-II Transfer Vehicle (HTV) as part of an effort to replace the orbiting lab's old nickel-hydrogen batteries with new lithium-ion ones – an extended process that has required a number of spacewalks over the past five years. According to NASA, the pallet is moving just 4.8 miles per second and is not expected to survive the intense heat when it reaches the Earth's atmosphere.

## Amazon rainforest now spews out more greenhouse gases than it can store

**ENVIRONMENT**


The Amazon rainforest now spews out more greenhouse gases than it can store, a study has found. Analysis shows the net impact on the environment of the tropical rainforest, the most-biodiverse place in the world, has become negative as a result of human actions. Deforestation, illegal fires and cattle farming have led to increased flooding and more frequent droughts, which means the forest is now spewing out higher levels of methane and nitrous oxide than it is soaking up carbon dioxide. Worryingly, the findings indicate that the Amazon rainforest may actually be making global warming worse rather than helping to mitigate it.

■ Researchers say that the Amazon 'is one of the largest ecosystem carbon pools on the Earth' and stores up to 200 gigaton of carbon, equivalent to all the carbon emissions humans produced for five years. (One gigaton is the same as 1,000,000,000 tons)  
■ Amazonian trees alone emit 3.5 per cent of all global methane through a variety of ways

## Spotlight OSCARS 2021



Priyanka Chopra Jonas and husband Nick Jonas have announced the Oscar nominees through a livestream presentation...

■ The nominees for the best picture are: 'The Father'; 'Judas and the Black Messiah'; 'Mank'; 'Minari'; 'Nomadland'; 'Promising Young Woman'; 'Sound of Metal'; 'The Trial of the Chicago 7'  
■ The nominees for the best actress are: Carey Mulligan, 'Promising Young Woman'; Frances McDormand, 'Nomadland'; Viola Davis, 'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom'; Vanessa Kirby, 'Pieces of a Woman'; Andra Day, 'The United States vs. Billie Holiday'  
■ The nominees for the best actor are: Chadwick Boseman, 'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom'; Riz Ahmed, 'Sound of Metal'; Anthony Hopkins, 'The Father'; Gary Oldman, 'Mank'; Steven Yeun, 'Minari'.  
■ The nominees for the best director are: Chloe Zhao, 'Nomadland'; Lee Isaac Chung, 'Minari'; David Fincher, 'Mank'; Emerald Fennell, 'Promising Young Woman'; Thomas Vinterberg, 'Another Round'



# 6 ways to defuse sibling resentment

Sibling rivalry is expected, especially with everyone stuck indoors for months, but there are ways to mitigate the issue

**S**ibling screaming matches may seem louder and more oppressive during a pandemic when no one is leaving the house, but according to Jeanine Vivona, a professor of psychology at the College of New Jersey, US, who has studied sibling rivalry, "competition with siblings is just a fact of life." Some observational studies have shown that sibling conflicts may happen up to eight times an hour. Here are six ways to handle squabbling siblings:

## FIGURE OUT WHAT SETS THEM OFF

"Pay attention to what tends to happen before conflict breaks out," said Sally Beville Hunter, a clinical associate professor in child and family studies at the University of Tennessee, US. If your children fight every time they play video games, for example, make sure you are within earshot when they sit down to play. Listen for words or tones that are combative and try to intervene before it escalates.



## HELP THEM TO RESOLVE CONFLICT

Once tempers have settled, sit your kids down and discuss the problem "without blaming or accusing," advises Mark Ethan Feinberg, an expert in sibling behaviour at Penn State University, US. Give each child a chance to talk uninterrupted, and have them try to come up with solu-

tions themselves. By the time kids are elementary school age, they can "evaluate which of those solutions are win-win and which ones are most likely to work over time," he said.

## PRAISE IN PUBLIC; PUNISH IN PRIVATE

If your children are being kind to each other, "praise really loudly and all over the place," Hunter said. For

example, "I love that you let your sister go first." But if you are criticising them, do it outside of the other child's earshot, because they may use it as ammunition.

