

**TODAY'S EDITION**

➤ 2020 was full of struggle and innovation for teachers to ensure that learning was not disrupted, as schools remained closed...  
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**STUDENT EDITION**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2020



**WEB EDITION**

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**2020 will be remembered for the services of the....**

# THE FRONTLINE Covid Warriors

**T**he person of the year is usually a solitary icon, a larger-than-life hero... However, this year was different for obvious reasons. As Covid-19 lashed the world, the **FRONTLINE WORKERS**— community workers, hospital assistants, nurses and doctors, risked their lives to save US. Also the sanitation workers, the labourers in the graveyards and cremation grounds, who braved infection and worked relentlessly during these tough times, are the people who deserve gratitude. No wonder, these superheroes are **OUR person/s of the year.**

**PERSON OF THE YEAR**



## IN MEMORIAM: STARS WHO FADED AWAY

**Irrfan Khan:** The talented actor, who breathed life into a bewildering variety of roles, and was recognised abroad just as much as he was at home, lost his battle with a rare form of cancer on April 29



**Rishi Kapoor:** On April 30, just as the entertainment world was coming to terms with the death of Irrfan Khan, actor Rishi Kapoor succumbed to cancer. He was 67



**Basu Chatterjee** The veteran director, who chronicled the everyday lives of middle class India with humour and empathy in films, such as 'Rajinigandha', 'Baaton Baaton Mein' and 'Chitchor', died on June 4



**Sushant Singh Rajput** On June 14, the 34-year-old star of 'MS Dhoni: The Untold Story' was found hanging in his Mumbai home— a tragic, untimely death that shocked all and led to a debate on mental health issues. However, it soon took another dimension, with allegations on nepotism, structures of power in Bollywood



**Doug Supernaw** The country music star died on Nov 13, after battling lung and bladder cancer.



**Sean Connery** The actor, best known for playing James Bond, and the man who made the words 'The name's Bond... James Bond' immortal, died at the age of 90 on Oct 31



**Chadwick Boseman** Chadwick Boseman, best known for his role as T'Challa/Black Panther in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, died at the age of 43 in August after a four-year battle with colon cancer.



**Pranab Mukherjee** Former President and Congress stalwart, Pranab Mukherjee, who served as the President of India (2012-17), died on August 31.



**Diego Maradona** World soccer great Diego Armando Maradona, who died on November 25, less than a month after his 60th birthday, was worshipped like a god for his genius with the ball.



**Kobe Bryant** One of the NBA's all-time greatest players, Bryant was killed at age 41 on January 26 in a helicopter crash near Los Angeles, along with his 13-year-old daughter Gianna and seven others.



### JOE BIDEN

In November this year, in one of the most-divisive presidential elections in the US history, Joseph R Biden was announced as the United States' President-elect. Biden has his work cut out for him in 2021, as he seeks to rescue a deeply-divided United States from the throngs of the Covid-19 pandemic.



### DR UGUR SAHIN & DR OZLEM TURECI

In Nov this year, Dr Ugur Sahin and his wife Dr Ozlem Tureci, gave the world a new lease of life, when his company BioNTech, in collaboration with Pfizer, announced that its vaccine had proved 90 per cent effective in preventing the Covid-19 infection. Dr Sahin and his wife,

### KAMALA HARRIS

Kamala Harris created history by becoming the first-ever female vice-president, as well as the first-ever person of colour to hold the post, since Charles Curtis (under Herbert Hoover's regime). Born to immi-

grant parents, Harris has embarked on a stellar career that saw her serve as the District Attorney of San Francisco from 2004 to 2001, before serving as the Attorney General of California for six years.



### BILL GATES

One of the be the most-influential private players in global health, Bill Gates, the former Microsoft CEO and philanthropist, has spent billions in his quest to bring vaccines to the developing world. As the pandemic swept across countries, Gates became the unofficial figurehead of the vaccine race. His organisation, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, along with the GAVI Alliance, is leading a reportedly \$11 billion effort to ensure equitable distribution of vaccines to over 150 countries, including the participation of the WHO.

