



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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## TODAY'S EDITION

Take a note of the bands that are named after classic literature

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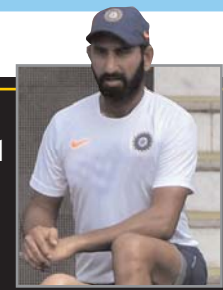
Students share their weekend plans  
Reviewing your favourite book/movie can be fun

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A look at the journey of the real heroes, who played a vital role in India's win over Oz

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STUDENT EDITION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021



WEB EDITION

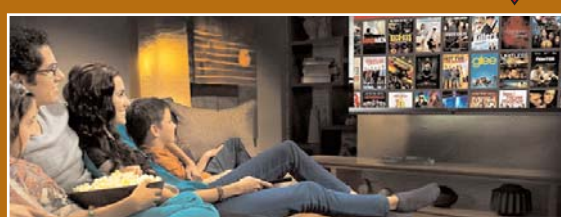
CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

## 1,000 grams

of CARBON DIOXIDE is emitted in an hour during a video call meeting, claims a new study. Switching off your camera during a web call can reduce a person's carbon footprint by 96 per cent, it adds. In other words, it can save up to three gallons of water and an area of land about the size of an iPad Mini. According to researchers, streaming content in standard definition rather than in high definition, while using apps, such as Netflix or Hulu, could also bring an 86 per cent reduction. Reducing data download will also lessen the demand of water and land. The study is believed to be the first to analyse water and land use associated with the internet infrastructure.

For the study, the team estimated the carbon, water and land footprints associated with each gigabyte of data used in YouTube, Zoom, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok and 12 other platforms, as well as in online gaming and miscellaneous web surfing. As expected, the researchers found that the more a video is used in an application, the larger are the footprints

According to environmentalists, though an ongoing pandemic has seen a noticeable drop in global carbon emissions, because of closing factories and limited traffic, there has been an increase in at-home entertainment and remote working, which has a significant environmental impact, depending on how the internet data is stored and transferred around the world



Moreover, researchers found that OTT platforms like Netflix is one of the biggest contributors to the carbon footprints, using about 11 square inches of land and two

gallons of water per hour and generating more than 440 grams of CO<sub>2</sub>. It was followed in descending order by Zoom, TikTok, WhatsApp and Facebook

DID YOU KNOW?

1 In some countries, the internet use has spiked at least 20 per cent since the lockdowns started in March. If that level of demand continues through 2021, it will require a forest twice the size of Indiana in the US, to offset the carbon emissions, warn experts

2 Besides, if increased usage continues, the additional water needed to process and transmit data could fill more than 300,000 Olympic-size swimming pools, and the land required would be equivalent to the size of Los Angeles, the study added

## INTO THE FUTURE

### SAUDI LAUNCHES CITY WITH NO CARS



Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has unveiled his latest vision for Saudi Arabia's future beyond oil — a city with no cars, roads or carbon emissions. According to experts, the announcement shows the extent to which Prince Mohammed is thinking about life after oil for the kingdom, which earned over half of the government's revenue from crude in 2020. Addressing his countrymen on the rising sea levels and carbon emissions, the Prince said, "Why should we sacrifice nature for development all the time?" The city, he said, would be a "revolution for the mankind" with "zero cars, zero streets and zero emissions."

The 170-kilometre-long development called 'The Line' will be part of the \$500 billion project called 'Neom'. It will be a walkable belt of hyper-connected future communities without cars and roads and built around nature. The city would have one million residents and create 380,000 jobs by 2030. The infrastructure will cost between \$100 billion and \$200 billion. The city would be built around ultra-high-speed transit and autonomous mobility solutions

## Spotlight

### JEE, NEET syllabus to remain unchanged for 2021



The ministry of education on Tuesday announced that the syllabus of the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) and the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) would remain unchanged for 2021. "The syllabus for the JEE Main 2021 will remain the same as the previous year. But students will be given a choice to answer 75 questions, out of the 90 questions," said the education ministry.

The exact pattern for the NEET (Undergraduate) 2021 is yet to be announced. However, it is believed that in view of the reduction of syllabus by some education Boards across the country, the NEET (UG) 2021 question paper would also have options on the lines of the JEE (Main)

## HONOUR

### Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birthday to be celebrated as 'Parakram Diwas'



The Centre has decided to celebrate the birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as 'Parakram Diwas' every year, Union ministry of culture has announced. In order to honour and remember Netaji's indomitable spirit and selfless service to the nation, the government of India has decided to celebrate his birthday as 'Parakram diwas' to inspire the people of this country, especially the youth, to act with fortitude in the face of adversity as Netaji did, and to infuse in them a spirit of patriotic fervour, the government stated in its release.