## FIND COMMON ACTIVITIES

Your kids' temperament and personalities may be similar, or they may not be. They may both love dance or sports. "Try to find common activities that allow everyone to be flexible and feel connected," Vivona said.

## EMBRACE CONFLICT

Don't be afraid to choose an activity, like family movie night, that might result in a long delay as children argue over which one to watch. You are going to experience the rivalry but it will make your children learn all about compromise.

## SEND THEM OUTSIDE

Being cooped up indoors is hard for children. So organise outdoor activities to get them some fresh air and fun. NEW YORK TIMES



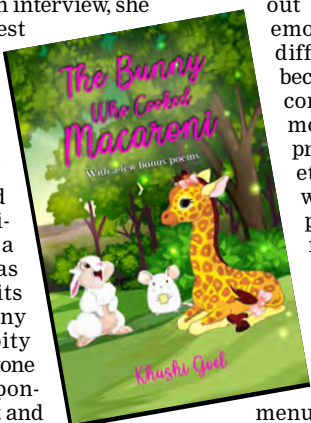
## 'My tools are my words'

nitya.shukla@timesgroup.com

**T**he 10-year-old Khushi has been writing since she was five. The budding author has made quite a splash with her first work 'The Bunny Who Cooked Macaroni', a collection of prose and poetry that tells the story of a miserable bunny, Bob, who is forced to cook macaroni all day instead of following his passion to be an artist. Through Bob's journey, the young author, wants the reader to understand the importance of self-reflection and dedication in one's life. In an interview, she shares her best writing tips.

### What inspired you to write about living an uninspired life?

It occurred with an incident where a bunny was trapped in its miserable tiny cage. I had pity for his woebegone cast life. I pondered about it and thought I could write a story where the bunny is expressing his own thoughts and having emotional blows. He would be



forced to do something whereas he wants to do something else. I describe the way he strived through his tough life with the help of his sweet and encouraging friends.

### What kind of poems do you like to write?

At night time, I start writing poetry, when I am alone and peaceful. I always pick interesting topics that would appeal to the reader. I prefer simple AABB rhyming scheme. I think a poem is a bea-

utiful emotion different because I write according to my mood. In the process of my poetry writing, I was always pending with a few poems which I was yet to complete. Each poem's mood was different too. It is like a menu I can choose from. That's how I wrote my poems alongside. So, I kept on writing till I wrote around sixty poems. Out of that, about thirty poems are in the book.



### Who are your mentors?

My writing mentors are undoubtedly my parents. They encouraged me throughout the journey. They motivated me to keep on writing. Thus, I became my own mate. This book would have merely been a bundle of words without their love and support. My teachers were helpful too and they told me to never stop writing. I never will stop; the journey has just begun!

### How did you motivate yourself to keep at it? Since writing requires one to spend long hours alone, was

### there ever a point where you'd think 'I'm not doing it'?

Writing is my passion, so it was my love for writing that made me keep the 'I can do it' attitude. It is my entertainment. I play with words as I play with my toys. I manage my time wisely, which gives me enough time to write. I was never alone. My mother was by my side. The characters were my friends. I talked to them and they talked to me. I was the inventor: Being the author gives me the liberty to decide what the characters look like and do; they were my puppets. It is fun cooking a story, where I can decide what I want. I was never bored; I used to wait for the time when I could write. When you have fun, long hours become few seconds. There was never a time when I thought I couldn't do it. A person doesn't need to be reminded twice to pig out on pizza!

### Why do you write?

I simply loved writing. I adored it, I didn't find it, writing found me. I pour my heart's content in it. I want to convey everything to people by my writing. When you love something, you are inspired by it. Inspiration rests in everything, you just have to feel it. I started to write since the age of five. At first, I used to write page-long essays about me and my friends. A year later, I moved onto other things. I started writing short stories about nature. After that, I started writing juicy stuff; I wrote stories up to a hundred pages. Then, I started writing novels.



## WRITING TIPS

**1** NEVER force yourself to write. When you least expect it, your thoughts pour out. DON'T write for the sake of others. Write if you want, or don't. Don't worry whether people will like it or not. If you like it, it's the best. Focus more on the content than other things.

