

June-August Quarter 2020



Communiqué

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The Coronian Era

Principal's Note

'The world is a bumpy journey towards a new destination and a new normal.'

-Mohamed Aly El-Erian



Dr. Ruchi Seth

As we all know, the world today is in a state of unprecedented flux. While the global community is combating the pandemic in a fight to the finish, each of us is struggling to stay safe, stay positive and contribute meaningfully.

The school community- parents, students and teachers, together, have faced unprecedented challenges. Yet, strength comes from struggles. It is when we learn to see our struggles as opportunities to ameliorate reality do we become stronger, better and wiser. The pandemic itself has been illuminating in many ways, bringing to the fore our most delicate fragilities. There have been a spate of frequent natural and man-made disasters like earthquakes, fires, floods, locust attacks, acts of terrorism, racism and aggressive geo-politics, all of which have destabilised countries, causing colossal loss of life and property. While the mood maybe low with a prevailing sense of vulnerability pervading, perhaps this is fate's way of asking us to reinvent and rebuild.

While nature and our social fabric is in a constant state of mutation, it is imperative that we keep the morale of the students high and prepare them to adapt to these rapids of change. To this end, I extend warm gratitude towards our parent community. Not too long ago, we used to call teachers surrogate parents. But today, as we have been engulfed by an unforeseen tempest, it is parents who have stepped up and assumed the role of surrogate teachers, aiding and collaborating with teachers to ensure Education par excellence. Embracing the online mode of education and forging a new normal, the Lotus Valley family proved once again that we may not have it all together but together, we have it all. Together, we shall ensure the metamorphosis of Education, from fragility to fortitude.

I congratulate the LVIS Editorial Board on the production of this refreshing newsletter and I am certain that the vibrant colours and humorous snippets will inject the readers with joy and some much needed spirit of resilience.

In these challenging times, it is the youth that prove that hope and optimism shall emerge victorious. After all, the harder the struggle, the more glorious is the triumph.

Regards,
Dr. Ruchi Seth
Principal

Editor's Note

Dear students

As you peruse through the pages of the August Edition of Communi-que, we shall take you through the journey we've had as the pandemic engulfed our schedules and lives. While wading through these unchartered waters has been no mean feat, we've tried our very best to bring a smile to your face through humorous interludes, injections of caricatures and the hues of art. While we may be in the eye of the storm, we hope to bring solace to your minds by reminding you that we're all in this together, leaning on one another and learning from each other. In the spirit of resilience, I'd like to close my note with the lines-

'My scars tell a story.

They are a reminder of times

When life tried to break me,

But failed.

They are markings of where the structure of my character was welded.'

Wishing you health and happiness.

Best

Sukriti Roy

Chief Editor (Faculty of English)



Sukriti Roy

Student Editor's Note

Change is an eternal truth and the only permanent phenomenon. At Lotus Valley, the value of perseverance is instilled in students, so that they may strive and achieve irrespective of the circumstances that come their way. It elates me to present to you 'The Communique'.

It is a testimonial to the brilliance and creativity of the students of our school. I am sure as you flip through these pages, you will find a prism of talent, creativity, endeavour, innovation, dedication and everlasting zeal showcased by our students.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our principal Dr. Ruchi Seth, our editor Ms. Sukriti Roy and most importantly, the Editorial Board for making this possible.

Abhiraaj Gupta

Chief Student Editor



Abhiraaj Gupta

DISCLAIMER

This publication is an endeavour to explore the various ramifications of the Covid 19 pandemic. The views and opinions thus exhibited are a reflection of young minds hard at work. They are not meant to offend any personal or political beliefs. They are meant to entertain you and help you reflect :)

Editorial Board



Aakarsh Singh
Editor (Digital and IT)

I would love for everyone to read this issue of the Communique. This issue deals with COVID and its impact on us and I hope it's an interesting read for you.



Smahi Anand
Editor (Art and Design)

Art is something that makes me breathe with a special kind of happiness. The Communique is a result of the utmost hard work and sincerity that we've tried to put in during these arduous times.



Aditya Bainsla
English Editor

We hope that you enjoy The Communique, using which we have tried to provide a different perspective on all the current happenings in the world. Happy reading!



Nandini Garg
Hindi Editor

We present you a spectrum of thoughts capturing the present situation through an array of words and illustrations. It is not just a platform to vent out our creativity but also a way to show the brighter side of the otherwise hopeless situation.



Parag Sood
Editor (Photography and Graphics)

I hope you like this edition of The Communique which has been curated for you by the team with due hardwork and diligence.



Suditi Garg
Assistant Editor (Art and Design)

The enthusiastic write-ups of our young writers have helped me widen my mind while making illustrations for this newsletter. Each article has been drafted with the utmost sincerity,



Ashima Ahlawat
Assistant Editor (Hindi)

I'm very excited to share the new issue of Communique in these tumultuous times. Each article is the product of sincere hardwork, creativity and novelty. I hope you enjoy reading this issue!



Aditya Narayan Singh
Editor (Technical and E-Content)

"Life is the art of drawing without an eraser." Communique has provided me an experience to witness originality and exclusivity. As the digital editor I've been able to see all the talent present within ourselves.



Gaurika Mathur
Assistant Editor (Graphic Design and Layout)

The school magazine is full of content that supports growing readers in their literary developments and inspires their love of reading. I would urge everyone not only to read but also to contribute generously to this publication.

LVIS Talkies

The students of Lotus Valley International School Noida have taken inspiration from news channels to create their own talk show - LVIS Talkies. The following video emulates essential discussions in an enriching yet lighthearted manner. It covers topics such as COVID and the economy, mental health and other burning agendas of today's time.

Click on this image to go to the video.



"Our Grandparents were called to war.

We're being asked to practice social distancing and stop hoarding toilet paper"

The PEI
COLLECTIVE

Media Feed

*The images on this page are clickable.
Click them to see the full video.*



Parenting during Pandemic:
Webinar at LVISN



Towards a Resilient and
Undeterred India!



Parenting during Pandemic:
Webinar at LVISN



Sarv Sahodaya Student Webinar

#independence #india #webinar #sarvsahodya
#parenting #pandemic #ariseawake #freedom
#proud

The images on this page are clickable.
Click them to see the full video.



CBSE CLASS XII RESULTS 2019-20

TOP SCHOLARS BEAT ALL LVIS RECORDS!

Congratulations to all our students!

STREAM TOPPERS

 <p>KANIKA KAUR (SCIENCE: 98 %)</p>	 <p>PANKHURI SAWHNEY (HUMANITIES: 98 %)</p>	 <p>IRA SHARMA (COMMERCE: 97.6 %)</p>
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CBSE CLASS X RESULTS 2019-20

TOP SCHOLARS BEAT ALL PREVIOUS LVIS RECORDS!

Congratulations to all our students!

CLASS X TOPPERS

 <p>HAVISHAA SHARMA 98.8 %</p>	 <p>KASHISH TALWAR 97.6 %</p>	 <p>ADITYA SINGH 97.4 %</p>	 <p>ARNAV JAIN 97.4 %</p>	 <p>DHAANI SOOD 97.4 %</p>
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Media Feed

*The images on this page are clickable.
Click them to see the full video.*



LVISN's IT Event



Janmashtami at LVISN



Raksha Bandhan at LVISN



LVIS team Hyperbolt takes pride of place in F1 national finals

[#tech](#) [#technology](#) [#racing](#) [#rakshabandhan](#) [#janmashtami](#) [#festival](#) [#hyperbolt](#)

A Letter from the Devil

Dear Humans,

I am Coronavirus or COVID-19 or SARS-CoV-2, I am okay with whatever you want to call me. I really don't care. So, how's your day so far? Enjoying the weather? Just kidding. I can't talk. You can't see me. I don't have any thoughts. I just want you to come in contact with me. I want to start growing inside you. The more I grow, the more you die. Basically, I am like a greedy friend. Except I am not your friend. But sometimes, you are too stubborn to let me take everything from you and that makes me leave. I hate it when this happens. But I also hate stubborn people and I like to stay away from them. Anyway, I don't care about you or who you are. I just want you to be submissive and at some point, you might have travelled to a place I was hanging around and touched something where I was present or were simply unlucky. All I needed

was that one touch to start growing inside you. The touch was the only difficult part of my job, and you made it easier by not being careful. I must appreciate you for that. If I were you, I would've been careful because I don't want to be just another virus for which you can get vaccinated. I want to create history. Whatever! Now you're just a petri dish for me, thank you for the eco system! Just so you know, I have a sister too. She's a monster, she'll immediately kill you. I know all of you have different stories about how my sister and I emerged. Wondering how I know that? I eavesdrop, I am a virus, dude! You want me to confess where I came from? Naa... I can't do that, it's a secret.

