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STUDENT EDITION
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2020

WEB EDITION

I sent a letter to my students...

2020: A FICTION-LIKE STORY!

Dear amazing batch of 2030,

Life was normal, when 2020 kickstarted – frolicking, partying, movies, planning vacations, and more. But everything came to a standstill abruptly around mid-March, courtesy, Covid-19. We were locked in our homes. Sounds like fiction? But indeed, it was a reality for us. New terms came up – lockdown, quarantine, PPE, sanitisation, social distancing...! Thanks to the online experiences, we lived a life of some strange sci-fi series. In short, virtual became real and reality became virtual. Confusing, mind boggling, 2020 was. But here we are, standing at a point on the timeline that looked like a horizon then. We did overcome and so we shall always.



Yours faithfully,
ANJU RAJESH, GREGORIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL, ERNAKULAM

The postman delivered it in 2030!

CLASS OF 2030:

Wondering what your teachers are talking about? Well, they are talking about the challenges they faced, while teaching students of 2020 batch, courtesy Covid-19. In a reminder to students of 2030, ahead of Teacher's Day, they share their experiences on how they rose to the challenge, and turned adversities into opportunities...

A YEAR OF NEW INNOVATIONS!

Dear Batch of 2030

'Word of the Year is 2020'. That was the headline a decade ago, the year, when a pandemic engulfed the world. Today, as you read it as just another chapter in your books, it may look as an ordinary event. Well, dear students, that wasn't the case. Online teaching, which is now quite common for you, was introduced to us for the first time. Am I audible? 'Mute yourself', 'I got disconnected'...and so on... were the key words to start a class. Online tools, Zoom meetings, assessing students on Google Forms, technical glitches... it was almost catastrophic at first. However, the pandemic taught us to take these challenges in our stride and here we are, a completely new tech-savvy generation!



Yours,
SUPRIYA KHANNA, DPS, WHITEFIELD, B'LURU

FROM THE ASHES OF PANDEMIC, ROSE THE PHOENIX OF MAN'S COURAGE

Dear Graduates of 2030,

2020 was a year that almost never-lived, a never to be forgotten, challenging, innovative and standstill year. The normal calendar stopped, school schedules, sports and concert seasons disappeared. Masks, sanitisers, social distancing and home-confinement for endless time, were the only life-saving treatments available...the end was not in sight. But then, from the ashes of the pandemic, rose the phoenix of man's courage, the will power and the innovation that brought the world here to 2030, with a more tech-savvy, undaunted and better-equipped you to take on the world, crumbling every obstacle in your path on the way to excellence.



Yours faithfully,
MANJIT KAUR, Delhi Public School, Secunderabad

THE SHOW THAT WENT ON...

Dear students,

Have you ever thought of a life, where you are caged within the four walls of the house, having no social life? Sounds scary? Well, we experienced it in 2020, courtesy the Covid-19 pandemic. It was a year of uncertainty, a year of despair for the ones, who lost their near ones, a year of struggle for those, whose finances and employment were at stake, and at the same time a year of innovation...everything was carried out digitally. But again, it made us more tech-savvy, as our days echoed with terms, like Zoom App, Google meet, Google Form, pdf, and so on.. However, the need to reach out to our beloved students, despite all the odds, accepting the critical situations, gave us immense satisfaction.



Yours faithfully,
LATIKA CHANNA, DC MONTESSORI SCHOOL, MANIMAJRA, CHANDIGARH

WE BECAME ZOOM-BIES, LIVING SUCCESSFULLY IN GOOGLY YEAR 2020

Dear students of 2030 batch,

The world is back to normal, and we have moved on since the 2020 pandemic...but it wasn't easy. Initially, we were left with our computers and smartphones to see the world. As all the teachers were not computer wizards, switching from face-to-face classes to online classes, were predominantly asynchronous. However, it was a blessing in disguise. It gave an equal footing to the extroverts and the introverts, resulting in honest conversations. Innovation through technology became handy, and the anonymity of not being physically present disappeared. Slowly, but steadily, we got accustomed to digital literacy and netiquette.