**2** It takes months and years to write a book. It's not ten days of work - so keep calm and relax. First, draft the entire story on paper. When you're satisfied with your points, you can begin writing your fabulous story.

**3** ALWAYS write in peace. NEVER write in a jiffy. DON'T stress if you can't find words. Leave it, move on to something else.

**4** DON'T stick to the facts. Go wild. Take your imagination for a ride! Observe what is around you. You will surely find great ideas for your masterpiece.

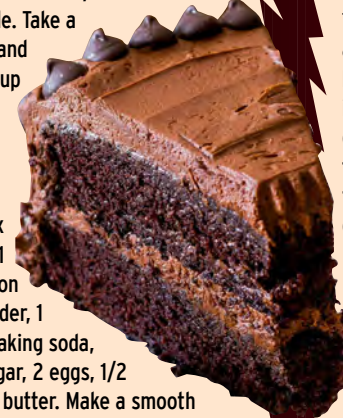
## 2 Birthday Cakes you can make in 10 mins

Does the thought of baking a cake at home seem like a daunting task, especially with the icing and edible decoratives? Well, here's help. Just follow some easy steps given below and impress your loved ones



### CHOCOLATE CAKE

To begin with, take a baking tin/tray and grease it with oil/butter and keep it aside. Take a large bowl and sieve 1 1/2 cup of all purpose flour, 1/2 cup cocoa powder and mix these with 1 1/2 teaspoon baking powder, 1 teaspoon baking soda, 1/2 cup sugar, 2 eggs, 1/2 cup melted butter. Make a smooth batter, to make it more fluffy add in some milk to make the batter smooth. Pour the batter into the greased baking tray and bake the cake at 200 degree celsius. In the meantime, melt 200 gram milk chocolate and using the double boiler method, prepare the ganache. Once the cake is ready, pour the ganache and allow it to set, garnish the way you like and enjoy!



### STRAWBERRY CAKE

To make this amazing cake, take 1 cup strawberries and prepare a puree, add 1 cup all purpose flour to the puree and mix nicely. Add 1/2 cup melted butter and 1/2 cup caster sugar, whisk into a smooth mixture then add in 2 eggs, 1 teaspoon baking soda, 1 1/2 teaspoon baking powder along with a few drops of vanilla essence. Using an electrical blender, make a smooth blend by adding some milk/water, make a smooth lump free batter. Grease a baking pan and pour the batter, add in the chunks of strawberry, bake the cake. Then take a bowl add in 1/2 cup strawberries puree/ strawberry syrup, 1 cup chilled fresh cream, keep whisking and lastly add in 1/2 cup of sugar and some vanilla extract for taste, whisk a smooth icing cream and layer the cake. Garnish the way you like and enjoy.



## QUIZ TIME (CURRENT AFFAIRS)



**Q.1) Who was appointed as the head of the Indo-Pacific Wing?**

- A. Sujan R Chinoy  
B. Shivshankar Menon  
C. Vikram Doraiswami  
D. Nirupama Menon Rao

**Q.2) Indo-Pacific Wing is set up by which of the following ministries?**

- A. Ministry of External Affairs  
B. Ministry of AYUSH  
C. Ministry of Culture  
D. Ministry of Earth Sciences

**Q.3) April 19 is observed as \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. National Civil Services Day  
B. World Liver Day  
C. International Earth Day  
D. World Day for Safety and Health at Work

**Q.4) RBI has recently issued a new note under Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series with Shaktikanta Das's signature. The denomination of the note is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. ₹20 B. ₹200  
C. ₹500 D. ₹50

**Q.5) The Union home ministry has extended the ban imposed on which among the following militant organisations?**

- A. LTTE B. ISIS  
C. LeT D. Taliban

## ANSWERS

1. C) Vikram Doraiswami 2. A) Ministry of External Affairs 3. B) World Liver Day 4. D) ₹50 5. A) LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam)



## MAKING THE IMPOSSIBLE HAPPEN

**P**andemic in 2020 turned our lives upside down and changed not just the way we live and work but also how we think and behave. Every part of the world was affected, and every aspect of life tasted its impact. Our everyday routines changed, and everything had to be re-planned. While we stop and ponder, we cannot help but realise that we used to take things for granted.

