



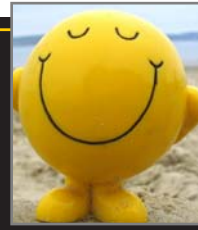
THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S
EDITION**

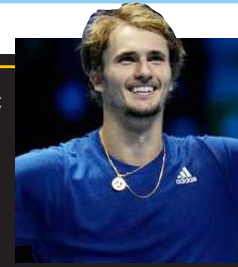
➤ Did you know used noodles and biscuit packets can be utilised in many interesting ways?

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➤ From friendship to inner beauty, peace of mind to contentment, we tell you how money can't buy happiness

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➤ Zverev denies Djokovic another chance to earn a big title

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STUDENT EDITION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021



Children present charter of demands to MPs for safe reopening of schools



A group of children presented a charter of demands to parliamentarians on Saturday on the occasion of **WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY** for reopening schools safely and bridging the digital divide. The Parliamentarians' Group for Children (PGC) convened a

With safe reopening of schools across the country after more than a year, the children's charter of demands focuses attention on safe school reopening as well as equitable access to online learning, reducing the size of the syllabus and prioritising vaccination for children.

virtual 'Children's Parliament' in the presence of 35 Members of Parliament. Representing 1,500 children from 16 states, 14 children shared their experiences in learning loss, and the challenges they faced because of prolonged school closure through the pandemic. Children and young people presented a nine-point charter of demands to the parliamentarians, urging them to take actions to support their learning recovery.

According to UNICEF's rapid assessment conducted in six states in 2020 – Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Gujarat, and Uttar Pradesh – 76% of parents of children in the 5-13 years age group, and 80% of adolescents aged between 14 and 18, reported less learning compared to when they were in school

BOOK

Donald Trump's photo-book 'Our Journey Together' set to launch next month



Donald Trump's first post-White House book will be, like so much else about him—a departure from other former presidents. Trump is publishing a hardcover collection of hundreds of photographs from his administration, featuring his own captions, some handwritten. 'Our Journey Together' is scheduled for December 7.

'Our Journey Together' features unforgettable moments from our time in Washington: building the Southern Border Wall; cutting America's taxes; confirming almost 300 federal judges and 3 Supreme Court justices; rebuilding our military; creating Space Force; dealing with Kim Jong-Un, President Xi, President Putin, and many other world leaders, the former president said in a statement

THE LA NINA EFFECT BRACE FOR A SEVERE WINTER THIS YEAR

With chill setting in most parts of the country, experts have warned of a severe winter this year. While climate change has been playing havoc unleashing extreme weather events, the prediction of temperatures likely to fall to as low as three degrees Celsius in northern parts of the country in January and February is due to the La Niña effect, they add.



WHAT IS LA NIÑA

La Nina is the periodic cooling of parts of the Pacific, affecting weather patterns worldwide. When weather conditions are normal in the Pacific Ocean, the winds guiding the ocean currents, or trade winds, blow west along the equator. This takes the warm water from South America towards Asia. To replace that warm water, cold water rises from the depths of the Ocean.

HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM EL NINO

El Niño and La Nina are two opposing climate patterns that break the normal weather conditions. El Nino weakens the trade winds, pushing the warmer currents back east, toward the west coast of the Americas. This leads to an above-normal ocean temperature

in a large area along the equator. The heat from the ocean goes out into the atmosphere, leading to warmer air temperatures in the Pacific and subsequently, to warmer global air temperatures. La Niña creates an opposite climate pattern. The heat from the ocean 'comes in' into the atmosphere, leading to colder air temperatures in the Pacific and consequently colder global air temperatures.

HOW LA NINA WILL AFFECT INDIA

1 The latest forecast and weather observations indicate that north India is likely to shiver, with mercury dipping under three degrees Celsius this winter. The weather phenomenon has already led to unexpected heavy rains in October, causing a dip in the normal temperatures in parts of north India

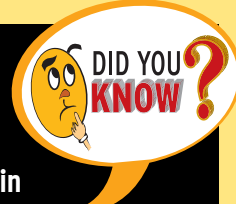
2 The effects have already started showing. The Dhauladhar mountain ranges in the lesser Himalayan chain received heavy snowfall three weeks ago, sending cold winds inwards. Around the same time, there was snowfall in Gulmarg, Sonamarg, Pahalgam, Shopian and Gurez areas of the Kashmir valley. Minamarg and Drass in Ladakh also witnessed snowfall