### THE MESSIAH

**A**ctor Sonu Sood donned a completely different avatar and proved to be a messiah for the needy during the Covid-19 crisis. The actor helped migrant workers reach their homes by arranging buses and train tickets and even air lifted many. He gifted a tractor to a poor farmer's family, paid hospital bills, granted scholarships, provided job opportunities, built houses for the poor, gifted e-rickshaws to the ones who lost their jobs, and even mortgaged his properties to raise funds for the downtrodden. The man with the golden heart, he is the real hero of 2020.



### GENDER EQUALITY GOT ITS DUE

**F**rom the Oscars to the Booker prize, the year saw a positive approach towards gender equality. While the Oscars introduced new guidelines to improve diversity and inclusion for its most prestigious award, the six-strong shortlist for the 2020 Booker prize— one of the most-prestigious literary awards in the English-speaking world — included four women. Moreover, the UN World's Women 2020 report showed that women's representation in parliament has more than doubled globally.

### CLIMATE PLEDGES CLIMB

**T**he United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) declared that the commitments to net zero emissions from the local governments and businesses have doubled in less than a year, as more countries made net-zero pledges. South Korea became the first Asian country to set a 2050 net-zero emissions goal, followed by Japan and China, which committed to reach the goal by 2060.



### HELPING HUNGER

**I**n October, the World Food Programme, which helped close to 100 million people in 88 countries in 2019 to fight hunger, won the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize. The prize recognised the World Food Programme's efforts to combat hunger, improve conditions for peace in conflict-affected areas, and help prevent the use of hunger as a weapon of conflict.



## GOOD NEWS STORIES THAT GAVE US HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

### COVID VACCINE DEVELOPED

**W**hile the coronavirus led to the loss and heartbreak all over the world, it also prompted a wave of unprecedented global collaboration. Within the space of a year, several vaccines have not only been developed, but has also been authorised for use, and have begun to be administered.



### MOON WATER DISCOVERY

**N**ASA's announcement that water on the Moon is more widespread than previously thought, and could help sustain future missions as drinking water or fuel, is believed to be a significant discovery, and according to astronomers, give hope to future missions and human settlements on the Moon.



### PLASTIC ACTION

**D**espite a surge in the consumption of plastics globally, the renewed efforts by countries like Ghana, Indonesia and Vietnam to take action on plastic waste as part of a global partnership to tackle plastic pollution, came as a glimmer of hope for the environmentalists. While Indonesia has pledged to reduce marine plastic debris by 70% by 2025, Ghana has committed to achieve a 100% circular economy for plastics. Vietnam has committed to a 75% cut in marine plastics by 2030.



# 2020 was of struggle, innovation for teachers

From turning walls of mud houses into blackboards to taking classes through loudspeakers on moving carts, from 'mohalla' classes to using public announcement system of panchayat bhawans, 2020 was full of struggle and innovation for teachers to ensure learning was not disrupted as schools remained closed due to COVID-19. The over 10-month-long shutdown inspired creative ways to teach thousands of students who

could not log on to online classes because they did not have access to smartphones and computers.



**1** Government school teachers in Dumka's Dumarthar village, Jharkhand found a new way to impart education to students who do not have access to smartphones. They created blackboards on the walls of students' houses to teach them with social distancing. "We started with an initiative called 'shiksha aapke dwaar' (education at your doorstep) to provide education to children who did not have access to smartphones," says Tapan Kumar, a teacher in the village.

**2** Teachers in Chhattisgarh conducted Mohalla (neighbourhood) classes in areas with low infection rates. "We set up mini classrooms, with small groups of students, in community spaces. The teachers spent a couple of hours in each room, engaging with all students at least twice a week," says one of the teachers.

**3** Ghanshyambhai, a teacher in Gujarat's Janan village, used the public announcement system of the village panchayat to share stories, songs, guidelines for parents on how to deal with children during the lockdown period, importance of exercising and much more. "I also announced when I will be at Panchayat Bhawan so students or parents who want to clear any doubts or to interact can see me there, while maintaining social distancing," he adds.

**4** Another teacher in Chhattisgarh, Rudra Rana, used his motorcycle to conduct classes. "The children were not able to go to study as schools were closed. So I thought why not bring the school



to them. Even though schools continue to be shut, online classes are not viable for most rural students. I used a portable umbrella and a chalk board to take classes when I went to the village," says he. In Haryana's Kanwarsika village, the morning bell announcing the start of a teaching session used to ring, not in the local school, but from a van equipped with a loudspeaker.