## TRUMP BABY BLIMP LANDS AT LONDON MUSEUM

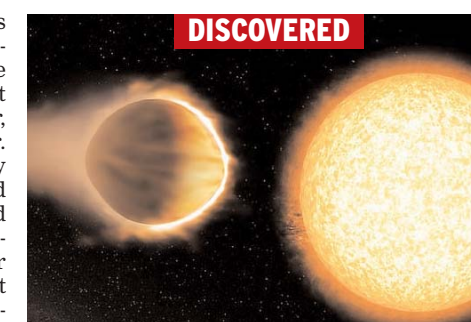
A blimp depicting former US President Donald Trump as a snarling, nappy-wearing orange baby has found a home in one of London's most-popular museums. The helium-filled balloon, originally paid for through crowdfunding, first took to the London skies during the protests against Trump's visit in 2018, and has also flown in to other locations, including France, Argentina, Ireland and Denmark.



The Museum of London said the blimp would join its protest collection, which include artefacts from the Suffragette movement as well as climate change and peace rallies

## A UNIQUE 'SUPER-PUFF' PLANET!

Astronomers have discovered a unique 'super-puff' planet that's as big as Jupiter, but 10 times lighter. According to Daily Mail, the planet, called WASP-107b, is believed to be one of the least-dense exoplanets ever discovered, earning it the nicknames of a 'super-puff' or 'cotton-candy' planet. Researchers say the findings have 'big implications' for what we understand about how giant planets form and grow.



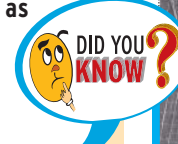
### WHAT IS WASP-107B?

WASP-107b lies around 212 light years from the Earth in the Virgo constellation. Astronomers believe that the planet is over 16 times closer to its star than the Earth is to the sun

This extremely-low density indicates that the planet must be having a solid core, which could be four times the mass of the Earth

This, according to the researchers, suggest that more than 85 per cent of its mass lies in the thick layer of gas that surrounds its core

Most gas giant planets, such as Jupiter and Saturn, have a solid core, which is at least 10 times more massive than the Earth



## ETHAN HAWKE TO PLAY SUPERVILLAIN IN COMICBOOK ADAPTATION

Hollywood star Ethan Hawke has been roped in as a villain opposite Oscar Isaac in an upcoming superhero series, 'Moon Knight'. With this role in Marvel Studios' series, the actor will be making his debut in the comicbook adaptation and superhero realm, reports hollywoodreporter.com. Hawke will play the lead villain in the series, while Isaac will don the role of the protagonist. The makers plan to start the production of the show in March in Budapest.

'Moon Knight' is the story of Marc Spector, an elite soldier and mercenary, who decides to fight crime, after he becomes the human avatar of Khonshu, the Egyptian god of the moon. The character first appeared in the August 1975 comicbook issue, 'Werewolf By Night #32'



## Rafale, vintage Dakota aircraft to be major attraction of REPUBLIC DAY PARADE



The newly-inducted Rafale and vintage Dakota aircraft will be one of the major attractions during the Republic Day parade at Rajpath in New Delhi on January 26, as they would be part of 42 aircraft taking part in the flypast..

1 In its first appearance at the Republic Day celebrations, the Rafale fighter jets will do a "vertical charlie" to end the flypast. 2 Dakota, on the other hand, will be part of the Rudra formation, when the Bangladesh contingent would be marching on the Rajpath. This would be the first time, when the Bangladesh contingent would be marching on Rajpath.

3 The vintage Dakota aircraft played a crucial role in the liberation of Bangladesh and the formation of Bangladesh Air Force; they were used for air dropping army troops in Bangladesh's Tangail during the 1971 war

## OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Apart from the Rafale jets, Sukhoi 30s and MiG 29s — the fighter jets that are part of the IAF's muscular posture in the Ladakh sector, would participate in the flypast. The Apache attack helicopter and Chinook strategic heavy lift choppers, which have proved their mettle in the swift mobilisation of troops and logistics during the India-China military standoff, will also be part of the Republic Day celebrations. Further, FLIGHT LIEUTENANT



BHAWANA KANTH, one of the first women fighter pilots in the IAF, will be a part of the Republic Day parade, making her the first woman pilot to take part in the parade. She will be part of the IAF's tableau, showcasing indigenously-developed Light Combat Aircraft Tejas, Light Combat

Helicopter Rudra, Rohini radars and BrahMos. In addition to the 42 aircraft, there will be four Army Aviation helicopters taking part in the parade. For the first time since its inception, the Republic Day parade at the historic Rajpath will culmi-

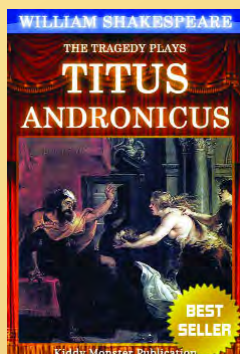
nate at the National Stadium instead of Red Fort; the number of spectators have also been reduced drastically to 25,000. Also, the Republic Day celebration this year is going to be a low key affair, with no chief guest





## 1. TITUS ANDRONICUS

**SOURCE:** 'Titus Andronicus' by William Shakespeare  
**NEW JERSEY PUNKS** Titus Andronicus take their name from the greatest wordsmith of them all, William Shakespeare. Titus Andronicus is thought to be the famous playwright's first ever tragedy. It is also his bloodiest and most violent work.