Teachers, our front-line warriors, had to learn, unlearn, and relearn things and adapt to the new change. Initially there were technical glitches but there is always hope when we move ahead with a positive mindset. From offline to online, from real to virtual, classroom to home room, from blackboard to jam boards, keep quiet to mute, from written test to Google form, the journey was difficult, but they didn't give up.

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

**Humera Hyder,**  
Principal,  
Springfields School  
Tolichowki



Anxious parents became real partners in education; with their support the impossible became possible.

There are some life lessons to take away from this pandemic; we need to hold on to our values and roots. The difficult times showed us the truth about life and about the people around us. Our relationships or friendships fizzled out or reignited.

The wonderful world of technology opened the doors for education and connected everyone whether next door or miles apart.

We need to reaffirm ourselves 'Never stop learning.'

One of the great joys of life is to learn new skills, new languages, new recipes, new crafts, new sports and new cultures. The year 2020 has reinforced the reality that anything can happen at a moment's notice. When the world stopped around us, we explored the world through Internet. We experimented, practiced and created. This tough time has taught us that the adversity we face and the resilience we respond with have the power to shape our lives. With each challenge, we are given the opportunity to persevere, learn and grow into stronger, more compassionate and more grateful human beings.

## Keeping the doors of learning open

**T**he sudden outbreak of a deadly disease called Covid-19 shook the entire world. This situation challenged the education system across the world and forced educators to shift to an online mode of teaching overnight. Many academic institutions that were earlier reluctant to change their traditional pedagogical approach had no option but to shift entirely to online teaching-learning. It's no secret that effective teachers are paramount to effective learning in the classroom, and in the case of online studies, the teaching principles and methods they use are even more important.

Keeping in mind the above scenario, Delhi Public School, Mahendra Hills organised a webinar on effective online teaching skills conducted by Raghuram Malladi, a mentor and coach, who holds the position in S Chand publications as a Product Manager for its school education division, where heads and teachers of more than 88 schools have participated from all over India.



The main aim was that parents and teachers must establish a new equilibrium and a new normal for learning amid the present challenges. The second phase of the webinar concluded by discussing the limita-

tions and challenges of different types of pedagogical mentoring in virtual exchange and by outlining a list of recommendations for carrying out pedagogical mentoring in such projects.

## STEPPING INTO A NEW JOURNEY



**P**allavi International School, Gandipet organised Graduation day ceremony 'Bon Voyage' for the young and enthusiastic learners of pre-primary wing. To bless students and encourage them to be great learners, Simmi Srivastava, renowned story teller and Meetal, principal, graced the occasion.

The ceremony was also attended by the parents of the students of pre-primary. The programme began with a welcome song presented by the kindergarten students. The gathering was then addressed by the principal, highlighting the vision of the school and role of parents and

**Pallavi Model School**  
**Alwal**

teachers in the student learning process followed by activities portraying the year-long learning of the PP-II students. The props and PPTs made the performance a lively experience for the audience. Parent representatives also shared their reflections. The important part of the day was the felicitation of the children who were photographed in their graduation robes and capes.

The event culminated with a vote of thanks by Prathima, co-ordinator of pre-primary.

**Delhi Public School**  
**Nadergul**

**"Every step you take, brings you closer to your dreams!"**

**D**elhi Public School, Nadergul celebrated its first ever online graduation day ceremony of the pre-primary wing on the theme "Rios De La India, our Lifelines".

The little ones took the audience across the Indian peninsular to visit the different rivers. Each class represented a different river, namely Ganga, Godavari, Krishna, Brahmaputra, Narmada and Indus.

