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AN OFFERING TO DIVINE 'ATMAN'

Ahlcon International School, Mayur Vihar Phase 1 organised a rare treat for the soul, 'Bhajananjali' with divine friendship and love. It was held on February 12 to offer our warm wishes to Dr KVR Murthy on the auspicious occasion of his birthday as he is the one whose transformative vision regarding governance value-based systems for the individual has influenced and nurtured Ahlcon's foundations.

The programme was graced with a galaxy of honourable dignitaries, chairperson, Dr Rohini Ahluwalia, director, Ahlcon Group of Schools, Dr Ashok Pandey, principal, Sanjay Yadav, admin officer, HMs & AHMs, teachers with our parents and students joining us online on MS Teams. The programme commenced with diya lighting. The principal welcomed the divine gathering by offering his own vision and valuable lesson, 'Be thou a Karamyogi, from 'Bhagwad Geeta', and that it was these learnings that helped us to win the battle of Kurushreta.

The divine offerings began with the 'Gayatri mantra', 'Guru vandana' followed by 'Geeta shlokas'. The soul-stirring offerings continued with beautiful 'bhajans'. For these renditions, the artistes of our school got together and left the audience mesmerised and entranced. For our chairperson Dr Rohini Ahluwalia, it was an emotional moment of a profound connect with her guru as she shared how the teachings of 'Bhagwad Geeta' have been imbibed in her own life in the simplest and the most straightforward manner. Director, Ahlcon Group of Schools Dr Ashok Pandey summed it up by sharing the last shloka of 'Bhagwad Geeta', that is, in essence the victory of the one who has a guru connect.

'Bhajananjali' helped us realise that when sounds are in harmony, there is music; similarly, when there is rhythm or harmony in life, the heart blossoms. It is this rhythm that takes us back to our source. We may identify ourselves with various roles in our life, but these are just external identifications. It is this that help us move beyond such identifications towards our source – from where we came. The programme 'Bhajananjali' allowed that rare connect with the divine, conjoining the eternal seeker Arjuna within us to Krishna, hoping that our spiritual ascension is filled with an ever-deepening awareness of the divine.

Menstrual hygiene day

ASN Senior Secondary School, Mayur Vihar-1 on the occasion of Menstrual health and hygiene awareness day, virtually celebrated 'Happy Periods' on the theme, 'Talk, support and celebrate'.

Many schools participated enthusiastically and shared their valuable views and experiences regarding menstruation health and hygiene.

Keynote speaker for the day was Dr Surbhi Singh, founder of Sachi Saheli, an NGO, whose intrinsic guidance benefited one and all. She emphasised that the one minute talk 'Break the Silence' is the need of the hour where we must vocalise our thoughts on the topic and not consider it as a taboo.

School principal Swarnima Luthra thanked the participants and the key note speaker Dr Surbhi for motivating the student to talk and not consider menstrual cycle a stigma, but a boon. She said 'Periods brings Pride, Not Period'.

Virtual Career Fair- 2022

Salwan Public School, Rajendra Nagar hosted the first virtual career fair on January 24 and 25 for the students and parents of classes IX-XII. Representatives from nine prestigious universities and institutions across India and our illustrious alumni having created a niche for themselves guided the students about the different career opportunities that can be pursued.

The highlight of the event was the interactive session with Dr V S Ravindran, who is a renowned educational psychologist and trainer. Young professionals from different fields reflected on their journeys in the informative panel discussion with Jyotsna Bhardwaj, founder Envision India Eduservices.

The discussion was very insightful, as the young speakers shared about their field of work openly, the issues that one faces, and how students can prepare themselves right away. The speakers included a psychotherapist, environment designer, consultant engineer, psychometrician and a marketing and communications professional. More than 700 students from 15 schools in Delhi participated and benefited from this fair.

Ryan holds plantation drive

When we use trees respectfully and economically, we have one of the greatest resources on earth. Trees are rightfully called the lungs of the earth. Life on earth would cease to exist in the absence of trees. Trees are responsible for sustaining the environment in several ways.

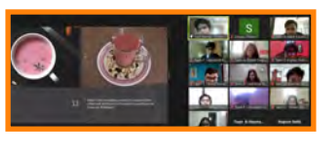
Ryan International School, Gurugram Sector - 31 carried out plantation drive in school and around the school premises on the occasion of Pulwama Martyr's Day. Guest Nidhi Kotia (BJP District Executive Member) donated saplings of ashoka and ficus panda to the school which was followed by plantation prayer and song in different languages by the teachers.