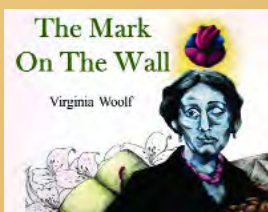


## 2. THE DOORS

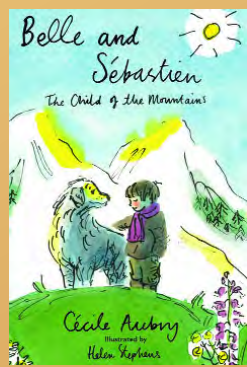
**SOURCE:** 'The Doors of Perception' by Aldous Huxley  
**WHEN THE DOORS** formed in 1965, they decided to name themselves after Aldous Huxley's book detailing the author's experiences with life. The Doors of Perception's title was inspired by a William Blake quotation: "If the doors of perception were cleansed everything would appear to man as it is, infinite."

## 3. MODEST MOUSE

**SOURCE:** 'The Mark on the Wall' by Virginia Woolf  
**INDIE-ROCK OUTFIT MODEST** Mouse derived their name from a passage in Virginia Woolf's 'The Mark on the Wall,' which reads "I wish I could hit upon a pleasant track of thought, a track indirectly reflecting credit upon myself, for those are the pleasantest thoughts, and very frequent even in the minds of modest, mouse-coloured people, who believe genuinely that they dislike to hear their own praises. I chose the name when I was fifteen," front-man Issac Brock explains in Modest.



## 4. BELLE AND SEBASTIAN



**SOURCE:** 'Belle et Sébastien' by Cécile Aubry  
**BELLE ET SÉBASTIEN** was a famous French novel about a boy and his dog living in a small French Alps mountain village. It spawned a French live-action television series in the 1965, a Japanese anime series in the '80s and the name of a popular indie-pop group in the '90s.

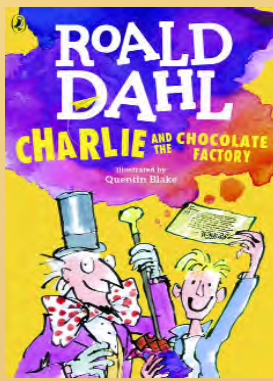
## 5. ESBEN AND THE WITCH

**SOURCE:** 'Esben and the Witch - Danish Fairy Tale' **THREE PIECE INDIE-ROCK** band from Brighton, England Esben and the Witch takes its name from the Danish fairy tale about a boy's encounters with a murderous witch. The name is fitting considering the dark tone of the band's music.



## 6. VERUCA SALT

**SOURCE:** 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl  
**IN ROALD DAHL'S** classic children's book, Veruca Salt is a spoiled rich girl, whose bratty greed causes her to fall down an incinerator shaft. In 1993, Louise Post and Nina Gordon used the name for their alternative rock band.



## 7. ORYX AND CRAKE

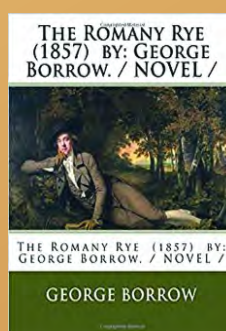
**SOURCE:** 'Oryx and Crake' by Margaret Atwood  
**NAMED AFTER MARGARET** Atwood's post-apocalyptic speculative fiction novel, Atlanta's Oryx and Crake "offer lyrics that are influenced by both real life stories and overly active imaginations, and music that juxtaposes sounds of the past, present and future."

# BAND NAMES INSPIRED BY LITERATURE

SOMETIMES MUSICIANS REACH FOR INSPIRATION FROM THEIR BOOKSHELVES. HERE ARE 10 BANDS NAMED AFTER CLASSIC LITERATURE. THE WORKS THAT INSPIRED SEVERAL OF THE ENTRIES ARE PROBABLY OBVIOUS, BUT A FEW OF THEM WILL MOST CERTAINLY SURPRISE YOU...

## 8. THE ROMANY RYE

**SOURCE:** 'The Romany Rye' by George Borrow  
**GEORGE BORROW'S THE** Romany Rye tells the story of a learned young man who is thrown in with a band of Gypsies. Luke MacMaster's was inspired to use the name his folk-rock project after falling in love with the protagonist, who gives up his money for life on the road. The name translates from the Romany language to mean "The Gypsy Gentleman."



