



HAKUNA MATATA

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 3

TEACHERS' DAY EDITION!





EDITORIAL



Almost all of us have had at least one teacher in our lives who has left an indelible mark on us. Every day, teachers broaden our worldview and show us that the world is so much more than what we perceive it to be. Their teachings stay with us beyond the classroom, and they teach us just as much about life, as they do about Physics, Literature, or any other subject. Whether it's through practising empathy or patience in explaining a doubt even after we've asked the same question multiple times, these life lessons stay with us through the years.

A perfect example of how our teachers constantly help us grow, both in and beyond the classroom, is this newsletter. They are always there for us; with guidance when we need someone to look through our second and third drafts. Their feedback always helps us strive for higher standards. At the same time, by giving us the freedom to make mistakes and learn from them, along with the independence to experiment and express ourselves, we have learnt multiple valuable lessons which we shall cherish forever.

Our teachers' dedication and commitment have especially shone through in these past two years, as we grappled with the new and unfamiliar method of online learning. Through power cuts and internet issues, faulty microphones, and uncharged laptops, our teachers have consistently tried to teach us to the best of their ability amidst unpredictable circumstances. They went one step further by having regular conversations with us about how we were coping with the scenario and our mental health.

Be it through criticism or words of encouragement, our teachers have always helped us realise our full potential and achieve our goals when we didn't think we could. In this edition, we would like to say something to our teachers that we do not say often enough- thank you. We are truly grateful for everything that you do.



-Jiah Karmakar and Vaibhavi Gupta



CURRENT NEWS



Supreme Court Judges



31st August, 2021, was truly a historic day for the Supreme Court of India. It was the first time a record nine judges were inducted into the bench of the apex court in one day. The new judges bring the total strength of the court up to 33 justices, which is just one short of the constitutional limit of 34 judges.

Vacancies in the Supreme Court had been piling up and the Supreme Court Collegium has worked to fill the shortage. According to present reports, there are more than 69,000 cases pending in front of the Supreme Court and many hope that the filling of these vacancies will help reduce the number of unresolved cases. The Collegium had been at an impasse for more than 21 months over the appointment of new judges, and no recommendations had been made to the Central Government since 19th November, 2019.

The Supreme Court Collegium, comprising the court's five senior most judges- Justices U.U. Lalit, A.M. Khanwilkar, D.Y. Chandrachud and L. Nageswara Rao and headed by Chief Justice NV Ramanna unanimously chose the new nine judges. These judges were then approved by the Union Government in a short span of only ten days.



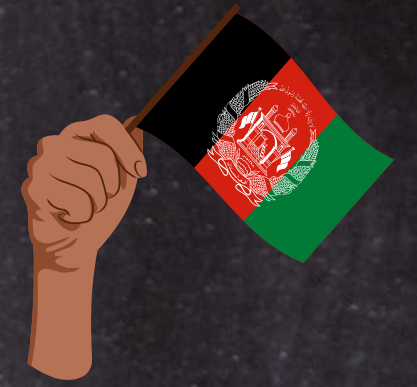
The new Judges

Three of the new judges are women, which marks a step in the right direction for the court's attempts to become more representative. For the first time in the court's history, it will have four women on the bench- three of the new judges and sitting Justice Indra Banerjee. With the induction of Justice Nagarathna, it also marks the first time India will have a female Chief Justice of India. The Chief Justice is appointed from the judges according to seniority. Justice Nagarathna is poised to become the Chief Justice of India in 2027, after current Chief Justice NV Ramanna retires at the age of 65. In another noteworthy first, this was the first time that the oath-taking ceremony of the judges was telecasted live

CURRENT NEWS



Situation in Afghanistan



In April, President Joe Biden announced the withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan, ending a war that has been ongoing for almost two decades. This action was first proposed in February 2020, when the Trump administration signed a peace deal with the Taliban.



Afghan anguish

The Taliban, an extremist Islamist military Organization, held power in Afghanistan from 1996-2001. They ruled the country according to their interpretation of the Sharia Law. The Taliban banned movies, television, and music in the country. They introduced laws that prevented girls over the age of ten from receiving an education. Women were forbidden from leaving their houses without being accompanied by a male guardian. When they were outside, they had to cover themselves in a burka from head to toe. Brutal action was taken against people who disobeyed their rules, and they also used violence against religious minorities.