3 La Nina and a cooler-than-normal and extended winter could also lead to a short, intense summer and heatwaves all across India before the monsoon sets in

4 Moreover, if the winter La Nina event is followed by an El Nino event, the rainfall may go down by up to 15 per cent

■ El Nino means 'a boy' and La Nina means 'a girl' in Spanish. The two events occur every two to seven years. In normal conditions, El Nino occurs more frequently than La Nina

■ Previous La Nina events had occurred during the winter of 2020-2021 and 2017-2018, and an El Nino developed in 2018-2019



SWACHH BHARAT

Indore cleanest city of India

Indore was adjudged India's cleanest city for the fifth time in a row in the Central government's annual cleanliness survey, the results of which were announced on Saturday.

■ The second and third positions in the 'cleanest city' category of the 'Swachh Survekshan Awards, 2021' were secured by Surat and Vijayawada, respectively.

■ Varanasi has been the adjudged the 'cleanest Ganga town' in the survey announced by the Union housing and urban affairs ministry.

■ Chhattisgarh has been adjudged India's cleanest state.



SC JUNKS PLEA SEEKING HYBRID CBSE, ICSE EXAMS

The Supreme Court has said that the ongoing exam process cannot be suddenly made online, which may result in rescheduling the examination, as it junked a plea by a group of students seeking directions to conduct term exams for classes X and XII for the CBSE and ICSE boards via hybrid mode, rather than physical. A bench told the petitioners' counsel: "Don't mess up with the education system. Let the authorities continue their work..." The bench noted that if the court were to interfere at this stage, it may lead to practical difficulties, as the exams have already commenced.

EDUCATION

'Dynamite', BTS's 1st English-language track, crosses 1.3 bn YouTube views



'Dynamite', the music video for K-pop superband BTS, has crossed 1.3 billion views on YouTube. The video for the megahit single was released in 2020 and it reached the milestone late on Friday night.

- It became the seven-member group's third music video to hit 1.3 billion YouTube views after 'DNA' and 'Boy with Luv'
- BTS has a library of 35 music videos with more than 100 million views on the global music sharing site
- 'Dynamite' is the group's first English-language song. It made BTS the first Korean act to debut at No 1 on the 'Billboard Hot 100' main singles chart in 2020 and earned the group its first Grammy nomination


MUSIC


WHEN HARRIS MADE HISTORY

US vice president Kamala Harris has made history as the first woman to be the head of state of the most powerful nation – even if it was only for 85 minutes while President Joe Biden was incapacitated temporarily for a medical procedure. The transfer of power to vice president Harris took place on Friday at 10.10 am and reverted to Biden at 11.35 am, when he recovered from anaesthesia after a colonoscopy.

1 This was the first time in the 245-year history of the US that woman had held the presidency

2 Harris is the first woman to be the nation's vice president, a step away from the presidency. The constitutional right under the 25th amendment allows her to function as president when the head of state is incapacitated

3 During the 85 minutes Harris was acting president and the commander-in-chief of the US military, she had control of the world's biggest nuclear arsenal

DOCTOR SPEAK

STAY SAFE FROM NASAL ALLERGIES

IN THE TIME OF AIR POLLUTION

The high AQI (Air Quality Index) in north Indian cities and in other places too like Mumbai is bad news for those with allergy issues such as sinus, allergic rhinitis and hay fever (all characterised by runny nose, itchy eyes, continuous sneezing and fatigue). While respiratory ailments like asthma and bronchitis are well-known problems, allergy issues get less press but are temporarily as debilitating and troublesome as it affects daily functioning and quality of life. Check these tips by **Dr Rajeev Nangia, ENT specialist and Sinus endoscopic surgeon, Apollo Spectra Hospital, Delhi**, to help nasal and respiratory allergy affected people sail through bad air and season change days