## 9. THE FALL

**SOURCE:** 'The Fall' by Albert Camus  
**CAMUS' PHILOSOPHICAL NOVEL** focuses on themes such as innocence, imprisonment, non-existence, truth and man's fall from grace, as presented by the novel's protagonist Jean-Baptiste Clamence. The Fall bassist Tony Freil came up with the name when the post-punk band formed in 1976.

## 10. THE BOO RADLEYS

**SOURCE:** 'To Kill A Mockingbird' by Harper Lee  
**ENGLISH ALTERNATIVE-ROCK** band The Boo Radleys named themselves after a character in Harper Lee's only book, the masterpiece 'To Kill A Mockingbird'. In the novel, Boo Radley is a quiet, reclusive character who watches over most of the events of the story from the outside until he is forced to intervene.



# Ready to eat 'Blue Rice'?

While Blue Rice is not new to Asian cuisine, it is the striking colour that has made people sit up and take notice of the dish lately. Recently, actor Jacqueline Fernandez was seen enjoying blue rice with her friends. Blue Rice, also known as 'Nasi Kerabu', is prepared using butterfly pea flower and is eaten in Malaysia and Thailand. Though mixologists across the country have previously used butterfly pea flowers to impart blue or purple colour to drinks, it is only recently that blue rice has been introduced in restaurants of the country. Tarun Sibal, a chef who serves Blue Rice at his eatery, shares:

Butterfly pea flower is packed with antioxidants and is said to detoxify your body. It is great for your skin too

## HOW TO PREPARE

Take a cup of rice and cook it like you prepare regular white rice. To the water add a handful of butterfly pea flowers. "You will need a lot of blue pea flowers (8-10) so that the rice gets the rich blue colour," says Sibal.

## PAIR IT BEST WITH

Blue rice tastes well with all kinds of curries. "Since it is a fragrant rice, personally, I prefer to pair it with Asian flavours. So, an Asian curry with mild flavour is definitely a good choice," adds Sibal.

TNN



NEWBIE

## CLEAN BEAUTY

More and more brands are putting conscious effort into developing products that are free of artificial ingredients, fragrances and chemical additives. K-beauty products will be even more gentle with effective plant-based ingredients. Many brands are even becoming vegan now. Consumers have become more aware of what they put on their skin and they should rightly do that too.

## AT-HOME INDULGENCES

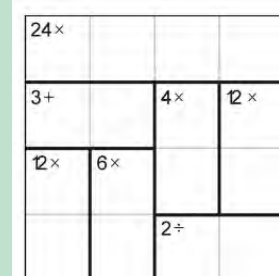
Skincare's functional element is to work and deliver results. But people are now going to focus on at-home beauty treatments that provide meditative, soothing and spa-like moments. The kind of treatments that can transport you mentally and emotionally to another headspace.

## BODY-CARE BOOST

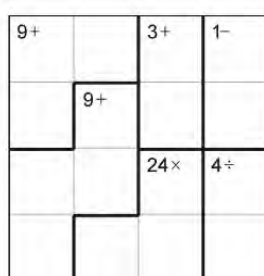
Several body-care routines originated from the bathhouse culture in Korea, where milk treatments are slathered on the face and body. Baths are steeped with skin-beneficial ingredients like probiotics and green tea. Personal self-care has now taken on new importance for many people ever since the quarantine period. So this year, you can expect to see people including all of the skin, from head to toe. TNN



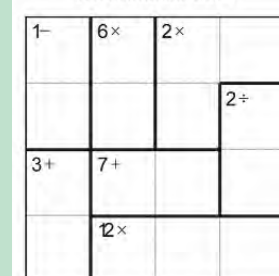
## MATHDUKO



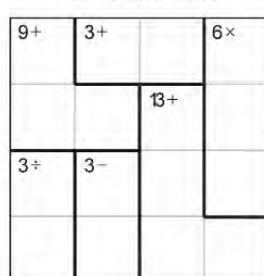
0404 MATHDUKU EASY 1



0404 MATHDUKU EASY 2



0404 MATHDUKU EASY 3



0404 MATHDUKU EASY 4

## PLAY TIME (SIMPLY FRACTIONS ZOMBIE BOARD GAME)

## RULES OF THE GAME

The zombie board game is a fun game for educators. There are traps, pitfalls and escapes in this game. It is called zombie board game because the zombie represents the biggest single threat to the players. Landing on a zombie space sends a player back to start.

