



THE TIMES OF INDIA

www.toistudent.com
TODAY'S EDITION

➤ Shattering the walls of male-dominated apparel industry are these power puff girls. Read the journey of MasterG & daughters
PAGE 2



➤ A student from Rajkot plans a rejuvenating schedule that you can try with your family this weekend
PAGE 3



➤ Debutants rise to the occasion once again for India
PAGE 4


STUDENT EDITION

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2021


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

5 PEOPLE IN NEWS TODAY

INDIA INC BOSSES PITCH SOLUTION FOR 2ND COVID WAVE: JAB FOR ALL

The recent spike in Covid-19 cases in Maharashtra has shown that there is a price to pay for letting down one's guard. With the 'second wave' in sight, the top bosses of India Inc have said that there is only one way to combat the crisis – vaccination for all. From Sajjan Jindal and Anand Mahindra to Vijay Shekhar Sharma, these business leaders have suggested to the government to start vaccinating the youth too. "Jabs must include those aged 20-45 years. They're the real super-spreaders," they said.



JACK DORSEY'S FIRST TWEET AS NFT SOLD FOR \$2.9 MILLION

Twitter boss Jack Dorsey sold his first tweet as an NFT for just over \$2.9 million dollars recently. The tweet is in the form of a non-fungible token (NFT) – a kind of unique digital asset that has exploded in popularity so far in 2021. Each NFT has its own blockchain-based digital signature, which serves as a public ledger, allowing anyone to verify the asset's authenticity and ownership. The tweet – "just setting up my twttr" – was Dorsey's first tweet, made on March 21, 2006. The NFT was sold via auction on a platform called Valuables, owned by the US firm, Cent.



VEGAN CLOTHES FROM MUSHROOM LEATHER BY STELLA MCCARTNEY

Stella McCartney has become the first to create clothing from mushroom leather. The 49-year-old fashion designer has teamed up with Bolt Threads to use Mylo, a leathery fabric made from the root system of fungi, for a black top and utilitarian trousers.



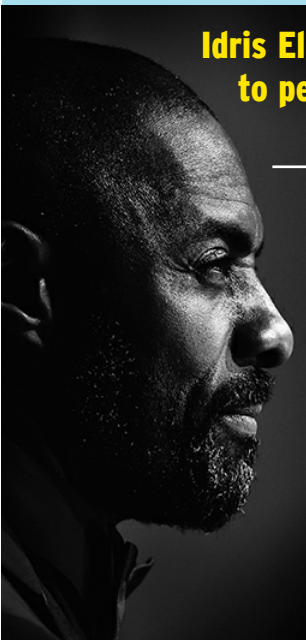
VIN DIESEL'S SON TO DEBUT IN 'FAST & FURIOUS 9'?



Actor-producer Vin Diesel's 10-year-old son, Vincent Sinclair, is set to debut in the upcoming installment of the 'Fast & Furious' film franchise. The ninth installment of the franchise, set for release in June this year, will see Vincent playing the younger version of Vin's character, Dominic Toretto.

Idris Elba inks multi-book deal to pen children's books with HarperCollins

➤ Hollywood star Idris Elba has signed a deal with publisher HarperCollins to come out with a range of children's books inspired by his daughter, Isan Elba.
➤ According to 'The Hollywood Reporter', the books are set to be launched in 2022.
➤ "I feel privileged to have the opportunity to bring stories inspired by my daughter to life with my incredible partner, Robyn Charteris, and the powerhouse team at HarperCollins," Elba recently said in a statement.



"Bitcoin uses more electricity per transaction than any other method known to mankind, and so it's not a great climate thing." – **BILL GATES**

Bitcoin: How environment will pay the premium price

At a time when companies and investors increasingly say they are focused on climate and sustainability issues, some of them may be about to collide with the reality of another financial trend, one currently worth about \$1 trillion: Bitcoin.

The cryptocurrency has become inescapable, with big companies like Tesla and individual investors alike rushing to stock up on the digital token. But depending on which study you read, the annual carbon emissions from the electricity required to mine Bitcoin and process its transactions are equal to the amount emitted by all of New Zealand or Argentina.

Bitcoin leads to carbon footprint?

To put this into perspective, one Bitcoin transaction is the "equivalent to the carbon footprint of 735,121 Visa transactions or 55,280 hours of watching YouTube," according to Digiconomist, which



1 Bitcoin transaction = carbon footprint of 735,121 Visa transactions/55,280 hrs of YouTube

created what it calls a Bitcoin Energy Consumption Index. And as Bitcoin becomes more popular, the more resources its ecosystem consumes.

How miners play a role

The miners verify transactions involving the cryptocurrency by using computers to solve increasingly complex mathematical

equations. They earn bitcoins for their work, which means that the more popular the currency becomes, the more competition there is to mine new tokens.

