



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020
WEB EDITION

TODAY'S EDITION

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Learn to draw a memorable character
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share their views on various issues engulfing the nation and the world
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done enough to topple Wriddhiman Saha in Test match
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Number-0-LOGY

1.1 trillion tons

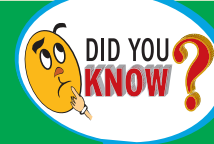
IS THE CURRENT MASS OF OUR PLANET, courtesy man-made materials, which, in a first, is likely to outweigh all life on the Earth, according to scientists, detailing the "crossover point" at which humanity's footprint is heavier than that of the natural world.



Photo: Getty Images

ALARMING FACTS

► Humans used a year's worth of natural resources in 2020 by August 22 - a calendar event known as Earth Overshoot Day. The annual date marks the point at which humanity has used all the biological resources that the Earth can regenerate during that year
► Due to the lockdowns imposed because of the coronavirus pandemic, and the resulting cuts in human activity, Earth Overshoot Day was observed 23 days later this year than it was in 2019



Humans currently use 60 per cent more biological resources than can be renewed - as much as if we lived on 1.6 planets - and is on course to require the resources of two planets before 2050, warn scientists

Jeffrey Archer's 'Not a Penny More ...' was turned down by 16 publishers

GET INSPIRED



Many years before he was a published novelist, Jeffrey Archer was an MP in Britain. And then came financial ruin. "I stupidly borrowed money and ended up with a debt of 400,000 pounds - a lot of money 45 years ago," Archer said recently at an online event. He stepped down as MP in 1974 and started writing his first book, 'Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less'. However, 16 publishers turned it down. Even the 17th published only 3,000 copies," he said.

MORAL OF THE STORY:
NEVER GIVE UP!

Failure was hard to digest, but Archer kept at it, driven by the attention of his creditors, and the joy he found in the process. "I believe storytelling to be a god given gift, no different from being able to sing opera, or play the violin. I love writing. every moment of it. I've written 33 books, and I'm still going flat out, because I love it," he added

Spotlight

EDUCATION MINISTER TO GO LIVE AGAIN ON DECEMBER 17, TO INTERACT WITH TEACHERS ABOUT BOARD EXAMS

Education minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' will go live on his official Twitter and Facebook handle again on December 17, 2020. The minister would this time go live at 4 pm to interact with teachers about the upcoming Board exams. This is the second time this month that the minister would go live to interact. On December 10, he went live to discuss and address the queries of students regarding the upcoming Board and competitive exams.



Teachers can raise their concerns by using the hashtag #EducationMinisterGoesLive

WEIGHING HIGH

According to scientists, the world's biomass in 2020 is likely to be exceeded by the cumulative amount of concrete, bricks, metals and other materials people have manufactured. Human-generated mass is expected to exceed 3 teratons by 2040, if the current trends continue, the study warns

THE STORY, SO FAR

1 The so-called anthropogenic (environmental pollution and pollutants) mass has increased rapidly since 1900, when it equated to just 3% of total biomass
2 Since the dawn of the 20th century, however, the explosion of industrial activity saw human-made items double in mass every 20 years
3 Now, anthropogenic mass is being produced at a rate of more than 30 gigatons (Gt) per year. One gigaton is equal to 1,000,000,000 tons

4 Scientists say, the amount of biomass has declined over the last 120 years, but this is slight in comparison to the exponential increase in man-made items

5 The best estimate for the amount of living things on planet Earth is around 11 teratons, according to the data

6 Currently, concrete accounts for more than 40% of all annual anthropogenic mass, the study shows, with 549 gigatons (Gt) of concrete produced every year

7 Aggregates, such as gravel are the next biggest contributor, accounting for 386Gt in 2020



Photo: Getty Images

FACTOID

7% Drop in carbon dioxide emissions globally in 2020, thanks to the pandemic, according to the figures released by The Global Carbon Project, an authoritative group of dozens of international scientists, who track emissions. Claiming the drop to be the biggest ever, the researchers said that the world have contributed to around 34 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide in the air in 2020 - down from 36.4 billion metric tons in 2019. However, even with the drop in 2020, the world on average contributed 1,075 metric tons of carbon dioxide into the air every second



► Emissions dropped 12% in the United States and 11% in Europe, but only 1.7% in China. That's because China had an earlier lockdown with less of a second wave. Also, China's emissions are more industrial-based than other countries, and its industry was less affected than transportation

► Scientists say the drop is chiefly because people are staying home, travelling less by car and plane. However, emissions are expected to jump back up after the pandemic ends, they warn

DID YOU KNOW? Ground transportation makes up about one-fifth of emissions of carbon dioxide, the chief man-made heat-trapping gas

JOE BIDEN AND KAMALA HARRIS ARE TIME 'PERSON OF THE YEAR'

US President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris have been chosen as Time magazine's 2020 'Person of the Year'. The Democratic pair

RECOGNITION

were chosen ahead of three other finalists: frontline health care workers and Anthony Fauci, the racial justice movement, and President Donald Trump, who Biden defeated in November's election.