**5** Every day, Indra Mukhi Chhetri, a maths and science teacher in Sikkim's Ravangala, visited homes of several students she identified and reached out to around 40 students in a week from class 1 to 5. "Even if I take online classes, these students either do not have devices or Internet connectivity. Some of them may have access but then how do I maintain equality, others might feel left out. So I used to spend about 20 minutes with each student in a week. "I collected their notebooks and wrote lessons for them," says she.



## New Year traditions in different countries

New Year is a great time of merriment, but New Year traditions in different countries vary widely. Before the advent of yet another New Year, let's take a look at some of the most interesting traditions...

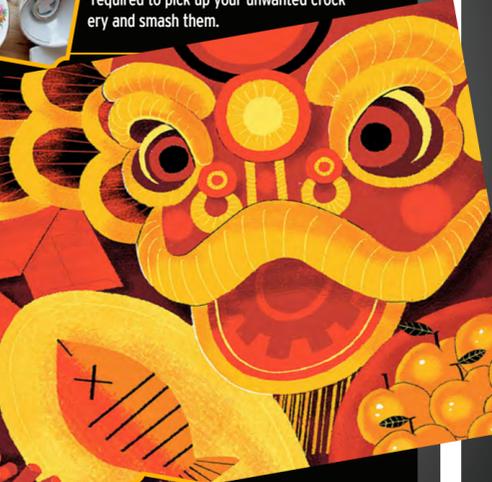
### DENMARK

Denmark redefines the idea of a unique New Year celebration where they simply smash plates. Yes, you read that right. While most countries host New Year parties to spend quality time with family, in Denmark you are required to pick up your unwanted crockery and smash them.



### CHINA

The Chinese New Year is a much-celebrated event, which is colourful and exciting. In China, you can partake in the many traditions of Chinese New Year. One particular tradition is handing out cash in red envelopes. Elders usually hand out various sums of money to the young people in red envelopes.



### JAPAN

The Japanese have their own unique set of traditions. New Year's Eve is also known as Omisoka, and the tradition is ringing bells in Buddhist temples, and that too exactly 108 times. The reason for 108 is that this is the number of human desires, which means the causes of suffering.



### THAILAND

Known as Songkran, the Thai people celebrate New Year by splashing water onto each other. You will find lots of people walking the streets with buckets of water, ready to attack each other with a lot of water. Off-beat but interesting - isn't it...



## Say goodbye to these 2020 decor trends

The year 2020 was a havoc as the pandemic took over the whole world. Many trends evolved during the lockdown, from Dalgona coffee to Bollywood gossip... and people spent every moment inside their homes realising the need to re-decorate and rearrange their interiors...

**WHITE-ON-WHITE:** White furniture and white paint was preferred to showcase being posh and opulent; yet, it's grown quite old and outdated.

**PIN OR FORK LEGS TABLE TABLES:** While industrial designs have been a well-liked option for several years, it's already out of fashion and one cloud opt for classic table designs.

**EXPENSIVE FURNITURE CLUSTERS:** Many homes use various sorts of costly and exorbitant decor items to show off price and luxury. This concept worked earlier but it doesn't portray any character. Every home should reflect the style and personality of it's times or of its owner.

**THEMED SPACES:** Refrain from using themes to embellish rooms, especially for your children, because it's often used for limited time and then you have to redecorate. So, it's better to think about a topic which will be relevant for your child for a long enough time.

**FAKE DECOR:** Sometimes, for the sake of giving a natural touch to the decor we frequently display



**CHORUS RATHER THAN COLOURED WALLS:** Choose accent colour walls. It creates a captivating design and everything within the room gets attention.

**CONTRAST DIFFERENCE:** Playing with contrast is often a tricky idea, especially if you're considering an equivalent colour. However, it's already outdated, so try and avoid it.

## TOP YEAR-END READS by women authors

From what keeps women out of the workplace, to stories that connect law and humanity, here are some female authors to end your year with...

### 'YOURS LEGALLY'

by Sonia Sahijwani

**Y**ours Legally' is a collection of six short stories related to the interesting and unusual field of law narrated through the eyes of Sia, the protagonist. These are independent yet connected stories with the common elements of law and humanity. "The book is inspired by real life incidents and events which I was fortunate enough to experience and witness," says Sania.



