

Creativity exhibited through decorative masks, stamps

Creativity is a natural extension of our imagination and the enthusiasm to create something gives us happiness. It is with this same zeal that the students participated in CCA competitions on the themes 'Flag Making with Vegetable Stamping' and 'Decorative Face Masks'.

This was in concurrence with the fact that we celebrated our Independence Day in August. It was wonderful to see the students expressing their ideas and coming up with beautiful pieces of art, based on the theme.

These days when we think of a mask, only a face mask which can keep us safe from the dreaded pandemic disease comes to our minds. But did you know that decorative masks may be worn as part of a costume

outside of rituals or ceremonial functions. This is often described as a masque. A masquerade mask is one such decorative mask which is often worn to adorn an outfit based on a particular theme or event. There are many factors that play into deciding which masquerade mask you'll want to wear to an event; the occasion,

THE OXFORD SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

your outfit, and the image you want to convey are the three main factors to consider. Keeping all these ideas in mind, our students participated in an online CCA competition to come up with the best, elaborate decorative masks.

Their ingenuity, creativity and eye-catching themes, along with the combination of colours made it a tough act for the judges to choose the winners.



TEACHERSPEAK

Nurture high academic, cultural and spiritual goals

The recent spotlight on a celebrity's son for an alleged involvement in a drug racket makes me wonder whether a good number of youngsters in India are heading towards a societal apocalypse. It puts the focus on the huge responsibility we as educators, parents and mentors have to stop this from happening. As per earlier statistics, about 2.8 % of the population in India is reportedly under the influence of narcotics.



Sanghamitra Basu Sengupta, Vice Principal - Academics

hashish etc which damage the nervous system and destroy the mental, physical and emotional well-being of a person.

But why are some young people developing such tastes in life? Is it because of excessive financial freedom at a young age, lack of parenting guidance, or absence of moral education in schools. Is it just a new status symbol?

As an educator, I urge parents and teachers to make a conscious effort

AAVISHKAR ACADEMY

Being a chemistry teacher, I try to sensitize students about the dark side of chemistry and the ill effects of drugs like cocaine, LSD,

to nurture good tastes and habits in children. Building a strong moral character, and setting high academic, cultural or spiritual goals in life are much better tastes than sniffing and licking these amorphous substances for a moment's pleasure.

UNPARALLELED

For the summer we waited, both she and I,
So that into the warmth, we could rise high.

Far away, yet so closely knit,
With uncertain similarity, what a mystery behind it!

From forever she saw much success,
In looks, in popularity and to the love of all easy access.
Envy all that she possessed I lay,
For she was a bright parrot and me-a cuckoo dull and grey.

What we had in common was our love to sing,
I composed my own, while she, onto others' voices used to cling.
People's affection towards her increased,
And I seemed to be of no use to man or beast.

Everyday I saw her spread her wings so

green,
In awe I looked up to her, she was no less than a queen.
One fine day as I raised my head,
I couldn't catch any glimpse of her green or red.

An uneasy feeling crept into me,
Why was I so worried, maybe I just couldn't see!
Something urged me to look for her,
The beautiful, loved parrot, gone away, all in a blur.

Then, I heard her high pitched voice,
It seemed so helpless, amidst the sound of noisy boys.
Led by her octaves, I advanced,
And through the sturdy cage I glanced.

I found her imitating as always,
Trapped and devoid of freedom in all ways.
In that little cage she had to live her

remainder life,
Oh poor thing, What a strife!

Turning away, I realised my potential:
I was dull and grey yet so original.
At that minute the joy of my discovery overwhelmed,
My sorrow, which for the parrot I held.

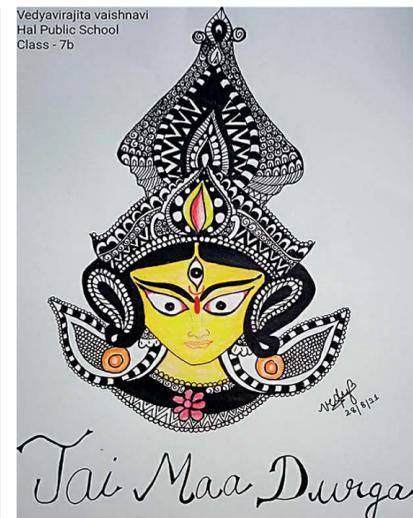
A lesson to animals and mankind;
Be who you are, not what you find.
Everyone is wonderful, everyone is unique-
Realise that, only then can you reach success' peak.
Note: This poem is based on being original and accepting yourself. It hints a little bit into fighting racism too, although the main theme revolves around self love and acceptance.

