

# Snapshot

*APL Global School E-Magazine*

*Jun 2021*

*Issue No. 28*

Hot News

The sky is the limit

Open Boat 

Our artists, poets and  
authors come together



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# Editorial

*Dear Reader,*

The academic year 2020/21 is finally over. Although it was a very difficult year for all of us to adapt to, by standing together, united, we were able to overcome the many challenges we faced this year. As the new year dawns upon us, the snapshot team has put together the 28th edition of the snapshot magazine. There is an abundance of content for you to sink into in this edition.

Speaking of the content, there is something for everyone in this edition. It starts with the 'Hot News' section, this time consisting of the admirable achievements of many of our students, a write-up on the 2020-21 academic year and an award conferred to APL by CEII. Next is the 'Voice' which focuses on an enthralling place called Mitr Cafe. 'Open Boat' is where high school students can express themselves through various forms like interesting stories, well crafted poems, and intricate art pieces. 'Enterprising Middle Schoolers' consists of eye captivating artwork from middle schoolers. 'Junior corner' is a platform given for the students of primary school to show their creativity. This time on 'potpourri' are some interesting riddles and a recipe to create a delightful delicacy. 'Blooming Buds' consists of a few poems created by a very talented student in 1st grade. The 'Review corner' houses some insightful and well written reviews. 'NIOS desk' is the platform given to our very talented friends from the NIOS curriculum to showcase their talents. We have 'Parents Speak' where parents have given their views of last year and APL as a whole. Last but not the least, we have also interviewed one of our new faculty about the challenges she faced during online schooling.

If you would like to showcase your work on the magazine, please feel free to send it to the snapshot team. We hope you will enjoy this edition of the magazine. Finally, we would like to extend our best wishes to all the candidates contesting in this year's school election.

- Vittal, Gr 10 G



## **Editorial Team:**

**Content:** Vittal Nanda Kumar, Shivanarayan Shailesh,

**Layout and Design :** Farhana, Smrithi, Sanjana - Gr 9

## **Disclaimer:**

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## Award Conferred to APL from CEII

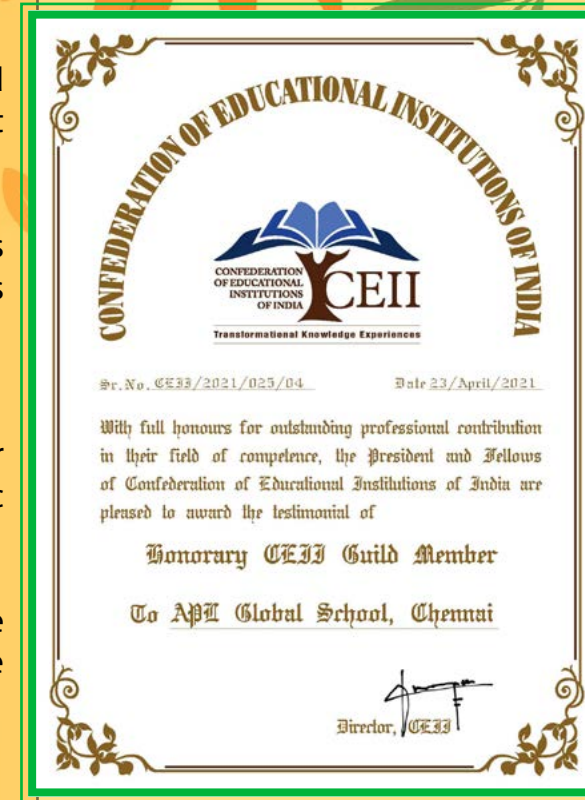
APL Global school has been bestowed with the 'CEII Most Innovative Learning Pedagogy Award 2020 -21' in the Tamil Nadu region. APL is one of the many Academies recognized by the non-profit organization, The Confederation of Educational Institutions of India (CEII).

This award has truly become a Beacon of APL after the school conquered the pandemic and was able to deliver quality education to all the students, through the digital platform. This honor has also become a jewel in the crown as the CEII collaborated with the profound organization, J Schumpeter National Research Repository to conduct a thorough and meticulous survey.

The readings of this national survey were later published in CEII Shreshtha, a compilation of other great educators and institutions who have made a difference and contributed towards academic excellence.

To conclude, On April 23rd, Mrs. Gita Jagannathan, the founder of APL Global School received the award, accompanied by fellow award winners and dearest parents and students of APL via the online platform. This was one of the proudest moments for APL

- Shivanarayan Shailesh, Gr 9 G



## Academic year (2020-21) experience

Online education has helped in quickening the progress of technology in the digital world. It's really easy to expand the exposure of young minds as we have access to countless resources, made by experts from across the world. The most beneficial aspect of digital education is the flexibility- we could choose when, where, how and what we learn. This flexibility decreased pressure on students, allowing us to learn at ease and progress faster. A study claims that India's e-learning market is the second largest after the US, proving that the connection between education and the digital world is encouraged in India and has been a success.

- Ananya Eshwar, Gr 9 C



## Books & Authors

The publishing journey has begun for the talented writers of APL. They have become published writers for "Scholastic Quill Club Writers" which is a part of Scholastic India. These students have contributed to the making of many intriguing books. During a tough year they have gone above and beyond to pursue their talent and passion in the field of story writing. Keep an eye out for the following books.

**'Taking Off', featuring Meghna Sriram 12C**

**'Ocean Blue', featuring Niyathi Padala 9E, Sai Raghav Balakrishnan 11E and Muskaan Dhingra 11H**

**'Every Word Counts, Say Seventeen Splendid Writers,' featuring Nisha Srivastava 12C**

**'Up and Away', featuring Niharika Balasubramanian 9E and Sundar Ramesh 10G**

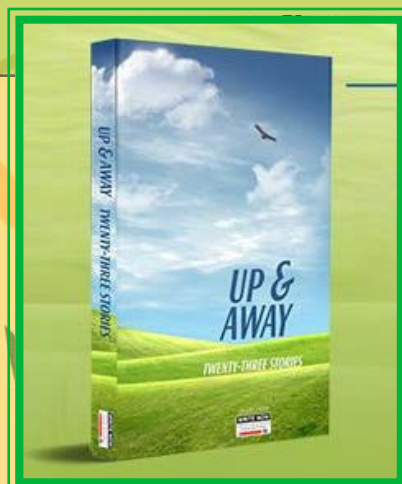
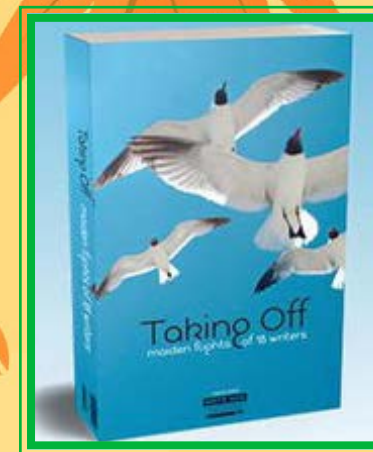
**'Building Stories-with Twenty Writers' featuring Janini Hariram 11D**

**'Pastel Sky-Stories to Reflect Upon', featuring Nirupama Rajesh 9B, Smrithi Pagalvatthi 9C, Tvi-sha Mishra 9D**

**'Etched in Time – Nine brilliant stories', featuring Reyansh Srivastava of Gr 7**

These books consist of a number of interesting short stories written by these talented students. They had to go through a competitive two step selection process to become published writers. Congratulations authors.