### 'LINES OF FATE'

by Neelam Saxena Chandra

**L**ines of Fate' is a short story collection consisting of selected, distinctive and unique tales from different walks of life set in the Indian diaspora. When the dice is rolled, one does not know what the outcome will be. Similarly, whenever there is an encounter between people; the aftermath is simply indefinite and unidentifiable.



### 'HAVE THE WOMEN LEFT VENUS?'

by Geet Mala Jalota

**F**or many women today, there are no role models at home to learn how to navigate the workplace. Women learn to copy their male bosses, subverting their strengths. The book aims to correct this gap. It points out leadership behaviours practised by women confident in their femininity.



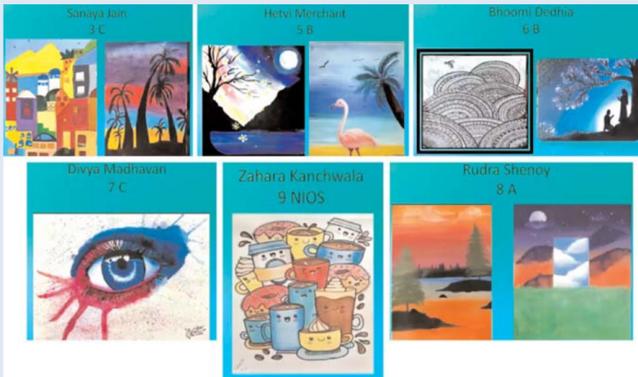
## Art helps combat boredom

The art teachers of Jasudben ML School Khar, put together the students' pieces of art and displayed them through a virtual exhibition called "Kalanidhi" on December 12.

The art works displayed were made by students of Grades I to VIII and the NIOS section of the school. They varied from sketches, sceneries, mandalas, still-life paintings, to abstract drawings.

The students' art seemed to surpass their age. Besides the virtual exhibition, there were also workshops held on bottle decoration, kitchen palette, and embroidery on canvas.

For many, art brings solace and is a way to vent out their anxiety and express their feelings. This is quite essential technique to be used in this day and age.



### DIFFERENT ...

Follow the path,  
Tread along the same roads.  
Don't be apart,  
You don't need to know where  
those other ways lead to.  
Agree with the crowd,  
Don't voice yourselves,  
Different is never good,  
All follow the same since it's the  
best.  
Why take another way in darkness  
alone,  
When you can follow the light along  
with all?  
Everyone buzzes the same words,  
But no one understands me at all!  
I don't care if I have to move alone  
If it means I can listen to my voice!  
Can't create a new moment,  
If you are not willing to give up the  
old.  
Conflicting the common mind,



Following my true heart,  
It feels so right, so why do they say  
it's so wrong?  
I tried my best; I followed for long,  
But I can't stifle myself anymore.  
Breaking my chains, pulling up my  
feet,  
Bracing myself, ready to lead.  
The sun rises in its glory as I swear

not to accept defeat!  
I change my path; I follow the dark.  
The shadows loom around,  
Everybody warns all along.  
But I am deaf to all who try to pull  
me back...  
They say it's engulfed in dark,  
But it's maybe because nobody  
searched for light!

As I step in, I know I can't turn  
away anymore.  
As the shield closes, it's gets  
gloomier even more than before.  
But illusions can't hold me back,  
Since I have been living in an illu-  
sion since.  
Every inch of me seems to dis-  
agree,  
But a tiny voice speaks to me  
Saying this is my destiny,  
This is where I am meant to be,  
Because finally...  
I feel real, I feel anew!  
These whispers mocking me, can't  
scrape my fear.  
I fought along,  
I can be strong,  
Since I knew in my heart,  
I was never meant to follow, I was  
never the same,  
I was different all along...