School in association with RWAs, NGOs, students and parents carry out various plantation drives to spread greenery and educate people about its importance.

School head N Geeta Srinivasa appreciated the efforts put in by the guest Nidhi Kotia and a pledge was taken to take proper care of saplings planted and carry out more and more similar drives to spread greenery all around.

New Era conducts interschool quiz festival

New Era Public School, Mayapuri conducted the much-awaited 10th R L Chopra Memorial interschool quiz festival, 'QRIOSITY' on February 5 through the online platform Zoom. Dedicated to the founder of New Era Public School, late R L Chopra, the event has created a niche for itself among the student community in the city, as the most distinctive event in its category, which attracts the best talent. This year, 41 schools participated in the three quizzes, namely the 'Cadet Quiz', 'General Quiz (Jr)' and 'General Quiz (Sr)'.



The event was inaugurated by the founder principal and director Usha Chopra and the principal Vandana Chawla.

In their addresses to the students, both Chopra and Chawla emphasised on the need for students to be inquisitive and creative.

Student Corner

Spirited science

From providing the food
To helping in the fights,
Science has always
Provided us the sight.
It plays with Partiality
For what's the right.
In the skit of darkness,
It played the role of light.
It became the ritual for the
Great scientists like Raman.
It is becoming the path to
Get the hidden innovation.
It shall become the way for
Solving the role of existence.
It showed how cremation gave
Birth to the vigorous creation.
It provided the miracles
Which can never go out.
It established the world,
To connect the crowds.
It gave the glance of paths
Which we couldn't sought.
Science has always shined
In the darkness of the doubts.

ASHUTOSH, class XII A, Saraswati Bal Mandir School, Rajouri Garden

Myself

Do you want to know me?
Ask my friends they are three.
I just love to study.
Be it alone or with my buddy.
Math is my favourite subject.
Which I don't want to neglect.
Science is full of experiments.
Which helps in overall development.

I love drawing and colouring too.
Tell me what's your point of view?

AYESHA KHAN, class V-A, Seth Anandram Jaipuria School, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad

Four DPS students selected for Inspire Manak Award

Four students of **DPS** Noida have been selected for the INSPIRE - MANAK Award 2021-22, adding yet another feather to its formidable list of achievements.

One of the flagship programmes organised by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, the prestigious INSPIRE (Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research) Awards - MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspirations and Knowledge), a Pan India event, is an attempt to recognise creative scientific aptitude among school students. With the objective of fostering a culture of creativity and innovative thinking, this initiative of the government aims at motivating young minds to showcase their original ideas, rooted in science and societal applications.

Aditey Nandan

Srikunj Garg

Rushil Rawat

Mannat Sehra

Rushil Rawat, Aditey Nandan, Srikunj Garg of class X and Mannat Sehra of class VIII have been selected for the glorious honour.

The unique proposal for 'Fire fighting drone' by Rushil Rawat has helped him bag the award while Aditey's project on 'Carbon monoxide and flood safety for cars has got selected. Srikunj Garg's creative work on 'Shwaas Ditya-the carbon dioxide detection system in a car' and Mannat Sehra's synopsis on 'Shopping trolley with calculator and scanner', a proposal meant for speeding the billing process for shoppers, have been the other two projects selected for the INSPIRE Award.

Each student will be awarded a cash prize of ₹10000. The reward money will be used to develop their ideas for the next level of the competition. The principal, DPS Noida, Kamini Bhasin congratulated the students, applauding them for displaying exemplary scientific aptitude through their innovative projects.

THE EDUCATIONIST

'HYBRID LEARNING IS THE BEST MODE TILL PANDEMIC IS ERADICATED'

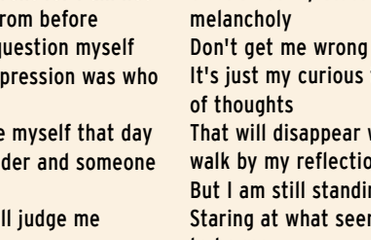
Principal Seema Saini, N L Dalmia High School, shares her views about school education amidst these challenging times with Urvi Dhonde

■ What are the key challenges that schools are facing as students come back to school?

As students are used to attending online school from the comfort of their home, they seem to have become more complacent towards the entire schooling process. The challenge for the school is to restore the lost focus, develop interest for learning, re-inculcate discipline with respect to punctuality and appropriate behaviour into the students.

■ What are the COVID-19 protocols that your school undertook to ensure maximum safety of the students?

