



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S
EDITION**

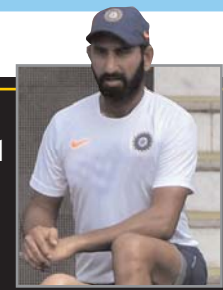
► Take a note of the bands that are named after classic literature

PAGE 2


► Students share their weekend plans
► Reviewing your favourite book/movie can be fun

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► A look at the journey of the real heroes, who played a vital role in India's win over Oz

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STUDENT EDITION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021

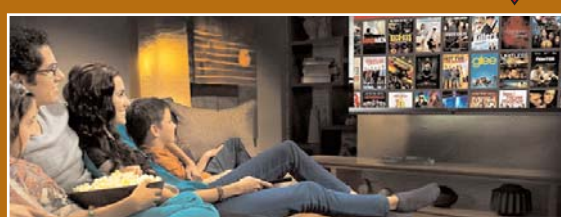

WEB EDITION
CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

1,000 grams

of CARBON DIOXIDE is emitted in an hour during a video call meeting, claims a new study. Switching off your camera during a web call can reduce a person's carbon footprint by 96 per cent, it adds. In other words, it can save up to three gallons of water and an area of land about the size of an iPad Mini. According to researchers, streaming content in standard definition rather than in high definition, while using apps, such as Netflix or Hulu, could also bring an 86 per cent reduction. Reducing data download will also lessen the demand of water and land. The study is believed to be the first to analyse water and land use associated with the internet infrastructure.

For the study, the team estimated the carbon, water and land footprints associated with each gigabyte of data used in YouTube, Zoom, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok and 12 other platforms, as well as in online gaming and miscellaneous web surfing. As expected, the researchers found that the more a video is used in an application, the larger are the footprints

■ According to environmentalists, though an ongoing pandemic has seen a noticeable drop in global carbon emissions, because of closing factories and limited traffic, there has been an increase in at-home entertainment and remote working, which has a significant environmental impact, depending on how the internet data is stored and transferred around the world



■ Moreover, researchers found that OTT platforms like Netflix is one of the biggest contributors to the carbon footprints, using about 11 square inches of land and two

gallons of water per hour and generating more than 440 grams of CO₂ ■ It was followed in descending order by Zoom, TikTok, WhatsApp and Facebook

DID YOU KNOW?

1 In some countries, the internet use has spiked at least 20 per cent since the lockdowns started in March. If that level of demand continues through 2021, it will require a forest twice the size of Indiana in the US, to offset the carbon emissions, warn experts

2 Besides, if increased usage continues, the additional water needed to process and transmit data could fill more than 300,000 Olympic-size swimming pools, and the land required would be equivalent to the size of Los Angeles, the study added

INTO THE FUTURE

SAUDI LAUNCHES CITY WITH NO CARS



Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has unveiled his latest vision for Saudi Arabia's future beyond oil — a city with no cars, roads or carbon emissions. According to experts, the announcement shows the extent to which Prince Mohammed is thinking about life after oil for the kingdom, which earned over half of the government's revenue from crude in 2020. Addressing his countrymen on the rising sea levels and carbon emissions, the Prince said, "Why should we sacrifice nature for development all the time?" The city, he said, would be a "revolution for the mankind" with "zero cars, zero streets and zero emissions."

■ The 170-kilometre-long development called 'The Line' will be part of the \$500 billion project called 'Neom' ■ It will be a walkable belt of hyper-connected future communities without cars and roads and built around nature ■ The city would have one million residents and create 380,000 jobs by 2030. The infrastructure will cost between \$100 billion and \$200 billion ■ The city would be built around ultra-high-speed transit and autonomous mobility solutions

Spotlight

JEE, NEET syllabus to remain unchanged for 2021



The ministry of education on Tuesday announced that the syllabus of the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) and the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) would remain unchanged for 2021. "The syllabus for the JEE Main 2021 will remain the same as the previous year. But students will be given a choice to answer 75 questions, out of the 90 questions," said the education ministry.

■ The exact pattern for the NEET (Undergraduate) 2021 is yet to be announced ■ However, it is believed that in view of the reduction of syllabus by some education Boards across the country, the NEET (UG) 2021 question paper would also have options on the lines of the JEE (Main)

HONOUR

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birthday to be celebrated as 'Parakram Diwas'



The Centre has decided to celebrate the birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as 'Parakram Diwas' every year, Union ministry of culture has announced. In order to honour and remember Netaji's indomitable spirit and selfless service to the nation, the government of India has decided to celebrate his birthday as 'Parakram diwas' to inspire the people of this country, especially the youth, to act with fortitude in the face of adversity as Netaji did, and to infuse in them a spirit of patriotic fervour, the government stated in its release.