Unloved,
Corona :)



Shruti Shrivastava
X Confucius

Life during the Pandemic

What world have we entered?
No places to go, No people to meet.
No faces around that can be seen!
An uncanny silence suddenly dawned.
Unre of what the future holds,
People quietly wait
Good or bad, whatever it may be, together we shall stay.
On the bright side as you look, Nature is thankful
Slowly healing and rejuvenating
Like a fairy-tale from a book.
After a long absence, the chirping birds in the azure morning sky

The clear night sky twinkling with stars seems unreal.

Rivers that once seemed to disappear have now resurrected
Fresh air we craved for is in abundance
Time spent alone replaced by togetherness,
Overwhelmed by a gamut of emotions, We wait.



Eksha Seth
XII Kalam

Word Search

There are 10 words hidden in the word search below, the words may be found across, down, diagonally and backwards and can overlap with each other. The hidden words are listed beneath the word search, circle the words in the word search as you find them and cross them out from the list.



Coronavirus
Lockdown
Sanitiser
Vaccine

Herdimmunity
Pandemic
SelfImprovement

Isolation
Quarantine
TimeManagement



Colour On My Palette

“Art evokes the mystery without which the world would not exist.” - Rene Magritte

I believe there is an artist in every person. One does not have to be perfect at it because that would cease its meaning entirely. It's what tranquillises my mind on a stressful day, filling me up with compassion. I put together this page to share with the world my perspective of art and how I imagine it to be.

Geetika Sehgal

[@colouromypalette](#)

(Click the link to travel to the page)



tumhaari kahaani



*“Har insaan ki
alag kahaani hai,
bas mujhe kuch
vahi sunaani hai.”*

Aditi Chotra, Poet [@tumhaarikahaani](#)

I'm Aditi Chotra, an artist. everything I've been through has made me a stronger person than ever, and thus I believe in sharing stories and experiences through my poetry and art. I realised the importance of my voice, the day I realised it was being suppressed. Going through different phases of my life I tried to be a flower, which does not want to compete another flower, but just bloom to be beautiful and worthy.



kintsukuroi

(n.) (v. phr.) "to repair with gold"; the art of repairing pottery with gold or silver lacquer and understanding that the piece is more beautiful for having been broken

The Coronian Era: The positive impact the lock down has had on your lives

COVID-19 has slowed the world down and on the surface, that seems to be a good thing for other deadly global crisis – climate change, the bleating goats which are conquering empty streets, what a strange sight for us humans who are used to only seeing ourselves governing the world. “We withdraw, the nature quickly takes over.” Could the coronavirus eventually be good for the environment?

With India under lock down because of the coronavirus outbreak the crowds of tourists who normally swarm the streets are gone and the pollution from cars has been vastly reduced. For the few people who leave their homes, it is an unusual sight. In cities across the world, the streets have emptied, factories shut down, flights grounded and there has been a significant drop in the pollution levels across the globe. These are just some of the possibly beneficial effects on the environment of the pandemic.

Conflict of faith ?

Amidst the pandemic, a lot of us had to change the way we live . Be it staying inside for over a month or working from home, we all have observed some changes throughout. The Sikh community has always come forward to serve the humanity and we get to witness this again by this story of 2 Sikh doctor brothers based in Canada.

Meet physician Sanjeet Singh-Saluja and his brother Ranjeet Singh-Saluja , a neurosurgeon. The Singh-Saluja brothers are both members of the Sikh religion. They had to make a very difficult decision, by choosing between major pillars of faith. Sewa is one of them , which means ‘selfless service’. It involves acting selflessly and helping others in any way possible, without any reward or personal benefit. The other major pillar of Sikhism is Kesh. It is the practice of allowing one’s hair to grow naturally out of respect for the perfection of God’s creation.

The pandemic put the 2 brothers in such a situation that they had to choose between these

The extra time on our hands has benefited human life the most. More time means more family time, this is the best time to bond with our family. As an only child myself, I was always longing for my family company but after the pandemic I shared some great experiences with my family. Do you remember the date you promised yourself to get ‘Ripped’?

Well this is the time to achieve your goal. The pandemic has certainly improved the daily life in some way or the other but we must be cautious, because these benefits could prove short lived.

**Naman Bhalla
XII Smith**



pillars of faith. The virus made it compulsory for both of them to wear N-95 masks but they were unable to do so because of their beards. They faced a conundrum, to either shave their beards or not be a part of the frontline heroes. Choosing either of them would violate a pillar of their faith.

To come to a conclusion, the Singh-Saluja brothers discussed their dilemma with the spiritual leaders of their faith along with friends and family. After weeks of soul-searching and sleepless nights, the brothers finally decided to shave their beards.

“We could choose not to work, but in a time when healthcare workers are falling sick, we would be adding stress to an already taxed system,” Sanjeet said in a video posted by the McGill University Health Centre.

“We could decide to simply refuse to see COVID-19 patients until viable protection is available to us, but that goes against our oath as physicians and against the principles of sewa ,” he continued.

“It’s a decision that has left me with much sadness,” Sanjeet told a news agency. “This was something that had been an integral part of my identity. I look at myself in the mirror very differently now. Every morning when I see myself, it’s a bit of a shock.”

“But because COVID-19 has become so rampant in our community, it just wasn’t feasible anymore (not to wear an N95 mask). I felt I just couldn’t sit on the side-lines. This was an exception to the rule, so we had to do what we had to do to help out,” he said.

The world definitely needs more frontline workers or superheroes (as the netizens prefer to say) like the Sing-Saluja brothers. They have set an example for a lot of us to help serve the mankind.

**Ashar Khan
XI Eliot**



Life in the times of a pandemic

In December 2019, the Chinese authorities notified the world that a virus was spreading through their communities. In the following months, it spread to a few other countries, with cases doubling within days. It was the SARS virus.

The news about Coronavirus and its impact on our day-to-day life has been revolutionary. Social distancing has created a new normal. Many feel the pandemic has driven life online, and that it may never return.

Covid-19 marks the return of an ominous, yet familiar enemy. It has shown us the fragility of the world in the 21st century, and how vulnerable we remain. Its effects on the lives of workers, daily-wagers, doctors, students and companies have also been massive.

In India, 260 million students are rapidly adjusting to learn and socialise remotely, spending more time with family and sacrificing comfort and convenience for the greater good. Being one of them, I too have experienced the dichotomy of chance and freedom and yet the disconcerting feelings of helplessness and loneliness that plague my time at



“The purpose of religion is to facilitate love and compassion, patience, tolerance, humility and forgiveness.”
-Dalai Lama

home.

This is a fight against two pandemics-COVID-19 and stupidity. The fact that my well-being depends on the common sense of others is not a very unsettling thought. However, it is all in our hands- both literally and figuratively.