Yours faithfully,
GOUTHAMI CHANDRASEKHAR, BETHEL MHSS, CHENNAI

WATCH OUT FOR OUR SPECIAL
TEACHER'S DAY EDITION
September 4, 2020

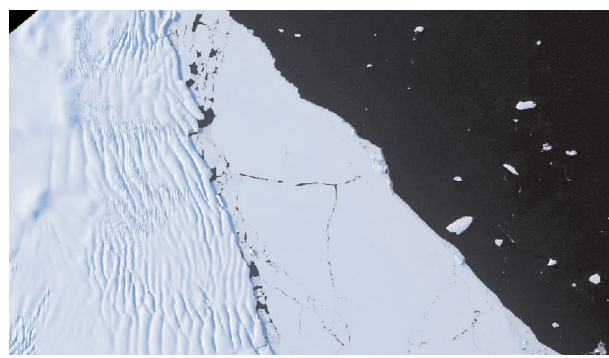
KAJOL HOPES 'CELFIE' AND 'COMPASSION' WILL OUTLAST COVID

Actress Kajol hopes compassion will outlast and outgrow Covid. She shared her thoughts in a new post on social media. In a new Instagram selfie, Kajol looks at the camera, with her specs placed on her head. "C for celfie, C for Compassion, C for COVID, aiming for the first two to outlast and outgrow the last one. Keep on swimming! #CFor #GrowAndGlow," she wrote.

CELEB TALK

On the work front, Kajol is set to make her digital debut with 'Tribhanga', directed by Renuka Shahane. It is a drama set in Mumbai, weaving a complex tale that goes back and forth through three generations of the same family, from the late 1980s to the present day

Antarctica ice shelves vulnerable to meltwater: Study



Meltwater could undermine the walls of ice holding back Antarctica's glaciers, scientists have warned, a finding that underscores concern about the potential for a significant sea level rise. According to experts, the ice shelves, formed over thousands of years, serve as dams to prevent much of the continent's snow and ice from flowing towards the ocean. Scientists found that about 60% of the ice shelf area is vulnerable to a process called hydrofracturing, in which meltwater seeps into the shelves' crevasses, some of which are hundreds of metres deep, and triggers collapse. "This meltwater is heavier than ice, so it can penetrate through the entire ice thickness, just like a knife," says a climate scientist.

➤ According to experts, it's unclear how long such a process might take. Antarctica weather is highly-variable, making it difficult for the scientists to determine how much of a role is being played by human-caused climate change

➤ Scientists fear that losing ice shelves to hydrofracturing will leave Antarctica's ice sheets a more direct pathway to the ocean, which could accelerate ice loss and contribute to the sea level rise

➤ The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports have projected future sea levels to rise by more than a metre by 2100

➤ More than half of the world's freshwater is locked into Antarctica's ice

GOOGLE LAUNCHES KIDS SPACE ON SELECT ANDROID TABLETS

Google has launched a new kids mode on selected Android tablets that features apps, books and videos for children to explore, learn and have fun as they stay home. Google Kids Space will be available globally on certain Lenovo tablets first, including the new Lenovo Smart Tab M10 HD Gen 2, and will arrive on more Android tablets soon. Kids Space requires a Google Account for your child. Google Assistant is not yet available in Kids Space.

TECH BUZZ

1 For Kids Space, Google worked with the top publishers to make popular children's books free of charge, and have over 400 free books available in the US alone

2 In the Watch and Make tabs, kids can view creative and fun videos from YouTube Kids that are engaging and encourage off-screen activities

3 Google earlier launched a new kids tab in Google Play that helps parents easily find and pick "teacher-approved" apps for their kids



NEWS IN BRIEF

CLICK HERE FOR MORE

“We want to see children returning to school and people returning to work places, but we want to see it done safely. No country can just pretend that the pandemic is over. The reality is that this virus spreads easily.”