MUST DO FOR THOSE PRONE TO ALLERGIES

- Do consult your ENT specialist doctor in the changing season if you are facing more problems than usual. They will prescribe medication for the same that is many times important to deal with the problem. Just sipping warm turmeric water cannot help beyond a point.
- Avoid visiting dusty places and molds in the house. Do clean these irritants regularly.
- Maintain a safe distance from sick people.
- Wash your hands often as viruses can live longer on door-knobs and other surfaces.
- Keep yourself well hydrated in order to keep your throat well lubricated. If you get dehydrated, then the mucus will be too thick, and the irritants will not be cleared. Instead, it tends to get stuck in the sinuses, leading to congestion and possibly infection from bacterial growth.
- Avoid stress, harsh fume-fragrances, incense sticks and heavily perfumed candles.
- Rest enough and aim for eight hours of restful sleep.
- Opt for a humidifier at home. Even going for a hot shower can help you get that much-needed relief from sinus pain.
- Keep the windows closed and avoid dust, pollen and pollution that can aggravate sinus problems.
- Stick to a well-balanced diet, and exercise on a daily basis to boost immunity and keep allergies and infections at bay.
- Steam helps relieve congestion by loosening one's mucus. Take it every day as suggested by the doctor.
- Wash your linen properly and maintain good personal hygiene.
- Change your clothes without fail after coming from outside.



If the sinus infection lasts for more than two weeks with severe headaches and swelling you should immediately approach the doctor for immediate treatment. Do not self-medicate



Avoid going out during peak polluted hours like early morning and evening. And whenever you go out, wear a mask (besides Covid-19 being still around), a mask stops allergens like particulate matter (PM) and other pollutants from entering your nose and mouth



FOODS TO EAT

There are certain foods that help in treating congestion in the nasal passage and reducing irritation induced by allergies. Try the following to stay healthy

HEALING HERBS

Garlic helps remove mucus and clears the sinuses. Ginger can help in killing fungi and bacteria and gives your immune system a much-needed boost.

PEPPER IS GOOD

Red and green peppers, whole grains, kale, parsley, and broccoli can help you manage sinus symptoms.

GO FOR VITAMINS

Vitamin A is essential to keep your mucous membranes healthy; good sources are carrots, sweet potatoes. Vitamin E, on the other hand, is helpful in preventing allergies and sinusitis. Nuts and seeds like walnuts, sunflower seeds, almonds and raisins are rich in vitamin E.

HONEY WORKS

Honey (buy good quality organic honey as commercial varieties are loaded with extra sugar) has antibacterial properties and can be helpful in killing bacteria causing allergies and infections.



HAVE PINEAPPLE

This tangy and tasty fruit is dense in antioxidants and protects the mucus membranes from damage and inflammation.



INCLUDE CITRUS FOODS

Foods rich in vitamin C like kiwi, spinach, berries and pumpkin are loaded with antioxidants and are helpful in strengthening the immune system.



Fun ways to reuse noodles & biscuit packets

Got a couple of well-lined nice packets lying around after you have used the noodles or other food items? Don't throw them. You can use this waste to make interesting things for your home. Here are some easy-to-do ideas

A BIRD FEEDER

Fold the pack inwards until it is low enough for birds to reach inside. Keep some seeds or grains in one and some fresh water in the other. Place these in the balcony or window sill.



USE AS A POT

Poke a few holes at the bottom for excess water to drain. Fill it with some soil, sow some coriander/basil/methi seeds and start growing your own kitchen herbs.

PEN STAND

You can hang the packet in your room and use it to store pens and other stationery material like paint brushes and pencils.

A HANDY BAG

Use it to keep knick knacks like hair bands, clips, beads, earrings, etc. You can also keep the packet in your bag to store things neatly so that you don't have to spend much time rummaging through the bag to find them.

AIR TIGHT BAG TO STORE FOOD

Clean air tight bags can always be utilised to store dry food items like cookies, granola bars, laddoos, dry fruits, home-made namkeen and so on.

SPILL PROOF TRAVEL PACK

Keep bottles of liquids like shampoos, moisturiser, body lotions and fragrances in these packets while travelling to ensure there is no leakage.

WASTE BIN

Have a few packets handy in your car and put chocolate, candy, biscuit wrappers or used tissues and even other waste material in it to avoid creating a mess on the seats.