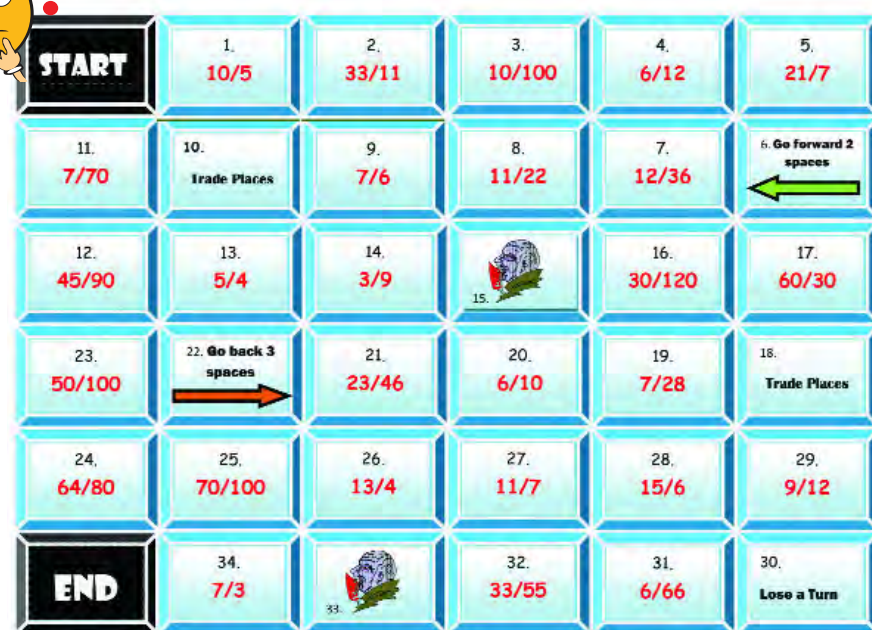
1. Roll the dice and count ahead according to the number that shows up.
2. When a player lands on a space, the player simplifies the fraction on the space within a determined time and says the answer.
3. The instructions on the other spaces are pretty straightforward.
4. Lose a turn: the player loses a turn to play.
5. Go forward. 6. Go backward.
7. The zombie is the space no one wants to land on. It is a killer. Landing on the zombie sends the

player back to start. Restarting is no fun when your opponent is advancing.

8. Trade places: this can be good or bad. The player who lands on this space swaps with the opponent. Trading places with an opponent who is ahead in the game is good. Trading places with an opponent who is behind is no fun.

9. Finally the last pitfall is towards the end of the game. To finish the game, the player must get the exact number on the dice to end. If the player has more, the player has to count forward and backwards. For example if a player is at space 31, the player needs to roll and get 4 to finish. If the player has 6 for example, the player counts forward to 4 and 2 backwards to space 33.

10. To customise this game, change text here in the space boxes by putting in your own words. Equally you can add small clip arts for lower levels.





## BOOK: THE FAMOUS FIVE SERIES BY ENID BLYTON

The Famous Five, a book series written by Enid Blyton, one of the most popular children's authors in the world, is mind blowing. This series consists of 21 books, of which I have read twelve books so far. It is based on the adventures of Julian, Dick, Anne, George and of course Timmy, the dog, The Famous Five! They are thirsty for adventures and attract them, even though they don't know it. If you find the Famous Five, you can find the most extraordinary adventures.

It is a wonderful, adventurous and mysterious series and also one of the best works of Enid Blyton.

I strongly recommend this book series and it is a must-read according to me.

**ISHAN SEJUSH**, class V, The Global Edge School, Kokapet



# BIG SALUTE TO THE INDIAN ARMY

The Indian Army reminds us of the strong, disciplined, courageous and brave men and women who are ready to sacrifice their lives for the love of our country. The Indian Army Day is celebrated every year on January 15 in recognition of the first commander in chief of the Indian Army, Field Marshal General KM Cariappa.

A special assembly was organised to remember the bravehearts who made the supreme sacrifice in service of the nation. The event was hosted by the staff and students of Pallavi International School, Gandipet.

Mustafa and Prarthana were the hosts of the assembly. The occasion was graced by Principal Meetali Archit and chief guest Pranshanth

Michael, president of Rangeen Yuva Sena, a physical trainer and a cadet of NCC.

Students spoke about the Indian Army, poems, dances and songs were presented to salute the soldiers. Role plays of unsung heroes and life of a soldier on border were the highlights of the assembly. Meetali Archit welcomed the gathering and motivated the students to lead a disciplined life like the Army personnel. This was followed by an inspirational speech by the chief guest. "It's our moral duty to respect and love our Indian Army. We should be thankful for everything they do for us," said Pranshanth.

A video on the Indian Army was screened. The assembly concluded with Harisa appealing to the students to support the forces by volunteering, donating, taking care of military pets and inviting soldiers for meals.

**Pallavi Model School**  
**Bowenpally**



Indian soldiers are role models for the people of India. To salute the Indian Army, the students from class XI of Pallavi Model School, Bowenpally organised a special assembly. They paid tribute to the indomitable guardians of our frontiers on Army Day. It was celebrated with fervour and pride through the virtual platform.