The school has taken immediate action towards the SOPS on sanitisation. Keeping in mind the safety concerns of the students, facial mask is mandatory for all students as well as faculty and staff. The school has invested in Thermal Imaging Machine, mask monitors, temperature recorders, sanitising booths, PPE kits for ancillary staff, sanitisers at all strategic places and classrooms, fumigation machine, face detecting biometric system, placement of stickers regarding social distancing at all appropriate places including stairways, washrooms etc. Regular cleaning and sanitisation of the entire premises and sanitisation of washrooms and corridors is being done at frequent intervals.



Principal Seema Saini, N L Dalmia HS

■ Now that all students will be able to come to school regularly, do you plan on conducting entirely offline classes or an amalgamation of online and offline classes, otherwise known as hybrid education?

An amalgamation of online and offline classes that is, hybrid mode is most suitable as teaching can be done in person and for remote learners, simultaneously.

■ What according to you is a better mode of teaching, online or offline?

According to me, offline learning blended with the use of online tools and platforms is an excellent mode of teaching as it gives a 360° approach to learning.

Express YOURSELF

FIRST IMPRESSION

First impressions
last the most
So be careful of what to say
You don't want them to hurt
you so
You play along a
twisted game
The game of lies lined with
deceit
Real has no value here
To survive is to fake
You should know this from
the start my dear
It's been few years today,
More than I can count on my
fingers anymore
But my reflection in the mirror, it makes me think
all the time
I look different for I am not
the same from before
But I still question myself
My first impression was who
I was
Who I made myself that day
But I am older and someone
else today
Do they still judge me
the same?
Am I still the little girl
Kind and sweet in
their eyes?
The one who knew so less of
this lonely world
Do they still believe those
naive little lies?
Oh it's not my state of
melancholy
Don't get me wrong
It's just my curious trail
of thoughts
That will disappear when I
walk by my reflection
But I am still standing here
Staring at what seems
to be me
Does she know she changed
herself
Or does she still harbour
herself in the past of me?
I think today again
Maybe fake the way is not
always there
For sometimes it's just
a shield
But now I don't feel
real anyways
I am more than I first
impression
Fake or real it was
But I am not about impressions but about actions
So I will be who I am
Just be the real me
For first impressions or last
So I think I am going to
stand here a little
longer today
Just staring at my
reflection
For once my first impression
of me is who I am.

NOYONIKA SHARMA, class XI, Apeejay School, Nerul

MAN CITY CRUSHES EVERTON

PHIL FODEN'S LATE GOAL SEALS 1-0 VICTORY

Manchester City kept their Premier League title hopes in their own hands as Phil Foden's late goal sealed a workmanlike 1-0 victory at relegation-threatened Everton on Saturday. Pep Guardiola's side were struggling to break down a resolute Everton defence at Goodison Park until Foden pounced to turn in Bernardo Silva's cross in the 82nd minute.

A below-par City then survived a huge Everton penalty claim when a potential handball in the box by their midfielder Rodri was checked by VAR.

GAME IN HAND

In the end victory was all that mattered as they held onto move six points ahead of Liverpool who have one game in hand. City have 66 points from 27 games with Liverpool on 60 with the sides still to play each other at the Etihad in April.

> It is not a nice moment for Zinchenko and the Ukrainian people right now. The people from Goodison Park were amazing for this.
> **PEP GUARDIOLA**

Photo: AP

Everton's fifth defeat in six league games leaves them one point above the relegation zone in 17th place. "The second half was much better for the consequences of the first half," Guardiola said. "Goodison Park for us is always so difficult. Good victory, another step."

SURPRISE HOME DEFEAT

Last weekend's surprise home defeat by Tottenham Hotspur, City's first league reverse since October, opened the door slightly for Liverpool after a fourth title in five seasons had begun to look a formality for Guardiola.

And when they found themselves bogged down at Goodison Park with the clock ticking it appeared the initiative was set to pass to Juergen Klopp's Liverpool.

SUPERB DOUBLE SAVE

But when Silva's low cross took a nick off Everton's Mason Holgate and Michael Keane failed to clear the ball, Foden was alert, nipping in to fire past Jordan Pickford who had earlier made a superb double save to keep out Kevin de Bruyne and Silva.

Everton might well feel wronged, however, when they were not awarded a penalty after Rodri mis-judged the bounce of the ball and appeared to control it with his upper arm.

While City celebrated with their relieved fans at the end, the outcome of the title race was put into sharp perspective before kick off when both sets of players showed their support for Ukraine which is facing a Russian military invasion.