► Time magazine's award - handed out annually since 1927 - honours the person or people, who most-impacted the news for better or worse during the calendar year ► Earlier, Time named basketball superstar LeBron James 'Athlete of the Year' for his achievements on and off the court. The 35-year-old Los Angeles Lakers player was honoured for battling voter suppression among the Black citizens in a year, when he won his fourth the NBA title ► K-Pop sensation BTS was named the 'Entertainer of the Year'

TAYLOR SWIFT ANNOUNCES SECOND SURPRISE QUARANTINE ALBUM, 'EVERMORE'

Five months after the surprise arrival of 'Folklore', an album written and recorded in quarantine, Taylor Swift is doing it again - 'Evermore', the singer and songwriter's ninth studio album is set to release soon. "To put it plainly, we just couldn't stop writing songs," Swift wrote in a post on Instagram recently. "I've never done this before," she added, saying that she'd treated each album as a discrete aesthetic cycle and turned her attention to the next one.

'Evermore' features the same core creative team as 'Folklore': Aaron Dessner of the indie-rock band, the National and the producer Jack Antonoff (one of her longtime collaborators), along with Justin Vernon of Bon Iver and William Bowery (aka her boyfriend) and actor Joe Alwyn are part of the team



MUSIC

MARVEL STUDIOS PLOTS 'FANTASTIC FOUR' MOVIE, ANNOUNCES THREE MORE SERIES FOR DISNEY PLUS

ENTERTAINMENT



Expanding further its highly-successful Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), the Disney-owned Marvel Studios has announced a slew of projects, including a 'Fantastic Four' movie and three new series for streamer Disney Plus. The announcements were made by Marvel Studios' boss Kevin Feige during Disney's Investor Day presentation recently. Feige revealed that filmmaker Jon Watts, known for making Marvel Studios-Sony's 'Spider-Man' movies, will helm the 'Fantastic Four' film.

The Marvel top executive also announced the official title for the third 'Ant-Man' movie as 'Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania', and confirmed that actor Jonathan Majors will be portraying the time-travelling super-villain Kang, the Conqueror

Quote unquote

The innovation in India around the digital infrastructure in every field - from financial services, healthcare to retail, is tremendous due to the ubiquity of computing fabric that is available to every Indian business and every Indian citizen. Computation and computing fabric is now embedded in the real world; the layer of artificial intelligence and data capability is getting embedded in every consumer, and business

application is tremendous. To develop the economy, a catch-up growth is possible, when both the public institution and public sector can move rapidly



SATYA NADELLA, CEO, Microsoft, on the role of tech in economic recovery in the post-covid world

GOOGLE TRENDS 2020:

IPL OVERTAKES CORONAVIRUS TO BECOME MOST-SEARCHED TOPIC

Search giant Google is out with the topics that trended in 2020 in India. According to Google, while coronavirus appeared in the top 10 overall list of trending terms this year globally, in India, however, the Indian Premier League

(IPL) came out on top, beating even the US Presidential elections 2020. The Bihar Assembly elections 2020 and Delhi Legislative polls 2020 too saw considerable searches, along with US President-elect Joe Biden and late actor Sushant Singh Rajput's last film, 'Dil Bechara'.



1 Top trending queries: The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samaan Nidhi. Launched in February, the ₹75,000 crore scheme sees vulnerable land-holding farmer families, having cultivable land up to 2 hectares, being given a direct income support of ₹ 6,000 per year
2 In the 'how to' category, 'how to make paneer' was the top trend, followed by how to boost immunity, and how to make dalgona coffee
3 The top 'What is' searches revolved not just around the novel coronavirus, plasma therapy and hantavirus, but also the viral 'Binod' meme, CAA, NRC and nepotism. People in India searched for 'What is coronavirus', 'What is Binod' and 'What is plasma therapy' along with Covid-19 and CAA. The list also saw queries related to solar eclipse. For the unversed, Binod became a huge social media meme, after a trend was started with a YouTube video called Why Indian Comments Section is Garbage (BINOD)
4 In general news, IPL, coronavirus and the US Presidential election triggered the most searches, along with the

Nirbhaya case and Beirut explosion. Among personalities, Biden ranked top, followed by Arnab Goswami. Singer Kanika Kapoor and actors Amitabh Bachchan, Rhea Chakraborty, Ankita Lokhande and Kangana Ranaut have bagged the top spots for being some of the most-searched personalities on the search engine