In recent weeks, more than 114,000 Afghans have escaped their country.

People have been seen dangling from the wings of an airplane, desperately trying to escape the rule of the Taliban.

There has been extreme concern about human rights. The UN has proposed a resolution that has called for 'full respect for the human rights of all individuals,' and has 'strongly urged' all parties to follow international humanitarian law. The Taliban held a press conference at which their spokesperson, Zabihullah Mujahid, mentioned that the rights of women, as well as those from religious minorities, will be protected. However, he also recommended that working women 'temporarily' remain at home, because several Taliban soldiers are untrained and are not aware that they should respect women. The situation in Afghanistan is getting more dire by the day, as a migrant crisis unfolds as well.

In 2001, the US invaded Afghanistan, following the 9/11 attacks in New York City. After setting a precedent, 20 years later, the United States, as well as NATO troops, withdrew their soldiers from Afghanistan. They left the Afghan Government with President Ashraf Ghani in power. By August 15, 2021, the President had fled the country as the Taliban defeated Afghan troops and took over the capital city, Kabul.



SPORTS



The 16th summer Paralympic games running from 24th August to 5th September 2021 in Tokyo, was a major sports event highly awaited by the audience around the globe. With 160 countries competing in 22 sports and 539 events, new world records are being set each day by determined athletes, with China currently placed first on the leaderboard. India has been pushing all boundaries, with a record of 10 medals so far! On one hand, Avani Lakhera, a shooter, became the first Indian woman to win a Paralympic gold medal, while Sumit Antil broke his own world record in the men's javelin throw (F64 category), and added another gold to India's medal count.

As India's successes in the Paralympic Games progress rapidly, the individuals responsible for these victories often fall under the radar. With the celebration of Teachers' Day, the efforts of some of the most dedicated coaches who have left the international community motivated to a huge extent should not be overlooked. Looking at some of the finest coaches of India, including Gaurav Khanna, R.D Singh, Satyapal Singh, and many others, and their contributions made to our country, one realizes the role these trainers have played.



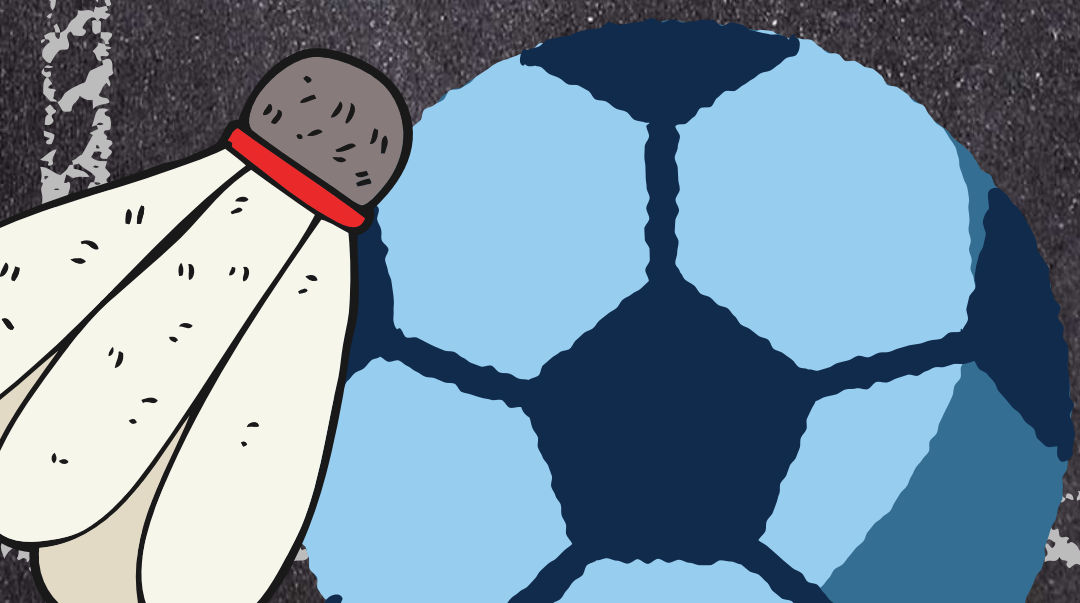
Avani Lakhera



Sumit Antil

Coach R.D Singh is responsible for the Paralympian Devendra Jhajharia's success. The outcome of other athletes like Jagseer Singh are also attributed to his excellent tutelage. Another coach, Gaurav Khanna, is set to lead seven athletes for the newly introduced Badminton sport in the Paralympic Games. With more than fifteen years of experience under his belt, Gaurav Khanna is one of the most remarkable coaches, giving India high hopes of returning with at least two medals to add to the collection.