NOYONIKA SHARMA, class X, Apeejay School, Nerul

## WEEKEND PLAN



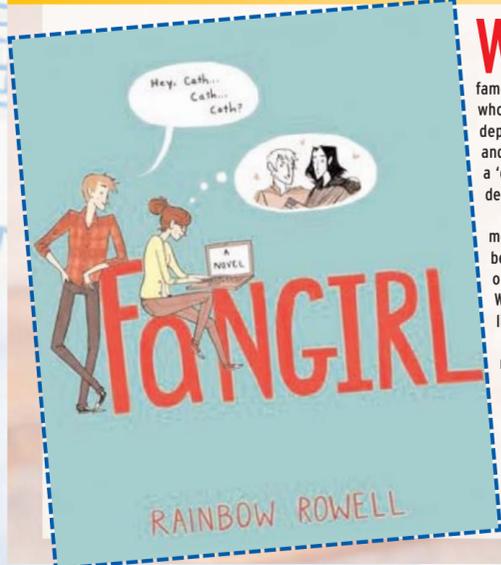
Weekends are precious - they're the only part of the week when most people can get away with not working, not studying and generally being idle without guilt. Here are some activities to make sure you get the most out of your deserved two-days off. If you want to spend quality time with your family then you can go for camping in your living room or backyard, have a family Game night, create a family bucket list and, you can also bake cookies! And I am sure you'll have an amazing experience! Also, health is a very



important factor for all of us. So, this weekend focus on your health! You can do some sort of exercise and you'll feel fresh and positive for the entire day. You can write a letter, whether it's to your cousin, or the author of your favourite book, it's well worth rediscovering this lost art! You can also plant a tree and take part in a charity event. And after this you'll feel much better and happy!

Angelina Pandey, class IX, NES High School, Bhandup

### BOOK: FANGIRL BY RAINBOW ROWELL



What is the book about - Cath is a phenomenal character. Cather Avery is your regular nerd. She writes fanfiction and she's famous too. She also has a bestfriend who's her twin sister. Cath is co-dependent on her fanfictions stories and her independent twin sister. It's a 'cute' book with complex, well-developed characters.

Rainbow Rowell makes sure that there is no dull moment in the book. This story is a fun read. I remember I laughed so hard on the dialogue. "Are you Cody or are you Zack?" Definitely Cath is Cody and Zack is Wren. And Cody was always my favourite. Some one-liners were so truly hilarious.

My only complaint would be the scenes where Cath reads out her Simon Snow first to Levi. They provided a good insight on Cath's own personality but I felt like in some places it dragged out. I honestly adored this book. This book was a true delight.

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



### STUDENTS' PEN

## OUT OF THE BOX

On an average, we all meet about 80,000 people in our lifetime. Each of these individuals have a life, some trauma and something unique to them. Every single human being is different from their contemporaries. All of these people are born with a purpose. Some fulfill theirs, some don't. We cannot fit in all humans in a single framework of a society. We just can't. Human beings are dynamic. They change according to time, place, environment and so on. You can't force a piece of glass in an ill fitting box and expect it not to break. Every person deserves to express themselves the way they



wish to without the constant sword of societal judgement hanging over their heads. Be yourself! Be out of the box because you have every right to be.  
Aarya Rajesh Bhanushali, class X, S.V.D.D. English Medium Secondary High School

## A VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CREATORS OF OUR REFUGES

We watch our favourite sit-coms and movies. We read novels with riveting plots, unable to put them down. We listen to songs by our favourite singers. We passionately watch sports on the television, screaming and shouting for someone to score. When we're having a bad day, these simple yet beautiful things make us merry once more. These things are a haven for all of us, a break from the occasionally exhausting lives that we lead. But do we ever stop to think about the people behind it all, the people who present to us this blissful refuge?

Here's a vote of thanks to all the actors, directors, authors, singers, composers, sportspersons, and everyone else who helps us escape from the place we're in. Who give us something to love and look forward to, other than ourselves and the people around

us. It is because of all of you, that our lives run smoothly and gleefully. The most tiring days turn bearable with your sitcom, or music, or that one goal you shot that made us beyond euphoric.

We may admire you a whole lot, but we forget to appreciate you! Thank you!  
Pia Joydev Oza, class IX, SSPM's Sri Sri Ravishankar Vidya Mandir, Borivali East



## BOOKS OR KINDLE?

In today's digital age, books are being replaced by Kindle. We all agree that Kindles are handy and easy to carry. But Kindles do have a few pros and cons.

Kindles being electronic devices emit blue rays which can be harmful to eyes whereas books do not, unless they are read in bright reading conditions. They also need charging unlike books.