In the education sector, coding for kids and how to become a teacher emerged as the top searches. Apart from this, Zoom was also among the top searches. The video conferencing service was a hit among the Indian students too, who opted for online teaching through the platform

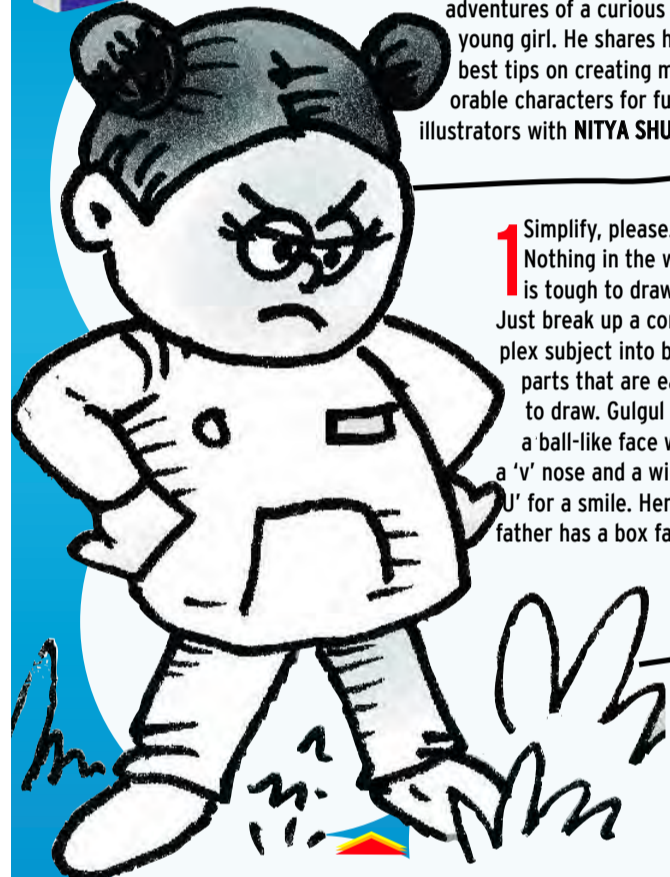
Photo: Getty Images

MASTERCLASS

CALLING ALL FUTURE ILLUSTRATORS:

Learn to draw a memorable character

Creating a memorable, unforgettable character that connects with readers and tells a great story is no small feat. The character has to be visually pleasing and communicate a vast range of expressions which sounds like a huge challenge! The good news is that there are no limitations to what one can bring to the paper. Meet **Ashok Rajagopalan**, author and illustrator for over 500 children's books and characters including Gajapati Kulapati (an adorable elephant) and Gulgul (resident of planet GR33N). 'The Adventures of Gulgul' series (Speaking Tiger/Talking Cub) is a collection of three books for readers above 8 years, full of adventures of a curious young girl. He shares his best tips on creating memorable characters for future illustrators with **NITYA SHUKLA**



1 Simplify, please. Nothing in the world is tough to draw. Just break up a complex subject into basic parts that are easy to draw. Gulgul has a ball-like face with a 'v' nose and a wide 'J' for a smile. Her father has a box face!

3 Read, read, read. A good illustrator is usually an avid reader. Before I begin illustrating a story given to me, I read it many times. Inspiration follows naturally. The drawing style I choose depends on the tone, voice and wackiness of the text. **And what happens if an illustrator hasn't read the story thoroughly? He could draw a mango tree when the text says coconut palm!**

4 The more times you draw something, the more confidently and easily you can draw it. **After a hundred elephants, drawing one more is no jumbo job, is it?**

5 Give bonuses to your reader. I don't just draw what's said in the story and say, "That's enough." I draw extra things not mentioned in the text. I have funny dogs, cats, snakes and whatnot in the background for extra fun. I shouldn't change the story with my extras, though, or the author can get mad at me. When I am the author, as in the Gulgul books, I have a free party.

HAVE FUN DRAWING, FOLKS!

2 The emotion your character feels should be felt by the reader. **For that, draw your expressions clearly. Feel it yourself while you draw. You should see my face when I draw an angry face!** Drawing expressions is one of my greatest strengths. Make it yours, too.