Contradiction among firms

Tesla – a company whose entire premise is to help reduce climate change through lower carbon emissions – has invested more than \$1.5 billion of its balance sheet in Bitcoin. How would its Bitcoin holdings affect its sustainability score?

Other firms are also considering whether to add Bitcoin to their balance sheets. Financial firms like Guggenheim Partners have already invested in Bitcoin while Bank of New York Mellon says it will start financing Bitcoin transactions.

Status symbol or a scarlet letter?

Will owning bitcoins become a status symbol – or a scarlet letter for a new generation of climate-focused investors? Are they aware of the challenges it poses? The answer is complicated.

Bitcoin supporters say that estimates of its carbon footprint are overstated. And if the computers that mine and help transact bitcoins are attached to an electric grid that uses wind and solar power, then mining and using it will become cleaner over time.

Experts believe that cryptocurrency will eventually be powered completely by clean power, eliminating its carbon footprint and driving adoption of renewables globally. However, its role in altering the environment remains as cryptic as the entity itself.



WHAT IS A BITCOIN?

Bitcoin is the original and most popular cryptocurrency, or digital coin, which started circulating in 2009. It was created by Satoshi Nakamoto, and designed to be free of central financial authorities like governments and central banks. It is "peer-to-peer", meaning it can be transferred directly between online users.

WHY IS IT CONTROVERSIAL?

As there is no central authority governing supply, bitcoin's value depends on people's confidence in it, and has mainly been used for speculation by financial traders rather than real-world commerce.

HOW DO YOU STORE/TRADE?

Bitcoin is held in virtual wallets with unique keys. Transactions are made by sending bitcoin from one wallet to a unique key associated with another wallet in a cryptographic process that is verified by the bitcoin network.

HOW ARE BITCOINS CREATED?

They are generated by 'mining', which involves individuals or groups using computing power to solve complex math equations to build the blockchain and earn rewards in the form of new coins.

Delhi govt to set up 100 Schools of Excellence

Days after the announcement of the setting up of the Delhi Board of School Education (DBSE), the Delhi Cabinet has paved the way for establishing about 100 schools of specialised excellence in the national capital.

These schools will be choice-based and cover grades 9 to 12, i.e., the last four years in the 5+3+3+4 framework of schooling introduced by the New Education Policy (NEP), 2020.

"The Delhi Government plans to establish 'Schools of Specialised Excellence' that will cater to students who are gifted in various areas of study such as Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Performing and Visual Arts, Humanities and high-end 21st-century skills," stated an official release.

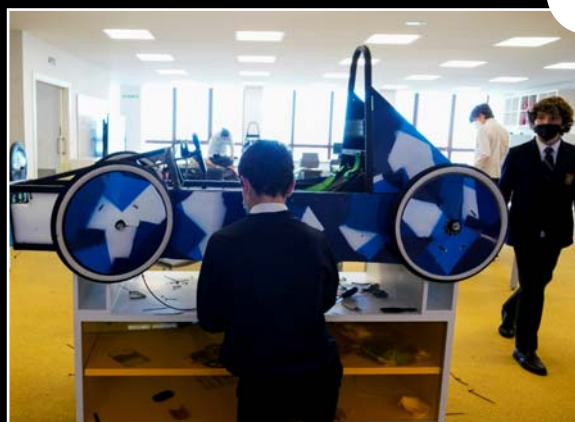


Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister Manish Sisodia said, "We are going to live in an era of specialisation and excellence, our children need an opportunity to be ready for the next generation

challenges. Every child is unique and gifted, we want to ensure that they get the opportunity and the support to achieve higher success in their lives. Schools of Specialised Excellence will provide the right platform for our children to nurture their talent and excel in areas of their specialised interests."

Sisodia said that these schools hold the potential to serve as examples of how providing the correct environment and opportunities to students can catapult them from even the most-marginalised backgrounds to great heights of success in various fields.

These schools will act as hubs of excellence in their respective zones and provide other schools with the inspiration and technical know-how to foster excellence, he added.



e-Gen Builders

Students from Gaztelueta school in Spain prepare an electric car prior to a race, as part of a project to promote STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), and raise awareness on pollution and climate change in Getxo, Spain. Reuters

A First: Recycling cocoa fruit waste to replace sugar in chocolate



As confectionery groups scramble to reduce added sugar, chocolate sweetened with cocoa fruit pulp is about to hit supermarket shelves with food giant Nestle ready to launch its 'Incoa' bar. Cocoa fruit pulp, which is normally discarded, is being used to flavour products, reduce sugar and cut food waste, while boosting the income of cocoa farmers who can 'upcycle' their cocoa by selling both the pulp and the beans. That ticks several boxes with health- and environmentally-conscious consumers.

