



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S EDITION**

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Students and teachers share their views on various issues engulfing the nation and the world  
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Analysed: Team India's dismal show in the Adelaide Test  
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**STUDENT EDITION**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020

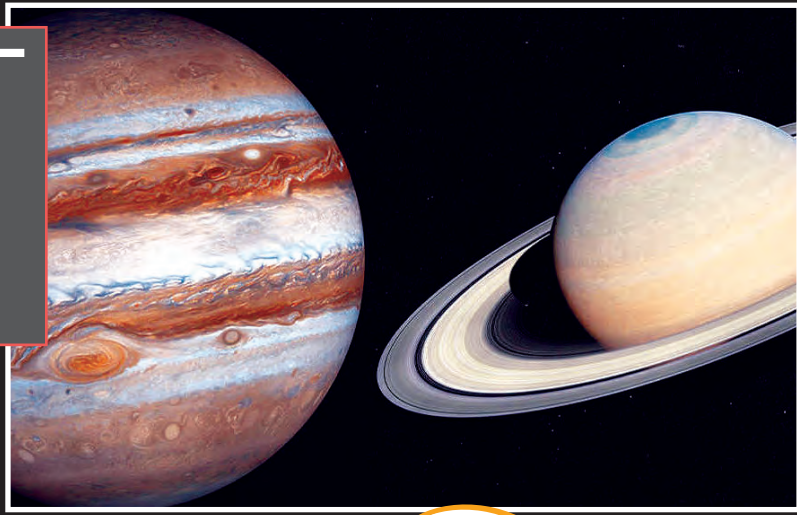


**WEB EDITION**

**CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2**

## JUPITER AND SATURN HEAD FOR CLOSEST VISIBLE ALIGNMENT IN 800 YEARS

### THE GREAT CONJUNCTION!



In a rare celestial event, Jupiter and Saturn will look like a double planet, just after the sunset on the evening of December 21—the beginning of the winter solstice. This is the first time that the two gas giants will appear this close to each other in nearly 800 years. Although Jupiter and Saturn have been approaching one another in the Earth's sky since the summer, the two were separated by less than the diameter of a Full Moon on December 16, which will continue till December 25.

- Jupiter-Saturn pairings occur once every 20 years; because of their rarity, are referred to as the "great conjunctions". In comparison, conjunctions involving the inner planets Mercury and Venus with each other, or with one of the outer planets are much more common, occurring many times per decade
- The farther a planet is from the sun, the slower it moves across our sky—Jupiter and Saturn are the two most-distant planets that can be readily seen with the naked eye
- Jupiter completes a revolution around the sun every 12 years, while Saturn takes about 30 years—a celestial playbook that results in their meeting in the sky every two decades

#### HOW TO WATCH

The spectacle, which will be visible from all over the world, can be enjoyed without any special equipment—just look southwest as soon as the sky gets dark. Those with access to a telescope are in for an additional rare treat: With a typical amateur instrument set to low power, the two giant planets will fit within a single field-of-view. Jupiter, with its four bright moons, and Saturn with its distinctive rings, will be visible



**DID YOU KNOW?** The last great conjunction was in May 2000, but its position in the sky meant it was difficult to see. However, Jupiter and Saturn last lined up as closely as this, was in 1623, roughly a dozen years after Galileo discovered Jupiter's four largest moons. In fact, according to astronomers, the Star of Bethlehem that guided the three wise men to the place of Jesus Christ's birth may have been a great conjunction, too!

## SOCIAL DISTANCING IS DUTCH WORD OF THE YEAR

One-and-a-half-metre-social distancing has been voted as the Dutch word of the year. *Anderhalvemetersamenleving*, a compound noun describing life under the Dutch government's 1.5-metre-social distancing requirement, was the runaway winner of a vote held by the Van Dale dictionary company. The lengthy new word, which was added to the dictionary in April during the first spike in Dutch coronavirus infections, garnered just under 30% of some 12,000 votes in the annual competition.



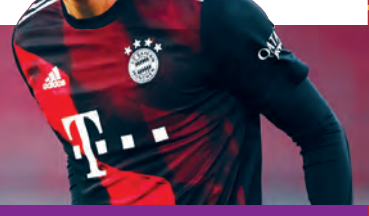
In second place, with 11% was 'fabel-tjes-fuik' a noun, which Van Dale defines as the "phenomenon that users of social media, who are interested in conspiracies, are offered more and more messages about conspiracies due to the operation of social media, which gradually leads them to believe in them"

## Spotlight

### LEWANDOWSKI PIPS RONALDO, MESSI TO WIN FIFA BEST MEN'S PLAYER AWARD

Robert Lewandowski has been named the FIFA Best Men's Player for 2020, after his 55-goal season lifted Bayern Munich to a sweep of international and domestic trophies. Lewandowski topped a three-player shortlist that included Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo.

Lewandowski is also the first men's winner from a club outside Spain since Ronaldo won the 2008 award as a Manchester United player.