PETS CORNER

Throw the Purr-fect b'day bash

While cats are considered less social to be a lot less social than dogs, they have a hidden party animal side to them. So, why not pamper your cats on their special day with a cake, loads of toys, their favourite food and some fancy outfits too? Tuliika Choudhary, a cat parent, shares, "I buy toys and treats for my cat whenever we throw a birthday party for her. She is not very fond of people, so her birthday parties are intimate with only her favourite people." Pooja Choksi, a cat groomer and cat cake baker shares, **Cat-friendly cakes and cupcakes, made with tuna or salmon bits, are perfect for such occasions.**

TIPS FOR BIRTHDAY BASH

- Get your cat toys and treats they love
- Give them their favourite food
- Add cat-themed decor
- Dress them in cute outfits

TOP CAT CAKE FLAVOURS

- Tuna flavoured cake
- Salmon cake
- Chicken and lamb cakes
- Mackerel cupcakes



CALLING IT A YEAR

Charity 2020

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation had given away \$55 billion at the end of 2019. Covid-19 has made 2020 a busy year for the philanthropic outfit. **The Gates Foundation rose to the occasion and gave around \$4 billion to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance which has immunised over 800 million children against diseases like polio and measles.** An offshoot of Gavi has raised \$2 billion so far to fight the pandemic, which is enough to reserve one billion doses of vaccine for poor and developing countries.



Words Invented By Shakespeare

Probably no one in history has contributed as much as William Shakespeare to the English vocabulary. His scripts contain more than 1700 common words, used today that were never used by anybody else before. We present here some of the coolest words invented by the bard

1. Champion

Macbeth, Act III, scene i
To make them kings, the seed of Banquo kings!
Rather than so, come fate into the list.
And champion me to the utterance! Who's there!

2. Amazed

Henry V, Act I, scene i
Must be the mistress to this theoretic;
Which is why I am amazed how his Grace should glean it...

3. Swagger

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Act III, scene i
What hempen home-spuns have we swaggering here,
So near the cradle of the fairy queen?

4. Torture

King Henry VI, Part II, Act II, scene i
Alas, master, I am not able to stand alone:
You go about to torture me in vain.

5. Obscene

Love's Labour's Lost, Act I, scene i
Then for the place where; where, I mean,
I did encounter that obscene and preposterous event.

6. Puking

As You Like It, Act II, scene vii
And one man in his time plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,
Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms.

7. Majestic

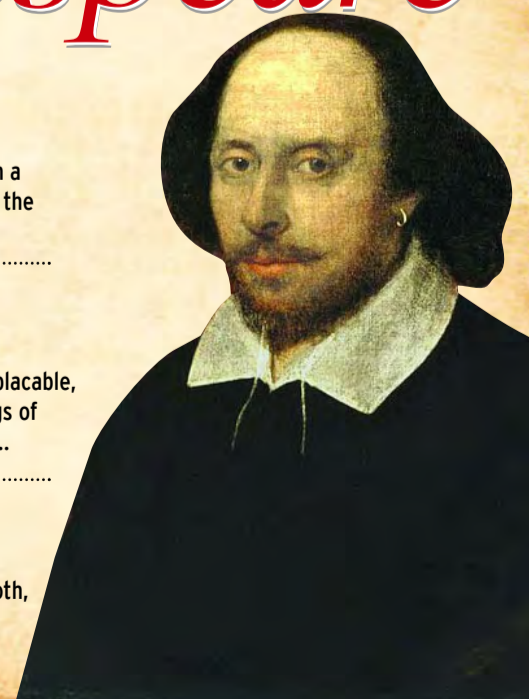
Julius Caesar, Act I, scene ii
Ye gods, it doth amaze me; A man of such a feeble temper should; So get the start of the majestic world; And bear the palm alone.

8. Hobnob

Twelfth Night, Act III, scene iv
His incensement at this moment is so implacable,
that satisfaction can be none but by pangs of death and sepulchre. **Hobnob** is his word...

9. Gossip

The Comedy of Errors, Act V, scene i
The duke, my husband and my children both,
And you the calendars of their nativity,
Go to a gossips' feast and go with me...



Exploring the Indian art and culture

Sachdeva Public School, Rohini organised a visit for the student of classes XI and XII to the renowned art museum exhibiting modern and contemporary works from India and sub-continent. 100 students exhibiting consistent and praiseworthy performance in art and craft were selected. The Curator briefed them about Shantiniketan the Art University started by the Nobel Laureate Rabindra Nath Tagore. He then showed them caricatures of many historical figures, politicians and sports persons like Sardar Vallabhai Patel, Jawahar Lal Nehru, Barack Obama, Bal Thackeray, Sachin Tendulkar and many more. The children were filled with awe and excitement on seeing the special exhibition Structuring Form: The Innovative Vigour Of Mahendra Raja™ detailing seven architectural projects raised by the structural engineering genius of Mahendra Raj. The projects included Hall of Nation, Akbar Hotel and NCDC office building. The museum exemplifies the dynamic relationship between art and culture and blends traditional art with the contemporary. The gallery has the artworks of various renowned artists on display. Students saw sculptures depicting the damage due to wars with traumatized emotions captured vividly. Pen art using pen strokes and many objects of Papier Mache depicting the symbols of unity. Each piece of art had its own hidden story when seen with love and compassion. The purpose of the visit was to help the students engage in the arts community and enable them to see the value of creative work. The visit gave them an opportunity to get involved and explore their own creativity, which is something that many don't get the chance to do.