TRUMP BABY BLIMP LANDS AT LONDON MUSEUM

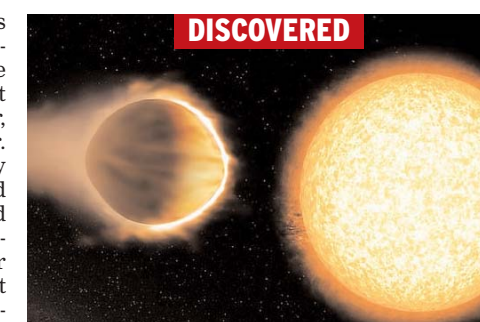
A blimp depicting former US President Donald Trump as a snarling, nappy-wearing orange baby has found a home in one of London's most-popular museums. The helium-filled balloon, originally paid for through crowdfunding, first took to the London skies during the protests against Trump's visit in 2018, and has also flown in to other locations, including France, Argentina, Ireland and Denmark.



The Museum of London said the blimp would join its protest collection, which include artefacts from the Suffragette movement as well as climate change and peace rallies

A UNIQUE 'SUPER-PUFF' PLANET!

Astronomers have discovered a unique 'super-puff' planet that's as big as Jupiter, but 10 times lighter. According to Daily Mail, the planet, called WASP-107b, is believed to be one of the least-dense exoplanets ever discovered, earning it the nicknames of a 'super-puff' or 'cotton-candy' planet. Researchers say the findings have 'big implications' for what we understand about how giant planets form and grow.



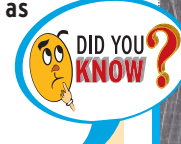
WHAT IS WASP-107B?

■ WASP-107b lies around 212 light years from the Earth in the Virgo constellation ■ Astronomers believe that the planet is over 16 times closer to its star than the Earth is to the sun

■ This extremely-low density indicates that the planet must be having a solid core, which could be four times the mass of the Earth

■ This, according to the researchers, suggest that more than 85 per cent of its mass lies in the thick layer of gas that surrounds its core

Most gas giant planets, such as Jupiter and Saturn, have a solid core, which is at least 10 times more massive than the Earth



ETHAN HAWKE TO PLAY SUPERVILLAIN IN COMICBOOK ADAPTATION

Hollywood star Ethan Hawke has been roped in as a villain opposite Oscar Isaac in an upcoming superhero series, 'Moon Knight'. With this role in Marvel Studios' series, the actor will be making his debut in the comicbook adaptation and superhero realm, reports hollywoodreporter.com. Hawke will play the lead villain in the series, while Isaac will don the role of the protagonist. The makers plan to start the production of the show in March in Budapest.

'Moon Knight' is the story of Marc Spector, an elite soldier and mercenary, who decides to fight crime, after he becomes the human avatar of Khonshu, the Egyptian god of the moon. The character first appeared in the August 1975 comicbook issue, 'Werewolf By Night #32'



Rafale, vintage Dakota aircraft to be major attraction of REPUBLIC DAY PARADE



The newly-inducted Rafale and vintage Dakota aircraft will be one of the major attractions during the Republic Day parade at Rajpath in New Delhi on January 26, as they would be part of 42 aircraft taking part in the flypast..

1 In its first appearance at the Republic Day celebrations, the Rafale fighter jets will do a "vertical charlie" to end the flypast
2 Dakota, on the other hand, will be part of the Rudra formation, when the Bangladesh contingent would be marching on the Rajpath. This would be the first time, when the Bangladesh contingent would be marching on Rajpath

3 The vintage Dakota aircraft played a crucial role in the liberation of Bangladesh and the formation of Bangladesh Air Force; they were used for air dropping army troops in Bangladesh's Tangail during the 1971 war

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

► Apart from the Rafale jets, Sukhoi 30s and MiG 29s — the fighter jets that are part of the IAF's muscular posture in the Ladakh sector, would participate in the flypast
► The Apache attack helicopter and Chinook strategic heavy lift choppers, which have proved their mettle in the swift mobilisation of troops and logistics during the India-China military standoff, will also be part of the Republic Day celebrations
► Further, FLIGHT LIEUTENANT



BHAWANA KANTH, one of the first women fighter pilots in the IAF, will be a part of the Republic Day parade, making her the first woman pilot to take part in the parade. She will be part of the IAF's tableau, showcasing indigenously-developed Light Combat Aircraft Tejas, Light Combat