By Priya Prakash, co-founder of a health food brand

ADD THIS TO YOUR BOOKSHELF

Here is a quick look at some of the latest releases from the world of books

RED WORLD: THE GENESIS BY UPASANA MAJUMDAR

Science fiction has long been obsessed with Mars. In the 19th century, the concept of sentient Martians became extremely popular. Giovanni Schiaparelli, an Italian astronomer, noticed channels on Mars, and Percival Lowell, a US astronomer, thought that these were canals made by ancient Martian civilisations in a desperate attempt to live on their drying, dying world. In the 'Red World', Upasana Majumdar sets up an interesting story set against the backdrop of the first Martian civilisation that navigates the deep regions of human emotions. The author imagines an innovative futuristic society featuring advanced artificial intelligence, how what happens when things don't go as planned. A fast paced adventure, this book is great for one of those lazy weekend afternoons.



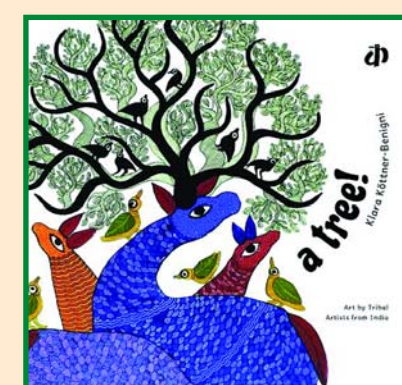
The Girl Who Talked to Trees by Natasha Farrant (Illustrated by Lydia Corry)



In this tale, Olive, a strange young woman, sets out to save her favourite oak, which is about to be cut down. The result is a magical realist series of interconnected stories in which diverse species reveal their secrets to Olive in order for her to become powerful enough to defend them all.

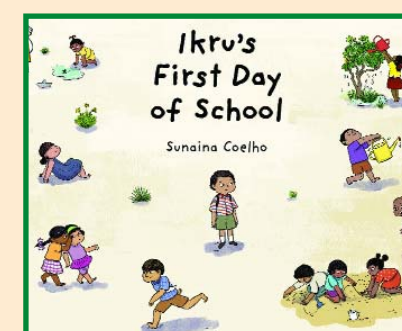
Every Leaf a Hallelujah by Ben Okri

Set against the backdrop of Africa, a young Mangoshi is on a journey to save her mother's life by harvesting a specific flower. But the forest has been wrecked, and the mission seemed hopeless until she, too, slips into a swoon and meets with a group of talking trees. Diana Ejaita's vibrant paintings reflect Mangoshi's dread as well as the trees' diverse personalities.



A Tree by Klara Köttner-Benigni

Klara Köttner-Benigni, a late Austrian writer and conservationist, wrote a modest poem about a tree that is lush and teeming with life before being cut down. From Warli and Gond to Madhubani and the uncommon Kurumba tradition, Katha Books has gathered together tribal artists from all over India to interpret Köttner-tree Benigni's in their own unique style, resulting in a book that is rich with visual detail.



Ikru's First Day of School by Sunaina Coelho

The wordless picture book by Sunaina Coelho is a graphic chronicle of the fresh experiences, fast friendships, and occasionally weird occurrences that await you on your first day of school. Coelho builds her world with effortless nuance and familiarity, constructing it as a sequence of vignettes based on real-life experiences.



THE EDUCATIONIST

COPING UP WITH THE TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY

We are 21 months into the Covid-19 pandemic which wreaked havoc across the globe. We are now gradually adjusting to the new normal and looking ahead for the old normal. Every sector is now looking at ways to cope up with the damages and find ways to begin a new normal. Most importantly, the education sector is devising plans to reconstruct the shaken structure.

There is an increasing concern that a shift to remote online learning is exacerbating inequalities. Though digital technology is a formidable tool, it must be ensured that digitisation does not undermine privacy, informational self-determination and does not hamper social and communication skills. A collaborative approach of mobilizing resources is the need of the hour.

Schools have come up with hybrid classrooms. This is a challenge for teachers and students. Attending the requirements of online as well

as offline student population needs to be taken care of. Proper network and digital support to connect to the online students, sanitation of school premise, classrooms, washrooms and adherence to the norms such as wearing a mask, social distancing, limited members in the classroom etc., for those who are reporting to school.