- Vittal, Gr 9 G



## A feather in her cap

Speaking of incredible achievements, we would also like to congratulate Meghna Sriram again, as she has been awarded with the Boston University Trustee scholarship. This is a very prestigious award and we applaud Meghna Sriram for this magnificent achievement.

- Vittal, Gr 9 G





**Mitr Cafe**

The photographs were shot in a place called Mitr Cafe. The place is an inclusive cafe for parents with children under the autism spectrum. Every Sunday, various events are conducted like music concerts, quizzes, dance performances and more. These are specifically performed keeping the special needs children in mind. It is indeed a wonderful experience

*- Anush Gopinath, Gr 12*





## Catch me if you can

The sky was in the most vibrant of colours and the rays of sunshine penetrated through the window forming a beautiful rainbow and the day was just calm and perfect. Right in the heart of the city lived Ms. Pauline, a young and enthusiastic architect living her dream life in hollywood

The afternoon sky was beautifully filled with milky cotton clouds which spread their arms across the horizon and showed of its infinite beauty. The sun rays penetrated through the fluffy clouds and were the perfect weather for a picnic among the swaying lush green paddy fields. As the clock struck 5 Ms. Pauline a young and enthusiastic policewoman was on her way home after a long day at work. She took the first train towards Wembley station, a route which she travelled for years but this time something felt different and eerie, as though somebody had been following her from work, she turned her head slowly to take a glimpse but the train was empty and the only movement was the swaying of the handles back and forth.

As the train pulled over to her stop she cleared her mind and got off the train and walked swiftly back home, the postcard perfect sky quickly began to change the clouds began to gather and started changing its colour from white to grey and finally to jet black and the soaring noise of the wind became louder and louder.

Pauline entered her house only to find the door swung wide open and trails of dark red blood leading its way from the main entrance passing the hallways and to the master bedroom. Pauline's heart began to race thumping faster as every second passed by and frightening thoughts rushed through her mind. She took small cautious steps and followed the trail of blood as she went through the hallways, she could see her porcelain vase broken into pieces and shattered all over the floors, the long velvet curtain hanging mid-way as though it was ready to fall at any moment and dark shoe marks all over her white marble floor and fingerprint marks on the windows. She took a turn into the master bedroom and found her parents tied to a chair and their mouth plastered with grey duct tape but her teenage brother was nowhere in sight.

Pauline raced towards her parents and quickly untied them and enquired about what had happened. Pauline's father who was filled with fear and was trying to catch his breath informed her that 8 hefty men barged into house took 50 sovereign worth of gold, some documents and had kidnapped her brother.

Pauline quickly called her colleagues to come to her house and investigate the issue. Soon dozens of police cars were parked outside her house and they began

investigating. Pauline and her team thoroughly examined the area and took samples of the blood and fingerprints. These samples were made copies using the polymerase chain reaction and stored in the police department. The extracted samples of the fingerprints and blood smear and the DNA were cut into smaller fragments and was placed on a special gel through which the electricity was passed.

The forensic department then made the stains visible using fluorescent light and could be viewed when UV light was shown. After the examination of the samples through bioinformatics the gene sequence was compared with the preexisting data on the famous thieves in town and this data matched the data of the most wanted thief in the city John James. He had been in hiding for more than 5 years thus was untraceable and not arrested.

Thoughts raced through Pauline's mind and she wondered why he chose to reveal himself now. She suddenly realised the answers to her earlier question and everything began to make sense. Pauline was the officer who had arrested his son Sam during a similar robbery case downtown. He was in jail now. So John decided to take revenge on Pauline by taking some important documents and gold from her house and by kidnapping her dear brother.

The police department began to trace John and had tried numerous methods. They first took the DNA samples to see if it matched any of the recent crime scene and then listed his possible hiding spots. They tried to trace the signal from his mobile phone. After 2 days the police department was finally able to locate where John was hiding and 20 police officers equipped with the latest guns surrounded John's hiding spot and managed to successfully rescue Pauline's younger brother.

Suddenly the windows shattered as John jumped through the windows and bolted towards the gate and the policeman began firing; bullets flew like a group of birds flocking and finally one bullet pierced through John's chest and he was found dead on the spot.

**- Anush Gopinath, Gr 12**





## The Will to Live

As my soul departed this world, I could slowly feel myself releasing the weight of my human body. I was being released from it, my life had come to an end at that moment when I had been hit by a car. I could faintly hear my mother bursting out in tears, pleading to come near me. I was almost certain that I would not be able to stay back. I would then join my father who left us 2 years ago. Beside my mother stood my little sister. she was just staring at my lifeless body, confused why her beloved brother was not waking up. She was disturbed by my mother's endless volley of tears unaware of the reason behind it. My body was lying in the hospital bed with doctors giving up and declaring that I was no more. I did not know what to do. A part of me missed my father so much and was glad that I would reunite with him, finding pleasure in leaving the mortal world as I would be free of any mortal desires or responsibilities. Deep down, somewhere I knew that I should not have left my helpless mother and my young naive sister alone.

Slowly , very slowly I could feel darkness engulfing me. All were just going away, and suddenly there was nothing. It was just me and the darkness. I realised that my soul has now abandoned this world. That's when from the depth of the darkness there was a light, my father was walking towards me. As he came closer the light began to spread conquering the darkness. I was glad to meet him. I forgot about my mother, my sister, and everything else when I saw my father.

"Hello papa, I missed you lot"

"Dear son, I am very disappointed in you"

" What...why papa what did i do wrong?"

" You did the exact same mistake i made, you left your mother and sister" replied my father with tears flowing down his cheeks.

"When i left them and you, i had hope that atleast you will be there for your mother when she needs help , i thought you will be there for your sister ,making her childhood very memorable, but now you have left them stranded alone"

" But papa i have made enough money for their upkeep.

"Its not that son , you dont understand, there is more to life than money, its how

much you support your family. Your mother was the happiest woman on earth when she first held you. She was thinking about how much you would earn , she was visualising that there would be someone in this world with whom she could share her love and someone who could love her back, someone she could raise and be proud of, someone who would lie on her lap after school. She loved you so much son"

I could not control my tears anymore.