The ceremony commenced with a prayer song and lighting of the lamp to evoke the blessings of the almighty. The proud parents gathered in large numbers to congratulate the shining stars of the day. Principal Padma Jyothi Turaga, in her address to the gathering, congratulated the parents and blessed the children. She urged the children to continue with their sincere and diligent efforts in class I and not to forget the values learnt. Chief guest Swati Sharma, author and festival director Noida International Literature Festival in her address, complimented the



graduates on their achievements and the teachers for their dedication and hard work in shaping the students through education and other co-curricular activities.

The programme started with a vibrant dance where the six 'rivers' danced to the tunes of 'Rivers wide, Rivers long.' The tiny tots performed with great panache, which was well appreciated by the audience.

The conferment of degrees was in the form of class albums describing each child, a special souvenir from their class teachers. Head girl Naineka Samatha spoke on behalf of the Prep students, thanking the principal and teachers for the wonderful year and expressed their wish to come back to the school campus. The programme ended with welcoming the Prep graduates to the portals of class I.

## Evening with grandparents

**F**or this weekend I am going to play games, watch television for some time. Then I am going to help out at home by drawing some water from a pipe which is half a kilometre from our house. I am going to take some rest after that. In the evening we will be going to our village to meet my grandparents and have dinner with them. After spending some time there, we will return at night. Once back, I will get ready for the week ahead.

**A VISHAL, class VIII,**  
**Sister Nivedita School**

**W E E K E N D P L A N**

### A SUNNY SUMMER DAY

Summer day, Sunny day  
Ice cream all way  
Icy juices  
Spicy chips  
Watery mouth  
Summer scream a loud  
Cool shower  
Summer power  
Sleeping with an ac  
All day very hazy!



**MAYUKHA, class V A, Bhartiya Vidya Bhavans Public School, Vidyashram**

### HOW THEY FEEL

In these large countries,  
People end up building boundaries.  
I wonder how people used to live in the preceding centuries.  
These countries are vast, but I don't understand,  
Why do we people judge based on their caste?  
Why do people judge so fast?  
Why do people differentiate based on gender?  
Why do people become ruder and ruder?  
What all these causes are just a blunder.  
What's the problem with the race?  
Why do people judge based on the colour of the face?  
They are the ones who are ace.  
Some of the people are rich and,  
Some of the people are poor,  
But what all they forget is that they were born in the same sphere.  
Think about how will they feel.  
Think about what all they deal.  
Think about how much it will take for them to heal.



**MOHAMMED IFTEKHAR, class X A, Literary Secretary, Madina Public School, Himayathnagar**



### BOOK REVIEW: HARRY POTTER



**B SAANVI,**  
class V B, Gitanjali  
Devashray,  
Hyderabad

This is a story that describes us as muggles, non-magical people who live our lives not knowing the existence of wizards. The books allow us to envision a magical world. Wizards are usually tolerant and good toward muggles.

The book toes the line between real life and fantasy. Harry Potter with a scar on his forehead has to battle an evil wizard Voldemort who has killed his parents and disappears. Some

think he is dead, but a fat and tall man Hagrid who tells Harry he is a wizard believes he is still out there but too old to continue. Harry joins a school of witchcraft and wizardry. To go there he boards a train called Hogwarts Express and meets two friends Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger who help Harry fight Voldemort and his minions, the death eaters.

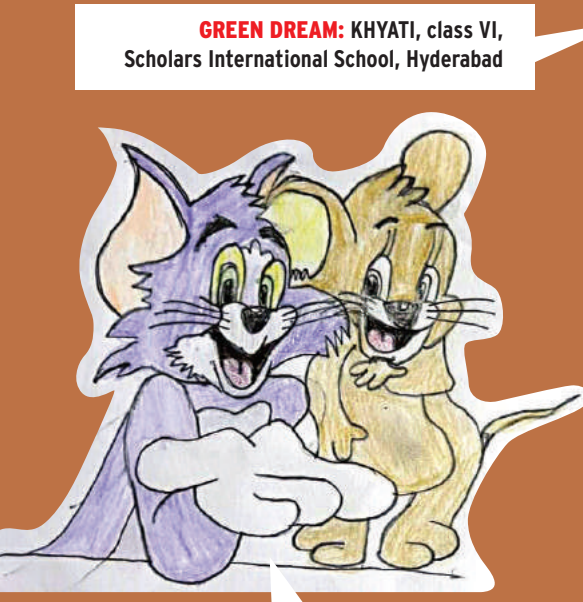
There at Hogwarts a friendly headmaster Albus Dumbledore helps Harry discover the past. He wins a Quidditch game (a game played on broom sticks flying in the air), kills horcruxes of Voldemort, battles a ferocious dragon and many more. The whole school is ready to help Harry and his friends battle Voldemort and his death eaters. They succeed but many people die in the battle.