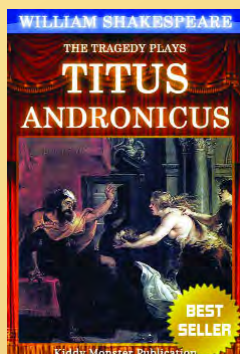
Helicopter Rudra, Rohini radars and BrahMos
► In addition to the 42 aircraft, there will be four Army Aviation helicopters taking part in the parade
► For the first time since its inception, the Republic Day parade at the historic Rajpath will culmi-

nate at the National Stadium instead of Red Fort; the number of spectators have also been reduced drastically to 25,000
► Also, the Republic Day celebration this year is going to be a low key affair, with no chief guest



1. TITUS ANDRONICUS

SOURCE: 'Titus Andronicus' by William Shakespeare
NEW JERSEY PUNKS Titus Andronicus take their name from the greatest wordsmith of them all, William Shakespeare. Titus Andronicus is thought to be the famous playwright's first ever tragedy. It is also his bloodiest and most violent work.

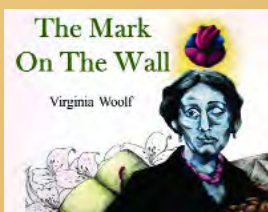


2. THE DOORS

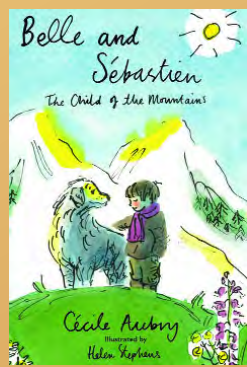
SOURCE: 'The Doors of Perception' by Aldous Huxley
WHEN THE DOORS formed in 1965, they decided to name themselves after Aldous Huxley's book detailing the author's experiences with life. The Doors of Perception's title was inspired by a William Blake quotation: "If the doors of perception were cleansed everything would appear to man as it is, infinite."

3. MODEST MOUSE

SOURCE: 'The Mark on the Wall' by Virginia Woolf
INDIE-ROCK OUTFIT MODEST Mouse derived their name from a passage in Virginia Woolf's 'The Mark on the Wall,' which reads "I wish I could hit upon a pleasant track of thought, a track indirectly reflecting credit upon myself, for those are the pleasantest thoughts, and very frequent even in the minds of modest, mouse-coloured people, who believe genuinely that they dislike to hear their own praises. I chose the name when I was fifteen," front-man Issac Brock explains in Modest.



4. BELLE AND SEBASTIAN



SOURCE: 'Belle et Sébastien' by Cécile Aubry
BELLE ET SÉBASTIEN was a famous French novel about a boy and his dog living in a small French Alps mountain village. It spawned a French live-action television series in the 1965, a Japanese anime series in the '80s and the name of a popular indie-pop group in the '90s.

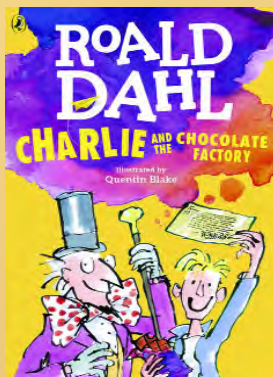
5. ESBEN AND THE WITCH

SOURCE: 'Esben and the Witch - Danish Fairy Tale' **THREE PIECE INDIE-ROCK** band from Brighton, England Esben and the Witch takes its name from the Danish fairy tale about a boy's encounters with a murderous witch. The name is fitting considering the dark tone of the band's music.



6. VERUCA SALT

SOURCE: 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl
IN ROALD DAHL'S classic children's book, Veruca Salt is a spoiled rich girl, whose bratty greed causes her to fall down an incinerator shaft. In 1993, Louise Post and Nina Gordon used the name for their alternative rock band.



7. ORYX AND CRAKE

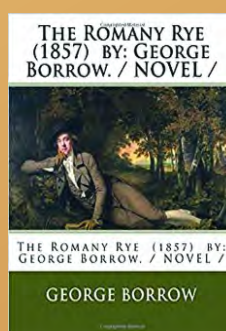
SOURCE: 'Oryx and Crake' by Margaret Atwood
NAMED AFTER MARGARET Atwood's post-apocalyptic speculative fiction novel, Atlanta's Oryx and Crake "offer lyrics that are influenced by both real life stories and overly active imaginations, and music that juxtaposes sounds of the past, present and future."

