



THE TIMES OF INDIA

www.toistudent.com

TODAY'S EDITION

► 5 habits you must inculcate to develop high social skills!
PAGE 2



► Students share their travel diary
► Relive your school experiences
PAGE 3



► Poor technique responsible for increased concussion incidents?
PAGE 4



STUDENT EDITION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020



WEB EDITION

CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

NEWS IN CLUES

He is the first Indian actor to be paid ₹1 crore for a single film

CLUE 1: His original name is Parthasarathy Srinivasan
CLUE 2: He has the highest number of films submitted from India for Oscars
CLUE 3: A movie of his was listed by the Time magazine among the Top 100 best films of all time

ANSWER: KAMAL HAASAN. The actor, who kickstarted the first phase of campaigning for Tamil Nadu assembly polls, due in April-May 2021, questioned the need for a new parliament building, asking PM Narendra Modi about the need to spend ₹1,000 crore "when half of India is hungry due to coronavirus pandemic triggered loss of livelihoods".

Seven of Haasan's movies have been India's official entry to the Oscars in the Best Foreign Language Film category. He starred in Mani Ratnam's 'Nayakan' in 1987, which was included by the Time magazine in the 100 best films of all time in 1997



FACTOID



60°C

Could be the temperature in many parts of the world by 2050, warns the World Economic Forum (WEF) in its latest report. "This level of extreme heat would have been almost impossible in the absence of human-caused global warming," the report said

Some extreme weather events, such as heat and coldwaves, intense precipitation events, and regional droughts have become more frequent and intense

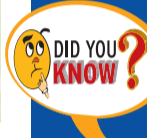
BEWARE!

- By 2030, climate change-related illnesses is likely to kill 250,000 people each year
- According to the report, up to 8 per cent of the global population will witness a severe reduction in water availability in the near future
- Bangladesh, Vietnam and Thailand will be threatened by annual floods, sparking mass migration
- By 2100s, Florida will disappear and south Spain will become a desert
- Up to 140 million people are expected to be displaced by 2050 because of food and water insecurity as well as extreme weather

CAUSES & CHALLENGES

1 One of the biggest contributors to climate change is pollution. ABOUT 100 COMPANIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR 71% OF GLOBAL EMISSIONS, according to a Carbon Majors report

2 The biggest challenge that our environment faces is climate change. Polar ice caps are melting SIX TIMES FASTER than they were in the 1990s. Greenland and Antarctica have lost more than 6.4 trillion ice between 1992 and 2017. Sea levels, on average, have risen eight inches since the 1880s



Greenhouse gas emissions reached a new high last year, putting us on course for an average temperature rise of 3 degrees Celsius. According to experts, 2020 could be the hottest year yet on record, as temperatures continue to soar



The commitments made in Paris in 2015 were far from enough to limit temperature rises to 1.5 degrees Celsius. If we don't change course, we may be headed for a catastrophic temperature rise of more than 3.0 degrees this century. Therefore, I call on all the world leaders to declare a State of Climate Emergency in their countries until carbon neutrality is reached
Antonio Guterres, UN Chief

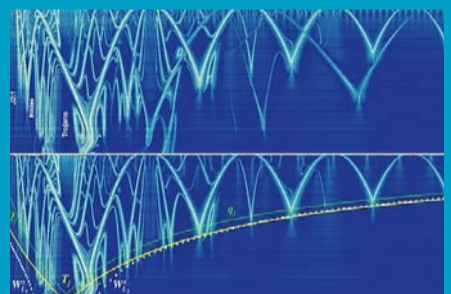
Since world leaders pledged to limit global temperature rises to 2 degrees Celsius in 2015, a lot has happened, but the action needed is still nowhere in sight. We are still speeding in the wrong direction. The global decision-makers are wasting time creating new loopholes with empty words and creative accounting
Greta Thunberg, climate activist, on the urgency to deal with climate change



INTO THE FUTURE

SUPERHIGHWAY SYSTEM DISCOVERED IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM!

In a pathbreaking discovery, astronomers have revealed a new 'superhighway' network running through the solar system, which, according to them, could speed up space travel in the future. The scientists looked at the orbits of millions of bodies in our solar system and computed how they fit together and interact.