"This is a big launch, we give it to all the customers who want it and don't limit supplies," Alexander von Maillot, Nestle's global head of confectionery, told Reuters this week. The company is launching Incoa, which has no added sugar, in supermarkets in France and the Netherlands, with other European markets to follow.



Pallavi.shankar@timesgroup.com

When women don't get their due in a particular industry, then (usually) a confident woman or a group of women becomes their voice and fights for their rights. Such is the story of MasterG and Daughters – an all-women design and skill development ecosystem for the apparel industry in India. They train girls from underprivileged sections of the society into 'pattern making' through various modules in different cities. Gayatri Jolly, founder and CEO, of this female empowerment company, tells Times NIE how girls are breaking out of inequality to find their ground in this male bastion and how children can learn from these 'work movements' to build an inclusive future for India.

Q How did the idea of MasterG and Daughters come to you?

A After having some experience in the fashion industry while working with brands like Armani and Diane Von Furstenberg, I wanted to start my own label. During this time, while searching for pattern makers, I realised there were no female masterjis. The normalcy of the fact really surprised and irked me. How come no one was speaking about this gender disparity existing for generations in the apparel industry? I knew we had to do something about it, and the first step was to bring this dire fact to people's attention. And it all began.

Q What is a 'pattern maker' and why has it been a male dominated thing for so long?

A Pattern makers are skilled technicians who create templates that are used to mass-produce products such as clothing, bags, home goods, etc. They translate blueprints and design models into factory patterns based on a de-

ON SCHOOL KIDS EMPATHISING WITH UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN

"School children should volunteer with NGOs and interact with kids their age from less privileged sections of the society. Schools should make it compulsory for students to complete 'x' hours of volunteering at the NGOs, and they can volunteer to teach underprivileged kids what they were able to learn as a result of having more access to quality education."

signer's sketch of a style. A pattern maker is one who makes the first scratch to initiate the garment making in a factory or manufacturing unit; the person enjoys utmost authority in apparel stores/fashion design houses as decision makers who fashion designers trust and work closely with.

The traditional 'Indian Khandaani Darzi' system has been responsible for producing the most trusted and respected masterjis-cum-pattern makers across genera-



tions. The legacy to male children of the family who receive on-the-job-training from their fathers and uncles. Women don't acquire these skills as they are excluded from the process of decision-making.

When it comes to the formal training floor, women are made to sit on sewing machines and do the menial of the whole procedure. Many women have been pushed to live on the margins of the social fabric, such that they cannot imagine themselves being masters or leaders.

Q You have filed a petition – to have a minimum 1 female pattern maker per garment factory or fashion house in India. How can children be made aware about such movements for gender parity?

A The habit of questioning existing patterns need to be inculcated early in children. Education is not rote learning but problem solving and critical thinking. Problems like gender



and class-based discrimination are as old as our civilisation, and though children today are made aware of the differences, they are not made to see its recurrence in every little aspect of their lives. It needs to enter our vocabulary, in our day-to-day practice to eradicate the normalisation of different cognitive-behavioural understanding and reception based on gender. There are discriminatory systems in place, like the lack of female masterjis, which can tumble down only if coming generations acknowledge and reject it.

Q What message would you give to children aspiring to make a career in the fashion industry?

A When students join the apparel factory/fashion houses as makers, they realise how the traditional system is broken and has no space for their questioning voices. Often the members of the industry underestimate women's skill, ethics and labour. Many women aspiring to be skilled workers in this industry belong to families where they do not get the chance to apply for a job as the companies and factories lie in the outskirts of their village. The whole infrastructure is such that it does not allow women to mobilise for professional reasons. These problems resurface in our everyday context, but it is important to realise that they have deeper roots in cultural and social networks, which have run unquestioned for generations. The wish from the future generations is to not fall into the trap of considering one gender a liability, given how many women are coerced into leaving their jobs or made to compromise their work to balance their household chores. But to intervene and work towards what remains to be the loose screw in the industry – the gender disparity.

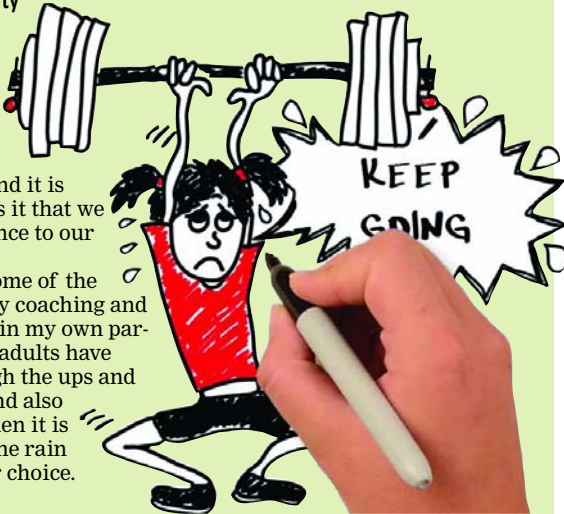


Gayatri Jolly in the middle (in black pants & top) with the girls undergoing training at MasterG & Daughters

Teaching Resilience During Pandemic

By Saakshi Singla, Child and Family Coach, Counselling Psychology Gender Equality Parenting Advocate, and mother of two fiercely independent and resilient young adults.