BAND NAMES INSPIRED BY LITERATURE

SOMETIMES MUSICIANS REACH FOR INSPIRATION FROM THEIR BOOKSHELVES. HERE ARE 10 BANDS NAMED AFTER CLASSIC LITERATURE. THE WORKS THAT INSPIRED SEVERAL OF THE ENTRIES ARE PROBABLY OBVIOUS, BUT A FEW OF THEM WILL MOST CERTAINLY SURPRISE YOU...

8. THE ROMANY RYE

SOURCE: 'The Romany Rye' by George Borrow
GEORGE BORROW'S THE Romany Rye tells the story of a learned young man who is thrown in with a band of Gypsies. Luke MacMaster's was inspired to use the name his folk-rock project after falling in love with the protagonist, who gives up his money for life on the road. The name translates from the Romany language to mean "The Gypsy Gentleman."



9. THE FALL

SOURCE: 'The Fall' by Albert Camus
CAMUS' PHILOSOPHICAL NOVEL focuses on themes such as innocence, imprisonment, non-existence, truth and man's fall from grace, as presented by the novel's protagonist Jean-Baptiste Clamence. The Fall bassist Tony Freil came up with the name when the post-punk band formed in 1976.

10. THE BOO RADLEYS

SOURCE: 'To Kill A Mockingbird' by Harper Lee
ENGLISH ALTERNATIVE-ROCK band The Boo Radleys named themselves after a character in Harper Lee's only book, the masterpiece 'To Kill A Mockingbird'. In the novel, Boo Radley is a quiet, reclusive character who watches over most of the events of the story from the outside until he is forced to intervene.



Ready to eat 'Blue Rice'?

While Blue Rice is not new to Asian cuisine, it is the striking colour that has made people sit up and take notice of the dish lately. Recently, actor Jacqueline Fernandez was seen enjoying blue rice with her friends. Blue Rice, also known as 'Nasi Kerabu', is prepared using butterfly pea flower and is eaten in Malaysia and Thailand. Though mixologists across the country have previously used butterfly pea flowers to impart blue or purple colour to drinks, it is only recently that blue rice has been introduced in restaurants of the country. Tarun Sibal, a chef who serves Blue Rice at his eatery, shares:

Butterfly pea flower is packed with antioxidants and is said to detoxify your body. It is great for your skin too

HOW TO PREPARE

Take a cup of rice and cook it like you prepare regular white rice. To the water add a handful of butterfly pea flowers. "You will need a lot of blue pea flowers (8-10) so that the rice gets the rich blue colour," says Sibal.

PAIR IT BEST WITH

Blue rice tastes well with all kinds of curries. "Since it is a fragrant rice, personally, I prefer to pair it with Asian flavours. So, an Asian curry with mild flavour is definitely a good choice," adds Sibal.

TNN



NEWBIE

CLEAN BEAUTY

More and more brands are putting conscious effort into developing products that are free of artificial ingredients, fragrances and chemical additives. K-beauty products will be even more gentle with effective plant-based ingredients. Many brands are even becoming vegan now. Consumers have become more aware of what they put on their skin and they should rightly do that too.

AT-HOME INDULGENCES

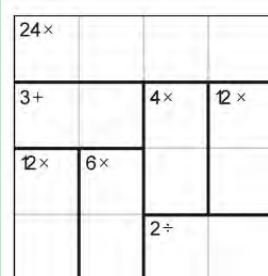
Skincare's functional element is to work and deliver results. But people are now going to focus on at-home beauty treatments that provide meditative, soothing and spa-like moments. The kind of treatments that can transport you mentally and emotionally to another headspace.

BODY-CARE BOOST

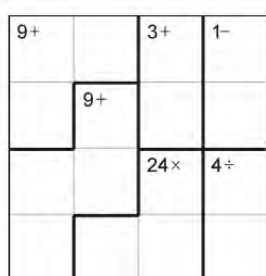
Several body-care routines originated from the bathhouse culture in Korea, where milk treatments are slathered on the face and body. Baths are steeped with skin-beneficial ingredients like probiotics and green tea. Personal self-care has now taken on new importance for many people ever since the quarantine period. So this year, you can expect to see people including all of the skin, from head to toe. TNN



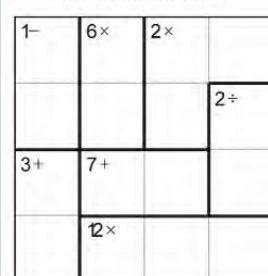
MATHDUKO



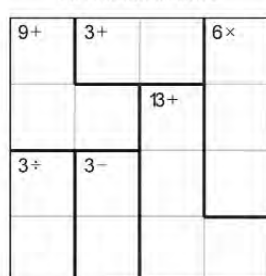
0404 MATHDUKU EASY 1



0404 MATHDUKU EASY 2



0404 MATHDUKU EASY 3



0404 MATHDUKU EASY 4

PLAY TIME (SIMPLY FRACTIONS ZOMBIE BOARD GAME)

RULES OF THE GAME

The zombie board game is a fun game for educators. There are traps, pitfalls and escapes in this game. It is called zombie board game because the zombie represents the biggest single threat to the players. Landing on a zombie space sends a player back to start.