~Priyal Binani and Yashvi Sarda



RECIPES

Tea Cake

This cake is too 'tastea' to be left undiscovered. It's the perfect pair to a cup of hot chai on a rainy afternoon, giving the same feeling of warmth and comfort that our 'tea'chers have given us. The subtle flavour of your favourite masala chai in a rich sponge cake, that too eggless!

INGREDIENTS -

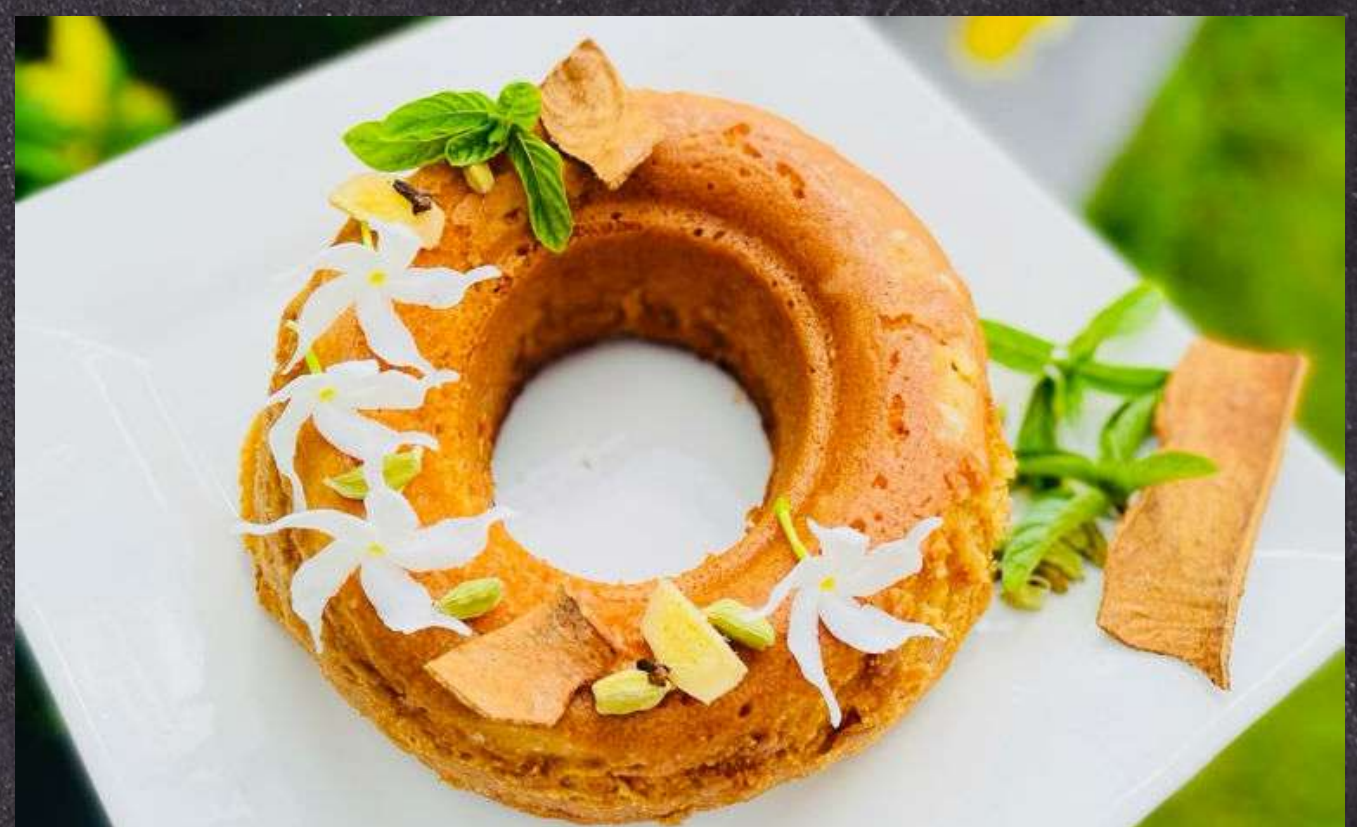
- 200 gm condensed milk
- 125 ml tea/chai - made with milk, without sugar
- 100 gms butter
- 15 gm powdered sugar
- ½ tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 125 gms flour

METHOD -

- 1) Whisk together the butter and the sugar until light and fluffy.
- 2) Add the condensed milk and chai in and mix until well combined.
- 3) Sift in the dry ingredients - flour, baking powder and soda.
- 4) Bake in a preheated oven at 180 degrees celsius for 20 - 22 mins or until golden brown in a 6 inch cake tin.