So if we are not born with a resilience gene and it is teachable, then what is it that we can do to teach resilience to our children? Given below are some of the ways I talk about in my coaching and have been using them in my own parenting. My two young adults have learnt to thrive through the ups and downs of their lives and also enjoy the sunshine when it is around and dance in the rain when there is no other choice.



1. MODEL RESILIENCE:

Make sure your children don't catch you complaining, blaming the circumstances or giving up on things easily. (mind you, this is the toughest one....as we use a lot of self sabotaging words in our daily life, without sometimes noticing that our children are watching!)

2. USE STORYTELLING:

Inspire them with stories of resilience – real stories of people, and from books, movies and other media resources on resilience.

3. USE LANGUAGE OF RESILIENCE:



Be careful with the language you use at home. Avoid the phrases that discourage children from being resilient and replace them with the language of resilience.

4. INSPIRE THEM WITH LESSONS FROM NATURE:

Make conversations on how resilience helps nature survive. When confronted with life's obstacles, teach your children to be more like nature, and learn to bend like trees bending in a hailstorm, or a seed sprouting in concrete.



5. TEACH RESILIENCE SKILLS:

Independence, problem-solving, optimism and social skills. These skills in turn help develop coping skills like emotional flexibility, autonomy, empathy, growth mindset and emotional flexibility in kids. They will help your children to navigate through the hardships of life.



6. DON'T BE A FIXER:

Try your best to keep away and not fix all of your children's problems. To let them go through some difficulties, as hardships are learning opportunities. Encouraging resilience is allowing children to attempt solving their own problems without going to rescue them the moment we see them frustrated.

7. GRATITUDE JOURNALLING:

Gratitude has the power to transform lives. Counting our blessings and feeling and expressing gratitude, helps our children to see the brighter side of life. Make sure your home is a place where your children learn the art of gratitude journaling.

Misconceptions about teens' bad behaviour

As a parent, it must be really exhausting for you to deal with your teen. From wanting to understand their source of anger and aggression to repairing the dent caused by the growing differences between the two of you, surely you must be going through a difficult time. However, as difficult as it is for you, it is as challenging for your teenage kid to live through this phase of his or her life. Not only are they trying to adapt to their environment at school and with their friends, they are also fighting their own battles with their changing bodies. There are a lot of things going on in their minds too, which may be hard for parents to fathom. That said, it is important for parents to look beyond the unrealistic expectations you place on your teen and to do away with the myths about your teen's bad attitude. Here are some misconceptions that parents usually have about their teenager's unpleasant behaviour.



YOU CAN HANDLE YOUR TEEN'S BAD ATTITUDE WITH LOGIC AND REASONING



Well, reasoning out with your teen and making them see the bigger picture in times of crisis is surely a positive way to enhance their problem-solving abilities. However, when their mind is troubled and they're going through many changes in their lives, it is less likely that your reasons and your logic will ever convince or persuade them to listen to you, let alone motivating them to change their attitude.

PUNISHING THEM WILL FIX EVERYTHING

Punishing your teenage kid will only worsen your relationship with your child. While you may be frustrated with them, given that their attitude is the same for a long time now. But punishment isn't the solution. Rather, try talking to them about the repercussions of their bad behaviour on the family.

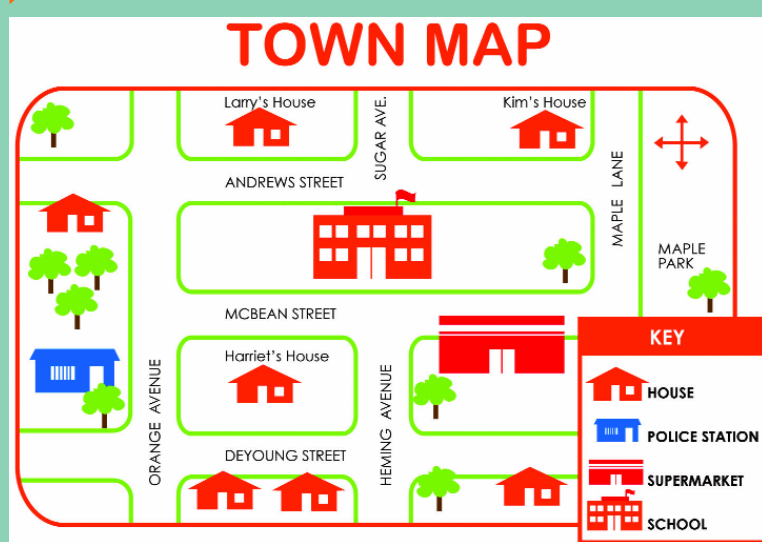


MATHDUKO

24 ×				
3 +		4 ×	12 ×	
12 ×	6 ×		2 +	
0404 MATHDUKO EASY 1				
9 +		3 +	1 -	
	9 +			
		24 ×	4 ÷	
0404 MATHDUKO EASY 2				
1 -	6 ×	2 ×		
			2 ÷	
3 +	7 +			
	12 ×			
0404 MATHDUKO EASY 3				
9 +	3 +		6 ×	
			13 +	
3 ÷	3 -			
0404 MATHDUKO EASY 4				



