

Blended learning is the new essential

Q: Schools are going to begin in offline mode now. What is your roadmap for this academic session? How are we going to address the loss of learning issue?

Students will return to school following prolonged closures with varying levels of learning loss, possibly due to previous skill levels, differential access to distance learning or varying home support during the closures.

Some key findings in this regard reveal that on an average 92 per cent of children have lost at least one specific language ability from the previous year. About 82 per cent of children on an average have lost at least one specific mathematical ability from the previous year like identifying single or two-digit number; performing mathematical operations, drawing inferences from data etc.

Q: The NEP is going to be rolled out soon/is already being implemented in your school. What are the changes it has brought about and how do you think it will benefit students in the long run?

NEP 2020 aims to recognise the need to evaluate 'Higher order skills' such as creativity, critical thinking, problem solving, visualisation, idea generation, practical knowledge rather than rote learning. It emphasises on multidisciplinary learning and no separation is

made between vocational and academic streams.

It has also replaced the 10 + 2 structure of school curricula with 5 + 3 + 3 + 4 structure. Board exams will be kept in low stakes and re-designed keeping in mind to test actual knowledge and core-competencies acquired. Mother tongue, regional language will be the medium of instruction till class 5.

ily bondings. It plays important role in moulding their destiny and help them to discover purpose of life.

Q: What role does extra-curricular play in a student's life. Should schools shift focus towards this since there was a halt to every physical activity thanks to the pandemic?

Extra-curricular activities of

management skills and overall academic performance.

Q: Skilling is the buzzword these days. How do you plan to incorporate skilling in your curriculum?

There is no denying the fact that skilling is a mindset of continuous learning that allows any organisation to remain agile and adaptable in the face of any challenge. A skill based curriculum empowers children as leaders, writers, critical thinkers, creative and well informed joyful learners.

Q: How will skill-based education actually help students in making a career for themselves?

Skill based education system ensures that students learn different soft and life skills besides theoretical knowledge. It further helps students to manage themselves and be productive. Skill-based education allows students to learn and master real life skills.

Q: Is blended teaching-learning going to be way forward? How is tech going to be interspersed with physical teaching?

Blended learning is certainly going to be the way forward. In fact, it is the future of educational ecosystem because educational technology which undergoes a self-growing process directly affects the whole education system.

fer opportunities for students to learn the values of teamwork, individual and group responsibility, physical strength and endurance, competition and diversity. They offer the students the opportunity to apply academic skills in a real-world context.

In order to bring students back in track, it is imperative for schools to shift their focus towards extra-curricular activities in school to enhance their learning capacities, time

Q: What is the kind of value education they want our children to learn from school? How can that be ensured?

Value based education aims at training the student to face the outer world with right attitude and values. It helps our students to understand the perspective of life in a better way and lead a successful life as a responsible citizen. Value education helps in strengthening peer and fam-



DR NEETA KOHLI, Principal, Delhi City School, Rohini

WORLD TEEN PARLIAMENT

Four students of Ahlcon Public School have been acknowledged for their unwavering dedication and sincerity at the World Teen Parliament – an effort by Blub World, affiliated with UNESCO.

Aditya Mehrotra, Palak Khatri and Pragya Joshi have been elected among the top 100 MPs and Deepanshu has been recognised as one of the top 100 Influencers. Initially the participants had to submit a video entry suggesting an innovative solution for any local or global issue which in their view can change the world.

Applications for this parliament



were floated in July last year. The students were then voted upon through Instagram and Facebook on the basis of the practicality and popularity of the idea submitted by them. Out of over 72,000 global entries, 300 were selected and were further voted on a zonal level through Google forms in January.

Out of these 300, a total of 200 were selected (100 as MPs and the other 100 as influencers) and these 4 Ahlconites gathered maximum support for their ideas and then successfully made their place in the top 200. Now these MPs and influencers from all over the globe will put forth their suggestions. They will deliberate over the world's issues like a parliament and discuss solutions.

Today's youth are tomorrow's leaders and Ahlcon is proud to have such future leaders.

SRGS hosts 'Yappy Hours'

Shri Ram Global School, Delhi West, conducted an initiative 'Yappy Hours: Whiskers and Tails' for their students, at the behest of Inder Sandhu's 'Peedu's People'. Keeping in mind the humanitarian concerns of mutual co-existence and tranquility on the Earth, the activity was held to sensitise students towards animals, humans, and the environment.