NO WAR T-SHIRTS

Everton's players were draped in Ukraine flags while City's wore T-shirts, saying "No War" on the front. City's Oleksandr Zinchenko and Everton's Vitaliy Mykolenko, both Ukrainian and both amongst the substitutes, appeared close to tears as they embraced each other.

"Thank you so much to all the people at Goodison Park. It was so emotional," Guardiola said. It was a subdued City performance in the first half and it took them almost half an hour to have a shot on target when De Bruyne tested Pickford.

DEFENDING DEEP

But Everton were not just defending deep, they also carried a threat and Jonjoe Kenny sent a shot into the side-netting after a surging run from Allan. Richarlison also missed an opportunity before the first half and City were more potent after the break. But they looked like being frustrated until Foden pounced. REUTERS

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Phil Foden celebrates after scoring their team's first goal

BENZEMA GIFTS 1-0 WIN TO REAL MADRID

- Karim Benzama's late goal gave Real Madrid a narrow and slightly fortunate 1-0 win away to Rayo Vallecano to open a nine-point lead in Spanish La Liga over Sevilla, who play Betis on Sunday.

Karim Benzema
Photo: REUTERS

- Benzema were left with a simple finish in the 83rd minute in a late Saturday game after exchanging passes with Vinicius Jr to decide a game where his side failed to score before half-time for the seventh time in succession.
- Thibaut Courtois made a series of excellent saves to keep the score 0-0, while Casemiro was fortunate not to see a direct red card for a challenge on Rayo's Oscar Valentin, which caused Valentin to leave the pitch injured, Xinhua reports.
- Two goals from Renan Lodi saw Atletico Madrid win at home in a close match to Celta Vigo.
- Lodi scored his opener with a shot from a tight angle, which the Celta keeper could have done better with, and doubled his tally in the 60th minute after getting in behind the Celta defence and collecting Geoffrey Kondogbia's pass.

AFTER 24 YEARS, OZ'S CRICKET TEAM BACK IN PAK

During last tour in 1998 the Ausies won the Test series 1-0

Australia arrived for its first tour of Pakistan in 24 years on Sunday with the visitors due to play three test matches, three one-day internationals and a one-off Twenty20 during their six-week tour.

Australia last toured Pakistan in 1998 when it won the test series 1-0 while also winning all the matches in the limited-overs series. Pakistan has struggled to attract visiting sides since a fatal terrorist attack on the visiting Sri Lanka team's bus in 2009, and Australia pulled out of a tour five years earlier after a suicide blast at a Lahore church.

Bilateral series

Pakistan has hosted Zimbabwe, Sri Lanka, West Indies, Bangladesh and South Africa over the last six years, but Australia is the first high-profile team that will be touring Pakistan for a fully-fledged bilateral series.

> It's the first test matches between the two countries over here in 20-odd years, so it's a special moment. We feel privileged as players.
> **CUMMINS**

Last year both New Zealand and England pulled out of limited-overs tours to Pakistan due to security concerns. New Zealand abandoned its tour just hours before the toss for the first ODI in Rawalpindi, which is due to host the first test against Australia beginning March 4.

Bumper year

The Pakistan Cricket Board has labeled 2022 as "bumper year" with New Zealand and England also due to tour Pakistan later this year.

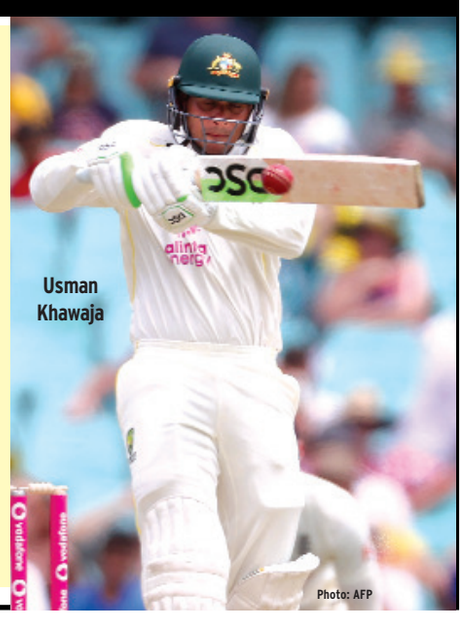
Karachi will host the second Australia test from March 12-16 followed by the third test at Lahore from March 21-25. Rawalpindi will host the ODI series from March 29 before Australia rounds off its tour with a Twenty20 on April 5.

Tight security

Security teams from Australia visited Pakistan last year to assess the security arrangements in the three cities before the tour was given the approval by Cricket Australia.

Thousands of security personnel are expected to be deployed during the Australians' stay and the Pakistan cricket board expects fully vaccinated capacity crowds for the tests and limited-overs series.