- Lucy Bronze was voted the Best Women's Player to give England its first individual victory at the FIFA awards. A Champions League winner with Lyon, she has since joined Manchester City
- Bronze won the vote ahead of her former Lyon teammate Wendie Renard and Pernille Harder

#### RECOGNITION

### INDIAN ENTREPRENEUR NAMED AMONG 'YOUNG CHAMPIONS OF THE EARTH' WINNERS BY UNEP

A 29-year-old Indian entrepreneur is among the seven winners of the prestigious 'Young Champions of the Earth' 2020 prize given by the UN environment agency to global change-makers, using innovative ideas and ambitious action to help solve some of the world's most pressing environmental challenges. Vidyut Mohan, an engineer, is the co-founder of 'Takachar', a social enterprise, enabling farmers to prevent open burning of their waste farm residues and earn extra income by converting them into value-added chemicals like activated carbon on-site, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) said.



- Since Takachar was launched in 2018, Mohan and its co-founder Kevin Kung have worked with about 4,500 farmers and processed 3,000 tons of crops
- Each will receive \$10,000 for seed funding and tailored-training to help scale up their ideas

**DID YOU KNOW?** The Young Champions of the Earth prize is awarded every year to seven entrepreneurs under the age of 30 with bold ideas for sustainable environmental change

### GREATER VALUES MAKE A HERO, NOT STRENGTH: PATTY JENKINS

What does it mean to be a true hero? That's the question 'Wonder Woman 1984' aims to explore, says director Patty Jenkins, who believes being a superhero is more about values than physical prowess. Diana Prince, the Amazonian warrior whose superhero identity is Wonder Woman, represents "kindness and intelligence", which makes her a contemporary hero for women and men alike, the filmmaker said.



'Wonder Woman 1984' is the follow-up to 'Wonder Woman', the 2017 DC blockbuster, which was hailed as a much-needed presence in the male-dominated superhero space of Hollywood movies

While the first film was the origin story of Wonder Woman (Gadot) and her discovery of humanity towards the end of World War I, the sequel explores how she lives with humanity after having lost all her friends

#### CELEB TALK

What does it mean to be a true hero? Anybody can be selfish. The question is: what are the qualities of a hero in this world? We need love, bravery, kindness and intelligence now, more than ever. We don't just need someone, who can beat or thrash the bad guy. That's why I feel Wonder Woman is the hero for today and for everybody

- Patty Jenkins

### 'STAR WARS' ACTRESS NAOMI ACKIE TO PLAY WHITNEY HOUSTON IN BIOPIC

Actress Naomi Ackie is set to portray as Whitney Houston in an upcoming musical biopic on the late singer. Titled, 'I Wanna Dance With Somebody', the film is directed by Stella Meghie. While the casting of Ackie, who gained popularity playing Jannah in the 2019 release 'Star Wars: The Rise Of Skywalker', has been confirmed, the rest of the cast is yet to be announced.

'I Wanna Dance With Somebody' follows the life of Houston, popular for hit songs like 'I will always love you' and 'How will I know'

Houston, who died in 2012, also acted in the 1992 romantic thriller, 'The Bodyguard'

The movie is slated to release in 2022



#### ENTERTAINMENT

### RUSSIA BANNED FROM USING ITS NAME, FLAG AT NEXT TWO OLYMPICS



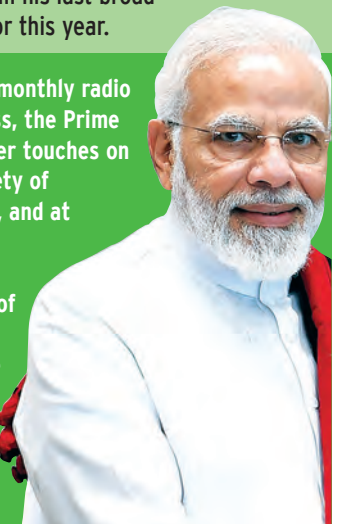
Russia will not be able to use its name, flag and anthem at the next two Olympics or at any other world championships for the next two years after a ruling by the Court of Arbitration for Sport. The Lausanne-based court halved the four-year ban proposed last year by the World Anti-Doping Agency in a landmark case that accused Russia of state-ordered tampering of a testing laboratory database in Moscow. The ruling also blocked Russia from bidding to host major sporting events for two years.

- Russian athletes and teams will, however, be allowed as individual players to compete at next year's Tokyo Olympics and the 2022 Winter Games in Beijing, as well as world championships, including the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, if they are not banned or suspected of doping
- The name 'Russia' can also be retained on uniforms, if the words 'Neutral Athlete' or equivalents like 'Neutral Team' are written with equal prominence, the court said

### MODI SEEKS PEOPLE'S VIEWS ON 2020, NEXT YEAR, FOR HIS 'MANN KI BAAT' ADDRESS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sought people's views on the year 2020—seen as one of the most-disruptive in recent history due to the Covid-19 outbreak, and also on what they look forward to in the next year, ahead of his 'Mann ki Baat' broadcast on December 27. This will be his last broadcast for this year.