## Painters' Gallery

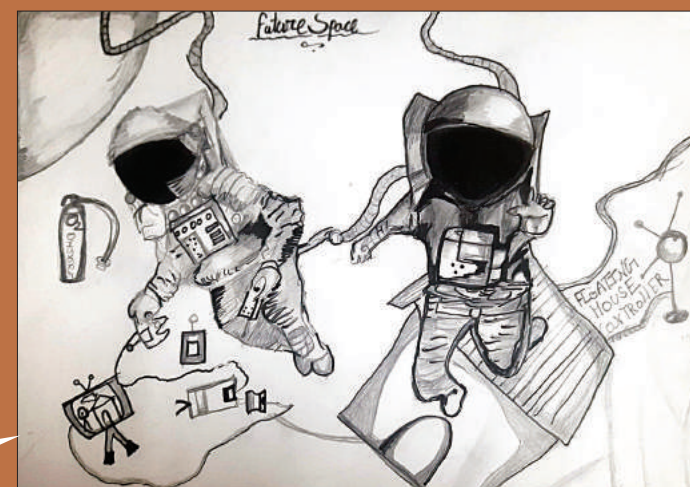


**PRETTY PALS: VARSHINI MUTHYALA,**  
class VI C, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavans Public School (Vidyashram) Jubilee Hills



**CAT & MOUSE GAMES: ADITYA KUMAR,**  
class II, Delhi Public School, Nacharam

**SPACE VOYAGERS: V.DEEPIKA, class VI,**  
Pragathi Central School, Hyderabad





## DO OR DIE

India would aim to take the toss out of equation and put up a much improved all-round show against a formidable England in their bid to level the series in the fourth Twenty20 in Ahmedabad on Thursday



### India must negate the toss factor to win

➔ As the trend of chasing the side winning the match continues in the ongoing T20I series between India and England, former player Michael Vaughan said that it looked like the T20 World Cup, scheduled to be played later in the year, could be won by the best Tossers. So far of the five matches, three have been played and in every match, the toss-winning side has gone on to win the game. In all three games, the toss-winning captain has opted to field first. However, India skipper Virat Kohli has repeatedly stressed on the need to do well whether posting totals or chasing as part of preparations for the T20 World Cup later this year.

### Must utilise powerplays

➔ In the two games they lost after batting first, India struggled in the powerplay, which impacted their final total despite one batsman (Shreyas Iyer and Virat Kohli respectively) going on to make a significant contribution. A lot of it was down to K L Rahul not being amongst the runs but Kohli made it amply clear that the Karnataka batsman and Rohit Sharma remain their preferred opening combination. "If you look at his stats in the last 2-3 years, they are better than anyone in T20. He will continue to be one of our main batters, along with Rohit, at the top. We don't have any concerns there," said Kohli. India batting coach Vikram Rathour too has termed Rahul 'best batsman in the team' for the T20 format.

The express pace of Mark Wood and Jofra Archer has also made life tough for the Indians in the first six overs. They have been able to extract disconcerting bounce from the surface, putting the batsmen in two minds.

### Bowlers need to step up

➔ Going by Kohli's words post the third game, a third all-rounder alongside Hardik Pandya and Washington Sundar can be drafted into the side with the

choice between uncapped Rahul Tewatia and Axar Patel. Unlike the first game, Kohli's sublime 77 ensured India did have some runs to defend but the bowlers hardly troubled the opposition batsmen, with Jos Buttler running away with the contest. The team's number one spinner Yuzvendra Chahal has leaked runs both times India have set a target. Hardik Pandya's return as a bowling all-rounder has been promising but he is yet to take a wicket. Bhuvneshwar Kumar has kept things tidy in his comeback series but the team expects him to provide regular breakthroughs with the new ball. Offie Washington Sundar has been the stand out bowler for India with four wickets at an impressive economy rate of 6.95.

