

## Strong finishes, exciting moments at cross-country race

The school conducted its annual inter-house cross country race on Sep 26, 2022. The event was conducted in three categories: seniors, juniors & sub-juniors. This included girl cadets in the sub-juniors for the first time in its history. The morning was exciting as our cadets competed in distances ranging from 6 kms, 4 kms and 2

**RASHTRIYA MILITARY SCHOOL**

kms. All our cadets longed for this mega event and impressively partook in the event.

The first session, the seniors' category that followed other two categories, was flagged off by principal Lt Col Dipankar Choudhury.

A good turn-out in cool conditions ensured a good vibe and some good running. It was also delightful to see the cadets who had completed the course coming around to encourage their peers and cheer for their houses. Students were keen to give their best, with many extending themselves and bursting forward for a sprint finish.

The school witnessed many strong finishes without any lag and the sportsman spirit celebrated by the participants excited the cheering spectators.



## Awareness rally motivates public

On the occasion of Aazadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the school organized an awareness rally on 'Each one Reach one Teach one' on August 7, 2022. SS Coy NCC Vijayapura participated in this initiative under the leadership of

**SAINIK SCHOOL BIJAPUR**

principal Gp Capt Pratibha Bisht. Fifty Senior Cadets of Chalukya House, 01 ANO and 03 staff members par-



ticipated wholeheartedly in the programme, which motivated everyone. Simultaneously, a campaign on "Har Ghar Tiranga" was also organized by the cadets of the school. All the required arrangements were made by school administrative officer Sqn Ldr Akash Vats. The public was motivated by the slogans raised by the cadets and appreciated the effort put in by them.

## Showcasing cultural diversity, richness of India



**SCHOENSTATT ST MARY'S PU COLLEGE**

celebration reflected the respect and love towards Indian culture. Dances showcasing the diversity and richness of India's dance forms were performed. Finally the students competed for the title of Ethnic King and Queen in a ramp walk, which added spice to the day. After the fashion show round, the ethnic king and queen were selected. Principal Rev. Sr M Joyce congratulated and crowned the winners of the title.

The exuberant day was memorable for all the students celebrating the richness of our motherland India.

Ethnicity should enrich us; It should make us a unique people in our diversity and not be used to divide us. - Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

Ethnic Day was celebrated on August 6, 2022 to reconnect us to our tra-

ditional and cultural roots. This day reminded us of the true essence of our age-old customs.

All the students were dressed in their best and presented themselves in an enticing manner. In this era of modernization and westernization, this cel-

## Field buzzes with fun and excitement as march marks sports meet inaugural

Sport has the power to provide a universal framework for learning values. It also helps to prepare students to face the challenges of life.

A solemn tradition and an exciting match marked the opening ceremony of intramural sports on June 16,

**THE BRIGADE SCHOOL, MAHADEVAPURA**

2022. The event provided an opportunity for the students and players to understand true sportsmanship and build camaraderie on the



sports field and take part in the games in a spirit of fair play.

Chief guest Amudhan addressed the young sports enthusiasts and encouraged them to uncover their true potential and explore the limits of their abilities to reach the pinnacle of success. She highlighted the true spirit of sportsmanship and the importance of working together as a team.

The exhilarating programme was topped off by an exciting basketball match. The sports field buzzed with fun and excitement. The players were encouraged by loud cheers from the audience.

ground. Dhanvi Vikranth of class VII formally welcomed the distinguished guests to the event and spoke about the importance of holistic

development, which can be achieved majorly through sports.

Adithya Prakash of class X administered the oath, to respect the rules on

**FRIENDSHIP DAY**

My Bestie  
I am so glad that you are my friend.  
No one around me can understand some of my emotions as you do.  
You are one of my favourite,

kindest, funniest, lovable and most helpful person I met.  
I enjoyed every moment spent with you.  
The God has sent me a precious gift which is you.  
You are my sister.