In his monthly radio address, the Prime Minister touches on a variety of issues, and at times, shares views of other people



## 2020 INSTAGRAM ROUND-UP: VIRAT, DEEPIKA EMERGE AS TOP INFLUENCERS



Power couple Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma are currently enjoying the royalty status as influencers on social media platform Instagram, according to the latest research report by ClanConnect.ai. While team India captain Kohli has the highest number of followers at 81 million, his Bollywood diva wife boasts of the greatest engagement rate in the country, surpassing even PM Narendra Modi.

1 According to the data mapped by ClanConnect, Shradha Kapoor, Deepika Padukone, Alia Bhatt, Neha Kakkar, Jaqueline Fernandez, PM Modi, Akshay Kumar, and Katrina Kaif are also among the top 10 Insta-influencers

2 Among the female Insta-stars of 2020, Shradha Kapoor is the most-popular female Instagram Influencer with 56 million followers, Deepika

3 Padukone followed close with 52 million In the male influencer category, Kohli is much ahead of his counterparts on the top 10 list, however, he was thwarted in terms of engagement by MS Dhoni, who boasts an engagement rate of 10.98%, as opposed to Kohli's 1.84%

4 With 50 million followers, PM Modi is the second most-popular Instagram-influencer in India, with Akshay Kumar, Salman Khan, Ranveer Singh, Varun Dhawan, Hrithik Roshan, Dhoni, Shahid Kapoor, and Kapil Sharma also topping the charts

The platform also found out that food influencers enjoy the highest quality engagement at 88%, while education, finance, and career influencers cumulatively receive 85%



## Here's how DIY can help you with your mental health



According to a recently conducted research by a psychology department of a college in the US, **DIYing is a mood lifter and offers a range of mental health benefits that are associated with crafting up something special.**

### DIY HAS MORE TO OFFER



Mental health expert Dr Shalini Verma suggests, "Crafting and engaging in creative activities may help decrease anxiety, stress, and mood disturbances, as well as improve well-being and quality of life. One who engaged in arts and crafts, such as music, painting, drawing etc experienced lower levels of mental distress. They also experienced higher levels of mental functioning and life satisfaction."

### DOODLING REDUCES STRESS



Doodling, has a range of mental health benefits too, including relaxation and reducing stress, mood regulation, memory recall, and creativity. Art therapist Raveena Singhania says, "Alternatively, you can doodle on a plain tote bag for an artsy aunt or uncle. You can even turn your regular greeting cards into doodling masterpieces. All you need is plain card stock and some markers to make beautiful designs."

### BAKING IS FUN AND HEALTHY



Baking not only makes the whole house smell festive and inviting, but it also provides mental health benefits. Homebaker Avantika Deo says, "Culinary therapy is amazing. Baking also makes for a versatile gift that's good for just about anyone. Make a plate of gingerbread cookies for the office, some sugar cookies for little ones in the family, or some peppermint fudge for dad. You can even make gluten-free and sugar-free variations to suit different health needs."

### DIY CLAY SESSION HAS A ZENTASTIC FEEL TO IT



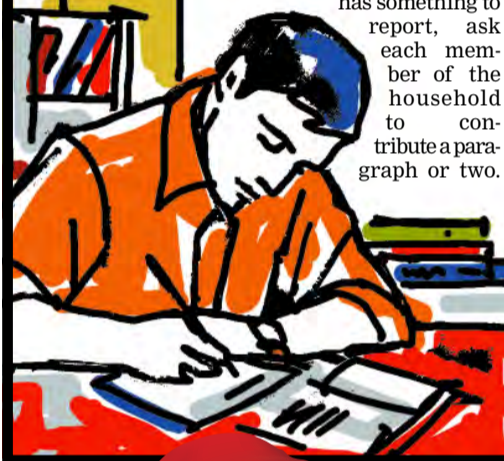
Clay work has long been incorporated into art therapy as a means of creative expression. Research suggests it has therapeutic qualities, like increasing self-expression and reflection. A 2012 study on creative clay work suggests that clay handling may greatly reduce negative moods and enhance positive ones.

# How to send a recap of 2020 to Friends and Family

**F**or many people, 2020 has been a disruptive, frustrating, heartbreaking and disorienting year. But as December winds down, it is also an opportunity to take stock of the things that happened and to let your friends and family know how you have been doing through it all. Creating a recap of 2020 in your own words and pictures also serves as your personal historical record of a very challenging year. Free software can guide the way. You can even make the whole thing on a smartphone or tablet. Here's how.

## STEP 1 Tell your story

If tales from elaborate vacations or group outings are in short supply this year, think of the more local adventures you experienced — like adopting a cat, exploring the city on foot, learning how to cook or taking up the mandolin. If the whole family has something to report, ask each member of the household to contribute a paragraph or two.



As for the physical writing, jot your thoughts down in your notes app or a word processing program, like Apple's Pages or Google Docs. Both of these are free, probably already on your device and run on smartphones, on tablets and in computer web browsers. (You can also jump to Step 3 and start writing in a template.)

If you dislike using an on-screen keyboard to enter large amounts of text, connect an inexpensive Bluetooth keyboard to your phone or tablet for a more familiar typing experience. (No matter how you enter the words, be sure to run the spell-checker and proofread your document.)