Speaking in the assembly, the students pointed out that Army Day is celebrated in recognition of Field Marshal Kodandera M Cariappa's (then a Lieutenant General) taking over as the first Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army from General Sir Francis Butcher, the last British Commander-in-Chief of India, on January 15, 1949. This day is celebrated in the form of parades and other military shows

in the national capital of New Delhi as well as in all headquarters.

It marks a day to salute the valiant soldiers who sacrificed their lives to protect the country and its citizens. The brave soldiers of the Indian Army are always ready to fight against all odds at the borders as well as during natural disasters. They courageously face all the challenges and difficulties that come their way to save the nation and its people. The students concluded their assembly with the quote 'Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it, it flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it'.

## WEEKEND PLAN

### Doing all the things I love!

The online classes for hours have got me bored. Besides that, the home work..... Uhhhhhhhh. Next weekend for me is to get busy in activities I love to do.

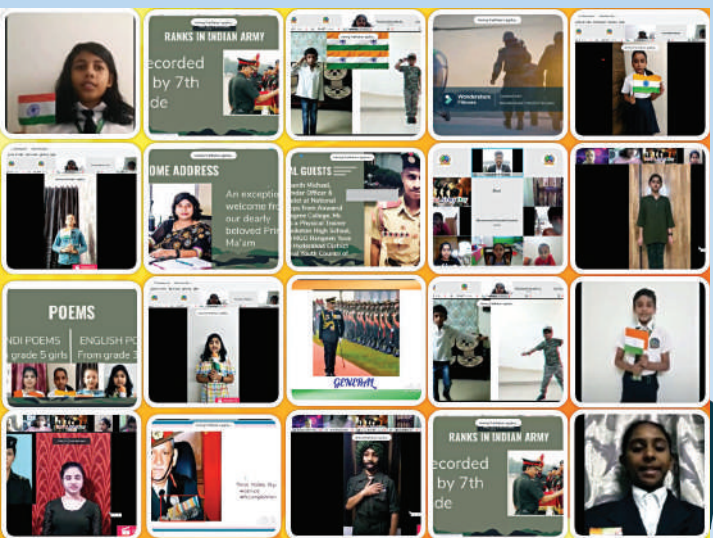
I am planning to wake up early to catch up with the Husky, a snow-white coloured dog with a black hue over its eyebrows playing on the streets. I love watching and playing with it. I guess the Husky feels like I am its master.

I have been postponing watching the movie Johnny English:

Strikes Again for many days. I can't wait any further. Rowan Atkinson's hilarious acting makes my tummy hurt because of laughing non-stop from the beginning to the end of the movie!

The other thing that I would love to do is to play the piano. I have just started learning to play it and am thinking of trying new tunes.

**RAYAN YERRAMNENI**, class VI, Bharathiya Vidya Bhavans Public School, Jubilee Hills



## ALL ABOUT BOOKS



**Gitanjali Devashray School**  
**Hyderabad**

The journey of a lifetime begins with the turning of a page. Book Talk, a book review competition was held for the students from classes IV to VI at Gitanjali Devashray School. It was an initiative to inculcate a life-long reading habit in children. Reading is an essential aspect of learning. In students, it helps to build vocabulary and fluency which result in their linguistic development.

With heady enthusiasm, the young readers appraised books of varied genres. Some of the students reviewed classics like Tom Sawyer and Matilda, while others chose to articulate on contemporary works such as The Magic Finger and Frozen. Roald Dahl

was a hot favourite.

The literary works of Indian authors like Rabindranath Tagore's Kabuliwala and Sudha Murthy's, The Old Man and His God were also featured prominently.

The event was judged by senior English teacher Madhurya Bandyopadhyay.

Aanya and Keertana of class IV, Arya Shah and Akshara P of class V and Ronak and Saanvi of class VI won the first and second position in their respective classes. It was a memorable experience that reinforced the joy of reading.

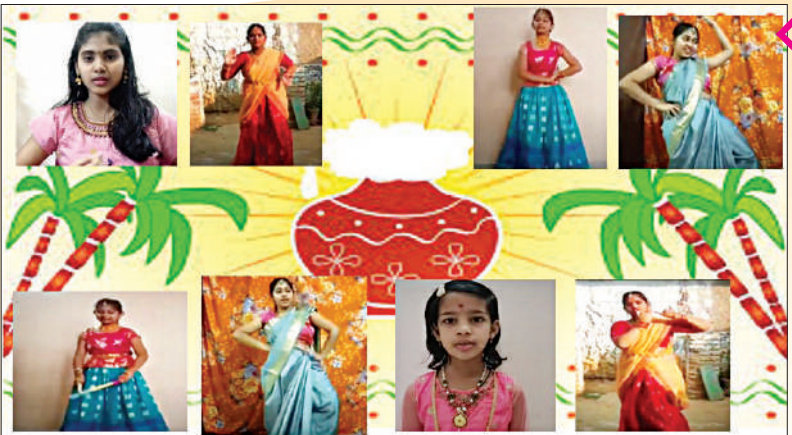
## YOUTH

The time of life, When we all,  
Stutter to speak our heart.  
We all compare ourselves,  
To others thinking they are perfect.  
We become so vulnerable, That a  
giggle heard,  
While we are speaking,  
Will haunts us until we are finally confident.  
So at this time, May all who surround the youth,  
Try not to compare or judge,  
Instead be open to let them,  
Learn from their own mistakes.