Students of Sachdeva Public School, Rohini, during their visit to the KIRAN NADAR MUSEUM, Delhi. The museum exhibits modern and contemporary artworks, including sculptures and pen art, depicting various themes and emotions.

Empowering girl child

Under the visionary leadership of school principal, Santosh Vyas, the students of Sadhu Vaswani International School for Girls, Shanti Niketan had the opportunity to participate in a virtual symposium on global studies to discuss one of the most relevant topics of the 21st century- empowerment of the girl child. Kayce Jennings, the producer of the film, Girl Rising, equipped the students with thought-provoking ideas on how to contribute in the progressive transformation of the society. It was a treat to watch the young learners of SVISG engage in a powerful exchange of ideas with the students of Keimei Gakuen School, Tokyo, Japan and Sunburst Academy, California, USA and agree to embrace a revolution in the living conditions of the marginalized female gender.



Students of Sadhu Vaswani International School for Girls, Shanti Niketan, participating in a virtual symposium on global studies, discussing the empowerment of the girl child.

Saving Earth's ecosystem

Animal Welfare Club - 'Aashrey' of St Marks Girls Senior Secondary School, Meera Bagh celebrated World Animal Day wherein different activities for classes VI-XII were conducted for classes like 'You and Your Pet' photo contest, poster making on 'Animals are more loyal than human beings' and 'Animal themed painting competition'. These activities instilled a sense of awareness and responsibility among students to make Earth a better place for animals as they share the world with other organisms as well.



Students of St Marks Girls Senior Secondary School, Meera Bagh, participating in World Animal Day activities, including poster making and painting competitions.

Spreading awareness and celebrating HEPATITIS DAY

Yashna Taneja (XI) from Amity International School, Saket bagged top position in e-Poster competition organised by a renowned hospital to commemorate 23rd Hepatitis Day. Around 235 posters were presented online from 9 different Amity International Schools. The Team of AIS, Vasundhara, Sector 6 consisting of 11 students were declared winner with first prize position and the Team of AIS, Pushp Vihar consisting of 5 students got the second position in the virtual skit competition.



Yashna Taneja (XI) from Amity International School, Saket, bagging top position in e-Poster competition for Hepatitis Day.

Satyendar Jain, health minister, Government of Delhi also released a video.

Dr Ashok K Chauhan, founder president, Amity Education Group, who is the mentor of the Hepatitis campaign of the liver and biliary science hospital, called upon focusing on maintaining good liver health as it is an integral body organ.

A presentation on 'Viral Hepatitis in COVID Times' was also made by Dr SK Sarin, Dr Ekta Gupta and Dr Manoj Sharma from the renowned hospital. Present among various dignitaries were Vijay Kumar Dev, chief secretary, GNCTD, Dr SK Sarin, director, renowned hospital, Dr Prathap C Reddy, chairman of a hospital group and Prof VS Chauhan, chairman, NAAC Council.

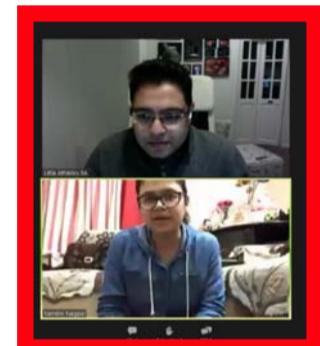
Vasundhara Sector 1 (from class 1) in the e-poster competition. The theme for 23rd Hepatitis Day Viral Hepatitis in COVID Times wherein a web Lecture on Hepatitis Awareness for School Children was organised to promote more active participation of students.

Manish Sisodia, Dy chief minister, Delhi released video on Hepi School (Hepatitis Education Program in Schools). Dr

New beginnings for young CEOs

Under the ongoing International School Award Project (ISA), a webinar was organised for the students of classes XI and XII of Ramjas School, Pusa Road to help them develop an understanding of the skills required to be a successful entrepreneur. This session was part of the activity, Role of Startups in the World Economy. Somesh Jagga, a successful entrepreneur was invited to address the students. A major shareholder in an award-winning creative agency and a sponsorship consultant for the peak body of sport of Athletics in South Australia, Jagga shared his extraordinary journey of exceptional entrepreneurship with the students.