## STEP 2 Add pictures

Even if travel snaps are in short supply and the 2020 school pictures are Zoom screenshots, browse your photo library for other images to visually document your year. For a year-end family portrait that includes everyone, set the camera timer so the photographer has a few seconds to jump into the frame. Snapshots from your walks around town, outdoor dining with friends, close-ups of the garden flowers and pet photos can capture life as you lived it in 2020, even in a lockdown or quarantine.

## STEP 3 Design your newsletter

Now it's time to combine your words and pictures into an eye-catching document. If you've never created a layout before, most word processing programs include a template gallery you can use as a

starting point: Apple's Pages and Google Docs include templates. In the gallery, choose a template you like and then replace the formatted sample text by highlighting it and writing (or pasting in) your own words. Tap or click in sample images to replace them with photos from your own photo library, or

look for a menu option to insert new images. If you don't like the template options, design your own document from scratch in your word processing app. Just keep in mind a few basic visual tips: Don't use a dozen different fonts that might clash and distract the reader from your words. Use type sizes big enough for comfortable reading. And, despite the season, be mindful of recipients who may have red/green colour blindness when you choose type colors and page backgrounds.

## STEP 4 Print and mail

If you have a printer, paper, envelopes and a good supply of ink, you have what you need to produce your newsletter right at home. However, it's a good idea to print one first and proofread the document again before sending 50 copies through the printer. If you don't have a printer or a local print shop to handle the job, consider the online services of an office-supply store, where you can upload your newsletter document for output and pickup (or delivery). Staples prints custom documents and holiday cards. These custom-printing sites also have templates and design guidance if you'd like to create your newsletter right there.

## STEP 5 Or just email it

Want to save time, money, ink and paper? Start by exporting a copy of your newsletter document as a PDF file, an option most word processing programs offer. Creating a PDF makes a copy that looks just like your original document but can be opened on most devices. Check your app's menu for share, export or "save as PDF" option. After you have saved your newsletter as a PDF, attach the new file to a message and send it out to everyone on your mailing list.

Sure, the notion of a year-end newsletter may seem quaint. But if there is any wisdom that 2020 has imparted, it is that staying connected to each other is important.



## SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN



# SNACKS LEFT FOR SANTA UNDER THE TREE BY KIDS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

From rice pudding to beverages, keep reading to find out what children leave out around Christmas...

### US

In the United States, children believe Santa Claus comes on Christmas night to deliver presents, while in Iceland they believe there are 13 'Yule Lads' who visit all December-long. In the US, many children leave a glass of milk and a plate of cookies for Santa.

**AUSTRALIA**  
Although Australians also leave cookies for Santa to snack on, they replace the glass of milk with a cold glass of a drink!

### BRITAIN

In Britain, families believe Santa needs some sherry to warm up. It's also tradition to pair the sherry with a mince pie.

### ARGENTINA

Children in Argentina leave out hay and water as Christmas there continues until January 6, which is Three Kings Day. The night before Three Kings Day, children leave their shoes outside so they can be filled with gifts. They also leave hay and water for the kings' horses.

Watch out for more Christmas stories under this slug

### NETHERLANDS

In the Netherlands, children often leave carrots and hay to help energise Santa's horses — yes, horses — on their trip around the world.

### IRELAND

Some Irish families leave a pint of Guinness for Santa on the eve of Christmas.

Germans have more of a Christmas angel, the 'Christkind,' than a Santa, and they don't leave any snacks. Instead, they leave the angel handwritten letters that are decorated with sparkles and markers. In the morning, the letters are gone and in their place are gifts.

### SANTA'S PLATTER

► In Denmark, Belgium, and the Netherlands — children don't believe Santa's sleigh is pulled by reindeer. They think he is being pulled by horses, so they leave food for them on Christmas Eve. Denmark doesn't leave anything for Julemanden (Santa) but they do leave out rice pudding for elves. ► Children leave elves — who are named 'nisser' and who live in the attic — a bowl of rice pudding called 'risengrod'. They believe that if the rice pudding isn't left out, then the nisser will taunt them. ► In Iceland, children leave out laufabrauð, (leaf bread) and tastes like a crispy wafer. ► In France, children leave out carrots and cookies in their shoes. ► German children leave out handwritten letters before going to bed.

(Source: Insider)

## QUIZ TIME (INDIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE)

**Q.1) Who is the author of the Mahabharata?**  
A. Kalidasa B. Kautilya  
C. Veda Vyasa  
D. Vishnu Sharma

**Q.2) The following Indian singers: Bade Gulam Ali Khan, Gangubai Hangal, Parveen Sultana are well known as exponents of which form of Indian music?**

A. Carnatic music  
B. Western classical  
C. Hindustani music  
D. Folk music

**Q.3) The lettering 'Satyameva Jayate' inscribed at the base of the emblem of India is taken from which book?**

A. Yajur Veda B. Rig Veda  
C. Mahabharata D. Mundaka Upanishad

**Q.4) Where is the gigantic monolithic statue of Gomateswara, a Jain monk, located?**

A. Hampi  
B. Yediyur  
C. Badami  
D. Shravanbelagola

**ANSWERS**  
1. C) Veda Vyasa 2. C) Hindustani music 3. D) Mundaka Upanishad 4. D) Shravanbelagola

## KNOWLEDGE BANK (BIRDS)

### Greater bird of paradise

Botanist Carl Linnaeus named the species *Paradisaea* and apoda or "legless bird of paradise", because early trade skins that reached Europe were prepared without wings or feet by natives. This led to the misconception that these birds were kept aloft by their plumes and never touched Earth until death. These birds are native to New Guinea and Indonesia. Their diet mainly consists of fruits, seeds and small insects.