Matt Haig
@matthaig1

The current era is crap enough without having to feel guilt that we aren't learning Greek and painting watercolours of daffodils. If you brushed your teeth today and got showered and ate something and spent ten minutes not looking at the news then well done it's an achievement.

**Komal Mathur
XI Raman**



Black lives matter: A new resolution

2020 is a year of epic proportions. On the one hand, the deadly Coronavirus threatens our very existence. On the other hand, vital concerns around the globe are being raised by people. We are fighting to make this world a better place, not just for us, but also for those around us.

One such movement is The Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. Though it is an old and essential movement, BLM gained its much-needed heat and attention after the brutal murder of Citizen George Floyd, who was choked to death by a police official.

The enraged masses broke out into peaceful protests all over the USA and around the world to stand up against

racism.

The world may not be the perfect balance of good and evil just yet, but it surely is getting there. Voices make a difference. So, we should raise our voice and stand up for what we believe in, so that this 'perfect' world that we so desperately desire comes closer to becoming a reality.

**Sharanya Jain
XI Lewis**



The Indo China War

The Indo China War India and China, under normal circumstances would have celebrated 70 years of their diplomatic relations this year. Unfortunately, 2020 will probably be remembered as one with the fundamentally altered trajectory of their bilateral relationship. The border crisis and its dramatic escalation, with the deaths of 20 Indian soldiers in mid-June gave tremors to their relationship at the core and unleashed unprecedented anti-China sentiments across the country which also led to India banning 59 Chinese apps. Despite the rising tension between them, a direct military confrontation is unlikely. There can be numerous reasons behind it. First, due to global economic crisis and ongoing trade war between US and China, the latter is showcasing its strength by defending its territorial claims. Second, they might believe that India is too occupied with fighting the COVID-19 disease to wage a border conflict with them. Third, China might be trying to scare off the world with its army capabilities and to send a

political message to India not to get closer with US. Fourth, in India, before the pandemic, there were nationwide protests over the country's new citizenship law and the revocation of Kashmir's semi-autonomous status, thus the border issue diverts citizens' attention conveniently. Lastly, China knows that a war with India could weaken its focus on meeting key security challenges in the South China Sea. At the same time, India recognizes its military inferiority and inability to win an outright war.

**Suditi Garg
X Aurobindo
Assistant Editor
(Art and Design)**



The Invisible Foe - Corona Virus

I come from the abode of bats,
And train an army of rats,
To remind you of your merciless ways,
Of treating Her just for your pays.

I have come as a destroyer,
And spread in your crowded foyer,
To restore what was lost,
Like the whiter than white frost.

Now you stay confined at home,
Or you shall pay like Rome,
Observe her as she revives,
Through the rejuvenating vibes.

Look up and see the blue sky,
Water cleaner, animals jumping by,
Look at Her as She awakens,
From Her immured void.



You thought you are powerful,
Now see my might,
I can kill you,
Even when I'm out of sight.

Am I ruthless?
Oh yes! I am,
Have stopped the world,
Wanna know my plan?

I will push you,
Stuff you inside,
Now you will be caged
And this will be my time.



Amrita Bedi
IX Satpurus

The Broken "Welcome" Sign



I live in this town called "Emotional Vulnerability",
Where it tends to sing its own rhymes, pointing out its own futility.

The volcanoes of anger it has erupted and the lakes of tears it has filled,
No one knows this town except for me, because it's my low self-esteem on which it is built.

The black ink is now spreading to other pages in my mind as I continue to sweep its darkness,
But now, it's soaked too deep, looking like the dark sky, starless.

This town is now hollow by the dementors that didn't knock,
But thanks for letting me know that my emotions needed a lock.

The glowing welcome sign has fused of this town and seeks for no repair,
But thanks for lending a hand and pretending like you care.

Why do I come back here then? Why do I crave this abuse?
Maybe because its the only thing that belongs to me, sadly, it's my only muse...



Tanvi Kamra
X Krishnamurthy

Staying Fit during the Pandemic

By Amal Jha XII Tolstoy



There is a saying, “when the going gets tough, the tough get going”. As we all know, we are going through tough times. I have tried to make the most out of this lockdown by keeping myself fit so that once I get over this situation, I am the same, if not better. During this lockdown, all of us had a lot of time in hand, and it allowed us to acquire new skills.

Since the lockdown was enforced, I started working out indoors twice a day.

As a golfer, I am not only required to be physically fit but mentally tough as well. Golf is a game of mobility and physical endurance. I paid extra attention to my core and legs and did specific exercises for the same. To address mental strength, I regularly did Pranayama [breathing exercises] and meditation to enhance my concentration level. As all these activities could be done staying at home it was a blessing in disguise for me. I even set up a small area in my living room to hit plastic balls for practice.

I am happy that I am playing a sport which is an indi-



vidual one and can exercise social distancing quite easily so that no one gets affected because of me or vis-a-versa. The golf course has opened up in this Unlock 1.0 and various preventive measures are being taken for the safety of the golfers. I am lucky enough that I live close to where golf courses are nearby. It's good to see how the golf clubs have taken care of the golf courses and have kept them in a pristine condition.

The lockdown also forced me to acquire new skills such as hair-cutting. I persuaded my younger brother to be my first client and

surprisingly did a decent job. As we are going through tough times because of the pandemic, it all boils down to one's immunity and eating habits. Regular exercising and eating healthy foods are the only precaution. Let us stay positive as this is just a phase which will pass and all of us will come out of it stronger.

Lessons of a Lockdown

I had just finished revising my syllabus and was almost asleep when my dad called me from the other room impatiently. Watching the news at that time of the night was a regular thing for him and I wondered what ever could be this important that'd he'd disturb the much needed sleep the night before my last exam.

“All ongoing examinations to be rescheduled after March 31”. My jaw dropped when I heard the news anchor talk about how the Corona pandemic was proving to be more dangerous than estimated.

As a student, I felt the obvious incontrovertible euphoria of an exam being postponed but also felt a twinge of despair as I would've been done with all my board exams after this last one. Yet, how was I to know that it was destined that I would never be able to appear for this last exam.

A few days later, our Prime Minister announced a nation-wide lockdown and on the first of April, CBSE announced it would not be conducting all of the remaining exams, just a selected few. As fate would've had it, my subject was not on that final list.

In this entire affair, I was not nearly as saddened about a cancelled exam as I was about the fact that I had put on my school uniform for

the very last time without even acknowledging it. It may seem a tad bit bizarre to you reading this. I, too, found all of the crying and despondency about leaving school bit dramatic and redundant till I realised I would never adorn the school logo again. But, now that I think about it, a school uniform, something we feel is meagre and useless, is probably the only thing that ties us and the memories we make in school. As I write this, it becomes increasingly difficult to put into words the overwhelming emotions I feel knowing that I have, for once and for all, parted from my school life forever and walked into the next phase of my life. People say you don't know what you've got until it's gone. Believe me when I say you must appreciate the moments you have at school before that becomes something you once had.

I think one of the worse things about this lockdown is that I can't even meet up with my friends despite being done with my exams. The perilous Corona virus has pulled the plug on all our plans and rendezvous. All of us, quarantined in our houses, are eagerly waiting for this to be over.

A funny thing though, is that I expected myself to be absolutely hooked to social media throughout

the day. But this quarantine on the other hand, has surprisingly made me un-addicted to my phone. Maybe it's true, too much of anything can make you sick. I've probably just grown bored of social media and video games and am finally starting to explore other hobbies and pastimes. As an individual however, I believe this is the perfect time for introspection and do the things we earlier 'didn't have the time for'. I've cleaned my room, read quite a few books, gotten back to drawing and painting, started playing the keyboard again and am even helping my parents with household chores. Even after doing all this, I still have all the time in the world left to binge watch my favourite shows! This lockdown has truly taught me that a day, 24 hours, aren't too short to do everything you want and more.