"Your little sister is going to miss a big brother whom she loves more than anyone, whom she idolises. You have made a big mistake son"

I had realised what a grave mistake i had committed. My mind was flooded with guilt and slowly darkness started engulfing me again. My father was vanishing. I could not do anything but just stay there. It is your bound duty to share love amongst others. Even if you dont care for your own life, there are others in this world who cares more and you cannot stop that. I just wished in that moment if I could live again

- *Shivanarayan Shailesh, Gr 9 G*





## Gratitude

what can you and me feed  
 our weeping souls with  
 for they have lost too much for what a soul can lose  
 a person who was home  
 a year of youth  
 a heart of hope  
 it asks for all that has returned, flown or lost  
 to feed it with something that is not priceless would be a sin on my palm  
 so I dig for you and me  
 for diamonds to suffice our sorrowful hearts  
 as stones would not  
 I dig in my heart  
 in my house  
 in my hurdles  
 I dig  
 I dig  
 I find ounces of hope  
 mangoes in the kitchen  
 and all the possibilities that did not happen  
 I have dug and found it for you and me  
 here take some of it carefully  
 it's the treasure that your heart had howled for,  
 here  
 careful I said,  
 here

- Nashwa Jaffar, Gr 11 H

## My World

Her twinkling eyes spoke a million words,  
Sweeping my worries away.

Her charming smile lit up the world,  
Melting my heart away.

Those words she said with those tiny lips,  
Gently whispering away.

Those tiny hands wrapped around mine,  
She simply blew me away.

What did I do to be this blessed ?  
She's one in a million I'd say.

- Devi, Gr 11 H

## Blessing

She looked right into my eyes,  
I knew I was safe .

Her arms wrapped around mine,  
I knew I could stay .

Near me through the night,  
I dreamt of blissful days .

What did I do to be this blessed?  
For she is a part of me in every way .

I call her 'Amma'

- Devi, Gr 11 H

## Night Sky

Wind in my eyes,  
I heard it's thistle.

Rustles everywhere,  
A rush of whistles.

The moonlight danced across my face,  
Twinkling stars of the night.

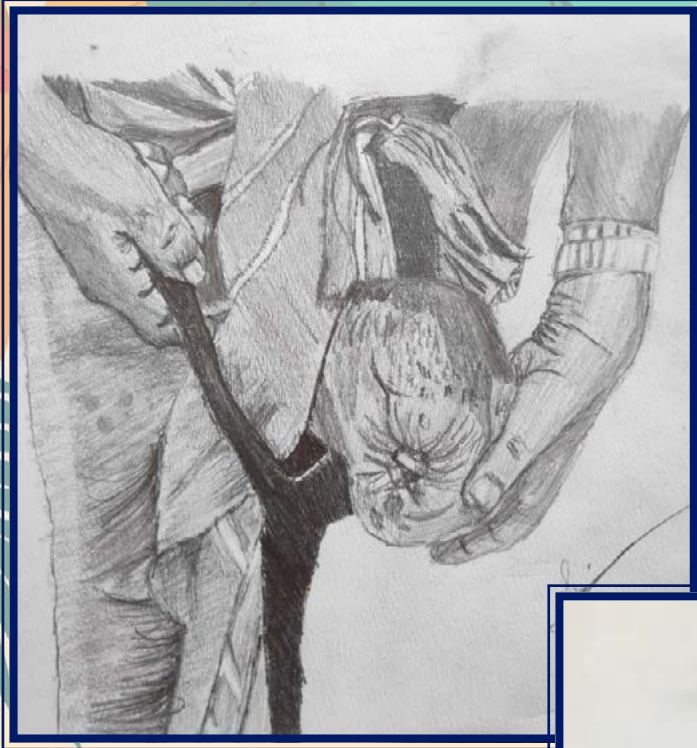
A surge of happiness,  
There I stood with might.

Shadows and drapes,  
I could see the light of darkness.

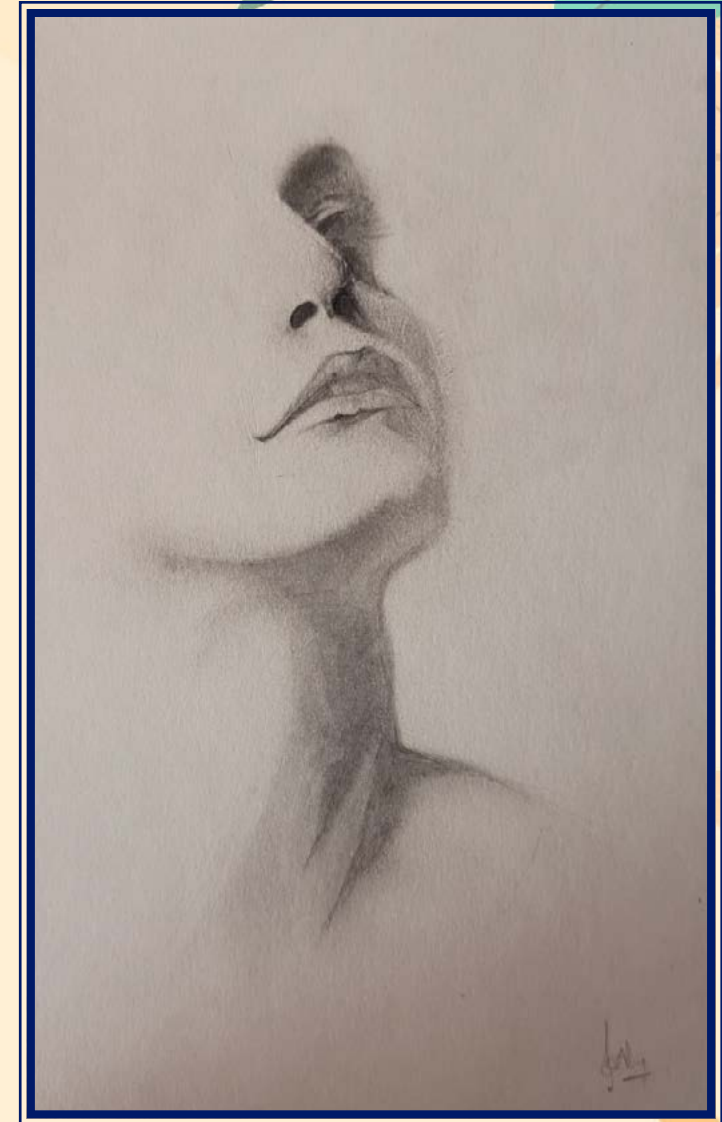
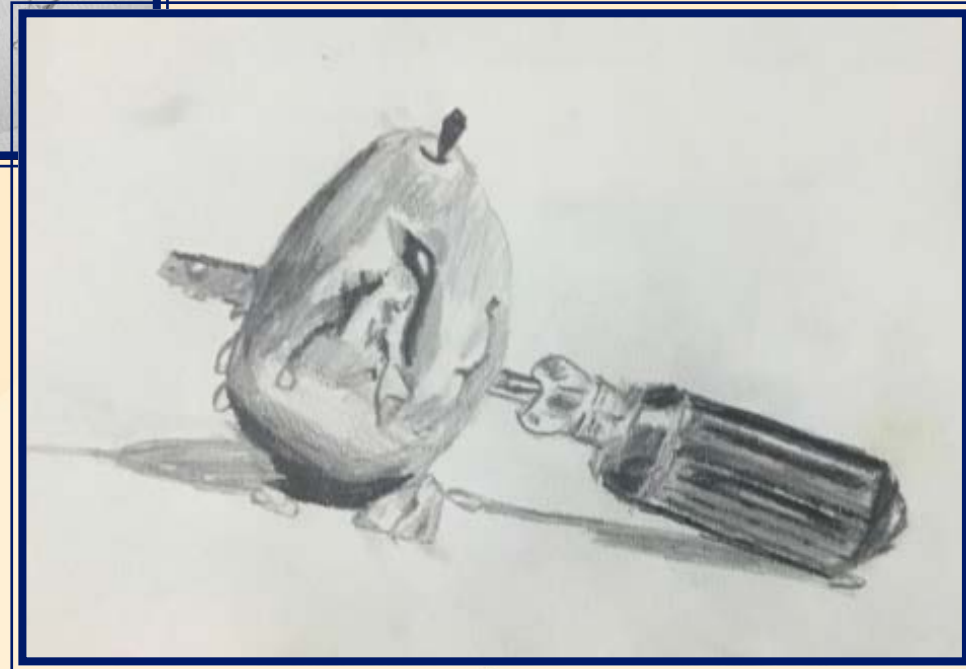
What a beauty she is,  
Gleaming like a goddess.