I met you as a stranger  
Choose you as my friend  
I hope we meet in heaven  
Where our friendship never ends  
You are the best version of me  
You make my world beautiful

Our friendship can be compared to a circle which has no end  
Thank you for everything that you have done for me  
You are always my gold.  
Thishya M, class VIII, Acts Secondary School

## Eye-check up camp for students held

The school conducted an eye check-up camp on 13th September. Every student got a check-up free of charge. Students with refractometers and referred for an appointment.

In this time when mobile phones and computers prevail, eye care is usually an afterthought. With these initiatives, schools can ensure proper eye health of students.

Aparna Kowti, student reporter

**SOUNDARYA SCHOOL CBSE**



## Blue day celebrated

Blue is a cool and calming colour that shows creativity and intelligence. It is often associated with depth and stability. Blue symbolizes trust, loyalty, wisdom, confidence, intelligence and truth. In order to emphasize the importance of Blue colour the school celebrated blue colour day in the

**SRI MATHA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

month of August. The students came dressed in different shades of blue. They took part in various fun-filled activities and enjoyed the day.



## INDEPENDENCE DAY

**ANTHONY CLARET SCHOOL**



Patriotic vibes echoed through the souls of spectators who witnessed the Independence Day celebration. The Indian Tricolour was raised followed by a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem by the school band. The NCC, Scout and Guides and the band team with their synchronised march embellished the day. Chief guest Vanitha Chaudary spoke about freedom of mind. The cultural programmes brought in the spirit of the day! The dance drama about freedom fighters was an overwhelming performance. The choir, dance and band team got loads of appreciation.



Nischitha B, class VIII, Anantha Vidyaniketana

**GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL**



Independence Day was celebrated at the school with the message that everyone must enjoy the freedom of dancing to your own rhythm.



Sneha, class X, Carmel High School, Basaveshwaranagar

## FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS

**CAMBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL**

Young students dressed as Nanda Gopal Kaanha with flutes on the occasion of Janmashtami celebrations. They mesmerized everyone present.



**CHINMAYA VIDYALAYA, BANASHANKARI**



The school celebrated Raksha Bandhan with a special assembly on August 11, 2022. Sanjana of class IX spoke about the importance of Raksha Bandhan. Students tied rakhis. Raksha bandhan is celebrated as a symbol of duty between brothers and sisters. The word Raksha means protection. On this day, sisters of all ages tie a rakhi around the wrists of their brothers, symbolically protecting them, receiving a gift in return.

**RAINTREE SCHOOL**

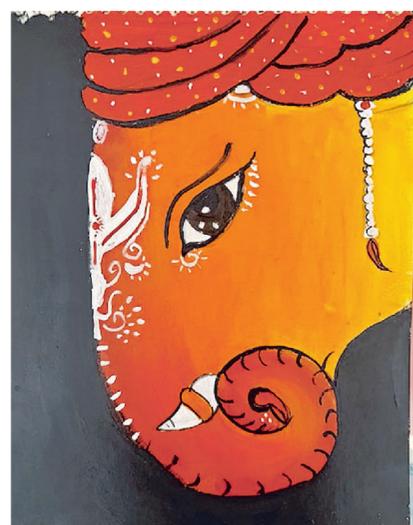


The school celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi festival with drawing, painting, colouring and artistic ganasha-making activities. Every student participated with great joy. Students prepared eco-friendly Ganesha, using wheat flour and turmeric. All teachers wonderfully coordinated with each other to make this event successful. The school was decorated with flower, rangoli, colour paper and designer lights. Students narrated stories under the guidance of their teacher Kanchana. School chairman Jayant S Gauri did the puja. Principal Mukund T R wished the best to all students and staff.

**VINODH ENGLISH SCHOOL**



Students took part in a clay Ganesha idol making activity at school. They made eco-friendly idols, which were displayed in the school.