Soumyaa baking the cake



The Tea Cake

SCIENCE

"Element" of Surprise

TEACHERS IN SCIENCE

Science educators assume a significant part in teaching, moving, and inspiring students to become dependable, experimentally proficient residents. Science is not just knowledge but it is a way of accumulating and validating that knowledge. In honour of Teachers' Day, here are some legendary teachers in the field of science.

A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the 'Missile Man' and former President of India, wanted to be remembered as a teacher. In any role he used every opportunity to teach students and ignite their curiosity. He considered teaching to be a very noble profession and even minutes before his unfortunate death, he was teaching students at IIM, Shillong. He continues to be the role model for all students.

Sal Khan, a graduate from MIT and an MBA from Harvard, started by giving free maths tuitions and uploading them on YouTube. Shortly after he was on a mission to provide world class education for anyone, anywhere and free of cost. He is the founder of Khan Academy, an educational website, which gives free video tutorials on computing, science and arts. His concept has revolutionized education worldwide.



Aristotle, the father of biology

Aristotle is supposed to be the primary veritable researcher ever. He made spearheading contributions to all areas of science. He created the field of formal logic and he differentiated the different scientific disciplines and investigated their connections to one another. Aristotle was so attached to teaching that he set up his own school in a recreation center known as the Lyceum. He assembled a significant library and accumulated a gathering of splendid examination understudies. The Lyceum was not an exclusive hangout; large numbers of the talks there were available to the overall population and given for nothing. Aristotle isolated the hypothetical sciences into three gatherings: physics, mathematics, and theology.



BUSINESS

Busy with Business

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

- Nelson Mandela

All that we know today, we have been taught in some form or another. Since the day we were born, we have learnt how to walk, talk, read, etc. Behind every learning is the hand of a good teacher. These lessons come in different shapes and forms, sometimes coming from our parents, grandparents, school teachers or our own life experiences.

There are many organisations around the world and the online education industry is rapidly growing. Some examples are Meritnation, Vedantu and Toppr. One of the leading companies in the industry is Byju's. This mobile learning app in India was created by Byju Raveendran and is now used by more than 15 million students and has 900,000 paid subscribers.



Byju's logo

Byju's not only offers courses for school students but also provides tutoring for many competitive exams like IIT-JEE and NEET. It was also the first company in Asia to receive a grant from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, which works to build a more equitable future.

The main objective of the Byju's course is to help students gain more thorough conceptual understanding. The organization upholds some of the highest standards in the industry. It teaches its students through an effective mix of videos, live sessions with teachers and quizzes to assess learning.