## EXPLORE YOUR CREATIVITY

Develop a story based on the pictures in around 250 words. Send your entry along with your name, class, school and picture at toinle175@gmail.com



### CHECK YOUR APTITUDE

9. What is the maximum distance running the lowest data rate for 802.11b?  
A. About 350 feet B. About 322 feet C. About 100 feet D. About 450 feet

10. What is the maximum distance with maximum data rate for 802.11a?  
A. About 65-75 feet B. About 90-100 feet C. About 150 feet D. Over 200 feet

**ANSWER:**  
1. About 350 feet 2. About 65-75 feet

## MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2020

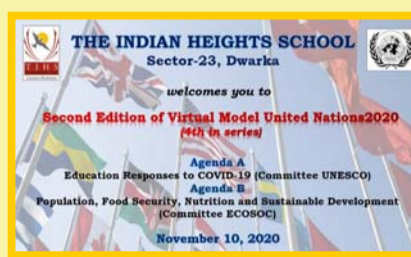
Hillwoods Academy, Preet Vihar organised its seventh edition of Model United Nations Conference for two days. Even after the COVID-19 pandemic spread worldwide Hillwoods Academy was able to succeed in its aim of organising a rewarding conference. The HAMUNC 2020 stimulated five committees including the UNGA, UNHRC, UNSC, Lok Sabha and The International Press based on distinctive agendas that were discussed, debated, and deliberated upon by

the aspiring diplomats. Schools from in and around the state took active part in the conference. Not only India but HAMUNC 2020 organised through the online



Anandita of Hillwoods Academy (UNGA), Parth of Ryan international school (UNHRC), Ahan Godkari of BPS (UNSC), Sneha Shukla of Ryan International School, Mayur Vihar and Harsh kakkar of DPS (international press) were conferred with the Best delegate and special mentions were also given to the delegates.

The Indian Heights School, Sector 23, Dwarka conducted its 2nd Virtual edition Model United Nations (4th edition in series). The main objective of the event was to bring out the untapped potential of students and hone their skills. The students experienced exhilarating sessions of debate and discussion on burning issues like Education Responses to Covid-19 (UNESCO) and Population, Food Security, Nutrition, and Sustainable Development. Dr Vivek Tripathi was the chief guest and Gunjan Gupta was the eminent panel of judges. The programme commenced with the school choir performance followed by a speech, a poem on girl child, mime performance and rendition of UN Song left everyone spell bound. School principal, Archana Narain appreciated the students efforts and dedication. She said that students are the reservoir of potential and they need to adopt a holistic approach to sustain sustainable development. The chief guest, Dr Tripathi applauded the stellar event and added that amidst the ongoing crisis it's essential to find the right solution for which he suggested the students to adopt a positive approach. Gunjan Gupta also enlightened the gathering and lauded the coordination, hard work and managerial skills exhibited by the students.



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Creativity is contagious, pass it on

JM International School, Dwarka conducted "Rhetoria". Around 30 schools participated nationwide, via web. The exemplar show had Readathon, Value-Drome, Story telling, Biographic narrations, Hasya-kavi Sammelan, Utsav-Katha, Quote - Unquote, anecdotal talk on "Gandhigiri" by students of primary classes to class VIII.



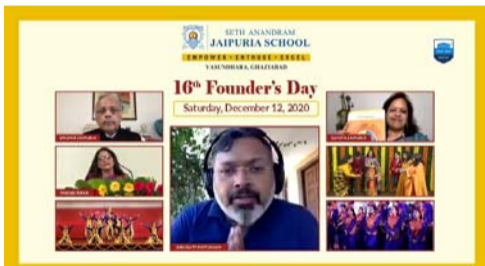
Revered personalities from acting arena, publication

houses, were invited; the jury was in a fix due to the exceptional performances. Sprightly words of the judges, hosts, and the unconditional support of school principal, Dr Anuradha Govind, made it a grand success.

## Founder's Day Commemoration

Seth Anandram Jaipuria School, Ghaziabad rejoiced in its 16th Founder's Day celebrations. Devdutt Pattanaik the Indian

musical ballet 'The Selfish Giant' based on an enchanting adaptation of Oscar Wilde's Fairy tale. The audience was transported to a euphoric world through a



mythologist, speaker, illustrator and author, presided over the occasion as the chief guest. The event commenced with the lighting of the lamp. Invoking the blessings of Lord Vaasudeva through a 'Stuti', the cultural programme set the dais for a rapturous rendezvous of talents ahead. An orchestra performance was given by the musicians of the school. The showstopper of the day was the

four of Virtual Art Exhibition 'Pursuit of Happiness'. The event witnessed the digital release of the 'Ignite' - The School Chronicle'. Around 22 meritorious students were awarded and 14

teachers completing 10 years of dedicated service were felicitated. School's alumna Karnika Gupta from the 2012-13 batch was also felicitated by the school.