Various models have been adopted for sustainable alternatives to empower educational values and to attain the goal of education for all. They include blended models such as staggered timings, class-wise rotational days, 'A' and 'B' days or weeks where students would alternate between online learning and class-

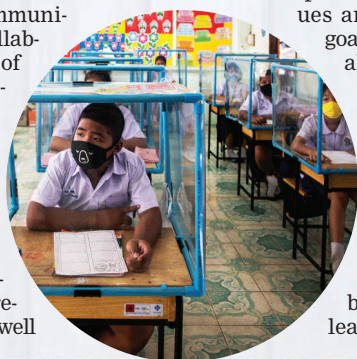


USHA KRISHNA,
Senior Wing, Pallavi
Model School,
Bowenpally

room instruction with limited students and staff. Some institutions are switching to the pattern of combined offline-online classrooms, where the student from distance mode get an opportunity to join the regular classes and get the feeling of being in normal classrooms.

Though these adaptations appear convincing, there are a few practical difficulties. It demands volunteering, and taking initiative more than in a traditional face-to-face course. The online-offline conflicts poses stress for teaching community. Supporting individualised education may not be successful.

The blended plan can be deployed depending on the circumstances. In low spread or no spread situations, it can be gradually maximised for slow and steady revert to traditional schooling. Until then, let us embrace the times of uncertainty by availing the exceptional opportunities and transforming for the best.



Celebrations galore post lockdown

The very first post Covid lockdown celebration at Sri Gurudatta High School took place, not with one but by combining all customary celebrations of this academic year, right from Guru Purnima to Investiture to Teachers' Day and Children's Day.

These celebrations served as a relief not only for the students but also the faculty from the blues of the pandemic trauma.

The students, right from class VI to class X came forward to showcase their talent and team spirit as well as

Sri Gurudatta High School
Hyderabad

skills of coordination.

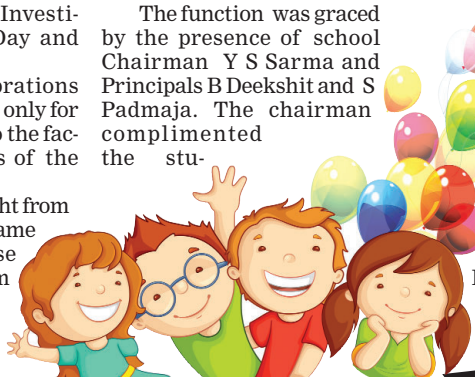
The function was graced by the presence of school Chairman Y S Sarma and Principals B Deekshit and S Padmaja. The chairman complimented the stu-

dents for taking the opportunity to have a fusion of all celebrations in one go. He explained the greatness of Sri Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and exhorted the students to read the biographies of such great personalities to imbibe their virtues.

Shaik Zulfikar Ahad and K Nishitha of class X were nominated as Head Boy and Head Girl while V Prakeerthi and B

Saketh Kumar of IX were named Assistant Head Girl and Assistant Head Boy respectively. V Anila Sangeetha of X and Y Bhamini of IX were given the posts of Cultural and Assistant Cultural Secretaries respectively. The apex body members thanked the teachers for identifying their abilities and promised to live up to their expectations.

The cultural presentations were much appreciated by all. The programme ended with the chunks of chocolates being distributed that brought big smiles on the children's faces.



Fun and laughter on Children's Day



Delhi School of Excellence, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad

cherish and appreciate each and every student. The celebrations started with a video on the significance of Children's Day.

The students enjoyed the entertaining songs, dances and quiz presented by the teachers. They could hardly contain

their excitement as the teachers' performances came as a pleasant surprise to them. The efforts and creativity of the teachers were appreciated by the parents and students alike. The celebration ended with interesting and fun-filled games for the children.

Suhair Shareef, class IX-B,
Springfields International School
Bandlaguda, Hyderabad

Every student looks forward to Children's Day celebrations in school. This year, we celebrated Children's Day on the 15th of November on the campus. Our school looked vibrant as we were permitted to wear colour dress to school and every student's face was beaming with a smile. The day began with a special assembly presented by our teachers. The teachers' dances, songs and skits got us all excited as we screamed aloud in applause. After the programme we went to our classes where we were treated to yummy snacks - juices, cakes, biscuits, chips and chocolates. Later, we had a friendly football match and each class teacher had planned different activities like Treasure Hunt, antakshari, dance and drama display to entertain us. I enjoyed myself a lot. This was the best day of my school.



Children are the hands by which we take hold of heaven. - Henry Ward Beecher

Ganges Valley School students had a gala time on Children's Day with a marvellous line-up of festivities organised by the teachers.