Never in my life had I expected an international pandemic comparable to the bubonic plague to vex us after all the developments in medical sciences. It's a surreal experience, one straight out of some video game, to be locked up in the house with a deadly virus plaguing the streets. But it may not all be bad; nature is healing itself, the air is cleaning up and water bodies too, are becoming purer.

Maybe this withdrawal of human

interaction was much needed. Maybe this is the lesson we needed to learn...



Gunjan Saini



**Smahi Anand
XII Smith**

An Ode to Change



Shutting off of the world on a quiet evening!

Whose empty roads these are I think I know.
His house too is very quiet though;
He is not there to see me stopping here
nor watch his quiet roads empty with fear

My little dog must think it queer
To go for a walk without any human near
Between the quiet buildings and empty parks
Will this be the darkest year for us to mark?

He gives his collar bell a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
the only other sound's the clap
Of wishful minds and hopeful hands

The roads are lovely, quiet and free,
But I have promises to keep,
And germs to kill before I sleep,
And germs to kill before I sleep...



Geetanjali Sarna
TGT English

Conversations with Mother Nature

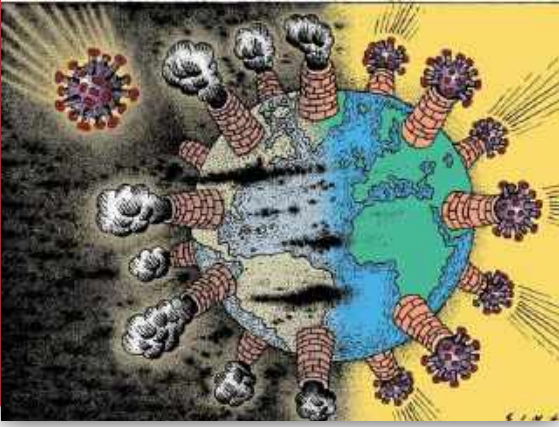


Today, I asked Mother Nature:
Why did you sentence us to house arrest?
Why did you cast me away from friends and family?
Why did you unleash this on us?
Nature replied:
You put my innocent children in cages called zoo.
You suffocated my speechless children with pollution.
You killed my guiltless children.
I refused,
Said: I have done nothing,
And are making me pay?
Nature replied: That's the biggest sin my child!
You did nothing to save them.
And I did what any mother would do
Remind you that you are one of my precious children but not the only one



Ananya Bansal
X Confucius

Honest Confession



Human beings torn apart
From nature and each other
Close confinement
Withdrawn smiles
And how we kept craving for time!
Now, with so much of it in our hands... it feels like crime
Universe echoing its suffering through the adversity
Is it the virus alone or our wrong doings responsible for the calamity?
Neighbours eyeing each other with doubt
Kids hesitant even to gaze out
Looks like Godzilla is out on the street
Fear and apprehension has denied us the retreat
Despair, tremor, dismay, horror...
Synonyms echoing our ECG monitor
Only one thought crosses our mind
Am I the next one to go through grind?
Faith in spiritual existence is the only respite
Hope and prayer will hold the timer of the dynamite
Count each day as 86,400 breaths of gratitude
Ruminate through happy times and restore the smiles
Of your own and of those who are far way miles
Though universe is reprimanding our actions
An honest confession... we'll seek vindication.



Manit Raj Kapoor
X Confucius

Oh Corona !

Covid -19 ..was it a gimmick?

Spreading from one country to another was soon graded a pandemic.

Starting from a laboratory in Wuhan it became virulent in all countries,

A big scare for every soul, primarily found in people with travel history.

Covering face with masks and sanitizing the hands,

Became a norm for everyone but we're hoping that it ends.

Travel became a restriction no matter what was planned,

It was too soon to anticipate the disaster it would send.

Quarantine and Isolation started as it spread from one individual to another,

People now had become cautious as they felt it would smother.

SOCIAL DISTANCING started and life came to a still ,

Movie halls restaurants or malls no one could fill.

Finally came the lockdown as the virus had begun to spill.

Panic overwhelmed the masses as they became jobless,

How would they feed their families they were just clueless.

Doctors nurses and so many warriors are still risking their lives for us

Their plight needs to be understood as they want us to live without a fuss.

The Corona scare is still on and spreading
Stay home and be safe the world is begging.



Vinayak Jain
XII Smith

Lockdown

Lockdown?
We are at war.
Unimaginable scale.

What are the stakes?
everything.

What are we expected to do?
Follow all orders coming from high command.
No exceptions.

When will it end?
No one knows...

When I was first introduced to the term lockdown, the concept in itself sounded scary. I won't quote figures because I'm guessing you all already know enough of it. However, I would quote this, "every shadow no matter how deep is threatened by morning light".

So straightaway jumping to the positive and beautiful side of this lockdown is the fact that I am spending a lot of time with my family. I rarely see them on regular days because everyone is busy. After the concept of lockdown sunk in, I would see them calling up their old friends, chatting and recalling things that they had forgotten after they entered the complexities of independence and adulthood. I think the best part is that we are slowing down, our lives are slowing down. This is the best time to address our complaints that 'I don't get time to do what I love'. We have time, time to look back at our lives, and to seek the part of ourselves that we left behind while chasing targets and deadlines. I for instance got back in touch with craft something that I had earlier dismissed as too time consuming.

Nowadays, I get to watch my life unfold with stories narrated to me by my parents while we look at family memoirs of our trips made even better when accompanied with food cooked by mom. We're cleaning our house and discovering that we had so much but were never conscious of its existence much like our lives where we of-

ten forget to appreciate the small things we have because we're so busy trying to get more things for our future. like then chance to step out and play, or the opportunity to go to school and meet friends. And it is times like these that we find what we truly value and enjoy, we realise what is it that we truly miss, which are the friends you simply can't help calling up...

What's more is that pandemics are nature's way of restoring balance. They've happened before and will happen again until the time we return all that was never meant to be solely ours. So maybe nature's not at war with us. Afterall if it doesn't deserve a break from humans, then who does?



Anika Roy
XII Einstein



COVID 19 - A Lesson For Mankind

To a stand still the world has come
Nature rejoicing the solitude so awesome

The breeze today so gentle & pure
Swaying away without a scare

No smoke from the industries
No emissions of the traffic
The air today is light & frolicking

The skies stand so flawless & azure
Lost in their transparent depth without a fear
The view at times a golden serene
At others, blissfully picturesque blue, like a dream
The majestic sun too, is back in glory
Awakening a new dawn each day with a new story
It emerges free from the shackles of mankind
Resplendent & radiant with a glorious sunshine.
Flocks of birds creating waves in the skies
Peace reigns finally in their paradise
The dusk is no longer dark & dreary
The velvety nights unconquered are glittering & starry

The greens of the trees is now a deep shade
Vibrating colours of nature have left us amazed

The majestic mountains at last unveiled
The world has a glimpse of their snow clad peaks
unscaled

The faint murmur of the trees & the silence of the
nights
Speaks volumes of the nature's delight

This made me think
And many a thoughts crossed my mind
What was our lapse, I went into a rewind
We were at fault no doubt sublime

We robbed the nights of it's subdued silence
The blaring horns, the traffic, the commotion & the
chaos
The night's been ravaged with an incessant violence

Concrete sprouted where stood the trees
The green cover was made to freeze

The flora & fauna rendered without a shelter
No wonder, caged in the four walls today we run
helter & skelter

The awakening rays of the sun were barred
For mankind was lost in a slumber, as,
Last night they had partied hard



Each was engrossed in a world of their own
We forgot there was someone waiting back home
So busy we were that we lacked the insight
To wipe a tear or look deep inside
This is our life that's what we desire
Self-centred & selfish humanity was all haywire
We thought we were supreme & nature a puppet
in our arms

We surpassed the creator & we thought we could
come to no harm
Nature had taken a back seat for too long
Inevitably it had to hit hard with a message so
strong
I pray & hope our lesson is well learnt
And we emerge from this unharmed & well
versed...