- Devi, Gr 11 H





*Shivanarayan Shailesh Gr 9 G*



*Abarajetha Gr 11 H*





Roshni Sivakumar Gr 12 C

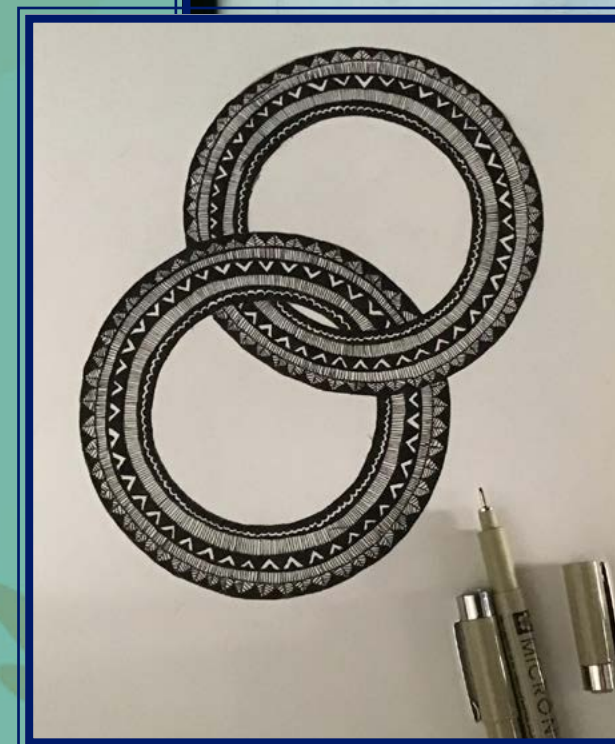




*Bharath Gr 7 D*



*Srisha Mahesh Gr 7 B*





## MY DOLL

I have a doll  
My father brought from the mall  
it very is very tall  
I kept it in the hall  
Her bed is near the wall  
She is pink so to her 'rose' I call  
And that is all.

- Seerat Kaur, Gr1 A

## EMOTIONS

I feel happy whenever I play  
I get angry when someone takes my toy away  
I start yawning when I feel sleepy  
When I get tired my legs starts paining  
When I get hurt sometimes I cry  
In front of strangers I feel shy  
When I get prize I feel so proud  
When I am excited I shout very loud  
I get scared always in the dark  
Whether I am alone or I am not  
When there is no one for me to play, I feel sad  
All feelings are good nothing is bad

- Seerat Kaur, Gr1 A



## Rain Day

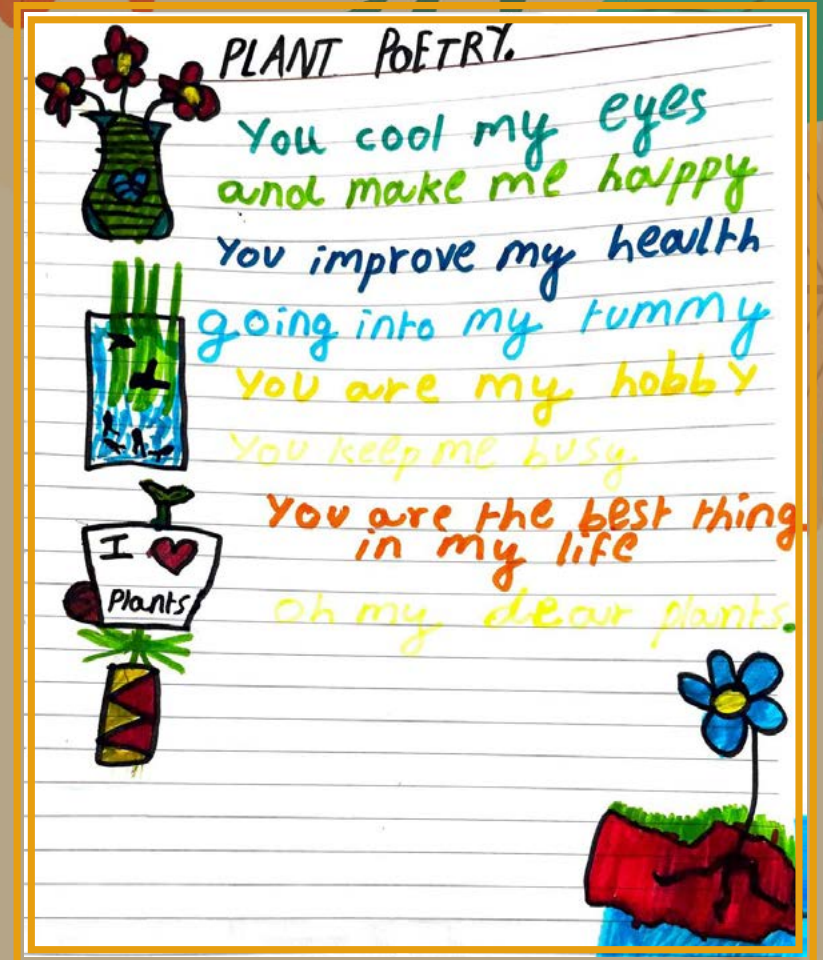
Rain sounds like wind  
Rain does not smell  
Rain feels cold  
Rain goes in the soil

- Aadya Nair, Gr 2 A

## Earth Day

My message to restore the earth is" keep your car running smoothly. getting regular maintenance means that you will use less gas, resulting in fewer pollutants released into the air."