It certainly was a wonderful experience for the students to see their teachers take part in cultural programmes to entertain them. On the occasion, Vimla Chandersekhar, the Academic Director, talked about how childhood years are precious and how we should spend the time making memories to cherish. After her address, the primary teachers presented a dance.

The teachers put together a humorous skit depicting all comical scenarios created in class-

MahithaK, Student Editor
Ganges Valley School
Hyderabad

rooms. Then there was another dance performance by Madhan, the dance teacher, and some of the students. Later, all the teachers and students were invited to dance to popular tunes. Finally, came the much-awaited games, where teachers played a variety of sports against the students.

The students were kept immersed in joy, and they appreciated their teachers for putting up an amazing event.

Express YOURSELF

My first income!



Just a month ago I started my own clothing business. Initially, I struggled a lot, especially finding customers. But thanks to my friends and family who offered a helping hand, I could spread the word around. They readily shared the product's pictures and soon, I received my first order and my first income!

My family and friends felt very proud. I felt very independent and started working hard to grow my business. I sold several products and the feedback I got emboldened me to do better every time. I can say that nothing feels better than getting your first income which you earn with your hard work.

M MOKSHA, class VIII, Sister Nivedita School

Why does poverty still exist?

The purpose of economic planning is wealth generation and its distribution in order to close the gap between the haves and the have-nots.

Many great economists and Nobel laureates (including Amartya Sen from India) have addressed issues to eradicate poverty. The Union government, through its planning commission (Niti Aayog) has been trying hard for the same cause through its 5 year plans and yearly budgets.

Huge budgetary allocations for decades stimulated economic and industrial growth but could not meet the desired goal of total eradication of

poverty. It's a known fact that the rich are becoming richer and the poor are becoming poorer.

So, how are the allotted funds being utilised? How much is actually utilised for developmental works and to uplift the socioeconomic conditions of the poor? It is high time that people and governments focus on how to avoid misappropriation of funds and other resources.

It is heartening to find some state governments establishing food canteens for the poor, especially in cities, serving reasonably good meals at very low subsidized rates. These need to be expanded to all towns and rural areas wherever feasible.



NAISHA K,
class XII, AMS P
Obul Reddy Public
School, Hyderabad

The monk who saved many lives

At a time of crisis, the time when the world wasn't the same, a group of three brothers discovered something which people could only dream of: A CURE...

When they first started out no one believed them. They looked for the cure because their mother was suffering from that very disease. They gave a word to their mother that they would find the cure and set out on an expedition covering long distances, far away places and finally arrived at a remote mountain. They met a mysterious yogi who handed them a pouch with powder in it, smiled and disappeared. In a village nearby they had heard of the

mystery monk who treated several incurable diseases. A woman who was afflicted with a disease like their mom's was cured by taking the medicine.

Hurrying back, their enthusiasm got the better of them and they met with a car accident. Sirens were all they could hear, and finally only one brother survived. He lived to tell the tale. The promise to their mother was kept and many more lives were saved. But the question still remained: who was the mystery monk?

NANDITHA CHEETI, class VII, Global Edge School, Kokapet

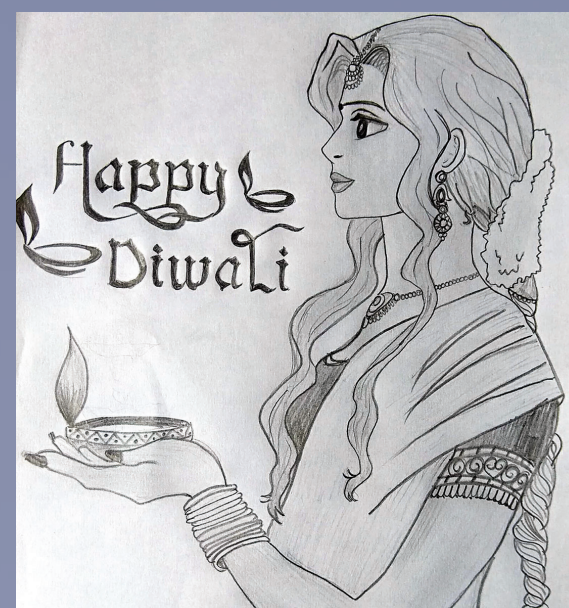
A SPRING DAY OF JOY!!