Cummins expects passionate crowds at all the venues. AGENCIES


Usman Khawaja
Photo: AFP

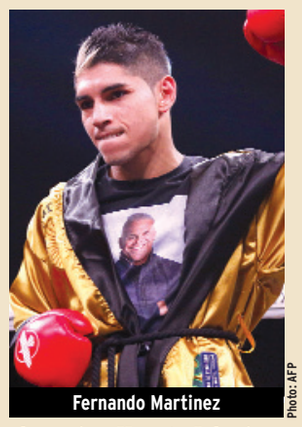
MARTINEZ UPSETS ANCAJAS, GETS IBF SUPER FLYWEIGHT WORLD TITLE

Unbeaten Argentinian Fernando Martinez ended Filipino Jerwin Ancajas' long International Boxing Federation super flyweight reign with a 12-round unanimous decision victory in Las Vegas on Saturday.

Martinez pressed the action in a lively bout at The Cosmopolitan, consistently outworking the champion to earn the upset victory, with two judges scoring it 118-110 and a third seeing it 117-111 for the 30-year-old challenger.

Martinez improved to 14-0 with eight wins inside the distance. Ancajas, who was making his 10th defense of the title he won in 2016, fell to 33-2-2 with 22 knockouts. Ancajas, also 30, said after the fight he would take advantage of his contractual right to a rematch.

Meanwhile, his plans to take on Japanese WBO champion Kazuto Ioka in a unification bout later this year were blown. After an 11th round dominated by the aggressive Martinez, Ancajas appeared to need a knockout in the 12th to retain his title. But he couldn't hurt Martinez, who continued to land solid punches. AFP


Fernando Martinez
Photo: AFP

QUIZ TIME!

Q1. How many teams participated in ICC U19 World Cup 2022?
a. 19 b. 16 c. 5 d. 22

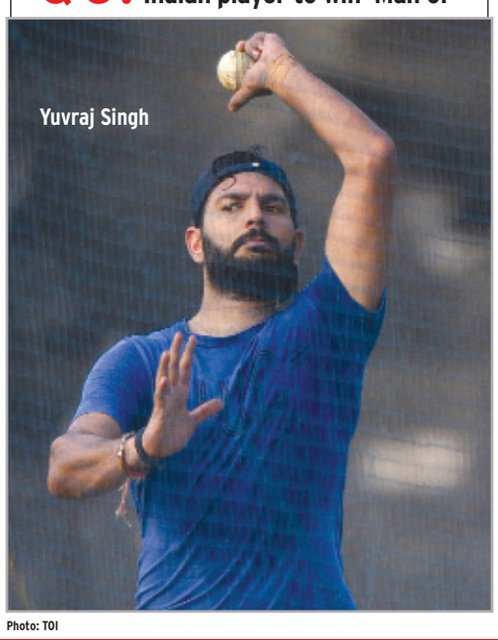
Q2. Against which team did India score 405, the highest total at the 2022 U19 World Cup?
a. Ireland
b. Pakistan
c. Uganda
d. China

Q3. Which Indian claimed the maximum wickets in U19 ICC Men's World Cup 2022?
a. Yash Dhull
b. Harnoor Singh
c. Shubhman Gill
d. Vicky Ostval

Q4. Which Indian player scored the maximum runs in U19 ICC Men's World Cup 2022?
a. Angkrish Raghuvanshi
b. Kaushal Tambe
c. Vasu Vats
d. Aneeshwar Gautam

Q5. When was the first Under-19 Cricket World Cup played?
a. 1983 b. 1985
c. 1988 d. 1991

Q6. Yuvraj Singh was the first Indian player to win 'Man of the Series' title in Under-19 Cricket World Cup. In which year did he win it?
a. 1998 b. 2000 c. 2004 d. 1996


Yuvraj Singh
Photo: TOI

Q7. When did the Indian team win the first Under-19 Cricket World Cup?
a. 2004
b. 1991
c. 1988
d. 2000

Q8. How many times has India won the Under-19 Cricket World Cup?
a. 3 b. 2 c. 5 d. 4

Q9. Which player has claimed most wickets in Under 19?
a. Shubhman Gill
b. Virat Kohli
c. Enamul Haque
d. Wayne Holdsworth

ANSWERS: 1. b. 16
2. c. Uganda
3. d. Vicky Ostval
4. a. Angkrish Raghuvanshi
5. c. 1988
6. b. 2000
7. d. 2000
8. c. 5
9. c. Enamul Haque