The program was divided into four sessions, from February 2-21. The first in-

troductory virtual session workshop began at a quite touching and moving note as the children were introduced by Vibha Khosla, principal, SRGS, D-W, regarding the equal or even rather more need of caring and compassion for the animals and plant kingdom.

An expert on kindness to animals, Inder Sandhu delivered a touching treatise titled, 'The tale of Henry' emphasising the most significant values of compassion and caring and sharing.

In the remaining sessions, 'A gift for Henry', 'A visit to an animal shelter' and 'Hush, hush dancing feet', the treatise of Inder Sandhu circled around the daily ambience concerning the lives and routine needs of animals.



Pranit bags Inspire Award

With immense pleasure Ryan International School Sohna Road congratulates the young prodigy Pranit Mehta student of class X who bagged the Inspire Award of ₹10,000 for 2021-22 for the preparation of science project/ model and to participate in the district level exhibition and project competition which was organised by the District Education Authority.

He is felicitated for his project's social applicability, environment friendliness, user friendliness and comparative advantage over the existing similar technologies.

Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research' (INSPIRE) scheme is one of the flagship programmes of Department of Science &



Technology (DST), Government of India. The Inspire Awards - Million Minds

Augmenting National Aspirations and Knowledge (MANAK), being executed by DST with National Innovation Foundation - India (NIF), an autonomous body of DST, aims to motivate students in studying in classes VI to X.

School principal Peeya Sharma applauded the hard work and dedication of Pranit and his Parents and extended her warmest congratulations and warm blessings to him for a progressive and prosperous future ahead.

student corner

My precious Earth

The dainty lush gardens, Don't just count the marigolds dancing in mirth But they are beholden because of Stringent hold of roots deep inside Earth. The swiftly gushing Ganga, Flows to cities and towns Cutting through the rocks, Planting life on riverbed without a frown A man's true image isn't what he sees In the mirror's face, It is his smile to a toddler, his tears to the parted and his solitude amidst life's race When you hold your tears on the brim and put up an earnest smile to hide, You may pardon your inner voice

But the eyes paint the menace inside. Who would be humane, If it weren't for the frost of emotions on our worldly window panes, We shall not admire the amber dawn sun and trample the tulips beside the lane. Emotional well being is a healthy body with a solemn mind, Heart, the emperor of the chest, and its feelings Are the throne behind. Hence know that what you feel is valid and matters, The emotional spectrum that you carry Is even beyond seven colours.



ANANYA ANEJA, class XII C, KIIT School

DIYA YADAV, XI-JA, DAV Public School, Sector-14 Faridabad

Homerton recognised as best school for online and hybrid teaching

On March 3, Homerton Grammar School, Faridabad added another feather in the cap. With extreme pleasure we are delighted to announce that our school has been honoured with the prestigious Global School Awards 2021-22 as the 'Best School' in 'Online and Hybrid Teaching' and 'Highly Effective Educator's Award' 2021-22 at Leela Ambience Hotel, Gurugram for our steady dedication and commitment towards education and socie-

ty. Managing director Rajtheep Singh and director Academics, Susan Kaur received the award with great pride and honour.

The award was presented in recognition of the remarkable contribution in the education domain and service to the society. With



the commendable support of our stakeholders we have received this milestone for our tremendous achievement in the education sector.

The managing director Rajtheep Singh heartily extends a vote of thanks to the staff members and dedicated parents for the hard work put in by all of them in inspiring the quality education to our Homertonians.

DPSG MR holds Chairman's Cup

DPSG MR organised the first Chairman's Cup Tournament 2021-22 - a three-day transdisciplinary event that gave an opportunity to the students, to unwind their spirits and energies in a productive manner. A plethora of events took place including cricket, football, chess, taekwondo, basketball, skating, badminton and yoga. The event indeed fructified into bringing out true sportsman spirit in various participating teams.

DPSGMR hosted cricket and chess tournament and emerged as champion in Chess Tournament (Gold Medalist) for U-14 and U-19 categories whereas for cricket tournament, school bagged second position (silver medal). In the first



Chairman's Cup 2021-22 Football Tournament, DPSG Meerut Road won silver medal.