Poojitha Keshav, class XII, Bethany High School, Koramangala.

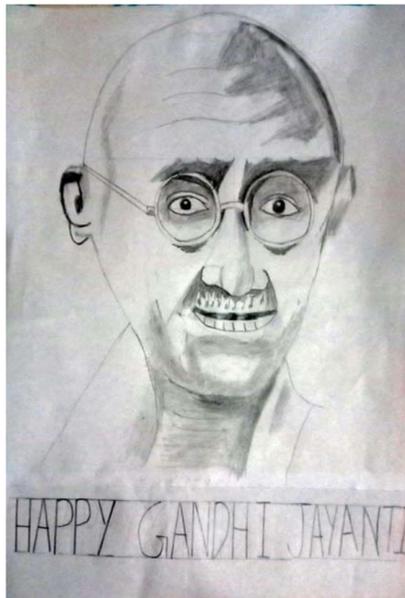
Painters' Gallery



MASKED LORD: Abhinav Kumar, class VIII, Rashtriya Military School



DURGA DEVI: Vedyavirajita Vaishnavi, class VII, HAL Public School



FATHER OF THE NATION: Manukumara M, class VI, HAL Public School Vimanapura



SHIV-PARVATI: Himashree S Reddy, class VIII, Sishu Griha Senior School

OF BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES

With the ease in Covid19 restrictions for travel in 2021, I got the opportunity to travel some interesting places. *Tithal* beach in Gujarat, a serene spot was one of them. I was travelling with my mum and my aunt.

We reached Vapi by train, since we had reached at night, we stopped at my aunt's house. The next day, we set out at about 3:30 am to visit the beach and the Swaminarayan temple close by. It



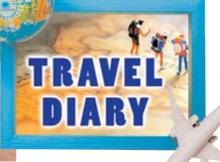
felt really great to be with my family after such a long time.

The temple was majestic and well maintained. We prayed to the deities there and explored the serene surroundings. But the best part about the evening was the visit to the beach.

The pristine white sands and the waves lapping at the shore, was indeed a vision to behold.

The setting sun turned the sea orange, we were taken in by the beautiful setting. Soon after dusk we left. But, the stunning views were etched in my memory and I would never have traded this time with family for anything else.

Aarya Bhanushali, class XI, Thakur College Of Science And Commerce



Push for food fortification: Will address India's problem of malnutrition

Malnutrition is a major problem in India. Food fortification will not provide more food, but it will provide the "right food" which is more important than the former. It is a process of adding micronutrients to our food. Food fortification is cost effective. So, fortified food can reach the poorest sections of the country. These people are malnourished and such fortified food can help them regain health faster. Such food maintains the body's nutritional requirements. The best part is that one need not change one's dietary habits to consume this food and characteristics such as taste and aroma do not get altered while fortifying food. Fortified food can reach India's large population through ration shops. As schools are reopening, it can be included in the mid-day meals provided to children. Many states have already implemented this and the movement is gaining momentum.

FOR Varada Shendye, class X, z SSPM's Sri Sri Ravishankar Vidya Mandir,

Food fortification is nothing but adding vitamins and minerals to the normal food to increase its nutritive value. Food fortification is done so that the deficient population will get the required nutrients in the required amount. However, food fortification can be very risky. Adding extra nutrients in common food can increase the consumption of excess nutrients which are not required by the body, thus increasing the risk for health problems. It can cause an overdose of nutrients which might cause many health problems. We all know that many people have some or the others health issue for which they take certain medicines, especially old people. If these people consume fortified foods, it can cause serious health complications. Hence, food fortification can be harmful.

AGAINST



Radhika Chopra, class X, Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School,

DEBATE

QUEEN OF THE NIGHT

Like a shining gem at night,
She blooms with all her might
Whereas other flowers fall asleep
She blooms with grace and beauty.
Her fragrance remains all night.
But vanishes at every dawn.
She smiles at moonlight,
But by dawn she is not in sight.
She enjoys the dark sacred night,
But as soon as the sun rises she falls into a deep sleep.
Because she is the queen of the night.