QUOTE UNQUOTE



Opening up without control is a recipe for disaster

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, director general, WHO

TAYLOR SWIFT WINS BEST DIRECTION AWARD

American singer-songwriter Taylor Swift made history in the MTV VMAs world recently, as she won the award for best direction, a first for any solo female artiste in the show's history. According to Fox News, the 30-year-old songstress made her directorial debut for her single, 'The Man,' which calls out male privilege and sexism. In the video, Swift dresses up as the male character, and shows how much easier life would be as a man.

ENTERTAINMENT

■ In the music video, the 'Love Story' singer underwent a major transformation, using prosthetics and a movement coach to become a man. Dwayne Johnson provided the voice-over for Swift's speaking parts in the video



HOW OLD ARE YOU ON OTHER PLANETS? USE THIS CALCULATOR

Exploratorium, a museum of science, technology, and arts in San Francisco, has put together a handy calculator that lets you see exactly just how old you would be on the other planets in our solar system. HOW IT WORKS: ■ Just enter your date of birth, and the calculator will reveal your age in days and years, as well as when your next birthday would be. For example, if your birthday is January 4, 1992, on the Earth, you are 28 years old. ■ However, on Mercury, you would be 118.9 years old, and your next birthday would be on September 1, 2020, while on Neptune, you would be just 0.17 years old, and your next birthday wouldn't be until Aug 11, 2240!

WHY IS THAT SO

➤ According to Exploratorium, "The Earth rotates on its axis, like a spinning top, and revolves around the sun, like a tetherball at the end of a string going around the centre pole." A day is defined by the time it takes for the top-like rotation of the Earth on its axis ➤ There are no rules that govern the rotation rates of the planets, it all depends on how much "spin" was in the original material that went into forming each one. The revolution of the Earth around the sun is how we define a year. While the Earth takes 365 days to make one circuit, Mercury, takes only 88 days

A DIGITAL DANCE-OFF HELD ONLINE

With theatres closed around the world, three South American dancers created a digital dance-off for aspiring twirlers on Instagram. Called @stayhomedancecompetition, the competition, which was open to all, attracted hundreds of applicants, some professionals, other youngsters, dancing from their homes. A panel of renowned expert judges assessed each dance, and viewers could also vote with "likes."



■ The competition challenged the dancers to raise awareness about the pandemic, and honour an artiste. In one video, a mother wearing a doctor's coat and a mask guards her daughter, while she dances ■ Giovana Soria, 18, a Paraguayan, said her dance was to encourage people to take steps to prevent the spread of the virus

Revive the art of story telling

DR. MINAXI UPADHYAY,
HEADMISTRESS, SMT. SURAJBA
VIDYA MANDIR

Author Gail Goodwin says, "Good teaching is one-fourth preparation and in so doing enhances the learning environment. Stories appeal to the heart, and once the heart is won, the mind is open to learn! They teach us to love, to forgive, to strive, to improve. The way we live, dream, interact, and communicate all derives from stories and, in this way, storytelling has connected, us through generations.

LITERATURE

- Relate the classic story to a modern one. For example, the movie, Clueless is a 90s take on Jane Austen's book Emma.
- Present the story from another point of view. The Three Little Pigs: The Wolf's Side of the Story is a great example of this.

GRAMMAR



- Introduce each part of speech as a character. For example, Noun and Verb are friends who never go anywhere without each other.
- Amelia Bedelia books - these are great for introducing Homonyms.

MATHS

- Turn geometric shapes into characters. How might they interact?

HISTORY

- Read excerpts from biographies and autobiographies of those who lived during the time period you're studying.

- Imagine and discuss what it would have been like to be alive during that time. Perhaps students could even write their own narratives while pulling in facts and details either from the lectures or from independent research.

GEOGRAPHY

- Tell a story as if you're travelling to different locations.

SCIENCE

- Guide the students in pretending to be an explorer venturing into the unknown depths of the ocean. For younger students, the teacher could include some kind of prop to use in this activity, such as explorer hats, lab coats, or magnifying glasses.