Sujatta Laamba
Front Desk



महामारी का पिरणाम



जो चहल- पहल थी पहले,
आज षांत हो गयी है।

मिल- जुल कर रहनेवालेहम,
अब घरो मेबंद हो गए है।

यह महामारी फै ल गयी हैदुनिया भर मे,
करोड़ो को लेचुकी हैअपनी चपेट मे।
का इसके डर मेरहना पड़ेगा,
अब हमेजिंदगी- भर?

इतिहास सेबहत सीखा हैकि,
समृदि के बाद हमेषा अषांति आती है।
परंतुपहली बार अपनी आँ खो सेदेखा हैकि,
दुनिया पर कितना बड़ा घाव छोड़कर जानेवाली है।

हम सिफ़र पाथरना कर सकतेहैकि,
यह दुविधा जली- से- जली चली जाए।
परंतुसचाई तो यह हैकि,
अब सदा रहना पड़ेगा इसकी संगित मे।

आषिमा अहलावत
Assistant Editor
(Hindi)
X Pythagoras

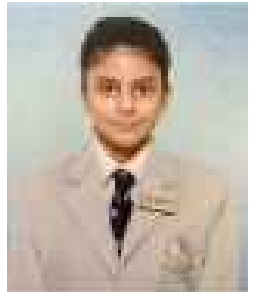


ऑनलाइन क्लासेस वाली दुनियां

दुनिया तो आज बंद जरूर है
पर पढाई अब भी जारी है
लोग बोल अहनलाइन क्लास है
पर यह क्लास नहीं यह तो सिर्फ़
हमारी अध्यापिका स्क्रीन पर आयी है
क्लास में दोस्तों के साथ होने वाली मस्ती कहां,
कहां है दो दोस्तो के साथ होने वाली लड़ाई
वो षरारतें तो अब बस यादें बनकर रह गई
असलियत तो अब रोज़ जूम कर कर के सामने
आई
उन स्कूल की छुट्टियों का जो इंतज़ार रहता था
वो मज़ा अब कहां अहनलाईन क्लास की छुट्टी में
आए
हर बार लहकडाउन की नई डेट देख
मेरा दिल फिर पसीज जाए
कभी ना सोचा था कि एक ऐसा भी दिन आएगा
जब मैं बोलूंगी मुझे स्कूल जाना है और
मेरा दिल मुझे फिर उस बिल्डिंग की याद दिलाएगा
बस अब बहुत हो गया

अब तो कोई मुझे बतादो
कब होगा इस कोरोना का सफ़ाया
या फिर अब भी यों ही देखना पड़ेगा
सिर्फ़ स्क्रीन के पीछे ही अपने दोस्तों का साया

नंदिनी गर्ग
Hindi Editor
XII Shakespeare



लोकडाउन का चमत्कार



आज समय है नज़रिया बदलने का तो ध्यान देना मेरी इस बात पर

माना कि दोस्तों, मालों और बाहर की दुनिया से थोड़ा दूर हो गए

पर देखो कैसे अपनों के ही थोड़ा करीब हो गए यह तेज़ रफ्तार जिंदगी जाने कैसे अचानक थम गई हमें हमारे ही घरों में लाकर बंद कर गई

पर इस ठहराव की तो कहीं ना कहीं हम सभी को ज़रूरत थी

वो क्या है ना अपने आप को ना जानने की हम सभी में थोड़ी कमी थी

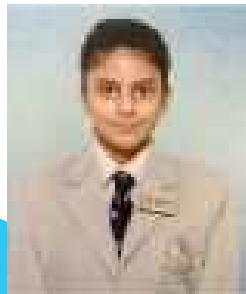
किसी ने कलाकारी में दिल लगाया तो किसी ने खाना बनाने में सुकून पाया

और वही किसी की सुरिली आवाज़ को गुनगुनाने का मौका मिल पाया

सभी ने अपने षौक को पहचाना और अपनी ज़िन्दगी को कुछ बेहतर बनाया

अब क्या कुछ बोलू बस यह तो कुछ ऐसा हुआ कि इस लोकडाउन ने हसीन

चमत्कार कर दिखाया



चंदिनी गर्ग
Hindi Editor
XII Shakespeare

फिर चला हूँ



आज फिर चला हु मैं अपने घरोंदे के लिए,
आज फिर मेरे पैर चले है भूख के लिए,
आज फिर वोही माटी मुझे अपनाते वाली है,

जिसको छोड़ कर चला था कमाने के लिए,
आज फिर बेबस हु, उन्ही रास्तो पर चलने के लिए,

जिनको कभी बनाया था मैंने सब के लिए,
कभी धूप है, कभी रात है,
कभी धुल है, कभी मेघ है,

बस निकल पड़ा हु माटी तेरे पास आने के लिए

अभिराज गुप्ता
XII Marx



Prerequisites of the COVID-19 Pandemic

The lockdown of humans is helping nature and biodiversity rediscover their natural spaces. The animals, be they marine species or the terrestrial animals, are returning to their habitat. And it's not just the animals; it's the flora and fauna also that is blooming afresh.

A part of wetland in Navi Mumbai has turned pink, and scientists believe it's due to an explosive blooming of red algae that thrives in saline water. This has never happened because as the summer picks up the Mumbai wetland loses its water. So is the case with Ganges River, the water is getting cleaner without any human intervention, a freshwater breed of endangered dolphins have been spotted in the Ganges near Meerut. Another such incident of the Olive Ridley turtles, one of the most endangered species, have come back to nest at the shores of Odisha.

eral spotting of animals roaming free on the streets as well, like a Nilgai or the Blue Bull spotted in Noida, Sambar deer in Chandigarh and peacocks strutting about through backyards.



The air is so clean that after almost 30 years people of northern India can see the Dhauladhar Mountain range from miles away. Not far away, from the dusty mofussil of Saharanpur, peaks of Bandar-punch and Gangotri in the inner Himalayas were visible after generations. Just like we're at home, now, so is nature.

**it's ok
to fall apart
sometimes. tacos fall
apart and we
still love them.**



**Gaurika Mathur
X Rousseau
Assistant Editor
(Graphic Design and Layout)**

Carly's confessions

The Malabar civet yet another critically endangered species, which was last spotted in the 1990s, were seen lurking around on the streets of Kerala. There were sev-

Day 1 of quarantine: I'm going to take this as an opportunity to improve my health

Day 45 of quarantine: Due to personal reasons, I am eating a lasagna in my shower

Movies of the Decade Bollywood

Movies to the rescue

We understand that you're all locked in with your thoughts (God knows that can be scary!). So, we took the liberty of curating a list of feel good, and engrossing movies to get you by. Hope you enjoy our list!

1.



Talvar
Our rating (9.5)
Imdb (8.2)
Rotten tomatoes (90%)

6.



Andhadun
Our rating (8.7)
Imdb(8.3)
Rotten tomatoes (100%)

2.



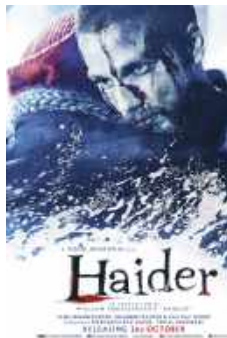
Lunch box
Our rating (9.3)
Imdb (7.8)
Rotten tomatoes (97%)

7.



Pink
Our rating (8.7)
Imdb(8.1)
Rotten tomatoes (100%)

3.



Haider
Our rating (9.0)
Imdb(8.2)
Rotten tomatoes (8.6)

8.



ZNMD
Our rating (8.5)
Imdb (8.1)
Rotten tomatoes (92%)

4.