THE SIGNIFICANCE

- The highways allow objects to move through space much faster than previously thought possible - for example, such routes can drive comets and asteroids near Jupiter to Neptune in less than 10 years
- Scientists are also hopeful that space agencies could make use of these superhighways to speed up travel time from the Earth to distant parts of the solar system

ROBOTS CAN ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO TAKE GREATER RISKS

Even as the scale of interaction between humans and technology increases, a new research has shown that people tend to take more risks when prodded by a robot.

IT'S A TECH WORLD

The research showed that robots can encourage people to take greater risks in a simulated gambling scenario than they would, if there was nothing to influence their behaviours.

► Researchers believe that further studies are needed to see whether similar results would emerge from human interaction with other artificial intelligence (AI) systems, such as digital assistants or on-screen avatars
► According to researchers, while on one hand, the results might raise alarms about the prospect of robots causing harm by increasing risky behaviour, the data also points to the possibility of using robots and AI in preventive programmes, such as anti-smoking campaigns in colleges and universities, and with hard to reach population, such as addicts



No winter session of Parliament this year: Government

It's official. The government will skip this year's winter session of Parliament due to the coronavirus pandemic. The Parliament will meet for the Budget Session in January next year. This was confirmed by parliamentary affairs minister Prahlad Joshi in his reply to the Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury. Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury had earlier sent a letter to the Lok Sabha speaker Om Birla demanding that a short winter session of Parliament be convened to discuss the issues arising out of farmers' protest over the three farm bills passed during the monsoon session in September.

- In the past two years, the Budget Session of Parliament began in January - January 28 in 2018 and January 31 in 2019
- This year the monsoon session was delayed due to coronavirus and was held in September instead of July
- Besides, it was cut short by 10 days due to the Covid-19 situation
- Earlier, the Budget session of Parliament had to be cut short due to Covid-19 outbreak in the country

HAVE A SOFT SPOT FOR 'THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS': NOLAN

ENTERTAINMENT



Like millions around the world, actor Christopher Nolan has revealed that he too loves the 'Fast and The Furious' movies. The action-thriller series of movies has been around since 2001, and has spawned eight films (with two more to go) and a spinoff.

The ninth Fast and The Furious movie, 'F9', is slated to release on May 28, 2021

I have a soft spot for Justin Lin's 'Tokyo Drift,' the third iteration in the franchise that was released in 2006. The fun thing about those movies is that even as they've gotten bigger, as sequels have to do, actually, we're the people making sequels get bigger and bigger
— CHRISTOPHER NOLAN

DO YOU AGREE?

Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com You can also post your comments at toistudent.com

JUST LIKE THAT AJIT NINAN



BTS 6th most-tweeted about people worldwide in 2020

K-pop superstar BTS has made it to the sixth most-tweeted about people globally, data from Twitter showed, in apparent proof of the seven-member group's strong influence in the social media platform.



- BTS also topped the Twitter's list of the most-tweeted about K-pop accounts globally this year for the fourth year in a row, followed by boy band Exo and girl group Blackpink
- Twitter added that a tweet of BTS member Jungkook covering a song by US musician Lauv in May was the second most-retweeted tweet worldwide this year at over 1.6 million times, followed by the tweet of American actor Chadwick Boseman's death
- BTS has also smashed records this year, with its new 'Life Goes On' becoming the first Korean song to top Billboard's main singles chart

BLUE IVY CARTER MAKES HISTORY AS ONE OF THE YOUNGEST GRAMMY NOMINEES

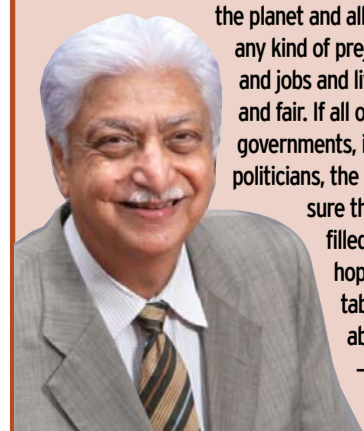
Like parents, like daughter— Blue Ivy Carter, the eight-year-old daughter of Beyoncé and Jay-Z, has been nominated for a Grammy Award. Carter is listed as a featured artist for her role in the song 'Brown Skin Girl' alongside Beyoncé, singer WizKid and SAINT JHN. This is Carter's first Grammy nomination. It makes her one of the youngest nominees in the awards show's history. She turns nine in January, ahead of the 2021 awards show.