Principal Sangeeta Mukherjee Roy congratulated the winners and the participating teams. She exhorted that it was a pleasure to witness the participants competing with not only a zeal to emerge victorious but to have a game that enriched their talent and team spirit.

Chrysalis Day celebrated at New Era

Chrysalis' is a well graded technology that transforms learners into a colourful butterfly in a year long journey comprising curriculum from Classes I to VIII, covering nine technology areas.

New Era Public School, Mayapuri celebrates 'Chrysalis Day' with great enthusiasm. Students were divided into groups according to their classes and topics were given class wise. This year Chrysalis Day 2021-22 was celebrated on February 8 for classes I to V. The day saw the participation of all the students who prepared their group wise projects on the

given topics. Usha Chopra, founder principal and director and the principal Vandana Chawla graced the event with their presence. Aarti Mehta, head mistress, primary wing was also present to encourage the students. The event saw some great project work done by each class group. Classes I to V presented their colourful projects and made presentations.



DO IT YOURSELF

PAPER PLATE DREAM CATCHER

Dream catchers protect sleepers, especially children, from bad dreams and nightmares. It catches all kinds of dreams and thoughts in its web; the beautiful dreams pass through the threads and slide down the feathers to reach the sleeper while the bad ones are trapped in the net. Let's make a unique paper plate dream catcher.

MATERIALS REQUIRED: Paper plates (uncoated plain plates work best), yarn, crayons, sequins, glitter, feathers, beads, glue, scissors, hole puncher.

HOW TO MAKE:

- Cut out the centre of the paper plate leaving just the outer ring. Use crayons or paints to make the ring colourful.
- With the help of a hole puncher, punch holes along the inner edge of the ring. Punch 1 hole at the top of the ring (tag) and 3 holes in a row at the bottom of the ring. This is where the feathers and beads will hang.
- Cut three pieces of coloured wool (yarn) 15cm long. Tie each string to each of the three punched holes at the bottom of the circle. Tie with a double knot and trim off the excess wool.
- Tie a piece of different coloured wool roughly 12cm long to the top centre circle where the dream catch will be hung. Tie the wool into a loop and secure it with a double knot.
- Using the yarn strings, thread the wool through the holes around the edge of the dream catcher. Thread the wool sideways, upwards and diagonal to make a web-like appearance. Once the web is finished, cut the wool leaving enough at the end to tie it to a secure piece of wool in the web at the back of the dream catcher. To stop the knot from untying, use glue on the knot and leave it to dry.
- Attach the feathers to the three strings hanging at the bottom. You can also string beads to make it more attractive. Decorate around the edge of the dream catcher with glitter, stickers and sequins.

SAMAIRA MANCHANDA, class VI, Delhi Public School, Chandigarh

MOVIE: SHERSHAAH

This film is dedicated to one of the bravest men of our country. He is none other than Captain Vikram Batra. The movie portrays his life - right from childhood till he attained his martyrdom. Movie beautifully showcases how a young boy from Palampur (Himachal Pradesh), gets motivated to join the Indian Army after watching a show called "Param Vir Chakra". He joins an English MA class to prepare for his CDS exam, to join the Indian Military Academy. He clears his CDS exam and SSB Interview with flying



colours and joins the IMA. After graduating from the IMA, he is posted at Kashmir as Lieutenant in the Indian Army. He stays in Kashmir for several months conducting several insurgency and counter terrorism operations successfully and then begins the Kargil war of 1999. He was posted in Kargil, where he was initially assigned the task to recapture point 5140 from the Pakistani troops. He accomplishes the task and Lt. Colonel Yogesh Kumar Joshi, "Yeh Dil maange more sir".

He is then asked to capture point 4875, which was successfully recaptured but Captain Batra succumbed to his injury after killing five to six Pakistani soldiers in close hand to hand combat. The movie ends with his funeral. Posthumously, he was awarded the Param Vir Chakra, which was received by his father. The movie instills in us a feeling of patriotism, valour and selflessness and inspires us to lead lives fearlessly.

Kaustav Ghosh, class X, Vivekananda Mission School, Kolkata



ATLETICO BLUNT MAN UTD



MAKE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE QUARTERFINALS WHILE UNITED FACE UPHILL TASK FOR NEXT SEASON

Atletico Madrid drove the final nail in the coffin of a miserable season for Manchester United as Renan Lodi's header sent the Spanish champions into the Champions League quarter-finals with a 1-0 win at Old Trafford to progress 2-1 on aggregate.