- mohnish charan, Gr 3 D

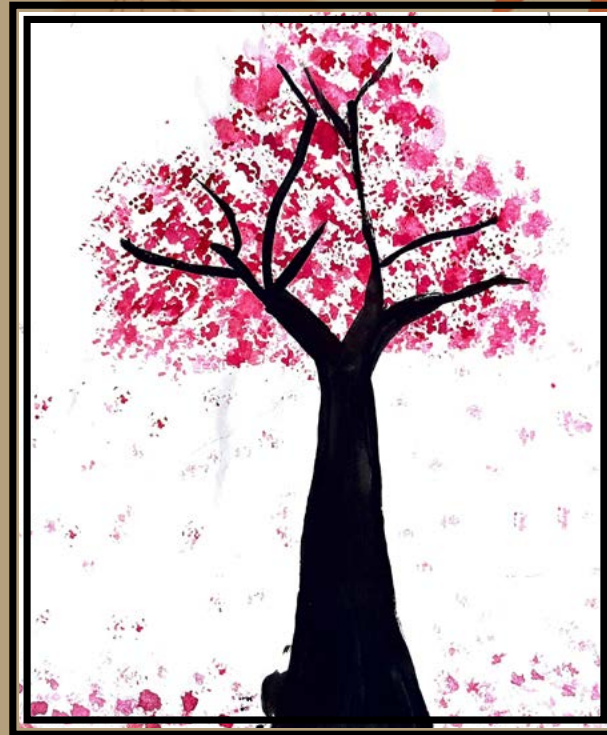


Shayna, Gr 3 D

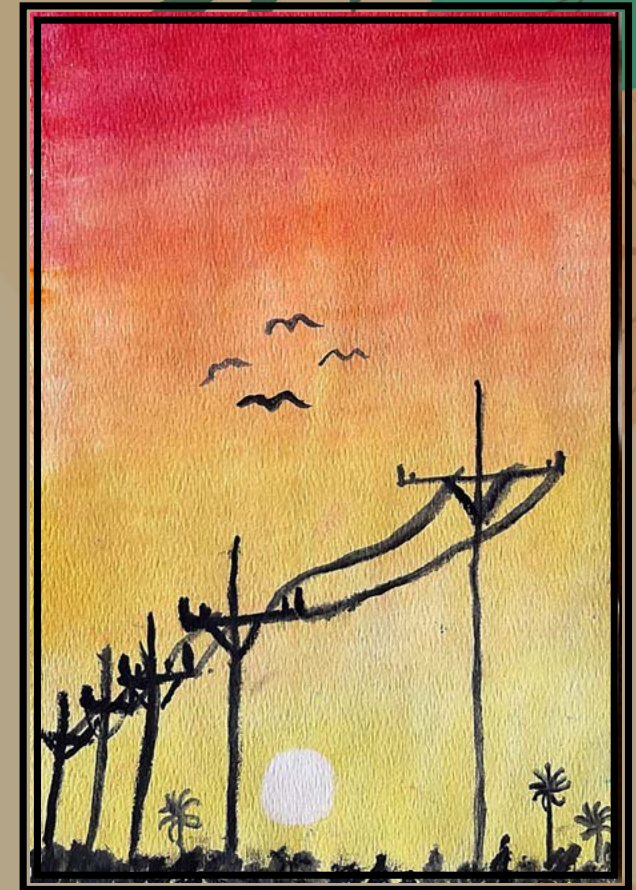




*D.K. Ishaan, Gr 1 A*



*Nakshatra Mahesh, Gr 5 G*



*Nakshatra Mahesh, Gr 5 G*

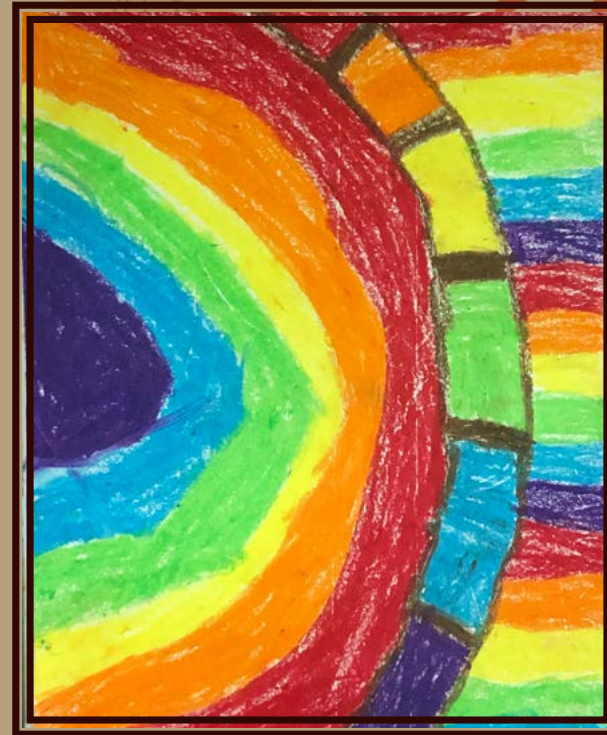


*K. Krrishav, Gr 1 D*





Smriti Hariharasudhan, Gr 2 E



Smriti Hariharasudhan, Gr 2 E



Nakshatra Mahesh, Gr 5 G



Nakshatra Mahesh, Gr 5 G



## Riddles

### DAD JOKES!

I hope you laugh, reading these jokes!

- 1] Why don't eggs tell jokes?
- 2] I am on a seafood diet but I am still fat, why is that so?
- 3] What do you call somebody with no nose and no body?
- 4] Why is grass dangerous?
- 5] Why did the police arrest the water?

- Akarsh Durbha, Gr 7 A

## Answers

- 1] That's because they crack each other up!
- 2] Because I see food and I eat it!
- 3] Nobody knows!
- 4] That's because it has many blades!
- 5] Because it was wanted in 3 states: Solid, liquid and water!

## Tasty Lassi

Cooking calls for a lot of creativity. The hand-blender in my house stopped working so, I found a creative alternative which is a hand-operated vegetable cutter. Lassi can be made using the vegetable cutter or blender with lots of variations possible.

The recipe is shown as follows:

- 1: Add 1 cup of thick curd, and add 1/4 cup of water, and blend for 5 seconds.
- 2: Add another 1/4 cup of water, and blend for 5 seconds.
- 3: Repeat step 2 based on the thickness you want.

More curd than water gives thick lassi, and more water than curd gives thin lassi.

- 4: Add the flavoring, and blend for 20secs.

The flavoring can be any different thing which can be added.

Options:

1. Sugar
2. Salt + pinch of Asafoetida
3. Salt + sugar
4. Chaat masala + pinch of salt
5. Salt + pinch of Asafoetida, and add Tadka (Curry leaf, mustard, green chilli that are tempered in oil) after blending before serving
6. Any kind of spice powders like Paneer tikka masala, Pav bhaji masala, etc. + Pinch of salt

I have tried all of these, you can try your own creative options as well.