Barfi
Our rating (9.0)
Imdb(8.1)
Rotten tomatoes (86%)

9.



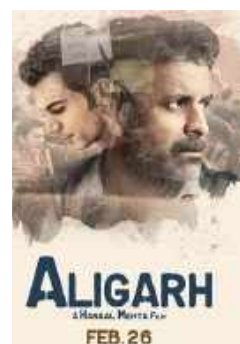
Tumbad
Our rating (8.3)
Imdb(8.3)
Rotten tomatoes (87%)

5.



Shahid(2012)
Our rating (8.8)
Imdb (8.2)
Rotten tomatoes (100%)

10.



Aligarh
Our rating (8.0)
Imdb (7.8)
Rotten tomatoes (100%)



Vasu Khajuria
XII Tolstoy



Antara Borah
XII Tolstoy

Movies of the Decade Hollywood

1.



The Social Network
Our rating (9.8)
Imdb (7.8)
Rotten tomatoes
(96%)

6.



The Revenant
Our rating (9.2)
Imdb(8.0)
Rotten tomatoes
(78%)

2.



Interstellar
Our rating (9.3)
Imdb (8.6)
Rotten tomatoes
(72%)

7.



Marriage Story
Our rating (8.9)
Imdb(8)
Rotten tomatoes
(95%)

3.



Whiplash
Our rating (9.5)
Imdb(8.5)
Rotten tomatoes
(97%)

8.



Arrival
Our rating (8.7)
Imdb (7.9)
Rotten tomatoes
(94%)

4.



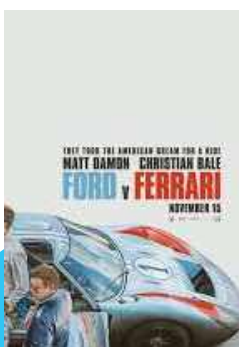
Call Me By Your
Name
Our rating (9.4)
Imdb (7.9)
Rotten tomatoes
(95%)

9.



The Intouchables
Our rating (8.6)
Imdb(8.5)
Rotten tomatoes
(75%)

5.



Ford vs Ferrari
Our rating (9.4)
Imdb (8.2)
Rotten tomatoes
(92%)

10.



Hereditary
Our rating (8.3)
Imdb (7.3)
Rotten tomatoes
(89%)

While I've been reading and binge-watching to keep myself occupied (let's face it, I've mostly been binge-watching), I decided to share reviews on the two pieces that really spoke to me. Here's hoping you like them too!

Book Review

Name of the book: Three Marketeers

Author: Ajeet Sharma

Genre: Business oriented fiction

Note on the author:

Mr. Sharma is a marketing expert and a business school professor who displays his literary side through the book. The book seems to be a strong reflection of the business world from the view point of the business guru.

The Plot:

The Three Marketeers puts on display the professional hardships of men from three different walks of life. Karan Jaani, a disgraced ex brand manager of Festi a top beverage company who is looking for redemption and a new lease of life into the business world. Rishi Verma, a project manager with an American based company who decided that he didn't just want to be a component at work but rather the whole instrument turned entrepreneur and failed which led him to shut down his ailing tech business. The last of the trio of marketeers is Vidu Nandi, an unhappy sales executive who has gone on to hate his job and wants to leap into the world of entrepreneurship. The story unravels as the Three Marketeers meet through mutual contacts and chance meetings. With Karan Jaani at the head of the business model, Vidu Nandi and Rishi Verma take the leap and dive into the beverage business with just one common goal, success. However behind every successful man is the hand of the woman and in this case each of our marketeers have Ira Bhat, Sameera Bali and Leena Goswami. Ira is an America returned salsa instructor and the wife of Rishi Verma, Sameera Bali is the dreamy eyed neighbor of Karan Jaani and a resourceful HR manager at Mayford Ritz. Leena Goswami is seen in the story as Vidu Nandi's biggest strength as well as his biggest weak-

ness, she also happens to be Sameera Bali's colleague and an aspiring Bollywood actress.

Read book to hard-three endure make it top.

The the

The true of busi-even it is a



through the witness the ships our marketeers in order to to the very

USP of book:

book is a reflection the real ness world though work of

fiction. The writing style of the author is simple, easy to understand and at the same time it isn't very lengthy. For anyone willing to get an insight of entrepreneurship the book is highly recommended and even if the business side of things isn't considered, the development of the story is exceptional. Reading through this book made me realize how things work in the business world and for anyone with a business oriented mind, the book can prove to be very useful as a learning tool. The courage and bravery of the trio is truly inspiring.

Grade scale:

I'll give The Three Marketeers a solid 8.5/10. The book is deserving of the high rating as it provides food for thought for an entrepreneur while the twist and turns keep the reader at the edge of their seats. Three Marketeers is a fantastic book and is a must read for the budding entrepreneur who is ever so slightly afraid to make a leap into the business world.

**Suvansh Arora
XII Kumarappa**



Mental Health

Mental Health- Probably a topic that is very well known but not talked much about. Why, you ask? Is it a taboo to talk about something that affects us all? Is it a crime to mention the words 'mental health'? No, simply because no one really cares about it. Every year, there are thousands of cases of suicides. Is it because they were weak? Is it because they had no other choice?

In my opinion, suicides happen because of our negligence of the mental health of others. Recently, the case of Sushant Singh Rajput's suicide came to light. People labelled it as suicide and stated he was 'weak'. Is weakness all we can see when we see struggle? I can bet you that none would have deemed him weak if he had conceded to a physical ailment.

While his death continues to be enveloped in mystery, the point I'm trying to make is- our little actions affect everyone around us in both positive and negative ways. You



It is time we start recognising mental health as an integral part of our lives and not take it as a joke. We all need to learn that it's important we take care of everyone around us and support them in their decisions and be there for them when they need us because not only could it might it save a life, but also keep someone's family together. Although Rome wasn't built in a day, today might be the best day to start re-building!

Anonymous



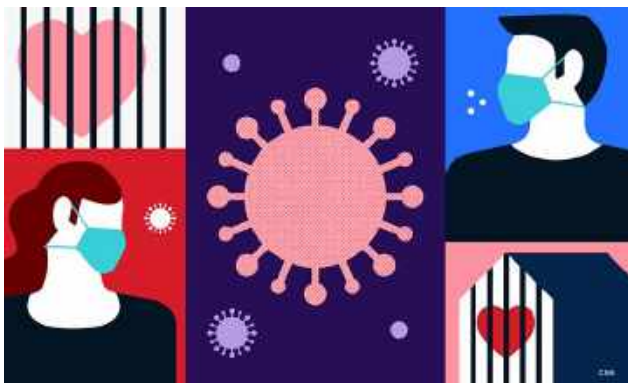
could be making fun of someone without having any knowledge of what they're going through. In your eyes, it was just for fun but in that person's eyes it could be a trigger for an anxiety attack. I have had many experiences where I have been made fun of just because of my choices. I made to keep my calm.

Lockdown : A Blessing in Disguise

Welcome to the uncharted waters of social distancing in a time of viruses and uncertainty. Due to the unprecedented global



health emergency of COVID-19, most countries are now on lockdown and now even the mere option of going out for coffee or lunch has been thrown out of the window. This is not a joke. It's definitely not a drill. In a situation like this it is natural to feel sad, worried, confused, angry or scared. While this lockdown is certainly an efficient tool in eradicating this growing pandemic, it has its share of



psychological and emotional drawbacks. Human beings are social animals and interpersonal connections are the hallmark of human life. That is the basic difference between human beings and other animals. In times of crisis and stress, people tend

to rely on their loved ones and having to distance oneself from such communication seems to be nearly impossible. However in the midst of this seclusion, technology is a powerful tool which keeps us connected. Times like these teach you that it's important to take out time and be thankful for the little things that we take for granted. Use this time to explore those activities that you've been putting off simply because you didn't have the time. From missing a day in school to surviving a day of household chores without the maid, every age group had their own routine set in motion and they couldn't imagine having to alter their day. But as Plato once said, "Necessity is the mother of invention." This holds true as schools are still working without students having to physically go to school, household chores are still being done in



the absence of the maid and the businesses are still functioning. Despite how we thought that the sky would fall in the absence of such activities, life is still going on and will continue to do so. After all, nothing can be given a priority over the existence of human life. While our lives tend to run on fast forward, this is the perfect time for us to slow down and reboot ourselves.