The Brazilian full-back headed in unmarked at the back post four minutes before half-time to end United's last chance of silverware this season as their drought without a trophy since 2017 goes on. United now face an uphill task just to get back into the Champions League next season as an under-performing squad filled with star names sits fifth in the Premier League.

Atletico's own struggles to break into La Liga's top four this season have shown up their limitations. But the experience of Diego Simeone's men in the Champions League knock-out stages through as they comfortably saw the game out to reach the last eight for the sixth time in the last nine seasons.

RONALDO OUTDONE

"We were fully aware that against this team you need to score the first goal yourself," said United interim boss Ralf Rangnick. Cristiano Ronaldo had consistently been the scourge of Atletico in the Champions League, twice landing the ultimate blow in final defeats to Real Madrid and scoring a hat-trick for Juventus to overturn a 2-0 first leg deficit at this stage three years ago. However, Simeone's men finally got one over on the 37-year-old as for the first time he failed to register a shot in a Champions League game in which he played the 90 minutes.

Anthony Elanga came off the bench to salvage a 1-1

draw for United in the Spanish capital three weeks ago and the Swedish teenager had his side's best chance on 13 minutes. Diogo Dalot's low cross picked out Elanga and his goalbound effort rebounded off Atletico goalkeeper Jan Oblak's head to safety.

Joao Felix



Atletico had been penned inside their own half for the opening 15 minutes but posed a threat every time they strung passes together on the counter-attack.

Joao Felix had scored five times in his previous five games, including Atletico's goal in the first leg, finally starting to deliver on his 120-million-euro (\$131 million) price tag. The Portuguese had the ball in the net again at the end of a slick Atletico move that cut through a leaden-footed United defence, but Marcos Llorente was flagged offside from Koke's pass before he squared for Felix to apply the finishing touch.

United did not learn their lesson as they

were again easily opened up down their left for the decisive goal. The home fans were still screaming for a foul on Elanga in the Atletico half when the visitors fed the ball forward to Felix, whose backheel found Antoine Griezmann and his cross picked out the unmarked Lodi to head home.

SAFE TACTICS

Atletico resorted to the tried and tested tactics of Simeone's reign in the second half as they were happy to sit on their lead and were not unduly troubled by a United side lacking in ideas. "They know how to play those Champions League games," said United goalkeeper David De Gea. "They scored a goal. They are a tough team so it was hard for us to create chances. We are out of one of the most important competitions so we are very sad."

Set-pieces were the hosts' only source of danger as Oblak produced a superb save to deny Raphael Varane. That proved to be United's final effort as the visitors held firm, allowing Simeone to sprint in celebration. **AFP**

BENFICA STUNS AJAX

Ajax couldn't halt a 26-year winless streak at home in the knockout rounds of the European competition, losing 1-0 to Benfica to waste a perfect campaign in the group stage. Darwin Nunez scored late and Benfica reached the quarter-finals for the first time in six years.

Ajax coach Erik ten Hag said he was "hoping for a moment of magic" in the end, but it never happened. "Our positional play was excellent," he said. "We were very good on the ball. I gave my players a big compliment. Maybe only the creativity was lacking. So it's bitter that one moment of inattention means you're eliminated." Ajax was one of three teams that won all six group-stage matches, along with Liverpool and Bayern. **AP**



ENGLAND BEAT INDIA

END THREE-LOSS RUN TO KEEP TITLE DEFENCE HOPES ALIVE

England skittled India to keep their faltering Women's Cricket World Cup defence alive on Wednesday, but not before a brittle batting display chasing a small target produced some nervous moments at Mount Maunganui, New Zealand.

In a must-win match after three successive defeats, England dismissed India for 134 in 36.2 overs as spinner Charlie Dean took a career-best 4-23.

The four-time champions made a poor start to the run chase and were two wickets down with just four runs on the board before overhauling their 135 target with more than 18 overs to spare. "It's a relief to be honest, we just needed that," said captain Heather Knight, who top scored for her side with an unbeaten 53 in England's 136-6 in 31.2 overs. "It was a bit scrappy in the end, a few more wickets than we'd like, but hopefully it's the start of a momentum shift."

England's campaign remains on a knife-edge and they must win their re-

maining three games to avoid an exit.