1. Roll the dice and count ahead according to the number that shows up.
2. When a player lands on a space, the player simplifies the fraction on the space within a determined time and says the answer.
3. The instructions on the other spaces are pretty straightforward.
4. Lose a turn: the player loses a turn to play.
5. Go forward. 6. Go backward.
7. The zombie is the space no one wants to land on. It is a killer. Landing on the zombie sends the

player back to start. Restarting is no fun when your opponent is advancing.

8. Trade places: this can be good or bad. The player who lands on this space swaps with the opponent. Trading places with an opponent who is ahead in the game is good. Trading places with an opponent who is behind is no fun.

9. Finally the last pitfall is towards the end of the game. To finish the game, the player must get the exact number on the dice to end. If the player has more, the player has to count forward and backwards. For example if a player is at space 31, the player needs to roll and get 4 to finish. If the player has 6 for example, the player counts forward to 4 and 2 backwards to space 33.

10. To customise this game, change text here in the space boxes by putting in your own words. Equally you can add small clip arts for lower levels.



The First School: FAMILY

It is said that 'Family is the first school for young children and parents are powerful models.' At Aspee Nutan Academy we understand the importance of this. Hence the principal, Nuzhat Khan envisioned this concept of Parental webinar. She added, "True patriotism for a teacher is an environment conducive for the child to learn and grow. This can be done by collaborating with the community and training them which ultimately is the real future".

With this objective two webinars were organised for the parents on some very interesting and informative topics - 'From Caregivers to Confidence Builders- The Parent Power' and 'Building tomorrow's leaders to-day- Leadership starts at home'. This was one under the able moderation of eminent journalist Reema Lokesh of Reemarkabl.com who moderated the session and interacted with the parents and the panelists. The Webinar was chaired by Dr. Swapna Patkar (Clinical Psychologist and counsellor at



The Lilavati Hospital, Mumbai), and had panelists from myriad fields: Janvi Chitalia (Integra-

tive Gut Microbiome Health coach and functional nutritionist), Group. Capt. Nitin

Welde (Retd.) from the Indian Air Force and Preeti Gada (Advocate and Legal Head at Sudhir Shah and Associates.)

The highlight was when one of the panelists threw light on the 5 Cs - compassion, creativity, communication, critical thinking and collaboration thereby emphasizing on the 21st century skills for children. The idea of instilling leadership qualities among the children using - Initiative, Energy and Expression was discussed in depth. The experts encouraged students to take initiative at various stages so that they can channelise their energies in the right manner. Captain Nitin said, "Freedom of expression of their thoughts and opinions and the art of questioning be encouraged". The panelists were flooded with questions which were convincingly resolved. The panelists also shared their own experiences of parenting and the secret of their success in their respective fields. The entire session was made available on the website for those who couldn't attend.

Students excel @ Virtual Sports Day

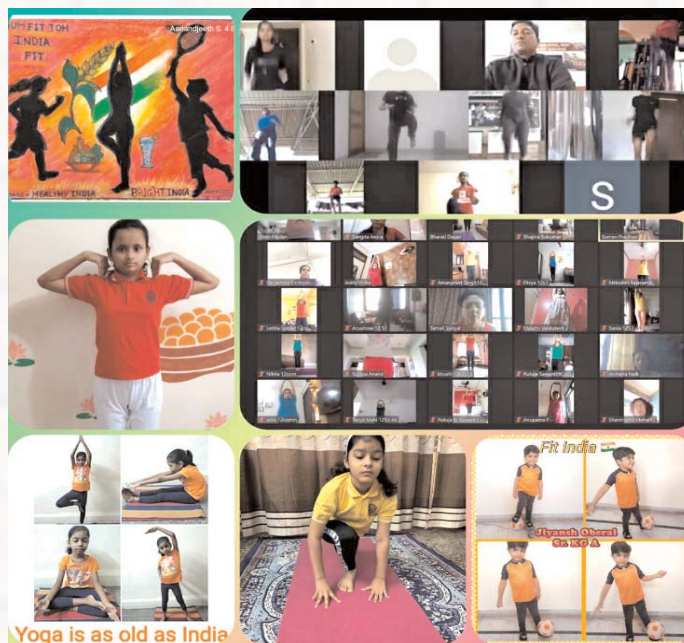
A sound mind in a sound body

Sports is a crucial part of a student's growth and development, both physical and mental. So, to encourage and promote fitness among school children, the CBSE observes Fit India Week as a part of Fit India Movement.