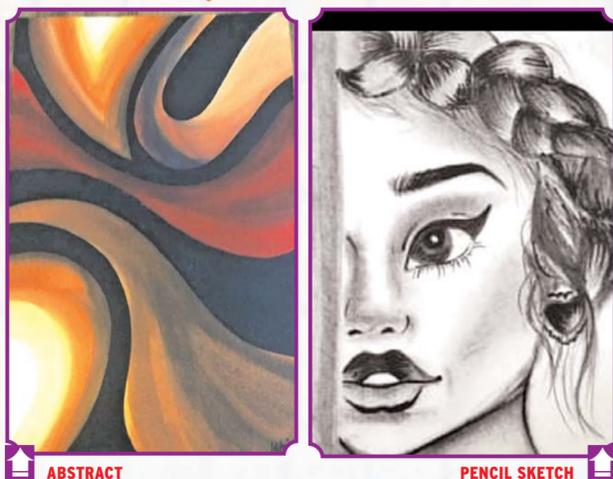
Kindles provide readers the ability to read a variety of different books and one can easily reference the dictionary and any word meaning by simply

clicking on it. In my opinion, the charm of holding a book in your hand and turning each leaf is altogether a different experience, something that a Kindle cannot provide.

In conclusion, everyone may have different opinions and preferences, but what is more important is reading, Kindle or Books.

Radhika Chopra, class VIII, Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School, Vashi

## Painters' Gallery



ABSTRACT

PENCIL SKETCH

ISHITA KARKHANIS, class X, Carmel Convent High School, Badlapur

# TOP SPORTING MOMENTS

From Rafael Nadal demolishing Novak Djokovic to win his record 13th French Open title to Bayern Munich clinching its sixth Champions League cup, we bring you some of the biggest sporting events that hooked fans in 2020



## MOURNING KOBE BRYANT

The helicopter crash outside Los Angeles on January 26 that claimed the life of Kobe Bryant, his daughter Gianna and seven others sent shockwaves through the basketball fraternity and the US. A five-time NBA champion, Bryant played for the Los Angeles Lakers throughout his 20-year career before retiring in April 2016. His death prompted a tempest of tributes. "When Kobe Bryant died, a piece of me died," said Michael Jordan.

Photo: AFP



Photo: REUTERS

## CRICKET IN THE TIME OF CORONA

When coronavirus first struck it looked as though all summer sport would be written off but on July 8 at the Rose Bowl in Southampton, England and the West Indies, who had been in a bio-secure bubble for a month, emerged to play a thrilling Test behind closed doors. West Indies edged the opener, thanks to fine performances by Shannon Gabriel and Jermaine Blackwood but England came back to take the three-match Test series. The real winner, though, was the England and Wales Cricket Board who managed this and a further series against Pakistan, as well as ODI series against Ireland and Australia, impeccably.

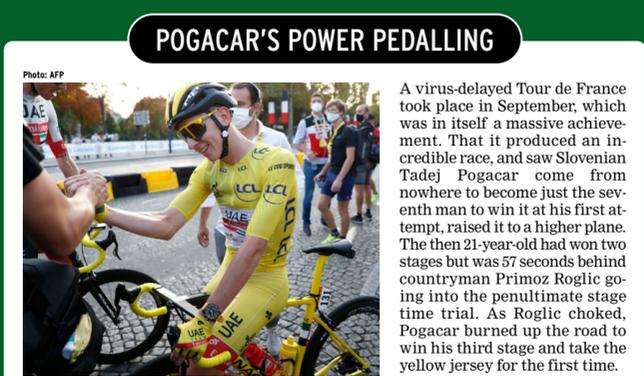


Photo: AFP

## POGACAR'S POWER PEDALLING

A virus-delayed Tour de France took place in September, which was in itself a massive achievement. That it produced an incredible race, and saw Slovenian Tadej Pogacar come from nowhere to become just the seventh man to win it at his first attempt, raised it to a higher plane. The then 21-year-old had won two stages but was 57 seconds behind countryman Primoz Roglic going into the penultimate stage time trial. As Roglic choked, Pogacar burned up the road to win his third stage and take the yellow jersey for the first time.

## DJOKOVIC'S SENSATIONAL DISQUALIFICATION

World number one Novak Djokovic went into the US Open looking for an 18th major triumph in the knowledge that Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal were absent. Going into his fourth round match against 20th seed Pablo Carreno Busta, the Serb had not lost a singles match in 2020. It all went wrong though when the 33-year-old vented his frustration after dropping his service by hitting a ball behind him, striking a female line judge in the throat. Djokovic immediately apologised but after a lengthy discussion, he was disqualified, leaving the field open for Dominic Thiem.