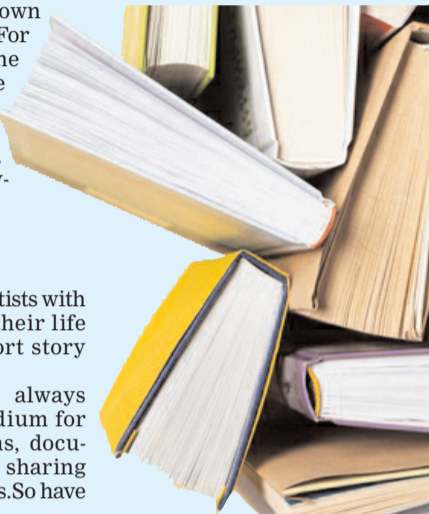
ART

- Introduce various artists with a short story about their life and, if known, a short story about their work.

Storytelling has always been a powerful medium for communicating ideas, documenting history, and sharing knowledge with others. So have

fun with adding these ideas to your teaching toolbox! Your students are sure to love the activities you plan.

In recent years the use of new technologies in educational systems has increased worldwide as digital cameras, personal computers, scanners, and easy-to-use software have become available to educators to harness the digital world. Digital storytelling is one of the innovative pedagogical approaches that can engage students in deep and meaningful learning.



Ganeshotsav @ school



Narayana- E- Techno School, Andheri East



IES Katrap Vidyalaya Primary Section, Badlapur



Surajba Vidya Mandir English Secondary, Jogeshwari East



Sharada Gyan Peeth International School, Malad East



SVPVV, Kandivali



Mahatma Gandhi Mission Primary and Secondary (English Medium), Nerul

Believe in your child...

SAMATA YATIN DAHANUKAR,
COUNSELLOR, GUARDIAN HIGH
SCHOOL & JR COLLEGE

Have you ever tried to bloom any flower forcefully? So cruel thought you will feel... We all know that it's impossible to bloom any flower manually, in fact it will kill that flower forever. But many parents do this everyday.

When we force our child to do anything we wish, then we are actually interrupting in their growth. I agree, no parent will think bad for his/her child. But sometimes let the child decide what suits / likes him/her. Like which hobby class to join, which dress to buy or wear, etc. Just be there to help him/her to take the decision, but never actually take the decision. Parents are always thinking to give the best to their



child. But are you so sure whatever you have selected for the child is really going to prove good? Nobody can give that assurance. When we will force the child to do something out of his/her interest, they will not give their 100%. It won't incline and motivate them to give their most dedicated efforts.

I will suggest humbly to let the children decide few things including their study timings. Let them learn to take responsibility for their decision. Allow them to fail sometimes, failures are not always bad, they give us experience. (Recall your own failures.)

If your child is too obedient, then believe me, he/she will not be able to face the world strongly. Because we are making them dependent on us, by taking decisions on behalf of them. They will never gain the confidence of taking decisions for themselves. They will always need somebody's guidance to walk on every path of life.

On the other hand, if from childhood, if the kids have the habit of taking their own decisions by themselves, then

gradually they will learn to take accurate, bold and much better decisions with a sense of pride and satisfaction.

If the child is confused about what to do, then do give them the choices. Ask them to select what they want by giving them the pros and cons of every decision.

And even if their choice proves wrong then do not blame them. Teach them to accept their mistakes gracefully. Do not let them feel guilty, instead let them learn from their experience.

Believe in your child. Every child has inborn capabilities and urge to progress, move towards growth. Let's just remember: Let them bloom like flowers on their own. Spreading happiness among the society.



Online dance competition and more...

Jasudben M L School students dance their way through trying times. They lead the way in teaching us all to overcome the gloom and add music to our lives.

JML hosted "Rapid Rhythms" an on-line dance competition which was held on 8th August, 2020.