Lord Ganesha: Dithi Reddy, class VI, Sishu Griha Senior School

# THE QUALITY ISSUE

Low cutoffs for medical, engineering qualifying exams don't solve any of the education problems

In a worrying trend, both NEET and JEE-Advanced examinations, which channel admission into India's medical colleges and IITs, respectively, have recorded record low cutoff scores. A general category candidate with just 55 marks out of 360 is eligible for an IIT seat this year, even as the cutoff score to qualify for getting admission in a medical college corresponds to the 50th percentile for the open category. These low scores have helped 9.9 lakh to qualify for 92,000 medical seats and 40,712 for 16,000 IIT seats — but not without raising questions about the quality of the candidates.

It allows wealthy candidates with low merit to buy their way to a payment seat while more meritorious students are left in no-man's land, without scores for a government college seat or the money for an overpriced payment seat. Many such students then journey abroad to China and eastern Europe for less expensive



medical education. The low IIT cutoffs take place in a different context.

Around 10 lakh students attended the preliminary JEE-Main, which is the qualifying examination for the next-rung NITs and several hundred other engineering colleges. If enrollment was 100%, India would have 2.5 crore 18-year-olds waiting to enter the portals of higher education every year. But just 1-2 lakh students qualifying for the best STEM, medical and humanities courses isn't encouraging. That even this small pool is being produced through record low cutoffs has to be seen alongside National Achievement Surveys revealing too many children deprived of quality education. And then there are not enough quality seats to accommodate this pool either: This explains why a record 82,000 Indians received US student visas this summer — it's in pursuit of better opportunities. There is just no substitute for quality. India needs to build both strong domestic universities and strongly qualified admissions into them, to avoid a downward spiral in quality higher education.

Source: TOI Edit



## ONE WORLD, DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

Explore diversity in vision and figure out how the same topic may be viewed differently by different folks. This is a mirror to society and life

READ FULL STORIES ON TOI WEBSITE

# 'CHEETAHS WILL DO WELL AS INDIA HAS HISTORY OF THEIR PRESENCE'

With the help of Namibia, the species has been reintroduced into the Kuno National Park

Known as the 'cheetah lady', Pradnya Giradkar is the country's first cheetah conservation specialist, having trained with Dr Laurie Marker who has played a key role in the plan to reintroduce the species in India. She runs Wildlife Conservation & Rural Development Society, an NGO spreading scientific knowledge among the schools, farmers, and indigenous communities around wildlife parks. She talked to Vijay Pinjarkar about the conservation science that informs the project.

### ▶ HOW WERE YOU INTRODUCED TO CHEETAH CONSERVATION?

I did my doctoral research on tiger conservation and taught wildlife as a special subject at Mumbai University. Since the cheetah went extinct in India in 1952, I have always felt that it should be reintroduced. In 2011, I was selected for cheetah conservation training in Namibia. This was organised by international cheetah conservationist Dr Laurie Marker, who is also the founder and executive director of the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF), which is bringing cheetahs to India.

### ▶ TELL US ABOUT YOUR TRAINING IN NAMIBIA?

We worked in Otjiwarongo forest with 52 cheetahs and Herero and

Himba tribals. I learnt DNA sampling, scat analysis, caring for cheetahs, vaccination, temperature monitoring, transect survey etc, and community-based conservation. I loved teaching local kids and communities about predators' identification and how to coexist with wildlife and the environment. I also gained a true picture of the mammal conflict and what it means for the survival of the cheetah.

### ▶ WILL CHEETAHS SURVIVE IN INDIA'S HABITAT?

Kuno is the same place where cheetahs once existed. The area has grasslands and forest habitats appropriate for this species. The government believes reintroducing cheetahs will encourage healthy biodiversity. But Project Cheetah is a big challenge and needs community support. For the long-term presence of cheetahs, conservation awareness needs to improve among the poor local farmers.

### ▶ IS IT SENSIBLE TO REINTRODUCE CHEETAHS WHEN WE HAVE SO MANY

TIGERS AND LEOPARDS?

I see no problem. The habitat of cheetahs is totally different from that of tigers and leopards. Cheetahs thrive in grasslands while tigers and leopards survive in dry deciduous forests. Tigers and leopards are propagating well. Even cheetahs would do well as there is a history of their existence here. Moreover, African and Indian cheetahs have little genetic difference as per well-known genetic expert Dr Stephen O'Brien.