TOWN MAP



LABEL the compass rose with N, S, E, W.

Write NORTH, SOUTH, EAST OR WEST to complete each sentence.

- Harriet heads _____ to go to school.
- Larry goes _____ to go to Harriet's house.
- Kim heads _____ to go to the supermarket.
- A police officer would go _____ to the supermarket.
- Kids at school head _____ to play at the park.
- Harriet's dad is a police officer. He heads _____ to work.
- Larry heads _____ to go to school.
- Kim heads _____ to visit Larry.

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE

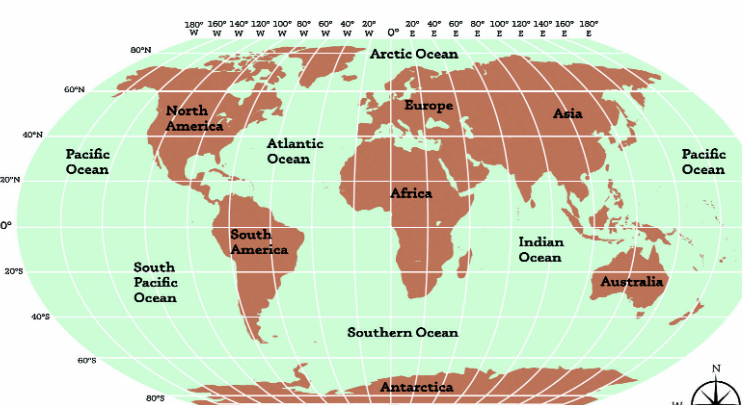
Name _____ Date _____

Latitude and Longitude

What are latitude and longitude, and how do you use them?

Latitude: lines that run in an east to west direction across the Earth. (Latitude degrees are measured as north and south.)

Longitude: lines that run in a north to south direction across the Earth. (Longitude degrees are measured as east and west.)



Directions: Use the map to answer the questions below.

Example: What continent is at 20° south and 20° east? Africa

- What continent is 40° north and 20° east? _____
- What ocean is found at 20° south and 100° east? _____
- What continent is at 20° south and 120° east? _____
- What ocean is at 40° south and 160° west? _____
- What continent is at 40° north and 100° east? _____

BE A RAPPER

On the rap floor, your arms feel heavy
Knees weak, palms are sweaty
But still you want to become a rapper
Words won't come out you stammer
But you wanna become a rapper
And try to act like a swagger
Do yourself a favour, Rap in easy words

And not like hemidemisemiquaver

Do it fast, Make it last
Forget the past

Look in the future
See where you are
Make a mark
Coz it only lasts
On the rap floor
Be like Eminem
Faster than google
When you ask a
synonym

Be a rapper, Born as a swagger
Sharp as a dagger

Rap at your best if your opponents

look like Mick Jagger
Broken dagger!, Southern swagger!

I rap till you become thin as a thread
Hey doc! Give him a hospital bed

I swing my dagger

Like a double-headed swagger
Put the rap in the rapper
If he's a bad guy

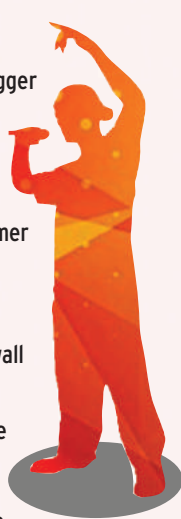
Be badder, Be a rapper

Stronger than Thor's hammer
Climb the ladder
Of the hall of fame

Don't get hung up in the wall
of shame

Be at the top of your game
If you lose you got no one
to blame
When they hear your name
Make them shiver in pain
Be one in the flock of fame
Make them feel shame
Take the victory
She's yours to claim, Don't be lame
Be a rapper, And also. A big swagger

**ARJUN VIJAY KUMAR, class IX,
Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan (Vidyashram),
Hyderabad**



Initiating innovations in school

"INNOVATION IS THE ABILITY TO SEE CHANGE AS AN OPPORTUNITY - NOT AS A THREAT"

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Innovation is about generation of new ideas. It sparks creativity and the ability to think out of the box, with the purpose of striving for excellence and school improvement. Innovation is also about critically appraising current practices with a view to bettering them, characterised by future focused ideas.