**PETRINA**, class XI, Pallavi Model School, Alwal

## WE ARE THE YOUTH

We are the Youth  
And we want to become Nation's breath  
  
We want to build our Nation  
with our imagination  
  
With our Power  
We want to make our nation the proudest tower  
  
We want to build our Society  
and lead it with humanity  
  
O Nation our India, We are the Youth  
  
**AVANIKA PATHAK**, class VII H,  
Delhi Public School, Nadergul, Hyderabad



Makar Sankranti is dedicated to the sun god Surya and marks the first day of the sun's transit into Makara (Capricorn) raashi (zodiac). It also marks the sun's northward journey and is called Uttarayan for this reason. At Pallavi Aware International School, the festival was celebrated with pomp and splendour where children showed their art and craft skills, dance and song.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, usual festivities

**Pallavi Aware International School**  
**Saroor Nagar Campus**

and celebrations, like kite flying, taking dips in holy rivers were restricted, however one can always celebrate while practising social distancing, wearing masks and sending virtual wishes and messages to your loved ones.

# FESTIVITY IN THE AIR

**Delhi Public School**  
**Mahendra Hills**



Delhi Public School, Mahendra Hills (feeder school of DPS Nacharam) celebrated the festival of Makar Sankranti with great joy. An online special assembly was organised for students to celebrate the harvest festival together. The programme began with the recitation of a sloka and lighting of the lamp.

The significance of the four days, Bhogi, Makara Sankranti, Kanuma, and Mukkanuma was explained by students. Various cultural programmes depicted the significance of Sankranti, Gobbiyallu, Basavanna, Haridasu, Muthyala Muggullo. Students took an active part in rangoli, pot decoration, kite making, flower arrangement competitions. Principal Sunitha Rao's message on the harvest festival made the young minds express their gratitude to farmers who never stopped working on the fields even during these hard times. Headmistress Neetu Gupta Puri explained to the students about the essence of the festival and the importance of celebrating it with great zeal and vigour.

*'The greatness of a culture can be found in its festivals.'*

**Delhi School of Excellence**  
**Attapur**

The students from class I and II of Delhi School of Excellence, Attapur organised a virtual Sankranti celebration. Various activities were planned on the festive occasion such as kite making, drawing on kites, designing Sankranti rangoli and so on. Students enthusiastically took part in the various art and craft activities. The celebrations marked a colourful beginning of the year 2021, bidding adieu to the winter and welcoming the summer.



As part of the Indian tradition, Hindus celebrate many festivals in special ways every year. Makar Sankranti, also known as Pongal, is one among such festivals which stands as a true exemplar of Indian culture and heritage. Delhi Public School, Nadergul, celebrated this ethnic festival with great joy and fervour.

Students made this day special by taking part in various activities conveying the importance of the festival on the virtual platform.

The programme started with a virtual welcome dance by Charuvarshini of class X.

Children then spoke

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

about this festival and shared their knowledge about the history and prominence of the harvest festival with the audience.

The people in South be-

lieve that Haridasu, a person who goes from house to house singing songs on Sankranti brings new auspicious beginning in their lives. Few boys of classes VII and VIII disguised themselves as Haridasu and attracted everyone with their melodious rendition of songs.

This spring festival is also popularly known as Kite festival. Boys from classes V and VI were overwhelmed to share and showcase their techniques of flying kites with the spectators.

The celebrations concluded with a vote of thanks by the Telugu department who took the initiative and made the programme a grand success besides making it knowledgeable.





# KNOW YOUR HEROES

We present you back stories of the magnificent bunch which gave Indian cricket 'a win to remember' for ages to come

## CHETESHWAR PUJARA

The man from Rajkot is not very expressive but has dealt with adversity because of a strong mental make-up largely due to his coach and father Arvind Pujara. He lost his mother while playing junior cricket but never wavered from his goal despite the tragedy. Those hits on the body and knuckles in Brisbane on Tuesday will be the medals he would like to wear all his life.

## MOHAMMED SIRAJ

Son of an auto-rickshaw driver from Hyderabad. He lost his father during the tour but decided to stay for the team and miss the last rites. He got a maiden five for in his debut series and was all choked up while dedicating the feat to the memory of his father. The youngster handled racist abuse from Australian fans with the same resolve.