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Everything you needed to know about the reintroduction of cheetahs in India. Let us know in 100 words what you liked about this story, and if it excited you enough to think of conservation as a career choice

### ▶ HOW ARE THEY BEING REINTRODUCED AT KUNO?

A plan has been elaborately chalked out by scientists. Few cheetahs have been released in large fenced areas for adapting to the new environment. They have been fitted with satellite collars to track their movements. After a short stay, they will be released into a large enclosure to make them familiar with the new environment. Here they will remain for around a month before being released into the wild.

Their movements will be monitored by researchers and if any cheetah strays too far afield, it will be brought back into the park. This action plan was decided by Dr Marker during my training in Otjiwarongo. We worked between 52 cheetahs. The same plan will be implemented here.

### ▶ HOW WILL REINTRODUCTION OF THE SPECIES HELP?

Bringing back cheetahs will restore the historic evolutionary balance — to the benefit of all species. It will also uplift the livelihood of the indigenous forest communities and increase tourism as India is the only country where all the six big cat species are found now.

Source: TOI Edit



Photo: ISTOCKPHOTO.COM

## Changing Someone's Mind And Our Own

Best way to persuade is to share emotion space

In recent years, we've all seen how deeply divided we are, and how hard it is to budge someone out of their beliefs. 'How Minds Change: The New Science of Belief, Opinion and Persuasion' by David McRaney, is an antidote to this helplessness. It shows how we can change each other, and ourselves.

We have deep reasons for believing our truths, and it's not just a matter of our brains, but also our social networks. Remember 'the dress' that broke the internet in 2015, with some convinced it was black and blue and others that it was white and gold? Turns out, the ambiguous lighting made some who were used to artificial lighting to register in one way, and those used to natural lighting in another. The brain quickly resolved the uncertainty in one way and made the other case impossible. We disambiguate things differently, and not by conscious choice. So, it begins with humility about our own theories, and understanding that other people's realities are valid for them.

Photo: ISTOCKPHOTO.COM



We don't live in a post-truth society but a post-trust society, and building rapport is key to any effective change. And yet, brains are plastic and people can be persuaded — not by facts and arguments, but by contact, and being in an emotional space where they can unpack their own experience, feel some empathy, see doubts and contradictions, and argue themselves out of their own positions.

It's important to find the emotions behind people's response and share one's own story or that of someone affected in any way. The idea is not to argue, but to establish a shared value and plant a seed of doubt, cause enough ambivalence that could cause them or you to reconsider the issue later.

Arguments over conclusions are a waste of time, both parties are better off focussing on their processing. What matters is the how and why, not the what. When people leave groups, it's not because their beliefs are directly challenged but because something totally outside the ideology causes them to see it differently. The strategy, then, is to open the crack to let in the light.

In polarised times, any opinion can become fused with group identity. It becomes a signal of belonging, so we feel actively threatened by a contending view.

### JUST IN JEST

## BROADWAY NO MORE THE PHANTOM'S HAUNT

After 35 years of uninterrupted running, the musical will leave its home in America



Some performances — whether theatrical or cinematic — are like buildings. They run for so long that they become part of the landscape. So when they finally run their course, it does seem like the demolishing of a building, a permanent change in the neighbourhood. One such long-running show about to end is Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical 'The Phantom of the Opera'. It has been running on Broadway in New York since 1988 — with its last show scheduled in February 2023. Like many enterprises that require people to move out of their homes to enjoy them, theatrical productions were hit hard by Covid closure. The longest continuously running play in the world, Agatha Christie's 'The Mousetrap', in

London's West End had to down its curtains in March 2020, only to revive last year. For Broadway, however, 'The Phantom...', stricken by Covid attendance, will go. 'The Phantom...' will continue to haunt its birthplace (in 1986) at West End. But when something runs for 35 years — longer than the 1,000 weeks (just under 20 years) 'Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge' ran from 1995 till October 2015 at Mumbai's Maratha Mandir (beating 'Sholay's' record uninterrupted run of 286 weeks) — the venue itself becomes the theatre of action. Without 'The Phantom...', treading its boards, and its iconic poster of a mask and a rose tempting people inside, Broadway itself will seem exorcised.