Our school, DAV Public School, Nerul conducted many enthralling and engrossing sports activities across all sections. There was an array of activities like squats, dribbling the ball and spot jumping at Senior Secondary level. At Secondary level, there were activities like Virtual Sports and Fitness Quiz

and Rubik's Cube competition. Activities like Poster making and creative use of home-based equipment for sports and fitness were conducted at Primary level. The tiny tots had a great time with Aerobics, Rope Skipping, Hopscotch, Zig Zag and Shuttle running.

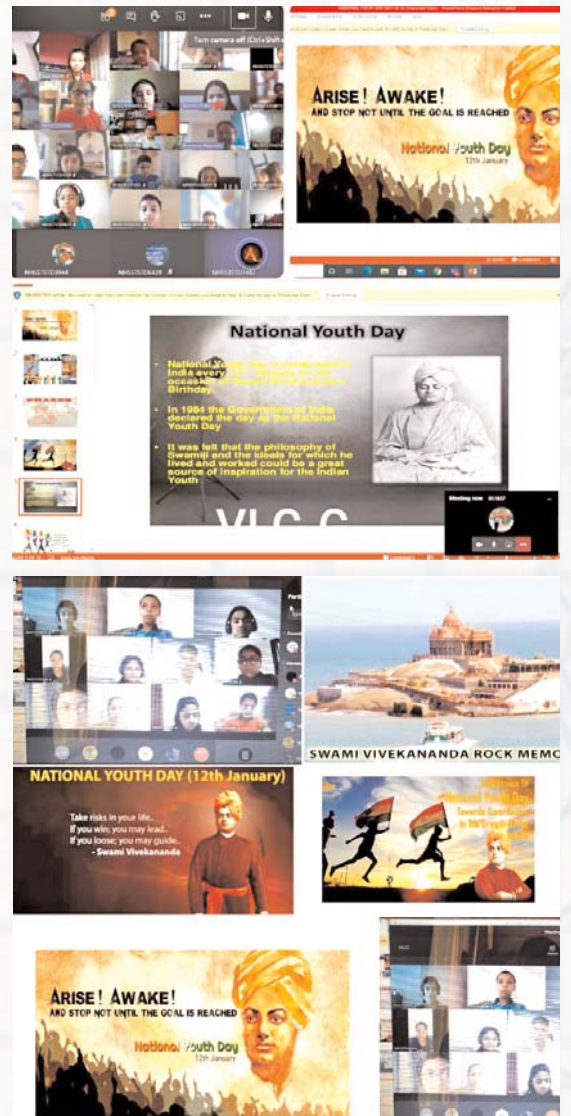
The students' active and enthusiastic participation in all sections in the numerous activities showed their inclination and sheer positivity to beat the pandemic blues through the virtual platform. The understanding of regular physical exercise through this event has instilled in students' self-esteem and confidence.



NATIONAL YOUTH DAY

National Youth Day is celebrated on January 12th to commemorate the birthday of Swami Vivekananda, who was a social reformer, philosopher and thinker. He saw hope for the future in every child and believed that with "muscles of iron" and "nerves of steel" they could bring about social change. The main objective behind the celebration is to make a better future of the country by motivating the youths to propagate the philosophy and the ideals of Swami Vivekananda for which he lived and worked. National Youth Day is also famous as Yuva Diwas. No doubt Swamiji is a great inspiration for all the youths of India. The theme of this year's festival is 'YUVAAH - Utsah Naye Bharat Ka' which suggests, the youth bring alive the celebration of New India.

Across the country, several functions are organised in schools, colleges, etc. New Horizon Scholars School, Thane aspires to inculcate these values and principles of Swamiji in the youngsters of today who carry the promise of building New India tomorrow. A PPT presentation was organized by the skilled teachers where the students were explained the doctrines and philosophy of Swami Vivekananda. The motivated children also shared their ideologies through speech, posters, poems and stories about Swamiji.