- According to Billboard, the youngest Grammy nominee was eight-year-old Leah Peasall, who was nominated in the 'album of the year' category in 2001 for her performance in the 'O Brother, Where Art Thou?' soundtrack. She went on to win the award
- The youngest musician in Grammys history to receive an individual Grammy nomination, rather than as a featured artist, was DeLeon Richards

Quote unquote

The pandemic has been a magnifying glass for all our structural inequities and injustices, which exclude millions of our fellow citizens from a life of basic dignity. It has made clear that while markets and businesses have an irreplaceable role in a society, even more fundamental are the public goods and public systems. The agenda for the nation must include food, shelter, safety and basic social security; equitable and high quality public education and public health systems; care for the planet and all life on it; elimination of any kind of prejudice and discrimination; and jobs and livelihoods that are just and fair. If all of us come together - governments, industry, civil society, politicians, the average citizen - I am sure this agenda can be fulfilled. And then, we can truly hope to have a just, equitable, humane and sustainable society
—AZIM PREMJI, founder chairman, Wipro



5 habits to develop high social skills



Being socially active is always a plus, whether it is at your workplace, school, college, community, etc. While some are born to be social butterflies, others work their way through the social ladder. We bring to you some common habits of people with high social skills

Maintain eye contact

The first thing people notice are eyes. So, maintaining eye contact during a conversation is crucial and shows that you are interested in talking to the other person. It is the first step towards effective socialisation.

Listen to what others say

Having the ability to listen carefully with patience is a quality few people have. If other people are trusting you with their words, it is up to you how you receive them. Sometimes just listening to the person can be very com-



forting (to the person) rather than providing your inputs into the conversation. That is a peaceful sign of support that people really appreciate.

Always have something to talk about

You don't want to appear clueless when someone tries to talk to you about a matter that you know nothing about. So, it's best to be updated about recent news, incidents and have an opinion on strong matters. This way, you will feel confident about meeting people and talking to them with-

Maintain eye contact while having a conversation with anyone but don't stare; look interested and engage well

out inhibitions or any kind of shyness.

Be interested in people's matters

If you appear to be curious about a person's matter and indulge in conversations regarding them, people will regard you as an attentive person. Talk with people about their interests and passions and motivations; about what matters to them. If the person opens up to you effortlessly, your conversational ways are a success. Carry on and keep it up. 🙌



REASONS

Why sports is important in a Student's Life



Sports are a crucial part of a student's growth and development. They help in the development of mental health and physical fitness of the body. Through participation in sports and games, a student gains various skills, experience and confidence that are helpful for developing their personality.

GIVEN BELOW ARE THE REASONS WHY SPORTS AND GAMES ARE ESSENTIAL IN A STUDENT'S LIFE:

► IMPROVES PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH: One of the main benefits of sports and games is to boost the physical and mental health of a student. Sports is played between teams in a healthy competitive environment, which ensures that the student remains active and fit. Outdoor sports like football, cricket, tennis, swimming, running,

etc, keeps the body and mind active. Indoor games like chess, badminton, and table tennis enhance the concentration levels of kids and also strengthens the immunity system of the body.

► EMPOWERS STUDENTS WITH LIFE SKILLS: Sports helps in developing life skills too. It enhances students' capabilities and helps them to have a better understanding of themselves. Sports also helps in developing social skills and understanding team spirit. They learn to interact not only with children of their age but also with adults like their coaches. Additionally, children acquire decision-making skills through various team activities.

► LEARN TIME MANAGEMENT AND DISCIPLINE: Constructive use of time and discipline is a major characteristic of any sports person. If a student plays a sport, he/she needs to show the commitment of time to be in a particular place at a particular time every day as a part of their routine. This teaches self-discipline to students.

PANDEMIC ETIQUETTE

How to politely ask someone to wear a mask

Have you been in situations when you are in a grocery store and a person or many around are not wearing a face mask or not wearing it in the correct way (nose out, hanging around the jawline, etc). These things are bound to make you feel unsafe. So what is the right thing to do then? Is it okay to point out to people about their mask behaviour or just move away? Check these tips to get your Covid era etiquette right.

THE RIGHT THING TO DO

The primary and the safest option is to stay away from all those people who are not wearing a mask or not wearing one correctly. Maintain a six feet distance and ensure you are following all the norms to stay safe from the infectious virus. It might be frustrating to do, but it is always a better idea than



make the other person less likely to change. This is a general rule. So, it is better not to get into any kind of conflict and maintain the distance.