Pragna K H, class VIII, NPS, Kengeri

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ICC T20 WORLD CUP 2021

INDIA LOOKS TO FIX BATTING ORDER

Final T20 WC warm-up game against Australia will be good time to test strength

Preparations for the T20 World Cup off to a smooth start, India would look to finalise the batting order for the tournament proper when they take on Australia in their second and final warm-up game in Dubai on Wednesday. India will clash against Pakistan in their main event lung-opener on Sunday. The tournament will be Virat Kohli's last as skipper in the format, besides being the swan-song for head coach Ravi Shastri.

As pointed out by Kohli before the warm-up game against England on Monday, India's top three is already settled with KL Rahul and Rohit Sharma opening the batting and the skipper coming in at the crucial no.3 position.

YOUNG GUNS STAKE CLAIM

Having made a stroke-filled 70 before retiring in the seven-wicket win over England, the young Ishan Kishan has also staked his claim for a place in the playing eleven. Rishabh Pant (29 not out) was promoted ahead of SuryaKumar Yadav and it remains to be seen where the latter bats on Wednesday. Rohit didn't bat against England and come Wednesday, the right-hander is expected to get a go against the Australians. The talking point, however, remains all-rounder Hardik Pandya,

who didn't look comfortable in his brief stay against England. With Pandya not bowling, it remains to be seen whether the Indian think-tank will play him purely as a batter. Sans his bowling, India will also miss the sixth bowling option in case one of the five-strong attack has an off day on the field.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar had one against England on Monday, but

Jasprit Bumrah was at his best. Mohammed Shami picked up three wickets but went for runs, while Rahul Chahar was taken to task by the English batters. And come Wednesday, Ravindra Jadeja, Shardul Thakur and mystery spinner Varun Chakravarthy are expected to get a look in before the main business begins.

On recent form, since losing the home series against Australia 2-0 before the 2019 ODI World Cup, India were unbeaten in eight series in a row. Since the 2016 T20 World Cup, India have played 72 T20 matches and won 45.

NETHERLANDS SEEK FIRST WIN

Netherlands would look to regroup after a comprehensive loss to Ireland and open their account when they take on tournament debutants Namibia in a must-win match of the T20 World Cup's first round in Abu Dhabi on Wednesday.

The Dutch were simply blown away by the stunning four-wickets-in-four-balls performance by Ireland pacer Curtis Campher and they would hope to quickly forget the seven-wicket loss and post a win against Namibia in the Group A game to keep themselves in fray for a Super 12 berth. For the inexperienced Namibians, skipper Gerhard Erasmus and experienced all-rounder David Wiese, who has earlier played 24 T20s for South Africa, hold the key as they would want to make a mark in the tournament after the seven-wicket loss to Sri Lanka.

AUS MAKE GOOD START

Australia too made winning start to their preparations with Josh Inglis hitting two fours in the final over to help his side beat New Zealand by three wickets in a warm-up match in Abu Dhabi on Monday. There was mixed news for Australia in their first warm-up as David Warner's horror run continued after he was dismissed for a first-ball duck. Adam Zampa (2/17) and Kane Richardson (3/24) impressed with the ball, but a middle-order collapse meant the Australians needed late cameos from Ashton Agar (23 off 18 balls), Mitchell Starc (13 not out off 9) and Inglis (8 not out off 2) to secure the win.

The Aussies have never exactly been a huge force in the shortest format and it remains to be seen whether they are able to finally get things going at the biggest stage. **PH**



KL Rahul



Ishan Kishan

Photos: ANI

ARSENAL DRAW WITH PALACE

Vieira's return as Crystal manager troubles Arsenal fans but give him warm reception



Alexandre Lacazette

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Arsenal fans were nearly haunted by the return of club hero Patrick Vieira, who was back this time as Crystal Palace manager and his team was just about to beat the Gunners at Emirates Stadium. But Arsenal substitute Alexandre Lacazette made sure that wouldn't happen. He scored a dramatic late equalizer and the English Premier League match finished 2-2.

The visitors were leading deep into injury time before Lacazette managed to turn home a rebound in the fifth minute of added time. The forward ran over to celebrate with Arsenal fans. Vieira's return to the club where he brought glory to Arsenal as captain ended in misery, with the Frenchman crouching down and pounding the turf.