BE A CONFIDENT SPEAKER

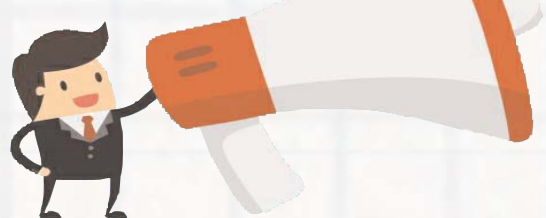
Speaking confidently looks easy, and you may feel that your performance was good, but only others know how you spoke. Others may have noticed fear or nervousness in your looks and speech, they may have seen you talk without expression, but you never know. Ever noticed why the other participant always wins? Because he knows the tricks!

1 Practice in front of a mirror. This is something that we don't do often, but it is the key to a successful speech. By talking in front of a mirror you can judge yourself and correct your looks and speech, just like the judges judge you. (the judges then won't have anything else to judge

about you!)
2 Drink water before your speech / interview. Drinking water makes your voice clearer and you won't dry your throat talking.
3 Dress up neatly. Be as neat as possible and you will look and feel confident instantly.
4 Look everywhere, look at the audience (or at least the screen with virtual people) and feel

like you are talking to your friendliest friends.
5 Smile and be frank. Be cool, take breaks/pauses in your speech and breathe lightly. Talk so that they understand you and agree with you.

Kritisha Babu, class VIII, Lokpuram Public School



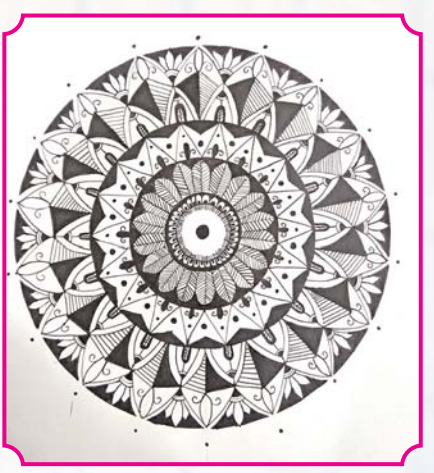
THE BEAUTY OF A SUNSET

Recently I've realised that I love collecting sunset photographs. Collecting sunset pictures boosts my happiness. Every time I see a beautiful sunset, my eyes feel so relaxed. The cotton candy colour of the sky is just wow! It's so amazing that sunsets are powerful enough to take our breath away and stop us in our tracks. Watching sunsets is purely amazing. It is so fascinating to see how beautiful our Mother Nature is! Whenever I feel stressful about my life or anything Sun is the only source I get hope from. Sunset sets the mind and makes me feel calm. Sunset can be inspiring too! I guess watching sunset is definitely a great way to end the day.

Ashu Mamotra, class X, Chandresh Lodha Memorial School, Dombivli East



Painters' Gallery



AARYA BHANUSHALI, class X, SVDD English Medium High School

MOVIE: WONDER WOMAN 1984



New Year brings new resolutions and wishes. However last year also brought something that had us in lockdown for almost the entire year. After a year of everything being different, I was more than happy to kick off this year with a hint of normality. I watched WW84, a movie I had been waiting to watch for a long time, in the theatres. The tale fittingly starts with a younger Diana, who is being told to accept the truth, which goes on to become the whole theme of the movie. What starts as an engaging narrative becomes cliched and boring in the second half as too many elements and themes are added and the whole movie appears rushed trying to fit it. However, the cinematography is amazing with one really feeling a part of the eighties with the dresses, filters, etc. Even though it wasn't up to my expectations, it surely was a good and somewhat engaging watch. And there was no better way to start off this year watching superheroes fighting a chaotic world and also hoping that people would be their own superheroes so that the world would go back to how it was before.

S M V Kareesmaa, class X, Ryan International School, Kharghar



KNOW YOUR HEROES

We present you back stories of the magnificent bunch which gave Indian cricket 'a win to remember' for ages to come

CHETESHWAR PUJARA

The man from Rajkot is not very expressive but has dealt with adversity because of a strong mental make-up largely due to his coach and father Arvind Pujara. He lost his mother while playing junior cricket but never wavered from his goal despite the tragedy. Those hits on the body and knuckles in Brisbane on Tuesday will be the medals he would like to wear all his life.

MOHAMMED SIRAJ

Son of an auto-rickshaw driver from Hyderabad. He lost his father during the tour but decided to stay for the team and miss the last rites. He got a maiden five for in his debut series and was all choked up while dedicating the feat to the memory of his father. The youngster handled racist abuse from Australian fans with the same resolve.

AJINKYA RAHANE (CAPTAIN)

The everyday man on that Mumbai local train travelling from Mulund to Azad and Cross Maidan. Rahane is someone who had a black belt in karate as a teenager, and honed his skills under former India batsman Praveen Amre. Did you know that Rahane's first ever first-class match was in Pakistan and not India? It was in Karachi where Quaid-e-Azam champions Karachi Urbans met Ranji Trophy champions Mumbai.