► Avoid visiting areas that are crowded as there will always be some people who may not follow face mask rules. It's also a good idea to not visit public places at peak hours

HOW TO CONFRONT

If it's not possible to maintain the distance and you are in a high-risk area then be polite and discreet while asking people to wear their face masks; rage and threat will only make the matter worse. Request them to wear a mask for the safety of others. Make sure you are not loud enough to be heard by everyone. Talk from a safe distance so that only two of you can hear. We are still adjusting to this new lifestyle - so, say it with a smile!

confrontation. That's because people don't like to be schooled by others. So, if you will go and ask the other person to wear a mask, there are chances that they might not take it well and get offended. It is impossible to achieve any objective by violating, shaming or embarrassing others. Doing any of these things will



COMMON COLOURS

SURYAKUMARI DENNISON, teacher, Aavishkar Academy, Bengaluru

Each group of words has a colour in common. The colours are linked to songs, symbols, people, places, films, fiction and figurative speech. Choose correctly from the four options.

Example: Mars, welcoming carpet, girl-wolf-grandmother, Moscow landmark
A. Indigo B. Yellow C. Red D. Violet
Answer: Red (Planet, Carpet, Riding Hood, Square)

1 Ruskin Bond umbrella, marine mammal, lapis lazuli, Jodhpur
A. Pink B. Brown C. Purple D. Blue

2 Robin Hood, backstage room, send-off signal, Hulk
A. Orange B. Green C. Grey D. Black

3 US residence, polite lie, rare tiger, Jack London's 'Fang'
A. White B. Brown C. Grey D. Violet

4 Pikachu, referee warning, business directory, Beatles' submarine
A. Blue B. Red C. Yellow D. Purple

5 Helen Keller-inspired film, underground economy, petroleum, Horse 'Beauty'
A. Indigo B. Green C. Pink D. Black

Answers:

1) D. Blue 2) B. Green 3) A. White 4) C. Yellow 5) D. Black

QUIZ TIME (MIXED BAG)

Q.1) The members of the Rajya Sabha are elected by....
A. the people B. Lok Sabha C. elected members of the legislative assembly D. elected members of the Legislative Council

Q.2) The position of a chief minister is....
A. similar to that of the Prime Minister B. identical to that of the President C. a combination of the position of the Prime Minister and President D. not constitutional

Q.3) The members of the Rajya Sabha are elected for a term....
A. of six years B. determined by the state legislative assembly of a state C. of four years D. none of the above

Q.4) The President can advance money to meet unforeseen expenses, pending authorisation by Parliament, from....
A. the Consolidated Fund of India B. the Contingency Fund C. both the above funds D. none of the above

ANSWERS

1. C) elected members of the legislative assembly.
2. A) similar to that of the Prime Minister 3. A) of six years 4. B) the Contingency Fund

It's not a competition; it's a doorway of opportunities

Brain International School, Vikaspuri organised The Quintessence 2020 "a virtual interschool fest which saw the participation of 40 schools. The event was designed to provide a podium of digital platform to the students to showcase their expertise in a gamut of competitions ranging from dramatics, entrepreneurship, artistic skills to technological prowess.

The fest was inaugurated by the school principal, Mrs. Seema Behl. The curtains of the event were drawn with the lamp lighting ceremony followed by the invocation of Almighty on Krishna Vandana. The Chief Guest for the event was renowned cardiologist Dr KK Aggarwal, who encouraged the stu-



dents to unlock their minds and practice meditation to overcome stress and anxiety. Participants from different schools participated in various events like Wonders with clay, Hasya Kavi Sammelan, The magic grill, The wedding couture, Feel the vibe, Virtual Voyage, Magniloquent Monologue, Shutterbugs and many more. As the participants expressed themselves, their creativity and unbridled imagination brought alive their emotions and created a palette of colours for the viewers as there was a Viewers Choice Awards for the offline events. Their vivacity and brilliance was exhibited beautifully in their performances.

It was indeed a mega event as the gleaming faces not only competed but also contributed in raising the spirits of other participants. The school principal appreciated the efforts of all the participants and congratulated all the winners.

The Quest Symposium 2020

The Sankalp Sahodaya Inter School Symposium, The Quest, was conducted at

Basava International School, Dwarka. The event was spearheaded by the Student Council members of the school. The topic for this year's Symposium was Digital Learning: An

Equalizer or a Divider in the Time of the Pandemic? chosen by, Dr Manimala Roy, Principal, Bis. 17 schools from Delhi took part in the event where they shared their views regarding the present scenario and with the help of case studies, they portrayed it quite well. The event was graced by the Chief Guest, Mr.Chandra Bhushan Sharma, who is a Professor of Education



at the School of Education, IGNOU, New Delhi. The Jury members included Sakshi Jain, CP Ghosal and Malay Kumar Chakraborty.