Vieira was appointed manager of Crystal Palace in July and

he has tried to bring attacking football to the club. But, so far, Palace has won only once out of eight matches despite impressing with his expansive approach and the team's pressing. "It's not good enough to play well," Vieira said. "We want to win football matches. I want to win football matches."

Palace came from behind to score twice in the second half after Arsenal took the lead through captain Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang in the eighth minute.

Vieira wouldn't have been impressed by the Arsenal defensive midfielders playing in his former position. Thomas Partey and substitute Albert Sambi Lokonga, whose mistakes led to both Palace goals.

Partey first lost possession cheaply in the 50th minute when striker Jordan Ayew stripped him of the ball. Palace striker Christian Benteke collected and cut inside before

smashing past goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale. Then it was Lokonga's turn to lose the ball, which eventually made its way to Odsonne Edouard. The Palace forward calmly stroked the ball home.

"It was a strange game," Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta said. "We dominated in the beginning. We deserved the goal and after that we lacked composure, belief and maturity. We gave a lot of balls away." The result meant Arsenal was in 12th place in the table, and Palace 14th.

Vieira's spirit and desire to win enamored him with Arsenal fans during his spell at the club. The home supporters serenaded him in appreciation before and after the match. "It was really nice," he said. "I thank the Arsenal fans for the reception." But Vieira, while happy to receive chants in his name, was clearly here to win. "We have to learn from the games we played previously," he said. "I'm really disappointed because the players deserved to win the game. I'm really frustrated. We're learning in a really harsh way." **AP**



Patrick Vieira

Photo: REUTERS

DJOKOVIC DOUBTFUL AT AUS OPEN OVER VACCINE RULES

Unvaccinated tennis stars are unlikely to get visas to play in the Australian Open, a local official warned Tuesday, with defending champion Novak Djokovic raising doubts about his own participation in the upcoming tournament.

Victoria state premier Dan Andrews said he expected no exceptions from Australia's Covid-19 vaccine rules for players competing in January's Grand Slam. Andrew's comments came as Djokovic told a Serbia media outlet that he was unsure if he was planning to compete in the Australian Open. "I don't know if I'm going to go to Australia. I don't know what's going on. The situation right now is not good," Novak Djokovic told the Serbian daily. **AFP**



Photo: AFP

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: Which male athlete has won the maximum number of medals at the World Championships in Athletics?

- a. Mo Farah
- b. Usain Bolt
- c. Carl Lewis
- d. Michael Johnson

Q2: Who has won four gold medals in women's 3000 m in the IAAF World Indoor Championships?

- a. Haile Gebrselassie
- b. Stefka Kostadinova
- c. Natalya Nazarova
- d. Meseret Defar

Q3: Who is the only head coach to ever win two World Cups?

- a. Vittorio Pozzo
- b. Sepp Maier
- c. Franco Baresi
- d. Gerd Muller

Q4: Who is the current Women's World Chess Champion?

- a. Ju Wenjun
- b. Hou Yifan
- c. Tan Zhongyi
- d. Anna Ushenina

Q5: Gareth Southgate picked five Manchester City players to start for England against Hungary. Which club once had seven players in an England starting XI?

- a. Arsenal
- b. Manchester United
- c. Liverpool
- d. Rangers



Gareth Southgate

Photo: AFP

Q6: Which Indian athlete is known as the "Queen of Indian Track and Field" or "Golden Girl"?

- a. PT Usha
- b. Kamaljeet Sandhu
- c. Krishna Punia
- d. Sunita Rani

Q7: How many Medals were won by Indian National Badminton team at the Commonwealth Games?

- a. 10
- b. 12
- c. 19
- d. 8

Q8: Which country ranks first in the International Kabaddi Federation's top 10 Kabaddi teams?

- a. Thailand
- b. Pakistan
- c. Iran
- d. India

Q9: Which tennis doubles pair won the gold medal in men's doubles at the 2020 Summer Olympics?

- a. Marin Cilic and Ivan Dodig
- b. Nikola Pietrangeli and Mate Pavic
- c. Andy Murray and Stanislav Wawrinka
- d. None of the above

ANSWERS: 1. b. Usain Bolt
2. d. Meseret Defar 3. a. Vittorio Pozzo
4. a. Ju Wenjun 5. a. Arsenal 6. a. PT Usha
7. c. 19 8. d. India
9. b. Nikola Pietrangeli and Mate Pavic