## AJINKYA RAHANE (CAPTAIN)

The everyday man on that Mumbai local train travelling from Mulund to Azad and Cross Maidan. Rahane is someone who had a black belt in karate as a teenager, and honed his skills under former India batsman Praveen Amre. Did you know that Rahane's first ever first-class match was in Pakistan and not India? It was in Karachi where Quaid-e-Azam champions Karachi Urbans met Ranji Trophy champions Mumbai.



Photo: AFP

## THANGARASU NATARAJAN



Photo: AP

From the remote village of Chinnappampatti in Tamil Nadu, the son of a daily wage labourer at one point in time couldn't buy bowling spikes. And then IPL riches came along but he never forgot his roots. He has built a cricket academy in his native place and helps talented but needy cricketers. His child was born during the IPL but he will now get to see him for the first time in next few days and live to tell a tale.

## SHUBMAN GILL



Photo: AP

The heir apparent of Virat Kohli was born in a Punjab village called Fazilka to an affluent farmer family. His grandfather had prepared a pitch in the farming field for his dearest grandson before his father decided to shift to Mohali so that his son's cricketing ambitions got wings. He was a member of the India U-19 World Cup team. Recently, on his Instagram account, he had voiced his support for ongoing farmers' protest.

## SHARDUL THAKUR



Photo: Getty Images

He comes from Palghar and as a 13-year-old had hit six sixes for his school Vivekananda International Borivali in a Harris Shield Match. Who is the most celebrated alumni of Vivekananda International? India's white ball legend Rohit Sharma. Both Shardul and Rohit have had the same childhood coach - Dinesh Lad, whose son Siddharth also plays for Mumbai.

## NAVDEEP SAINI



Photo: Getty Images

Son of a bus driver from Karnal, he used to play tennis ball matches for ₹1000. Delhi first-class player Sumit Narwal brought him for the Ranji Trophy nets where then captain Gautam Gambhir picked him for tournament-proper. It was met with stiff resistance from none other than Bishan Singh Bedi who protested that a player outside Delhi domicile was being picked. This led to Gambhir putting his foot down and he never misses an opportunity to remind the detractors what Saini seemed capable of even at that time.

## RISHABH PANT



Photo: Getty Images

Rourkee has always been known for its finest engineering college, now an IIT but this is also the hometown of Rishabh Pant, son of school owner parents. There was a time that on occasions a young Pant, accompanied by his mother would reach Delhi in wee hours of morning on weekends to attend training at the famed Sonnet Club and before the crack of dawn rest at the Gurdwara before heading to the ground. He played an IPL game days after his father Rajendra's sudden demise.

## WASHINGTON SUNDAR



Photo: AFP

The name Washington was his father's tribute to his own mentor PD Washington, who had funded his studies and kits when he was young and faced financial hardships. A month after PD Washington's death, his own son was born and he named him Washington Sundar. He was an opening batsman back in 2016 during U-19 days. But his talent as an off-break bowler came to fore when Rahul Dravid and Paras Mhambrey told him to focus on his bowling in order to make the next grade. But batting remains his first love and India now has a ready replacement of Ravichandran Ashwin as and when required.

Mitchell Starc, who is arguably one of the best fast bowlers in the world, has not had a great Test series



Photo: AFP

## 'How India's A team won series?'

A "shocked former captain Ricky Ponting finds it difficult to comprehend how an 'A team' from India beat Australia in the Test series in their own backyard but admitted that the visitors deserved the win. An injury-ravaged India beat Australia by three wickets in the series-deciding fourth Test at the Gabba, a month after the Adelaide debacle where they scored their lowest Test score of 36

### 'THEY'RE PLAYING NET BOWLERS IN TEST MATCHES AND THEY'RE STILL WINNING'

- I'm quite shocked that Australia weren't quite good enough to win this series. The cold hard facts of it are pretty much that was the India A team that played this Test match and (India) still won.
- Considering everything the Indian team has been through in the last five or six weeks, with the captain leav-

ing, all the injuries they've had - they've been through 20 players - (Australia) have been at full-strength, bar Davey (Warner) missing early on, so it's really hard to comprehend.

- It's probably not even (India's) second-picked team because you think of Bhuvneshwar Kumar and

Ishant Sharma and those guys who didn't even make it out here. Rohit Sharma turned up for the last two Test matches only.

- Washington Sundar looked like he had played 50 Test matches through the course of this game and never looked out of place. Shardul Thakur was the same in his

second Test match, picked up seven wickets and scored 60-odd handy runs in the first innings.

- I've been around the IPL a long time so I know the talent that they do have in India, but when you've got to step up on a big stage in a Test match against Australia it's a different story.

- We gave Australia the benefit of doubt the last time India were here because Warner and (Steve) Smith weren't there. But this time, Australia's at full strength and India are on the bones of their squad - they're playing net bowlers in Test matches and they're still winning. That's the worry for Australia.