Photo: AFP

THANGARASU NATARAJAN



Photo: AP

From the remote village of Chinnappampatti in Tamil Nadu, the son of a daily wage labourer at one point in time couldn't buy bowling spikes. And then IPL riches came along but he never forgot his roots. He has built a cricket academy in his native place and helps talented but needy cricketers. His child was born during the IPL but he will now get to see him for the first time in next few days and live to tell a tale.

SHUBMAN GILL



Photo: AP

The heir apparent of Virat Kohli was born in a Punjab village called Fazilka to an affluent farmer family. His grandfather had prepared a pitch in the farming field for his dearest grandson before his father decided to shift to Mohali so that his son's cricketing ambitions got wings. He was a member of the India U-19 World Cup team. Recently, on his instagram account, he had voiced his support for ongoing farmers' protest.

SHARDUL THAKUR



Photo: Getty Images

He comes from Palghar and as a 13-year-old had hit six sixes for his school Vivekananda International Borivali in a Harris Shield Match. Who is the most celebrated alumni of Vivekananda International? India's white ball legend Rohit Sharma. Both Shardul and Rohit have had the same childhood coach - Dinesh Lad, whose son Siddharth also plays for Mumbai.

NAVDEEP SAINI



Photo: Getty Images

Son of a bus driver from Karnal, he used to play tennis ball matches for ₹1000. Delhi first-class player Sumit Narwal brought him for the Ranji Trophy nets where then captain Gautam Gambhir picked him for tournament-proper. It was met with stiff resistance from none other than Bishan Singh Bedi who protested that a player outside Delhi domicile was being picked. This led to Gambhir putting his foot down and he never misses an opportunity to remind the detractors what Saini seemed capable of even at that time.

RISHABH PANT



Photo: Getty Images

Rourkee has always been known for its finest engineering college, now an IIT but this is also the hometown of Rishabh Pant, son of school owner parents. There was a time that on occasions a young Pant, accompanied by his mother would reach Delhi in wee hours of morning on weekends to attend training at the famed Sonnet Club and before the crack of dawn rest at the Gurdwara before heading to the ground. He played an IPL game days after his father Rajendra's sudden demise.

WASHINGTON SUNDAR



Photo: AFP

The name Washington was his father's tribute to his own mentor PD Washington, who had funded his studies and kits when he was young and faced financial hardships. A month after PD Washington's death, his own son was born and he named him Washington Sundar. He was an opening batsman back in 2016 during U-19 days. But his talent as an off-break bowler came to fore when Rahul Dravid and Paras Mhambrey told him to focus on his bowling in order to make the next grade. But batting remains his first love and India now has a ready replacement of Ravichandran Ashwin as and when required.

Mitchell Starc, who is arguably one of the best fast bowlers in the world, has not had a great Test series



Photo: AFP

'How India's A team won series?'

A "shocked former captain Ricky Ponting finds it difficult to comprehend how an 'A team' from India beat Australia in the Test series in their own backyard but admitted that the visitors deserved the win. An injury-ravaged India beat Australia by three wickets in the series-deciding fourth Test at the Gabba, a month after the Adelaide debacle where they scored their lowest Test score of 36

'THEY'RE PLAYING NET BOWLERS IN TEST MATCHES AND THEY'RE STILL WINNING'

- I'm quite shocked that Australia weren't quite good enough to win this series. The cold hard facts of it are pretty much that was the India A team that played this Test match and (India) still won.
- Considering everything the Indian team has been through in the last five or six weeks, with the captain leaving, all the injuries they've had – they've been through 20 players – (Australia) have been at full-strength, bar Davey (Warner) missing early on, so it's really hard to comprehend.
- It's probably not even (India's) second-picked team because you think of Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Ishant Sharma and those guys who didn't even make it out here. Rohit Sharma turned up for the last two Test matches only.
- Washington Sundar looked like he had played 50 Test matches through the course of this game and never looked out of place. Shardul Thakur was the same in his second Test match, picked up seven wickets and scored 60-odd handy runs in the first innings.
- I've been around the IPL a long time so I know the talent that they do have in India, but when you've got to step up on a big stage in a Test match against Australia it's a different story.
- We gave Australia the benefit of doubt the last time India were here because Warner and (Steve) Smith weren't there. But this time, Australia's at full strength and India are on the bones of their squad – they're playing net bowlers in Test matches and they're still winning. That's the worry for Australia.