The National Awardee principal cum director, Manju Rana read the school's repertoire and talked about the milestones achieved by the school in the year gone by. The chief guest Devdutt Pattanaik applauded the spirit of the students and the school in these extraordinary times. School chairman Shishir Jaipuria appreciated the efforts of the school in reaching out to the students with optimum use of technology for the uninterrupted flow of quality education in this pandemic. The virtual event came to the end with the vote of thanks proposed by school vice principal V Suprabha.

## Spectacular display of talent and fervour

Mount Columbus, Dakshinpur celebrated Virtual 10th Annual Night 'UMED' for the primary classes to class IX. Upendra Puri was the guest of honour on the occasion. He stated that he felt highly honoured and elated to have Virtually in Mount Columbus School.



The programme commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the school principal, and co-ordinators. School principal Aditi Roy shared the school's Annual Report of the session 2020-21.

The cultural extravaganza started with the melodious presentation 'Ganesh Vandana' by the students of Class IX.

After the spectacular performance put up by the young Columbians, a prize distribution ceremony was conducted where the meritorious students were awarded with the virtual trophies.

The programme based on the theme Fighting with Corona in which the students dressed up in different attires according to the theme and enthralled the audience with their marvelous presentation. School chairman appreciated the students, teachers and the management for a classic programme presented.

The programme culminated with the National Anthem.

## Glory and triumph

Padmini Rao (VI) of Mount Olympus School, Sec 47, Gurgaon made the school proud with her commendable achievement in Horse Jumping Competition, organised by a horse-riding club of Jaipur. She has set a record by win-



ning multiple medals including Gold, Silver and Bronze in Group 2. She clinched a gold medal in Horse Jumping Competition (80cm), silver medal in Dressage and bagged two bronze medals in jumping (80 cms).

School director/principal Dr Neeti C Kaushik congratulated her and her parents for the magnificent achievement and wished for a prosperous future.

## Synergy 2020



In sync with the present metamorphosis in the field of education, The Srijan School, Model Town hosted its Annual Inter-School Festival, SYNERGY 2020, through the digital platform. The mega festival was organised. This festival gave the young minds the right amalgam of science, commerce, litera-

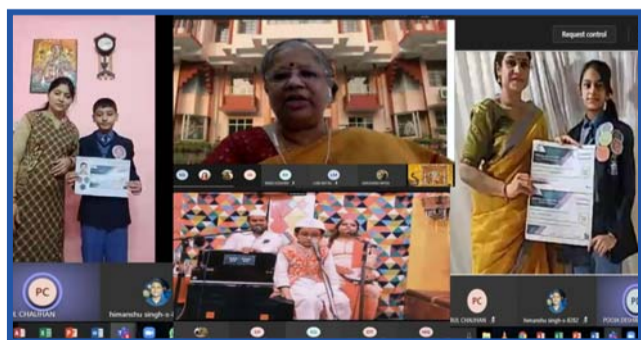
ture, art, music and dance based events. They used this festival to express their creativity in more ways than one, and to challenge and re-define the norms.

With over 650 students from 50 different schools across India participating in it, this event was not only a huge success, but also a learning experience for everyone. The enriching and engrossing talks

by the eminent judges made each event even more fruitful for the participants. The festival closed with a virtual Closing Ceremony where school principal, Vincent Ashish Moses, encouraged the students by saying that participating is everything and true victory lies in learning. The ceremony ended with announcement of results and applauding of winners.

## 'Celebrating induces the progress principle'

Success Day Celebrations were organised by Maharaja Agarsain Public School, Ashok Vihar for all the classes. The aim was to applaud and felicitate not only winners but achievers, toppers as well as those who had shown a marked improvement in their result or had done well in co-scholastic areas. The event, titled Zenith, was held class-wise with parents being the guests. Ganesh Vandana provided a start to the programme followed by words by school principal. Students who scored above 90% marks in any of the subjects were awarded with Scholars Badges. Star Badges were conferred on those who scored above 90% marks in all the subjects. Achievers' badges were grabbed by those who showed improvement in academics.



Regularly Badges were also awarded to students who had 100% attendance. It was a proud moment for all stakeholders as beaming parents presented certificates to their wards and pinned badges. The class teachers were happy to oblige with felicitous words for their students during the awarding ceremony. The pro-

gramme was interspersed with stellar performances by the students who rejoiced in the achievements, their own and of others. Pawan Gupta, president AWS, was all praise for the principal Punam Gupta and the staff for the event which concluded with motivational speeches by the respective wing coordinators.

## THE EDUCATIONIST

### Technology cannot replace classrooms

Tiny Fernandez has been teaching since the last 27 years and is the headmistress of S.V.D.D. English medium high school for almost 11 years

**Q: What do you think were the most difficult parts of getting used to teaching online?**  
I think that the most difficult part was taming the technology. It was an uncharted terrain for all of us. The management was very supportive and we had some technical support too.