The principal of a school is vital for creating this culture of innovation as she sets the expectations with respect to risk taking and developing an environment where experimentation is encouraged and appreciated. Irrespective of outcomes, she can ensure that innovations move beyond being spontaneous and sporadic. To support my theory, I would like to mention some important points.



T LALITHA KUMARI,
Principal, Sister
Nivedita School,
Hyderabad

A CREATE A CULTURE OF INNOVATION

- Build expertise, knowledge and necessary skills of teachers and students, freedom to explore and the time for ideas to incubate and develop.
- Allow flexibility and risk-taking, with no fear of judgment.
- Regularly conduct meetings with teachers, parents and community members to explore ways to seek support for innovations towards enhancing student learning.

B EXPAND PERSPECTIVES OF TEACHERS TO IMPLEMENT INNOVATIVE PEDAGOGIES

- Promote collective responsibility among teachers by encouraging team teaching, shadow teaching for designing innovative pedagogies.
- Sharing ideas, best practices and innovation and collaboration.
- Encourage and support teachers to try out new ideas.

C CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT LEARNING AND INNOVATION

- Allow for exciting juxtaposition of ideas that is free from rigid subject boundaries.
- Focus on competency building by encouraging application of concepts, experiential and innovative hands-on learning.
- Design projects dealing with real world problems.
- Give voice to student ideas, encouraging them to take initiatives at school.
- Opportunities like genius hour, coding hour, STEM lab and online/digital platforms.

"Creativity is thinking up new things, innovation is doing new things"
Let us initiate innovation with positive outlook to create 21st century classrooms.



CELEBRATING NAVROZ

Navroz is celebrated on March 21 every year by Parsis, followers of Zoroastrianism, and some sects of Islam, both Shias and Sunnis. This is also celebrated as the day of New Year for the Parsis who follow the Farsi calendar. Apart from this, the day signifies the advent of spring.

It is also celebrated as the symbolic victory of the forces of light over darkness. On the other hand, on this day the Sun enters in the

**Niraj Public School
Hyderabad**

Aries region, which starts a new year. According to the legend, King Jamshed, on this day ordered the demons to carry him on their shoulders from Mount Demavand to Babylon.

On this day people worship in fire temples and then visit friends and relatives and exchange greet-

ings to mark the occasion. Ajashh, including the performance of religious rites and ceremonies, is held before the sunset in community prayer halls.

Niraj Public School celebrated Navroz, starting with a prayer song followed by a speech highlighting the importance of the festival by founder principal B Jyothi Reddy.

The event came to an end with a Parsi song sung by a student.

TOWARDS ORAL HYGIENE

'A genuine smile comes from the heart, but a healthy smile needs good dental care'

**Delhi Public School
Mahendra Hills**

A simple but powerful message: Be Proud of Your Mouth. In other words, value and take care of it. The students from classes III and IV of Delhi Public School, Mahendra Hills, inspired change by focusing on

the importance of oral health for overall health, because good oral health can help you live a longer, healthier life. On the occasion of World Oral Health Day, students made Teeth Dietary charts and Dental Hygiene posters to emphasise on dental care.



BOOK: ALL FOUR STARS

"Meet team Gladys". She has been cooking gourmet dishes from the age of seven. Now she's 11, and after a small fire accident, Gladys is cut off from the kitchen (and her allowance). She's devastated, but with the help of Sandy and her friends Charrisa Bently, Sandy Anderson and Parm Singh, she sneaks into New York city - once in a birthday party and with her father. She soon finds a way to pay her parents back for the damage she caused to the curtains, when she's



mistakenly contacted to write a restaurant review for one of the largest newspapers in the world - The New York Standard. In order to meet her deadline and keep her dream job, Gladys must cook her way through - all the while keeping her identity a secret. A pre-teen restaurant critic is born in this story. This is only the beginning, there are two more books continuing the story of Gladys and her team helping her to write reviews. Read these three amazing novels by Jara Dairman to find out how the team thinks it's so simple!

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



FUN WITH MATH

One of the effective approaches to overcome the fear of mathematics is to use project based methods in classroom activities. The purpose of this method is to fold, teaching, learning and assessing. Delhi World School, Chintal, organised a mathematics project activity for its students wherein they showcased their unique and cool mathematical projects.