Photo: AFP

## BAYERN MUNICH SWEEP TO CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TITLE

When the pandemic forced UEFA to transform the final stages of the Champions League into a mini-tournament in Lisbon, Bayern looked the best team from the start. Hansi Flick's accomplished side won their sixth European crown, thanks to Kingsley Coman's header against Paris Saint-Germain.



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

## DHONI'S LYRICAL RETIREMENT

On the evening of August 15, the entire cricket fraternity was left stunned as Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who last played for India in July 2019, announced his abrupt retirement from international cricket. "Thanks a lot for ur love and support throughout from 1929 hrs consider me as Retired," the former India captain posted on his official Instagram account. Social media was abuzz with tributary posts for the legendary Indian captain, with fans expressing their heartfelt thanks to MS Dhoni and wishing him luck for his future endeavours.



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

## HAMILTON JOINS THE F1 LEGENDS

When Michael Schumacher bowed out of Formula One, few thought his record of 91 Grand Prix wins and seven world championships would ever be matched. In 2020, Lewis Hamilton did just that, winning 11 of the 17 races to take his tally beyond Schumacher's record to 95, and equalling the German's seven titles. The 35-year-old Briton certainly benefitted from the outstanding Mercedes car at his disposal but there is little doubt he has etched his name firmly among the greatest of his sport.

## A MESSAGE OF HOPE

Francesco Caputo, a forward for Italian football club Sassuolo, spoke for the whole world when he lifted his shirt to reveal the message: "It will all be fine, stay at home" as Covid-19 ravaged Italy on its way to taking hold in Europe.



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

## SWIATEK TAKES POLE POSITION AT ROLAND GARROS

Iga Swiatek was ranked 54th in the world when she travelled to Roland Garros. Two weeks later, after seeing off Sofia Kenin in the final, the 19-year-old had risen to number 17 and had become the first Pole to win a Grand Slam singles title. It was a breathtaking fortnight for Swiatek who capitalised on the absence of world number one Ashleigh Barty and the early exit through injury of Serena Williams to become the youngest female singles winner since Monica Seles in 1992.

## LUCKY 13 FOR NADAL

Rafael Nadal skipped the US Open but there was no way the Spaniard was going to miss his signature event, the French Open which took place at a blustery Roland Garros in a rearranged late September/early October slot. Inevitably, and without dropping a set on the way, Nadal bulldozed his way to the final where he met Djokovic who was keen to atone for his mishap at Flushing Meadows. It was barely a contest with Nadal winning 6-0, 6-2, 7-5 to claim a 13th French Open title and match Federer's record of 20 major wins.



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

## LIVERPOOL WIN PREMIER LEAGUE

Under Jurgen Klopp, the Reds had threatened for two years to finally land their first domestic title since 1990. Strengthened by the addition of goalkeeper Alisson and centre-back Virgil van Dijk, in 2019-20 they galloped to an almost unassailable lead, only for the pandemic to halt football. When the season resumed, they didn't miss a Mersey beat and lifted the trophy on an empty Kop as their supporters defied coronavirus warnings to gather in a haze of red flares outside.

## 36 ALL OUT

Any cricket team can have a bad day at the office but few have suffered a batting meltdown to compare with India, captained by the great Virat Kohli, when they were bowled out for just 36 by Australia in the first Test in Adelaide in December. India had been in a decent position after the first innings but Josh Hazlewood (5-8) and Pat Cummins (4-21) ripped through them. It was the fifth lowest score in Test history and India's lowest ever.

## THE MATCH THAT NEVER SHOULD HAVE BEEN PLAYED

Liverpool's defeat to Atletico Madrid in the Champions League last 16 on March 11 was notable less for the result than for the fact that 50,000 people gathered at Anfield at a time when coronavirus was already rampant. Scientists have pinpointed the match as one of the key superspreader events in England.



Photo: AFP

## ATHLETICS FINDS A NEW STAR

When pole vaulter Armand Duplantis set a new world record of 6.18m in an indoor meet in Glasgow in February a week after clearing 6.17m, the sport of track and field had a new star. The US-based Swede with the teen movie looks then produced the highest outdoor vault of all time (6.15m) and finished the year undefeated in 16 competitions.