Greenery spreading lots of bloom, with veggies like Mushroom!!
When the sun's brightness spreading joy, we find the happiness while the wind goes high!
Birds chirping with lots to eat, squirrels having nuts to feast!
Eating fruits with lots of taste! Brushing in the morning with equal paste
You see the night sky with lots to ask, Your teachers give you a bug task!
We see the wet grass smells nice when we eat the food like rice!
We get so happy with a toy, and this makes a SPRING DAY OF JOY.



MANVIK MANOCHA, class IV-A, Birla Open Minds International School, Kollur

Painters' Gallery



AGLOW: ALGOLE SOWJANYA, class IX-B, Army Public School, Bolarum



MAGICAL: MADADI AKSHAYA REDDY, class VII B, P Obul Reddy Public School, Hyderabad

ZVEREV HALTS DJOKOVIC

DENIES THE SERB ANOTHER CHANCE TO MATCH FEDERER'S RECORD OF SIX TITLES

For the second time this year, Alexander Zverev has denied Novak Djokovic the chance to play for a big trophy. Following up his win over the top-ranked player in the semifinals of the Tokyo Olympics, Zverev beat Djokovic 7-6 (4), 4-6, 6-3 at the same stage of the ATP Finals. "Every time we play against each other, it's very high level," Zverev said. "This year we played each other five times. ... Every time we played for multiple hours and it was very physical."

The result means Djokovic can't match Roger Federer's record of six titles at the season-ending event for the top eight players. At least not this year. "He's the greatest player of all time and I think people forget that sometimes," Zverev said of Djokovic, who shares the record of 20 Grand Slam titles with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

Errors did him in. Djokovic committed a series of uncharacteristic baseline errors to hand Zverev the decisive break midway through the third set. Zverev then held his nerve, saving a break point, before serving a slicing ace down the T on his first match point. "I just had the one very bad game in the third set - three forehand, one backhand unforced errors, really from pretty easy position," Djokovic said.

The tone of the match, though, was set in the first set, after Zverev saved a set point at 4-5. In the first-set tiebreaker, a challenge from Zverev forced Djokovic to hit a second serve and resulted in a double fault. Then a backhand drop shot from Djokovic clipped the net and hopped over, enabling Zverev time to run it down and reply with a sharply angled forehand cross-court winner.

At 5-4 in the tiebreaker, Zverev crushed a backhand winner up the line to conclude a

long rally, then produced a big serve out wide on his first set point that Djokovic couldn't return.

In September at the US Open, Medvedev ended Djokovic's bid for a calendar-year Grand Slam by beating the Serb in the final to lift his first trophy at a major. He now beat first-time qualifier Casper Ruud 6-4, 6-2 earlier as he seeks to defend his title in the first edition of the tournament in Turin - after 12 years in London. Ruud, who also lost to Djokovic in straight sets in his opening round-robin match, said that getting beat soundly by the top two players "makes me want to seek revenge and become a better player for the next year."

The doubles final will feature Rajeev Ram and Joe Salisbury against Pierre-Hugues Herbert and Nicolas Mahut.

NON-COMMITTAL ABOUT AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Novak Djokovic said he has not yet decided whether he would compete at January's Australian Open after organisers confirmed that all players must be vaccinated against COVID-19 if they want to compete at the season's opening Grand Slam event.

"We'll see. We'll have to wait and see," world number one Djokovic told reporter. Djokovic, who has declined to say publicly if he has been vaccinated, is currently tied with Roger Federer and Rafa Nadal with 20 Grand Slam titles.

The Australian Open, which he has won nine times, is seen as a golden opportunity for him to take the lead over his rivals.

Nadal confirmed he would play at Melbourne Park in January but Federer, who like the Spaniard is also fully vaccinated, will miss the tournament as he recovers from another knee surgery.

Zverev said, "we are visiting another country. This is not about tennis. This is about the virus that is on. We need to follow the rules and follow the guidelines. I hope he's able to play." REUTERS

Alexander Zverev

Photo: AP

BARCA EDGE PAST ESPANYOL

Give Xavi debut victory as coach in LaLiga match they almost let slip

Xavi Hernandez enjoyed a win on his return to Camp Nou as Barcelona's new coach, with Memphis Depay scoring in a 1-0 victory against Espanyol.