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Photo: ISTOCKPHOTO.COM

### WIT & WISDOM

"Time was the arch fugitive, always on the run."  
Mahasweta Devi  
Writer

### Work: Gender Gap

Globally, women only make 77 cents for every dollar men earn. This is a major cause of lifetime income inequality. Women are under-represented in decision-making roles. They carry out at least 2.5 times more unpaid work than men. Some facts...

Where women stand today in the world of work...



\*% people above retirement age without any regular pension; \*Hours, developing countries; \*\*Hours, developed countries; \*Fortune 500 companies

### Bell Curves

■ R Prasad



Can I do moonlighting for companies in which you have benami investments?

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's important to make your voice heard.

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## Why The Whole World Loves A Good Murder

Who doesn't love a whodunnit? Or a whowas-dunnit, or a whodun-what? Crime fiction has been the most popular genre of writing in the last century, and the appetite for it is still going strong. Once dismissed as a sub-literary pursuit, this caste system has given way to a new appreciation of its pleasures, says Martin Edwards in his survey 'The Life of Crime: Detecting the History of Mysteries and Their Creators'.

While the Golden Age of detective novels was clearly the interwar period, the genre has older roots. In the 19th century, Thomas de Quincey's satirical consideration of murder as one of the fine arts and Edgar Allan Poe's stories fired imaginations, Charles Dickens experimented with it, and Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes stories were enduring and macabre masterpieces, bringing a new attention to science and forensics. GK Chesterton's Father Brown foregrounded questions of sin and social justice.

The Detection Club, a social network of crime writers, was formed in 1930. The Queens of Crime were Agatha Christie, Dorothy L Sayers,

### CRIME FICTION IS MUCH MORE THAN JUST CRIME



The Girl on the Train

Margery Allingham and Josephine Tey, the settings were usually English countryhouses, impossible crimes and locked room mysteries intrigued readers. There were departures from this form too. Frances Iles, for instance, focussed more on character studies and homicidal psychology influencing crime writing.

Meanwhile in the US, Dashiell Hammett and Raymond Chandler and others swerved into series detective novels written in a sparse, slangy style, all about police work minutiae. Their heroes were not erudite riddle solvers, but hard and shifty cops, world-weary detectives

among California's corruption. The detective is a redemptive hero who goes down the mean streets as "a man who is not himself mean, who is neither tarnished nor afraid", in Chandler's words.

In Europe, Georges Simenon eclipsed others in his popularity. He was a "connoisseur of souls", his clues are not mud or hair or bloodstains, but the gestures, words, the slow revelation of the criminal and the psychological necessity of the act.

Crime novels come in many forms, of course. It could be the ambitious nature of justice that gods and the imagination, as in the legal mys-

teries and courtroom dramas of "fiction factory" Erle Stanley Gardner and John Grisham. Spy thrillers are an adjacent genre. Some have brought a Marxist sensibility to crime, others have explored multiple viewpoints and shifting mental states.

The book ranges around the world, from the British police fiction of Ruth Rendell and PD James to lurid true-crime stories, from popular Scandinavian noir to Australian and Dutch writers, from Patricia Highsmith's elegant ruthlessness to the long Japanese tradition with writers like Soji Shimada and Masako Togawa. India's beloved detectives Byomkesh Bakshi and Feluda also get a mention as does Inspector Ganesh Ghote of HRF Keating's novels. "There are thirty-two ways to write a story, and I've tried them all," said true-crime writer Jim Thompson, "but there is only one plot: things are not as they seem."

Crime fiction has evolved in the 21st century, with more racial and cultural viewpoints, the "women in jeopardy" trope has given way to complex portrayals in 'Gone Girl' or 'The Girl on the Train'. Will it run out of themes, characters and storylines? Not as long as people are still interested in the essential mystery of "what makes men and women tick," says Edwards.

Source: ET Edit