At the end of the symposium, the jury members along with the Chief Guest, shared their experiences and gave valuable tips to the young generation. Pahul Sachdeva and Yash Awasthi from ITL Public School,

Dwarka bagged the first prize followed by Ananya Batra and Prajakta from Queen's Valley School in the second position. The third position was bagged by Pranjal Diler and Hardik Talwar of Sri Venkateshwar International School. The event concluded with the vote of thanks and the participants were forwarded the E-Certificates.

Financial literacy camp



Virtual Financial Literacy Camp, organised by the Reserve Bank of India, was conducted at Ryan International School Vasant Kunj. It was presided by officials from the Reserve Bank of India and Union Bank of India. Students had a very informative and beneficial session on various aspects of financial decisions and financial risks in today's world.

Holistic well being

Physical fitness is valued, discussed openly and even virtual lessons are also being imparted. Unfortunately, lack of open discussion on mental issues rising due to stay indoors; stay safe time since March is affecting our children. Being mostly on screen space is depriving them of real physical classroom bonding and socializing. Comfort level of home may make them lethargic, indifferent, intense introvert, bored and even emotionally unstable. Before this new normal of restricted movement succeeds in creating cobwebs into their psyche resulting in stress, anxiety, mental trauma and social isolation, they must have an insight and an action plan to cope up with the current situation. First and foremost importantly, let's spread awareness about the

complex structure and intricate nature of our mental well-being among our learners and parents.

Mental health refers to cognitive, behavioural, and emotional well-being.



ing. It is all about how people think, feel, and behave. The term mental health is also used to mean the absence of a mental disorder. In other words, thoughts and actions are shaped by mental health which covers psychological, social and emotional well-being. Common issues like headaches, diarrhea, anxiety, increased pulse rate, mood

swings or emotional outbursts and staying aloof or losing interest in the undertaken tasks point out to underlying psychological problems. Lack of understanding one's own self, acceptance, flexibility and let go attitude may be the reasons for mental disturbance.

Just getting symptomatic treatment is not enough. Self-awareness is the first step to strengthen emotional and social health. Be vocal about your true feelings in a courageous conversation with the concerned person. Talk to your teachers for support. Pursue a hobby or a creative pursuit to vent out aggression or stress. Follow a fitness regime or do deep breathing exercise. Meditation calms down disturbed mind. Do participate in virtual social and community events. It is always good to engage yourself and think positively for a happier, healthier and harmonious lifestyle.

Meena Mehta, PGT English, New Green Field School, Alaknanda

Adopting neighbourhood park



Adopting a Park is a great way to unite neighbours and to help maintain and beautify surroundings. With the air pollution index reaching above 700 in Delhi and as a part of sustainable development, Red Roses Public School, Saket has shown a keen interest in adopting a neighbourhood park. School principal Dr Anuradha Mehta donat-

ed 50 plants and trees to the park in Saket, E-Block under Seed Donation Camp. RWA President Sandeep Bidhuri along with his team extended full support to this noble cause. Flowering plants like Guldavri, Champa, Cockscomb along with the medicinal plants like Aloe vera, Neem, Pattharchatta etc were planted in the park. Tree plantation has essentially be-

come significant in this current age of climate change and global warming. Trees take in the carbon dioxide as well as many toxins and give out clean oxygen for all living things to breathe. The school is committed to provide necessary support and help in tending the garden, removing invasive vegetation and keeping a general eye on the park.

A day of happiness & laughter

An investment in knowledge pays the best interest as change comes only from true learning.

The teachers of junior wing of Sumermal Jain Public School, Janakpuri organised a Puppet Show for the students of primary classes. The theme was 'Celebrating Eco-Friendly Diwali.' It was an In-house Activity right from making puppets to writing the script and giving voice over.



Manmeet, Ashima, Jasmeet and Neha Trikha lent their cheerful voices to the various puppets. Shally created and edited the script with the message of 'Green and Clean Diwali', Ratna Dhiman added her aesthetic

touch to the decoration and Vasu helped with the recording of the show. The show highlighted the fact that Diwali should be 'Smoke Free and Breathe Free.' Our celebrations should not hamper nature at any cost. The other living organisms also have the right to live. The essence of the show was well understood by the students. They all enjoyed this surprise presentation done by their teachers with lots of love and affection for the little ones.