**Delhi World School
Chintal**



Painters' Gallery



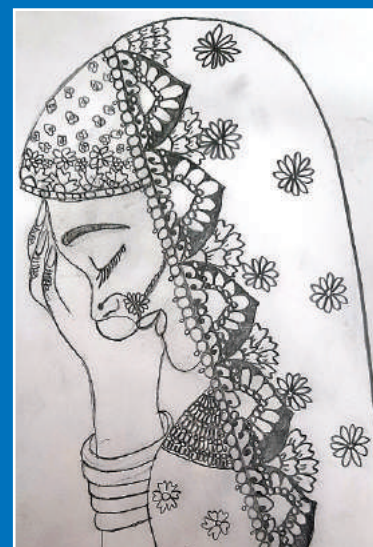
**BAPU: TANISH
REDDY B,
class VI,
Scholars
International School
Alkapur**



**ROSY PALS:
ISHITA MURTHY,
class VIII L,
Delhi Public School,
Nacharam**



**EARTHY SCENES: RISHITA SCHOOL, class VI,
FIITJEE World School, Hyderabad**



**ARTFUL:
R JOHITHA,
class VI,
Pragathi
Central School,
Pragathi
Nagar**

Rejuvenating activities with family!

Weekends always seem to go quickly, but they're longer than we think. There are 60 hours between that 6:00 pm Friday relief and 6:00 am Monday alarm clock. Even if we sleep for 24 of those hours, that leaves us with 36 waking hours. That's plenty of time for fun, relaxation, and more importantly, recharging our rusted batteries.

Fruitful weekends are the ones that leave us refreshed, not exhausted, so such a pleasant time shouldn't be spent very aggressively. This is how I spent a weekend recently: After getting up late and enjoying

breakfast, I spent ten minutes reading the newspaper. After doing some exercises, I rushed to my friends' places to play online games. Later, we played cricket and had dinner at the restaurant of our choice.

Sunday is a fun day with

dad, who takes out time from his busy schedule to spend time with us. The morning started with a morning walk at the park where we listened to birds chirping as we roamed around. In the afternoon, I watched TV as we played carrom. My mum who has green fingers prefers gardening. In the evening, I baked a cake all by myself and it turned out to be really tasty.

Post dinner, I read a book and drifted off to sleep.

**NITYA HAPANI,
Class V,
TGES Wadi
School, Rajkot**



BIG STAGE, SO WHAT?

India's decision to hand out debuts to two new players once again paid rich dividends with all-rounder Krunal Pandya returning with a half-century and seamer Prasidh Krishna shining with the ball, in the first ODI against England

Gill, Siraj, Sundar, Saini, Natarajan took Aussies by storm

- Pandya's blitzkrieg with the willow that caught the English bowlers by surprise at the Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium came after India saw stellar performances by some other debutants over the past few months. Washington Sundar was handed debut in the fourth and final Test against Australia in Brisbane and he responded with four wickets, besides scoring 62 and 22.
- The 62 Sundar made in the first innings was part of a match-turning partnership with Shardul Thakur, who was playing only in his second Test, the first after 2018, scoring 67 in the first innings besides snaring seven wickets in the match.
- T Natarajan, who made his international debut across all formats in Australia, also played his maiden Test in Brisbane and picked up three crucial wickets in the first innings. Earlier on that tour Down Under, India had handed over Test caps to seamer Mohammed Siraj, opener Shubman Gill and pacer Navdeep Saini, all of whom had played limited overs cricket before.
- Siraj and Gill played key roles in helping India win the Test series. Siraj bowled the most number of overs by an Indian in that series and returned as their highest wicket-taker with 13 scalps. Gill amassed 259 runs at an average of 51.8 with two half-centuries.

Axar Patel, Kishan & Yadav proved their mettle against England

- On returning home, India began their Test series against England with a loss. But they brought in debutant Axar Patel in the next Test, and the left arm twerker spun a web around the visitors to pave the way for a 3-1 series victory, picking up 27 wickets in three Tests to spearhead India's remarkable turn around.

➤ Newcomers taking effortlessly to the international stage indicates that the IPL hasn't just enhanced their skillsets, but also their self-belief and temperament, which can't be taught or honed in the nets.

VVS LAXMAN, former Indian batsman

- The experiments continued in the T20I series against England with Ishan Kishan and Suryakumar Yadav playing their first-ever international matches, although they were already household names because of their exploits in the Indian Premier League, representing Mumbai Indians.

- Both Yadav and Kishan scored half-centuries in their maiden international knocks, with Yadav scoring 57 off 31 balls in his second T20I (he didn't bat in the first match he played) and Kishan slamming 56 off 32 balls while opening the batting in his debut game.

Credit to IPL

- So many debutants making such an early impression in their careers has rarely happened in Indian cricket before. A part of the reason is the confidence and preparation provided by the IPL in handling high-pressure situations against world class players. So, when players are handed India caps, they show no nerve and take on the opposition with confidence.

- "I think a lot has to do with the IPL. The fact that they share dressing rooms with international players, rub shoulders with the best in the business goes a long way in removing the complex factor," India coach Ravi Shastri had said while talking about the confidence with which both Gill and Siraj had approached the second Test against Australia in Melbourne.