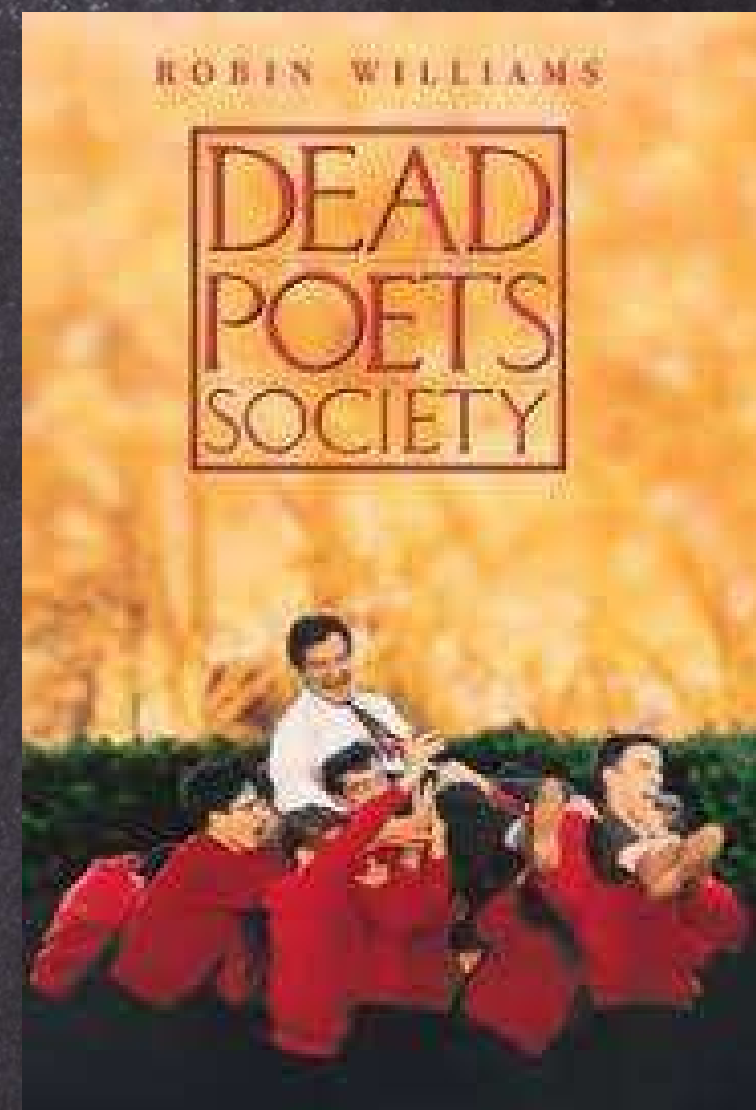
For the well-being of its students, Byju's hires some of the finest of teachers whose credibility and passion for teaching is unparalleled. The teachers work hard to provide the best education possible, and there are many more such organisations and education professionals who are striving to do their best. This Teachers' Day let us appreciate all the teachers that are helping make education more accessible.



ENTERTAINMENT

Dead Poet's Society-

In this movie, a group of boys attending a prestigious prep school in America are taught to think for themselves when a new English teacher- John Keating, arrives and uses unorthodox methods to teach students. At the boarding school, the boys have always been taught to think rationally and learn the material by heart instead of understanding it. The school also encourages its students to focus on the maths and sciences rather than paying equal attention to all subjects. Mr. Keating's infectious passion for literature manages to influence the group so much that they form their own club - the Dead Poets' society. The movie shows how their teacher helped them live their lives to the fullest and embrace their passions.

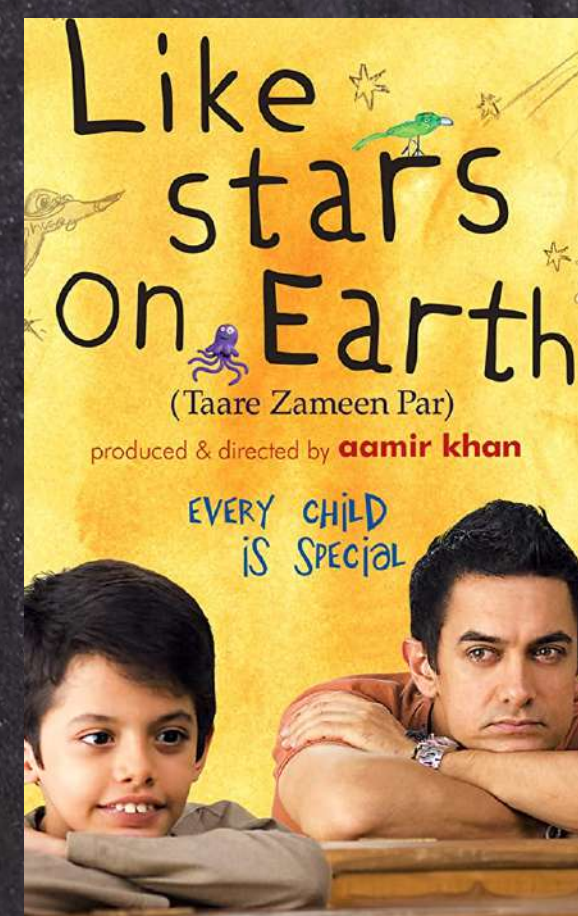


This movie tells the tale of two boys, Conor and Ned who study at a boarding school. The two boys are polar opposites but they form an unlikely friendship which is encouraged by their teacher, Mr. Sherry. Mr. Sherry helps his students realise how school is about striving to do your best, rather than trying to get good grades by any method necessary. He also encourages Ned to explore his talents when he learns that Ned is interested in playing the guitar. Throughout the movie, Mr Sherry becomes a role model for Ned and Conor and pushes them to put their best foot forward in all that they do. The movie is filled with comical scenes and the characters' witty sarcasm makes it an amazing watch.