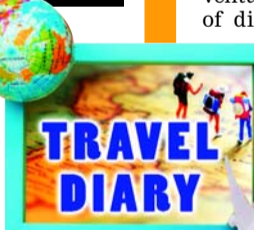
IN THE LAND OF DISNEY

Atrip to the greatest magical place in the world was indeed the most memorable one for me. A couple of years ago, my family and I went on a trip to Disney World.

On the first day we visited the Magic Kingdom and explored Tom Sawyer Island, and went to the Space Mountain roller-coaster. As we rode the Seven Dwarfs mine train, I came across the wooden barrels with glowing stones. We also went to the Haunted Mansion and Buzz Lightyear's Space Ranger Spin. I especially loved "The Frozen" and "The Beauty and the Beast" stage plays. Out of all, the most memorable was the Disney Parade in the Frontierland, also known as the Festival of Fantasy.

We spent the next day at the Hollywood studios. The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror and the Rock-roller Coaster were the best. Nothing could beat the scary elevator drops and the stomach sinking roller coaster effects. We also checked out the Toy Story mania and the Star Tours-The Adventures 3D space flight. The fireworks at the end of the day made our trip even more memorable.

HUDHAYASRI, class X, Jain Heritage A Cambridge School, Kondapur, Hyderabad



A DREAM TRIP TO SINGAPORE!

In the summer of 2019 I went on a dream vacation with my family to Singapore and those were the best days of my life!

We started our trip with a visit to one of the most famous attractions in Singapore, the Universal Studios. They had one of the tallest roller coaster rides in the world and we went on many exciting rides. The ride through Jurassic Park is adventurous as it has replicas of dinosaurs like the Velociraptor and the T-Rex, which actually looked very real. Taking a ride on the Ferris Wheel is exciting as you get a wonderful view of the city from the top.

No Singapore vacation is complete without visiting the zoo and taking the night safari. We saw elephants, deer and lions roaming free in the park.

What impressed me about Singapore is that it is a very clean and organ-



ised place. The MRT, similar to the Metro here, makes it super easy to travel around. The reason that Singapore is so clean and organised is because they strictly enforce the rules and even small offences attract hefty fines. No wonder, Singapore is called a fine country. All the same, it is one of the safest and the most organised countries in the world.

Once the Covid situation eases, I would love to make another trip there to relax and unwind after being locked up at home for the longest time I can remember.

ANURAG SAHA ROY, class VIII, Sherwood High, Bengaluru

Encouraging creative minds

DAV Public School, RK Puram celebrated its First Virtual Inter School Competition- ASCENSIONE 2020 for primary classes. Following Inter-School Activities were held to test the creative skills of the participants: Coloring, Object Talk, Fancy Dress, I Love Dance, Yoga to the rescue in this lockdown, Master Chef, Marketing and Advertising for prevention against COVID-19. The activities were a fusion of talent, imagination, creativity and alertness. The activities helped to bring out the uniqueness of each individual. It provided a platform for all young learners to realize their potential in different domains while promoting fun, learning and

a creative environment. The students of different schools set the virtual platform on fire with their powerful performance for the winning title. All the participants of the events were at their best. Spontaneity and confidence were the hallmarks. The students left judges awe-struck as they presented their talent so immaculately and effortlessly. They were applauded for their superb performance. Winners and participants were awarded certificates.

ASCENSIONE culminated with the vote of thanks.



There's no place like school!

Our schools shape us to become responsible adults. I treat my school with respect as it is the place of worship for me. The campus is indeed a memorable place where we find great mentors and lovely friends who bond for a lifetime.

It is said that "A good student is the product of a good school," and my school has excellent teachers who help me with studies, sports, and other extracurricular activities. I am really missing all the fun in this lockdown.

There are so many good things



which are irreplaceable in virtual classrooms. Take for instance making best friends or sharing snacks during breaks, playing in the playground or going to the library, celebrating special days and festivals when we get to dress up, eat and enjoy

with besties. Online classes are very educative and informative, and the new mode has its own advantages.

Schools always try to focus on our overall growth and transform us into healthy adults whatever may be the scenario. Hence, I miss my school a lot!

G ASLESH, class VI, Niraj Public School, Hyderabad



IS FLAWED TECHNIQUE LEADING TO INCREASED CONCUSSION INCIDENTS?