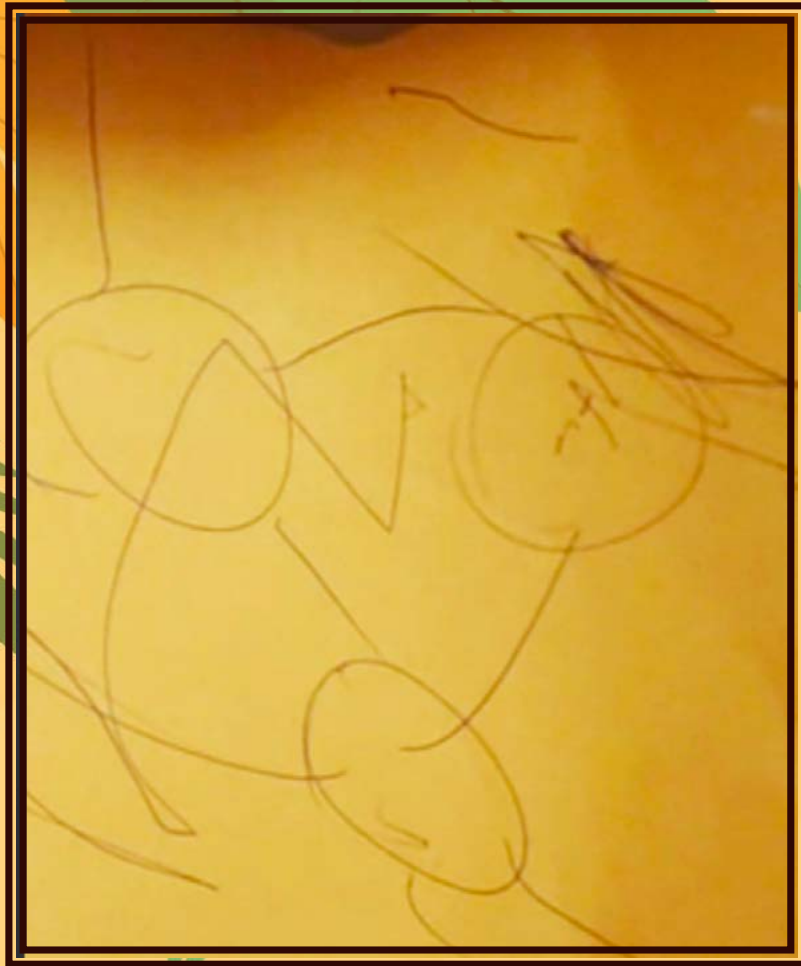
You can also add ice cubes and serve chilled. You can garnish with mint/coriander leaves for spicy, and grated nuts for sweet.

Your super-tasty frothy lassi is ready. Enjoy the lassi with your family, and have a cool summer.

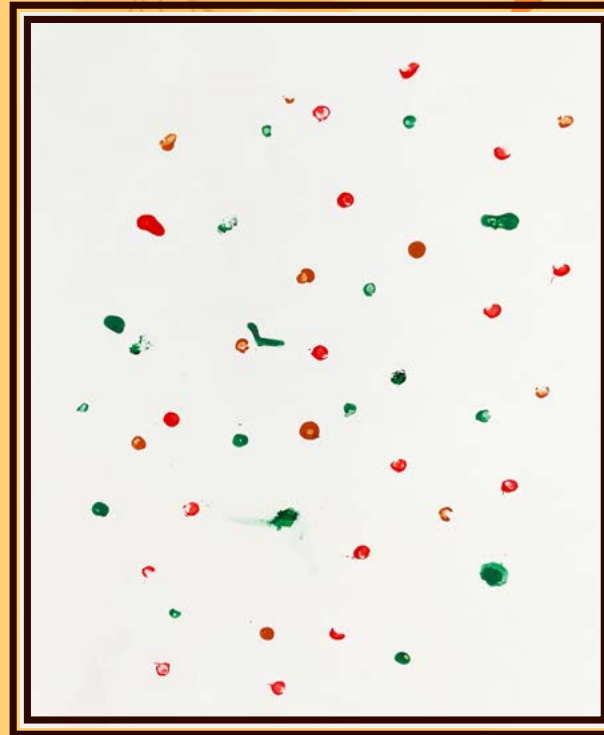
- Vaageesan, Gr 6 D







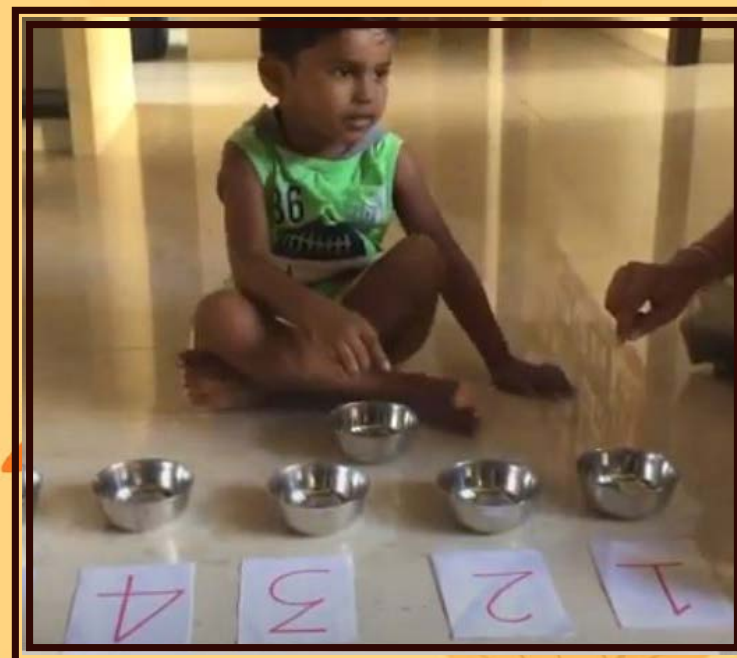
*Scribbling activity*  
*Viyan, PreKG B*