Handsome Devil-

Taare Zameen Par-

The movie shows the importance of a teacher in a student's life. A teacher can help a child to unleash their potential. In this heartwarming movie, a child named Ishaan is sent off to a boarding school due to his poor academic performance. There, he comes across the art teacher. Ram, who realises that Ishaan is dyslexic and helps him discover his talents. The role of a teacher is not just restricted to academics or a certain subject but also how they can help students grow and develop. This touching movie is definitely a must-watch!





KIND THOUGHTS

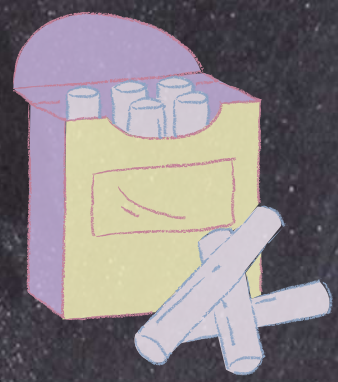
One child, one teacher, one book and
one pen can change the world.

~Malala Yousafzai

The most intriguing people you will
encounter in this life are the people who
had insights about you, that you didn't
know about yourself such as a teacher

~Shannon L. Alder





BREAK OF DAY



Picture clicked by Vaishnavi Jalan.

Teachers have always led by example, and we perceive them as an epitome of dedication. It is only an altruistic soul that can wake up every morning with the sole desire of spreading their knowledge. In the curious light at the break of day, you take us for a stroll to see all that we must. Walking into classrooms every day, you turn on the lights to ignite for us a path of success. You unwittingly become our greatest source of knowledge. You are ears to our relentless badgering, about perhaps the simplest of statements, but never fail to instill in us the belief of clarity.

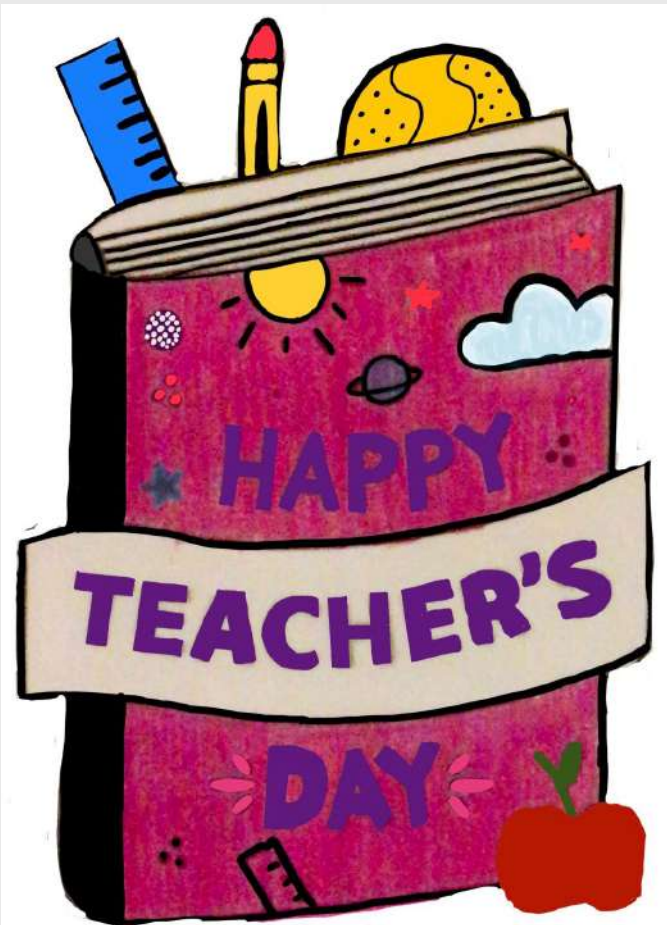
It was the courage gathered by a crying child, to stay back in their classroom - that was the gift of a teacher. It is also the slack of the youth, turned to a meticulous run, that is owed to you.