In less than two weeks, the short ball delivery has knocked out Will Pucovski, Harry Conway and Ravindra Jadeja, while Cameron Green suffered a shocking blow to the head while bowling in Australia A's recent tour match against the Indians at the SCG. Former India captain Sunil Gavaskar has blamed poor technique for increased concussion incidents



England batsman Stuart Broad ducks a bouncer

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Batsmen committing themselves to front-foot

I think it is more to do with the fact that everybody have got their front-press where technically they are moving forward and it becomes a little bit difficult.

When English players used to come to Australia they would struggle as well because they were on the front-foot. In Australia you want to ride the bounce, to get on to the back-foot so you are able to ride the bounce which is not what a lot of players are doing today. They are so much on the front-foot and not able to transfer their weight and get out of their way. As a batsman you tend to get a little bit locked.



See, Virat Kohli plays the bouncer so well because he has that back and across movement, so he is sort of waiting on the back-foot for that short ball. Dravid used to wait on the back-foot, back and across. Sachin Tendulkar had the minimal front press, therefore he was still balanced when he played the short ball. I think it is just a little technical thing which is why a lot of these people are getting hit on the helmet. You see most of the times, people getting hit on the helmet are in between the crease. You very seldom see anybody on the back-foot.

When someone's front foot is outside the crease and back foot inside, they will get hit. You will very seldom find a batsman getting hit if both his feet are inside the crease near the stumps. Because it has given the batsman that extra yard to either duck under the ball or sway out of the way. But that is what's not happening. That is the reason why they are getting hit.

Sunil Gavaskar, former Indian captain

Helmets have made players carefree

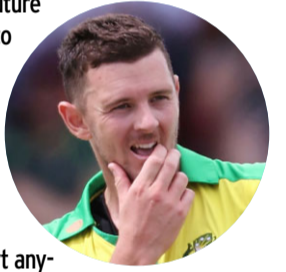
We've got to come up with some sort of better helmets. I got hit a few times but I can never remember being concussed. If you play enough cricket, you always get hit in the head. I don't know why it seems to be a more spate of head-knocks these days. Whether people are playing poorly with their techniques because they have a helmet on their head they feel safe. I was hit quite a few times, I don't recall being concussed ever. Whether I was lucky with that, I don't know.



Allan Border, Former Australia captain

Short-ball will definitely be used as a tactic: Hazlewood

Ahead of the four-match Test series against India, Australian pacer Josh Hazlewood maintained that bouncers are an integral part of their bowling plans, and can't really imagine a future where the bouncers could be banned due to the risk involved. "I think it's here to stay, to be honest," Hazlewood told the Sydney Morning Herald. "Whether it's top-order players (or lower-order batsmen)... I know when I go out to bat that's what I'm facing. I think it's an integral part of the game. We're obviously not intending to hurt anyone, it's about getting the wickets and cleaning up that tail as quick as we can. If that's the best option we'll probably go down that path."



'Bring it on' - Australia plot India's downfall under Adelaide lights

Top-ranked Australia are plotting revenge in their first day-night Test against fellow powerhouse India Thursday, as both teams grapple with injuries and selection dilemmas



Virat Kohli must lead from the front

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Virat Kohli's men clinched their maiden series in Australia in 2018-19, triumphing 2-1, but the hosts were without leading batsmen Steve Smith and David Warner, who were serving year-long bans for ball-tampering. Smith, the world's number one batsman, is back and in form, although in a massive blow Warner has been ruled out of the opening Test with a groin injury.

"It's a great rivalry... bring it on," Australia coach Justin Langer said ahead of day one at Adelaide Oval, where more than 20,000 fans — 50 percent capacity, due to coronavirus restrictions — are expected. "We have a very senior team now and can't wait to get the show on the road." AFP

Advantage Australia

- Despite losing the last series, Australia head into the four-Test showdown, where the Border-Gavaskar trophy and ICC World Test Championship points are at stake, with an apparent advantage before a ball is bowled. They are the world's most successful team in day-night Tests, having played seven and won all, including four in Adelaide.
- In contrast India, who were long reluctant to embrace the concept, remain novices, playing just one day-night Test in Kolkata last year. They thrashed Bangladesh in just over two days, limiting their exposure to twilight conditions where visibility can be an issue and the ball tends to swing as the sun sinks.
- Ajinkya Rahane, who will assume the captaincy when Kohli leaves, is a lock in the middle order alongside Vihari. But their opening combination remains in flux. Prithvi Shaw and Mayank Agarwal are the current openers but Shubman Gill's composed 65 under lights in the warm up gave selectors plenty to ponder.