Finding opportunities in challenges, transforming them into business plans and overcoming the risk factors involved were some of the tips shared with the students. Students were motivated to nurture hobbies, develop creativity, work on a business idea and have a strong drive to start their own venture. This was followed by an interactive session where questions related to financial management, his experience and problems faced in his journey were asked.



Get vocal for local



Paridhi Gupta (XII) of Suncity World School, Gurgaon founded Mitti to Matka to economically uplift the local artisans. We sold scrunchies that we made using scrap cloth, to buy essentials for the sellers, said Kriti Malik "President of Mitti to Matka" adding that 25,000 were raised from these sales to purchase atta, dal edible oil and soap for forty Banjara families. Anandini Rastogi and Akshi Luther have also facilitated the initiative. Mitti to Matka's Page

is managed by Rohit Ayyalasomayajula, Mrityunjaya Thakur and Varun Rao. Another achievement of the project has been the establishment of a Self-Help Group under Mrityunjaya's management. Finance Head Arjun Kalra said that all the money collected has been directed to the female potters Self-Help Group. Likewise, Anmol Das and Manasvi Kalra have taken steps in the direction of social justice by increasing awareness among the potter community. Editor-in-chief Pankhuri Chaturvedi believes that the empowerment process is an ongoing one.

THE EDUCATIONIST

Cyber vigil in times of online childhood

The transition from traditional learning to remote learning has been challenging for educators and students. So, it's very important to educate our students the basic online safety tips and keep them updated.

In the current situation, our children spend much of their time online as they are exposed to new perils which we (as kids) were not taught to be vigilant about - simply because there were none. But today every child has access to the web, apps and social media. So should we teach our children about the perils of the online world?

Yes indeed, we have to start educating our children about cyber hygiene at the earliest age possible. We might think that five-year-olds are too young to learn about the dangers of the internet, but what we need to remember is that kids of that age have about 3-4 years of experience in using connected devices, be it smart phone, tablet or laptop.

TO ENSURE CHILDREN HAVE A SAFE EXPERIENCE, ALWAYS KEEP THEIR DEVICE USAGE IN YOUR SIGHT AND FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- Use child-friendly search engines.
- Block or disallow the use of instant messaging (IM), e-mail, chatrooms, mobile internet, text, picture and video messaging, and access to or message boards at this age.
- Start teaching children about privacy. Tell them never to give out information about themselves or their family when online.
- Create a personalised online environment by limiting your children to their list of "bookmarked" sites.

Needless to say, cyber security is a priority, which we all often ignore but currently cyber hygiene practices should be baked into remote learning plans. Without them, we will be more susceptible to security and privacy threats.

LEENA MATAM,
Academic co-ordinator,
Blossoms International
School of Excellence,
Hyderabad

Celebrating annual Appreciation Day

Aapeejay School, Pitampura organised its virtual Annual Appreciation and Cultural Evening. It was presided over by Sanjay Singh (IPS), special commissioner of police, New Delhi, as the chief guest and guest of honour, Dr Sanyam Bhardwaj controller of examinations, Central Board of Secondary Education along with a galaxy of dignitaries and distinguished members of an education society. The school Principal Veena Goel presented the school report which gave a glimpse of events and achievements of the schools. She also read the message from Sushma Paul Berlia the co-promoter & president of an education group, chairper-

son of an education society, co-Founder & chancellor of a renowned university, chairperson of an education research foundation. After the audio-visual presentation the prize distribution ceremony felicitated the meritorious students for excellence in academics and co-curricular activities. Sanjay Singh motivated all and said that respect, honesty and passion are the qualities the children need to imbibe.



Dr Sanyam Bhardwaj praised the efforts of the school and teachers for carrying out the online teaching so meticulously and also assured that everything would be done keeping in mind the interest of the students. The school orchestra set the tempo for the programme with their performance. The highlight of the cultural programme was At The Bend play in which children from primary till senior school participated showcasing their talent from the comforts of their homes. The theme was how the human race which was showcased as the child of the Sun and the Earth, has always looked after its greed and has shredded Mother Earth. The play ended on a note with a message to brush away the doubts, buy hopefulness in heaps, to be good stewards of the earth and believe that together there can be a better world. The vote of thanks was proposed by vice principal Dr Sujeet Masih, the programme culminated with the school song sung by the school choir.

Express YOURSELF

DREAM BIG!

Dreams are not something that you see while you are asleep, they are the things that do not let you sleep. Dreams are the start of big things. You can never imagine too much. There is no dream that is too big. All you need to do is to dream, work, believe and achieve. Dreams can do anything. They do not always make sense, but they will when you try it out. Never let it be said that to dream is a waste of one's time, for dreams are our realities in waiting. In dreams we plant the seeds of our future. Let those seeds be big, the realities be big! If you can dream it, you can do it. A heart without dreams is like a bird without feathers. Be ready to dream anything, and be ready to do everything you need to do to achieve your dream. If you cannot imagine anything, you cannot do anything. And remember, you can imagine anything. You can do anything. And if you dream big enough, nothing is impossible. Always remember, DREAM BIG!