**Q: What according to you was the single most drastic change that took place when you switched over to online teaching?**  
The loss of one-to-one contact. When in class, we can understand the expressions on the faces of the students but that was missing in online teaching. Technology cannot replace conventional classrooms.

**Q: How did you prepare the teachers mentally for online teaching?**  
To be prepared mentally, it was quin-



Tiny Fernandez, Headmistress

tesential. Since our B.eds, we have been teaching in a classroom. The online teaching experience was completely different for us. We had to adapt to it as quickly as we could.

**Q: Significant amount of portion has been reduced for SSC board.**

**How did this benefit the teachers and the students?**  
To be honest, it was not beneficial to us the way it should have been. Also, because of the portion reduction, certain important activities which help the children to understand the concepts, have been deleted.

**Q: How do you think that the current scenario affect the college admissions next year for students currently in 10th grade?**  
The future seems very uncertain at this point in time but I think that the pandemic might be in control by next year. I hope that the next educational year goes by smoothly and same goes for the admission process.

As told to Aarya Bhanushali, class X, S.V.D.D. English Medium Secondary High School

## Express YOURSELF

### A PROMISE ON HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Pollution, day by day, is increasing lot and lot. People are acting without giving it a thought. Beauty gets hidden under garbage heap, That's making even the mighty Himalayas weep. I also see leaves and trees crying, As there is all around garbage lying.

The air surrounding me is as good as smoke, which makes me and everyone choke. If I don't want any dust, Planting saplings is, then, a must.

Wherever I go, noise hunts me down, Pollution is, definitely, the talk of my town. Sometimes it's the noise

from industries, At times it's from the construction sites, Wherever I go, chaos shuts me down.

It is Human Rights Day I have a right to life I will do everything Before there is any more strife

Stop polluting, Start cleaning, Recycle, reduce, reuse These are the only cure.

If I don't start today to save people from pollution, Soon I will find there will be no solution.

VANYA SALUJA, VII, St Mark's School, Meera Bagh



SAMARTH SOVANI, The Indian School, Sadiq Nagar



SANYA JADWANI, XI, Manav Sthali School, Rajendra Nagar

# CAN ROHIT, GILL TURN THE TIDE FOR TEAM INDIA?



Rohit sustained a hamstring injury during the recently concluded IPL, where he led Mumbai Indians to a record-extending fifth title. He was later ruled out from limited-overs series against Australia.

Former Australia captain Ricky Ponting batted for the inclusion of Rohit Sharma as early as possible into the Indian squad for the ongoing Test series against Australia. India's current opening batsmen, Prithvi Shaw and Mayank Agarwal aggregated just 30 between them across the two innings of the first Test, which India lost by eight wickets. Of those 30, Shaw got just four, which was in the second innings

## Shaw pushing at the deliveries, playing with hard hands

Yes, yes, yes, he (Rohit) is definitely going to play in this Test series. He is already in Australia as far as I know and he might not be playing the second Test but he will be there for the third and the fourth.

You can see he (Shaw) was pushing at the deliveries (in warm-ups), playing with hard hands and that has been his major problem. Even in this Test, there was such a big gap between bat and pad. It was just the second delivery of the game (first innings dismissal). You want to make sure that you are playing with soft hands and as late as possible.

The whole idea in Test match cricket is not to go there (take the bat far from the body) because then you are leaving a gap between bat and pad, allowing for late movement to get an inside edge or sneak between bat and pad. The trick is to play as close to the pad as possible... you can play shots later but at the start you can't leave the gap.

Sunil Gavaskar, former India opener and captain

## Rohit better player than Agarwal, Shaw

He (Rohit) will definitely play. He is a better Test player than Mayank Agarwal and Prithvi Shaw. If he is fit then he will straightaway slot at the top of the order.

Ricky Ponting, former Australia captain

## Gill should have been the player to begin with

Prithvi Shaw is not the one that has failed here, the selectors have failed. He shouldn't have gotten picked to begin with, knowing that he's coming into this Test series out of form and also with the technical flaws that have been exposed over a dozen balls. So to me he was set up to fail in a way. For me, Shubman Gill should have been the person to play to begin with. His technique is a lot more watertight and he's shown that he's got a wonderful temperament.

Tom Moody, former Australia cricketer

## Rahul too has the experience

I feel KL Rahul should play because he has the experience. Since the time KL Rahul has been dropped from the Indian team, he has put in a lot of effort in the last one and a half to two years and there has been improvement in his game. He has played well in ODIs and T20s, if we talk about this series also. That is why he should definitely be brought into the team. Shubman Gill is an organised player. I believe a player who has been playing continuously, in which you can include the IPL as well, in the last few months should be given a chance.

Mohammad Kaif, former India batsman

## Dravid should be rushed to Aus to guide batsmen: Vengsarkar

Back in 2003, Rahul Dravid was the hero of India's memorable four-wicket Test win at Adelaide, stroking 233 & 72 not out. In four Tests of that series, 'The Wall' scored 619 runs at an average of 123.8



Dravid has an impressive overseas record

India's disastrous show with the bat in the first day/night pinkball Test at Adelaide, which saw them being skittled out for their lowest total of 36 in a Test innings, has prompted former India skipper Dilip Vengsarkar to come up with a suggestion for BCCI president and former India skipper Sourav Ganguly: Send batting legend Rahul Dravid, currently the head of the National Cricket Academy (NCA), to Australia immediately.