Although a Competition, it looked like competing was not the 'Name of the Game.' Just being there to rock the stage and to swing to the rhythm was their Mantra!

The dancers were spurred on to victory by their enthusiastic Compere Arhaan Rizvi and Meghna Basrur who encouraged and inspired the participants to give their best.

The judges were Apurva Kothare and Rishabh Totlani, both alumnus of the school and Manvendra Bhat, a well known Dancer and Choreographer.

The whole idea was conceptualised by the enterprising principal of JML, Damayanti Bhattacharya and it was flawlessly executed under the able mentorship of the dance teacher Arindam Dey who is a dancer par excellence. JML be-



lieves that their students' mental health is of prime importance hence this 'Happy Breakaway' from the monotony of on-line studies.

The 'Happy Feet' who aced the competition were

Grade 4 and 5
Kiara Shah, Nitya Mahadevia and Vedika Purohit in the first place for Western, Classical and Folk respectively.
Grade 6 and 7
Kavya Desai, Shivani Gangshetty and Aryaveer Gulati.
Grade 8 and 9
Yash Shirishkar and Yashikaa Honavar.

The Management and the President Rajeev Hazarat firmly believe in a holistic approach to education where students are exposed to the rich cultural heritage of India and at the same time they are trained to be Global Citizens who set benchmarks for others.

The Competition was held for students from Grade 4 to 9. The categories were Western, Classical and Folk. Each slot was allotted a time limit of one and a half hours.

Learning to love and care for pet animals



Animals play an important role in our lives. They give us companionship and make us a better human being. To inculcate the concept of loving and caring, Grade 1 celebrated Pets Day on 1st August 2020 on Zoom App.

We have moved ahead towards Online Interdisciplinary learning. As a part of the

Thematic Learning approach in EVS, students were shown a PPT on pets where they learnt about their homes and the

food they eat. Students were also taken on a Virtual Field Trip of meeting the pets on 31st August 2020 where they were shown pets and the love and care that had to be taken at home.

Teachers were also a part of this Virtual Trip where they also showed their own pets and gave information about the breed of their pets and what type of food they have to be given. It was truly a wonderful experience for our students. The students were very excited and happy to see

the pets and parents too were really delighted to interact and communicate.

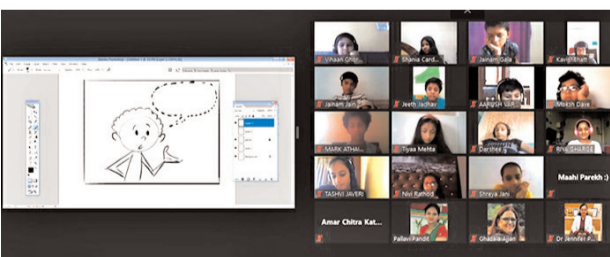
Students having pets at home like dogs, cats, turtle, love birds, fish rabbit spoke and shared facts about them. Students sang song on pets and danced to the tune of Gummy Bear and Baby Shark. It was a wonderful experience for kids.

The objective of this day was to bring an awareness and create a sense of responsibility among children about how they

need to love and care for other living beings. This event developed an understanding among the students about the unconditional love that animals give to people in their daily lives.

The occasion concluded with the presence of principal and CEO Seema Saini and all the Core Team members. It was indeed a commendable endeavor taken by the school, through which it helped the students to imbibe the value of absolute love.

WEEKEND FUN WITH MAKING COMICS



Who doesn't love to read comics and would want to create their own story? Witty International School, Borivli along with Tinkle Comics Studio conducted a workshop for students wherein students got a sneak peek in Tinkle's Comic Studio.

Wittians learnt how to think out of the box, design their own char-

The workshop helped students nurture their imagination and develop some amazing characters and plots. The students also engaged in various other rejuvenating activities virtually over the weekend such as dance, music, fitness and yoga.

acters and write dialogues that bring out their personality. That's not all. Wittians also learnt how to draw and colour them plus some panelling techniques that could help their comic stand out.