The eight-year-old who never wanted to read a book, now spends all her time with their nose buried in one, because they were pushed by a teacher to give it a try. The ten-year-old who was too tired to jog; now stands on a podium with her head raised, earning glory for the person who woke up early every morning to run with them. We are grateful to you for recognizing and honing a hundred different skills- not telling us how hard it is to paint a pretty picture, just assuring us that we can. It's a journey from being taught how to tie a knot on our shoelaces, to being shown how to knot the invisible tight rope we tread on every day we grow.

A teacher is the push that a student requires to realise their potential. You make space on your mantle of memories for the hundreds of lives you've touched, cherishing them as picture frames. It is an undying hope that all teachers get to hear the gratitude in the echoes of the regular chorus of "good morning," and "thank you." In the enigmatic afterglow at the fall of day, we walk home, because we learnt from you.



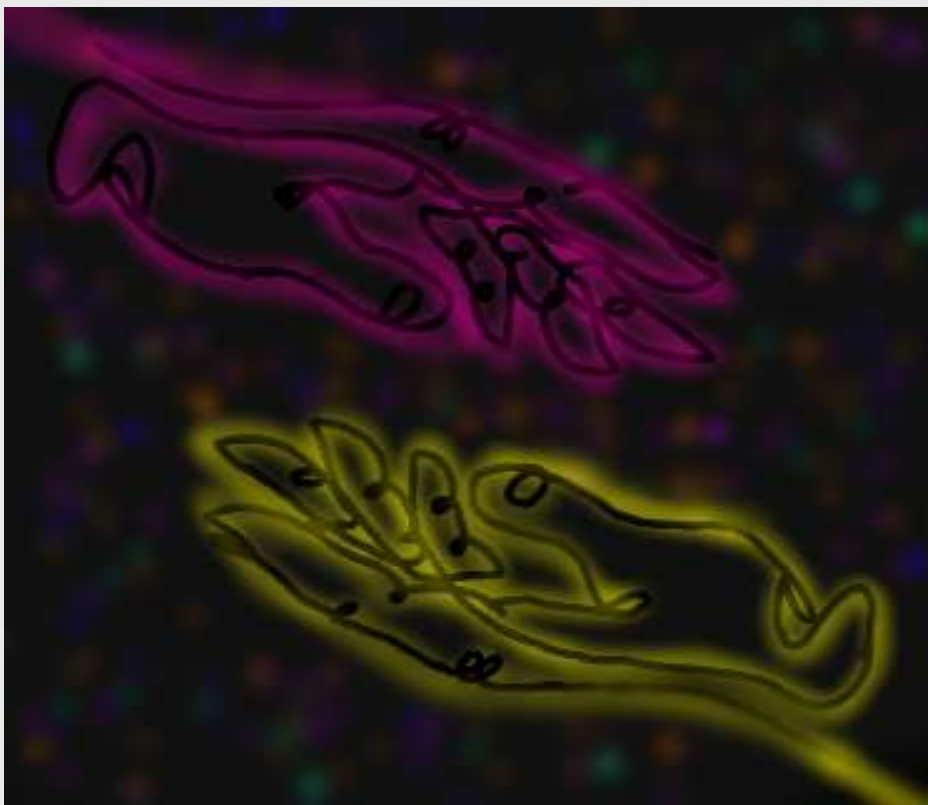
CREATIVE CORNER



Arshia Tewari



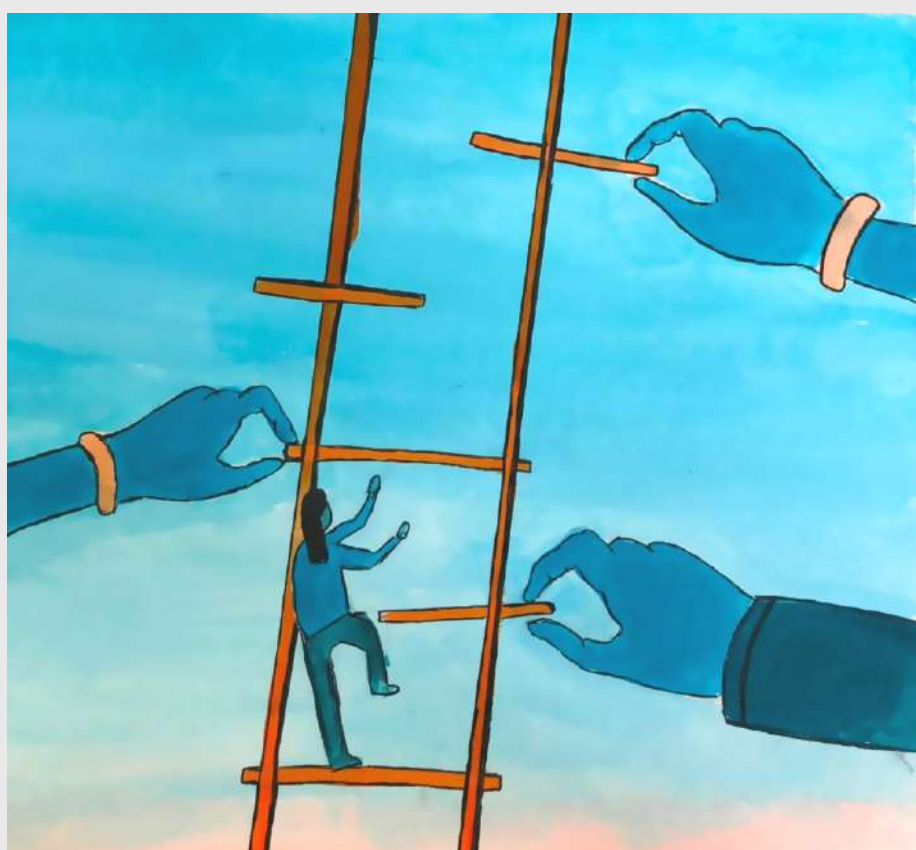
Priyal Binani



Urvi Jain



Soumyaa Mall



Sanvee Sharda



THE GOLDEN OLD DAYS

As we spend a longer amount of time outside the school campus, we are reminded of the 'old days' when we got to meet each other at school. Although simple and not more than a few exchanged words- that was golden. As we look back onto our recent past, we are reminded to cherish the moments that we have had. Whether it be cheering on Sports Day, queuing up for ice cream on a hot summer day, singing the school song in the shed or walking down to the Music Room, those memories hold a valuable place in our hearts and it will be something that we want to relive in the near future.





INTERVIEW



Gyan Deepak is a non-profit organization, located in Kolkata. The mission of this institution is to aid students who attend Government schools in their education. In honour of Teacher's Day, we conducted an interview with Ms. Kalpana Ojha, a Hindi teacher at Gyan Deepak, who is also the longest-working teacher, where we asked her about her love and passion for teaching as well as her experience with online learning.

1) Why do you love teaching?


I don't know, I just love teaching children. I never understood why, but I derive some sort of special happiness from teaching little kids Hindi, and staying with them, watching them learn.