*Bud Painting*  
*Tharaa Vinothkumar, PreKG A*



*Vegetable Vendor*  
*Dhriti, PreKG B*



*Counting activity*  
*Aadvik Ramesh, PreKG A*

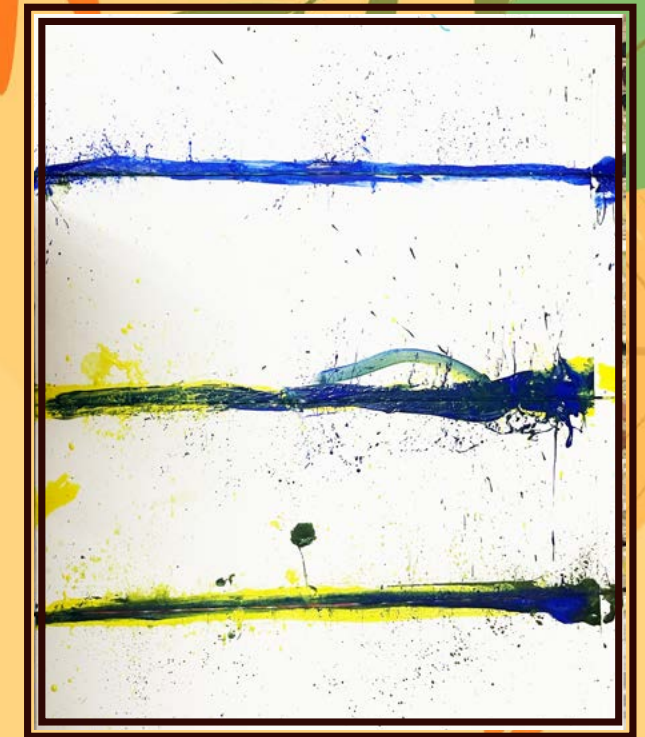




*Pongal Pot*  
Shaswati Koushik, LKG E



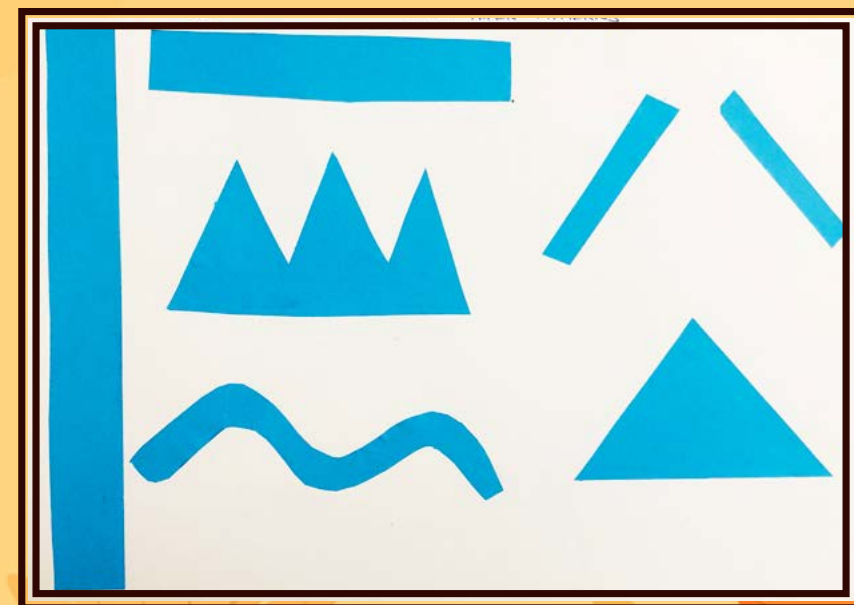
*Trace and Colour*  
Krishiv Razdan, LKG A



*Splatter Painting*  
Riaan P K, LKG D

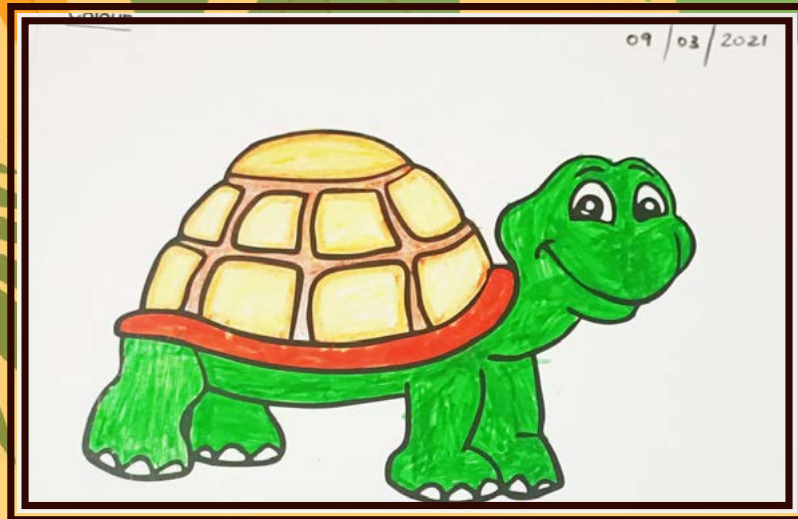


*Hand Print - Fire Man*  
Aadvika, LKG B



*Cutting and Sticking - Paper Patterns*  
Nikhil Siddharth Subramani, LKG C





Colouring  
Abhinav Krishnan P, UKG B



Colouring  
Prithvi Divakar, UKG C



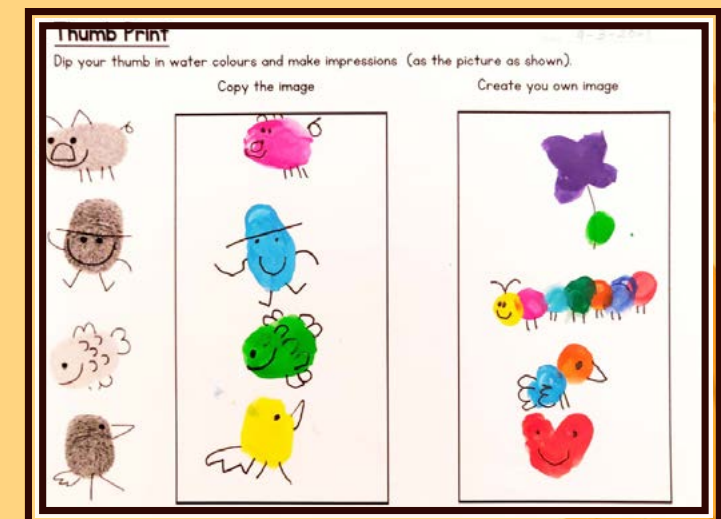
Leaf Sticking  
Krishna B, UKG G



Leaf tracing  
Nithiksha Saravanan, UKG A



Trace and Colour  
Prateeksha Venkateswaran, UKG D



Thumb Print  
Vineesha Sighania, UKG E



## WHAT BOOKS DO FOR ME

For a long time, the idea of reading books seemed boring. I love stories, don't get me wrong, but the physical act of reading seemed so tedious, to follow a series of words from left to right, top to bottom of a 400-paged book! One day, the words I once loathed started to form stories in front of my eyes and gradually I couldn't stop reading.

I'm quite picky with my choice of books, reading and re-reading the summary before I purchase one. But there are some books that are transcendental- they move me in a way I cannot fully express. And more often than not, these are books that either get recommended to me or I find in a dusty corner at the back of my bookshelf. To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee, Animal Farm and 1984 by George Orwell (Eric Arthur Blair's pen name), How to Stop Time by Matt Haig, All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr, and The Emperor of All Maladies by Siddhartha Mukherji have given me the opportunity to explore different realms and time periods; they have opened my eyes to new ideas and new paradigms of thought that I cannot help immersing myself in.

Rarely, a brilliant author like George Orwell hops along who amazes and frightens me of the sinister qualities that lie in the darkest depths of mankind's personality, festering and engulfing his dystopian and symbolic worlds in inescapable darkness. In Animal Farm, Orwell truly appalled me with his vivid depictions of these natures of man that make us feel like we have authority over other living beings, sometimes even within our own kind. But what frightened me most was the metamorphosis of the "pigs" into "humans". The animals that once rebelled against their ill-treating farmer, in hopes of a better future, followed a steep arc, enjoying momentary bliss until they came plunging into conditions worse than before as the pigs became their self-declared leaders. "All animals are equal, but some are more equal than

others" is the most profoundly unsettling quote I have ever read- there is undeniable truth in this quote that exists in today's society as we battle equality on so many levels. What truly sets this story apart, however, is the overt political allegory he makes of 1917 Russia. The fact that he derived his story from real occurrences makes it all the more terrifying and gripping.