Prasidh Krishna

Krunal Pandya

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

I know how to handle pressure: DHAWAN

India opener Shikhar Dhawan, who hit a match-winning 98 in the first ODI against England after warming the bench for the major part of the T20 series, said international cricket is all about pressure and as an experienced player he knows how to handle it

➤ (In) international cricket, pressure is always there and the thing is as an experienced player, I know how to handle pressure. ...and secondly, as I said, I am experienced player, so I know what shots to play on what certain wickets and we read the wicket nicely and communicate very nicely in the batting unit and that's what we did and that worked for us.

SHIKHAR DHAWAN

➤ Having lost his place in the T20 eleven, Dhawan was under pressure to perform in the opening ODI, with India spoilt for choice in all batting positions. Dhawan, who was benched after the first of the five T20 matches, explained how he kept himself positive. "I was focusing on my process, fitness, skill-work, gym-work and I always stay in a positive mental space. I always try to look at positives from every situation. That's what I was doing. I was confident with my batting. I knew that if I get an opportunity, I'll take it," the elegant left-hander added. Dhawan also said that the wicket at the MCA stadium in Pune was seaming and swinging. "It was seaming and swinging so, it wouldn't have made any sense if you would have gone hard at the start, losing two-three wickets, so our plan was to just stay on the wicket and respect the good deliveries and we knew that we can always cash those runs later on," he signed off.

Ronaldo unaffected by Juventus setbacks: Portugal coach



Criticism of Cristiano Ronaldo's performances for Juventus has had no impact on the forward's morale and he is ready to give 100% for Portugal in their World Cup qualifier against Azerbaijan, head coach Fernando Santos said. Ronaldo came under fire after Juventus were knocked out in the Champions League last 16 earlier this month by 10-man Porto, who progressed on away goals. "When Cristiano is with the national team, he always comes with the same vision, the same passion, the same will, the same joy," Santos said. "He always gives 100% when he comes to the national team. I don't think he has any problem in terms of mentality at the moment."

Photo: AP

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: Who is the only batsman to have scored 3 double centuries in one-day cricket?

- a) Rohit Sharma ☐ b) Chris Gayle ☐
c) A B de Villiers ☐ d) Martin Gupthill ☐

Q2: Who was the first Indian woman wrestler to have won an Olympic medal?

- a) Geeta Phogat ☐ b) Sakshi Malik ☐
c) Babita Kumari ☐ d) Anshu Malik ☐

Q3: Who was honoured as the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year for 2019-20?

- a) Gurpreet Singh Sandhu ☐ b) Sunil Chhetri ☐
c) Jackichand Singh ☐ d) Sandesh Jhingan ☐

Q4: Which Indian athlete recently qualified in men's long jump for the Tokyo Olympics?

- a) Sahil Mahabali ☐ b) Samsheer S E ☐
c) Lokesh S ☐ d) Murali Sreeshankar ☐

Q5: Which cricketer won the Orange Cap in Indian Premier League (IPL) 2020?

- a) Virat Kohli ☐ b) Rohit Sharma ☐
c) K L Rahul ☐ d) Kieron Pollard ☐

Q6: Who has scored the most Premier League hat-tricks, equalling Alan Shearer's tally?

- a) Luis Suarez ☐ b) Harry Kane ☐
c) Sergio Aguero ☐ d) Thierry Henry ☐

Q7: Lionel Messi set a new club record of 768 appearances

Photo: REUTERS



Lionel Messi

in a Barca shirt. Which former player's record did he overtake?

- a) Ronaldinho ☐ b) Xavi ☐
c) Andrés Iniesta ☐ d) Samuel Eto'o ☐

Q8: Divyansh Singh Panwar has won a medal for India in international competitions. With which sport is he associated?

- a) Shooting ☐ b) Wrestling ☐
c) Athletics ☐ d) Tennis ☐

Q9: Who won the women's singles title at the 2020 All England Badminton Championship?

- a) Akane Yamaguchi ☐ b) Chen Yufei ☐
c) Tai Tzu-Ying ☐ d) Nozomi Okuhara ☐

Q10: Who has become the 1st batsman to score 3000 runs in T20 International Cricket?

- a) Virat Kohli ☐ b) Ben Stokes ☐
c) K L Rahul ☐ d) Rishabh Pant ☐

Q11: Who was the first Indian batsman to achieve 300 runs in an innings in tests?

- a) Sachin Tendulkar ☐ b) Yuvraj Singh ☐
c) Virender Sehwag ☐ d) Sourav Ganguly ☐

ANSWERS: 1 a) Rohit Sharma 2 b) Sakshi Malik
3 a) Gurpreet Singh Sandhu
4 d) Murali Sreeshankar 5 c) K L Rahul
6 c) Sergio Aguero 7 b) Xavi 8 a) Shooting
9 c) Tai Tzu-Ying 10 a) Virat Kohli
11 c) Virender Sehwag