PRANAVI NAGAVOLU, class VII,
Delhi School of Excellence,
Attapur, Hyderabad

Painters' Gallery

AKSHARA MITTAL,
Seth Anandram Jaipuria School, Vasundhara

SANYA JADWANI, XI,
Manav Sthali School, Rajendra Nagar

HAS PANT DONE ENOUGH TO TOPPLE SAHA?

Rishabh Pant found his mojo back with a sublime century against Australia A in the 2nd warm-up game. Pant looked in destructive touch enroute to his 73-ball hundred in Sydney. Is the quickfire century enough to put the left-hander ahead of Wriddhiman Saha in the pecking order for the 1st Test against Australia?

Rishabh has an impressive record with the bat in Tests while Saha's wicketkeeping skills are unmatched

1 Pant was omitted from ODIs, T20s

In what has been a short but eventful international career so far, Rishabh Pant has already seen his fair share of ups and downs. From being touted as the natural heir to MS Dhoni's throne for Team India to being snubbed from the white-ball squads, Pant has not seen much success coming his way at the highest level. He has not played a white-ball game for India since January this year and is currently not part of either the ODI or the T20I squads with KL Rahul emerging as India's first-choice white-ball keeper. In Tests as well, Pant seems to have fallen behind in the pecking order with Wriddhiman Saha emerging as the first-choice keeper ahead of the Australia Tests.

3 Pant decimated the Aussie bowlers

Pant was batting on 81 and needed 19 to get to his century before the start of the final over from Jack Wildermuth on Day 2 of the warm-up game. The left-hander was hit on the ribs by a short ball to start the final over but he made his intentions clear with a scathing assault against the pacer. Pant slammed 4 fours and a six off the next five balls to score 22 off the final over and complete his hundred in 73 balls. It was the kind of intent and attacking display that Pant is known for but has not quite managed to produce in recent times. In IPL 2020, he did do well in patches but batted not quite in his usual swashbuckling style.

2 Saha has not shown the 'spark'

While Saha featured in the first warm-up game for India A against Australia A ahead of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, Pant was left to warm the bench, indicating that the youngster might not keep the wickets in the first Test against the hosts in Adelaide starting from December 17. But a duck and 54 from Saha in the practice game paved the way for Pant's return in the 2nd warm-up game currently underway in Sydney. The pink-ball practice match saw Indian batsmen disappoint in the first innings before they bounced back in the second with Pant at the forefront of the incredible comeback by the visitors. The wicket-keeper batsman made a mockery of the Australian bowling attack to smash a quickfire hundred.

4 Seemed to have found his old mojo

The knock was enough to prove he deserves a chance ahead of Saha, who has so far scored 54 runs in three innings in the practice games against Australia A. Pant was the second-highest run-getter for India when the visitors scripted history last time around by becoming the first Asian team to beat Australia in a Test series Down Under. Pant had 350 runs in 4 games for India and remains the only wicket-keeper to have scored a Test hundred in Australia for the visitors. His return to form has certainly once again heated up the wicket-keeper debate and it remains to be seen if his hundred was enough to convince the team management of his chance in the Adelaide Test which will be a crucial one for India to find the momentum in the gruelling series.

Starc's return will be huge for pink ball Test: Hazlewood

With vice-captain Pat Cummins, Hazlewood, Starc and spinner Nathan Lyon, the Aussies would have full strength

Australian team will be bolstered by the return of Mitchell Starc for the first Test against India as the senior speedster has been phenomenal in pink ball games, said his pace bowling partner Josh Hazlewood. The left-arm pacer, who has top bowling figures with the pink ball with 42 wickets at an average of 19.23 from seven D/N Tests, will re-join the squad in Adelaide on Monday after his 'compassionate leave' due to family illness. **PH**



He's (Starc) obviously a huge part of our team and attack. Everyone knows his numbers with the pink ball. We welcome him with open arms.