Moving on to the innocent world of Scout, the pre-adolescent girl in Harper Lee's To Kill a Mocking Bird, 1930s America in a little town called Maycomb County is not without racial discrimination, following the accusation of a black man for committing a crime he was not part of. Although this is only part of her journey, the most important aspects for Scout are the little things, the big changes in her life that baffle her. In a way, I relate to Scout, confounded by changes that I cannot yet comprehend. Her naivety and unadulterated attitude make her endearing as she explores a world filled with hardships and misunderstandings, a world filled with friendship and love. This seemingly simple yet beautifully woven story warms my heart anytime I'm reminded of it.

Being diagnosed with anageria, a fictional condition where one ages extremely slowly, living as long as 400 years, is quite an intriguing concept. In Matt Haig's How to Stop Time, Tom Hazard, born in 1581, sees the world around him morphing at warp speed and yet he doesn't seem to be changing with it. The pain and suffering, loss and strife that he experiences due to his condition is immense as he carries the weight of his past on his shoulders without an end in near sight. The immortality that we all so desire is shown in a darker light in his story, and his only salvation is the love he finds as a "41-year old" history teacher in a high school in the 20th century. This concept of time, too much or too little of it, made me rethink my opinions on life and death and what I want to do with the time that I have.

And finally, the book that I am currently reading, The Emperor of All Maladies by Siddhartha Mukherji, has been deeply insightful so far. As a student of science

with a particular interest in biology, this "biography" of cancer discusses its roots, its evolution through our history, its malevolent intentions as it metastasizes and kills its victims, and the path to a cure that is riddled with large sinkholes that engulf any seemingly potent cure in an instant. Learning about cancer intimately through Mukherji's vibrant vocabulary and dark analogies has been frightening yet interesting- I cannot wait till I finish reading it.

These are just some of my journeys through the various books that I have read. Each brings its own set of experiences that I immediately associate myself with. The emotions of characters, their ups and downs, the lessons that they learn- all of them have an impact on me, my personality and my way of thinking. Books aren't just pages with words laid on them; they carry deeper meaning and insights that diversify your line of thought. I have learnt that your world becomes much larger when you read books.

**- Akshita Krishnan, Gr 12 G**





### *Zoe's Rescue Zoo-The Messy Meerkat by Amelia Cobb*

I liked the book because it is a delightful book and full of animals that I like

The book is fiction .

The characters are Mo the Hippo , Mouse Lemur and Uncle Horace .

The author is Amelia Cobb

The main character is Zoe and Messy Meerkat .

Zoe loves Animals and she works in uncle – Horace ' s rescue zoo .

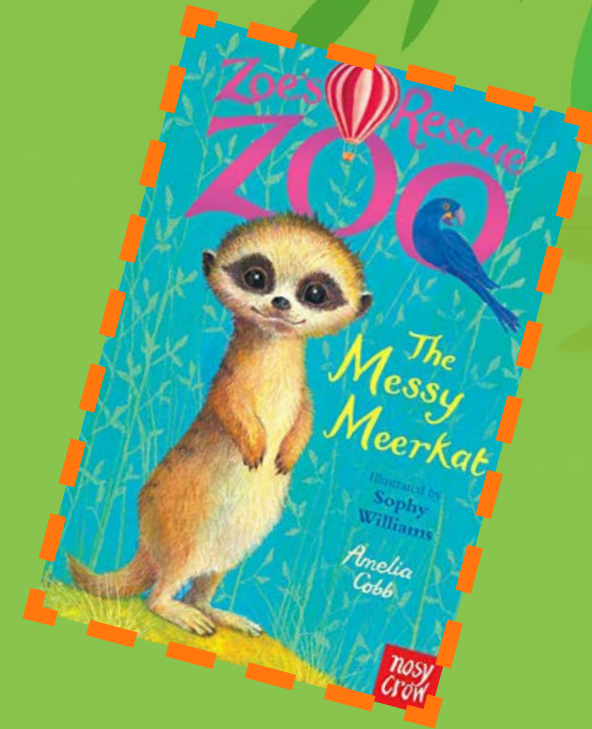
One day Zoe wants to have a treasure hunt to see more Visitors in the zoo but the Meerkats want to be more mischievous and make tunnels.

I will recommend this book to my friends because I like making up names like Gigantic Giraffe , loud lion , lazy lemur , puffy penguin , Amazing ant , Bubbling Baboon .

My friends will like the book because there's mouse lemur and lots of adventurous Animals . I love lemurs . The animals do naughty things and are very brave and hilarious.

Good reading

- Sai Akhil Anand, Gr 4 D







Deepali, Gr 8 A







*Sriram, Gr 8 A*



*Srivatson, Gr 8 A*



The teachers here are very friendly, and the infrastructure in the school is excellent, though it was not used this year. The teachers are very supportive of their mentees too. I love the fact that classes are going good even in the COVID-19 period, and that children are still learning.

- *Velvizhi (Mother of Sanjay Kumar, Gr 9 G)*



“APL is a school that promotes creativity and ingenuity among children. The school encourage open and free communication between the students and the teachers. It is a great place to nurture your creativity.”

- *Lakshmi Narasimhan (Father of Keshav, Gr 9 G)*





## A tete-a-tete with Sonia Aravind - English faculty Senior School

*How was the transition from real-life to online school?*

A little challenging

*Could you mention one advantage and one disadvantage of online school?*

I would say advantage is that location doesn't matter any more while the disadvantage is overcoming the unstable network connections

*What is the best advice you can give our students during these times?*

Space is relative and this challenge will help you understand yourself and those around you.

*Is online school an effective way of teaching and learning?*

It depends on the methodology that is applied. The grass is always greener on the other side.

*What are the best way students can keep up with classes online?*

Actually, with the recording of live classes, students have been freed from being locked into a time and a place.

*How has APL made life easier for students online?*

They can keep up with their learning and still get to do some of the activities that they were interested in pursuing in school earlier.

*Has online teaching placed a higher amount of workload for the teachers?*

Definitely, in terms of learning new technology and preparing for an

interesting and interactive learning experience for the students.

*How do teachers communicate between themselves online?*

I think WhatsApp, Google Meet, mobile phones and email have made it possible for open lines of communication to be maintained between teachers.

*How do you make class as interactive as possible on an online platform?*

I am still old fashioned and prefer the Socratarian method of teaching though I do use a padlet, whiteboard, breakout room to replicate the classroom environment.

*Do you feel like online teaching is a concept which will be pursued in the future?*

I think that the future of online teaching had been envisaged a long time back by Issac Asimov. It is a reality today. However I hope that we will always have physical school as an alternative.

Vittal, Gr 10 G







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