Arsenal players must take blame for 'terrible' form: Tierney



Arsenal defender Kieran Tierney says the players must take responsibility for the club's "terrible" form after the Gunners lost a fourth home Premier League game in a row. Burnley recorded their first-ever win at the Emirates as a Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang own goal secured a 1-0 victory for the visitors after Granit Xhaka was sent off for the hosts. The result leaves Mikel Arteta's side just five points clear of the relegation zone and without a Premier League win since November 1. AFP

It's not good enough. There is no way to disguise it. It's terrible, to be honest. It's not what we are, not where we are as a club.
Kieran Tierney

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Q1: Which of the following wicketkeepers hold the record of most stumpings in a career in One Day Internationals?
a) Moin Khan b) MS Dhoni
c) Kumar Sangakkara d) Romesh Kaluwitharana

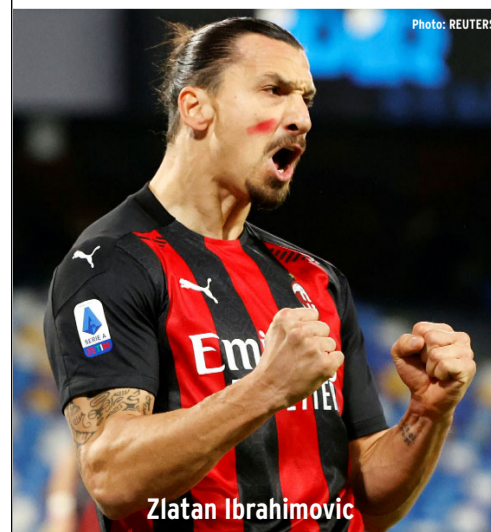
Q2: In the historic boxing event Rumble in Jungle, which of the following heavyweight champions did Muhammad Ali challenge?
a) George Foreman b) Mike Tyson
c) Joe Frazier d) Larry Holmes

Q3: Which of the following players holds the record of highest partnership in Test cricket?
a) Kumar Sangakkara and Mahela Jayawardene b) Andrew Jones and Martin Crowe
c) Sanath Jayasuriya and Roshan Mahanama d) Bill Ponsford and Don Bradman

Q4: Which of the following players holds the record of highest overall runs partnership by openers in One Day Internationals?
a) Shikhar Dhawan and Rohit Sharma
b) Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes
c) Adam Gilchrist and Matthew Hayden

d) Sourav Ganguly and Sachin Tendulkar

Q5: In which year did Zlatan Ibrahimovic win FIFA Puskás Award for Goal of the Year for his bicycle kick against England?
a) 2010 b) 2011 c) 2012 d) 2013



Zlatan Ibrahimovic

Q6: Which of the following players holds the record of most wickets in ICC Men's T20 World Cup?
a) Ajantha Mendis b) Shahid Afridi
c) Lasith Malinga d) Saeed Ajmal

Q7: Who is the first African Premier League goals?
a) Sadio Mané b) Lakhadar Belloumi
c) Roger Milla d) Didier Drogba

Q8: Who founded the Women's Sports Foundation in 1974 to increase opportunities for female participation in sports?
a) Martina Navratilova b) Steffi Graf
c) Billie Jean King d) Martina Hingis

Q9: Which of the following players holds the record

of most runs in a debut match in Women's ODIs?
a) Lynne Thomas b) Nicole Bolton
c) Mithali Raj d) Reshma Gandhi

Q10: Which of the following players have won an all-time record 31 Grand Slam women's doubles titles?
a) Martina Navratilova b) Steffi Graf
c) Martina Hingis d) Monica Seles

Q11: Who is Chelsea's all-time leading goalscorer with 211 goals in all competitions?
a) Ray Wilkins b) Frank Lampard
c) Ron Harris d) Ashley Cole

ANSWERS: 1 b) MS Dhoni 2 a) George Foreman 3 a) Kumar Sangakkara and Mahela Jayawardene 4 d) Sourav Ganguly and Sachin Tendulkar 5 d) 2013 6 b) Shahid Afridi 7 d) Didier Drogba 8 c) Billie Jean King 9 a) Lynne Thomas 10 a) Martina Navratilova 11 b) Frank Lampard