Khanak Malik
XII Einstein



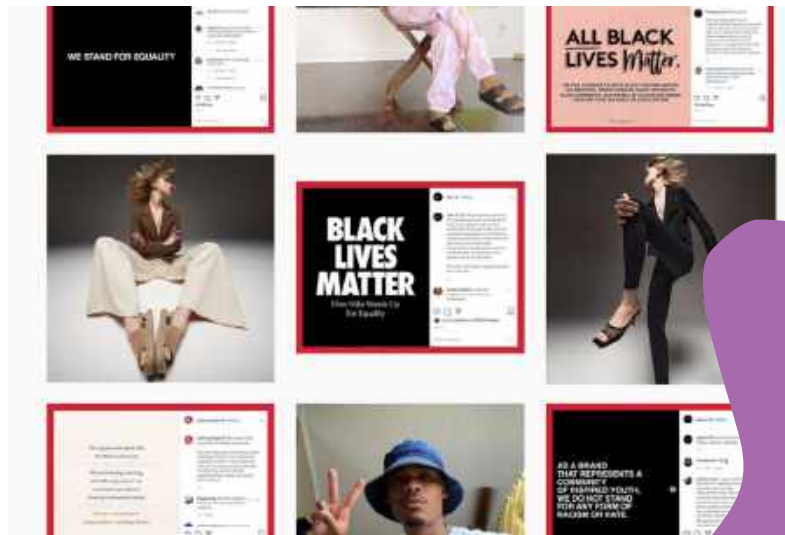
Commercialization of the BLM

“50+ black owned food / clothing / makeup brands you can support right now.” There are dozens of such articles floating around the internet. We are all aware about the death of George Floyd (an African American) at the hands of a white policeman which fuelled the resurrection and subsequent increase in the activities of the Black Lives Matter movement. We have seen people hit the streets of USA amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and this movement even found its footing in parts of Europe and even India.

However, what could have been a movement to highlight police brutality in the USA which is a very far-spread issue was re-directed by the capitalist lobbies towards monetary gain. We saw people diluting the movement by taking up the George Floyd challenge and it was viral on the Internet, which while barbaric, shows how this event has impacted different communities in different ways. We saw a huge hike in beauty brands like Sephora and Fenty beauty after this BLM movement but did this hike help those poor black people who called 911 because of riots but they were arrested themselves, solely due to their race? From Calvin Klein to Ben and Jerry's, the movement soon turned into a PR strategy for many.

I don't mean to single out or criticise any company, but the fact remains that the majority of the companies in America's capitalist society are concerned solely about the bottom line- Profit. Companies taking over the movement, in my opinion, is doing more harm than good because it's losing its main focus. These brands are taking advantage of the movement and manipulating public sentiments and its time we checked our own consumeristic behaviour before buying into these trends.

“To be silent is to be complicit”



Aditya Bainsla
XII Kalam



Online Teaching

Morning of 22nd, March, 2020 changed everything for us in India. It was a new world with new rules. Rules which forced everyone to struggle. Lots of unanswered questions started piling up. Philosopher Herbert Spencer's 'Survival of the fittest' and Darwin's law of Natural selection had suddenly surfaced. Fact was they were always around, but we all had entered into the 'who cares' phase.



But we are humans, the most evolved species. So, we paused for a while and then started to look for options of survival.

I am a teacher by profession. The biggest question for me was how am I going to reach out to my students? Then came the finest solution in the form of 'Online Teaching' and along with it came my struggle with technology. I had been using Google, YouTube, etc for making presentations for my classes, but this online class was altogether a new chapter.

I had sleepless nights. Suddenly I realised I cannot give up because I will never expect this from any of my students. I have always motivated them and now it's my turn. So, I decided to give it a try. Downloaded the online app and scheduled a mock class with my friend. It worked and so did my confidence. It was a thrilling moment, my enthusiasm increased manifold. But my happy days were short lived. After a few days of smooth sailing we were asked to change the platform of our online classes due to some security issues.

Oh God not again! New morning, new struggle. Finally, success and happiness wrapped with satisfaction. After completing almost six months of online teaching I have realised that there is no age

to learn and master new skills. I am now equipped with new methods to enrich my lessons and make them more interesting for my students. Using modules helps me connect with previous knowledge. Including online Quizzes and Games based on the topic taught increased the attention and retention span of my children. I remember how one of my students suggested that I should use interesting cartoons when I design a quiz. This helped me gain their faith and, in turn, their respect and confidence in me. It becomes so easy when I click a link to demonstrate a process which otherwise is difficult to explain on a black board. Yes, to be honest correcting the assignments is a troublesome job, but the thought of students eagerly waiting for their scores motivates me. I keep visiting sites to learn ways to design and correct assignments and enrich my computer abilities too. All our lives, we



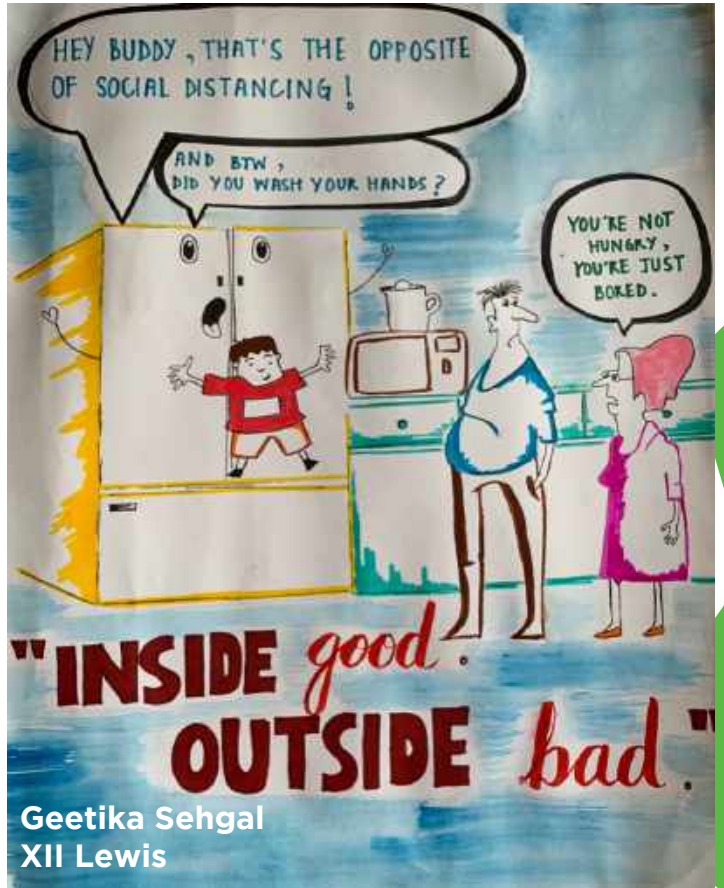
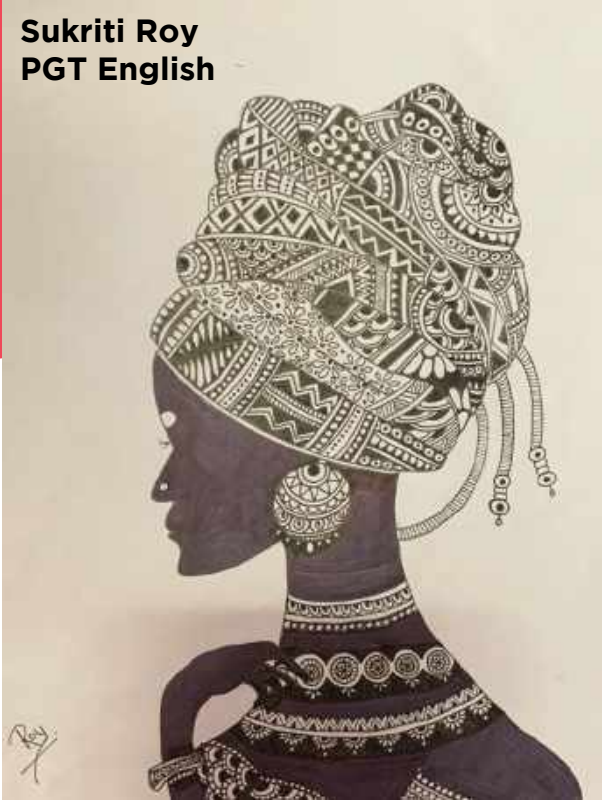
have been vary of computers, using it only when push came to shove that I finally decided to hone this ability.