Bowling brilliance

England's decision to bowl after winning the toss paid dividends when Anya Shrubsole sent Yastika Bhatia on her way

“To go out there and perform was pretty special. We talked about keeping it simple and we pulled it off today. It's not the World Cup we have hoped for but the girls are really in this. This will keep us going in this World Cup.”

England off-spinner Charlie Dean

for eight and Mithali Raj for one. Raj's dismissal involved a sharply taken catch from Sophia Dunkley, lifting the spirits of an England team that has been plagued by poor fielding at this year's tournament.

Deepti Sharma was run out for a duck attempting a reckless single, leaving India at 28-3 after eight overs. Smriti Mandhana scored 35, Harmanpreet Kaur 14. Richa Ghosh offered managed 33 but India only set a 135-run target.

Disastrous run chase

England made a disastrous start to the run chase as Tammy Beaumont and Dani Wyatt managed just one run each. It could have been worse, with fast bowler Jhulan Goswami beating Nat Sciver's bat, only for the ball to gently roll off her pads and hit the stumps without dislodging the bails. Scriver advanced to 45 before hitting an easy catch when trying to lift the run rate. There was a flurry of wickets as England closed in on the total but they finished comfortably. **AFP**

HOLDER BADOSA, HALEP ADVANCE AT INDIAN WELLS

Seeking to become the first woman to defend the Indian Wells title in over three decades, Paula Badosa powered past Leylah Fernandez 6-4 6-4 to reach the quarter-finals while Simona Halep and Iga Swiatek also advanced.

Badosa, who is looking to emulate Martina Navratilova's feat of retaining the crown in 1990-91, held her nerve in key moments of the tight contest to prevail. The Sydney champion has not dropped a set at the WTA 1000 tournament in the Southern California desert, as she looks to secure only the fourth title of her career.

Badosa takes on Veronika Kudermetova or Marketa Vondrousova next.

Halep dispatched fellow Romanian Sorana Cirstea 6-1 6-4 as the former world number one, who won the tournament seven years ago, cruised through the first set with help from her error-prone opponent. Halep is now 19-0 in matches against her compatriots. "It's challenging to play against a Romanian player, it's a little bit stressful," Halep told Tennis Channel.

Poland's Swiatek produced her third consecutive come-from-behind victory to battle past former world number one Angelique Kerber 4-6 6-2 6-3 and reach the last eight. The 20-year-old will face Madison Keys.

Greek Maria Sakkari also went through when her opponent Daria Gavrilova retired while trailing 4-1 due to an adductor problem. **REUTERS**



QUIZ TIME!

Q1: Which national-level shooter has been selected to represent India at the 2041 Climate Force Antarctica Campaign?

- Aarushi Verma
- Manu Bhaskar
- Avni Accounts
- Apurvi Chandela

Q2: Who has become the 23rd Woman Grandmaster of India?

- Mary Ann Gomes
- Priyanka Nutakki
- Padmini Rout
- Subbaraman Vijayalakshmi

Q3: Rahi Sarnobat, Esha Singh and Rhythm Sangwan have won gold medals for India in which sports event?

- Boxing
- Weightlifting
- Sprinting
- Shooting

Q4: Thomas Cup is related to sports?

- Table Tennis
- Lawn Tennis
- Badminton
- Golf

Q5: How many times has Rafael Nadal won the

Mexican Open ATP 500 title?
a. 8 b. 4 c. 6 d. 5



Rafael Nadal

Q6: Which team has won the Under-19 Cricket World Cup title most times?

- Australia
- Pakistan
- Sri Lanka
- India

Q7: Sachin Tendulkar hit his 100th international century against which of the following teams?

- Sri Lanka
- Bangladesh
- Pakistan
- South Africa

Q8: Who was the most successful cyclist in the

2018 UCI Road World Championship?

- Trixi Worrack
- Evelyn Stevens
- Chantal Blaak
- Carmen Small

Q9: Which is the highest badminton governing body in the world?

- International Badminton Association
- Badminton Association of the World
- Badminton World Federation
- International Badminton Federation

ANSWERS: 1. Aarushi Verma
2. Priyanka Nutakki 3. Shooting
4. Badminton 5. 4 6. India
7. Bangladesh 8. Trixi Worrack
9. Badminton World Federation