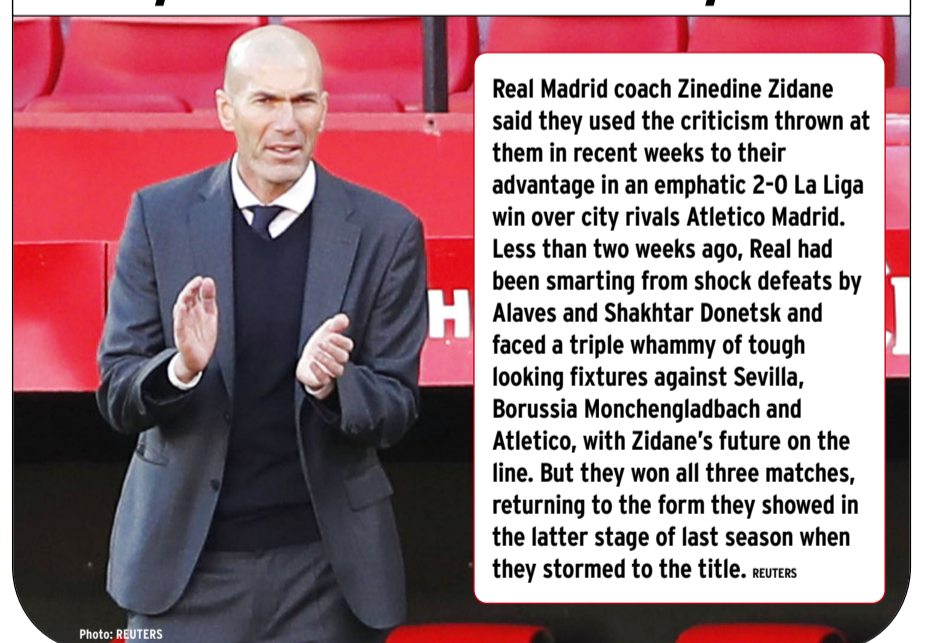
Josh Hazlewood, Australian bowler

KL Rahul my favourite current cricketer



Brian Lara

Criticism made Madrid stronger, says Zidane after derby win



Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said they used the criticism thrown at them in recent weeks to their advantage in an emphatic 2-0 La Liga win over city rivals Atletico Madrid. Less than two weeks ago, Real had been smarting from shock defeats by Alaves and Shakhtar Donetsk and faced a triple whammy of tough looking fixtures against Sevilla, Borussia Monchengladbach and Atletico, with Zidane's future on the line. But they won all three matches, returning to the form they showed in the latter stage of last season when they stormed to the title. **REUTERS**

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Q1: Which of the following players holds the record of most wickets in a career in all three formats?

- a) Glenn McGrath b) Anil Kumble
 c) Muttiah Muralitharan d) Shane Warne

Q2: Which of the following cricketers has made the most career runs in all three formats of the game?

- a) Sachin Tendulkar b) Kumar Sangakkara
 c) Ricky Ponting d) Mahela Jayawardene

Q3: Who holds the record for most catches by a fielder in

all three formats of cricket?

- a) Rahul Dravid b) Jacques Kallis
 c) Ricky Ponting d) Mahela Jayawardene

Q4: Who is the youngest player in the history of La Liga to score and make an assist in the same football match?

- a) Pedri b) Ousmane Dembélé
 c) Ansu Fati d) Riqui Puig

Q5: Who led the Chinese women's volleyball team to gold at Rio 2016? She became the first person to win gold as both a player and a coach.

- a) Yuan Xinyue b) Lang Ping
 c) Hui Ruoyi d) Zhu Ting

Q6: In which event did Kenya's Dennis Kipruto Kimetto complete the 42.195 km race in a record 2 hours 2 minutes 57 seconds?

- a) 2012 London b) 2013 Boston



- c) 2014 Berlin Marathon d) 2016 Olympics

Q7: Who is the youngest Olympic table tennis medallist, winning a bronze at 15 years and 300 days at the 2016 Rio Games?

- a) Hina Hayata b) Mima Ito
 c) Kasumi Ishikawa d) Tomokazu Harimoto

Q8: How many Olympic medals Tianna Madison won?

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

Q9: Which of the following wicketkeepers hold the record of most stumpings together in Test, ODIs and T20Is?

- a) Romesh Kaluwitharana b) M S Dhoni
 c) Kumar Sangakkara d) Moin Khan

Q10: Which Olympian did Karandeep Kochhar defeat in the third edition of the Jeev Milkha Singh Invitational golf tournament this year?

- a) Gaganjeet Bhullar b) Shiv Kapur
 c) Shubhankar Sharma d) Anirban Lahiri

Q11: Who is the first female to score in a professional league in Europe?

- a) Dalima Chhibber b) Ngangom Bala Devi
 c) Aditi Chauhan d) Loitongbam Ashalata Devi

ANSWERS: 1 c) Muttiah Muralitharan

2 a) Sachin Tendulkar 3 d) Mahela Jayawardene

4 c) Ansu Fati 5 b) Lang Ping 6 c) 2014 Berlin

Marathon 7 b) Mima Ito 8 c) Three

9 b) MS Dhoni 10 d) Anirban Lahiri

11 b) Ngangom Bala Devi