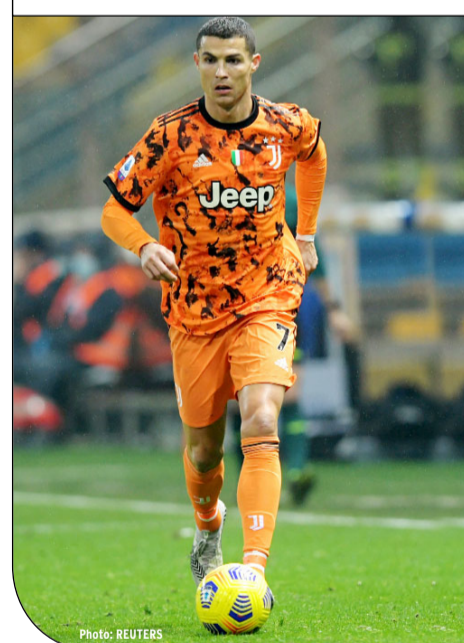
Vengsarkar felt that India's batsmen would do much better in the rest of the series, which will now be played with the red ball. "I agree that the Aussies bowled a nagging line and length, but in Test match cricket, that is expected. I guess India will breathe more freely with the red ball."

The BCCI must rush Dravid to Australia to help the team. No one can guide the batsmen better on how to play the moving ball in those conditions. His presence will be a huge boost to the Indian team in the nets. In any case, the NCA has been shut due to Covid for the past nine months, leaving him with little to do.

The Board can make better use of Dravid by utilising his services to help the national team, which will be without skipper Virat Kohli from now (last three Tests). Even if he has to serve a mandatory two-week quarantine period, he should be available to help the Indian team at the nets before the third Test in Sydney, which will begin from January 7.

Dilip Vengsarkar, former India skipper

## Cristiano Ronaldo scores twice as Juventus crush Parma



The striker became only the fourth player to score at least 33 Serie A goals in a calendar year

Cristiano Ronaldo scored twice, taking his Serie A tally for the season to 12, as defending champions Juventus cruised to a 4-0 win at Parma. Juve's 42-year-old goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon prevented Parma from taking an early lead when he saved with his legs from Juraj Kucka's close range effort before the Turin side took complete control.

## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

**Q1:** Which one of the following players holds the record of most sixes in ICC Men's T20 World Cup?

- a) AB de Villiers  b) Shane Watson   
c) Yuvraj Singh  d) Chris Gayle

**Q2:** Who is the only player to reach a 'Junior Grand Slam,' winning all majors at a junior level?

- a) Boris Becker  b) Stefan Edberg   
c) Pete Sampras  d) Andre Agassi

**Q3:** Which of the following players has the record of

most centuries in The Wisden Trophy?

- a) Sir Viv Richards  b) Sir Gordon Greenidge   
c) Sir Andrew Strauss  d) Graham Gooch

**Q4:** Who is the first player from Poland to win a Grand Slam singles champion?

- a) Iga Swiatek  b) Magda Linette   
c) Katarzyna Kawa  d) Magdalena Frech

**Q5:** Which of the following cricketers has played most matches as captain in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy?

- a) Ricky Ponting  b) Steve Waugh   
c) MS Dhoni  d) Sourav Ganguly

**Q6:** How many times has Lionel Messi won the Pichichi award?

- a) Seven  b) Five  c) Three  d) One



**Q7:** Which of the following fielders have the record of most catches in ICC Men's T20 World Cup?

- a) AB de Villiers  b) Martin Cuptill   
c) David Warner  d) Dwayne Bravo

**Q8:** Who is the first player to score five goals in a single Champions League game?

- a) Lionel Messi  b) Zlatan Ibrahimovic   
c) Luiz Adriano  d) Cristiano Ronaldo

**Q9:** Liverpool secured the FIFA Club World Cup for the first time in December 2019. Which club did they defeat in the finals?

- a) Flamengo  b) Santos FC   
c) Paris Saint-Germain  d) Juventus

**Q10:** Which of the following players holds the record

of most runs in ICC World Test Championship?

- a) David Warner  b) Marnus Labuschagne   
c) Ben Stokes  d) Steven Smith

**Q11:** In which year did Liverpool win their Premier League title, with seven matches remaining, ending a 30 year drought?

- a) 2016  b) 2019  c) 2020  d) 2017

**Q12:** In which year did Barcelona win their first European Cup?

- a) 1992  b) 1994  c) 1996  d) 1998

**ANSWERS:** 1 d) Chris Gayle 2 b) Stefan Edberg  
3 a) Sir Viv Richards 4 a) Iga Swiatek  
5 c) MS Dhoni 6 a) Seven 7 a) AB de Villiers  
8 a) Lionel Messi 9 a) Flamengo  
10 b) Marnus Labuschagne  
11 c) 2020 12 a) 1992