### Neutralise Buttler threat

➔ England, like India, also want to win in all conditions and will be buoyed by their emphatic win in the previous game. Buttler being amongst the runs is also a cause of worry for India as on his day he can demolish any attack in the world. Jonny Bairstow, who had a horror run in the two Tests he played against India, came up with a morale boosting 40 on Tuesday. Now England are waiting for the world's number one batsman Dawid Malan to fire. It will take a special effort from India to stop the number one ranked team from winning the series on Wednesday night. The hosts winning the toss should make their task less tough.

## MORGAN HAS TAKEN ENG WHITE-BALL GAME TO NEXT LEVEL: BUTTLER



Skipper Eoin Morgan is one of the white ball "pioneers", who has propelled English cricket to a different level with his incredible leadership, reckons his deputy Jos Buttler

Morgan, who ended his country's 44-year wait for a maiden ODI World Cup title in 2019, on Tuesday became the first England player and fourth overall to make 100 appearances in T20 cricket. He celebrated the milestone moment with an eight-wicket win over India in the third T20. Buttler, who was earlier seen in a finisher's role, further said he's got full backing from Morgs (Eoin Morgan) to go and do that and that gives me a lot of confidence. And I think, I really enjoyed the role today as I always do," Buttler, who scored a match-winning unbeaten 83, said. "Yeah, it's (opening) my preference in T20 cricket. But I'll always be open-minded, I'm sure certain teams may ask me to bat somewhere else but I know Morgs is keen for me to open in this team and do that with his backing."

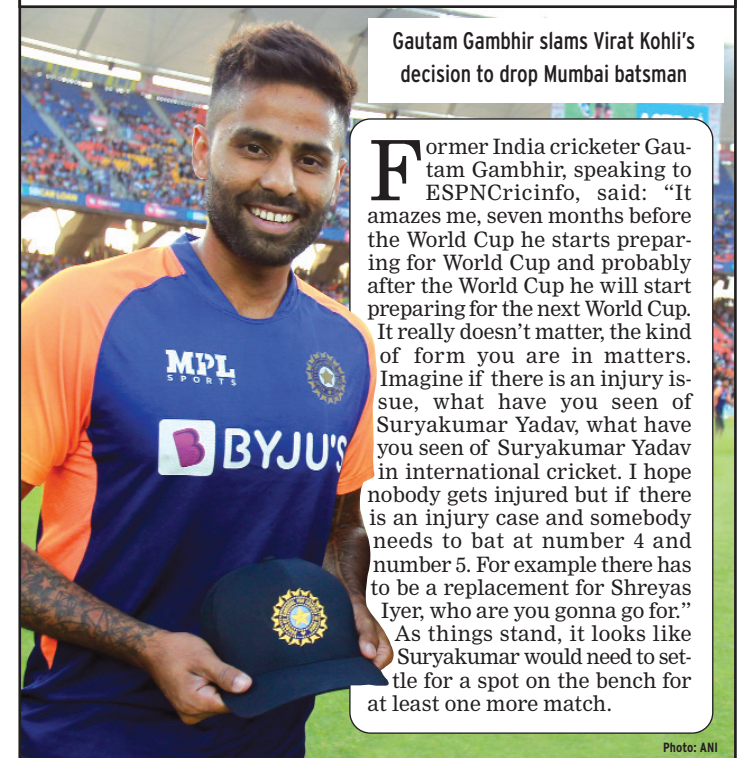
He has been a pioneer for English white ball cricketers. He's always been someone who's been ahead of the curve. They (Morgan and Kevin Pietersen) were two guys I always looked up to in white ball teams and who could do a bit different, who could take the game forward and look to be ahead of the curve.