But here I am, a new me who can confidently use a plethora of computer applications, give voice over recordings, add animations to a lesson and all this stirred up by a catastrophe. Yes, this lockdown has evolved me as a new generation teacher. Today, I'm ready to face challenges and overcome them. But I still miss school, the morning assemblies, the delight in the eyes of the pupils when the bell rang, the hustle-bustle early in the morning and most of all, my life-lines, the smiling faces of my children.

Deepthi Awasthi
PGT Biology



Sukriti Roy
PGT English



Productivity In The Times Of Covid 19

While we have been plagued with anxiety, insomnia and stress during the lockdown, some of us managed to channelize our inner artists and discover some new skills. Here's a kaleidoscope of colours that Lotusians engaged with during the lockdown.



Smahi Anand
XII Smith



Sukriti Roy
PGT English



Smahi Anand
XII Smith



Geetika Sehgal
XII Lewis

Art by Lotusians

Art speaks where words are unable to explain



Shivika Gupta
XII Smith



Shivika Gupta
XII Smith



Shivika Gupta
XII Smith



Sukriti Roy
PGT English

Art by Lotusians

Every child is an artist . The problem is how to remain artist once we group up
- Pablo Picasso



Sukriti Roy
PGT English



Vasvi Agarwal
XII Smith

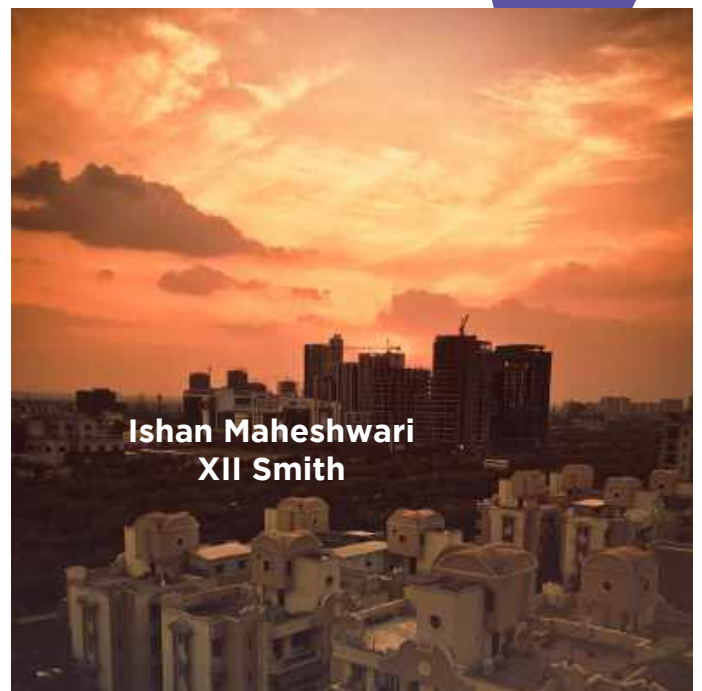


Aperture: Snapshots by Lotusians



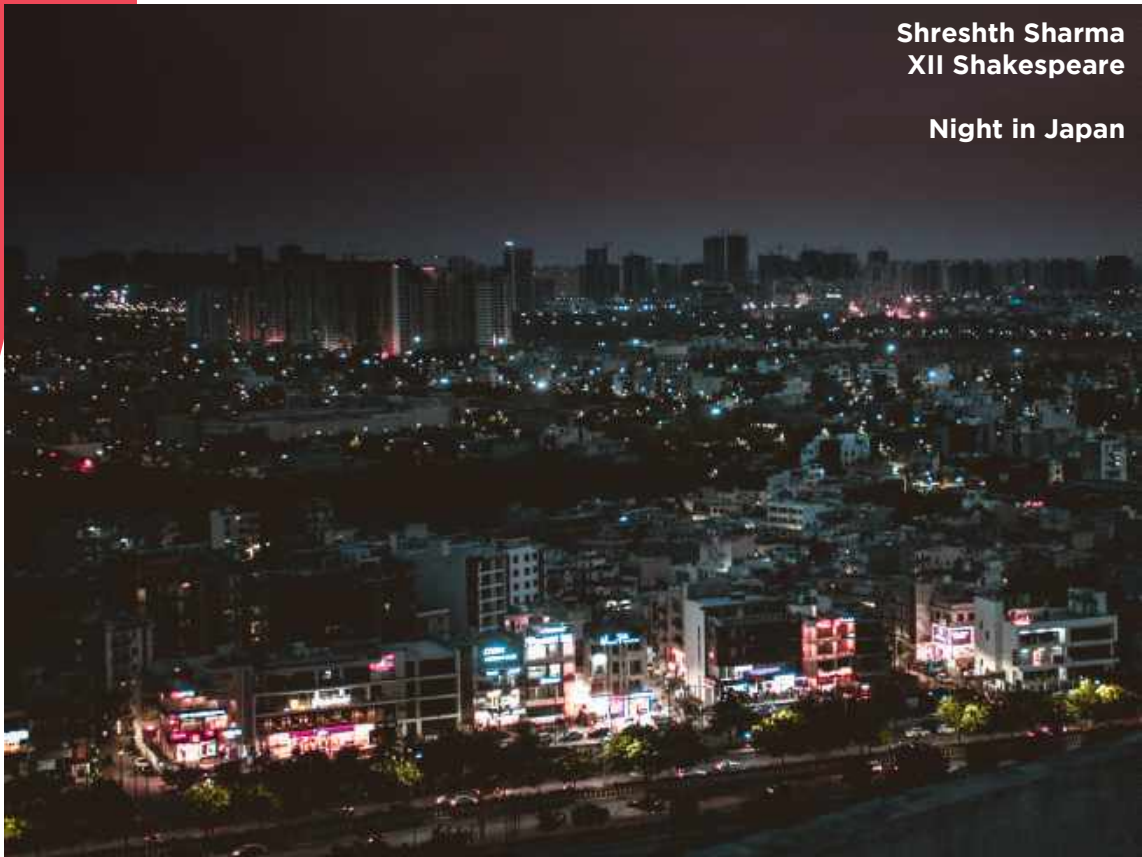


Aperture: Snapshots by Lotusians



**Shreshth Sharma
XII Shakespeare**

Night in Japan



Aperture: Snapshots by Lotusians
Photography is the story I fail to put into words
- Destin Sparks

**Ronit Singh
XII Marx**



**Abhiraaj Gupta
XII Marx**



**Ishan Maheshwari
XII Smith**



**Shreshth Sharma
XII Shakespeare**