Barcelona's attack failed to turn its huge advantage in possession into shots on goal other than Memphis Depay's second-half penalty, while its defense came apart in the final stretch. Only Espanyol's misfiring forwards stopped the Catalan derby from ending in a draw. Depay broke through for Barcelona two minutes into the second half of the Catalan derby. The Netherlands striker converted a penalty he had earned after

ATLETICO, SEVILLA ADVANCE

Atletico Madrid climbed to within two points of the top of La Liga after Felipe's 87th-minute header sealed a 1-0 victory over Osasuna. They close the gap on Sevilla, who had earlier moved into first place despite being held to a 2-2 draw by a resurgent Alaves. They go top on goal difference. AFP

a key pass by Gavi Paez.

The crowd of 74,000 chanted "Xavi! Xavi!" in the sixth minute in honor of the

number Xavi wore for 17 seasons. Xavi is back after six years playing and coaching in Qatar as the man the club hopes can restore the team to greatness.

Xavi happy

"Overall, I am happy, but it is clear that we have to improve," Xavi said. "We are building a new project and these three points in a derby gives us a boost. It was tough because they could have scored. We were in control for 60, 70 minutes, but we should have been more patient and held onto the ball. It is a question of knowing how to interpret the match." Barcelona moved into sixth place in the Spanish league, eight points behind leader Sevilla. AP

Xavi Hernandez

LIVERPOOL DISMANTLE ARSENAL

Make light work of winning streak in Premier League to end Arteta's unbeaten run

Liverpool handed Arsenal a harsh reality check by tearing through the Gunners in the second half for a 4-0 win in the Premier League.

A resurgent Arsenal side had the chance to climb above Liverpool in the stand-

ings with a win, but Juergen Klopp's side gave the visitors a reminder that there is still a big gulf in class between the teams. Liverpool's unbeaten start to the season had ended at West Ham before the international break but the Reds looked back to their best at Anfield. Arse-

nal was on a 10-match unbeaten streak. Mikel Arteta got into a heated shouting match with Klopp on the touchline when the game was still scoreless, and the incident seemed to spark both the Anfield crowd and Liverpool's players.

Running up the score

Sadio Mane scored the opener in the first half and Liverpool then dismantled Arteta's side after the break, with Diogo Jota, Mohamed Salah and substitute Takumi Minamino running up the scoreline. The win lifted Liverpool into second place, four behind Chelsea. Arsenal remained fifth. AP

Mohamed Salah

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: Which team won the T20I World Cup 2021?

- a. New Zealand
- b. Australia
- c. India
- d. England

Q2: Who among the following served as India's first Test Captain?

- a. Sunil Gavaskar
- b. Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan
- c. C. K. Nayudu
- d. Lala Amarnath

Q3: "The World Beneath His Feet" is a biography of ____

- a. Pullela Gopichand
- b. Rahul Dravid
- c. Ajit Wadekar
- d. Sachin Tendulkar

Q4: How far is the service line from the net in lawn tennis?

- a. 25 feet
- b. 19 feet
- c. 20 feet
- d. 21 feet

Q5: Which among the following is the first country to win the World Cup on home soil?

- a. Australia
- b. India
- c. England
- d. West Indies

Q6: Which year did MS Dhoni make his ODI Debut?

- a. 2000
- b. 2011
- c. 1998
- d. 2004



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Q7: Who was named as the "Supreme Champion" by WBC?

- a. Floyd Mayweather
- b. Lennox Lewis
- c. Erik Morales
- d. Tony Bellew

Q8: Which country houses the headquarters of the "International Olympic Committee"?

- a. Greece
- b. Switzerland
- c. Belgium
- d. France

Q9: Who is the first recipient of the "most valuable player

(MVP)" award of the Asian Games?

- a. Koji Ito
- b. Kosuke Kitajima
- c. Park Tae-hwan
- d. Lin Dan

Q10: Which country houses the Perth Stadium?

- a. England
- b. India
- c. New Zealand
- d. Australia

ANSWERS: 1. b. Australia 2. c. CK Nayudu
3. a. Pullela Gopichand 4. d. 21 feet
5. b. India 6. d. 2004
7. a. Floyd Mayweather 8. b. Switzerland
9. a. Koji Ito 10. d. Australia