He's been a pioneer, as a player to start with. And certainly as a captain and a leader. He's taken English white ball cricket to a place, it's never been before, to be honest. He's done that in quite an incredible way.

Everyone enjoys playing for him. The environment that he's created, the group we have at the moment is as much fun to play in as ever. As a really good team, he's been a huge driver of that, alongside a few others. He is a selfless guy. Today is really about him and no mean feat to achieve 100 caps.

JOS BUTTLER

## What have you seen of Suryakumar Yadav?



Gautam Gambhir slams Virat Kohli's decision to drop Mumbai batsman

Former India cricketer Gautam Gambhir, speaking to ESPNcricinfo, said: "It amazes me, seven months before the World Cup he starts preparing for World Cup and probably after the World Cup he will start preparing for the next World Cup. It really doesn't matter, the kind of form you are in matters. Imagine if there is an injury issue, what have you seen of Suryakumar Yadav, what have you seen of Suryakumar Yadav in international cricket. I hope nobody gets injured but if there is an injury case and somebody needs to bat at number 4 and number 5. For example there has to be a replacement for Shreyas Iyer, who are you gonna go for." As things stand, it looks like Suryakumar would need to settle for a spot on the bench for at least one more match.

## QUIZ TIME!

**Q1:** Who was the youngest player to reach 100 premier League goals?

- a) Wayne Rooney ☐ b) Romelu Lukaku ☐  
c) Michael Owen ☐ d) Robbie Fowler ☐

**Q2:** Argentina lost to which country in the final of the 2014 FIFA World Cup?

- a) Spain ☐ b) Brazil ☐ c) Germany ☐  
d) France ☐

**Q3:** Who made the fastest 11000 runs in ODIs?

- a) Sourav Ganguly ☐ b) Virat Kohli ☐  
c) Ricky Ponting ☐ d) Sachin Tendulkar ☐

**Q4:** Australia's wicket-keeper Alyssa Healy broke MS Dhoni's record of most dismissals by a wicket-keeper in T20Is with 92 dismissals. Against which team did she achieve this feat.

- a) New Zealand ☐ b) England ☐  
c) India ☐ d) South Africa ☐

**Q5:** Who smashed the most number of sixes in the 2020-21 season of the Indian Premier League?

- a) Ishan Kishan ☐ b) Nicholas Pooran ☐  
c) Sanju Samson ☐ d) Hardik Pandya ☐

**Q6:** Which players has made the fastest 50 wickets in Test matches?

- a) Tom Richardson ☐ b) Vernon Philander ☐  
c) Charlie Turner ☐ d) Frederick Spofforth ☐

**Q7:** At the 2016 Rio Olympics, PV Sindhu lost to which badminton player?



- a) Nozomi Okuhara ☐ b) Tai Tzu-ying ☐  
c) Li Xuerui ☐ d) Carolina Marin ☐

**Q8:** How many UEFA cups has Real Madrid won?

- a) Three ☐ b) Two ☐ c) Four ☐ d) One ☐

**Q9:** Which players has won the most number of singles matches at Grand Slams ever?

- a) Rafael Nadal ☐ b) Novak Djokovic ☐  
c) Serena Williams ☐ d) Roger Federer ☐

**Q10:** In 2015, who became the first player to score five successive fifties at the World Cup?

- a) Rohit Sharma ☐ b) Steve Smith ☐

- c) Kane Williamson ☐ d) Aaron Finch ☐

**Q11:** During the 2016 Olympics, Katie Ledecky became the most successful US female athlete in any sport at a single edition of the Games. How many medals did she win?

- a) Four gold, two silver ☐  
b) Three gold, three silver ☐  
c) Four gold, one silver ☐  
d) Two gold, two silver ☐

**ANSWERS:** 1 c) Michael Owen 2 c) Germany  
3 b) Virat Kohli 4 a) New Zealand  
5 a) Ishan Kishan 6 c) Charlie Turner  
7 d) Carolina Marin 8 b) Two  
9 d) Roger Federer 10 b) Steve Smith  
11 c) Four gold, one silver