2) Why do you like teaching Hindi and why is it important to you?

Our mother tongue is Hindi. It is my first language as well, I received my education in Hindi. My hometown is in UP (Uttar Pradesh), but when I came to Kolkata, I realized that people here do not speak Hindi very well. They tend to make several mistakes. I felt compelled to teach Hindi to these children.

3) You are the oldest teacher at the NGO, what makes you happy about being there?

I love teaching at Gyan Deepak, it fills me with joy. I am the oldest teacher at the NGO. Until recently, I was the only Hindi teacher at the school and in-charge of the entire Hindi department but now a new teacher has joined our school.



4) Has online school been difficult for your teaching? Have you and the students adjusted well with the new way of school?

When we had just started holding online classes for our students due to the pandemic, all of us were clueless. We collected the numbers of all students and communicated via Whatsapp. However, the problem was that not all the students had smartphones. We had to talk to their parents and then we would send them worksheets which they would have to solve and send to us. By the time we could properly start holding online classes, all the children had learnt how to operate a mobile phone. They had to take their exams on one of their parents' phones. We also had both Whatsapp and Google Meet. The only problem was that we are unable to teach children the way we used to. We are not able to explain everything to them to help them understand concepts effectively.

5) Do you have any advice for students about learning and schoolwork?

Right, of course. I only have one significant piece of advice for students, which is to pay attention to everything the teacher says during class. The online mode of education is a little hard, so it is important to revise each lesson post school hours. Finish your homework within time, and attribute at least half an hour to go through the lesson taught by the teacher apart from the class. It is not expected for you students to keep on studying, but it is highly important that you understand the lessons well, and pay full attention during classes.

OUR TEAM

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[Picture 3](#) Accessed - 1st September, 9:29pm.

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